



Lakeland
Hills
Jewish
Center

Gazette

Editor: Gary Oppenheimer 973-697-0225 webmaster@lhjc.org

November 2002

LHJC Needs You

Debby Schweighardt
President
973-962-6398
office@lhjc.org

I don't have time...I work...I have children...I went back to college...I teach college...I have a long commute...I've been there, done that...I'm already doing other activities in town...we need to see how the Rabbi performs...my kids are grown and we don't think the temple has anything for us anymore.

I've heard it all, every excuse in the world for not helping out. The truth is, I am your President. I work, I go to college at night, I have a child and I am **making the time**. However, I can only continue to do so with your support.

The following committees are in need of help and/or a Chairperson:

- **Membership** (Fred was Membership and he is moving)
- **Fundraising** needs a person/chairperson

- **Phone squad** (only 3 people are doing this, including the Chairperson)
- **Bereavement** (the Chairperson is ill and needs someone to fill in)
- The following Board position(s) need to be filled:
- **2nd Vice President**
- **Trustee**

If you've been there, done that, we need your expertise. If you have a long commute and you work and you have children and you go to college, then you're just like me – you fit right in – **make the time**.

Just because the kids are grown doesn't mean that God can only listen to your prayers on Yom Kippur. Just because your kids are grown doesn't mean that you cannot drive all of 2 miles to the Temple for Lunch and Learn with the Rabbi; a little Jewish education wouldn't hurt! Just because the kids are grown doesn't mean you can't come out and support a Bar/Bat Mitzvah child on his/her special day (your child had one once, too). Just because your kids are grown doesn't mean you can't come out and enjoy a wine tast-

ing party at the temple. *Am I beginning to get through to you yet?*

My thanks to Eileen Kirschbrown who will be taking up Hospitality and to Cliff Safane who will be returning to the Board in his roll as Past President. Many thanks to the present Board for their continued support and hard work.

Thank you to Pat and Fred Skalka for your support of Lakeland Hills Jewish Center. We wish you well as life takes you closer to family and further from us. You will be sorely missed.

Lastly, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Chanukah. I wish you good health, good fortune and happiness in your personal and professional lives. Should you hit a bump in the road, please call upon a fellow temple member to ease your way. That's what we're here for.

Chag Sameach
(Happy Holidays!)

From The Rabbi

Rabbi Irit Printz
rabbi@lhjc.org

I LOVE chocolate. I always buy the good stuff, too - Lindt, Godiva - I can almost taste it now. There's just one catch. I suffer from migraines and eating chocolate is like booking a ticket on the migraine express.

So I go months without touching the stuff and then I inevitably break down and have some and pay the price with a splitting headache. It's not like I don't KNOW that chocolate is bad for me, it is just that knowing what is good for you is one thing - and always DOING it is a different thing altogether. Of course, it is comforting to know it isn't just me - the world would be full of healthier, less stressed, and possibly happier people if we all did what we all know is good for us all the time.

Now here's a surprise. It turns out that this human tendency of ours - to do things we know are bad for us - has been around since the beginning of time.

In the first week of our current Torah reading cycle we read about Adam and Eve and the forbidden fruit. I bet that in the split second before Eve bit into the fruit she thought "maybe this isn't the best thing in the world for me to do" flashed in her mind, but she did it anyway.

In the next parsha we learn about Noah - how he and his family were the only ones in the



world righteous enough to survive the Big Flood, how they lived on the ark until land could be found again, how one of the first things Noah did upon disembarking from the ark was to plant a vineyard, and how one night Noah drank the fruits of his labor and got so inebriated that he lost consciousness. The Torah is not terribly clear on what happens next, but his son, Ham, takes advantage of his father's drunkenness to abuse him in some unspecified sexual or physical way.

The Rabbis seem puzzled by Noah's behavior. In the Babylonian Talmud in tractate Sanhedrin, they link what they see as Noah's act with Adam and Eve's act of the forbidden fruit by suggesting that this fruit (which, by the way, is never specified in the Torah) might have been grapes. They then have God ask Noah "couldn't you learn from adam harishon (the first human)? Was not wine responsible [for his banishment from Eden]?" In other words, "What were you thinking?"

We all ask this question of ourselves from time to time, and we probably ask it of other people too (as a matter of fact, I distinctly remember asking my little sister that very question when she introduced me to her last boyfriend!). This is a good question to ask, a good way to keep our eye - if not our feet - on the right path.

Moderation is a good thing in Judaism, and it is the fact that we are not perfect that makes us humans instead of saints or angels. But pushing ourselves one step at a time to improve the things that can and need improvement in our lives is also a big part of what being Jewish is all about. The first step in this admittedly challenging journey is to own up, to take responsibility for the choices we make in our lives. It is no coincidence that the first step in all 12 step programs is admitting the problem - after all, people with addictions simply find it harder to avoid the thing that is bad for them than people who don't have addiction problems.

Last week I happened to catch about 5 minutes of the "Dr. Phil" show - the new guru of television self help. He had some woman on the show who was suing McDonald's for making her fat. McDonald's apparently managed that particular hostile act by making their double cheeseburgers so tasty that she has to buy three of them at a time and by not having any of their cashiers ever tell her "these are really fattening, you might want to reconsider your pur-

chase”. Now, as someone who has always had to struggle with her weight, I am totally sympathetic to this woman’s physical issues. But who is she kidding? We each make our own choices and they are not always the ones that are in our best interest. The very least we need to do is to be honest about the price we are willing to pay for the choices we know we shouldn’t make.

The very first Parsha in our yearly cycle ends with God poised to annihilate all of Creation. The explicit reason given is that God realizes that humanity’s inclination is towards evil and that this is all they focus their attention on every day. At least part of the problem was people’s unwillingness to take responsibility for their own actions: Adam blamed Eve for the fruit fiasco, and Eve in turn blamed the snake. Cain asked God “am I my brother’s keeper?” to avoid responsibility for murdering his brother, and the people in the generation of the flood spent all day thinking up new evils and clearly not spending any time in self reflection or in acknowledgment of the wrongs they had done up to that point. Even Noah and his family are problematic. He is described as a righteous man in his generation - but our Rabbis tell us that this is only by comparison to others, only because he is willing to control his desires and to take responsibility for his actions.

In this day and age of instant gratification and consumerism - when the fashionable thing to do is to blame everything on our

parents, our neighborhood, or our socio-economic status - this is an important lesson to learn. A scant two weeks after the official end of the High Holiday season, we are reminded that introspection and repentance are things we should be engaged in all the time.

The Bible never tells us whether Noah got drunk again or not. Perhaps I am being cynical, but I doubt he never touched wine again. Still, as I put away the piece of chocolate I was just about to put in my mouth, I acknowledge that we sometimes do learn from our mistakes, that sometimes we do choose the things that are healthier for us, at least for one day

And by accepting responsibility for our choices and actions we finally make change possible.

Rabbi Irit Printz

Oneg Sponsors Needed

Please volunteer to sponsor an Oneg for any special events in your life – so that others can share the celebration with you. Contact Debbie Schweighardt 973-962-6398 or office@lhjc.org.

Putting Words into Action

During Rosh HaShannah, Rabbi Printz spoke out about hunger in our world today.

Recently, Bea O'Rourke, director of the Center for Food Action spoke to the congregation about hunger and unemployment in North Jersey.

On Sunday October 20th our temple participated in the annual Hunger Walk along with all of the churches serving Ringwood. About 200 people walked. Even more people helped by sponsoring the walkers.

Special thanks to Cliff Safane who representing the Lakeland Hills Jewish Center, offered up prayers with representatives of all of the houses of worship. Over \$8,000 was raised for the Center For Food Action.

Free Youth Group Membership

Just a reminder...Lakeland Hills Jewish Center pays the membership fee for all children of active members who wish to join any youth organization sponsored by United Synagogue. The two available organizations are United Synagogue Youth (USY) and Kadima. Both are represented at Shomrei Torah in Wayne

Happy Birthday

12/1 Golda Wekerle
12/11 Naama Rosen
12/12 Franklin Rikon
12/25 Ayelet Rosen
12/25 Sharon Whitney
12/31 Jack Schwartz
1/3 Melissa Greenspan
1/3 Mellysa Stiel
1/18 Carolelee Mendelson
1/21 Jennifer Sanders
1/29 Pat Nadler
1/29 Margo Rosenbaum
2/1 Jerilyn Okin
2/2 Ed Wekerle
2/5 Claire Axelrod
2/7 Mike Greenspan
2/13 Cliff Safane

Just A Thought...

Life is 10% what you make it,
and 90% how you take it.

2/15 Aaron Rikon
2/15 Betty Walter
2/18 Hank Kanarek
2/24 Melanie Axelrod
2/25 Tracey Rosenbaum
2/25 John Schweighardt
2/28 Nina Rosenbaum
2/13 Cliff Safane
2/15 Aaron Rikon
2/15 Betty Walter
2/18 Hank Kanarek
2/24 Melanie Axelrod
2/25 Tracey Rosenbaum
2/25 John Schweighardt
2/28 Nina Rosenbaum
3/2 Alan Sanders
3/7 Muriel Kanarek
3/7 Beth Rosen
3/11 Debbie Holtzberg
3/12 Rebecca Feldman
3/19 Joel Schwartz
3/23 Doris Markman
3/25 Tod Donow
3/28 Samantha Manjorin
3/28 Eric Frey

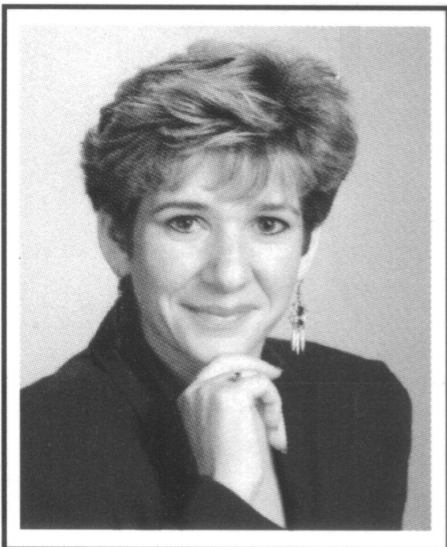


Anniversaries

12/11 Pat and Richard Nadler
12/17 Alla and Ely Kulek
12/17 Pat and Fred Skalka
12/22 Muriel and Hank Kanarek
1/3 Margaret and Michael Kurnov
1/24 Andrea and Alan Sanders
3/8 Sherry and Ira Schiowitz
3/26 Heide and Mark Stiel
3/28 Peggy and Dan Strauss

Did we miss something special?
A birthday?
A college acceptance?
A graduation?
Your anniversary?
A Nobel Prize?

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Oppenheimer at 973-697-0225
or e-mail webmaster@lhjc.org



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Getting the Story Out

Gary Oppenheimer
973-697-0225
Newsletter, PR & Webmaster

The lhjc.org web site continues, like the rest of us, to evolve and improve as time goes on. Your suggestions have been an important source of ideas that have, and will continue to make Lakeland Hills Jewish Center, something other than a hard to find synagogue someplace in NJ.

We've made an effort to get the word out. Some of the local municipal web sites now link to our site, as do a number of search engines.

So far, close to 400 people have visited the site. When compared to other sites on the web, a number in the low hundreds would be deemed a resounding failure. However, given the size of the LHJC, one must conclude that for every possible LHJC member that might have visited the site (and we know that not all members use the Internet), several more non-members also visited.

This is important because some of these people may be starting to look for homes in the area. Others may have already moved here and are looking for a synagogue. Others yet may be unhappy with their current synagogue and might be looking for a change.

The web site is intended to provide a way of keeping you, the current member, aware of the schedule of activities, helping you locate other Jewish web sites worth visiting, and reading a Rabbi's sermon that you might have missed.

The site also functions as the front door for prospective members... looking for a synagogue, looking for a Hebrew school, or, (and more



likely) looking for instructions on driving to the LHJC itself.

Recently, we added a bulletin board to the first page for quick information on current events, and we've added many, many links to the Jewish Links page.

We're adding a membership information page to the site. We need current information on our members. Please either fill in the form in the Gazette and mail it back, or fill in the form on the web site.

The LHJC listserv has been used a number of times to broadcast e-mails to many of the LHJC members – reminding them of upcoming events, as well as augmenting the telephone squad when an important news needs to be broadcast to the membership as a whole. If you get a new e-mail address, or know of a member who recently started using e-mail, please let us know.

Again, I'd like to hear your thoughts on the new format... the good, the bad, and if you must, the ugly. More importantly, we'd like your contributions.

Lastly, as a benefit for LHJC members, we're offering the opportunity for you to have your business web site link appear on the LHJC.ORG site. Please take advantage of this opportunity to let others in the LHJC community know what service or products you offer.

Gazette Editor Notes

When I took on the job of publishing the Gazette, I was sure it was going to be a challenging job. I'm delighted (not complaining) to tell you that I was right.

This issue of the Gazette should have been in your hands a week or so ago... after all, it is the November issue. So why are you reading this in December?

Those companies which advertise in the Gazette are an important part of the publication, and more importantly, their advertising fees are an important part of the LHJC revenue stream. An effort was made to assure that each and every advertiser had an opportunity to "re-up" their advertising. Many chose to do so, and to these people, we say thank you very much. A few chose to stop advertising in the Gazette. We hope that they'll reconsider this decision at a later date.

In the interim, you can help the Gazette, and by extension, LHJC by reaching out to stores, vendors, suppliers, and service providers that you deal with and ask them to advertise in the Gazette. Rates are as low as \$50/year for a business card, or \$200/year for a full page ad. Send your e-mail or fax to webmaster@lhjc.org to get the full rate sheet. Such a Deal!

LHJC Crisis Meeting

**December 15,
2002
7:00 P.M.**

We all expect Lakeland Hills Jewish Center to be here for us whether we are celebrating a simcha or going through sorrowful times. Then there are the in-between times, when we just want to go to Friday Night or Saturday Services, and of course there are the High Holidays...but what if there were no more LHJC?

Now, LHJC needs you. Without your support, the temple will cease to exist.

You've heard this before, you say, and we've pulled through before. How? The answer is simple. The congregants rallied together and we re-solved the problem, whether it was a financial issue or a rabbi predicament. This time, our difficulties center around the fact that there are not enough people willing to help out. We can overcome this too, but only if everyone does their part.

The first step is to attend the December 15th emergency meeting.

Please come. The future of LHJC depends upon it.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

The annual pre-Thanksgiving Inter-faith service was held on Nov. 26 the Ringwood Community Presbyterian Church. Approximately 15 LHJC members joined with several hundred other people from the community for the evening. The evening started out with your editor reading Psalm 46, followed by a choral offering including the Churches Harmony Bells and readings by several other attendees.

Rabbi Printz, as keynote speaker for the evening, explored a tiny portion of the story of Joseph, and the impact of that one small section on the future of the Jewish (and by extension, Christian) faith. She also introduced to the non-Jewish audience, an example of rabbinic analysis that is not commonly seen in church settings. The sermon was so well received by everyone, that we're including it in the Gazette for the benefit of those who could not attend.

It is a time honored Jewish tradition to read a portion - called a parsha - from the first five books of the Bible

every week. This way, over the course of a year, we can read the five books - which we call the Torah - in their entirety. It is another time honored tradition to root each week's sermon in that week's Bible portion, in the parsha. This week we celebrate Thanksgiving - a holiday that is all about honoring our traditions, so it seems particularly appropriate for me to honor my own tradition and preach to you from this week's Biblical portion.

This week's parsha is full of familiar stories. Among others, we have the feud between Joseph and his brothers, the sale of Joseph into slavery, and Joseph's stint in jail. What I would like to focus on, however, is a little known side story - a couple of lines really, in the midst of all that action.

In Genesis 37, Jacob asks Joseph to go check on his brothers who are shepherding the family flocks somewhere around Shchem - modern day Nablus. Joseph goes looking for them, but when he reaches Shchem, they are nowhere to be found. At a loss, he wanders around: "There a man came upon him while he was wandering in the fields.", Genesis tells us. "The man asked him, 'what are you seeking?' and He answered: 'I am looking for my brothers.'" This man then gives Joseph directions to Dotan, where Joseph indeed finds his brothers, they throw him into a pit, and the rest - as they say - is history.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service – cont.

Our first clue that this small encounter might be special is given a little earlier in the text.

When Jacob sends Joseph to look for his brothers, Joseph responds to his father by saying “Hineni” - “Here I am” - a code word in the Bible that indicates a highly spiritual situation is about to unfold. It is the word Abraham uses when God calls on him to sacrifice Isaac, it is the word Moses will later use to answer God’s call out of the burning bush. Hearing “Hineni” in the text, we are primed to look for a spiritual scene, and the very next scene to unfold is the one between Joseph and this man in Shchem.

Our next clue is the mystery person himself.

He is called an “ish” in the text - a generic Hebrew term for a man that, nonetheless, is often used to designate angels as well. The angels that visit Abraham and Lot are sometimes called angels and other times men - using this self same term. The “ish” that visits Samson’s parents also turns out to be an angel, and the “ish” Jacob wrestles with all night does too.

Certainly, many Rabbinic commentators have labeled Joseph’s mysterious helper “an angel” - how else, they wonder, could he possibly have known where Joseph’s

brothers would be. How else would he happen upon Joseph as he was aimlessly wandering the fields? It is a coincidence that is too suspect.

So the dialogue is then transformed. Joseph meets an angel who is asking him a pointed question: “what is it you are seeking?” How many of us can answer that question, really? How many of us can think beyond tomorrow’s deadline, or this month’s paycheck? This is a hard question, one that we all need to think about.

No one needs to hear this question more than Joseph does. At this point in the story he is still a young, inconsiderate, and a somewhat conceited brat. He tattle tells on his brothers, he shows off his father’s affections, he torments his older brothers with visions of his future mastery. He has certainly not stopped to consider the larger question inherent in the simple “what is it you seek?” For him, the question runs no deeper than it’s surface meaning. He is looking to get through an errand. And because he does not attend to the moment of the question, he winds up in a pit - sold into slavery.

Yet Joseph, almost inadvertently, has given a great existential answer: “I am looking for my brothers” he says. We could read this to mean: “I am looking for those with whom my soul can connect, for those who can help bring

meaning to my life. I am looking for my brothers. Do you know where I can find such people?” Do you know where YOU can find such people?

But what if I am reading too much into these two verses? What if the man was just a man, and just happened to know where the brothers went to? After all, coincidences do happen! Well, I would propose to you that in such a case, the spiritual significance of this exchange is even greater! Just think about it...

Harold Kushner, a modern day Rabbi and Bible commentator remarks that if it wasn’t for this encounter, Joseph would have had to give up his search for his brothers and go home. This means he would have never gone on to Dotan, his brothers wouldn’t have had the opportunity to get rid of him, and he would not have been sold into slavery. Of course, this means that Jacob’s household would not have been invited to settle in Egypt during the famine, or bounded into slavery a generation later. And this, of course, means there would have been no Exodus, and therefore, no mount Sinai, no giving of the Torah, no Ten Commandments, no revelation or covenant. And all of this, because of one missed chanced encounter in a lonely field out in the middle of nowhere!

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service – cont.

What is it you imagine when I say “an angel”? Is it those cute cupid like things on the Hallmark cards? Or is it Tess, Monica and Andrew from “Touched by an Angel”?

In Hebrew, “angel” means simply a messenger. According to the Jewish tradition, an angel can be anyone - anyone that is sent to us at exactly the time we need them, so we can hear or see exactly what is that we need to hear or see. Real people can be angels too - God doesn't shy away from using us as angels to our fellow human beings.

Let me share one story with you - it is from a book by Lawrence Kushner called “Eyes Remade for Wonder”.

He writes about one of his students' great-aunts, Sussie:

This story takes place in Munich, in Nazi Germany. Sussie had been riding a city bus home from work when SS storm troopers suddenly stopped the coach and began examining the identification papers of the passengers. Jews were being told to leave the bus and get into a truck around the corner. My student's great aunt watched from her seat in the rear of

the bus as the soldiers systematically worked their way down the aisle. She began to tremble, tears streaming down her face. When the man next to her noticed she was crying, he politely asked her why. “I don't have papers. I am a Jew. They are going to take me” she answered. The man exploded with disgust. He began to curse and scream at her. “You stupid woman” he roared. “I can't stand being near you!” The SS men asked what all the yelling was about. “Damn her!” the man shouted angrily. “My wife has forgotten her papers again! I am so fed up. She always does this!”. The soldiers laughed and moved on. Sussie never saw the man again. She never even knew his name.

Earlier in Genesis Cain sarcastically asks God “am I my brother's keeper?” but the answer is a resounding “YES”. We ARE our brothers' and sisters' keepers - if we won't do it, who will?

The ancient Rabbis taught that each of us is destined to be an angel for at least one other person during our life. At least once, most likely without our even noticing it, we will play our crucial part and change someone's life forever.

The Chinese believe that if you save someone's life, then you become responsible for it. If we are an angel for someone, are we not then responsible for them? Are our angels not responsible for us? Does this not create a network of interconnections, of mutual responsibility, of human brotherhood?

What is it that You seek?

Where is it that You are going?

Who are your brothers and sisters?

Who are the angels in your life?

Who can you be an angel to?

Thanksgiving is an excellent time to ask ourselves these questions, to pledge our devotion to acting in a way that nourishes the souls of those around us, that sustains the very spirit of our fellow human beings. Let us spend this thanksgiving being a blessing to our families, our friends, and the strangers we encounter. Let us spend this Thanksgiving accepting the blessings that all of those angels within our reach have to offer us.

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Service charge per account				\$10.00
TOTAL				

*Minimum order of 25 tickets.

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 East Rutherford, NJ 07073

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Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Address: _____

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Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Skalkas: Good bye

December 2, 2002

To the President, Board of Trustees and Members of Lakeland Hills Jewish Center:

It is with a heavy heart that I write that I tender my resignation. So that the Board of Trustees may continue with the business of keeping LHJC vibrant and Healthy, I resign my position as Past President and chair of the Membership Committee. Effective December 31, 2002, Pat and I resign as members of Lakeland Hills Jewish Center.

This is not a decision that Pat and I have enjoyed making, but it is a decision that we must make. Everyone is aware of the financial difficulties that the current economic situation has brought to everybody, and Pat and I are now amongst the victims. Our exit strategy is to sell our home and move in with our daughter until we recover financially.

Pat and I have been members of Lakeland Hills Jewish Center for a short 8 years. In that time I have had more meaningful experiences than most people are privileged to have in a lifetime.

I am leaving a part of me in Lakeland Hills Jewish Center...a part of me consisting of energy, time and love for a community that has become a part of my soul. Lakeland Hills Jewish Center has almost become like my child, to be nurtured, loved and encouraged to grow.

As any child will, Lakeland Hills Jewish Center has taught me much. In a conversation with Jane Enkin, Rabbi Justin Lewis's wife, on one of the Saturday night rides to Riverdale (in the Bronx), Jane remarked that it seemed I wanted to spend my life studying in a yeshiva. I told Jane that Lakeland Hills Jewish Center was my yeshiva. I have learned how to work with people, and I have learned how much people will give when asked. I have learned how to lead, even when it is somewhere I did not think I wanted to go. I have grown in directions I could not see before I became part of this community.

Although leaving is not easy, leaving is easier knowing the members of the board and the President who are staying with the task. Although many members have told me that I have done a great job as President of LHJC, you are going to find that Debby Schweighardt will be doing a much better job. She has already been in touch with United Synagogue to pursue programming and help to make Lakeland Hills Jewish Center grow and stay strong. The only thing she is going to need is your help.

As with any farewell, there are always the memories. I will remember Amy Nadler leading services. I will remember the Orthodox couple who called on Friday night from the Ringwood Park and Ride. They could not get hold of the people they were visiting with and spent the night at LHJC. I will remember how Cliff Safane always found a special way to deliver his 'speech' at his children's b'nai mitzvot. I will remember cleaning out the room behind the bima with Debbie Schwartz. I will remember Saul passing out bread every Friday night. I will remember the (too) many Rabbis that have passed through our building. I will remember each and every one of you in little ways that bring smiles to my eyes. Although we are physically leaving Ringwood, Pat and I will never leave Lakeland Hills Jewish Center.

May you and yours, and especially Lakeland Hills Jewish Center, know only strength, happiness and peace in the years to come.

Shalom,

Fred Skalka

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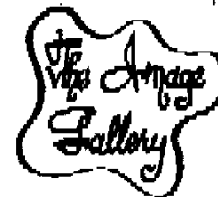
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Hebrew School Report

Lori Steel
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school@lhjc.org

Hebrew School began by way of orientation on Sept 18, 2002. I'd like to thank all those who attended and pitched in. For those of you who unfortunately missed it, we had a pizza party while the children decorated the Succah. The weather was delightful and the moms got to reconnect.

I'd like to welcome out two new families who have joined us, the Halberstadts and the Kirschbrowns. There may even be a third, which is wonderful news. New people joining bring fresh faces and ideas, in addition to new sentiments, to the table and just nourish our little school. We have good reason to be excited for this New Year. And speaking of excitement, our goal this year is to try some new and innovative fundraisers in order to collect money to fuel our fantasies. We have some really great ideas for class trips and school assemblies that would enrich our program and spark the children' (and their parents) interests.

Lastly, I'd like to mention that this term, we will not have formal teacher conferences nor parent visitation day. Anyone who wishes to visit their child's class or

Speak privately about their chilled may do so by setting an appointment with the teacher

Unfortunately, we do miss out on Sukkoth by starting in October (instead of September, as we usually do). All the holidays fall extremely early this year.

You'll soon be receiving your calendars and schedules. Like I mentioned, all is in the works.

We're looking forward to seeing you soon, and we will get together for an orientation of sorts before school starts, so get those volunteer hands ready!!!!

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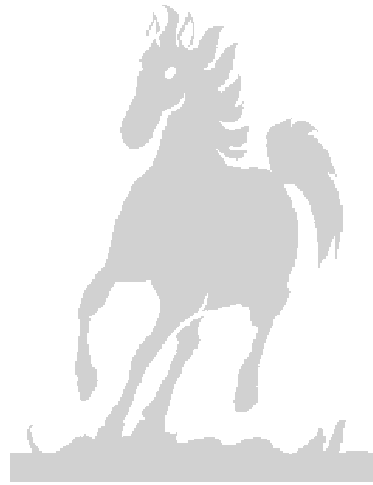
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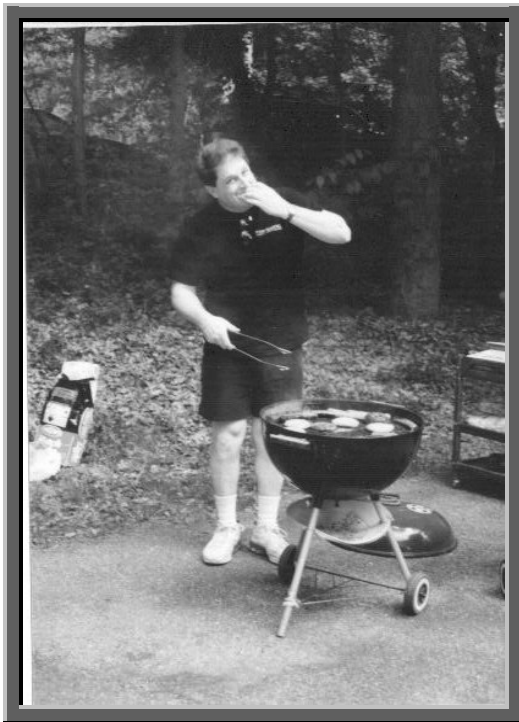
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*Scenes from the LHJC Picnic
(special thanks to the Schwartzes for the pictures)*



Guest Sermon: “It’s a beautiful day”

By Jeremy Gordon

Colleague of Rabbi Printz

Email: jegordon@jtsa.edu

It’s a beautiful day and I am walking on the banks of the River cradling my favorite glass bowl. It’s glistening in the light. I want to see it better, so I place the bowl on the palm of my hand and hold it up to the sun. And I’m struck by its incredible unique beauty. I’ve never seen such a ... and then I trip on a root, something in the path, I can no longer remember, and as I stumble the bowl slips and in the slowest of slow motions, tumbles to the ground and shatters. I drop to my knees and, perhaps naively, try, at the very least, to gather in the shards. But then, as I’m scrabbling in the undergrowth, a million tiny eels come sliding through the leaves and they slide over the shards of the broken bowl and together the eels and the shards disappear into the earth. And as I watch the last of the still glistening shards disappear from sight I suddenly realize how foolish I had been. What had I been thinking? And I get up from my knees and walk away.

Joseph, the hero of this run of parshiot is a dreamer, but according to the Bible he is the dreamer of only one of the three pairs of dreams that form a leitmotif in his story.

There are Joseph’s dreams – of the sheaves and the stars bowing to his sheaf and his star.

And then there are the dreams of Pharaoh’s servants – dreams of butlering again or carrying loaves of bread only for them to be eaten by the birds.

And then there are the dreams of Pharaoh himself – dreams of cows and, again, dreams of sheaves of wheat.

Leah Mazur, at the Hebrew University, shows how the social environment in which each pair of dreams are dreamt rises ever higher.

We begin with a bunch of shepherds in Canaan.

And then there are the servants of the King.

And finally the King himself.

Of course to the religious mind there is one madreiga – one level – far higher than that of Pharaoh, and this brings me to God’s dream.

It’s a beautiful day – dreamt God – and I am walking on the banks of the River cradling my favorite glass bowl. It’s glistening in the light. I want to see it better, so I place the bowl on the palm of my hand and hold it up to the sun. And I’m struck by its incredible unique beauty. I’ve never seen such a ... and then I trip on a root, something in the path, I can no longer remember, and as I stumble the bowl slips and in the slowest of slow motions, tumbles to the ground and shatters. I drop to my knees and, perhaps naively, try, at the very least, to gather in the shards. But then, as I’m scrab-

bling in the undergrowth, a million tiny eels come sliding through the leaves and they slide over the shards of the broken bowl and together the eels and the shards disappear into the earth. And as I watch the last of the still glistening shards disappear from sight I suddenly realize how foolish I had been. What had I been thinking? And I get up from my knees and walk away.

So Joseph, what does it mean?

Well God, the glass is the glass from the bus that was the blown up by the suicide bomber and the shards disappearing into the earth are the lives that were lost forever, and you walking away, God, that’s the saddest part of all. But God, the dreams, they are supposed to come in pairs. Do you have another dream for me God?

Not today, says God. You blow each other up, you cheat and lie and steal, you oppress the poor, you walk past the hungry as they lie on the street. You are destroying this world with your incessant desire to consume, while there are millions who live on a pittance. You would rather spend billions of dollars on cosmetics than cure or prevent simply treated diseases that kill on a daily basis in the developing world.

No, says God, your problem isn’t the lack of my dream. Your problem is that you are too busy, too proud and too stubborn to care.

Nu... What's so funny?

ABBOTT & COSTELLO
LEARN HEBREW
by Rabbi Jack Moline
(proof read by Leah Oppenheimer)

ABBOTT: I see you're here for your Hebrew lesson.

COSTELLO: I'm ready to learn.

A: Now, the first thing you must understand. is that Hebrew and English have many words which sound alike, but they do not mean the same thing.

C: Sure, I understand.

A: Now, don't be too quick to say that.

C: How stupid do you think I am - don't answer that. It's simple-some words in Hebrew sound like words in English, but they don't mean the same.

A: Precisely.

C: We have that word in English, too. What does it mean in Hebrew?

A: No, no. Precisely is an English word.

C: I didn't come here to learn English, I came to learn Hebrew. So make with the Hebrew.

A: Fine. Let's start with mee.

C: You.

A: No, mee.

C: Fine, we'll start with you.

A: No, we'll start with mee.

C: Okay, have it your way.

A: Now, mee is who.

C: You is Abbott.

A: No, no, no. Mee is who.

C: You is Abbott.

A: You don't understand.

C: I don't understand? Did you just say me is who?

A: Yes I did. Mee is who.

C: You is Abbott.

A: No, You misunderstand what I am saying. Tell me about mee.

C: Well, you're a nice enough guy.

A: No, no. Tell me about mee!

C: Who?

A: Precisely.

C: Precisely what?

A: Precisely who.

C: It's precisely whom!

A: No, mee is who.

C: Don't start that again -go on to something else.

A: All right. Hu is he.

C: Who is he?

A: Yes.

C: I don't know. Who is he?

A: Sure you do. You just said it.

C: I just said what?

A: Hu is he.

C: Who is he?

A: Precisely.

C: Again with the precisely! Precisely who?

A: No, precisely he.

C: Precisely he? Hu is he?

A: Precisely!

C: And what about me?

A: Who.

C: Me, me, me!

A : Who, who who!

C: What are you, an owl? Me! Who is me?

A: No, who is he!

C: I don't know I maybe he is me!

A: No, hee is she! (STARE AT ABBOTT)

C: Do his parents know about this?

A: About what?

C: About he!

A: What about her?

C: That she is he!

A: No, you've got it wrong-hee is she!

C: Then who is he?

A: Precisely!

C: Who?

A: He!

C: Me?

A: Who'

C: He?

A: She!

C: Who is she?

A: No, hu is he.

ABBOTT & COSTELLO LEARN HEBREW (cont)

C: I don't care who is he, I want to know who is she?

A: No, that's not right.

C: How can it not be right? I said it. I was standing here when I said it, and I know me.

A: Who.

C: Who?

A: Precisely!

C: Me! Me is that he you are talking about! He is me!

A: No, hee is she!

C: Wait a Minute, wait a minute! I'm trying to learn a little Hebrew, and now I can't even speak English. Let me review.

A: Go ahead.

C: Now first you want to know me is who.

A: Correct.

C: And then you say who is he

A: Absolutely.

C: And then you tell me he is she.

A & C: Precisely!

C: Now look at this logically. If me is who. and who is he. And he is she. Don't it stand to reason that me is she?

A: Who?

C: She!

A: That is he!

C: Who is he?

A & C: Precisely!

C: I have just about had it. You have me confused I want to go home. You know what I want? Ma!

A: What.

C: I said ma.

A: What.

Q: What are you, deaf? I want Ma!

A: What!

C: Not what, who!

A: He!

C: Not he! Ma is not he!

A: Of course not! Who is he!

C: I don't know. I don't know. I don't care. I don't care who is he, he is she, me is who, ma is what. I just want to go home now and play with my dog.

A: Fish.

C: Fish?

A: Dag is fish.

C: That's all, I'm outa here.

Glossary:

<u>Hebrew</u>		<u>English</u>
Mee	מי	Who
He	היא	She
Hu	הוא	He
Ma	מה	What
Dag	דג	Fish

Lunch and Learn

By: Leah Oppenheimer

The Lunch-and-Learn, a session after Saturday morning services, is a monthly lecture and discussion group.

I went to the Saturday morning service, and after the service was over, my mother, myself, and a few other people helped set-up a lunch of bagels, egg salad, and all of the fixings. Then, along with Rabbi Printz, we all went into the room where the Friday night *onegs* are held, where we ate lunch.

The Rabbi then told us the story of Adam and Eve, which was followed by a long discussion with lots of questions, ideas, and answers. We were comparing what everyone had learned in Hebrew school versus what is really written in the Bible.

In the discussion, we talked about things such as the Tree of Life, the fruit from the tree that Adam ate, how Adam and Eve were created, and some other things.

I found it very interesting, and well oriented for teens and adults.

The next one will be on December 26. Join us while we Lunch and Learn.

Boycott the Arab Boycott of Israel

Submitted by
Marilyn Judivan

These companies are being boycotted by those hostile to Israel because of their support for Israel.

While being hurt themselves, they are helping the economy of Israel tremendously. Whenever possible, **please try to buy from these companies** and their subsidiaries. Note... a more complete listing is available at <http://www.boycottisraelgoods.org>.

- AOL Time Warner
- Apax Partners & Co Ltd
- Coca-Cola
- Chadwicks of Boston
- Danone
- Delta Galil - Hema, Victoria's Secret, Gap, Banana Republic, Structure,

- J. Crew, JCPenny, Pryca, Lindex, Dim, DKNY, Ralph Lauren, Playtex, Calvin
- Klein, Hugo Boss
- Disney
- Estee Lauder
- IBM
- Johnson And Johnson
- Kimberly-Clark: Kleenex, Kotex, Huggies
- Lewis Trusy Group Ltd
- L'oreal: Giorgio Armani, Redkin, Lancome, Vinchey Labratories, Biotherm,
- Helena Rubinstein, Maybel-line, Ralph Lauren
- Marks And Spencer
- Nestle
- News Corporation, Fox, Sky, Star, National Geographic, The Weekly
- Standard, News Of The World, The Sun, New York Post,

- Harper Collins, Nursery
- World, US News & World Report
- Nokia
- Revlon
- Sara Lee - Hanes, Playtex, Champion, Leggs, Bali, Just My Size, Lovable,
- Wonderbra
- Selfridges
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Yoga Dynamics

Winter Schedule 2002-2003

Tuesday	7:00p - 8:30p
	8:30p - 10:00p
Wednesday	9:30a - 11:00a
Thursday	9:30a - 11:00a
	11:00a - 12:30p

Class size is limited and by appointment only
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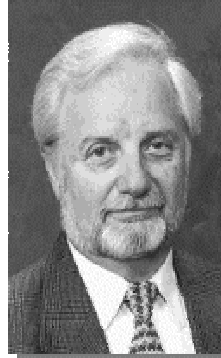
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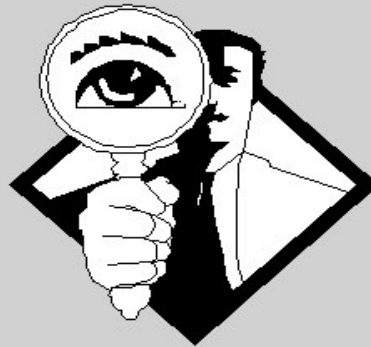
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Lori Steele

What's Cookin' Good Lookin'?

Noodle Kugel

From the kitchen of Dorris Markman

1	lb	Broad egg noodles
4	Eggs	
$\frac{1}{2}$	Cup	Raisins (dark or light)
1	Stick	margarine
10	oz	Apricot preserves
10	oz	Peach preserves
		Cinnamon
		Sugar
		Salt



Editors Note: The Gazette welcomes any contributions - particularly those associated with an upcoming Jewish Holiday.

1. Preheat oven to 375^o F
2. Presoak raisins while preparing dish, then drain.
3. Cook and drain noodles.
4. Melt margarine in a 13"X9" pan.
5. Beat eggs with $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp salt
6. Mix preserves and raisins. Add noodle and eggs - mix thoroughly
7. Pour noodle mixture into baking pan. Sprinkle top with mixture of cinnamon and sugar.

Thoughts from the VP

Marilyn Gurtman-Oppenheimer
973-697-0225
marilyngo@aol.com

We are a small congregation – 48 families. We can't depend on the other members to keep Lakeland Hills going – we all have to contribute.

Here are some suggestions:

- Join a committee. There are many committees that need help, and even more that have no chairs – see the listings in this newsletter.
- Think of an event that will encourage members to spend some 'non-shul' time together. Then ask another member to help you organize it.
- Offer to pick up Rabbi Printz on Friday afternoon in Ringwood at the bus stop, or bring her to the bus at the Willowbrook Mall on Saturday night – it's a long bus trip to/from Manhattan.
- Make the Rabbi feel more welcome in our community – invite her to dinner on Friday night (she will eat dairy in non-kosher homes).
- Think of, and organize a fundraiser.
- Come to services – we can't read Torah without you.

- Come to "Lunch & Learn" – it's a great way to spend some time both with the other congregants and the rabbi.

The adult social committee – right now chaired by and consisting of me, with ideas from others – has come up with some ideas for this spring:

- >Kosher Wine Tasting – around Purim time.
- >Hike at Weis Ecology Center
- >A ballroom dancing class.
- >A night at the Warwick drive-in.

Please call or e-mail me with your ideas... and let's figure out how to make them happen.

Entertainment Books

Did you know we have a fundraiser in progress?

Entertainment books are for sale and are a fundraiser for Lakeland Hills Jewish Center. Please contact Dan Strauss at (973) 839-5425 and pick up your entertainment books at his home at 35 Lovell Drive in Wanaque.

☆ Please Support the Temple by Participating



Grin

Two old Jewish men were sitting down to lunch, when one of them started coughing and said:

"Meier, I swallowed a bone!"

"Hymie, Are you choking?"

"No, demmit, I'm serious!"

LHJC TREE OF LIFE



Please help our Tree of Life to grow and flourish by purchasing leaves for any simcha (Bar/Bat Mitzvah, engagement, wedding, graduation, birthdays, etc.). This type of fund raising effort is a beautiful and lasting reminder of both the joyous occasion and your generosity to our Jewish Center. Please order a leaf today.

To order a leaf, please fill out the form below, include a check for \$108 made out to LHJC and send to:

Orly Steinberg

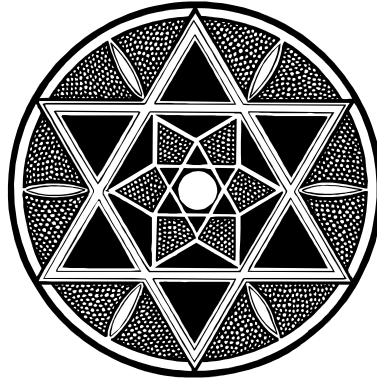
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MEMORIAL PLAQUES



Purchase a memorial plaque for your departed loved ones for the LHJC Memorial Board. To order a plaque, please fill out the form below, include a check for \$125 made out to LHJC and send to:

Richard Nadler

Lakeland Hills Jewish Center
 PO Box 115
 Ringwood, NJ 07456

Information Related to the Departed

English Name	
Hebrew Date of Passing	
Secular Date/Time of Passing	
Your name/address	



Membership Profile Update

LHJC needs up-to-date information about all LHJC members.

Please take a minute to fill in the below form.

It can be mailed to LHJC, PO Box 115 Ringwood NJ 07456, or it can be faxed to 718-304-5496.

Mailing address	
Phone number[s]	
Wedding anniversary date	
Adult #1 name	
Adult #1 birth date	
Adult #1 Hebrew name	
Adult #1 email address	
Adult #2 name	
Adult #2 birth date	
Adult #2 Hebrew name	
Adult #2 email address *	
Child #1 name	
Child #1 birth date	
Child #1 Hebrew name	
Child #1 email address *	
Child #2 name	
Child #2 birth date	
Child #2 Hebrew name	
Child #2 email address	
Active Participation	Please check here <input type="checkbox"/> if you'll consider assisting a synagogue committee

* Please note that the e-mail addresses you provide will be used ONLY for the LHJC listserver... enabling synagogue related information to be quickly e-mailed to all members. While we strongly encourage each family to provide at least one e-mail address (or more if you like, such as home and office addresses), we suggest that you provide your children's e-mail addresses only if you believe that they'll be interested in receiving LHJC related material. If they are too young now, wait a few years... then add them.

From United Synagogue

Shopping in Israel

We are all aware that the economy of the State of Israel has suffered greatly over the last two years. We in North America can do something to help. The USCJ, working in conjunction with the Blue and White Gallery in Jerusalem, has established a link on the USCJ website that will take the web visitor to wonderful **shopping in Israel**. The site, All For Israel, showcases a variety of unique and useful gifts. With one purchase, we can accomplish two goals - a gift for that special occasion and a boost to the Israeli economy. Take a few minutes and visit the USCJ site at www.uscj.org. Click on the Israeli flag located on the left column of the homepage. A gift "Made in Israel" will add special meaning for the recipient. Please share this information with your congregants. In particular, bring this to the attention of your synagogue's gift shop.

USY High School in Israel

There are still spots open for the **USY High School in Israel**, a joint program with Ramah Israel Programs, to be held from January 27 - March 22, 2003. You may e-mail

garr@uscj.org or visit the web site at www.usy.org/high for applications. NATIV, USY's College/Leadership Program in Israel, is accepting applications for Fall 2003. Participants spend a year between high school and college working on a Kibbutz, studying at Hebrew University and engaging in special religious and leadership training experiences. Alternatively, students can choose a course of study at the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. For information, call Yossi Garr, ext. 2321, or visit www.usy.org/nativ

Support for Israel

A group of American rabbinical students studying this year in Jerusalem gathered to find ways to show support for Israel during these difficult times.

One project asks that Jews world-over send handmade and decorative cards, pictures or posters of support and encouragement. Cards will be posted on storefronts, bus stops, places of terrorist attacks, hospitals as well as other central places in Jerusalem. These cards should include the name, age and community of the creators. Cards from youth groups, Hebrew schools, day schools, senior centers, synagogues, Hillels, JCC's, etc. should be sent in bundles to

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c/o Dana Rone Saroken

Rehov Avraham Granot #4
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Jerusalem, 91083, Israel.

For more information, email rafianddana@yahoo.com.

Final Notes

Looking for the date and time of the next LHJC function?

Missed the latest sermon from Rabbi Print (and these are *really* good... easy to read, better to hear)?

Want to learn about how to prepare for the next holiday?

An online Hebrew dictionary?

Learn about the history of Jews in America?

Where to buy Kosher Bison?

Want to read the Jerusalem Post online?

Visit the Simon Wiesenthal Center?

Looking to visit the Jewish museum of New York? Baltimore? Florida? Greece? London? Vienna? Canada? Sydney? Visit www.lhjc.org - it's all there.

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Lakeland
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Gazette

November 2002

Lakeland Hills Jewish Center

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