



# Shabbat Announcements

Parshat Korach

July 9, 2016 3 Tammuz, 5776

<b>TORAH</b> <b>ARTSCROLL 820</b> <b>HERTZ 639</b>		<b>Rabbi Jonathan Sacks on Korach</b>		
<b>HAFTORAH</b> <b>ARTSCROLL 1186</b> <b>HERTZ 649</b>		<p>It was a classic struggle for power. The only thing that made it different from the usual dramas of royal courts, parliamentary meetings or corridors of power was that it took place in Burgers' Zoo in Arnhem, Holland, and the key characters were male chimpanzees. Frans de Waal's study, Chimpanzee Politics, has rightly become a classic. In it he describes how the alpha male, Yeroen, having been the dominant force for some time, found himself increasingly challenged by a young pretender, Luit. Luit could not depose Yeroen on his own, so he formed an alliance with another young contender, Nikkie. Eventually Luit succeeded and Yeroen was deposed. Luit was good at his job. He was skilled at peacekeeping within the group. He stood up for the underdog and as a result was widely respected. The females recognized his leadership qualities and were always ready to groom him and let him play with their children. Yeroen had nothing to gain by opposing him. He was already too old to become alpha male again. Nonetheless, Yeroen decided to join forces with</p>	<p>the young Nikkie. One night they caught Luit unaware and killed him. The deposed alpha male had his revenge.</p> <p>Reading the story I thought of the story of Hillel in Pirkei Avot (2:6): "He saw a skull floating upon the water, and said: Because you drowned others, you were drowned; and those who drowned you, will themselves be drowned." In fact, so humanlike were power-struggles among the chimpanzees that in 1995, Newt Gingrich, Republican Speaker of the House of Representatives, included de Waal's work among the twenty-five books he recommended young congressional Republicans to read. Korach was a graduate of the same Machiavellian school of politics. He understood the three ground rules. First you have to be a populist. Play on people's discontents and make it seem as if you are on their side against the current leader. "You have gone too far!" he said to Moses and Aaron. "The whole community is holy, every one of them, and the Lord is with them. Why then do you set yourselves above the Lord's assembly?" Second, assemble allies. Korach himself was a Levite. His grievance was that Moses had appointed his brother Aaron as high priest. Evidently he felt that as Moses' cousin – son of Yitzhar, the brother of Moses' and Aaron's</p>	<p>father Amram – he felt that the position should have gone to him. He thought it unfair that both leadership roles should have gone to a single family within the clan. Korach could hardly expect much support from within his own tribe. The other Levites had nothing to gain by deposing Aaron. Instead he found allies among two other disaffected groups: the Reubenites, Dathan and Aviram, and "250 Israelites who were men of rank within the community, representatives at the assembly, and famous." The Reubenites were aggrieved that as descendants of Jacob's firstborn, they had no special leadership roles. According to Ibn Ezra, the 250 "men of rank" were upset that, after the sin of the Golden Calf, leadership had passed from the firstborn within each tribe to the single tribe of Levi. The revolt was bound eventually to fail since their grievances were different and could not all be satisfied. But that has never stopped unholy alliances. People with a grudge are more intent on deposing the current leader than on any constructive plan of action of their own. "Hate defeats rationality," said the sages. Injured pride, the feeling that honor should have gone to</p>
<b>Times</b>				
Candle Lighting	8:10 pm	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><b>KIDDUSH IS SPONSORED BY GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE WITH A HERRING TABLE SPONSORED BY MURRAY WEISS IN HONOR OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BAR MITZVAH WITH FRUIT PLATTER (COCKTAILS) SPONSORED BY ALBERT HALIMI</b></p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><b>BIMA FLOWERS IN THE BEIT MIDRASH ARE SPONSORED BY NAEEMA &amp; ARTHUR POMERANTZ IN MEMORY OF KOCHAV BAT YEHESKEL</b></p> </div> </div>	<p><b>SEUDAH SHLISHIT IS SPONSORED BY MICHELE &amp; HOWARD WOLF IN MEMORY OF HIS MOTHER CARRIE WOLF Z" L</b></p>	
Mincha	7:00 pm			
Hashkama	8:00 am			
Youth Minyan	8:30 am			
Parsha Shiur	8:30 am			
Main	9:00 am			
Beit Midrash	9:15 am			
Gemara Shiur	7:05 pm			
Mincha	8:05 pm			
Shabbat Ends	9:17 pm			
Sun. July 10	7:30/8:30 am			
Mon. & Thurs.	6:35/7:45 am			
Tue., Wed. & Fri.	6:45/7:45 am			
Mincha	8:10 pm			
Latest Times for Shema/Shemoneh Esrei				
July 9	9:16/10:30 am			
July 16	9:19/10:33 am			
Next Shabbat Chukat				
Candle Lighting	8:06 pm			
Mincha	7:00 pm			

you, not him, has led to destructive and self-destructive action for as long as humans have existed on earth. Third, choose the moment when the person you seek to depose is vulnerable. Ramban notes that the Korach revolt took place immediately after the episode of the spies and the ensuing verdict that the people would not enter the land until the next generation. So long as the Israelites, whatever their complaints, felt that they were moving toward their destination, there was no realistic chance of rousing the people in revolt. Only when they realized that they would not live to cross the Jordan was rebellion possible. The people seemingly had nothing to lose.

The comparison between human and chimpanzee politics is not meant lightly. Judaism has long understood that Homo sapiens are a mix of what the Zohar calls nefesh ha-behamit and nefesh ha-Elokit, the animal soul and the Godly soul. We are not disembodied minds. We have physical desires and these are encoded in our genes. Scientists speak today about three systems: the 'reptile' brain that produces the most primal fight-or-flight responses, the 'monkey' brain that is social, emotional and sensitive to hierarchy, and the human brain, the prefrontal cortex, that is slow, reflective and capable of thinking through consequences of alternative courses of action. This confirms what Jews and others, Plato and Aristotle among them, have long known. It is in the tension and interplay between these systems that the drama of human freedom is played out. In his most recent book, Frans de Waal notes that "among chimpanzees, hierarchy permeates everything." Among the females this is taken for granted and does not lead to conflict. But among males, "power is always up for grabs." It "has to be fought for and jealously guarded against contenders." Male chimpanzees are "schmoozing and scheming Machiavellians." The question is: Are we? This is not a minor question. It may even be the most important of all if humanity is to have a future. Anthropologists are generally agreed that the earliest humans, the hunter-gatherers, were generally egalitarian.

Everyone had his or her part to play in the group. Their main tasks were to stay alive, find food, and avoid predators. There was no such thing as accumulated wealth. It was only with the development of agriculture, cities and trade that hierarchy came to dominate human societies. There was usually an absolute leader, a governing (literate) class, and the masses, used as labor in monumental building schemes and as troops for the imperial army. Judaism enters the world as a protest against this kind of structure. We see this in the opening chapter of the Torah in which God creates the human person in His image and likeness, meaning that we are all equally fragments of the Divine. Why, asked the sages, was man created singly? "So that no one could say, My ancestors were greater than yours." Something of this egalitarianism can be heard in Moses' remark to Joshua, "Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, that He would rest his spirit on them." However, like many of the Torah's ideals – among them vegetarianism, the abolition of slavery and the institution of monogamy – egalitarianism could not happen overnight. It would take centuries, millennia, and in many respects has not yet been fully achieved.

There were two hierarchical structures in biblical Israel. There were kings and there were priests, among them the High Priest. Both were introduced after a crisis: monarchy after the failure of the rule of the 'judges', the Levitical and Aaronide priesthood after the sin of the Golden Calf. Both led, inevitably, to tension and division. Biblical Israel survived as a united kingdom for only three generations of kings and then split in two. The priesthood became a major source of division in the late Second Temple period, leading to sectarian divisions between Sadducees, Boethusians and the rest. The story of Korach explains why. Where there is hierarchy, there will be competition as to who is the alpha male. Is hierarchy an inevitable feature of all advanced civilizations? Maimonides seems to say Yes. For him, monarchy was a positive institution, not a mere concession. Abarbanel seems to say No. There are passages in his writing that suggest he was a utopian anarchist who believed that in an ideal world no one would rule over anyone. We would each acknowledge only the sovereignty of God.

Putting together the story of Korach and Frans de Waal's chimpanzee version of House of Cards, the conclusion seems to follow that where there is hierarchy, there will be struggles to be alpha male. The result is what Thomas Hobbes called "a perpetual and restless desire of power after power, that ceaseth only in death." That is why the rabbis focused their attention not on the hierarchical crowns of kingship or priesthood but on the non-hierarchical crown of Torah, which is open to all who seek it. Here competition leads not to conflict but to an increase of wisdom, and where Heaven itself, seeing sages disagree, says, "These and those are the words of the living God." The Korach story repeats itself in every generation. The antidote is daily immersion in the alternative world of Torah-study that seeks truth not power, and values all equally as voices in a sacred conversation.



**Great Neck Yoetzet Halacha Lisa Septimus**  
 Welcomes your questions about mikvah, observance of taharat mishpacha (halacha relating to married life) and women's health, as it connects to Jewish law. Reach out to her at:  
 Phone: 516.415.1111  
 Email: [greatneckyoetzet@gmail.com](mailto:greatneckyoetzet@gmail.com).  
 All conversations and emails are kept confidential.



**Great Neck Synagogue**  
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 516-487-6100

**Rabbi Dale Polakoff, Rabbi**  
**Rabbi Ian Lichter, Assistant Rabbi**  
**Dr. Ephraim Wolf, z"l, Rabbi Emeritus**  
**Zeev Kron, Cantor**  
**Eleazer Schulman, z"l, Cantor Emeritus**  
**Rabbi Sholom Jensen, Youth Director**  
**Zehava & Dr. Michael Atlas, Youth Directors**  
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**Lisa Septimus, Yoetzet Halacha 516-415-1111**

**We must be extremely sensitive to the feelings,  
 dignity and good name of every Jew...  
 Chafetz Chaim**

**SALLY & SEYMOUR OLSHIN  
ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM  
GNS SUMMER 2016  
LEARNING PROGRAM**

**Guest Speaker:**  
**Dr. Edward Reichman**  
**Goodbye Ebola Hello Zika:  
The Halakhik Ramifications of the  
Zika Virus**



Edward Reichman is an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and Associate Professor of Philosophy and History of Medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine (AECOM) of Yeshiva University, where he teaches Jewish medical ethics. He received his rabbinic ordination from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University and writes and lectures widely in the field of Jewish medical ethics. He is the recipient of a Kornfeld Foundation Fellowship and the Rubinstein Prize in Medical Ethics. He is a past member of the advisory board of the Institute for Genetics and Public Policy. His research is devoted to the interface of medical history and Jewish law.

Tuesday, July 12  
7:15 pm  
Mincha 8:10 pm

Series  
Sponsorships - \$180

Joshua & Erika Olshin

The Fox-Griffel Family  
in honor of  
Dr. Reichman

To dedicate a  
lecture, contact the  
synagogue office

516.487.6100  
mtwersky@gns.org



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Great Neck, NY 11023

**SALLY & SEYMOUR OLSHIN  
ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM  
GNS SUMMER 2016  
LEARNING PROGRAM**

**Guest Speaker:**  
**SANDRA E. RAPOPORT**  
**"What Makes Jacob Tick:  
Understanding Pre-heroic Jacob"**



Sandra E. Rapoport is an attorney, award-winning author, Torah scholar, and an inspiring speaker on biblical topics. Her third book, *Biblical Seductions*, won the National Jewish Book Awards Finalist Prize, and was a Boston Globe Top-Ten Bestseller.

Sandra teaches a decade-long popular Bible series at the Manhattan JCC, another Torah series at New York's Drisha Institute, and she lectures throughout the U.S. Sandra was a Resident Scholar at Harvard University, where she taught classes in her specialty: bringing the Bible's personalities to vivid life. You can read Sandra's columns on the weekly Torah portion in New York's *The Jewish Week*. Sandra is listed in *Who's Who of American Women*.

Tuesday, July 26  
7:00 pm  
Mincha 8:00 pm

Series  
Sponsorships - \$180

To dedicate a  
lecture, contact the  
synagogue office

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26 Old Mill Road  
Great Neck, NY 11023

**JOIN US! ALL WELCOME! AT CITIFIELD**

**NY BRAGGING RIGHTS!  
MONDAY 08.01.2016 @ 7PM  
THE METS VS  
THE YANKEES**

GREAT SEATS! CONTACT JACK LIPSKY 384-1482,  
jlipsky.lipsko@insuremail.net or call GNS OFFICE

\$70 per ticket, \$60 Mens Club members

**Perek 'N the Park**

**SHABBAT JULY 16  
ALLENWOOD PARK  
5:00 - 6:00 PM**

**Pirkei Avot Family Learning  
Refreshments Served**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

RABBI POLAKOFF'S SHABBOS DRASHA THROUGH 5776, IS DEDICATED IN MEMORY OF **PINCHAS BEN YOSEPH** FOR OTHER SUCH OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE CONTACT HOWARD WOLF 212-843-4668

**IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS MOVING INTO THE GREAT NECK AREA PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW.**

## SUMMER SERIES PROGRAM

**A. July 12, 7:15 pm:** Rabbi Dr. Edward Reichman  
*Goodbye Ebola Hello Zika: The Halakhik Ramifications of the Zika Virus*

**B. July 26, 7:00 pm:** Sandra E. Rapoport Esq.  
*What Makes Jacob Tick: Understanding the Pre-heroic Jacob*

## PEREK 'N THE PARK

Join us **Shabbat afternoon July 16** at Allenwood Park for Pirkei Avot Learning from 5:00-6:00 pm.

## MEN'S CLUB

**August 1:** Mets vs. Yankees 7 pm. Contact Jack Lipsky or synagogue office for tickets.

## CHAVERWEB

Please keep in mind that Chaverweb is the most convenient place to view your account status, pay your bills, manage your online profile and view the GNS directory. Accessible at gns.org with your account password.

## UPDATE OF EIRUV ON GNS WEBSITE

The eiruv page on the GNS website has been updated with a new map and detailed description. Please familiarize yourself with it to ensure proper observance.

*The Werber family is deeply grateful for the outpouring of support from both the Great Neck Synagogue and Temple Israel communities during our period of mourning for our beloved matriarch, Millie Werber. It was beautiful to see how well Rabbis Stecker and Polakoff worked together and the two communities were able to collaborate to give us comfort during this difficult time. It was a wonderful example of Jews gathering together in an expression of a sincere belief in K'lal Yisrael. It is our prayer that such collaboration becomes increasingly commonplace.*

*Fina Machnikoff would like to thank Rabbis Polakoff, Lichter, Chazan Kron and the entire community for their outpouring of support following the loss of her father, Morris Steinberg, z"l.*

*Elena Berkowitz would like to thank Rabbis Polakoff, Lichter, Chazan Kron and the entire community for their outpouring of support following the loss of her sister, Yehudit Segev, z"l.*

*Ilana Kröll would like to thank Rabbis Polakoff, Lichter, Chazan Kron and the entire community for their outpouring of support following the loss of her mother, Stefa Hasson, z"l.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE

July 12: Dr. Reichman  
July 13: Chaverim Center  
July 16: Perek 'N the Park  
July 26: Sandra Rapoport  
August 1: Subway Series Game: Mets vs. Yankees  
August 28: Men's Club Annual Fishing Trip

## MAZAL TOVS & COMMUNITY NEWS

**Mazal Tov** to **Jessica & Noah Steinberg** on the birth of a son.  
**Mazal Tov** to grandmother **Lynn Steinberg**.

**Mazal Tov** to **Zara & Eli Moradi** on the birth of their grandson born to their children **Natasha & Ebbie Bouteshaz**.

**Mazal Tov** to **Susan & Jim Frisch** on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, **Claudia**, daughter of **Jennifer & David Tawil** of Deal, NJ.

**Mazal Tov** to **Bracha & Nami Dayani** on the birth of a daughter.

**NORTH SHORE HEBREW ACADEMY'S 13th ANNUAL GOLF, TENNIS & SPA CLASSIC - MONDAY JULY 11th** AT FRESH MEADOWS COUNTRY CLUB - Honoring Charlie & Doreen Hadid and Tennis Honoree - Robin Muss Abada. Please join NSHA on Monday July 11th at Fresh Meadows Country Club for a wonderful day of golf with an all day BBQ, ladies tennis followed by lunch and a mahjong/spa day, men's tennis and a sunset cocktail party followed by a buffet dinner, with prizes, raffles, auctions and evening entertainment. See Event Brochure for Registration/Information which was mailed. For additional information re: sponsorships and participation, please contact Glenn Zuckerman, Jonathan Muller, Andrew Feldschreiber, Ryan Ostrow or email Arnie Flatow at [aflatow@nsha.org](mailto:aflatow@nsha.org) or call 487-8687 ext 133.

## SHARSHERET

Join the LI BBQ Dinner & Siyum in support of Sharsheret on **Wed. August 10 at 7:00 pm** at Lawrence Yacht & Country Club, 101 Causeway Rd. in Lawrence. \$90 per person, register by August 1 at [sharsheret.org/libbg](http://sharsheret.org/libbg)

# Y A H R Z E I T

## Saturday, 3 Tammuz

Joseph Fischman for Magdalena Fischman  
Henry Katz for Fred Katz  
Sharon Janovic for Valerie Meltz  
Frederick Shaw for Bernard Shaw  
Mitchell Siegel for Isadore Siegel  
Jill Haft for Manny Strulovich  
Rabbi Shimon Wolf for Hinda Wolf

## Sunday, 4 Tammuz

James Frisch for Laszlo Frisch  
Amy Goldberg-Reiss for Jack Goldberg  
Ellie Werber for Michael Preis  
Joseph Sokol for David Warren  
Deborah Hollander for David Warren

## Monday, 5 Tammuz

Helen Ishofsky for Ethel Herskovits  
Edward Parver for Sylvia Parver  
Yafa Gabbazadeh for Eliazar Sadigh

## Tuesday, 6 Tammuz

Rona Mittleman for Ida Haber  
Moossa Soleimani for Kochav Kahan  
Naeema Pomerantz for Kochav Kahan  
Leslie Kahn for Benny Kahn  
Lili Sedaghatpour for Monavar Mirakhor  
Joe Rosenthal for Blanche Rosenthal

## Wednesday, 7 Tammuz

Hilda Schulman for Rabbi Sidney Schulman

## Thursday, 8 Tammuz

Charlene Milun for Suzanne Berchowitz  
Stewart Kaplan for Helen Kaplan  
Robert Katz for Ernest Katz  
Howard Wolf for Carrie Wolf

## Friday, 9 Tammuz

David Birnbaum for Rhoda Birnbaum  
James Frisch for Rozsa Frisch  
Rita Gordonson for Leon Gershkowitz  
Laura Cohen for Marvin Lieberman