



Greenburgh Hebrew Center

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At seventy fullness of years; At eighty the age of “strength”

בֶּן שִׁבְעִים לְשִׁבָּה, בֶּן שְׁמֹנִים לְגִבּוֹרָה

(Pirkei Avot 5:21)

According to the Mishna, we, as individuals, gain certain traits as we get older. Much like the children’s song, “Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver, And the other, gold”, we recognize that as we get older, we have greater capacity, great wisdom and great connection. There could be no greater description for Greenburgh Hebrew Center.

According to the Mishna, we gain a fullness of years at age 70 and strength at the age of 80. Well, once again as a community, we are over achievers. Over the course of our 75 years, we have laid a strong foundation--first in a home, then in an expanded property, once a handful of members and now a full-fledged community. At times we struggled to make ends meet and find a way to raise funds to keep the lights on; at other times we have been able to welcome another congregation into our family. The congregation has only had a handful of clergy that speaks to the depth of leadership and the extraordinary support they have received.

There have been challenges, no doubt. Yet, the community has grown stronger, more insightful, more purposeful throughout. Affiliating with flagship institutions such as United Synagogue and The Jewish Theological Seminary has added depth and meaning to the only Conservative synagogue for miles. We have grown to occupy a niche in the Rivertowns. We have benefitted and sparked a Jewish revival in the Rivertowns, partnering with churches up and down Broadway to address communal needs. We have emerged a force within the faith based communities thriving on this strip of land just beside the Hudson River.

Sharon joins me in saying to all of us, Kol HaKavod - WAY TO GO!!! I look forward to seeing our community continue to thrive for many years to come.

With love and admiration,

Rabbi Jay M. Stein, D.D.

A vibrant egalitarian Conservative Jewish community in Westchester County,
embracing our traditions while actively participating in our changing world.