

Take the Temple Chaverim Survey!

The Long Range Planning Committee, with the help and input of our members and leadership, has been hard at work developing a survey which will provide the necessary information to plan for the future of Temple Chaverim.

At the beginning of January, each member will be receiving an email containing a web link to the questionnaire. The survey should take about 15 minutes to complete, and we hope you will invest this time which will help guide our efforts in the future. We need to know how the Temple positively affects your life, and where more needs to be done in order for it to remain a vital force in our lives, and in the community.

All answers are anonymous and the results will be summarized in aggregate, not individually. Everyone who completes the survey will have the opportunity to be entered into a drawing for one of four \$50.00 gift cards from Amazon.com. But once again, all survey responses will remain separate from names.

We hope we can count on you to participate in this important survey in January.

Your Feedback Needed!

To serve you better,
We are conducting a



Membership Survey

Please invest 10 to 15 minutes of your time

Survey will be available from January 10-24, 2012 at

www.surveymonkey.com/s/TCMembershipSurvey

All responses are anonymous. You cannot be identified in any way.
Your e-mail address will not be shared with anyone.

To thank you for your time, when you complete the survey you will be given the opportunity to enter into a drawing for one of four \$50.00 Amazon Gift cards. Your responses will still remain anonymous.

For additional information, please contact

Gila Shaw at LRP@templechaverim.org or 516-367-6100

NOTE: If you do not receive the email invitation, it may be because we do not have your correct, current email address. Please notify us immediately, so we can update our records. Please send email to Rosemary@templechaverim.org and make sure your message includes your full name. Thank you!



RABBI'S MESSAGE

RABBI JONATHAN L. HECHT, Ph.D.

Report from the URJ Biennial

In December, thirty members of our Temple attended the Biennial convention of the Union for Reform Judaism in Washington, DC. That made us one of the largest groups at the Biennial and was 10 times the amount of people we had ever sent before!

We joined with 6000 Reform Jewish leaders from North America and around the world and listened to inspirational addresses from many speakers including President Barak Obama; Representative Eric Cantor, the House Majority Leader; Ehud Barak, Israel's Defense Minister; Natan Sharansky, head of the Jewish Agency for Israel; psychologist Wendy Mogul; Ambassador Nancy Brinker, sister of Susan G. Komen; and the outgoing and incoming Presidents of the URJ, Rabbis Eric Yoffie and Rick Jacobs.

Rabbi Jacobs challenged us to redefine synagogue life in North America. Too long we have viewed the synagogue as if it were a gas station. We drive up to the door, stop, let our kids out of the car so they can get filled up, and then pick them up and bring them home. By doing this for 5 years (3rd through 7th grades) we hope they will have enough Jewish "fuel" to last them their whole lives. Will this really work in the long run, Rabbi Jacobs asked? At the Biennial, a major initiative to turn this around was announced: the launch of the Campaign for Youth Engagement.

At Temple Chaverim we are already working hard to change the "gas station" metaphor: MATCH programs, Tuesday Night Torah Lishma, Jewish Meditation, TANS social action programs, Shabbat Dinners, Guitar, Family and regular Shabbat Worship services all help us refuel ourselves and not just our children!

We can do even more! Rabbi Jacobs, in his presidential address, "At the End of Two Years," challenged us to discard the "service station" approach to synagogue life completely. He suggested that we change the mindset, challenging us to re-imagine our synagogues as places where we "do service" and not places where we "get serviced." To paraphrase his words, he said: ask not "what we get from our Temple membership," but rather ask "what can we do for the Jewish people."

Let us join together to make Temple Chaverim into a community of significance; a place where deep and meaningful relationships are fostered and the wisdom of Judaism is applied to solve the critical questions of the day. (I encourage you to view Rabbi Jacobs' Presidential address. Go to <http://blogs.rj.org/> and search for his speech, "At the End of Two Years.")



CANTOR'S CORNER

CANTOR BRADLEY HYMAN

What does "Reform" mean?

There are few words in our collective vocabulary that are as misunderstood and misused as 'Reform Judaism.' Depending on where you are and whom you are speaking to, it can take on a meaning ranging from apologetic, diminutive, lazy or apathetic to defiant, grand, active or caring. I would urge everyone to consider a few important factors when using the term 'Reform.' Reform is not a term that should ever bestow a quality or quantity. When I tell people that I am a Reform Jew, I am very quick to use the opportunity to educate and to explain that Reform has nothing to do with how religious I am. After all, I am your cantor, and I consider myself able to pray in any congregation and community that will accept me. But because I have chosen to pray as a Reform Jew, that means I have chosen to lend my voice to the largest affiliated Jewish movement in the world. In my mind, I am nothing more and nothing less than Jewish. Furthermore, I consider myself more globally connected and aware.



Our congregation is one of 881 Reform congregations which are connected through the Union for Reform Judaism, formerly the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Because we are a part of this historic movement, we are committed to being partners with God in both the creation and constant improvement of our world. That means that we are accepting of ideas that are more progressive and more open to all people, regardless of sex, age, orientation or birth origin. We encourage all people to learn more about their history by fully participating in our present. We also strive to understand and be tolerant of people who do not think or feel the same way we do. Therefore, we fully embrace the idea that we are Reform -- minus the 'ed' -- and are not firmly fixed in our ways. We are a part of a process.

Being a Reform Jew gives me a strong political voice, and, to be clear, our lobbying and advocacy voice in the United States political system is the third largest lobbying group, behind the AARP and the NFIB. We are currently louder than the NRA, and we have the power to change the way America votes. Perhaps that is why it is important to be involved as much as possible, so as not to misuse or forsake this responsibility and power.

The next time someone puts you down, or considers you 'less of a Jew' because you are a Reform Jew, please be gentle when you tell them all you have learned in this article. In many ways, we are continuing to make Judaism very real and accessible for future generations because we are affiliated and connected and refuse to settle for one perspective.



RABBINIC RUMINATIONS

RABBI JOSH LOBEL

Crossing Borders

At the end of January, I am packing up a suitcase and traveling to Guadalajara, Mexico. Now, you might think I am just going to escape the winter chill and kick back with a beverage that includes a “little umbrella”, but this is not the case. I am heading south of the border to participate in the 13th Convention of the United Jewish Communities of Latin America and the Caribbean. I am going as a representative of not only Temple Chaverim, but as a member of an international taskforce that seeks to strengthen and promote Reform Judaism in this fast-developing region. I will also serve as a presenter during this conference, which allows me the privilege of sharing some words of Torah to this eclectic group of Jews.

This is a fantastic opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with Jews who are looking to build the kind of communities we have here in the United States. It is something that we perhaps take for granted that we have so many thriving centers of Jewish life with so many resources. This is not always the case throughout the world, where, either because of political or economic reasons, it can be challenging to create a vibrant Reform community. But the more we pitch in, the more we support these burgeoning Reform institutions, the stronger the Jewish people will be in the future.



I am sure I will have great stories for you when I get back. I will be happy to share my experiences with anyone who is interested in learning more about Latin American and Caribbean Jewry.



INTRODUCING THE NEW TEMPLE CHAVERIM BIRTHDAY PIN

All congregants can receive their birthday pin when the clergy presents the pin on the first Friday service of each month. Please note that in order to get a pin, you must attend services!

Wear your birthday pin proudly and let Temple Chaverim help you celebrate your special day!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ALLEN GREENBAUM

Just Another Day!

I got up on Sunday morning, November 13th, and, as Temple President, thought I should take a ride up to our building. When I arrived the parking lot was full. Not only was our Religious School in full operation, but Sisterhood's Shop 'n' Schmooze was going strong, with dozens of vendors, food, and lots of friends shopping and just hanging out.

An hour later, I wandered into a classroom where our brand new Temple band was rehearsing and headed to the sanctuary where a 4th Grade MATCH Program was underway.

I then drove over to the Wyandanch Outreach Center, where, as part of the Tikkun Alliance of the North Shore, members were distributing clothes and food to those in need.

And that evening we had a wedding at the Temple.

The day filled me with energy and pride. What makes it even more special is that it wasn't an unusual day at all. On many days during the year our Temple is overflowing with Judaism, Tikkun olam, learning, and fun.

LEARN, PRAY, EAT AT THE URJ BIENNIAL

This December, Temple Chaverim was proud to have one of the largest groups of representatives in attendance.



On Friday, December 16th, Temple Chaverim representatives enjoyed a Shabbat dinner in the ballroom of the Gaylord Hotel with over 6,000 people!

Top L-R: Allen Greenbaum, Jo Kay, Alan Kay, Debbye Brandell, Cantor Hyman, Anissa Wilensky, Rabbi Hecht, Danielle Schear, Arielle Gabalski, Sheila Schroeder, Taylor Rosen, Debbie Wells, Ari Berg; Middle L-R: Sue Gold, Linda Greenbaum, Lise Mayer, Jill Schwartz, Gila Shaw, Chelsea Giller, Rachel Kimmel, Aly Kreiner; Bottom L-R: Alexa Rosen, Sam Willens, Ethan Shaw, Ryan Preston, Zach Lewis, Zoe Finn



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

DEBBYE BRANDELL

George Washington and the First Jews of America

Our fifth grade students are learning about Jewish American History. As we are about to celebrate Presidents' Week, I would like to share this story about George Washington and Chaim Solomon with you.



General Washington's financial advisor and assistant was a Jewish man by the name of Chaim Solomon. During the cold winter in Valley Forge when the American soldiers were freezing and running out of food, it was Chaim Solomon who marshalled all the Jews in America and Europe to provide money in relief aid to these stranded American troops and turned the course of history. Without this help, our army would have perished before it could have defeated the British.

If you take a one-dollar bill out of your pocket, look at the eagle on the back. Notice that the stars above the eagle's head are in the shape of a six point Star of David, placed there to honor the Jews. If you turn the eagle upside down you will see a configuration that looks like a menorah...both are there at the insistence of George Washington who said we should never forget the Jewish people and what they have done in the interest of America. It is reported that Chaim Solomon died penniless having used all of his resources to aid the newly formed and poorly supplied American army.

I hope that our fifth graders and all of us are proud of the important role Jews have played in American history. As we honor George Washington we must remember that the Jewish people continue to be vital in the shaping of America.



MEMBERSHIP

LISE MAYER

Welcoming Members!

The Membership Committee is crucially important to the synagogue community because it focuses on attracting, and welcoming members. The Committee works closely with the Congregant Relations Committee to help members find a lifelong place for themselves within our community.

As the new chair of Membership, I am looking for volunteers who care deeply about the future of our temple. We need people from all life stages and backgrounds to help with a variety of tasks--from welcoming prospective members by phone or in person, to planning activities that highlight some of the wonderful programs offered here at Temple Chaverim.

ATTENTION MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOLERS!

Want to be a Junior Reporter for Connections?
Write articles for our newsletter.
If you have an idea for a story or want an assignment, leave a message in the temple office for Debbie Wells.
Perfect for resume building!

Mazel Tov to our B'nei Mitzvah

January - February - March 2012

Brandon Becker	1/7/2012
Jessica Friedman	1/14/2012
Jeremy Wolf	1/14/2012
Sari Bochner	1/28/2012
Matthew Frucht	1/28/2012
Samantha Frucht	1/28/2012
Austin Shapiro	2/4/2012
Max Goodman	3/3/2012
Max Kleinberg	3/3/2012
Jacob Gordon	3/10/2012
Lindsay Korman	3/10/2012
Anthony Battista	3/17/2012
Rachel Brenner	3/17/2012
Mitchell Breier	3/24/2012
Tara Stark	3/24/2012
Max Kuster	3/31/2012
Jessica Schuman	3/31/2012



Jewish Meditation

Are you looking for ways to manage stress?
Do you worry about these challenging economic times?
Are you looking to discover your life's purpose?
Join us for strategies to relax & simple tools you can use to find inner peace. The class will help you quiet the mind and listen to your own heart. You'll be amazed with your own guidance system. Instructor Donna Bloom gives a whole new meaning to Jewish spirituality.

Wednesday morning classes at 10:30 am - noon
Jan 4, 11, 18, 25, Feb 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28
Alternate Thursday evening classes at 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Jan 12, 26, Feb 9, 23 March 8, 22

ADULT EDUCATION

ANISSA WILENSKY

TORAH LISHMA TUESDAYS



ISRAELI FILMS

Tuesday January 3, 10, 17, 24 – Rabbi Hecht

This class will explore films from Israel. All the films have English subtitles. The first session will introduce and explore a little bit about the history of Israeli Films After that, different films will be shown and discussed. What better way to enjoy a cool winter night than to explore the world of Israeli films with chaverim by watching:

Saleh Shebati, a 1964 comedy starring Topol (who had the lead in Fiddler on the Roof). The film won a Golden Globe Award for best foreign film and was nominated for the Oscar in the same category. It depicts the life of immigrant Jews to Israel in the period after the establishment of the State of Israel and is a humorous portrayal of the struggles of the early pioneers.

Beaufort, a 2006 film about the withdrawal of the last Israeli unit from Beaufort castle inside Lebanon. It gives a window into the lives of the soldiers and their difficult tasks, and provides for interesting discussion on the meaning of security and the difficulty of using occupying force to hold territory in a foreign land.

A Hebrew Lesson, a documentary film which follows the lives of five different immigrants to Israel and the struggles they face in and out of the classroom to learn Hebrew and adapt to Israeli life.

BOOK REVIEW

January 11, 2012. 8:00pm.

The Secret Daughter by Shilpi Somaya Gowda. This is story of an adopted daughter's long distance search for cultural identity and acceptance.

March 14, 2012. 8:00pm

Rainwater by Sandra Brown. A moving tale of a bygone generation and a strong young widow who must rise above her circumstances.

CURRENT EVENTS - Wednesday February 1, 2012. 8:00pm

JEWISH MEDITATION - Wednesdays at 10:30am

and alternate Thursdays at 7:30 pm.

YIDDISH CLASS: Second Tuesday of each month. 7:00pm



SOCIAL/ COMMUNITY ACTION

RHONDA GREEN

What a huge success our Third Annual Campaign Against Hunger was! There were almost 200 guests in need at the Wyandanch site who each took about 2 huge black bags of clothing and several sandwiches/brownies. Great Location, great volunteers and perfect weather! Special thanks to Jodie Cohen for pulling it all together with very short notice, for making the time during a crazy family weekend and for doing it all with a smile! Also, let us not forget our fearless U-Haul driver, Steve Lefkowitz, who, as usual, went above and beyond! Looking forward to everyone working together again for our next Campaign Against Hunger event!



Presenting "Collections Corner"

Idea Bank for Helping
Those in Need

Moving forward, our committee has decided to put together a "Collections Corner." We will provide ideas as to where donations of unwanted items can be made and to help get these items into the hands of those who are most in need.



Computers: www.comp4kids.org

Comp4Kids collects, refurbishes, and then distributes XP computers – FOR FREE – to low income families across Long Island, New York City, and lower Westchester. They also supply computers to charities which service these populations, (www.comp4kids.org/needacomputer). Last year alone, Comp4Kids was able to distribute over 1500 computers to needy families.



Eyeglasses: www.neweyesfortheneedy.org

Their mission is focused on improving the vision of poor children and adults by purchasing new eyeglasses in the United States and recycled donated glasses for distribution in developing nations worldwide.

Food: Is it okay to take food out of a shiva home?



There is nothing in Jewish law that prohibits food from being taken out of a shiva home. Rabbis will agree that it is a mitzvah to donate food to others in need. Rock and Wrap It Up! Wrap Their Memory in Charity is one program encouraging this. For further information, call 1-877-691-FOOD or you can visit the website at <http://www.rockandwrapitup.org/resources/hungerpedia>

Please let us know if there is any organization you would like to have included in our next Collection Corner. You can reach us at kov64@hotmail.com or mindy.f.brown@gmail.com

The Dead Sea Scrolls Come to Discovery Times Square, NYC on Feb. 12

What are the Dead Sea Scrolls?

What do they say? Who wrote them? What do they mean?

These are among the tantalizing questions to be answered at a teaching session before going to NYC to see the exhibit: "Dead Sea Scrolls: Life and Faith in Biblical Times."

9:30am introduction and discussion at Temple,

2:00pm tour at Times Square Discovery

Transportation is on your own.

Cost: \$25 Temple Members, \$28 non members



SISTERHOOD

ALYSSA FELLER

It's Your Sisterhood!

Sisterhood's Shop 'N Schmooze holiday boutique on October 15 was a great success. Kudos to Jan Kreckel and Sharon Bluth for

organizing and overseeing the entire event. Many thanks to all the Sisterhood ladies who helped to make the event run smoothly and thanks to everyone who attended the event in support of Sisterhood.

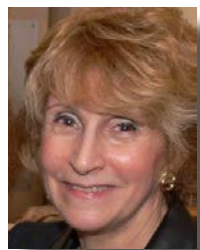
Our annual Latkes & Vodka Hanukkah Hannah Party, which took place on December 14, was as usual, a favorite event of many. Kudos to Susan Stewart and Rhonda Green for leading us in this event. A fun time was had by all as we played the Hanukkah Hannah game while eating delicious homemade latkes and drinking exotic Vodka drinks. Many thanks to all who generously contributed to the tzedakah project enabling Sisterhood to collect winter accessories for charity.

Here is a peek at some of Sisterhood's 2012 events:
Wingo, Wine and Wings – Thursday, January 19th
Shalach Manot Purim Baskets – Sunday, March 4th
Women's Seder – Tuesday, March 20th
Ladies night out (date to be announced)

Everyone is invited to attend Sisterhood meetings to offer suggestions for new and exciting events. Your input in Sisterhood is important. To find out more about what's new throughout the year, visit Sisterhood's website at Templechaverim.org or e-mail me at fellup@aol.com.

judaicabeautiful

Shop online at
<http://templechaverim.judaicabeautiful.com/>.
Every purchase returns 25% to your Sisterhood!



SOCIABLE SENIORS

ROCHELLE POTASH

More Great Programs

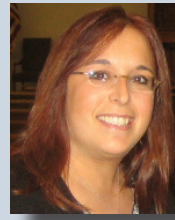
Sociable Seniors continues to bring informative and entertaining speakers to Temple Chaverim the first Thursday of every month.

On Thursday, November 3rd, Mitsue Endow Salador presented the story of Japanese Americans incarcerated during World War II. What an enlightening program! Jack Schnur returned on December 1st, and everyone enjoyed his presentation of Judy Garland, Part 1. She was one of the brightest, most tragic movie stars of Hollywood's Golden Era.

Sociable Seniors takes a winter break for the months of January and February and will resume on March 1st with Jack Schnur presenting Judy Garland, Part 2. As always, a delicious light lunch will be served. Join us for an entertaining afternoon. **Cost is \$9 for temple members, \$12 non-members. To make a reservation, call Sociable Seniors at 516-367-6100, ext 103.**

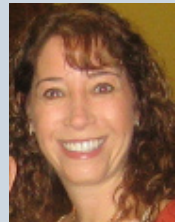


CHAVERIM TEMPLE YOUTH



MICHELLE CHALFEN

The CHATY Youth Group is under way and off to a great start! Club CHATY and JCHATY had a successful Social Actions Event by making sandwiches and bagging them for a homeless shelter. The students learned the importance of giving! A special thank you to: Layne and Ken Liner, Sherri and Jesse Weber, Barbi Schwartzberg, Paige Bravin and Heather Gomberg!



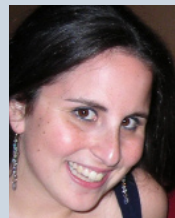
BETH TABAK

CLUB CHATY (5TH AND 6TH GRADERS)

- January 10th – Scavenger Hunt
- January 22nd - Active Kids/Pump it Up
- February 6th and 7th – Tu B'Shevat Event
- March 4th - Purim Carnival
- March 29th - Chocolate Seder

JCHATY (7TH AND 8TH GRADERS)

- January 10th – Scavenger Hunt
- February 1st – Grade 7 Tu B'Shevat Seder
- February 9th and 29th - Purim Carnival Planning for Grade 8
- March 4th - Purim Carnival
- March 14th - Plan Chocolate Seder for Grade 8
- March 29th - Chocolate Seder



HEATHER GOMBERG

CHATY (9TH – 12TH GRADE) CHATY has

had a great past couple of events. Three of our CHATYites attended Fall Kallah at the Kutz Camp in Warwick in October. We are lucky enough to have the next kallah in our backyard. In February, we have the opportunity to spend the weekend at North Shore Synagogue for Winter Kallah. In November, CHATY made cards for soldiers overseas who are unable to be home for the holidays. December consisted of a latke taste competition. The CHATYites paired up with Temple Beth Torah's youth group to find the best latke recipe. CHATY is looking forward to seeing all of our friends, new and old, at our January 19th event at temple. Spend some time with us and enjoy some dinner. Our senior youth group has the opportunity to run the Purim Carnival, which will be on March 4th. We will have planning meetings starting early February. CHATY also runs the Chocolate Seder on March 29th. Community service credit is offered for those teens that need require it for school for both events.

- January 19th – CHATY event onsite
- February 3rd – 5th – Winter Kallah at North Shore Synagogue
- February 9th - Purim Carnival Planning Meeting (Current 8th Graders are invited)
- February 29th - Purim Carnival Planning Meeting (Current 8th Graders are invited)
- March 4th - Purim Carnival (Current 8th Graders are invited)
- March 14th - Chocolate Seder Planning Meeting (Current 8th Graders are invited)
- March 18th - NFTY elections

Please return your Membership Forms to the office. All Lounge Nights are FREE for Members of the CHATY Youth Groups. Parents, we can always use your help by chaperoning and publicizing the events. Our committee meets once a month and we are open to suggestions. We look forward to having the children enjoy a FUN and SOCIAL year with their temple friends!!

Rabbi Lobel, rabbilobel@templechaverim.org
Heather Gomberg, Sr Youth Group Advisor, Heather@templechaverim.org
Michelle Chalfen, Youth Committee Co-Chair, michntodd@verizon.net
Beth Tabak, Youth Committee Co-Chair, bethjon@optonline.net



MEN'S CLUB

MEL POTASH

*The Men's Club
Moves Forward*



Although by the time you read this article, I will be in the sunny state of Florida, the Men's Club of Temple Chaverim will continue to be an important part of our curriculum. We will have had great meetings in November and December. But as they say, the best is yet to come.

On January 22nd, the Men's Club presents the rockin' Rabbi Brian Leiken. The temple is sure to rock like never before! This is followed by a speaker that had not been chosen when I wrote this article. However, I had discussed several great choices and will be surprised which one Vice President David Kaufman chooses. This event is scheduled to take place on February the 12th, Lincoln's birthday, and another great event will follow on March 18th. In many ways I am truly sorry to be away with such terrific events coming up for Men's Club. This, on top of our monthly card game which gets larger every month, are events hard to miss.

I'll be back at the end of March and hope to bring you even bigger and better surprises. That's all for now from me. Have a great winter.

I just wanted to express a sincere thank you for making our first experiences at Temple Chaverim memorable ones. From the time our daughter, Jordan, was born, my husband Scott and I knew that we were going to provide a solid Jewish upbringing for her. However, with so many choices, how would we ever make the right decision when it came to choosing the best synagogue? First, we thought we would eventually join the closest temple. Then some time passed and we figured that we would join where our friends had joined. Finally, our daughter was in second grade and we knew that we would have to begin "temple shopping". We decided to attend a family service at Temple Chaverim last year, on Yom Kippur.

**"WE KNOW
THAT BY
JOINING THIS
SYNAGOGUE,
WE HAVE
BECOME PART
OF SOMETHING
GREAT..."**



I will never forget my daughter's eyes when we pulled into the long driveway. She was in complete amazement. "Wow, guys...this place is AMAZING!!!" We both found this funny, since she had no idea what was inside the doors to this beautiful synagogue. When we entered, Jordan just looked and looked, not knowing where to focus her attention first. We took a seat in the sanctuary, and I clearly recall being very impressed by Rabbi Hecht's sermon. He was so mesmerizing to the children in attendance. I particularly loved the way he related the period of atonement to that of using Purell to cleanse the hands when they were in need of purification. When services ended, Jordan said to us, "Mommy, Daddy, can we come here like... all the time???" And, from that day on, every time we passed the entrance to Temple Chaverim, Jordan said to us, "This is where I am going to go for my Hebrew school, have my bat mitzvah, get married, and all that other great Jewish stuff!" How innocent her words seemed at that time, however they remained powerful, as we joined in May, 2011.

Our experiences since that day have been nothing other than positive. We received numerous welcoming phone calls from various members of the congregation. They were so nice, and sincere, and really made us feel like we belonged to something great. And then, on Jordan's first day of Hebrew school, we waited in the parking lot, curious to see her reaction and to hear about her experience. She told us excitedly about her teacher, Mrs. Gittler, and how she had such a great time learning about the holidays that approached. Since Jordan's first day of Hebrew school, we have attended a few services, a dinner for new members, and with each experience the warmth of the members and staff surrounded us. I am sure that this is only the beginning of many meaningful experiences. We know that by joining this synagogue, we have become a part of something great, and who would've thought that it all started with a drive along Plainview Road, and a child who could read a sign that read Temple Chaverim.

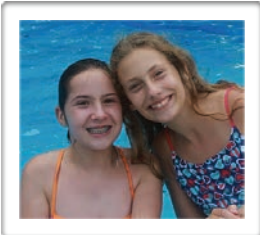
Janice, Scott, and Jordan Dohrman



CAMP CHAZAK

EISNER AND CRANE LAKE
UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM CAMPS

Chazak means strength. Together, we will strengthen our self-esteem, our camp community and our Jewish identity.

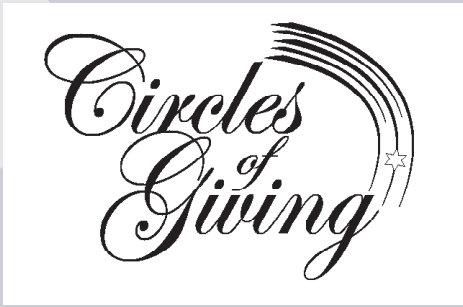


- 6-day Jewish overnight camp for children 9-14 years old with social developmental delays
- URJ Camp Experiences
- Embedded with Eisner and Crane Lake traditions

August 21, 2012 -
August 26, 2012



- Social Skills Building
- Resources that will enable campers to be successful
- Families participate in opening and closing camp ceremonies



Circles of Giving is a vital pledge program whereby congregants voluntarily enhance their annual support to Temple Chaverim by a fixed amount. While our dues are in line with other local Reform synagogues, they do not completely cover the cost of running our temple. In fact, temple dues, tuitions and fees cover only 80% of our expense budget. The gap of \$500 per household must be made up through voluntary donations and fundraising efforts.

Temple Chaverim is committed to excellence in religious, educational and social programming and to outstanding professional leadership. Your gift will ensure that all children and adults in our congregation will continue to enjoy all the benefits of membership and to provide scholarship to those in need. To help strengthen our synagogue and secure our future of upholding Jewish values, please make your pledge to the Circles of Giving Program.

Join or renew your participation
in Circles today!

CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE

Basic Dues + \$1,500 or above.

Circle of Distinction recognition PLUS:

A special plaque for your home or office with recognition in the Casino Night Blue & White Pages AND two Casino Night tickets or other major fundraiser event tickets.

CIRCLE OF DISTINCTION

Basic Dues + \$1,000 to \$1,499

Circle of Honor recognition PLUS:

A Shabbat dinner in your honor, Special honor at a Friday night service

CIRCLE OF HONOR

Basic Dues + \$500 to \$999

Listing on "Circles" plaque displayed in the Temple Lobby, Listing in "Connections", the temple newsletter, throughout the program year, Certificate of Appreciation presented at a special "Circles" Oneg Wine & Cheese reception

CIRCLES DONORS 5772! AS OF DECEMBER 10, 2011

CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE

Lloyd & Pamela Abramowitz
Arthur & Phyllis Angstreich
Paul & Debbie Apfel
Michael & Susan Ashner
Alan & Susan Borko
Matthew & Erica Breit
Jon & Karen Bressner
Howard Feinberg
Allen & Linda Greenbaum
Rabbi Jonathan Hecht & Gladys Rosenblum
Robert & Leslie Herenstein
David & Lisa Heymann
Jeffrey & Cindy Klein
Daniel & Jill Leav
Scott & Lori Levine
Hank & Marilyn Levy
Edwin & Ethel Lokshin
Men's Club of Temple Chaverim
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Thank you to our members for their generous donations for the period October 18, 2011 through December 5, 2011. Every effort was made to ensure accuracy. We apologize in advance for any errors or misspellings.

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Mel and Louise Adler
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The Bat Mitzvah of Amanda Schechter
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IN HONOR OF
The naming of Marla and Fred Krellenstein's granddaughter, Eliza Sarita Keyser

MEMORIAL LIST

October 18, 2011 - December 3, 2011

Nathan Stark, father of Cory Stark, passed away on October 20, 2011
Howard Feinberg, father of Carolyn Tucker and Mindy Brown, passed away on October 24, 2011
Edith Goldsmith, mother of Scott Goldsmith, passed away on November 2, 2011.
Irving Kreiner, father of David Kreiner, passed away on November 10, 2011
Steven Luxenberg, father of Michael Luxenberg, passed away on November 13, 2011
Julius Rehfield, father of Dorian Rehfield, passed away on November 14, 2011
Karen Weissman Flores, sister of Eileen Hoffman, passed away on November 19, 2011
Elliott Settle, father of Daniel Settle, passed away on November 24, 2011
Elliott Sherman, father of Chad Sherman, passed away on December 3, 2011

"In loving tribute, the following names have been inscribed on our Memorial Wall"

Spencer Steele - January 2, 2011
Mara Chwatt - August 28, 2003
Howard Feinberg - October 24, 2011

Visit our website at

www.templechaverim.org/aboutus/donations/
and discover the many wonderful and meaningful ways to make a donation!



WANT TO BE A MEMBERSHIP AMBASSADOR?

Looking for a little commitment ... a little volunteer job? If your time is tight and you prefer short term tasks, have I got the committee for you! The newly formed Congregant Relations committee is looking for a few temple members to assist with short term volunteer tasks such as Oneg Ambassador, Membership Mingler, Assistant Welcome Bag Deliverer. Do as much or as little as fits your schedule.

Contact Sheila Schroeder, Committee Chair for information, at sweetsheila624@aol.com or 631-691-2095.



KEEP TRACK OF THE TEMPLE!

Find out about up-to-the minute events as well as events months into the future by checking the calendar on our website. Print it out and display so your family will always know what's happening at Temple Chaverim!

CONNECTIONS connections@templechaverim.org

Communications Committee Editorial Staff

Alan Borko, Darlene Friedman, Helayne Giller, Sue Gold,
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OFFICE DIRECTORY 516-367-6100

Rabbi Jonathan L. Hecht, Ph.D.
Rabbi@TempleChaverim.org ext. 112

Associate Rabbi Josh Lobel
Rabbilobel@TempleChaverim.org ext. 121

Cantor Bradley Hyman
CantorBrad@TempleChaverim.org ext. 112

Executive Director Sue Gold
Suegold@TempleChaverim.org ext. 108

Principal Debbye Brandell
DBrandell@TempleChaverim.org ext. 109

Youth Advisor Heather Gomberg
Heather@TempleChaverim.org

Clergy Administrative Asst. Caryn Suckle
Caryn@TempleChaverim.org ext. 112

Main Office Adm. Asst. Rosemary Nucci
Rosemary@TempleChaverim.org ext. 101

Religious School Admin. Asst. Louise Sunshine
LSunshine@TempleChaverim.org ext. 128

Bookkeeper Vicky Gladowsky
Vicky@TempleChaverim.org ext. 124

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IS E-X-P-A-N-D-I-N-G

We are moving forward in new directions and want you to be a part of it. Bring your skills in photography, writing, graphic design, social media and more to our committee! Come to our next meeting. Look online at the temple calendar for meeting dates.

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FUNDRAISING

KAREN BRESSNER



The Fundraising Committee is hard at work to make the April 21st Casino Night a huge hit. We are in need of volunteers for the event as well as prize donations. If you can assist with either, please contact Karen Bressner at Karen.Bressner@Gmail.com.



“Save The Date” Temple Chaverim Casino Night Saturday, April 21, 2012 8pm-Midnight

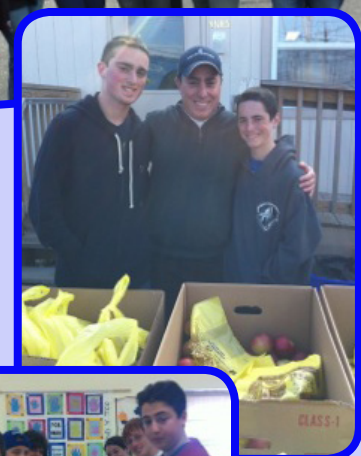
Helping Others by Jodie Cohen

Temple Chaverim’s 3rd annual Outreach program held on Sunday, November 13, at the Wyandanch Resource Center was a major success! As members of Tans (Tikkun Alliance of the North Shore), Temple Chaverim again partnered with Midway Jewish Center and the Mid Island JCC as part of our annual program. We gave out clothes and coats, brand new plus size clothes, books, toys, shoes, boots, blankets, sheets, sandwiches, brownies and bags of produce. Also, due to cash donations from some congregants, we were able to purchase new coats.

We began the event the Tuesday before by meeting in the ballroom to sort the hundreds of bags of clothes donated by congregants, friends and Alight, a plus size clothing store in Plainview. Then on Sunday morning we met at the JCC to make sandwiches and bag the brownies for the people of Wyandanch. Also, due to the abundance of last minute donations we had a lot of additional sorting to do.

Packing the U-haul van and all our cars, we sent off to Wyandanch for the event. We pulled into the Wyandanch Resource center, parked our cars and began our work of setting up approximately 25 tables. It was a beautiful day as we set up our tables piled high with clothes and sorted them by gender and size. As we set up, the people of Wyandanch lined up with excitement to come shop at our event. The members and friends of Temple Chaverim, Midway, and the JCC were there to greet and help our Wyandanch guests and find items for them to take home. Most of our guests left with 2 huge bags of clothes for themselves and their families. We also gave them sandwiches, brownies and produce to take home.

There were so many special highlights of the day, one in particular was watching the friendships made among the boys of Wyandanch and our temple boys. We even got to watch one boy show us how awesome he was at skateboarding. It was a successful day that warmed our hearts and souls. All are welcome next year to join us! Look for more information in the fall or you can e-mail jodiecohen@mac.com.



Photos (Top-Bottom): Some of the TANS volunteers stop to smile for a picture; The Breit men give out fresh produce; Boys from Temple Chaverim make sandwiches at the Mid-Island Y JCC to bring to the Wyandanch event.



PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

Temple Chaverim Tours to Israel 2008 & 2010

Support Temple Chaverim at the
Plainview-Old Bethpage Public Library (999 Old Country Road, Plainview)
and see our photography exhibit on display throughout February 2012.

Also join us for a free reception at the library on
Monday, February 13th from 7-9pm to celebrate! This event is open to the public.



OUR PHOTOS HAVE JUST RECEIVED ANOTHER HONOR!
*Eleven of our photographs from the "Impressions of Israel" collection
have been chosen as semi-finalists in the Arza World Photo Contest.
The final winners will be announced shortly.*

Heritage & Heirlooms

Personal Keepsakes of the Temple Chaverim Family

Tell us about YOUR family heirlooms and be a part of our next photography exhibit.

Complete a submission form by JAN. 12th so we can take a picture
of your family treasure to share with your chaverim family!

Flyers and forms are available at the Main Office.



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