



*Temple Israel of Great Neck*

*Molli Mamiye*

Molli has made Judaism a central part of her life since she can remember. She started at sleep away camps forming what would become her Jewish essence. She began at Camp Young Judea Sprout Lake. It was there that the fun of camp was put into a Jewish lens. Three summers later, she graduated from Sprout Lake and moved up to Camp Tel Yehuda. She connected with other Jewish kids that have remained her close friends until today. It was at camp that she learned the Birkat Hamazon, which she jokes is something she can use everywhere she goes, from family dinners with her cousins to Shabbat dinners at Temple Israel.

Molli has been involved with Temple Israel's Youth House for six years. In seventh grade, she was a typical kid who came to classes every once in a while, or whenever she felt like it. It wasn't until she finished her Bat Mitzvah that she began to appreciate what the Youth House more and more. In eighth grade, she joined the Mitzvah Corp program, where she went to homeless shelters, children's hospitals, soup kitchens, and old age homes to volunteer and participate in community service. There was something about seeing the values of Judaism in action that caught her attention and made it feel real. She also joined the TILT leadership program for all four years of High School. It was there that she gained basic leadership skills such as activity planning, teamwork, and communication. It was at the Youth House that she met former director Danny Mishkin. It was through him that she decided to try out the summer camp, Sababa Surf. She ended up attending the camp for four years and is applying to be a counselor there this summer. Sababa was the place that helped strengthened her Jewish identity.

While much of Molli's life has been shaped by religious experiences, most of her time is spent in school. She has strong academic skills although it took time and hard work. She struggled in classes like English or College Law and it wasn't until seeing poor grades on her report card that a light "flipped on" and sparked a new Molli. She pulled it together and put the effort into making school another outlet of success. She is now in multiple AP classes, varsity track, and fluent in Spanish.

Going into college Molli knew she wanted programs that could incorporate Spanish into Law. At Muhlenberg College, she spoke to the heads of the Law and Spanish departments, and they told her about their program that would allow a semester to study abroad and explore Law and Spanish simultaneously in Seville, It was a no brainer that led her to apply early decision and being accepted for the class of 2023.

Molli has come a long way in life and she has become a confident person with family, friends, and mentors who all adore her. She has learned that hard work brings you newfound success and happiness. She will continue to let Judaism guide her path and keep her daily prayers to Hashem streak alive for years to come.

We are overjoyed to recognize Molli for all of her accomplishments. The Youth House is always a happier place when she walks through the doors. She is the spark that adds holiness to our sanctuaries and we can only hope that she carries that spark with her so everyone else can feel its warmth and be guided by its light.