



MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI
MAY 2015

Dear friends,

I like to say that when I was growing up, our family had two bibles. One was The New Yorker Magazine. The other was The New York Times. The Times, in particular, figures in so many of my oldest memories. Sunday, in particular, was about The New York Times. My mother always read the Book Review section first; my father read The Week in Review. The Sunday Times is intertwined in my memory with a warm fire in the living room fireplace, sometimes with friends over, food, noise, fun – the best of family times, really. When I was an adult, my parents decided that the winters in Chappaqua, New York where they'd lived since the mid-1950s were just getting too cold. So they bought a house in San Diego and would head out there every year right after Thanksgiving and come back East right before Passover. At first they lived in Rancho Bernardo, a suburb just north of downtown San Diego. The New York Times offered daily home delivery to RB, as they called it, so that was just fine. Eventually, though, my parents wanted to move farther north, to Escondido. But they couldn't. Why? Because The Times didn't have daily delivery in Escondido then. So they stayed put in Rancho Bernardo, and when the glorious day at last arrived – home delivery of The New York Times to Escondido! – they sold the RB house and happily moved north. One of my children's and nephews' favorite memories is of an extended family vacation we all took (my family, my parents, my

sister's family) to Florida one December. Across the street from the condo we rented were newspaper boxes offering various Florida papers, USA Today, and – The New York Times. Every morning my father would task the grandchildren with watching that special NYT box through binoculars. When it looked like the copies of The Times were running low, one of the kids would get the honor of running outside with the right change to release the precious paper from the box and bring it back inside for Grandpa.

I share all this with you as a prelude and context for telling you how incredibly painful it has been for me (and my whole family) to witness and have to acknowledge the shockingly biased coverage of events in Israel by The New York Times. Last summer's conflict in Gaza was regularly reported with significant omissions, distortions and bias by The Times. The media watchdog, Honest Reporting, cited The New York Times for, among other failures, inflated casualty counts of Gazans, failure to disclose missing or incomplete information, failure to state Hamas's real goals, and failure to disclose the pressuring of foreign journalists by Hamas "sources" to print said distortions and incomplete stories. Regarding the latter, several media watchers subsequently reported that journalists, fearing reprisal, followed Hamas' dictate that all Palestinian casualties be described as "civilians," all teenage combatants as "children," and every death as Israel's fault.

Last summer, Times Op-Eds, with rare exceptions, supported the Palestinian narrative: "Israel Has

Overrated to the Threats it Provoked;” “U.S. Should Stop Funding Israel, or Let Others Broker Peace;” “Israel’s Colonialism Must End;” “Zionism and its Discontents.” This was anything but fair.

Times headlines were likewise revealing. When Hamas broke yet another ceasefire and resumed firing missiles at Israeli, civilians, Israel defended itself. The Times declared obtusely, “Hamas Rockets and Israeli Response Break Ceasefire.” Others: “As Israel Hits Mosque and Clinic, Air Campaign’s Risks Come Home;” “Israelis Watch Bombs Drop on Gaza from Front-Row Seats;” “Military Censorship in Israel.” Etc., etc.

And since last summer it hasn’t gotten any better. In November, when two Palestinians killed two Israelis in stabbing attacks, The Times took a clear, precise headline about the Palestinian violence (“Palestinian Stabs Israeli Soldier at Tel Aviv Train Station”) and then, in a later edition, carefully edited it so as to blur Palestinian culpability (“Palestinians are Suspected as 2 Israelis Die in Knife Attacks.”) Just this past weekend, two more Palestinians attacked Israeli police officers with knives, and once again The Times opted for a headline which whitewashed Palestinian responsibility for violence. The Times headline was “Israeli Officers Kill 2 Palestinian Men.” A few days later, there was this headline, “Palestinian Teenager Killed by Israeli Police.” But, as the accompanying article, made clear in the first paragraph, “Two Palestinian men were fatally shot by the Israeli police *after attacking officers with knives*, [my italics] one at a contested shrine in the West Bank and the other at a checkpoint near East Jerusalem, a police spokeswoman said Saturday.”

This is reporting the effect without the cause. And, interestingly enough, the author of this last New

York Times article was a native Arabic speaker, Diaa Hadid, “who can penetrate Palestinian society with understanding and solid news judgment,” as Times Public Editor, Margaret Sullivan, has said. What does the newspaper accomplish by hiring such a reporter and then attaching such distorted headlines to her articles?

It’s not only The New York Times, of course. Last October, after a suspected terror attack against Israelis, an early Associated Press headline reported, “Israeli Police Shoot Man in East Jerusalem”. Who was this man who was shot? The driver of a car who slammed into an Israeli train stop leaving a three-month old in critical condition and at least 7 others wounded.

But I hold The New York Times, “All the news that’s fit to print” to a higher standard. This venerable institution has earned the scorn and condemnation it has garnered among its thoughtful and responsible readers who expect, at a minimum, honesty and unbiased writing in its pages. I continue to subscribe to The New York Times although a number of my colleagues, who grew up on it as I did, have discontinued their subscriptions. I’m not ready to go that far yet. But I read the newspaper now with a much more careful and critical eye – and not a little sadness mixed with considerable anger. If you are interested in learning more, I refer you to CAMERA – Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America, www.camera.org, a very informative website.

Hoping for fair reporting and fair weather in the month ahead.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Kim S. Geringer

President's Message

Dear Congregants,

I hope you are all enjoying the improved (unless you really love snow and cold) weather, and are planning on coming out for our upcoming Friday night services. I hear one of our famous Shabbat dinners is in the works for the near future, and information will be forthcoming.

Looking ahead, we have a very special fundraiser scheduled for August 29, 2015. This is our second annual art auction, to be held this year in the Perry's Lake Clubhouse in Stafford Township. We are hoping to make this one of, if not, the largest fundraisers we have had. Please see any member of the fundraising committee for details on how you can help, and of course plan on attending and bringing as many guests as possible, so as to make this event a huge success.

On May 17, 2015, we will be holding our annual congregational meeting at 7pm in the church. This is an especially important year as a new slate of officers and trustees is nominated. These names will be provided prior to the meeting. We will also be voting on a 2015-2016 budget, so please make every effort to attend.

A new board naturally means some of the old board is bidding farewell. I will now be moving on to the position known as immediate past president. It has been an honor to serve as the president of this congregation for the past two years. Please know that I have always done my best in this role, and have always strived to do whatever is in the best interest of our synagogue. Hopefully I have succeeded in this to some extent. I wish the incoming officers and trustees the best of luck.

Philip M. Miller, President

TEMPLE COMMITTEES

Temple Committees	Chair/Members
Choir	<u>Philip Altland</u> Cyndy Friedland, Wendi Higgins, Pat Barndt, Madelyn Dunn, Robert Dunn, Syble Bleiweis, Rena Kreisler
Finance	<u>Treasurer, Ernie Bleiweis</u> Financial Secretary, Cyndy Friedland President, Phil Miller
Fundraising	<u>Dayna Otto</u> Pat Barndt, Syble Bleiweis, Madelyn Dunn, Cyndy Friedland, Wendi Higgins, Joan Silverman
Greeters	<u>Hope Gardiner</u> Pat Barndt, Syble Bleiweis, Wendi Higgins
Hospital Visits	<u>Jack Crespy</u>
Membership	<u>Cyndy Friedland</u> Syble Bleiweis, Joan Silverman
Music	<u>Philip Altland</u>
Newsletter	<u>Rose Jackson</u> Hope Gardiner
Oneg & Dinners	<u>Madelyn Dunn</u> Pat Barndt, Wendi Higgins
Publicity	<u>Cyndy Friedland</u>
Religious School	<u>Cyndy Friedland/ Phil Miller</u>
Ritual	<u>Allan Levy</u> Philip Altland, Charles Flum
Sunshine	<u>Syble Bleiweis</u> Ruth Schlyen, Phyllis Blum, Harriet Cohen
Tributes	<u>Syble Bleiweis</u> Joan Silverman
Yahrzeits	<u>Harriet Cohen</u> Pat Barndt

2015 Services Dates

Friday, May 8, 7:30pm

Friday, May 22, 7:30pm

Friday, June 5, 7:30pm

Friday, June 26, 7:30pm



Yahrzeits

בראבא יתגדל

MAY 2	Herb Feldhuhn	(husband of Marlene Feldhuhn)
MAY 4	Shirley Levy	(mother of Allen Levy)
MAY 13	Isadore Levy	(father of Allen Levy)
MAY 14	Annie Gordon	(sister of Maralyn Ricicardi)
MAY 25	David Crespy	(father of Jack Crespy)
MAY 27	Theodore Cohen	(father of Phil Cohen)
MAY 28	Adele Berlin	(aunt of Syble Bleiweiss)

May the memories of our loved ones be a blessing.

CONGREGATION SHA'AREY HA-YAM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President	Philip Miller	609-698-3933	pmmlegal@aol.com
1st Vice President	Philip Altland	609-492-2751	paltland@elliman.com
2nd Vice President	Wendi Higgins	732-232-1861	wendi.higgins@verizon.net
Secretary	Rosalie Donadio	609-296-0408	raisele@comcast.net
Treasurer	Ernie Bleiweis	609-978-4240	sybern3539@comcast.net
Financial Secretary	Cyndy Friedland	609-698-4459	cfriedland119@comcast.net
Board of Trustees at Large	Dayna Otto	609-597-3239	yoursdayna@comcast.net
	Charles Flum	732-228-7991	cflum1@comcast.net
Past President	Aaron Shapiro	609-242-2390	shap1010@comcast.net



Say Cheese.....

On Friday, May 22nd we are planning a Dairy Dinner to celebrate Shavout

Where: LCHS Shabbat dining room

When: Friday, May 22nd

Time: 6PM

Please bring a Dairy Dish

Cost: \$10 Members, \$12 non-members

Children under 13 no charge

Kindly contact Madelyn Dunn at 609-660-1614 or via email; justmemad@aol.com to make your reservation

Service to follow at 7:30PM

Fundraisers... We need your support!!!

Save-the-Date - August 29th - Art Auction at the beautiful Perry's Lake Club House.
More info to follow.

Amazon Smile - When shopping at www.SMILE.Amazon.com you can designate REFORM JEWISH COMMUNITY of BARNEGAT (there are no additional fees, the congregation makes a percentage).

ShopRite Cards are always sold at services, but can be purchased anytime by contacting Dayna (609.709.9410) or Syble (609.978.4240)

Tribute Cards can be sent to anyone for any reason with a minimum donation of \$5. Contact Syble (609.978.4240)



Easy recovery and return to good health from surgery.

To: Phyllis Blum

From: Congregation

Wishes for continuing to gain good health.

To: Dolly Weiss

Maralyn Ricciardi

Harriet Cohen



 May 9 Deb Majeswki

 May 25 Maralyn Ricciardi



May 27
Mr. and Mrs. Carey Belitz

May the First Fruits of the season...
Bring you good harvest
and good fortune in the year ahead!

