

President's Perspective . . .

I am thrilled and honored to serve you as President of Congregation Anshai Torah. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and enjoyed the intense heat we experienced this summer. Inside our cool Anshai Torah walls, our clergy, staff, Board of Directors, officers, and committees are working tirelessly to insure the very best for our shul from education and programming to the spiritual journey and beyond. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know, and for some of you that I may not know, I hope to meet you over the next couple of months.

I want to publicly welcome our new Director of Education Sharon Wechter and her husband Rabbi Seymour Rossel to our Anshai Torah community. Under Sharon's leadership, our Religious School is off to a fantastic start. The Back to School Bashes were a great success. In addition, Sharon is finalizing a new Religious School Committee that will effectively assist her throughout the coming year. I am confident Sharon will bring a new vibrant energy to our Religious School and to our children.

With great joy and excitement, we kicked off our first B'Nai Mitzvah of the New Year; we said goodbye to our new and returning college-bound students; and we have celebrated the sold-out Weinberg Family Golf Classic. This wonderful event continued the great tradition of raising money to support our Anshai Torah Summer Youth Scholarship Fund.

Our auxiliaries are off to a great start with an abundance of programming from Sisterhood, Men's Club, and Hazak. If you have not done so already, please join one of our auxiliaries and be part of the fun. There is something for everyone.

Our Diamonds and Dice committee is hard at work to prepare for this wonderful annual event. This is sure to be

another fun and vibrant December night that we will share together.

You will be hearing a lot about our upcoming *Anshai at 20 Gala* over the next several months. I look forward to celebrating our 20 years as a congregation and honoring Dot and Basil Haymann with all of you in the spring. More information about this special event will be coming out soon.

Our twice-daily minyan continues to thrive, thanks to the tremendous efforts of our members. While it is unfortunate there are many who have the need to say Kaddish, we are grateful to be able to be there for you. If you are available any weekday morning or evening, especially on Tuesdays and Wednesday, please join one of our minyanim. You will be doing such a mitzvah for our Anshai family.

In a very short time, we will join together again for High Holiday services. Our Tikkun Olam committee, with the assistance of Hazak, is hard at work preparing for Project Isaiah, where we all collect food and other items for Jewish Family Services. . .it will be collected before Kol Nidre services. Additionally, I hope you enjoy the beautiful family stories located in the front of our Mahzors that allow us to remember the lives of our cherished family members from generation to generation. I look forward to seeing each and every one of you over Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and share in the enhancement of our spiritual experience thanks to our Rabbinate and Mahzor.

I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year and look forward to working with each and every one of you this coming year to continue moving our shul forward in a positive and collaborative way.

May the Force be with you,
Barrett