



*SCA services at the JCC on Grant Avenue in Deal*

## The Sephardic Community Alliance Wonders

# What Will Our Community Look Like 20 Years From Now?

*Hymie Shamah*

***What will our community look like in 20 years? When we ask ourselves this critical question, we need to consider the social, economical and spiritual factors. Advances in science, technology and social media are overwhelming. While no one can predict the future, a review of our past may help us better prepare for the unknown.***

Our community has been living in America for more than a century. Here, we have overcome challenges that could not have been anticipated or foreseen decades ago. Pooling our resources and intelligence helped our community build the sheltering nest we needed. Family, friendships, culture, social and commercial connections, along with our *emunah* (faith) held us strong. Only through that unity were we able to build institutions like Congregation Magen David on 67th Street, and Magen David Yeshivah on Avenue

P and launch Maoz Le'ebyon, the prequel to today's Sephardic Bikur Holim.

We grew, and the complexity of our community demanded much more. The fabric of our way of life is a weave with many strands, woven closely into an pattern of intriguing beauty and diverse shades. This fabric created the blanket that secured our parents and grandparents and still does today.

Today, however, our challenges have evolved. The world around us has so much to offer and to appre-

ciate. With that said, contradiction intrudes into our lives through every dialogue and device. Our weave must be tighter and stronger. Every strand must hold greater weight. Our colors cannot bleed or fade. We owe our next generation the same security and opportunity that were awarded to us. Our commitment to our values must be steadfast.

The Sephardic Community Alliance represents 22 community institutions working together and aligned with the basic core values

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of our spectacular Sephardic traditions. We are grateful to the men and women of vision who founded our organization and to our chairman, Mr. Morris Bailey, and past president, Eli Harari, for spearheading this effort.

Today, the Alliance is focused on the question of what our community will look like in 20 years and taking steps to proactively influence the outcome. We need to work to prevent secularism and sectarianism from overtaking us, as generations of Sephardic Jews have successfully done for thousands of years. With the help of *Ha Kadosh Baruch Hu*, we aim to enhance the



made these resources available to us at no expense, and has gone out of his way to make us comfortable.

60 classes a week for boys and men of all ages and backgrounds. We have developed men's and young adult programming, bringing together some of the most dynamic, well educated young rabbis of our community, who will lead us well in the future. Many are graduates of our community's institutions—the Sephardic Rabbinical College, Shehebar Sephardic Center and or Yeshiva University. Please come meet these fine young personalities.

Mrs. Gitta Neufeld, nationally-recognized Director of the Allegra Franco School of Educational Leadership, has collaborated with Rabbi Moses Haber to prepare an

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relevance and appreciation of our way of life, allowing us to maintain our core values, which have brought us successfully to this point. To that end, we need to invest in the next generation by offering outstanding opportunities to strengthen the fabric of our culture.

We are grateful to Rabbi Harold Sutton for his spiritual leadership during our summer months at the Shabbat minyanim in the newly renovated JCC on Grant Avenue. At the JCC, Mr. Donald Epstein has

We will provide the community with meaningful Shabbat prayer services and interesting guest rabbis and speakers, addressing thought provoking issues through the summer. Please join us!

Rabbi Sutton is also responsible for overseeing our weeknight men's learning programs at the Safra Synagogue on Hathaway Avenue in Deal. Rabbi Isaac Farhi and Mr. Joe Cayre, along with the committees and congregation, graciously offer their facilities to us, hosting almost

amazing lineup of daily classes for women. Every Monday through Thursday, all women are invited to join exceptional and stimulating discussions on issues relevant to our lives today, in a comfortable environment with friends and lunch.

We also offer classes for 6th to 8th grade girls in the early evenings, and for young adult women during the evenings. A particular point of pride is the fact that several gradu-





## Women's Summer 2014 Learning Program

All Deal classes are held at the Safra Synagogue of Deal, 75 Hathaway Avenue. Sessions will begin on Monday, June 23, 2014.

**Tuesday, August 19.** There will be a special all-day program for men, women and children on Tisha Be'Av (Tuesday, August 5th) at the JCC.

Brooklyn classes are held at Beth Torah, 1061 Ocean Parkway, in the third-floor classroom.



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

11-12:15

*Vivien Hiday*  
Insights into the Perasha

*Rabbi Ikey Tawil*  
Analysis of classical commentaries on Sefer Debarim

*BROOKLYN:*  
July 1 & 8, August 12 & 19  
*Gitta Neufeld*

The life and times of Don Isaac Abarbanel

*Rabbi Avi Harari*  
The remarkable life of Eliyahu haNabi

*Rabbi Moses Haber*  
Human Being or Being Human?

Lunch Break

12:30-1:45

June 30, July 7 & 14;  
*Vicky Harari*  
Parenting

July 21 & 28, August 4, 11 & 18  
*Sarah Mizrahi*  
Niddah Refresher

*Rabbi Tulli Besser*  
Growth through the perasha

*Esther Hiday*  
Timely Topics in Jewish Thought

July 3 & 10, August 14;  
*Gitta Neufeld*  
Haftarot

6:30-7:30  
(for 6-8th grade girls)

*Rabbi Joey Mizrahi*  
Can you read better than a 4th grader?

*Doris Dweck Cohen*  
Timely Topics

*Rabbi Ikey Tawil*  
(for high school girls)  
Halakha

*Marie Levy Mazon*  
Parasha/Middot

8:00-9:00  
(for young adults women)

*Rabbi Moses Haber*  
Selected Topics

*Rabbi Tulli Besser*  
Living Inspired

8:15-9:30  
Guest Lecture Series  
(Co-ed)

*Ariella Fallack*  
Missavot bein adam lehaveiro

For further information, contact Rabbi Moses Haber at moehaber@gmail.com or 718.564.9345



## Men's Summer 2014 Learning Program

Classes are held at the Safra Synagogue of Deal, 75 Hathaway Avenue

Monday				Tuesday				Wednesday				Thursday			
7:00-8:00 PM				7:45				MINHA				SHABBAT AT THE JCC			
R. Charles Safdieh Kids' Class				R. Charles Safdieh Kids' Class				R. Charles Safdieh Kids' Class				R. Charles Safdieh Kids' Class			
Friday night:  Shir Hashirim 7:15 Minha 7:30															
8:00-9:00 PM				8:00-9:00 PM				8:00-9:00 PM				8:00-9:00 PM			
R. Harold Sutton Gemara Ketubot				R. Harold Sutton Gemara Ketubot				R. Harold Sutton Gemara Ketubot				R. Harold Sutton Gemara Ketubot			
R. Albert Setton Igeret Teman				R. Albert Setton Igeret Teman				R. Albert Setton Igeret Teman				R. Albert Setton Igeret Teman			
R. Ikey Tawil HaRambam				R. Ikey Tawil Perasha				R. Ikey Tawil Halakha				R. Ikey Tawil Halakha			
R. Charles Safdieh Halakha				R. Moses Haber Gemara				R. Meyer Laniado Hakham Matloub				R. Moses Haber Jewish Philosophy			
R. Joey Mizrahi Mishnayot				Adam Harari Gemara Ketubot				Vision, Life and Teshubot R. Nathan Dweck Mishnayot Neziqin				Adam Harari Mishna Study Group			
Adam Harari Gemara Ketubot				R. Jack Savdie Kelalei HaTalmud				R. Charles Safdieh Gemara							
				R. Victor Gheriani Mussar				Adam Harari Gemara Ketubot							





ates of the Allegra Franco program will be teaching this summer.

In addition to the stimulating classes, the evening programs will offer dinner and refreshments to allow young people the opportunity to meet within the Torah environment provided. We are proud to announce the establishment of a guest lecture series for our men and women in their twenties, on Wednesday evenings. Each week, the audience will have the experience of hearing from world renowned teachers and leaders as they address the hot button issues relevant to them.

The coordinators of the learning programs have made every effort to accommodate a wide range of interests. We are certain that you and your family will find something that appeals to each of you.

Another highlight of Sephardic Community Alliance's programming is the ILEAD Program. The vision

of Mr. Jeffrey Beyda, working with Shilo Pessler of Hemdat Yehuda in Israel, ILEAD has helped provide over 200 young people from our community with skills they will use for a lifetime, to help our community endure and excel. Mr. Richie Chalme has agreed to carry this program forward. His plans for the evolution of ILEAD will bring a great return on the investment we are making in these young adults. We look forward to seeing you at one of our future ILEAD events.

While the Sephardic Community Alliance continues to work towards preserving our traditional values and the advancement of educational programming in our community, these programs are already making meaningful contributions to our lives today. We have a dynamic new young committee, working closely with community organizations, with aggressive plans to expand our

ability to facilitate meaningful and intelligent policy, programming and events. We engage in an ongoing dialogue with consultants from around the Jewish world, and we are building a conduit for communication with Jewish agencies and institutions here and in Israel, addressing the most critical issues facing our community today—engagement, leadership, education and sedakah appropriation being high targets.

*Be'esrat Hashem*, with these and the efforts of so many committed and concerned rabbis, lay leaders, teachers and parents, we hope to be able to answer our opening question confidently—20 years from now, our community is exactly where we want it to be. □

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*Hymie Shamah is the president of the Sephardic Community Alliance.*