

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW PROGRAMS

For more details on all these great programs, look through this issue of the Shaliyah

- ◆ ALL ABOUT RECONSTRUCTIONISM
- ◆ 2<sup>nd</sup> GENERATION SURVIVORS
- ◆ SHALOM SHABBAT
- ◆ KULANU

## MITZVAH DAY - NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>

Join us for a day of community service projects. Adults are invited to join in all projects. Students will participate according to grade. Watch for a list of projects

## SHABBAT B'YAHAD

The B'Yahad program is an ongoing Saturday morning family service and education experience. All members are welcome! Adult Torah Study begins at 9:00 a.m. Family service 10:15-11:00 a.m. **This month's session will be Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.**

## SHABBAT UNPLUGGED

**Friday night, November 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 – 9:30 p.m.**  
A joyous, family-friendly evening of music and singing with a fantastic 5-piece Shabbat Band led by our very own Solomon Hoffman!

## BLOOD DRIVE

**Wednesday, November 11, 3-9 p.m.**  
Details on our website,  
or email [RSNSblood@gmail.com](mailto:RSNSblood@gmail.com)

## COOPERATIVE DINNER

**NOVEMBER 19, 2016 | 6:00 PM**

Our congregation's Cooperative Dinner has long served as the meeting place for all who belong to our synagogue. The Mutual Support Committee intended the evening to be an opportunity for newer members and older members of all generations to spend time together to establish relationships so that when needs arose, the pool for support would be wide and deep.

*This year will begin with dinner, 6:00 p.m. at your host's home followed by the RSNS Jazz Cafe beginning at 8:15 p.m. back at the synagogue.*

*Don't forget to buy raffles for a chance to win some amazing prizes!*

## INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Join us and others for the  
**PORT WASHINGTON COMMUNITY  
INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING  
SERVICE.** The event will be held  
**on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. at  
COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE in Port Washington.**



## DECEMBER SHALIYAH

The deadline for the December 2016 issue is November 15<sup>th</sup>.

To submit content for the DECEMBER Shaliyah,

Email your copy as a word document to

[rsnsnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rsnsnewsletter@gmail.com)



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

Sid Jacobson JCC's annual  
**Care Day Symposium**  
will be held on Sunday,  
November 20, 2016, 8:30 a.m.

This event is a valuable, educational and supportive day  
for caregivers who are caring for a loved one  
with dementia and/or chronic disease, as well as  
for professionals in the field of aging.

Teepa Snow, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA, a dementia care  
and training specialist, is back by popular demand and  
will help caregivers go beyond basic understanding of  
caring for someone with dementia.

\$25 for caregivers  
\$50 for professionals

Valet parking, vendors, breakfast and a boxed lunch  
are also included in the fee.

**PARTNERS IN CARING STAFF**

Margy Ringelheim, LMSW  
Barbara Goldstein, LCSW  
Leslie Grama-Shapiro, LMSW  
Michelle Laser, LCSW, Director of Social Services

**CALL 516.484.1545, ext. 196**  
Phone calls are confidential.

## RABBI LEE

Dear Friends,

The recording of the fate of petitioners in a book by a god or gods did not originate in Judaism. Though the center of the High Holiday liturgy is a prayer that tells us that we are written in the Book of Life (we hope) on Rosh HaShana, and our fate sealed in that book on Yom Kippur by God, the idea is found in many other ancient traditions. I gave up a literal belief in this long ago, yet through the years I have come to see it as a useful metaphor for my own power and powerlessness. My DNA determined my biological fate at the time of my conception, so my proclivity toward heart disease, for example, was programmed by Nature. Still I exercise and watch what I eat to improve the pre-programmed odds against me.

It's not always so clear how much we can do to affect the larger world, however. Will my assiduous recycling of newspapers and junk mail reduce global warming? I'd like to think that my efforts are part of a larger community's to be conscious of how we live on this earth. Will making 150 bag lunches at the synagogue six times a year keep starvation at bay? I know that it will feed 900 people. And what about voting in elections? Does my vote really matter? The act of 'casting a ballot' comes the closest to the concept of God writing us in the Book of Life, I would argue.

Election Day is the America's Yom Kippur, and the Voting Booth is our Nation's "Holy of Holies." We take all of the past with us into the polling place and thereby help determine what our future will

be – in the case of the presidency for the next four years. We don't leave it for God to record. Quite the contrary, voting gives us the opportunity to play God. By voting, we take fate into our own hands. As Winston Churchill observed in the House of Commons in 1944: "At the bottom of all the tributes paid to democracy is the little man, walking into the little booth, with a little pencil, making a little cross on a little bit of paper — no amount of rhetoric or voluminous discussion can possibly palliate the overwhelming importance of that point." Failure to exercise your right to the franchise, leaves it to others to determine your life. I for one am unwilling to hand my future over to others. I will be voting on November 8.

Warmly,  
Lee

### A "HOW ARE WE DOING" QUESTIONNAIRE

As announced in the course of the High Holiday Services, every member of the congregation will have received an online questionnaire regarding the functioning of our synagogue from "Synergy UJA." The data will be collected and analyzed by UJA in conjunction with Brandeis University to give us a snap-shot to show our strengths and our weaknesses. Please help us help you by completing the form. Anyone with an email address is eligible to participate. If you have questions, call Rabbi Lee at the synagogue office (627-6274).

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

### SHALOM SHABBAT WITH CANTOR ERIC AND YOGA JEN (AGES 1 - 5) – **NEW for 2016/2017**

See full page flyer on page 6.

**This month we will meet on November 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m.**

### PJ LIBRARY

Join us on **November 16<sup>th</sup>** at 5:30 p.m. for our Mitzvot event. The program will feature stories, songs, craft and food! Not a PJ Library member yet? It's never too late for your child to start receiving these free Jewish books each month. Visit [www.pjlibrary.org](http://www.pjlibrary.org) and sign up.

### OR HADASH For grades 4 - 6

To sign up for all of the events, call the RSNS office or email Sharon at [sharonrsns@optonline.net](mailto:sharonrsns@optonline.net)

### KADIMA – seventh grade

Tuesdays, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

- Kadima class with parents – November 1<sup>st</sup>
- Kadima class (students only) – November 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

### TEENS: grades 8-12

#### ADOPT A SURVIVOR

Post Kadima class 2016 -- meeting monthly on Wednesdays, usually from 5:30–7:00 p.m.

**November 9<sup>th</sup>** is our next meeting.

#### MADRICHIM MEETING

**November 22<sup>nd</sup> 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

All Madrichim are requested to attend this meeting

### KULANU (**NEW for 2016-2017**) - (GRADES 8 – 12 and their parents) 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

**This month's meeting is November 15<sup>th</sup>**

*Kulanu* means "All of Us," and it's our brand-new Tuesday night teen program for students in grades 8-12 and their parents! Teens and parents will meet separately at the same time one Tuesday a month to learn and connect with each other. Pizza included. For more details on this program visit the LIFELONG LEARNING section on **www.RSNS.ORG**

### KESHER HADASH

Are you an RSNS teen? Then join us online! Follow us on Instagram: [instagram.com/rsnsteens/](https://www.instagram.com/rsnsteens/)

Join our Facebook group:

[www.facebook.com/groups/kesherhadash/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/kesherhadash/)

**Boy's Group – Bros' Hodesh** one Tuesday a month,

6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Next meeting is **November 29<sup>th</sup>**

If you're a boy in grades 8-12, please RSVP to Cantor Eric, or join our Facebook group!

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/187609124592536/>

**Girl's Rosh Hodesh** one Tuesday a month,

6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Next meeting is **November 29<sup>th</sup>**

– draws on the tradition of Rosh Hodesh celebrations to build self-esteem, leadership skills, and satisfying Jewish identities for adolescent girls. We intend the program to demonstrate to teenage girls Judaism's commitment to their growth and well-being. 8-10<sup>th</sup> grade girls may join this special "girls only" group.

# Shalom Shabbat

with Cantor Eric and Yoga Jen, and special puppet friends!



Children (ages 0-5 years) and their parents/grandparents/caregivers are warmly invited to join us for 30-40 minutes of joyful songs, stories, and movement as we welcome Shabbat together!

**Friday afternoons at 12:00 p.m. beginning September 16<sup>th</sup>**

At RSNS - 1001 Plandome Rd, Plandome

\$10 per experience

Whether you're a newcomer or a Gan Shalom family.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**RSNS**  
RECONSTRUCTIONIST  
SYNAGOGUE OF THE  
NORTH SHORE

*Inspired by the 92Y Shababa Network Approach*

92Y  
**Shababa**  
Network

## SYNAGOGUE SCHOOL NEWS

The Synagogue School [2016-2017](#) calendar is posted on our website at [rsns.org](http://rsns.org)

### SPECIAL DATES – ALL STUDENTS ATTEND WITH PARENTS

Sunday, November 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mitzvah Day 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, January 29, 2017	Heritage Trip
Sunday, February 12 <sup>th</sup>	Tu B'Shevat Seder 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Purim Megillah reading, 6:00 p.m. – Play 6:30 p.m.

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS HELD DURING REGULAR CLASS TIME – ALL DATES ARE TUESDAYS

December 20 <sup>th</sup>	Hanukah	April 4 <sup>th</sup>	Pesah Day
February 28 <sup>th</sup>	Shabbat Day	April 25 <sup>th</sup>	Yom HaShoah
		May 16 <sup>th</sup>	Zimria & Slide Show

**Shabbat Services:** Family services are held one Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. There are many different ways for families to participate. We work with each class to enable parents to provide Jewish role models for their children as well as expand their knowledge of Jewish liturgy and texts. You may sign up to help with a Family Service oneg. The *B'Yahad* Saturday morning family service and education program act as reinforcement for our *tefilla* program.

### FRIDAY EVENING FAMILY SERVICE STUDENT PARTICIPATION

**All families are encouraged to join us at all family services regardless of your student's grade.**

November 4 <sup>th</sup>	Bet consecration and welcoming new members
December 9 <sup>th</sup>	Vav
January 6 <sup>th</sup>	Hay
February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Daled
March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Gimmel
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Kindergarten/Alef
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Shabbat School

### ASHOKAN REMINDER

From Friday, December 2 - Sunday, December 4, 2016 the **gimmel, daled, hay and vav** classes will be going to Ashokan Reservoir in upstate New York for a wonderful weekend retreat. We leave the synagogue at 2:00 p.m. on Friday and are due to arrive at Ashokan before *shabbat* dinner. We will return on Sunday around 3:00 p.m. Please complete permission forms and return along with a check for **\$200** per student to the synagogue by **November 18, 2016**.

**CAMP JRF VISITS RSNS  
Tuesday November 29<sup>th</sup>  
Watch for details!**



The nursery school classes have been enjoying the fall weather! The children have taken fall walks, created fall trees, made pumpkin collages as well as tree bark and leaf rubbings. They also have enjoyed cooking special recipes using apples and pumpkins. The children love using the playgrounds and crunching in the fall leaves. We will continue to explore fall as we get ready to celebrate Thanksgiving.

Thanks to the Plandome Fire Department for providing all our classes with a program on fire safety. We especially liked sitting in the fire engine.

Our next **PJ Library** Mitzvot Event is on Wednesday November 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM. The program will feature stories, songs, craft and food! Not a PJ Library member yet? It's never too late for your child to start receiving these free Jewish books each month. Visit [www.pjlibrary.org](http://www.pjlibrary.org) and sign up.

The fall is the time when we begin to make plans for the next school year. Registration for our **January "Come Play with Me"** and **the 2017-18 school year** are already underway. Please call Laura Reich at 627-0257 to visit a classroom or obtain an application for the 2016-17 school year.

A HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!

*Laura*



## ADULT STUDIES AND SEMINARS

### ALL ABOUT RECONSTRUCTIONISM!

WITH RABBI LEE (NEW for 2016-2017)

**THIS MONTH'S SESSION IS TUESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> FROM 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

How often have you been asked to define Reconstructionism? This course will address all questioners, and will satisfy your own curiosity as well. After an introductory session on its place within the context of American Jewish history, Rabbi Lee will offer a topical approach to the study. Topics to be considered will include: the meaning of God, ritual practice, the nature of prayer, the place of Israel, Judaism as a civilization, living in two civilizations – the Jewish and the American, life cycle practices, political action, and Jewish Peoplehood. Topics will be announced in advance for your consideration. One need not attend every session to benefit from the course. The entire RSNS community is invited to attend this monthly course. Mark your calendar for future meetings on 12/13, 1/17/2017, 2/14, 3/14, 4/18, and 5/9

### EAT, READ, TALK

Rabbi Lee will continue his Thursday program in this series beginning **Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-1:00 p.m.** Note the new earlier start time! He will again, present an article “ripped from the headlines” of Jewish relevance. Feel free to bring a dairy lunch and we’ll supply the hot drinks and the article to be discussed.

### BIBLE STUDY

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 begin this year’s study with the end of the Book of Psalms quickly turning to the Book of Proverbs. This seminar meets biweekly on Thursday nights from 8-9:30 p.m. **This month’s meeting will be November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.**

## SHABBAT SEMINAR

The History of Israel: A Documentary Approach: We began our examination of Zionism seven years ago through the lens of the writings of Zionist and anti-Zionist ideologues. We will begin this year with Israel’s post Yom Kippur War history. 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 **12-1:30 p.m.** **This month’s meeting will be Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.**

## CANTOR’S DINNER

**Friday, NOVEMBER 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

Following dinner, participants engage in lively conversation and study of diverse topics on a different theme each year. Previous themes have included Jews and Food, Jewish Mysticism, Jews From Exotic Lands, Jewish Music Through The Ages, and Jewish Legends. This year’s theme is ***“Prayer Technology: Movement, Sound, Lighting, Text” - From ancient times to the 21st century, come explore the how’s and why’s of the Jewish worship experience!***

Dinner is at 6:30 p.m., price per person varies depending on the menu. Anyone can skip dinner and come for FREE for the 7-8 p.m. study session. Please also mark your calendar for future dinners on 1/13/2017, 3/24, 4/28, and 6/16

Please RSVP to Cantor Eric ([rsnscantor@gmail.com](mailto:rsnscantor@gmail.com)) (whether you’re coming to the dinner OR just the discussion!) by **Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>** AND WHY NOT BRING A FRIEND.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> GENERATION SURROGATE SURVIVORS

**NEW FOR 2016/2017**

**This month’s meeting is November 29, 8:00 p.m.**

Adult children and grandchildren of survivors are invited to participate in continuing to tell the stories and the history of their family member. These connections provide a vital link to the events of the Holocaust in a time when there are fewer survivors living to tell their own stories. The process begins with an education of how to effectively tell the story of your family member to different groupings of people. Irving Roth for the Holocaust Center at Temple Judea trains family members of survivors to tell their relative’s stories.



## ADULT STUDIES AND SEMINARS

Continued. . .

### 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 month's meeting is November 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.**



### SHABBAT YOGA

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> & 18<sup>TH</sup>  
10:00 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.**

**AND SATURDAY, November 5<sup>th</sup> 8:15 – 9:00 A.M.**

Experience Shabbat through movement; connecting body, mind and soul. This Shabbat Yoga program is taught by Rabbi Jodie Siff. Good for all levels, adults and post b'nai mitzvah teens, non-members welcome. Bring your own mats and yoga props (we have a few if you forget yours). Wear comfortable work out attire.

If you have questions please email Rabbi Jodie at [rabjodie@optonline.net](mailto:rabjodie@optonline.net) or call 516-627-6274.

### MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group meets the second Wednesday of each 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 on Wednesday, **November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.** Coffee and some snacks will be available.

The topic for discussion will be:

*What are the characteristics of an individual that for you most influence your first impression?*

### ENGAGING WITH AGING

Our meeting this month is set for **Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m.** We'll meet in the Blue Room, as usual. Please encourage other members who may be interested to join us.

### Congregation-Wide Programs Open To Everyone

**Sandwich Making** – Sundays at 10-11:30 a.m.  
December 11, January 22, March 5, April 2,  
May 7

**Shabbat Dinners** – Fridays at 6:30 p.m.  
Adults \$10, Children – free  
December 16, January 20, March 17, April 21

## Community Corner

*A Place to share stories from every corner  
of the RSNS community.*

Interview with Susan Hicks

By Rachel Mankowitz

Susan and Tom Hicks joined RSNS more than 13 years ago, before their son Benjamin was born. When they were dating, Tom called Susan the most knowledgeable Jew he'd ever met, because she knew the reasons behind everything she did, and always wanted to learn more. "I knew when I married Tom that we would have a Jewish home," she said. The trouble was finding a synagogue that would work for them as an interfaith family. Susan had spent her childhood at a reform synagogue and her adolescence at a tiny, new Conservative congregation, but neither environment seemed right for them now. She wanted a congregation that wouldn't just accept her husband, but would embrace him. Susan had been reading up on Reconstructionism during her synagogue search and that led them to a parlor meeting at RSNS.

Philosophically, the idea of living in two civilizations fit for Susan, and she liked the idea that the past has a vote, but not a veto, and that the community evolves as the needs of the community change. But at the end of the meeting, Tom was still uncertain. He said to her, "I want to know how they feel about non-Jews being members." So, she said, ask them. Tom went to speak with Rabbi Lee, and Susan watched as Lee opened his arms wide, opening his heart, mind, and community to embrace Tom, in whatever capacity he chose. This was a whole new world. Fifty years earlier, Susan's grandfather sat Shiva for family members who had married non-Jews, not because he wanted to lose them, or hurt them, but because that's what Jews did.

Susan started teaching in the RSNS Synagogue School five years ago, when Rabbi Jodie recognized that Susan, previously a public school art teacher, had the passion for Judaism and RSNS that she was looking for in her teachers. She believed that Susan, and other congregants like her, would be deeply invested in these kids and their Jewish futures. A large number of

the kids in our synagogue come from interfaith families and are being raised with Judaism, and Susan is there to support them in beginning to find their place in the larger Jewish world.

In Susan's Hebrew language class on Tuesday afternoons, the kids sing Debbie Friedman's Aleph Bet song, touching the letters as they sing them. They play games to make learning the language fun, and they each get to design their own Hebrew letter flash cards. Hebrew language studies at RSNS focus on "decoding," learning how to recognize the letters and sounds and put them together into words and sentences, so that the kids can pick up a prayer book and read.

Every once in a while, someone (like me) will notice Susan's necklace with the name "Sol," spelled out in Hebrew letters. It was her grandmother's name, and became her own Hebrew name, pronounced like the English word "Soul." The necklace represents the coming together of her Ashkenazi and Sephardi parents, and provides a wonderful teaching tool in her classes, encouraging the kids to explore the stories behind their own Hebrew names.

Each grade is responsible for leading certain prayers in a family service during the year, and as they become familiar with the letters, they learn the words of the prayers, the melody, the intention, and the placement of the prayers in the service. By the end of Synagogue School, Susan says, "You can go into any synagogue in the world and feel connected through this common language."

The kids come in again on Thursday afternoon, or on Shabbat, to focus on Judaic studies. Once a month, Shabbat school is on Friday night instead of Saturday morning, so that the kids can join their families afterwards in family services. But the kids start the evening in the Blue Room, with all of their teachers, singing Hashkiveinu with their arms around each other in a circle. It's a beautiful way to come together and set the tone for Shabbat.

*If you have a story you would like to share with the RSNS community, contact Rachel Mankowitz at [rachelmank@earthlink.net](mailto:rachelmank@earthlink.net).*

## **Todah . . . RSNS' Way of Saying Thanks**

In honor of the arrival of **Helania Gene Siegel**

Susan Liberstein and Josh Hoffman  
Estelle Rapoport and Stephen Hyman  
Jane and Don Buford  
Terry and Bob Wolff  
Paula and Marvin Silverman  
Melissa and Glenn Aigen  
Sydelle Diner  
Betty and Arthur Salz  
Marlene and Ken Ruskin  
Karen and Paul Stewart  
Susan and Jules Kaufman  
Dorothy Stracher  
Sy and Cindy Reisman  
Rhoda and George Shapiro  
Judy Levine

In honor of our clergy and staff

Roma Connable  
Margot Hanford

Wishing Cantor Eric continued good health

Linda and Alan Schwartz

A donation has been made to Mazon  
by the Shabbat Havurot

In appreciation of the list serve and the phone rescue

Susan Shmoys

In memory of Victor Zonana, father  
of Jeanette Walowitz

Debbie Kesselman and Joe Giovanniello  
Judy Levine

In memory of Harry Berck

Judith and John Miodownik  
Michele and Michael Weiden  
Terry and Bob Wolff  
Joan Haberman  
Jack and Marty Budow  
Ilse Sander  
Dorothy Stracher  
Diane Acker Haber  
Doris and Hans Grunwald

In memory of Harry Berck

Sy Reisman  
Susan and Tom Hicks  
Judith and John Miodownik  
Marian Schwartz

### **MAZEL TOV**

Mazel tov to Sandy Wolkoff on the birth of Parker Emory Wolkoff, born to Matthew and Kristin Wolkoff.

### **CONDOLENCES**

Condolences to the Feiner/Berck family on the death of Harry Berck

Condolences to Jeanette Walowitz on the death of her father, Victor Zonana

### **Yahrzeit**

In observance of the yahrzeit of her father, Joseph Altman

Dorothy Stracher

In observance of the yahrzeit of Jack Niego

Myrna and Sol Niego

In observance of the yahrzeit of Irving Rahinsky

Thelma Rahinsky

In observance of the yahrzeit of Stanley Feldstein

Thelma Rahinsky

In observance of the yahrzeit of Blanche Trachter

Judy Levine

In observance of the yahrzeit of Arthur Levine

Judy Levine

### **DONATIONS, DUES & TUITION PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ON OUR WEBSITE**

Go to our website: [rsns.org](https://rsns.org)

Click on [donate/payments](#)

Complete all information and then click "review your donation."

On the next page click "Special Instructions to Seller."

Indicate the purpose of your donation or payment.

Call us if you have any questions, 516-627-6274

# Raffle 2016

## **We Need Raffle Prizes! And Silent Auction Items!**

Some suggestions: TICKETS: FOR SPORTING EVENTS,  
THEATER, CONCERTS; RESTAURANT GIFT CERTIFICATES;  
NEW ELECTRONICS, COMPUTERS, JEWELRY.

Do you have a vacation home?

Why not donate time there for our Silent Auction.

For further information about the raffle, or to donate a prize,  
please contact Alvin Pitkow [avipit@aol.com](mailto:avipit@aol.com)

**Buy Raffle Tickets! You need not be present to win.**

Prizes will be awarded on November 19,  
during the Jazz Café portion of the Cooperative Dinner

**This article, submitted by a congregant, is about how she was inspired during this year's Rosh HaShana services.**

**Some Highlights of Rosh Hashanah 5777/2016 at RSNS  
by Sheri Lindner**

In no particular order, these are some highlights for me of Rosh Hashanah this year:

--when Rabbi Lee says that if he were a politician he would end his talk with "God bless America," but as a rabbi, he does not know this God. This is especially meaningful for me (and maybe for many of you), as I feel strongly that God has no place at the table of public discourse or governance. Neither God nor religious symbols should be on our money, in our pledge, on our government building lawns at holiday times, or invoked to begin Congressional sessions or non-religious institutional commencements. His comment is all the more poignant, of course, in its implicit juxtaposition of how, with such unthinking facility, those words trip off of every politician's tongue as he or she ends a speech, and how Lee, a clergy person, a leader of a religious congregation, a person who has spent his lifetime contemplating God and humanity—their definition, their intersection, their relationship, their essence—carefully and thoughtfully explains his rejection of uttering this jingoistic phrase.

--when I walk into the sanctuary a little early on Day 2 of Rosh Hashanah and see Sandy Wolkoff leaning into someone with her cell phone, and know exactly what image is on her screen, and the deep, miraculous feeling that holds her in its embrace.

--when, a second before beginning the Priestly Blessing, Eric, standing tallit-wrapped next to Jodie who stands between him and Lee, makes eye contact with me in the front row and mouths the words to me: "How's your knee?" I am touched deeply that a half a step before the holy utterance, comes this personal awareness and remembrance of a mundane concern of mine. But far beyond the fact that it involves me, is what it is: a mini-conversation, one exchange each, the bimah to the floor, one person reaching to another. A holy moment equal to the Kohanic blessing.

--when, during the Priestly Blessing, 2 altos and 3 sopranos, standing in 2 different rows in the choir space, form a circle to wrap all 5 of them together, making sure

each of them has someone to her right and her left, to be blessed on this day from all sides.

--when a fellow congregant Ariel brings her 5 year old son, Jacob, to the bimah for the congregational aliyah before the reading of the Akedah. He leans toward the Torah as she shows it to him and he breaks into a smile. Then he just waves and waves from the bimah. Could there possibly be a better ambassador, telling us "yes! it's the Torah, all right!" And maybe something like: "We've got it covered up here!" At some point he says: "WOW!" I'm not sure what he sees but something out there, in the sea of all of us gathered, feels awesome to him. Ariel puts her finger to her mouth to indicate that it is a moment to be quiet. I would rather watch Jacob smile at the Torah and express delight and awe as he looks out into the congregation than focus on the Akedah today. He strokes Ariel's hair several times, his own personal tsitsiot. Then she kisses his cheek—way better than kissing the Torah; and perhaps, after all, the same thing. Yes, our children and their children are indeed, our securities.

--when Solomon Hoffman and Alan Schwartz stand before us with their shofarot. The words that come to me are: "breath everlasting." Their t'kia g'dola go on forever. It is a feat, it is amazing, it is fun, we spontaneously applaud the sheer endurance. But, the length of the sound brings to mind enduringness, the soul of the Jewish people spanning millennia, the prayers we say that use the word "neshama." I literally hear and practically see the soul of our people emanating from within those rams' horns, inspired by the air that Solomon and Alan breathe out. That everlasting wail, this year especially, carries an urgency telling us to look around and notice what is nearby that will save us.

I am often not so focused on liturgy though the words flow from me as songs that are imprinted in my kishkas. I am focused on us though. I watch you all and you fill me with exactly what I want Rosh Hashanah to fill me with. Sometimes I think of liturgy as a good excuse for us to come together, that the words we read from the book are not what is sacred, but the words we speak and send out to each other are.

Wishing you all, once again, a year that fills you with joy.  
Sheri



# HEREDITARY CANCER AND THE JEWISH POPULATION

Thursday, November 10, 7:00pm  
At Sid Jacobson JCC

Sid Jacobson JCC's Nancy Marx Cancer Wellness Center presents a discussion on Hereditary Cancer and the Jewish Population.

Topics include

- What is the BRCA I and BRCA II gene?
- My mother had cancer, should I be tested?
- What are my options if I test positive for the BRCA I or BRCA II?
- Who should go for testing?
- Should men consider going for testing?

Presenters include

- Melissa Rosen, Director of Outreach at Sharsharet
- Lee Ann McCoy, Genetic Counselor at The Cancer Institute at St. Francis Hospital
- Diana Tjaden PT, DPT, ATC, Founder and Director of Full Circle Physical Therapy PC

Sponsored by

Congregation Tefereth Israel • Lake Success Jewish Center • Mashadi Jewish Center  
North County Reform Temple • Old Westbury Hebrew Congregation • Port Jewish Center  
Reconstructionist Synagogue of the North Shore • Shelter Rock Jewish Center • Temple Beth Israel  
Temple Beth El • Temple Isaiah of Great Neck • Temple Tikvah • The Community Synagogue • Woodbury Jewish Center

For more information, contact Randy Hight, LCSW, Director of the Nancy Marx Cancer Wellness Center,  
516-484-1545, ext. 213, [rhigh@sjcc.org](mailto:rhigh@sjcc.org)



To register visit [www.sjcc.org/hereditary](http://www.sjcc.org/hereditary)

