



Volume I      Issue 2      Winter 2009

The Hatzilu Rescue Organization provides food, financial aid, social work intervention and assistance, and emotional support to Jews in need in the Nassau County area.

From the Hatzilu Mission Statement

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Joe Sklar

Hewlett-East Rockaway Jewish Center

Secretary: Herb Weiss

Midway Jewish Center, Syosset

Treasurer: Ivan Ziegler

Beth Torah, Westbury

Ann Goldberg

Congregation Ohav Shalom, Merrick

Hank Kasven

Midway Jewish Center, Syosset

Manny Bardash

Temple Israel of Great Neck

Ben Schnapper

Farmingdale, Wantagh Jewish Center

Dona Schwab

South Baldwin Jewish Center

Ed Goldenberg

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rabbi Morris Bernstein

Manetto Hill Jewish Center, Plainview

Rabbi Michael Katz

Temple Beth Torah, Westbury

Rabbi Rafi Rank

Midway Jewish Center, Syosset

Howard Foster

Midway Jewish Center, Syosset

Van Frankel

Temple Israel of Great Neck

Ron Greenfield

Temple Israel of Great Neck

Alan Hirsch—Shomrim Society

Mark Lippman—Beth Torah, Westbury

Denise Miller

Temple Isaiah of Great Neck

Joe Slater

T—OB Chabad, Oyster Bay

Colette Thaw

Editor—Harriet Blatt

Manetto Hill Jewish Center, Plainview

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ELISSA FRIEDMAN

As we step foot into 2010, I wish all our volunteers, our donors and our clients a Happy and Healthy New Year. I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments in 2009.

Although the economy was devastated in 2009, our volunteers and donors continued their commitment to Hatzilu and reinforced our mission to assist poor and needy Jews in Nassau County. In 2009 we reviewed more than 250 applications for services. We provided home-delivered kosher food to 1,500 individuals and families. We saw an increase in requests for assistance from struggling families that experienced job loss due to the economic downturn.

On the bright side, 2009 also saw the development of the Hatzilu website and, of course, the reformatted Newsletter. As we prepare for the new year we are hopeful that the next decade will bring many new opportunities and enable Hatzilu to continue the massive undertaking that began in the living room of the first president, Saul Greenfield. You can read more about Saul's contribution in the "Heroes of Hatzilu" section on page 2.

Your continued generosity allows us to provide vital and much needed services to the Jewish community.

If you wish to receive a copy of this newsletter via e-mail, please send your e-mail address to [EFriedman@miyjcc.org](mailto:EFriedman@miyjcc.org) and note "Hatzilu Newsletter" in the subject line



## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### JOE SKLAR

I'll never forget the day I first heard Sam's story. I was sitting across the table and for an hour I was transfixed by what this little old man, who reminded me of my grandfather, told me. I knew that if he needed help it was the responsibility of the Jewish community to offer that help. I was so glad that Hatzilu could respond.

Sam is an 87 year old Holocaust survivor. His three years of hiding in the woods during WWII have shaped his life and turned him into a very anxious person. During this time, the Nazis came and killed his brothers and sisters-in-law in the shack in the forest where they were in hiding. Only by luck were he and another brother away when this happened. They went deeper still into the woods and built another shack. They were helped by a sympathetic farmer who left food at a pick-up spot. They stayed there until the farmer came and said "The war is over. The Germans are gone. You can come out now."

Although he leads a very modest life style, his meager income is still not enough to pay for the basic necessities of life.

The monthly stipend that Hatzilu sends him helps minimize his anxiety because he does not have to agonize about how he is going to pay his rent each month. Hatzilu Rescue Organization spreads its umbrella over Nassau County. It tries to shield Jews from despair and offers financial aid, food, social work intervention and emotional support. The great majority of the funds that we raise is given in the form of direct client grants to people who are in need.

## HEROES OF HATZILU—THE GREENFIELD FAMILY

### MANNY BARDASH

I've had the privilege of meeting and working with many wonderful people "...helping our impoverished and elderly Jews..." over the past 25 years. This quote was taken from the oldest archival document about the history of Hatzilu that I recently received from Ron Greenfield, son of Hatzilu's first president, Saul Greenfield z"l.

Saul was a member of Temple Israel of Great Neck and its Men's Club and its social conscience. Hatzilu started as an idea with a Men's Club program in 1974 on Jewish Poverty and eighteen months later was officially formed at a meeting in his home, attended by representatives from eight Long Island congregations.

Saul was active in the leadership of Hatzilu. He was in the printing business and, with the assistance of his son, Ron, did all the printing and mailings for Hatzilu. Ron continues to play a major role in printing and mailing services for Hatzilu.

From the earliest days of Hatzilu, until his death in 1999, Saul and his wife, Vivian, were regular attendees at all meetings. She served as Corresponding Secretary sending out notices of meetings and recording attendees' affiliations. She also served as hostess at Temple Israel of Great Neck and assured that ample and appropriate *nosherei* were available.

The Greenfields are the first two generation family to be active in Hatzilu, serving our elderly and needy fellow Jews with distinction. When I remember my dear departed friends Saul Greenfield and Al Nevins (our first and immediate past president), I am aware of their passion for helping needy Jews and their devotion to that never ending task.

Visit our Website:

[Hatzilurescue.org](http://Hatzilurescue.org)

## HATZILU VOLUNTEER BRUNCH

HERB WEISS



On Sunday, November 1, 2009 the Hatzilu Rescue Organization held a brunch at the Mid-Island Y JCC in Plainview, New York to honor three people who have made significant contributions to the Organization's work and mission. The brunch was also held to express gratitude to the more than sixty volunteers who donate their time and services to Hatzilu's many clients.

Approximately forty-five people attended, including a group of students from Hofstra University's Hillel who have begun to work with us on various projects. Special awards were presented to Cathy and Jeff Feltman of Jericho for their assistance in getting our website up and running. They were presented with a plaque expressing Hatzilu's appreciation of their efforts.

Michael Kurcias of Great Neck was also presented with a plaque in recognition of his many years of volunteer accounting services.

## A LETTER TO OUR BOARD

Thank you so much for helping our family. Thanks to you and other members of Hatzilu, we are getting back on our feet. You and the agency have given so much care, generosity and hope. I always know that I can count on you for information and help.

When you fall down the economic ladder, as we have, you encounter all kinds of different people who offer help. Hatzilu comes through for us every time without judgment or unnecessary questions.

I hope soon we will be able to give back by helping another family, like ourselves, who need assistance.



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

HANK KASVAN

### HOW DOES HATZILU GET THE FOOD FOR ITS CLIENTS?

The question has its answer in the various sources that are available to us. Most of our food comes from L.I. Cares. This food is classified under four categories. The major food classification is purchased food. This food is purchased from the weekly menus of L.I. Cares, using funds donated by John Greenfield of Plainview Shoprite.

Our second source of food is from L. I. Cares HYPNAP menu. This is discounted food which we purchase, based on the availability of NYS provided items. Recently, this has been our major source.

The third source from L.I. Cares is TEFAP food. This is acquired on the basis of weight. We are charged dollar amounts equal to the weight of the item (i.e. 23 lbs costs \$23).

The fourth classification is donated food. These foods come to us from L. I. Cares, temple food drives and individuals.

Hatzilu also purchases chickens and specialty items to supplement the basic menu.

We are very grateful for all our donations because without them, Hatzilu would not be able to support our clients.

## DID YOU KNOW:

- Last year 600 grants were made and more than \$100,000 was distributed on Long Island
- 52 families in 26 communities receive monthly cash grants
- Hatzilu volunteers deliver food packages to 55 needy families on Long Island
- Six human service professionals (i.e. social workers, therapists, etc.) determine which clients receive money and how much
- More than 60 people volunteer their time to Hatzilu activities.
- Last year we received two sizeable testamentary bequests. They enabled us to expand our grant program during the economic downturn. If you would like more information about making a gift or bequest to Hatzilu, contact our Executive Director, Elissa Friedman at 516-931-2884

## I DO CARE!

Please make your check payable to HATZILU RESCUE ORGANIZATION

Your donation is tax deductible.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ NY \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

My donation is

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please send acknowledgement to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ NY \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to volunteer

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

My synagogue or temple is \_\_\_\_\_



Mid-Island Y JCC

45 Manetto Hill Road

Plainview New York 11803

Non-Profit  
US Postage  
PAID  
Hicksville NY  
Permit No. 194