Gisolfi Architects Selected for Facility Redesign Option

As you know, over the past several months we have been exploring the viability of a potential renovation to our shul. The Facility Planning Committee (Todd Stern, Deborah Weinberger, Beth Hurvitz, Dean Ungar, Keith Reich, Rabbi Marder, Michael Weintraub, Steve Apple, Lisa Gilbert, Paul Orentlicher, Larry Fish, Bernie Adler, Diane Werner) issued a Request for Proposals for architectural services, and selected Peter Gisolfi Architects ("PGA").

At September's board meeting, the Board of Directors voted to execute a contract with PGA. There are a few key messages everyone should understand regarding this initial scope of work.

1. **This first phase is primarily for information-gathering.** The purpose is for the architect to learn about our existing conditions — the physical state of repair of our building; the zoning constraints that might impact any decisions we make; and, working with the Facility Planning Committee, our staff, and the Board of Directors, to understand our needs, goals, desires, and priorities for any potential renovation to our facility. As part of this process, PGA will also review all of the plans and meeting notes from our engagement with our previous architect, PKSB, in 2006-2007, so that they can benefit from all the previous work that we did.

An Update from the Programming Committee

With the year well underway, the programming committee first wants to extend a huge and heartfelt thank you to Meira Orentlicher for all of her hard work and dedication over the past few years. As Programming Officer, Meira skillfully oversaw (and often personally organized) the rich variety of programming that we enjoy in the shul, and we are all grateful for her efforts. Meira stepped down as Programming Officer at the beginning of the year, and now Kara Olson, who was co-chair with Meira last year, will take on full responsibility in the role. Thanks, Meira!

With the chaggim so early this year, the programming committee hit the ground running. We started the year with the very popular Sukkot Dinner. This year's theme was "An Evening in Old Harbin", which refers to the town in Northwest China in which Jews fleeing Russia settled and built a vibrant community and a beautiful shul in the late 19th and early 20th century. While the Jews of Harbin might have preferred eating herring, borscht and kishke (according to Jess Olson, who enlightened all with a discussion of the changing role of pottery in Jewish history), attendees of this dinner enjoyed a tasty Chinese buffet from Eden Wok. The highlight of the evening was a “paint your own pottery” activity, run by Yumi Heo of Polka Dot Penguin Pottery. Not surprisingly, there are a number of amazing artists at HIWP and all the pieces were fantastic! Many thanks to Alan and Audrey Schulman, who organized the event,
FROM THE RABBI’S DESK

by Rabbi Chaim Marder

Thanksgiving always falls on Chanukah.

The first time ever, the last time in a trillion years - or something like that. The exceptionally (seasonally) early Jewish New Year conspired with the exceptionally late Thanksgiving to produce this year’s magical Thanksgivukah. But the fact is that every Chanukah is Thanksgiving. The little Hebrew letter even yov proves it.

A favorite melody for Chanukah is al hanisim. “For the miracles, and for the liberation, and for the strengths, and for the redemptions and for the (victory in) battles that You provided for our ancestors, in those days and in our time.” That’s the song and it’s lovely, and upbeat, but of course grammatically flawed. About the issue of never starting a sentence with a preposition (catch that?). It is, after all, the additional prayer added to the amidah and the birchat hamazon (grace after meals). There’s a little note in the mishnah brurah commentary on the shulchan aruch (code of Jewish law) which reads: “It is written in the halachah books that in the text of al hanisim, one should recite “ve-al hanisim”.

Ah, that’s better. Plain al hanisim is lacking, grammatically and substantively, without that yov. Adding it gives the meaning. It reveals that the prayer is placed specifically as the continuation of the modim prayer.

Modim anachnu lach — we give You thanks, aware that You are our G-d and the G-d of our ancestors... for: our very lives that are given over into your hands... and (ve-) for the miracles and for the liberation... that You provided for our ancestors, in those days and in our time.

Chanukah is lights and latkes, menorahs and reminders of victory, of dedication and rededication. But it is, at its core, a holiday of Thanksgiving for the big moments — the victories and liberation — mamash miracles. This big thanks is then put into the context of the ongoing thanks that we give continuously. We have miracles in our days, yes we do. But we also have daily hodaah — recognition and thanks to give for so many parts of our lives that we should stop and appreciate. It is easier to appreciate these moments when lighting candles with bnei bayit, household loved ones, over the holiday, their faces glowing.

Continue on Page 17
Thanksgiving Chanukah Instrument- accompanied Tefillah!

Our tefillot on Shabbat and Yom Tov are always beautiful. They will be even more enhanced with musical accompaniment.

In the beit hamidrash, instruments were central to the service. Chanukah offers the possibility of capturing just a bit of that special experience.

Join Chazzan Yitzy Spinner for Shacharit and Hallel with Instrumental accompaniment

Thanksgiving morning, Thursday, November 28th

Minyan begins at 8:15 am

Come ready to participate in songful tefillah!

We welcome photos, articles and information for inclusion in the bulletin. Submissions can be sent via email to dmgitig@gmail.com or mailed to the HIWP office ATTN: TERI.

All articles are subject to editing.

HIWP Bulletin Staff: Milton Hoffman, Leah Weitzman, Meira Orentlicher and Teri Kopp
Managing Editor: Diana Gitig
Contributing Writers: Rabbi Chaim Marder, Alon Meltzer, Todd Stern, Kara Olson, Audrey Reich, Vicky Rubenovitch
Fish and Milton Hoffman
Photographer: Deborah Weinberger

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Holiday in Review

A quick review of the Chanukiah lighting procedures

Where To Place The Chanukiah ("Menorah")

The chanukiah should be placed in the window facing the street where people passing by can see it. In this way you can fulfill the Mitzvah of pirsum haness — publicizing the miracle. If this is not possible, place it on a table, preferably near the entrance opposite the mezuzah, and where it can be easily seen by all in the family, since it has become the practice to light indoors for the family’s pirsum haness.

How To Arrange The Chanukiah

Everybody needs a refresher from time to time, so here goes:

1. Place the candles in the chanukiah in the same direction Hebrew is read — from right to left as you face the chanukiah. If you’re placing it near the window with the intent that it primarily serve the outside, you should try to stand as if you were the person looking in from the street (i.e. try to get in front of the chanukiah — between the chanukiah and the window — to light).

2. Light the candles in the chanukiah in the same direction English is read (moving from left to right) as you face the chanukiah.

For example: On the third night of Chanukah, place three candles in the chanukiah, on the far-right of the eight branched chanukiah as you face it. Light the third candle first (moving from left to right) then the second and finally the first. Always light “the candle of the night” first. (If you get confused, it’s not so terrible!)

3. First, make the blessings, then light the candles. We always make the blessing first and then perform the mitzvah. Baruch atah Ado-nai Elo-heinu melech halolam...
   a) ... asher kiddeshanu bemitzvotav, vetzivanu lehadlik ner, shel Chanukah.
   b) ... sh’asah nissim laavoteinu, bayamim hahem, bazman hazeh.
   c) (1st night)... shehechiyanu, vekiyimanu, vehigiyanu, lazman hazeh.
Recite “hanerot hallalu” after the first of the candles is lit.

4. Use the shamash (the assistant candle) to light the Chanukah candles, but don’t count it as a day! Do not light one candle in the chanukiah with another candle in the chanukiah. Use the shamash for this purpose.

5. The candles are holy and should not be used for any other purpose. Even the wax of the burned-out candles may not be used for any other purpose. (See “hanerot halalu”).

How long should the candles burn?
The Chanukah candles should burn for at least one half hour. Try to light candles just around the time that the stars come out.

Lighting Candles on Friday and Saturday Evening

Chanukah candles must be lit before Shabbat candles, since otherwise that would entail lighting candles when it was already Shabbat. The Chanukah candles are supposed to burn until 1/2 hour after 3 stars come out, in this case 1 & 1/2 hours total. The best suggestion is to use Shabbat candles in some type of makeshift holder or the special beeswax candles if you don’t light with oil.

On Saturday night, 1st make havdalah and then light your chanukiah.

Who May Light the Candles

Every member of the family may light their own chanukiah, which some suggest is the best way to perform the mitzvah (mehadrin min Hamehadrin). Remember, though, to leave enough space between each chanukiah so that each one’s fire is distinguishable from the next.

Important note: If you are using a flat tin chanukiah/ menorah, please take great care to place it on a heat and fire resistant surface. Never place menorahs in close proximity of a plexi-glass window or any curtains.

Lastly, play it safe – don’t leave your candles unattended.

Spend the time with family and friends, spin dreidel, enjoy some quality time. Chag Chanukah Sameach!
Fellow Congregants,

 Somehow, I had the mistaken impression that July would be a great time to take office – that I’d have a few weeks to get my arms around the job, get my sea legs, and find time for a margarita on the beach.

 Alas! There’s a great deal afoot, and I’m grateful to the newly-elected Management Committee and Board of Directors, our many dedicated volunteers, our tireless office staff, Crystal and Teri, and our clergy leadership, Rabbi Marder, Chazzan Spinner, Alon Meltzer, and Sarit Bendavid, for supporting us through this busy time. Here’s just a bit of what’s been going on during the past few months:

 **Programming.** Under the capable leadership of Kara Olson, we have kicked off the year with a bang. Some highlights include our Sukkot dinner and Shmini Atzeret Block Party. Going forward, we are excited to bring back another Café Night in March.

 **Teen Minyan.** We have been excited to welcome to our community Teen Minyan Coordinator Jordan Soffer. Under Jordan and Alon’s guidance, together with our parent volunteers, Teen Minyan has gotten off to a strong start; our teens have demonstrated real ownership and leadership.

 **Facility Renovation.** We hired Peter Gisolfi Architects (see Page 1 of this bulletin) to help us explore the viability of a renovation to our facility. They have begun gathering feedback from the Facility Planning Committee and others, and will be keeping the congregation informed with regular updates.

 **Adult Ed.** We’ve had some great speakers so far – Rabbi Ronen and Penina Neuwirth; and, through the sponsorship of the Westchester Jewish Council, Yossi Klein Halevi. We held a Lehrhaus in October with Michal Ben Yaakov, and have enjoyed learning on Shabbat with our congregational intern, Sarit Bendavid.

 **Office management.** Under the guidance of our Vice President, David Kahn, and with the help of volunteer Dudi Fish, we have been exploring an upgrade to our office administrative software, and hope that near-term changes will allow for greater efficiency and ease of use both for our staff as well as our congregants.

 **New members.** Over the summer, several new families have joined our community, and we are grateful to Debbie Fein, Malka Helft, Nicola Rosenstock, and Jerusha Coltof for their excellent work in helping to welcome them.

 I am grateful for the trust this congregation has shown in me. While I am humbled by the responsibility, I am enthusiastic about our future. With your energy, creativity, dedication, and generosity, I look forward to two very exciting years at HIWP.

 Fondly,

 Todd Stern
We are already a quarter of the way through the year, and I know that we have already been in touch, but this is the first time that we have reached out through this medium.

We have some amazing group leaders this year — some are new and others are old faces. They are: Avigail Altman, Jesse Blumenfeld, Hannah Cohen, Noah Dunn, Eden Gilbert, Meira Gilbert, Gilad Greenstein, Idan Greenstein, Aviva Hurvitz, Susan Katz, Talia Marcus, Shoshana Marder, Ayelet Marder, Daniel Mirsky, Joelle Orzo, Seth Rosenblatt, Amy Rosenblatt, Gabrielle Sadinoff, Annabelle Schwartz, Robbie Schwartz, Eliana Worenklein, Sophie Zimbalist, and Rachel Gilder.

Each week we have groups from 10:30-11:30 for all ages. Eliana runs our Tot Shabbat program for ages 0-2, while our ages 3-4 program runs with several of our group leaders, and finally kindergarteners thru 4th graders have an amazing program including our junior congregation, a parasha quiz, and our fantastic programs that are both educational and fun!!

For our youth and teens we have our Teen minyan, led by Jordan Soffer, who has already proven to be an asset to our community.

We also have a new program this year called 'Learning Burgers' - a bi-weekly learning program for our teens in non Yeshiva settings. We will be learning a text, and every two weeks we will have a special burger flavor attached to it! We hope to see as many teens as possible joining in this project.

We have already had some fantastic programs including our End of Summer Block Party and BBQ, which was held on Shmini Atzeret and saw over 200 people feast on smoked brisket, chicken, dogs and salads along with the kids enjoying an array of sidewalk chalk games.

On Simchat Torah we hosted our first dance-a-thon.

Coming up we have our Chanukah casino full of dreidel games (Shabbat Thanksgiving 11.30.13 during groups), Family Shabbat dinner, movie night, parent/child learning and so much more (dates TBA).

We just now read about the dreams of Joseph. He dreamed big, making sure that one day, no matter how many stumbling blocks came his way, his dreams would come true and that he would reach his full potential. Our department is the same way; we have big dreams - we have amazing potential. On our list we have over 300 kids that can potentially join our programs. No matter what, our aim is to bring as many people as we can to our events and cater to as many people as possible. Hopefully you can make sure that our dreams are fulfilled.

I look forward to seeing you all at shul and at our events.

Alon
Jordan Soffer joins the HIWP youth staff!

We are excited about the arrival of Jordan Soffer who has joined our Hebrew Institute staff as coordinator of our bimonthly youth/teen minyan (YTM)! Great things are already happening. Jordan will advance the good work begun by our member David Siegel this past year (David will continue to be an involved YTM parent). Jordan will oversee the minyan planning and the preparation of the participants as well as lead the minyan over the course of the year.

Jordan is in his second year of rabbinical school studies at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah. He is simultaneously pursuing a master’s degree in Jewish education from Yeshiva University. Originally from New City, NY, he attended Reuben Gittelman Hebrew Day School and the Solomon Schechter School of Westchester. A proud Badger, he graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a bachelor’s degree in Jewish Education, Religious Studies, and Hebrew and Semitic Studies. He was very involved in the campus Chabad, where he met some of his closest friends. While in college, Jordan spent a semester studying and traveling the world on Semester at Sea. After graduating from college, and before starting rabbinical school, Jordan studied at a number of yeshivot in America and Israel (including Yeshivat Maaleh Gilboa, Yeshivat Hadar, and Mechon Pardes).

Jordan’s outstanding reputation with youth precedes him. He is known to many of our families (adults and kids alike) as a gifted counselor and leader at Camp Ramah Nyack.

Currently, Jordan lives on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. When he is not studying, Jordan can be found on the basketball court, watching football, hanging out with friends, and generally having fun! Welcome aboard!

We are pleased to welcome our new Congregational Intern, Sarit Bendavid.

Sarit has begun her second year in the Graduate Program for Advanced Talmudic Studies at Yeshiva University. She is also pursuing a Masters in Bible at YU’s Bernard Revel Graduate School. Having grown up in Teaneck, NJ, Sarit went to the Frisch High School and then spent a year in Israel studying at Migdal Oz.

She studied at Stern College and majored in History and English Literature. While at Stern, she was an editor-in-chief of Kol Hamevaser, YU’s Jewish Thought magazine, and helped to facilitate a forum for students to share their thoughts and explore issues within the Jewish community together.

Outside of her academic life, Sarit has had a number of experiences within Jewish education. She was an assistant teacher at SAR Academy, as well as a Fellow at the Ramaz Upper School. Sarit was involved in many informal education positions. The most formative was her many summers in Camp Moshava, where she grew up as an adolescent, then worked as a counselor, and eventually was a division head for two summers. Sarit also recently staffed a Birthright trip to Israel for unaffiliated Jewish college students. After completing GPATS, Sarit hopes to continue working in the field of Jewish education.

Sarit is very much looking forward to joining the Hebrew Institute of White Plains community this upcoming year!
JWV & Auxiliary Celebrates Its Anniversaries

White Plains Post 191, Jewish War Veterans of the United States, and its Ladies Auxiliary #191, who long have been associated with the Hebrew Institute, celebrated their 75th and 70th anniversaries respectively with a brunch attended by 120 persons on Oct. 20 at the Hebrew Institute.

Congresswoman Nita Lowey was the principal speaker; Rabbi Chaim Marder delivered opening prayers.

The Post was founded in 1938 by Jewish veterans of World War I in response to brown-shirted supporters of Adolph Hitler marching in White Plains and New Rochelle. The mission of JWV was “to uphold the fair name of the Jew and to fight his battles wherever unjustly assailed.”

In addition, the Post and the Auxiliary have broadened their mission by being involved in community patriotic events and by lending support to hospitalized veterans and to Israel, among many other activities. Annually, the two units present scholarships to students at White Plains High in memory of its graduates, Lieutenants Irwin Stockel and Roland Sheriff, who lost their lives in WWII, and Capt. Herbert Glazer, who died in the Vietnam War. All were sons of congregants of the Hebrew Institute and of Post and Auxiliary members.

Among present Hebrew Institute congregants who are proud members of JWV: David Cohen, Leo Dreyfuss, Milton Ettner, Milton Hoffman, Roger Nadel, Bernard Scheiman, Gerald Schwartz and Stanley Stockel.

Among the present Hebrew Institute congregants who are proud members of JWVA: Marion Chason, its president; Doris Dreyfuss, Yetta Kaplan, Ruthie Miller and Lee Stockel.

The late Ralph Plofsky, a past president of HI, had been a national commander of JWV, and the late Bert Stockel, a congregant, was a state commander. Two other former congregant Adele Zucker and the late Florence Vucker were national presidents of the Ladies Auxiliary.

The Post holds its quarterly breakfast meetings at the synagogue. Shortly after the present HI synagogue was completed, the Post presented it with an American flag.

Save the Date for HIWP's Post Chanukah Event: HIWP's Chopped!

Join your friends for an evening of food and wine while cheering on 4 HIWP amateur chefs as they compete to be the first HIWP Chopped Champion. Other exciting details revealed closer to the event.

This will separate the men from the boys, the women from the girls, and most importantly, the CHEFS from the COOKS.

We have had amazing interest in our first ever Chopped event, but are looking for a couple more talented chefs, who believe that they have what it takes to master the basket, and be crowned HIWP's Chopped Champion.

To tempt you a little more here is what we have in store
- A fully stocked pantry
- 4 fully loaded cooking stations
- a mystery basket with four 'out-of-this-world-crazy' ingredients
- and 3 judges

All you need to do is send a 1-2 minute video of you in the kitchen telling us why you should be on Chopped. Post to You Tube and send rabbialon@hiwp.org the link!
**Isha L’Isha and Women’s Tefillah News**

**LITERARY CORNER**

The Isha L’Isha Book Group met most recently at the home of Judy Grant to discuss *Fugitive Pieces*, a novel by Canadian poet Anne Michaels. It is written in two sections, called Book I and Book II. The first follows the story of Jakob Beer, who as a Jewish child in Poland, narrowly escapes being killed by the Nazis. He is rescued by a Greek geologist, Athos Roussos, who adopts him and takes him to live on Zakynthos in Greece. After the war the pair immigrates to Toronto. The novel follows Jakob’s life as he marries and becomes an academic and poet. The second book is written from the perspective of an admirer of Jakob’s poetry, Ben. The novel is written in a poetic style, and includes the archeological history of Bishkupin, Poland, where an excavation had been taking place in the pre-war years. Throughout the novel, metaphors are drawn between the various characters’ research into revealing layers of history, weather, change and decay, and the layers of personal trauma, loss, grief, and memory experienced by the characters. The group felt that these characters are well-developed, and that the historical, scientific and literary references included in the book make it stand out from other Holocaust literature. Well worth a read!

Our next book, *Duel Inheritance* by Joanna Hershon, explores the friendship between two Harvard students in the early 1960s – one a Jew on scholarship, and the other, a member of an old Boston Brahmin family. Their friendship becomes long and complicated as both try to transcend their circumstances. The author ambitiously covers many years of political and economic events, as well as locations from Cambridge and Fisher’s Island, to Africa and Haiti.

We will meet to discuss *Duel Inheritance* at the home of Kay Cohen, on November 19 at 8 pm. All are welcome to book group meetings, whether you have read the entire book, only half the book, some of the book, or just want to listen to the discussion. Future book suggestions are appreciated as well.

**HIWP Women’s Tefillah Schedule 2013-2014**

9/27/13 *Simchat Torah* - Adina Frydman, co-ordinator

10/26/13 *Parshat Chayei Sarah* - Shabbat morning

12/7/13 *Parshat Vayigash* - Shabbat morning

  Bat Mitzvah of Liana Weinberger

1/11/14 *Parshat Beshalach* - Shabbat morning

  Women’s Tefillah Shabbat Luncheon
  Guest Speaker Dr. Tamy Jakobwitz

2/7/14 Friday Night - Kaballat Shabbat (and possibly Shabbat dinner)

3/8/14 *Parshat Vayikra* - Shabbat morning

3/16/14 *Purim* - *Megillat Esther*

5/3/14 *Parshat Emor* - Shabbat morning

6/14/14 *Mincha*

  Bat Mitzvah of Ariel Brasch

Women’s Tefillah Chairwomen are:

Adina Steinberg
steinbergadina@gmail.com
718-986-4437

Rebecca Amaru
rebecca.amaru@gmail.com
917-226-1224
MAZAL TOV and Notables

Sandi & Robin Schwartz on the birth on June 24 of their first granddaughter, Alexis Belle Schwartz, who is the daughter of Diana & Dan Schwartz of Manhattan. Alexis has a brother, Jordan, 2 1/2. Her other grandparents are Ruth & Rabbi Mitch Serels of New Rochelle. Her great-grandmothers are Joan Handelsman of Los Angeles and Mami Yvette Bendayan of Montreal. She is also the grand niece of HIWP members Briana & Mark Schwartz, Felicity & Stanley Schwartz and Lisa & Terence Schwartz.

Colin Goldberg on the birth on June 26 of a grandson, Ruben Shai (Reuven Yishai), the son of Natalie Graham & David Goldberg of Chevy Chase, MD. Ruben has a sister, Dahlia, age 3.

Stephanie & Michael Ward on the birth of a son, Oren Benjamin Ward. Stephanie is the granddaughter of the late Connie and Seymour (Sonny) Katz.

Adina & Aaron Steinberg on the birth of a son, Judah Mark (Yehuda Yaakov) Steinberg on Aug. 24. Judah has a sister, Dahlia. His grandparents are Karen & Marty Orenstein of Hillcrest, Queens, and Dr. Sarah & Bob Steinberg of Rockville, MD. Great-grandparents are Florence & George Steinberg of Denver, CO, and Savta Raba Barbara Beran of Rockville, MD.

Sandi and Robin Schwartz on the birth on Oct. 17 of their second grandchild, Nathan Isaac Shapiro, whose parents are Lisa and Michael Shapiro of Manhattan. Nathan, whose Hebrew name is Yizchak Natan ben Tzvi and Rivka, was named for Lisa’s grandfather. Nathan’s other grandparents are Adele and Bob Shapiro of New Rochelle. He also has a great-grandmother, Joan Handelsman of Los Angeles.


Ricki & Jonathan Goodblatt on the naming at the Hebrew Institute of their granddaughter, Madelyn Rose (Shoshana Sarah). She is the daughter of Yael & Matt Vinciguerra.

Miriam & Cantor Emeritus Eli Berlinger on the bar mitzvah of their grandson, Donny Berlinger, whose parents are Lulu & Naftoli Berlinger.

Miriam & Cantor Emeritus Eli Berlinger on the bar mitzvah of their grandson Yitzchok Dov Lehmann, the son of Joanna & Diana & Gary Katz on the bar mitzvah of their daughter, Yaira.
A Message from the Rabbi:

Please be aware that I administer two special tzedakah funds here at the shul.

**HIWP fund for the Needy**

**Purpose:** This fund assists individuals who come to the synagogue seeking assistance, generally from outside the area. They are individuals who otherwise fall through the cracks, perhaps because they do not have employment or family support. Often times they are people whose origin was Israel or Russia, although not exclusively. We also assist small tzedakot, primarily Israeli institutions, whether orphanages or schools for the needy.

**Contribution Source:** synagogue charity boxes; direct contributions. We greatly need assistance in keeping this account replenished, especially as personal hardships have increased in the present climate.

**HIWP Chessed Fund**

**Purpose:** Recently established to assist congregants who might be in need of support due to temporary hardship of one sort or another. Any assistance will be offered with complete confidentiality.

**Contribution source:** direct contributions from members. At present, the fund has only a small amount of money in it.

If you have any questions about these funds, please contact Rabbi Marder.

(Received from June 2 to November 1, 2013)

**Religious Articles Fund:**

Miriam and Cantor Eli Berlinger on their many simchas
Leah Weitzman

Roxanne Levine in memory of her father, Samuel Huberman
Gail & Daniel Kabakoff

The Berkowitz family in memory of Rochelle Berkowitz, wife and daughter-in-law
Leah Weitzman

Jerry Hurwitz in honor of the 65th anniversary of his bar mitzvah
Betty and Joseph Fisch
Barbara and Martin Marks

Carmella Abraham on being honored on Simchat Torah
Kara and Jess Olson

Michah Gottlieb on being honored on Simchat Torah
Kara and Jess Olson

Avi Orlow on being honored on Simchat Torah
Kara and Jess Olson

Miriam and Tom Gold in honor of their son Josh’s marriage to Courtney
Joyce and Ted Besidine

**Capital Fund:**

Ira Berkowitz, in memory of wife Rochelle Berkowitz
Audrey and Alan Schulman

**Women’s Tefillah Fund:**

Nancy Dallek and Jeff Pearlstein in honor of the bat mitzvah of their daughter, Brenna
Meira and Paul Orentlicher

Continued on page 12
Gifts and Contributions

Adult Ed Fund:
Barbara Marks, refua shlemah
Briana and Mark Schwartz
Audrey and Alan Schulman

Ellen Ungar in memory of her father,
Max Raynor
Stan Rubenstein
Audrey and Alan Schulman

Roxanne Levine in memory of her
father, Samuel Huberman
Stan Rubenstein
Lisa Kaufman
Kay and Arnold Cohen
Audrey and Alan Schulman

Jerry Hurwitz in honor of the 65th
anniversary of his bar mitzvah
Kay and Arnold Cohen
Donald Klein
Barbara and Michael Balsam
Audrey and Alan Schulman

Ricki and Jonathan Goodblatt on
the naming of their granddaughter
Barbara and Michael Balsam

Lorri Nadel in honor of her son
Roger’s marriage to Marissa
Leah Weitzman
Audrey and Alan Schulman

Ricki and Jonathan Goodblatt in
honor of their many smachot
Leah Weitzman
Selvia and Len Weinstein

Miriam and Cantor Emeritus Eli
Berlinger for their four simchas
Kay and Arnold Cohen
Audrey and Alan Schulman

Joseph Fisch in memory of his
sister, Deborah Ostrov
Ricki and Jonathan Goodblatt

Fund for the Needy/
Chessed
Doris Dreyfuss, in honor of her
commitment to the Jewish com-
munity and all her good service
to HIWP
Lesley and Barry Gold

Ira Berkowitz in memory of his
wife, Rochelle Berkowitz
Wendy Leibowitz

Joseph Fisch in memory of his
sister, Deborah Ostrov
Jana and Gadi Romm

Jerusha Coltof in memory of her
father, Abraham Coltof
Leah Weitzman

Happiness Fund:
Miriam and Cantor Emeritus Eli
Berlinger for their four simchas
Barbara and Martin Marks
Milton Hoffman
Anita Rosenstock
Selvia and Len Weinstein
David Kroun

Bikur Cholim Fund
Barbara Marks in honor of her
special birthday
Leah Weitzman

Barbara Marks for a speedy re-
covery
Leah Weitzman

George Tunick in memory of his
aunt, Miriam Jacobs
Wendy Leibowitz

The Berkowitz family in memory
of Rochelle Berkowitz
Betty and Joseph Fisch

Roxanne Levine in memory of her
father, Samuel Huberman
Yael Slonim and Jack Nahmod
Ken and Sara Sadinoff

Ellen Ungar in memory of her
father, Max Raynor
Ken and Sara Sadinoff

Joseph Fisch in memory of his
sister, Deborah Ostrov
Ricki and Jonathan Goodblatt

Marilyn and Ezra Berkowitz

Gil Grant in honor of the 80th
anniversary of the bar mitzvah of
his father, Abraham Grant
Jane Fidler and Benson Rosenbaum
Audrey and Keith Reich
Selvia and Len Weinstein

Births:
Leah Weitzman in honor of the
birth of twin great-
granddaughters
Anita Rosenstock
David Kroun

Colin Goldberg on the birth of a
grandson, Ruben Shai Goldberg
Selvia and Len Weinstein

Adina and Aaron Steinberg on
the birth of a son
Meira and Paul Orentlicher

Ricki and Jonathan Goodblatt on
the naming of their grand-
daughter
David Kroun

Bar/Bat Mitzvah:
Nancy Dallek and Jeff Pearlstein
in honor of the bat mitzvah of
their daughter, Brenna
Marlyn Kneller-Rimsky & Neil Rimsky
Debbie and Stephen Schwartz
Wendy and Brandon Dunn

Lona and Bernard Adler in honor
of the bar mitzvah of their grand-
son, Emmanuel
Debbie and Stephen Schwartz

Jerry Hurwitz on the 65th
anniversary of his bar mitzvah
Selvia and Leonard Weinstein
Harriet and Arnold Gussin
Wendy Leibowitz
Deborah and Alberto Mizrahi
Helene and Ira Komstein
Yetta Kaplan
Willie and Hillel Swiller
Audrey and Keith Reich
Sue and Brian Goldstein
## Gifts and Contributions

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<th>Ralph Marash</th>
<th>Barbara Marks, speedy recovery</th>
<th>Michah Gottlieb on being honored on Simchat Torah</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meira and Paul Orentlicher</td>
<td>Leah Weitzman</td>
<td>Meira and Paul Orentlicher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linda and Alan Fremmer</td>
<td>Briana and Mark Schwartz and family</td>
<td>Roxanne and Eric Levine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheila and Robert Friedland</td>
<td>Marilyn and Ezra Berkowitz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gloria and Sheldon Moline</td>
<td>Milton Hoffman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandy and Robert April</td>
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</table>

### Weddings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Audrey and Alan Schulman in honor of the marriage of their granddaughter, Shira Lieman, to Danny Schwab</th>
<th>Jean Hurvitz, speedy recovery</th>
<th>Avi Orlow on being honored on Simchat Torah</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lorri Nadel</td>
<td>Milton Hoffman</td>
<td>Meira and Paul Orentlicher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doris and Leo Dreyfuss</td>
<td>Barbara and Martin Marks</td>
<td>Roxanne and Eric Levine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara and Martin Marks</td>
<td>Selvia and Len Weinstein</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jerusha Coltof and Doug Hirshon</td>
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<td>David Kroun</td>
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<td>Suzy Toporovsky</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selvia and Len Weinstein</td>
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| Willa and Hillel Swiller in honor of the marriage of their son, Zev                                | Paula and Evan Gilder in honor of Rachel's recovery | Carmella Abraham on being honored on Simchat Torah |
| Debbie and Stephen Schwartz                                                                         | Selvia and Len Weinstein      | Meira and Paul Orentlicher                     |
|                                                                                                      |                               | Roxanne and Eric Levine                       |

### Birthdays:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ezra Berkowitz on his special birthday</th>
<th>Rabbi Chaim Marder on his special birthday</th>
<th>Peggy and Ed Krupnik for their graciousness, hospitality and warmth</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selvia and Len Weinstein</td>
<td>The Thursday Morning Chumash Study Class</td>
<td>Leah Weitzman</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Marilyn and Ezra Berkowitz</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Graduations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Felicity and Stanley Schwartz, in honor of the graduation of daughter, Desiree</th>
<th>Rena Fredman and David Lichtenstein in honor of the graduation of daughters Anya and Maia from college</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barbara and Martin Marks</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rena Fredman and David Lichtenstein in honor of the graduation of daughters Anya and Maia from college</td>
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</table>

### Remembrance Fund:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jordan Rosenstock in memory of his father, Bert Rosenstock</th>
<th>Anita Rosenstock in memory of her husband, Bert Rosenstock</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cindy and Robert Remin</td>
<td>Stuart Werner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuart Werner</td>
<td>Amy and Glen Leibowitz</td>
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</table>

### In Your Honor / Thank You:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shirley Levy, in your Honor</th>
<th>Michael Gottlieb, Avi Orlow and Carmella Abraham for their Simchat Torah honors</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sydney and Laurence Levy</td>
<td>Selvia and Len Weinstein</td>
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### Get Well Fund:

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### Youth Programming Fund:

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<tr>
<th>Ellen Ungar in memory of her father, Max Raynor</th>
<th>Norman and Allan Jacobs in memory of their mother, Ida Jacobs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ilana and Joseph Englander</td>
<td>Carol and Herb Corbin</td>
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### Condolences:

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<tr>
<td>Amy and Glen Leibowitz</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Gifts and Contributions

The Shapiro Family in memory of their Father, Dr. Saul Shapiro, Cindy and Robert Remin Sharon Citron Urbas

The Tunick and Jacobs families in memory of Miriam Jacobs Debbie and Stephen Schwartz Selvia and Len Weinstein

The Leichter family in memory of their mother, Lita Leichter Selvia and Len Weinstein

Bernard Javer in memory of his father, Henry Javer Debbie and Stephen Schwartz

Steven Guralnick and Howard Guralnick on the death of their mother, Lillian Guralnick Erica and Scott Pintoff


Marilyn and Ezra Berkowitz in memory of their daughter-in-law, Rochelle Berkowitz Peggy and Ed Krupnik Ruth Levine

Helen Epstein Shirley Cooper


Roxanne Levine in memory of her father, Samuel Huberman David Kroun Selvia and Len Weinstein Meira and Paul Orentlicher Lisa and Terence Schwartz Civia and John Mclean Norma and Jerry Hurwitz Yetta Kaplan Ruth Levine Doris and Leo Dreyfuss Willa and Hillel Swiller Helen Epstein Ricki and Jonathan Goodblatt Suzy Toporovsky Gail and Daniel Kabakoff

Joseph Fisch In memory of his sister, Deborah Ostrov Helen Epstein Norma and Jerry Hurwitz Lorri, Roger and Mitchell Nadel Judy and Judah Roher Joyce and Ted Besdine David Kroun

Wendy Leibowitz Ruth Bausk Barbara and Martin Marks Gerson Smith Harriet and Barry Wise Lisa and Terence Schwartz Yetta Kaplan Willa and Hillel Swiller

Jerusha Coltof in memory of her father, Abraham Coltof Teri Kopp and family Civia and John Mclean Helen Epstein Judy and Judah Roher Selvia and Len Weinstein Peggy and Ed Krupnik David Kroun Norma and Jerry Hurwitz

Ruth Bausk and Molly Sandbank, in memory of Ruth Lubarsky Barbara and Martin Marks Debra Kamerman Jane and Josh Grauer

Norman and Allan Jacobs in memory of their mother, Ida Jacobs Civia and John Mclean Selvia and Len Weinstein Doris and Leo Dreyfuss Barbara and Martin Marks Lorri, Mitchell and Roger Nadel Marilyn and Ezra Berkowitz

Gloria Friedman in memory of her mother, Gabriella Rothenberg Willa and Hillel Swiller Norma and Jerry Hurwitz

HAPPY HANUKKAH
ROCHELLE BERKOWITZ

Rochelle Berkowitz, a dear congregant of the Hebrew Institute, died Aug. 26 at the age of 54, after a long battle with myasthenia gravis.

She was the wife of Ira Berkowitz for 14 1/2 years and the daughter-in-law of her son by her first marriage; her parents Naftoli and sister-in-law Adrienne Rosner, 13 nieces and nephews. Rochelle was interred beside her beloved oldest sister, Sara Esther Woodbridge, NJ. Rochelle was born Nov. 26, 1958 in Brooklyn to Henry and Anna Rosner, now of Staten Island. She was raised in Brooklyn and attended only Yeshivas until entering medical school. She would have been a doctor but for the early onset of myasthenia gravis. For many years, she also worked as a home site with OHEL, caring--relatively long term--for 21 foster children.

Rochelle and Ira were married March 14, 1999 at Masores Hall in Brooklyn, and they lived in White Plains in the “doll house”, as her mother called it, on Stratford Avenue since June 2004. Rochelle loved the tefillot at HIWP, especially the Women’s Tefillah service when she could attend.

Rochelle is survived by her husband, Ira Berkowitz; Moshe-Kalman Berger, her son by her first marriage; her parents Anne and Henry Rosner; her sister Miriam and brother-in-law Barry Ciment; her brother Naftoli and sister-in-law Adrienne Rosner, 13 nieces and nephews, and 30 great-grand nieces and nephews.

Chazzan Yitzy Spinner conducted a graveside service after a hesped by Rabbi Shlomo Bilgre.

LITA LEICHTER

Congregant Lita Leichter, whose family was associated with the Hebrew Institute since the 1920s, died June 24, 2013, at the age of 81. The White Plains resident, who was a renowned maker of interesting baskets, had been an employee of the White Plains School District for 30 years.

On Oct. 24, 1950, she and Jeffrey Leichter were married, and they raised four children. The two of them later traveled the country teaching basket making at craft schools. He died of Sept. 27, 1995.

In recent years, Mrs. Leichter participated in Rabbi Chaim Marder’s Chumash class and in the synagogue’s Leisure Thursday program.

Besides her husband, she was predeceased by two brothers, Seymour and Stuart Jacobs of New Jersey and George Tunick of California, and one niece, Arlene Tunick Sandberg of Florida. Also eight grandnieces and nephews, and 12 great-grandnieces and nephews.

Chazzan Yitzy Spinner conducted graveside services for Miss Jacobs at the Hebrew Institute’s section at Sharon Garden Cemetery in Valhalla, and read a tribute to her written by Rabbi Chaim Marder.

MIRIAM JACOBS

Miriam Jacobs, an avid volunteer at the Hebrew Institute and the general community, died June 14 at her home after a short illness. She was 90 years old. Miriam was secretary for 37 years to the late Gov. Malcolm Wilson in his law practice.

Her father, David Jacobs, helped found the Hebrew Institute in 1915 and served as its first president. Her loyalty to the synagogue was demonstrated in many ways, and she was looking forward to the year 2015—the Hebrew Institute’s centennial.

Miriam was the wife of Ira Berkowitz for 14 1/2 years and the daughter-in-law of our members Marilyn and Chaim Ezra Berkowitz.

Miriam was an avid volunteer at the Hebrew Institute and the general community, died June 14 at her home after a short illness. She was 90 years old. Miriam was the wife of Ira Berkowitz for 14 1/2 years and the daughter-in-law of our members Marilyn and Chaim Ezra Berkowitz.

She assisted the office staff, using her exquisite penmanship to write more than 250 Yahzeit reminders every year.

When honored in 2009 by the synagogue at its annual testimonial dinner, she said she was privileged and blessed to help carry on the tradition of the Hebrew Institute “and with God’s help as Tevya would say ‘a few more years wouldn’t be so bad.’”

She was also honored for 40 years (over 8,000 hours) as a clerical volunteer at White Plains Hospital Center, and visited home-bound people for both the hospital and the Dorot friendly visitor program. During her walks to the hospital and elsewhere she was always fashionably dressed, never without a hat and her signature smile. Some 50 of her hats will be donated to raise funds for a charity.

Miss Jacobs was born May 7, 1923 to David and Rose Miller Jacobs, immigrants from Poland. She graduated from White Plains High School in 1941 and later from New York University School of Retailing. She then studied secretarial skills at Hake’s Business School and was hired in 1944 by the law firm of Kent Hazard Jaeger and Wilson in White Plains. She started working for Mr. Wilson in his law practice 1949, and stayed with him throughout his tenure as assemblyman, lieutenant governor and governor until he retired in 1986.

She was a strong supporter of Israel, having visited that country seven times. She also visited Spain, Portugal, Italy, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

Her survivors include Ida Jacobs of Hartsdale, her sister-in-law; Bernard Miller of Hartsdale, her cousin; five nephews, Norman Jacobs of Maryland; Allan Jacobs of Hartsdale; Gerry Cohen of Rye Brook, Richard Jacobs of New Jersey and George Tunick of California, and one niece, Arlene Tunick Sandberg of Florida. Also eight grandnieces and nephews, and 12 great-grandnieces and nephews.

Besides her parents, she was predeceased by brothers Isadore and Samuel Jacobs and sisters Sarah Cohen, Celia Tunick and Ada Jacobs, and a nephew, Frank Cohen.

Chazzan Yitzy Spinner conducted graveside services for Miss Jacobs at the Hebrew Institute’s section at Sharon Garden Cemetery in Valhalla, and read a tribute to her written by Rabbi Chaim Marder.

Continued on page 16
We Mourn the Loss

IDA JACOBS

Ida Jacobs, a congregant who was instrumental in founding an early organization for women at the Hebrew Institute, died on Sept. 3, less than a month short of what would have been her 100th birthday. She was a resident of Hartsdale.

Ida was born on Sept. 29, 1913 in Port Chester to Eva and Meyer Speiller. She was raised and attended high school in Utica and college in Albany. She worked in retail clothing and in the fashion industry.

She and Isadore Jacobs were married Dec. 2, 1935 in New York City, a marriage terminated by his death 64 years later. His parents were David and Rose Jacobs, who founded the Hebrew Institute in 1915.

Ida was the founder and third president of The Women’s League at the Hebrew Institute, an organization that was later called Sisterhood. A vivacious woman and an avid tennis player, she chaired many fund-raising swimming parties and theater parties for her organization. She also was known for her knitting expertise. At Passover, she would bake as many as 15 sponge cakes for family and friends.

Her survivors include her sons, Norman (wife Martha) Jacobs and Allan Jacobs, her grandson Neil (wife Marcie) Jacobs, and two great-granddaughters Ariana and Erin. Her brother, Samuel Speiller, also a congregant of the Hebrew Institute, died previously. Her sister-in-law, Miriam Jacobs, died in June.

Other surviving members of her family connected to the Hebrew Institute are her nephew Michael Speiller and her cousin Bernard Miller and his wife, Ruthie Miller. Other surviving nephews and niece who grew up at the Hebrew Institute are Kenneth Speiller, Gerald Cohen, Richard Jacobs, George Tunic and Arlene Sandberg.

and Dudi, who quickly responded to my emergency ‘texts’ for help and always made themselves available to say Kaddish for Zaidy on my behalf. Another major challenge I faced was having enough men show up to make a minyan. My experience varied from shul to shul but at Hebrew Institute, we are truly blessed. I owe an enormous thanks to our daily minyan men starting with Ezra Berkowitz and the core crew who enabled me to say Kaddish with their strong “Amen”. Only once in the year, at a very early Mincha, did I miss a Kaddish because we didn’t have a minyan. I offer additional thanks to our “regulars”, the men who have made a personal commitment to ensure a minyan by coming once a month or even better, once a week. You have no idea how wonderful husband Larry took the commitment upon himself to say Kaddish for the full year. Special thanks to Larry for relieving me of any pressure to personally say Kaddish for the full term. What started as a day to day decision gradually grew into an amazing learning experience that I welcomed each day. Yes, I did in fact say Kaddish for the eleven months minus a day and found it very helpful to my healing and mourning process. It provided me the opportunity to thank Hashem for my father’s good health for most of his 93 years of life and for the gift of having him involved and intertwined in our lives for so long. It helped me transition from enjoying his dynamic presence to the finite status of having only cherished memories. Every day my connection to Hashem increased as I davened with a minyan.

However, a new pressure gradually built up as I faced the rigidity of the davening schedule, the challenge of locating a minyan (ten men) and the complexity of scheduling my life to get there on time. This involved juggling, organizing and arranging back-up help in case I was on a plane, stuck in traffic or simply unable to match minyan times with locations. For this, my gratitude and appreciation go to my caring sons, Jon

A Mourner’s Thank You!

By Vicky Rubenovitch-Fish

My major role in life changed from a primary caregiver to a mourner on August 28th, 2012, when my father, Irving Rubenovitch z’t, passed away. Previously, my days had been filled with organizing, scheduling and generally supervising my father’s care. As his health deteriorated, my visits to him in Florida increased and my time was filled with meeting his needs and trying my best to be there for him so that he felt his family’s love for him. Sitting with him quietly, trying to get into his “head space”, included some very precious moments for me. His death created a huge void in my day to day existence both physically and emotionally. As a mourner, my focus shifted from responsibilities for my father’s well-being to a new responsibility of saying Kaddish.

I thank Rabbi Marder, for encouraging me throughout the process with great sensitivity and understanding. Without making any promises or commitments, I started out saying Kaddish one day at a time to see how it progressed. My wonderful husband Larry took the commitment upon himself to say Kaddish for the full year. Special thanks to Larry for relieving me of any pressure to personally say Kaddish for the full term. What started as a day to day decision gradually grew into an amazing learning experience that I welcomed each day. Yes, I did in fact say Kaddish for the eleven months minus a day and found it very helpful to my healing and mourning process. It provided me the opportunity to thank Hashem for my father’s good health for most of his 93 years of life and for the gift of having him involved and intertwined in our lives for so long. It helped me transition from enjoying his dynamic presence to the finite status of having only cherished memories. Every day my connection to Hashem increased as I davened with a minyan.

However, a new pressure gradually built up as I faced the rigidity of the davening schedule, the challenge of locating a minyan (ten men) and the complexity of scheduling my life to get there on time. This involved juggling, organizing and arranging back-up help in case I was on a plane, stuck in traffic or simply unable to match minyan times with locations. For this, my gratitude and appreciation go to my caring sons, Jon
2. There will be an early opportunity for feedback. In addition to hearing from the Facility Planning Committee, the Board of Directors, and our staff, we will also schedule an open forum for the entire congregation to meet with PGA, where they can hear your concerns and ideas before they begin drawing any plans. I cannot promise that every idea and issue can be accommodated in a single plan — our needs must be prioritized — but they will listen to everyone.

3. Presentation of plan. Having taken in all this information, PGA will produce a conceptual plan for the building, along with a rough budget. They will likely produce an alternative plan and budget as well. These plans will be presented by PGA to the entire congregation for discussion.

4. Membership approval is vital. At the end of this process, it will be up to you, our membership, to decide whether we pursue a renovation plan or not. There is no foregone conclusion here.

5. Next steps. Should the congregation elect to proceed with a renovation, the Board would then negotiate with PGA for a Phase 2 engagement, where PGA would produce construction drawings, and we would engage a general contractor for the work.

This is a complex process, and it will take time, energy, and patience. I welcome your ideas, your feedback, and your questions. I hope that you will share in the excitement as together we explore the possibility of improving our spiritual and communal home.

Sincerely,
Todd Stern
To advertise in the HIWP Bulletin, please complete the order form below. We can create your ad from your business card or camera-ready artwork or you can email a jpeg or pdf file to teri@hiwp.org. For further information, please call Teri Kopp at 914.948.3095 x305 or contact via email teri@hiwp.org.

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We adhere to the highest standard of Halacha.
### Calendar of Events at HIWP

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<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>November 4</td>
<td>Management Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>November 9</td>
<td>Teen/Youth Minyan</td>
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<td>November 16</td>
<td>Chavurah with Sarit Bendavid</td>
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<td>November 27</td>
<td>Chanukah 1st candle</td>
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<td>November 28</td>
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<td>December 8</td>
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<td>December 9</td>
<td>Management Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>December 20-21</td>
<td>SAR Shabbaton</td>
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<td>February 7</td>
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*See HIWP.org for updated calendar information. All events are subject to change*