

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM



Rosh Hashana / Yom Kippur 5777



1571 Stratfield Road

Fairfield, CT 06825

(203) 372-6529

October, 2016 / Tishri, 5777

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1571 Stratfield, Road Fairfield, Connecticut 06825-1377

Rabbi's Message

The Gemara in Masechta Rosh Hashonah explains that there are three books that are opened on Rosh Hashonah. The righteous are inscribed in the Book of Life. The wicked are inscribed in the Book of Death. And the average people lie in wait until they are sealed in one of these two books on Yom Kippur. This is the judgement of Rosh Hashonah. The commentaries ask how the Gemarah can make such a rash statement that the righteous are guaranteed life and the wicked are guaranteed death! We have all been witness to the wicked living and the righteous dying, at least due to the infirmities of old age!

It is clear that the life and death that the Gemarah is referring to is not the physical life and death that we are acquainted with. Rather, the Gemarah is referring to the life of spiritual fulfillment. A righteous person is sealed with a year of vibrant and positive spiritual pursuits - a year of happiness and fulfillment whilst one enjoys working towards a life full of purpose. On the other hand, one who is not righteous is sealed with yet another year of rigorous monotony bereft of purpose and meaning - this is to be considered dead among the living. Our behavior and resolve on Rosh Hashonah contribute to which book we are sealed in.

We are looking forward to a meaningful and spiritually uplifting Yomim Noraim and welcome all to join us for what could be a historically significant event in the last Yomim Noraim in Ahavath Achim's current building. Next year will IY"H see us in our new home. Hashem should help that we all recognize the importance of Rosh Hashonah and Yom Kippur, and we should merit a year of spiritual growth, happiness, and meaning both as individuals and as a community. Shana Tova.

Rabbi Yirmiyah Moldovan

September 2016

Elul 5776

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www.ahavathachim.org

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President's Message

As the High Holidays approach us, it is a time of remembrance and anticipation for our synagogue community. We can look back with satisfaction at the tremendous effort that has been put into planning and beginning to implement our move to a smaller facility. We can take pride in the perseverance shown by our members in keeping our eyes fixed on the goal of maintaining our Modern Orthodox presence as an integrated part of the Fairfield/Bridgeport community. While we have faced many challenges and have many beginnings ahead of us, we have a shared vision of remaining vital as a result of our commitment and restructuring. "*Kol has' chalos kashos*"—all beginnings are hard." Yet, we have had leaders among us volunteer to search for a new site for our synagogue, plan for the disposition of our synagogue contents, anticipate our needs in a smaller building. And while this has taken place, we have continued to hold daily services under the guidance of our dedicated Gabboim. We owe tremendous thanks to Rabbi Yirmiyah Moldovan, our new part-time rabbi, who has assumed the responsibility of serving our congregational family with humility and warmth, and guiding us through this last part of our transition.

As we look back we remember those who are no longer with this year, Joe Macy, Jack Fleischer, Bryan Seedman, Sylvia Nemeth.

We are a small group, diverse in backgrounds and talents. Yet, our common sense of responsibility to build and sustain has helped keep us together. My fondest hope is that our mutual respect and friendship will continue to guide us as we move toward the completion of our goal of successfully re-locating and building in Fairfield. Wishing everyone a Chesivah V'chatima Tova.

Barbara Tuckel, President
September 2016
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DOTS and DASHES 2016

Again, as we look forward to the beginning of a New Year, let us note some of the many events of the past year....

Early in the year, we welcomed Rabbi Yirmiyah Moldovan as our new spiritual leader, together with his wife, Hadassah and their three children; a few months later Yitzchak was born, joining sister Yocheved and brothers Tzvi, and Mordechai.... Many of our Ahavath Achim community also welcomed new members to their families.... Tzivia and Rabbi Meth have a new baby son, Binyamin. Barbara and Peter Tuckel are the happy grandparents.... Ezra and Sara Rich welcomed a new baby girl, Sivan Kinneret Devorah.... Diana and Joe Schwartz are Sivan's grandparents.... Bernard Goldberg has a new granddaughter, Gila Nehama, born to Michele and Justin Goldberg.... Andy and I have two new great grandchildren, Vivian Audrey and Callen Tristan. Callen is Susan Klein's grandson.... Maytal and Jonathan Lerner welcomed a baby daughter, Adele. She joins sisters Adiyah and Eliana. Happy grandparents are Judy and Seth Lerner.... Roz and Mark Fishman have a new grandson, Ellis, born to Sheryl and Michael Fishman....

Many of us joined Randy Dimand as he was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah. Randy is the son of Jay Dimand and the grandson of Lee and Bernard Dickens.... We have also learned of the Bar Mitzvah in Baltimore of Betty Anflick's grandson, Mordecai, son of Charles and Adina Anflick.... Mazel Tov to both families....

And there were many weddings celebrated.... Jason Rothwax was married to Shoshana Wilner. Jason is the son of Ellen and Joel Rothwax.... Evan Goldberg, son of Bernard Goldberg, was married to Anna Gurevich. Rabbi Moldovan attended the wedding, while in Israel.... Our grandson, Jonathan Kirschner, was married to Emerald Lin in the Spring.... Diana Rich and Joseph Schwartz were married this past summer.... Also, Myrna and Seymour Kosowsky have shared with us the happy news that their grandson, Eli Rozenberg is engaged to Blima Farkas.... El-Ad Eliovson is engaged to Ariella Yifrach...El-Ad is the son of Linda and Lionel Eliovson.... We wish much happiness to all these couples and their families....

We note with pride the achievements of our members and their families.... Neal Mintz, son of Stacey and Abraham Mintz has graduated from Herschel High School and will be attending Washington University in Saint Louis this Fall.... Dr. Benjamin Lerner has graduated from Yale Medical School and is now a Resident at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York. "Benny" is the son of Judy and Seth Lerner.... Dahlia Perez, who is specializing in cancer research at the Koch Institute, has earned her Ph.D in Science and Biology at M.I.T. Dahlia is the daughter of Vivian and Plinio Perez and the granddaughter of Lea and Zoltan Guttman....Our daughter, Susan Klein has earned her license as a Notary and our granddaughter Kaye Kirschner, has earned her MBA from Harvard Business School....

Joel Allen celebrated his 70th birthday with family and friends here at Ahavath Achim recently.... Mazel Tov....

Good luck to Arlene and Marvin Dentz in their new home here in Fairfield and to Maytal and Jonathan Lerner and daughters who have moved to Stamford.... Elaine and Martin Schiller also have a new address in Fairfield....

Andy and I thank everyone who joined together to honor us, and wish everyone a Happy New Year filled with joy and happiness.

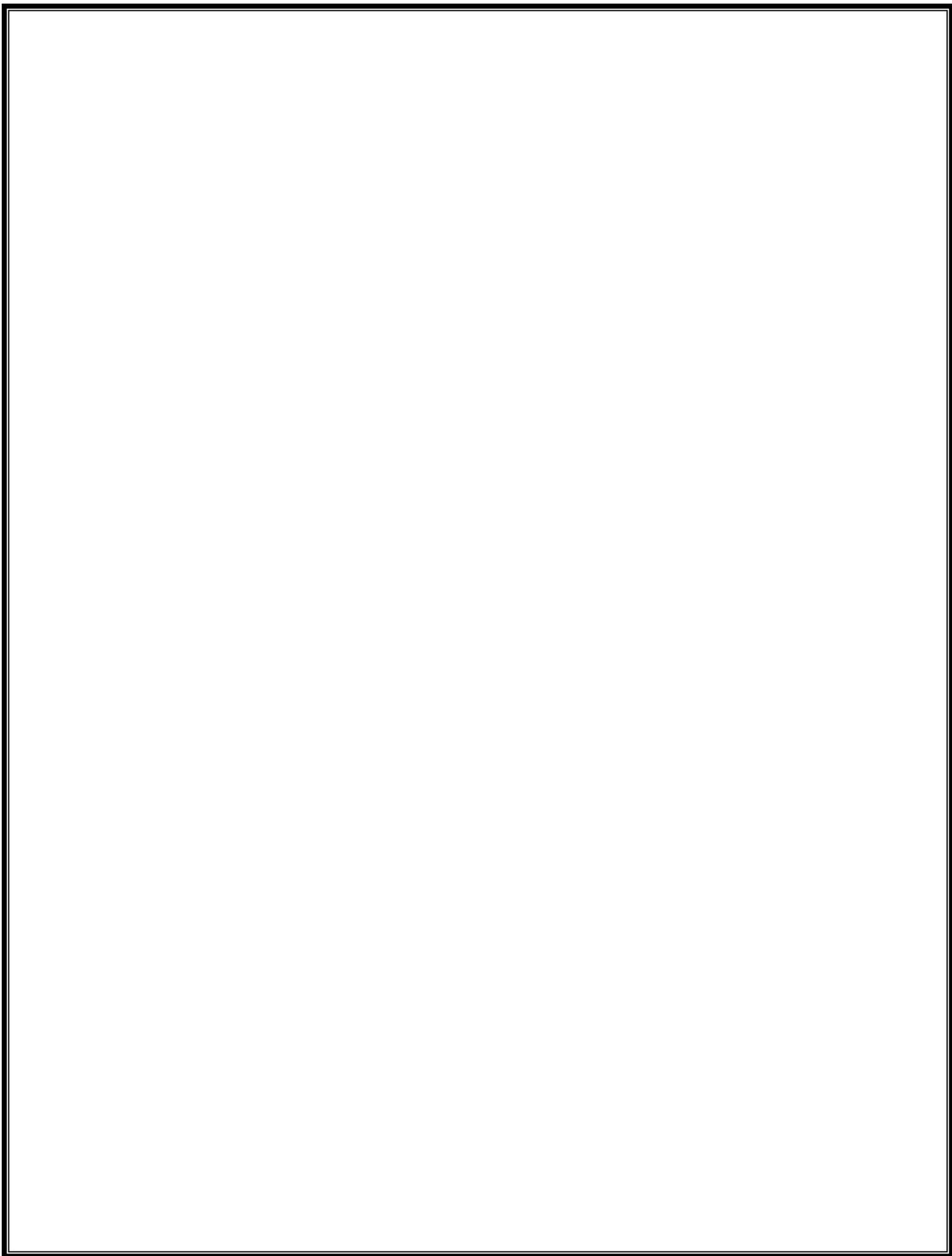
Sara Klein
Executive Secretary
Congregation Ahavath Achim



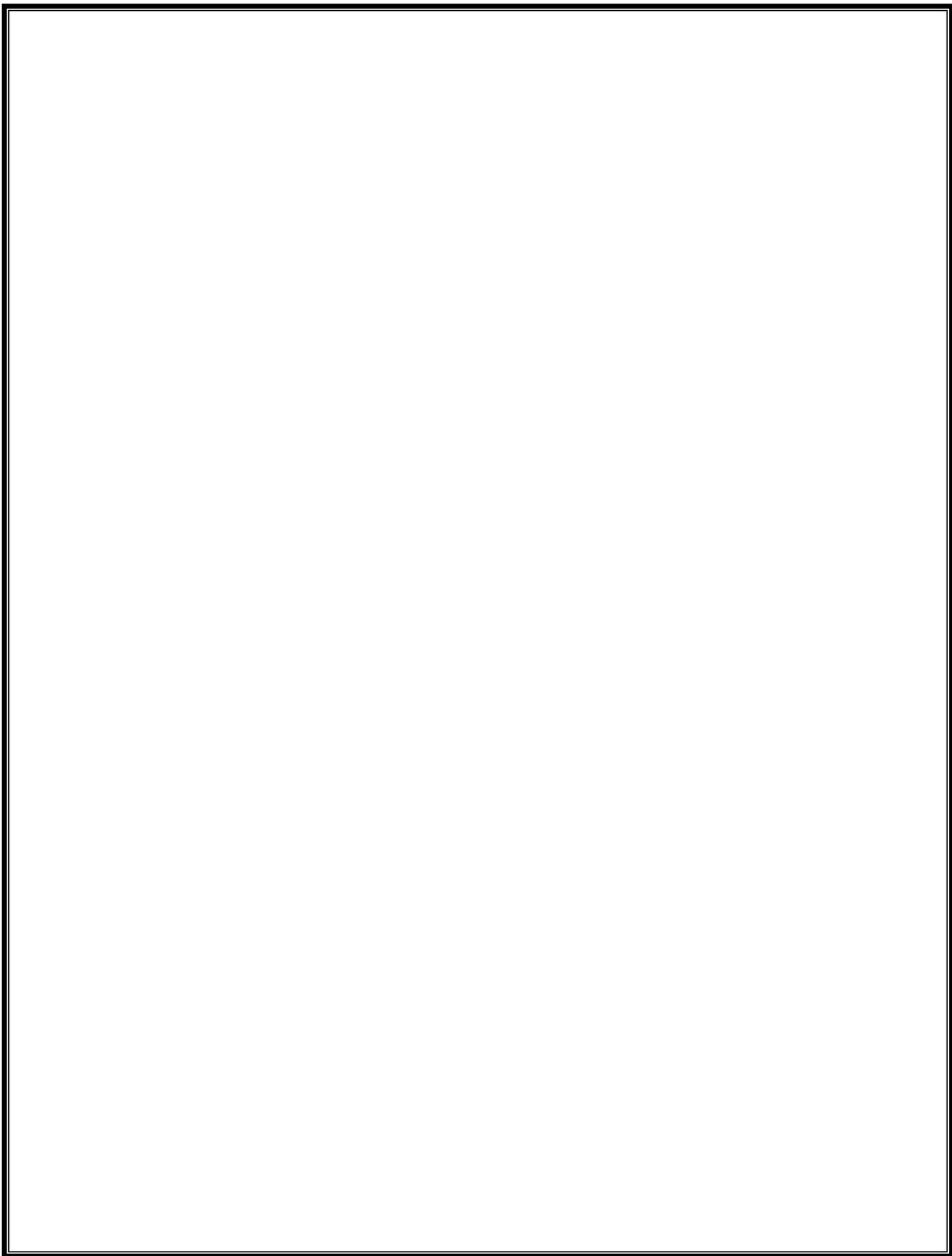
**HEARTFELT WISHES FOR GOOD HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS IN
THE NEW YEAR TO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY**

Mr. and Mrs. David Basch
Arlene and Marvin Dentz
Bernard and Lenore Dickens
Jay, Jeremy and Randy Dimand
Andrew and Sara Klein
Susan Klein and family
Howard and Debra Klein
Goldie Librach and family

Joel and Ellen Rothwax
Diana and Joe Schwartz
Martin and Elaine Schiller
Stuart and Molly Serkin
Marshall Simon
Abraham and Stacey Mintz
Shalom & Renee Mizrahi
Peter Thau
Peter and Barbara Tuckel



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Arlene and Marvin Dentz & Family
Bernard and Lenore Dickens
Jay, Jeremy and Randy Dimand
Andrew and Sara Klein
Susan Klein and family
Howard and Debra Klein
Goldie Librach and family
Ellen and Joel Rothwax
Diana and Joe Schwartz
Martin and Elaine Schiller
Stuart and Molly Serkin
Avrum and Stacey Mintz & family
Shalom & Renee Mizrahi & family



Mr. and Mrs. David Basch
Arlene and Marvin Dentz & Family
Bernard and Lenore Dickens
Jay, Jeremy and Randy Dimand
Larry Gelb
Amiel and Rebecca Goldberg
Roberta Greenbaum
Andrew and Sara Klein
Susan Klein and family
Howard and Debra Klein
Goldie Librach and family
Doron & Tammy Loeser & family
Ellen and Joel Rothwax
Diana and Joe Schwartz

