Rabbi’s Message

While most of us enjoy the celebratory aspects of Purim, there is a serious theme of the holiday. Haman is the villain of the story because he tried to exterminate the entire Jewish people of Persia, in a sense, the first holocaust in Jewish history. The canard he raised against the Jews of Persia became the template for anti-Semitism throughout the ages. He accused the Jewish people of being dispersed among the people of the land, observing their own laws and not following the king's laws. The canard seems plausible because it has some truth.

Following the destruction of the Temple in the year 70 CE, the Jewish people did become dispersed over time throughout the civilized world. Having lost our independence and our homeland being economically devastated by the Romans, life in the homeland became untenable. Successive generations of conquerors did nothing to develop the land of Israel economically, nor encourage the Jewish people to return until modern times when the Jewish people itself created the Zionist movement. And yes, in our dispersion, we established autonomous Jewish communities in which we could observe the dictates of Judaism and regulate our lives to the extent that our host civilizations permitted us.

But, unless the king's laws violated our religious principles, we observed the laws of the land of our host countries. In fact, we made observing the local laws a religious principle of Judaism - dinah d'malchuta dinah - the law of the kingdom is the law.

Nevertheless, we were a minority in every country of the world in which we lived. Our rights and privileges were determined by the host country and our status varied from place to place over time. At times we were warmly welcomed and flourished and, sadly, at times we were persecuted and even expelled. Such is the fate of a powerless minority perceived as 'different' by a stronger majority.

So, the story of Purim is essentially our story - what may happen to a minority culture when the majority host culture turns hostile.

Fortunately for the Jews of Persia, Mordecai and Esther were positioned to effectively intervene on behalf of the Jewish people, although it required courage and determination on their part. And our Rabbis, of course, saw the hand of God working behind the scenes to effect the rescue. And so in every generation, while we celebrate the deliverance of the Jewish people in ancient days, we must also develop our own mechanisms of

continued on page 4]
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Cell: 973 699-4494
shaarayrabbi@gmail.com

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Home: 516 505-2966
Cell: 516 972-5917
shaaraycantor@gmail.com

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shaaraypresident@gmail.com

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leahf584@aol.com

2nd Vice President
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shaarayvp2@gmail.com

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lstein@roomstogo.com

Financial Secretary
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shaarayeditor@gmail.com

Office Manager
Ira Litkofsky 516 481-7448
shaarayfin@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
MARCH

Fri., Mar. 6 Services & Candle Lighting 5:34 pm
Sat., Mar. 7 Parsha Tetzaveh
Morning Services 9:00 am
Torah Reading ~9:45 am
Shabbat Zachor

Fri., Mar. 13 Services & Candle Lighting 6:42 pm
Sat., Mar. 14 Parsha Ki Tisa
Services 9:00 am
Torah Reading ~9:45 am
Shabbat Parah

Fri., Mar. 20 Services & Candle Lighting 6:49 pm
Sat., Mar. 21 Parsha Vayakhel/Pekude
Services 9:00 am
Torah Reading ~9:45 am
Shabbat HaChodesh

Fri., Mar. 27 Services & Candle Lighting 6:57 pm
Sat., Mar. 28 Parsha Vayikra
Services 9:00 am
Torah Reading ~9:45 am

DAVID WEISS DAILY MINYAN
MONDAY AND THURSDAY: 6:30 AM
SUNDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY: 8:30 AM
SUNDAY - THURSDAY: 8:00 PM

Main Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 5:45 pm
Friday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

*other hours by appointment

Rabbi’s Office Hours:
Tuesday:
3:00 pm-5:00 pm
Wednesday:
10:00 am-12:00 pm
Thursday:
3:00 pm—3:00 pm
Vacation is over...definitely over. We had a month or two of relative quiet, but we are gearing up for our spring season of events. Rapidly approaching are 2 events put together by Men’s Club: Shabbat Across America on February 28th and Friday Night Lights on March 20th. Before we get to those upcoming events, incase you missed it, we just passed the celebration of Tu B’Shevat. We changed it up this year, and had a very successful function. Rather than our typical Friday night seder, it was incorporated into our Simcha Shabbat Celebration. Rabbi Vernon led a very informative discussion on the holiday, as we all ate symbolic fruits and nuts. I feel that the event was a real success, because more of us were able to be engaged in the function. Thank you to Bernice Slutzman for donating all the symbolic fruits for the occasion. If you weren’t there with us, consider making it a plan to join us next year.

By the time this bulletin comes out, Shabbat Across America will likely have passed. Assuming that is the case, I hope that you were able to make it this year. I have attended with my family over the past few years, and what I find really nice about this event is that we are able to bring in a larger than normal crowd for a Friday night service, and the dinner even brings in people from outside of our congregation.

Another upcoming event is Friday Night Lights, also brought to us by Men’s Club. This is definitely something not to be missed. On these few occasions during the year, we welcome Shabbat with out-of-the ordinary music, often with instrumental accompaniment. If I recall correctly, the most recent FNL brought in over 40 people.

Don’t think that Sisterhood is falling asleep behind the wheel. These energetic ladies recharged their batteries, and are working on several upcoming things also. First up is their support of our Purim celebration, by creating and selling Mishloach Manot. Purim starts on the evening of Monday March 9th, and on Sunday February 8th in the morning they will be assembling the bags for distribution. This is an “all hands on deck” type of situation, so if you can lend a hand, I am sure they would appreciate it. On the evening of Monday the 9th, we will celebrate in our shul. And on Tuesday the 10th there will be our traditional community-wide celebration at Wing Wan: make sure to get your reservation in! Sisterhood also has Mini University on the calendar already. Although I am not an attendee, my understanding is that they pack the house with attendees, so get your reserved spot ASAP.

Spring also brings Pesach, and all the insanity with preparing for that holiday. I don’t want to stress you out, but it isn’t far away! Also down the pike, is our annual Yom HaShoah Observance on Sunday April 19th. Every year, this event gets more traction outside of our walls, bringing in a larger crowd to be a part of this extremely important observance. Last year we incorporated a special program for youth, and we are doing that again this year with the hopes of reaching more of our future leaders.

Please make sure that you attend as many of our events as possible. Your attendance shows the organizers and volunteers that their efforts are appreciated and the functions are desired. I hope that I get to see you soon…

Alan

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**MINI UNIVERSITY IS COMING**

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self-protection and self-defense, should the need arise. Standing on guard and being watchful is prudent given our history, even as we enjoy the blessings of the living in an era when Jews are the most accepted ever in Jewish history! Happy Purim.

Rabbi Art Vernon

IN MEMORIAM

Seymour Rayner joined what was then the Jewish Community Center of West Hempstead when he married Helen Miles 30 years ago. Seymour, a Kohane and a committed Jew, always responded to calls to complete a minyan. Federal Judge Rayner was a lively, friendly man with unbounded energy. He reached out and helped many a person in need. He was respected in the Jewish community as well as in the legal world.

Seymour Rayner died on November 21, 2019. He will be missed by his loving wife, Helen Miles Rayner, and by our community. May his memory live on as a blessing.

The Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund

Most synagogue funds are used for the benefit of the synagogue, but the Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund in particular, is for the benefit of people in need in the community. Unfortunately, as the needs have increased, contributions to the Fund have decreased. Keep making the contributions that you have, but if you are able to give something additional for this Fund, please do. All donors are acknowledged, both with a card and in the Bulletin, unless you wish your donation to be anonymous. Thanks and best wishes.

BEDIKAT CHAMETZ KITS

As a service to the congregation, free Chametz Search kits will be available in the shul’s office. Check by calling to see if they are in and just stop by and pick one up, WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.
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Our Daily Minyan is in Need of Your Support

Congregation Shaaray Shalom has a long history of supporting the many congregants who need to say Kaddish and observe yahrzeiten. Our constant pleas for participation sometimes work. We have a few new faces and some returning ones. All are welcome to spend a few minutes on Monday and Thursday mornings at 6:30 am and Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 8:30 am. This is another NO EXPERIENCE needed program and our clergy are always willing to help you learn and become more proficient at davening and maybe someday be a leader. We now conduct minyan services in memory and honor of David Weiss, z"l.

We are looking to start a small list of those who can be on standby via TEXT messaging for any of the mornings. A group text would be sent only if we are missing #10 and if one person responds, the others would go on their way. It is a modern approach to the old fashioned apparatus on the wall and it can contact many people in a FLASH.

Please contact Rich Selzer: 516 680 3710 / Rjselzer@gmail.com or Leah Freeberg: 516 984-7782 / leahf584@aol.com to add your name to this list.

Our minyan continues to be one of our strengths. Please help us continue it.

Rabbi Vernon [973] 699-4494 email: shaarayrabi@gmail.com
Richie Selzer [516] 680-3063 email: rjselzer@gmail.com Monday morning coordinator
Joe Richmond [516] 489-3321 email: jorich47@gmail.com Tuesday evening coordinator
You may also call the office at [516] 481-7448 and let Ira know that you will be coming.

Congregation Shaaray Shalom
Dedication & Contribution Funds
Take a Moment and Make a Difference

It’s easy to honor or remember friends and family by selecting a lasting shul dedication or contributing to any of our many funds.

No donation is too small. Write a check for an item that interests you and drop it in the mail or call the office for more information.

Dedications

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<tr>
<td>Outside Bulletin Marquee Stones</td>
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<td>Tree of Life Leaf</td>
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<td>Chumash</td>
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<td>Sanctuary Seat</td>
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<td>Minyanai’re’s Plaque</td>
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Funds

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<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>For everyday operations of the Synagogue.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building Fund</td>
<td>Capital improvements, maintenance and repair of our facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Funds</td>
<td>Programs of Judaism through art, literature, music and video; food for the needy, etc.</td>
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<td>Murry Roth Torah Maintenance Fund</td>
<td>Maintenance of our Torah Scrolls</td>
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<td>Chesed Fund</td>
<td>For people sitting Shiva or are ill</td>
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<td>Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund</td>
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<td>Cantor’s Discretionary Fund</td>
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Mechirat Chametz

I, ________________________, hereby empower and permit Rabbi Art Vernon, Spiritual Leader of Congregation Shaaray Shalom, to act in my behalf to sell all chametz and all products containing even the smallest percentage of chametz, possessed by me (knowingly or unknowingly), as defined by our Torah and Rabbinical law, and to lease all places wherein the above mentioned products owned by me may be found, especially in the premises located at:

____________________________________________________

Rabbi Art Vernon has the right to sell and to lease the above such transactions as he deems fit and proper to such time when he believes necessary. The above authorization which is hereby given is meant to be in conformity with all Torah and Rabbinical Laws and regulations, and also to be in accordance with the laws of the State of New York and of the United States of America.

To this I do hereby affix my signature on this _____day of ______________, 2020.

Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of ______ made payable to the Rabbi’s Discretionary (Passover) Fund.
Deconstructing Symbols of Hate is a workshop that discusses common symbols which are used to foster hate and their context. The program will be geared to middle and high school students of all backgrounds and faiths. Lasting about 40 minutes, the class will include real examples from Long Island. The session will include a practical application of learning and also interactive components. Topics will include what students can do to counteract these acts of hate, both morally and with their voices, in their schools and in their neighborhoods.

Parents are welcome to join their students, helping to create a family experience. Educators are always welcome.

The Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County strives to teach the history of the Holocaust and its lessons through education and community outreach. They teach about the dangers of anti-Semitism, racism, bullying and all other manifestations of intolerance. They promote resistance to prejudice and advocate respect for every human being.

Each student attending will receive 2 hours of Community Service credit and a personalized certificate of participation.

Students are invited to join the main program that follows, featuring Ambassador Dani Dayan.

Location: Congregation Shaaray Shalom, 711 Dogwood Ave., West Hempstead, NY 11552

516-481-7448

Kosher pizza will be served; coffee and snacks for parents.
Yom HaShoah - Holocaust Remembrance Day
Sunday, April 19, 2020 at 7:00PM

For Students:
5:45 pm Dialogue & Pizza - Deconstructing Symbols of Hate

Ambassador Dani Dayan
The Consul General of Israel in New York

Never Again Means NEVER AGAIN

As Consul General, Ambassador Dani Dayan represents the State of Israel to communities from throughout New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Delaware. Ambassador Dayan has a longtime reputation as an Israeli public figure, lecturer and entrepreneur enjoying wide support and appreciation from all sides of the American and Israeli political spectrum.

With remarks by:
Laura Curran - Nassau County Executive

location: Congregation Shaaray Shalom, 711 Dogwood Ave., West Hempstead, NY 11552
516-481-7448
A light collation will follow the program

Congregation Shaaray Shalom    Elmont Jewish Center   Malverne Jewish Center
Temple B’Nai Israel of Elmont   Valley Stream Jewish Center    Valley Stream Hadassah
Sisterhood “Joy and Memorial” cards are available by calling either Fran Welner 516 485-1682 or Sylvia Baxt 516 485-0282

This card is printed in a lovely blue color.

From
May ‘light and joy, gladness and honor’ prevail (Esther 8:16)
Congregation Shaaray Shalom

---

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Dear Friends,

Purim is upon us and many of us practice the giving of Mishloach Manot for this festival. Another one of the mitzvot of Purim is tzedakah. There are actually four. Besides the two just mentioned there is also the hearing of the Megillah and the festive meal.

What better time to give to the Food Fund?

Shalom,
Arbie Orenstein

---

ATTENTION CONTRIBUTORS!

All submissions for publication in the Bulletin are due no later than the 15th of the month.

- Write it in an e-mail (or as a Word attachment) and send it to either email address:
  shaarayeditor@gmail.com brei513@aol.com
- Bring your item on disk or a paper submission (typed or printed only) to the synagogue office and leave it with Ira or Chanene.
- Should there be errors, please contact the Editor directly through the email addresses listed on page 2 or above.

---

What do these families—
Drooks, Tamarkin, Harris, Schlanger, Weingarten, DeCastros, Alcubes, Nachmias and Kruger.....
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DATES TO REMEMBER

Cantor’s Class
Every Sunday @ 11:30 am

Men’s Club Bowling:
Tuesdays @8:00 pm at Herrill Lanes [465 Herricks Road]

Movie Matinee
To Be Announced

wRap with the Rabbi
Weekday lunch with informal discussions
Visit our website: www.shaarayshalom.org for more info

Tallit & Technology
Join the Men’s Club on any Sunday morning for minyan @8:30 and stay for a lesson on computers, phones and tablets. Let us keep you in touch with your children, grandchildren and friends. Just bring the tool of your choice and we will get you up and running. There is no age limit. Learn the internet, apps for your phone and tablet, email or how to use your smart phone.

See us on the West Hempstead and Preservation Society website: www.facebook.com/WestHempsteadHistoricalSociety

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FAX: (516) 292-9320
Manager:
Amy Wong
SISTERHOOD  
AND THE WINNER IS.....

We have winners. Drawings were held for January and February Raffles of the Month. According to Sylvia Baxt the recipients for January are Paula Ascher - $10, Florence Gross - $15, and Eileen Berman - $25. For February they are Debbie Capilupi - $10, Lew Stein - $15, and Paula Ascher - $25. Congratulations ladies and gentleman.

Here's another opportunity to be a winner. Have your name printed with other members' on our Holiday Greetings page in this publication. If you missed the previous postings of the holiday greetings, you can still join the list of well wishers, contact Roberta Rowner. The next installment is celebrating Passover. call Rita Kaikow. Payments of $10 are due by March 13th in order to make the deadline.

We're still working on plans for our pre-Mother's Day brunch. Beat the Clock flyers should be arriving soon. In the meantime, we hope you're enjoying your Purim baskets. Next comes Passover (and crumbs everywhere, oy).

* * * * * * * *

There are things that make us appreciate all the above even more. One of them is the passing of our longtime membership chair, Helen Kruger. Our condolences go to Jack and her family.

We also bid farewell to Naomi Lane and Ruth Cohen, both former sisterhood members at JCC and FSJC. May their memories be for a blessing.

Let's hope for happier news next month. Shalom,

Helene

Who's Who of Sisterhood Officers and Chairwomen

President: Rita Kaikow  481-3722  
Treasurer: Laura Richmond  489-3321  
Financial Secretary: Fran Welner  485-1682  
Recording Secretary: Rachel Landes  209-1254  
Book Club: Ileana Ascher  486-2995  
Bulletin Reporter: Helene Fastman  328-9598  
Gift Shop: Laura Richmond  489-3321  
Joy and Memorial Cards:  
Sylvia Baxt  485-0282  
Fran Welner  485-1682  
Mah Jongg: Rachel Landes  209-1254  
Membership Chair: Judi Stone  489-4231  
Mini University: Florence Gross  486-4815

MEN’S CLUB ON THE MOVE

As February passes and we look to the warm weather there is a lot going on with the Men’s Club
We congratulate our Super Bowl Bonanza Winners: Ronni Pollack, Jake Greenberg, and Joe Richmond. We had a very successful World Wide Wrap program and the Rabbi and Cantor did a great job on the continuing education of the tradition of Tefillin and their importance in our Jewish tradition.

We have participated in the Annual Shabbat Across America program for over 15 years and we are proud to continue this tradition. We are looking into programs of interest and encourage our congregants to bring suggestions to us.

We are continuing to offer help on your new hi tech toys. Whether it is an ipad or android cell phone, tablet, or just simple email or texting, join us on any Sunday morning minyan and stay for a nosh and learn session. It is our pleasure.

The final item is our reprise of Friday Night Live. We will be welcoming our dear friend the other A. Vernon, Rabbi Ari Vernon, as he leads us in an upcoming Friday night Shabbat service. Look for our fliers with more information.
### 5780 Adar/Nisan 2020

#### March

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- **8** Daylight Savings Time Begins
- **9** Fast of Ester Evening Megillah Reading
- **14** Shushan Purim
- **18** Purim
- **21** Vayikra
- **28** Rosh Chodesh
- **17 Adar** Tetzaveh
- **18 Adar** Ki Tisa
- **25 Adar** Vayahel/Pekkude Shabbat HsCHodesh
- **3 Nisan** Vayikra

**Shabbat**
- **11 Adar** Shabbat Parah
- **20 Adar** Shabbat Zchor

**Rosh Chodesh**
- **1 Nisan** Rosh Chodesh

**Fast of Ester**
- **9 Adar** Evening Megillah Reading

**Vayikra**
- **28 Adar** Reading

**Tetzaveh**
- **7 Adar** Reading

**Ki Tisa**
- **15 Adar** Reading

**Vayahel/Pekkude Shabbat HsCHodesh**
- **20 Adar** Reading
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Ellen Bashan for
Cecilia Kalmanowitz
Philip Kalmanowitz
Beverly Beekman for
Gussie Rosenthal
Ilene and Michael Berman for
Henry Berman
Rosalie Rappaport
Michael Berman for
Norma Acherman
Amelia Bernstein for
Matsil Isaac Matsil
Adele Birnbaum for
Isidore Birnbaum
May Birnbaum
Lillian Burke for
Harry Kohler
Ruth Cohen for
Abraham Halpern
Sharon Cohen for
Ruth Cohen
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Bernice Frank for
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Irving Lambert
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Anna Kessler
Shirley Kessler
Helen Klinghoffer-Kay for
Shirley Glass
Karen Laufer for
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Arlene Kohler for
Harry Kohler
Lynd Licht for
Frances Dorf
Harry Licht
Arnold Manipla for
Zelda Schleifer
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Jeffrey Wexler for
Seymour Wexler

IN MEMORY OF
Jack Kornbluth from Lew Stein
Naomi Lane from The Abramowitz Family

REFUAH SHELEIMA
Herb and Leon Pollack

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Ileana and Mark Ascher
Dorothy and Robert Dorman
Leah and Edward Freeberg
Audrey Schneider

CANTOR’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Elaine and Jacques Hakim
Audrey Schneider

FOOD FUND
Roberta and Eric Rowner

KIDDUSH
Estelle Rothfield

CHESED FUND
Rita Kaikow
Guttermann’s
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Arrangements for Out-of-State Burials
* Of Blessed Memory

MONUMENTS BY GUTTERMAN’S
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During the month of March 2020, the following yahrzeiten will be observed by the listing of your loved one’s name on the Yarhzeit Screens.
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Congregation Shaaray Shalom is a member of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. We provide a wide range of programs, reaching out to all of our member families and the community-at-large. Our Daily Minyanim, Sisterhood, Men’s Club, Chavurot and Mitzvah programs are among our outstanding activities. We encourage your participation.