



SHALIYAH

May 2014

Reconstructionist Synagogue of the North Shore
A Community Dedicated to Change and Committed to Tradition

Iyar 5774

SYNAGOGUE SCHOOL REGISTRATION



It is now time to register for RSNS Synagogue School for the 2014-2015 academic year. Students currently enrolled in Synagogue School in grades kindergarten through vav will receive registrations forms by mail. **Parents must complete the emergency contact information** on the registration form, check the accuracy of all other information and return the completed form to RSNS with a deposit of \$250 per student by **June 1, 2014**. Families will be billed over the summer for the balance of tuition. As usual tuition will be due in full by September 1. Only those members in good financial standing will be guaranteed a place for their children in the appropriate grade. There will be an online form, posted before school begins, to sign up for dismissal volunteer duty. You will receive an email when it is up and running.

To register a child who has not yet attended our Synagogue School, stop by the office or call and we will mail you a registration form. Non-members are welcome to register for kindergarten and alef (first grade) based on available space.

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CELEBRATE YOM HA'ATZMAUT AT SERVICES

FRIDAY, MAY 9TH AT 8:00 P.M.

Join us as we celebrate Israel's 66th birthday with our adult choir and special Israeli music.

Congregational Retreat

Saturday, May 17

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

at the

Science Museum of Long Island

1526 North Plandome Road

See page 11 for details.

Spring Fundraiser

June 14th - 7:30 p.m.

Please RSVP by May 21.

Consider taking an ad in our Journal

See page 2 for Journal form.

JUNE SHALIYAH ISSUE

The deadline for the June 2014 issue is May 15th. To submit content for the JUNE Shaliyah, email your copy as a word document to rsnsnewsletter@gmail.com

Almost 21 Spring Fundraiser Special Journal

In celebration of almost 21 years in our building we are putting together a special journal. Included in this journal will be the story of how we came here. There are many ways for you to participate and be included in this journal.

Add your name to our Life Cycle Pages for \$18 per line.

- Help us commemorate meaningful life cycle events which occurred during our years in Plandome from 9/9/93 (date of the closing) to the date of this celebration, 6/14/14.
- There will be pages for different life cycle events.
- Examples include Baby Naming/Bris, Nursery School Graduation, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Marriage, Renewal of Vows, etc.

Pages will be organized by event and year. Names will be listed chronologically on each Life Cycle Event page. Please use the format below. \$18 per line.

Your Name and phone (if we need to contact you):

<u>Life Cycle Event</u>	<u>Name (s) to be listed</u>	<u>Year of Event</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Place a Journal Ad (quarter, half or full page).

- Honor the members of the 1992/93 Board who brought us to Plandome (see list).
- Honor the Clergy, the Unitarians and other congregants who made the move to Plandome possible.
- Commemorate all of your life cycle events on one page.
- Take out an ad and congratulate us in your own words.

Full page (8.5" x 11")	\$540
Half page (8.5" x 5")	\$300
Quarter page (4" x 5")	\$180

The '92/'93 Board of Trustees:

Sam Blumenthal z"l, Bob Wolff, George Blum, Gene Grayson, Milt Leist, Steve Mermelstein, Doris Grunwald, Len Fruchter, Enid Clott z"l, Leslie Mones, Ellen Einhorn, Susan Klass, Sheri Lindner, Lee Parker, Natalie Forman, Larry Pohly, Rhoda Wald, Harriet Feiner, Charli Golden, Larry Popkin, Sara Steinhacker z"l

Finally, participate in our version of a 'tweet' at no charge.

Tell your story of how or why you chose RSNS in 140 characters or less. We will compile all of your 'tweets' (without your name). For example, you may have chosen to come here because of another congregant or because of a parlor meeting or something someone said about RSNS. We will put together a list of all our 'tweets' and form a mosaic of how and why we are here. No charge for this!!

E-mail your journal ad, list of names for life cycle pages, and 'tweets' to **RSNS.journal@gmail.com** or send hard copy with your response *before May 21.*

Include your payment to RSNS along with your response card.



**Parenting ♦ Caregiving ♦ Marital Concerns ♦ Separation/Divorce ♦ Bereavement
Geriatric Care ♦ Cancer Wellness ♦ Career ♦ Legal ♦ Financial**

A caring place to turn to find support and guidance during life changes and challenges.

Are you separated or going through a divorce? Would you like to speak to others who really understand what you are experiencing?

“I’ve never felt so alone in my life, that is until I went to the Separation/Divorce group at Sid Jacobson JCC,” said Carol.

Carol and her husband decided to end their long term marriage. Feeling lost, angry, and fearful, she felt she had nowhere to turn. None of her friends were divorced and she knew she needed a place to speak confidentially to others who would understand what she was going through. By joining the support group Carol was able to share her experiences comfortably, and to have her feelings validated among peers.

Call to find out about our Separation/Divorce Support Groups. All groups are small, intimate, age and life-stage appropriate, running in eight session cycles. Groups are facilitated by caring, experienced, professional social workers at Sid Jacobson JCC in East Hills.

For more information and an intake call: Audrey Bernstein, LMSW, Partners in Caring social worker and group intake coordinator 516-484-1545 x211

A caring place to turn to find support and guidance during life changes and challenges.

PARTNERS IN CARING STAFF

Randy Hight, LCSW

Audrey J. Bernstein, LMSW

Margy Ringelheim, LMSW

Michelle Laser, Director of Social Services

Our Warm Line is staffed by your caring, professional social workers.

CALL 516.484.1545, ext. 196

Phone calls are always free and confidential.

Rabbi Lee

ISRAEL'S 66th

Dear Friends,

I write this missive the day after the second seder, which, in my family, ends with the singing of *Hatikva*, Israel's national anthem. This year's rendition was sung plaintively in the shadow of the soon-to-be-declared failure of America's latest initiative for a two-state solution to the Israeli / Palestinian conflict. The legacy of this round of (non)negotiations is the Palestinian petition to join fifteen international conventions and treaties and tenders by Israel's housing minister for 700 new residential units for Jewish settlement in East Jerusalem.

These activities might be considered to be no more than an affirmation of a status quo for Palestinians and Israelis if the rest of the Middle East and the greater world were stable. But every country surrounding Israel is on the brink, while Central and Eastern Europe seem to be perched on the precipice of the world immediately before the beginning of World War One, the centenary of which will be marked this July. Given Syria and Ukraine in particular, it would be irresponsible for America's Secretary of State to expend more energy on the Israeli / Palestinian conflict at this time. It is clear that both sides are cemented in their respective positions. Unfortunately, the Middle East is grounded in sand – quick sand – and the lack of trust and the recalcitrance on both sides will sink them in the near future along with any possibility of a two-state solution.

The only hope that remains for now is a miracle. We turn to the possibility of the miraculous when we open the door for Elijah, the prophet so of hope, of *tikvah*, toward the seder's end. We share Elijah with our Muslim brothers and sisters, who is called Ilyas in the Koran. Both Muslims and Jews view Elijah as a righteous prophet who waged war against idolatry during the reign of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel. As a Reconstructionist, I see Elijah's coming in the persons of leaders from a new generation who will have abandoned the worship of failed ideologies that have threatened the lives of the children of Israel and of the Palestinian Authority. In anticipation of the sixty-sixth anniversary of the birth of the modern State of Israel, a miracle in itself, we can only hope that new leaders will emerge to secure the dream of a secure co-existence for both peoples living side by side. May it come soon and before it's too late.

Still with hope,
Lee



DONATE OR MAKE A PAYMENT ON OUR WEBSITE

There is an easy and convenient way for you to give a donation to RSNS. Visit our website at RSNS.org and use the "DONATE" link on the left side of the home page. All credit cards are accepted. Once your donation is confirmed you will be able to let us know if it is in honor of or in memory of a special person. You can also tell us if your donation is for a specific fundraiser, payment of dues or add any other instructions for us in the message box

RECONSTRUCTIONIST RABBINICAL COLLEGE NEWS

Just Say Nyet!

Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum, '90, and co-author Yelena Goltsman urge readers of the *Forward* to oppose Russia's new anti-LGBT law. They encourage the Jewish community to respond to Russia's new ban on gay "propaganda" with a familiar statement of determination: never again. Read more at <http://www.rrc.edu/news-media/news/just-say-nyet>.

Turn to *Constructive Conflict* on 9 Adar

The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College has partnered with the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Israel on its 9 Adar Project. Traditionally this date was a fast day on the Jewish calendar, which commemorated a tragic and violent conflict in our history. The 9 Adar project wants to transform the ninth of Adar, filling it with worldwide action for *constructive* conflict, peace and understanding. There are 18 different ways congregations can participate. The website is packed with ideas, ranging from *divrei Torah* to instructions for serving as a *rodef shalom* (peace maker) for a day. You'll find options for individuals, youth or adult classes, *havurot*—any age group or configuration you want. Find out more and get involved: <http://9adar.org/>

Limited Space Still Available for Summer 2014 at Camp JRF!

Recognized as one of the "Top 10 Jewish Camps," Camp JRF provides innovative, creative and engaging programs for youth entering second through 12th grades. As an inclusive community, we welcome children from a wide variety of family structures, religious practices, and socio-economic backgrounds. At the center of our Reconstructionist philosophy is a deep commitment to building a community in which all are welcome to grow and thrive. And it wouldn't be camp without all the fun of summer — swimming, sports, arts, music, friends, and so much more! One, two, three, and four week sessions, plus a five-day Family Camp program, all in the beautiful Pocono Mountains!

For more information and to register, call [877.226.7573](tel:877.226.7573) or visit www.campjrf.org.

A New Sky View for Oseh Shalom

When it came time to replace the translucent dome that makes its sanctuary what it is, the Reconstructionist congregation of Laurel, MD, chose the architect who asked, "How do you want it to feel?" So says its past President Val Kaplan in this *Baltimore Sun* feature, which includes a time-lapse video that is visually stunning—and full of feeling. Watch it and read more:

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/howard/laurel/ph-ll-oseh-shalom-replaces-iconic-dome-20131217,0,919251.story>

SYNAGOGUE SCHOOL

Special Shabbat School - Friday May 16th
regular dinner at 5:30 p.m. and class
from 6:00-7:30 p.m. (NO family services.)

**PARENTS - Please join us on
Tuesday, May 20th at 5:15 p.m. as we
celebrate the end of the Synagogue
School year. We will sing together
and share images of the year's
exciting events at school.**

A Service to Recognize Graduates

We will celebrate our graduates at an hour long service on **Friday, June 6th beginning at 7:30 p.m.** We will recognize all graduates – from nursery school, from elementary school, from middle school – but will especially celebrate students graduating from High School. We hope graduates and their families will come together for this special evening.

If you would like to read an English reading (selected by Rabbi Lee), please contact Sharon in the RSNS office at sharonrsns@optonline.net or call 627-6274. To contribute goodies for the oneg Shabbat, email Tracy Lefkowitz at BTJL@optonline.net

Looking forward to seeing you,

Rabbi Lee, Rabbi Jodie, Cantor Eric

KADIMA

FINAL Kadima class with parents –
Tuesday, May 6th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Dinner and Judaism in Action presentations.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

PJ LIBRARY

Join us for our next **PJ Library** event will take place on Wednesday **May 7th at 5:30 p.m.** We will be celebrating Yom Ha'atzmaut with a craft, some songs and a story. Dinner will follow. To learn more about the PJ Library go to the following link www.pjlibrary.org

TEENS

Boy's Group – Bros' Hodesh

Our final program will be a BRO-BQ at North Hempstead Beach Park on **Sunday, May 18th, from 6 – 8:00 p.m.!!** Join our Facebook group! <http://www.facebook.com/groups/187609124592536/>

Girl's Rosh Hodesh

Our last meeting for this year was May 1.
See you in September.

MADRICHIM

Final wrap up meeting on Thursday, May 15th
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

KESHER HADASH

May 4th: TEENS CLEAN TOWN FOR PORT WASHINGTON MITZVAH DAY!

Cantor Eric and the teens from RSNS's Keshet Hadash youth group will be leading all area teens (and interested parents) in a much-needed spring cleaning from the Town Dock all the way past Sunset Park. We'll begin at the Town Dock following the 11:00 a.m. opening ceremonies at Community Synagogue. Special thanks to Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington for providing bags and gloves for our efforts!

May 23-26th: RSNS Teen trip to Philadelphia! We'll be touring the city, hanging out with local Reconstructionist teens, doing tikkun olam, and, of course, having TONS of fun!!



The children and teachers came back to school after Passover and immediately began to make plans for celebrating Earth Day. The children will be collecting and recycling gently used toys to benefit the playroom at St. Stevens Church in Port Washington. Later this month we will be celebrating Israel's birthday. We will be making flags, airplanes, and blue and white collages and taking an imaginary trip to Israel. On Monday May 6th - Yom Ha'atzmaut we will eat Israeli food and birthday cupcake and dress in blue and white. The children also will be making presents for their moms in honor of Mother's Day. The children are enjoying the spring weather. Water is back in our water tables in the classrooms and we are happily playing outdoors in the playground. We are enjoying taking walks to explore the changes all around us.

Our last PJ Library Event for the year - celebrating Yom Ha'Atzmaut will take place on Wednesday, May 7th at 5:30 p.m.

Save the date: Our annual picnic is Sunday, May 18th and features a sports program by Unlimited Sports of Port Washington.

Registration continues for the fall and the summer programs. Don't delay - call the nursery school at 516-627-0257 to register your child.

SEE PAGES 12 FOR DETAILS ON OUR NEW EXTENDED HOURS

Laura



SUMMER Toddler Programming

We are delighted to offer two types of programming for our toddlers this summer. Our Summer Program runs Monday, June 30 through Friday, August 15, 2014.

Our seven week Come Play With Me is a non-separating class for children, who will be two by December 1, 2014, and their parent or caregiver. We will be offering this class on Wednesdays from 9:30 - 11:00a.m. Tuition will be \$225 for synagogue members and \$250 for non-members.

Our seven week Summer Twos class is a separating class for children who will be two by December 1, 2014. This class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-11:30AM. Tuition is \$600 for synagogue members and \$650 for non-members.

Come play, paint, paste, sing and share snack with us this summer!! No bottles or pacifiers for these classes, please. All classes will meet in an air conditioned room and include water play in the playground.



ADULT PROGRAMS and EDUCATION

ADULT STUDIES AND SEMINARS

Our congregation began its history with a seminar on Reconstructionism. It was only after a few years of people coming together to study the writings of Mordecai Kaplan that they decided to hold Shabbat and holiday services. By our engaging in these seminars, we keep alive the intention of our founders, that our spiritual experiences be tied to a self-conscious approach to Judaism grounded in an understanding of the Jewish People's history. To that end, Rabbi Lee will offer the following biweekly seminars.

Previous attendance at either of these seminars is not required, nor is regular attendance necessary. Call Lee at the office (627-6274) or at home (621-2067) with questions.

Biblical Texts: This group has been and continues to be committed to reading every word of the Hebrew Bible (in English translation). After more than a decade and a half, the group has reached the so-called Minor Prophets, minor not in importance, but in the amount of material that has survived of theirs. We will pick up the reading with the Book of Hosea and will move on to some of the more esoteric prophets including Joel and Obadiah. This seminar meets biweekly on Thursday nights from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. **Dates this month are May 8th and May 22nd.**

The History of Israel: A Documentary Approach: We began our examination of Zionism five years ago through the lens of the writings of Zionist and anti-Zionist ideologues. Last year we arrived at the founding of the modern State and reached beyond to the Six Day War. We will continue to critically review the development of the State through original source political and sociological documents. This seminar meets biweekly on Shabbat afternoons from noon to 1:30 p.m. Dates this month are **May 3rd and May 24th.**

YIDDISH READING CIRCLE

We meet on average, every other week on a Friday at 10:00 a.m. in the RSNS Library. For more information and a schedule contact Jerry Bloom at 466-2519.

MENS GROUP

The Men's group meets the second Wednesday of every month to discuss topics of interest selected by members. While the discussion starts off with a selected topic the meetings move in many directions and are a wonderful way for members to get to know one another. All men in the congregation are invited to attend. The next meeting is **Wednesday, May 14th at 7:30 p.m.**

The topic for discussion will be: *During our lifetime there have been many "advances" in technology. Which have most affected your life? Are there some "advances" with which you could do without?*

WOMEN'S ROSH HODESH GROUP

Traditional religious ritual was designed, and continues, to meet a variety of needs that relate to life passages: The need for the individual to be acknowledged by community, the need for the community/tribe to read itself into the passages of each member, the need for bonding, which serves both individual and community, the need to (re)enact dramatically the great stories and messages of the tradition, for the sake of individuals and of the tradition. Through rituals, we create structures that provide an element of predictability and, therefore, safety, around times of insecurity, transition, and/or loss.

All women of our congregation are welcome to join us as we continue to study, and learn from each other. This year we will study the Torah portion of the week through women's commentaries. **May 7th (Behar, Leviticus 25:1-26:2) is our next meeting.**

CANTOR'S DINNER & STUDY GROUP

Friday, **May 9th, at 6:30 p.m.** \$18 for dinner, or come for FREE at 7 p.m. for just the discussion. RSVP to Cantor Eric (rsnscantor@gmail.com) or call RSNS at 627-6274 **by Monday, May 5th,** whether you're coming to the dinner OR just the discussion!

Todah . . .

RSNS' Way of Saying Thanks

In honor of Ella Siff-Scherr becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Paula and Marvin Silverman

Joan Lehn

Anita and Jerry Bloom

Jessica and Art Leibowitz

Wally Buchband

Audrey and Peter Weil

Dinah and Marc Kramer

Rachel Gibbons and Dan Rabinowitz

Pearl and Seymour Weinstein

Shahrazad and Yahya Moadel

Susan and Paul Baumgarten

Lisa and Ron Guggenheimer

Harriet Feiner

Audrey and Andy Feiner

Roberta Hendler and Milt Alschuler

Viviane and Alan Kovacs

Jacki and Andrew Marks

Barbara and Marvin Schaffer

Suzie and Lenny Stein

Michele and Michael Weiden

Terry and Bob Wolff

The Whitman Family

Roma Connable

June and Alvin Pitkow

Ellen and Monte Sokol

Elizabeth Lesser

Audrey and Andy Feiner

Jane and Don Buford

Judy and Arthur Levine

Naomi Weinberg

Joy Benjamin

Risa and Robert Weinstock

Rita and Moe Paleschuck

Alice Kleiman

Sara Gole

Jeanette and Alan Walowitz

Melissa and Glenn Aigen

Roseann and Allen Michelson

Barbara and Marvin Schaffer

In honor of Ava Weshler and Chloe Weshler
Their grandfather, Ben Weshler

In honor of the Buford Family
Ellen and Ed Greenfield

In honor of Carrie Siff for the Nassau County
Educator Award
Ed Alder

Mazel Tov to Charlene Berkman and Rich Brody on
the occasion of Tiffany and Brad's wedding

Dinah and Marc Kramer

Joan and Marty Adickman

Mazel tov to Michele and Michael Weiden on the
birth of their grandchildren, Maiya Alie and Sy Lucas
born to Ronni and Jesse Baerkahn

Barbara and Marvin Schaffer

Tammy Smiley and Alan Ederer

Mazel tov to Suzie and Lenny Stein on the birth of
their granddaughter, Avital Nesli, born to Jenny and
Nir Somekh

Barbara and Marvin Schaffer

Tammy Smiley and Alan Ederer

In appreciation of Paula Silverman
and Anita Bloom's visit
Gladys Goldberg

In appreciation of Rabbi Lee, Cantor Eric and Sylvia
Roma Connable

In honor of the b'nai mitzvah of
the Budow grandchildren
Anita and Jerry Bloom

Thank you to all those involved in the creation
and launch of the new RSNS website
Barbara and Marvin Schaffer

Speedy Recovery to Steve Mermelstein
Barbara and Marvin Schaffer

Speedy Recovery to Blaine Weisman
Tammy Smiley and Alan Ederer

In memory of Al Connable
Ruth Rosen
Shahrazad and Yahya Moadel
Audrey and Andy Feiner
Carol and Jerry Halpern
Henriette Purohit
Sheldon Turteltaub and Lilyah Strassman
Pauline and George Blum
Susan and Robert Dubner
Ed Adler

In memory of Daniel Erhlich, father of Jen Rimmer
Dinah and Marc Kramer

In memory of Jillian Weisman's grandmother
Dinah and Marc Kramer

In memory of Rachel Berg, grandmother
of Alan Schwartz
Linda and Alan Schwartz

In memory of Gilbert Paisner
Michele and Michael Weiden
Trudy and Julie Brown
Harriet Feiner
Paula and Marvin Silverman
June and Alvin Pitkow
Karen and Paul Stewart
Deborah Factor and Barry Birdoff
Paula and Roy Schwartz
Barbara and Marvin Schaffer

MAZAL TOV

Mazel tov to Suzie and Lenny Stein on the birth of
Avital Nesli Somekh, born to Jenny and Nir Somekh

Mazel tov to Michele and Michael Weiden on the
birth of their grandchildren Maiya Alie and Sy Lucas
Baerkahn , born to Ronni and Jesse Baerkahn

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to Jennifer Rimmer and Family on the
death of her father, Daniel Ehrlich

SPEEDY RECOVERY

Best wishes for a Speedy Recovery to Steve
Mermelstein

Best wishes for a Speedy Recovery to Blaine
Weisman

YARZEIT

In observance of the yarzeit of Anne Heisler, mother
of Rita
Rita and Mo Paleschuck

In observance of the yarzeitin of their parents,
Selma & Walter Ransenberg,
and Esther & Morris Budow
From Marty and Jack Budow

In observance of the yarzeit of her mother
Florence (Dolly) Goldstein
Wally Buchband

In observance of the yarzeit of her father,
Phillip Kolodny
Zari Ginsburg

In observance of the yarzeit of Laura Adler
Anne Kropf Wolf

In observance of the yarzeit of Jesse Greenfield
Ellen and Edward Greenfield

In observance of the following yarzetin,
from Ed Adler
Laura Adler
Leo Adler
Rita Adler
Sol Schwartz
Muriel Schwartz
Sybil Silverman

In observance of the yarzeitin of Henrietta
and Barney Adler
Joan Lehn

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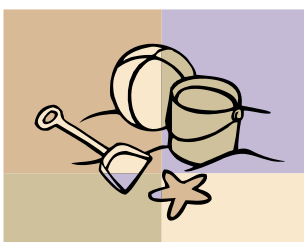
If you haven't yet participated, you can view our
dedicated profile below:

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social mission. It's powered by Yahoo!, so you get
great search results, and each time you search,
GoodSearch donates about a penny to your cause!

COMMUNITY RENEW
LEARNING CONNECT

CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT



Saturday, May 17
10:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m.

at the
Science Museum of Long Island
1526 North Plandome Road

\$50 per person ~ maximum per family \$150
lunch, wine and cheese, dinner included

Services and learning with Rabbi Lee, Rabbi Jodie and Cantor Eric
Activities with Science Museum Staff: hiking, crafts, beach exploring,
experiences with live animals and more.

Community Meeting ~ Wine and Cheese (childcare provided)

Games ~ Bonfire ~ Havdala



**JOIN US FOR A FANTASTIC DAY OF INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING, EXPLORING, BUILDING AND
STRENGTHENING MEMBER TO MEMBER CONNECTIONS**

Mail your check to RSNS with this form before May 7

..... ✂

WE WILL ATTEND THE CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT: enclosed is our check for \$ _____

Names of all participants: _____

Enclosed is our check payable to RSNS. \$50 per person or maximum of \$150 per family.

GAN SHALOM

The Nursery School of the
Reconstructionist Synagogue of the North Shore
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516-627-0257

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Contact **Laura Reich, Director**
<http://rsns.org/gan-shalom-nursery-school/>
ganshalom@optonline.net

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GAN SHALOM

The Nursery School of the
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(516) 627-0257 • ganshalom@optonline.net

Visit our website at
<http://rsns.org/gan-shalom-nursery-school/>



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Sunday, May 18

2:00–4:00pm

Sid Jacobson JCC parking lot

For more information, contact Susan Berman, Engage Community Organizer,
516-484-1545, ext. 202, sberman@sjjcc.org

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