

# The YI/Merrick NEWS

## \*\* Special Summer Barbecue Edition \*\*

Well, summer is finally here (actually, summer has been around since June 21, it's just the newsletter which is finally here.) Some kids are away at camp, some are home, some are in Israel, and the rest of us are counting down the days until school starts again.

Firstly, apologizes to the June birthdays and anniversaries. Last month's issue was so busy that there just was not enough room, so I would like to begin with the birthday announcements:

### **JUNE - Birthdays:**

Jordanna Abikzer - June 21; Corey Blumenblatt - June 21; Lois David - June 7; Ariella Goldstein - June 22; Audrey Kurland - June 22; Elisheva Landau - June 25; Jack Lockspeiser - June 16; Bonnie Nathanson - June 13; Aron Rattner - June 15; Aron Kromholz - June 26; Liza Rosenthal - June 19; Jared Somer - June 4; Betsy Stein - June 7; Risa Zimilover - June 10; Jordan Zimilover - June 29; Jessica Zimilover - June 25.

### **JUNE - Anniversaries:**

Janet and Jeff Bienenfeld - June 18; Lois and Aaron David - June 15; Lisa and Irwin Goldstein - June 19; Rivka and Noah Kromholz - June 5; Lori and Steve Reisner - June 7 (Happy 10th!); Ofra and Lloyd Somer - June 26; Risa and Ira Zimilover - June 10.

### **JULY - Birthdays:**

Loni Banilivy - July 26; Elyse Bell - July 5; Moshe and Reuven - July 10 and Amy Rosenson - July 27; Justin Gage - July 18; Mayer Gross - July 1; Debbie Hamburg - July 12; Shoshana Korman - July 11; Marshal Kurland - July 16; Jan Levine - July 10; Perri Rosenthal - July 18; Lloyd Somer - July 1; Tiffany Somer - July 29; Maurice Wiesenfeld - July 31; Rebecca Zimilover - July 6.

### **JULY - Anniversaries:**

Rachel and Michael Jacobson - July 13.

(Deep Breath) Whew! Mazel Tov to all of the above and wishing everyone much health and happiness until 120!

We would also like to wish a Nesi'a Tova and/ or if they've already left a "hope it was a nesi'a tova" to the following lucky kids who will be leaving (or have already left) for Israel:

Melissa Goldstein - who will be leaving July 15 with the I.B.A. program.

Daniel Grossman - who will be going to Sdei Chemed.

Ilan Hamburg - who, according to his father, while traveling with Bnei Akiva, has already conquered the Negev. *(continued on page 3)*

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## **And Now A Word From Our New President, Steven Gage:**

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Dear Member,

First of all I would like to wish a thank you and a job well done to our departing Board Members: Avi Abikzer, Marc Bell, Audrey Kurland, Stacey Nathanson, Gail Stamler, and Ira Zimilover as well as a welcome to our new Board Members: Susan Abikzer, Loren Daitch, Michael Jacobson, Renee Maynard, Howard Nathanson, and Stuart Rattner. To those Board Members who have signed on for another term, well what can I say!

The new Board has quickly moved into action and recently reviewed and/or voted on the following topics:

### **Board Meeting Policy**

The Board meets on the first Monday of every month in the Shul at 9:00PM. In the past individuals have attended Board Meetings to present on a specific topic or to simply audit the meeting. The challenge with this policy is that individuals may wish to present issues to the Board in private, additionally some of the topics discussed at these meetings are confidential and not for public knowledge.

The Board has carefully reviewed the attendance of members at Board Meetings has decided the following effective August 1, 1997:

Individuals will be granted the opportunity to present on a specific topic or topics. Any individual wishing to present, should contact the President a week prior to the meeting. The President will schedule the presentations based on the Boards agenda and schedule.

### **Committees**

The Board approved the following new committees:

**Building Expansion** - Howard Nathanson, Stuart Rattner, Allen Rosenthal.

The Board would like to determine the possible costs for the expansion of our current Building as well as the expected time period for receiving the required variances / permits. The Board is not committed to acting on this information but would like to understand the possible options.

*(continued on page 2)*

## President's Message (continued from page 1)

The Building Expansion Committee will research the issues that would be involved in the expansion of our current building from a financial as well as legal aspect.

**High Holiday Seating** - Susan Abikzer, Debby Gage.

The High Holiday seating policy provides for the purchase of seats by Associate members and non-members without respect to the total number of seats in the Shul. This policy could lead to a situation where a member could arrive in Shul and not have a seat (this is more prevalent in the women's section).

The Board wishes to review the potential options for implementing a more formal seating policy and has thus appointed a High Holiday Seating Committee. The committee will review the possible options and report back to the Board.

**By-Laws Review** - Aaron Stein

The Young Israel of Merrick By-Laws are in need of some fine tuning. The By Laws Committee will be chartered with reviewing the By Laws, correcting any errors or omissions as well as recommend any modifications. The Board will then review and present to the General Membership for approval. Please note the following existing committees and their members:

**Youth Director Search** - Larry Korman, Rabbi Volk

**Ritual** - Aaron Stein and Rabbi Volk  
**Marketing** - Debbie Hamburg, Jeff Bienenfeld, Jack Lockspeiser

**Dinner** - Susan Abikzer, Avi Abikzer, Loren Daitch, Debby Gage

I would like to welcome everyone's participation in any of the committees. Anyone wishing to participate please contact me.

### Fundraising

Coupons are now available for Bagel Boss, Edwards, King Kullen, Kosher

Emporium, and Waldbaums with others to follow. The Shul receives between 5% - 10% for all coupons purchased. Please continue to participate in this valuable fundraiser.

### Decorum

In an attempt to reduce noise in the Shul during davening, please make every effort to keep the outside hallway clear. This will require your cooperation (as well as your childrens'). Individuals will be appointed to help in this effort. Please give them your cooperation and respect.

### Special Thank You

A special thank you to Gail Stamler (and her volunteers) for the completion of our most successful Garage Sale to date. The Shul raised over \$1,300 in this effort. Many thanks to Gail for her outstanding efforts on behalf of the Shul.

### Lastly

The Rabbi, myself, and the board are dedicated towards continuing our path of inclusion in the Shul. Please feel free to approach me or any other member of the board with feedback and / or any comments you may have.

Steven Gage

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Statements and opinions presented in signed articles are those of the respective authors, and do not necessarily reflect official opinions of the Young Israel of Merrick.

## A Note from our Fundraising Chairperson:

By now you've all received your current statements and are aware that you can work off this year's \$300.- assessment through the purchase and or sale of store coupons(scrip). To that end, we are expanding the Scrips program. In the immediate future, coupons will be available for the following stores by calling the people indicated for each group of stores:

Waldbaums(7%) and Kosher Emporium (5%) - call Liza Rosenthal (623-6242) or Betsy Stein (623-4230)  
Edwards (7%), Bagel Boss (10%), and King Kullen (5%) - call Liza Rosenthal (623-6242)  
Gap(5%), Macy's (7%), Saks (5%), Bloomingdales (7%), Loehmann's (12%), and Fortunoff's (7%) - call Rachel Jacobson (868-2089), or Hedy Katz (867-7831)

Many other stores are available, as are postage stamps (2%) and Metrocards (2%). Please call me (379-7720) to inquire about any of these.

Thank you in advance for supporting the shul!

Loren Daitch  
*Fundraising Chairperson*

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## Greetings

*(continued from page 1)*

Melissa Nathanson is also traveling with Bnei Akiva.

Also, a Nesi'a Tova to Rachel David who will be traveling with Achva West this summer.

Wishing all our young adventurers safe flights, great times, and for goodness sake, call the folks back home every now and then.

### **KOL HAKAVOD!!!**

To Gail and Richie Stampler on the outstanding job (do they ever do anything but?) on the Garage Sale. Despite its postponements, the sale was a smashing success, raising \$1300.- for the shul. Gail and Richie worked very hard over two days to sell, sell, sell. Thanks to everyone for their contributions, and a very big Todah Rabbah to all the volunteers, without whose help, this whole thing would have come off. Thanks again, Gail for all the good you do for the shul!

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## **"Summertime - and Living is Easy".....**

Unless you're the one in charge of the Barbecue. So here are a few marinades to make the cooking just a little tastier:

### **Basic Barbecue Sauce:**

(Good for meat or chicken)

- 2 1/2 cups ketchup
- 1/3 cup orange juice
- 1 Tbsp ground cinnamon
- 1 Tbsp maple syrup or honey
- 1 1/2 Tbsp soy sauce
- 1 1/2 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce

Mix all ingredients and taste for seasoning. Use to marinate; brush on additional sauce during

cooking.

### **Oriental Marinade:**

(Good for fish or chicken)

- 1 cup reduced-sodium soy sauce
- 3 Tbsp ginger
- 2 tsp. sesame oil

Mix together, pour over fish or meat, coating well. Marinate at least 1/2 hour before grilling.

### **Steak in a Bag:** (also great for chicken)

- 2 cups water
- 1 cup teriyaki sauce
- 1 tsp. black pepper
- 1/2 cup dark molasses
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp. onion powder
- 2 Earl Grey tea bags

Combine the water, teriyaki sauce, black pepper, molasses and spices in a saucepan. Bring to a boil. Add the tea bags. Let sit until cool, then remove tea bags. Put the steaks in a big zip-top plastic bag. Add the marinade. Seal tightly. Refrigerate until ready to grill.

### **Arlene's Marinades:**

a) Steak Marinade (good for 2-3 rib steaks or shish ka-bob)

- 2 tsp. paprika
- 2 tsp. dry mustard
- 1 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 1/2 tsp. onion powder
- 1 tsp. white pepper
- 1 tsp. thyme
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 3/4 tsp. black pepper
- 1/2 tsp. cayenne
- 3 Tbsp balsamic vinegar

Pound steak thinly and let sit in marinade at least 1/2 hour in the refrigerator.

b) Chicken Marinade

- 3/4 cup fresh lemon juice

8 cloves of garlic (or 1 large head), pressed

2 Tsp. dried thyme

1 Tbsp paprika

1 1/2 tsp. ground cumin

3/4 tsp. cayenne pepper.

Marinate chicken at least 1/2 hour.

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## **Gardening Corner - donate Iris to the Shul!**

If you have noticed that your bearded Iris (Iris Germanicus) is not flowering as prolifically as it should, then it probably needs dividing. This is generally done in July/August, when Iris are dormant. You may remember that before the original shul garden was "bulldozed", there were Iris growing there. When you divide your Iris, you will probably have divisions over. The shul can use them!

If anyone would like to know how to divide their Iris and would like to donate some to the shul garden, please call Jeff Maynard at 223 0186.

## Shiva Asar B' Tamuz is Tuesday, July 22.

"The Seventeenth of Tammuz - Five tragedies occurred on this day:

- a) The Tablets(of Law) were destroyed (because of the worship of the Golden Calf).
- b) Preceding the destruction of the First Temple, the daily Temple offerings ceased.
- c) Preceding the destruction of the Second Temple, the city of Jerusalem was conquered.
- d) Afustumus, the Wicked, burnt the Torah.
- e) An idol was placed in the Holy Sanctuary.

During the Three Weeks between the Seventeenth of Tammuz and Tisha B'Av, it is proper to minimize rejoicing. Ashkenazic custom dictates that weddings and other celebrations are not held in this period. Both the Sephardic and Ashkenazic communities refrain from dancing and playing music at this time. (Nevertheless, a professional musician may work for gentiles until Rosh Chodesh Av.) Certain communities abstain from eating meat and drinking

wine in this period. Generally, however, these restrictions are not enforced until Rosh Chodesh Av. Just as a mourner does not cut his hair or shave, it is customary to refrain from doing so during these three weeks. One should refrain from hitting children at this time.

The prophet Isaiah declared, "Zion will be redeemed with judgment and those who return to her, through charity." The commentaries explain that in this context judgment refers to the study of Torah and in particular, Halacha. In these weeks, accentuated by the memory of Jerusalem's downfall, we must increase our efforts in those activities; Torah study and gifts to charity, which will bring about her redemption. In particular, it is appropriate to study the laws relating to the construction of the Temple, for in the Medrash's words, "when Jews study the laws of the Temple, Hashem considers it as if they are involved in its construction."

*Introduction "The Book of Eicha" - The Torah Anthology - Yalkut Me'am Loez*

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### Fun and games on the World Wide Web!

Try these "cool" and useful sites that we have noted:

**Merrick Library.** Here you can find all the information about Merrick Library, including a search of Nassau County Library Systems On-Line Public Access Catalog.  
<http://lilrc1.lilrc.org/~mkl/>

**Merrick Eruv Map.** We can't vouch for the accuracy of this map - the curious should check with our Eruv Meister Extraordinaire Steve Hamburg.  
<http://haven.ios.com/~ohav/eruv>

**Mitzva Mania Page.** Here are all the Mitzvas - 613 of them - with other useful information.

<http://www.valuu.net/users/mitzva/default.html-ssi>

**Divrei Torah.** This is probably the most comprehensive list of commentaries on the weekly Parsha on the web.  
<http://israel.nysernet.org/tanach/dvar.html>

**Jewish Genealogy.** Where did your family come from? The most comprehensive Jewish Genealogy site on the web.  
<http://www.jewishgen.org>

**Lithuanian & Latvian Jews.** A page about Jewish charitable donations printed in the 19th century Hebrew newspaper Hamelitz. Just enter your surname into the searchable database.  
<http://www1.jewishgen.org/hamelitz.htm>

**Nassau County Weather.** Local weather updated constantly.

<http://www.weather.com/chase/noframes/FRG.html>

**Daf Yomi – Maseches Kinim: Cases of the Mishna.** A site for those studying a daily page who are up to this Masechta.  
<http://www.shemayisrael.co.il/dafyomi/kinim/index.htm>

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Editor: Renée Maynard

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