

The background is a solid purple color with a dense, scattered pattern of colorful confetti. The confetti consists of small, crescent-shaped pieces in various colors including red, blue, green, yellow, and pink.

# Temple Israel

Reform Congregation of Staten Island

## GALA 2024

Honoring

Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation

Larry Hanibal

Jim Rohan

Jodi and Alan Siegel

Sunday, June 2, 2024, 5:00 pm

ABOVE at the Staten Island Hilton Garden Inn

## Message from Rabbi Howald



Seventy-six years ago, a group of Staten Islanders came together to create Temple Israel, the first, and still only, Reform Congregation in our borough. In the three-quarters of a century since, this congregation has celebrated and mourned together, educated thousands of students, both young and old, and built and supported a community that still thrives today.

This Gala Journal, and the messages of support it includes, demonstrates that the legacy of our founders continues into the heart of the 21st century.

Robin and I are so grateful to be a part of this welcoming community! We are even more heartened to know that we are not alone.

This year we honor the Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel, Larry Hanibal, Jim Rohan, and Jodi and Alan Siegel, each of whom has sustained and strengthened our congregation over years. The messages of support for their lasting efforts contained in this journal further testify to the spirit that has allowed this community to endure and grow over decades.

May this Gala of recognition and celebration inspire us to continue our meaningful work of keeping Reform Judaism alive on Staten Island! May the generosity of our honorees and the contributors to this Journal continue the vision of our founders into the decades ahead.

Baruch Atah Adonai, Notain Tormim N'divim.  
Blessed are You Adonai, Giver of Generous Givers.

Rabbi Michael Howald

## Message from Cantor Bernstein



Dearest members and friends of Temple Israel,

Thank you for this opportunity to express my gratitude to the honorees, as well as to the leadership of the temple, and the journal committee who worked so hard to make this spectacular event possible.

Albert Schweitzer once said, "At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."

Our honorees enlighten the hearts of all us.

The Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation has filled our sanctuary and classrooms with the precious sound of children's laughter by supporting initiatives for young families.

Larry Hannibal has unfailingly supported the welfare of the temple in so many ways, plus when I need a lift to Brooklyn, he drives me right to my door!

Jim Rohan has been the backbone of the Senior Choir for decades. He holds down the bass harmonies, while remaining his calm, kind self no matter what choir drama is going on around him. He is the Rock of Rock of Israel. He regularly leads the congregation in song, for which we are all grateful.

I was asked to limit my message to 300 words, and could have used them all to praise the contributions of Jodi and Alan Siegel. Since Alan hasn't forgiven me for the coffee filter scars from a Purimspiel decades ago, let me concentrate on thanking Jodi for her unfailing attention to detail for every event she plans at the temple, for her painstakingly helping the choir assemble their music, for organizing our wonderful visits to the Brielle, and for always saying "hineini," "Here I am," when any support is needed.

Thank you, all! May you go from strength to strength!

Cantor Suzanne Bernstein.

# Message from the Co-Presidents



Bryn Biren



Felicia Otto

“Example is not the main thing in influencing others.  
It is the only thing.”  
- Albert Schweitzer

The role of a temple president is complex, involving congregants’ concerns, building maintenance, financial challenges, long-range planning and addressing the unexpected.

No president (not even co-presidents) can live up to all the obligations alone. Congregants are the true power behind this organization—they are our most valuable asset.

Tonight we gather to recognize our five honorees to let them know that they are valued, that we appreciate what they have done and continue to do, and to highlight the positive effects of their efforts at Temple Israel.

The contributions of Ron, Larry, Jim, Jodi and Alan are immeasurable. Each has contributed so many hours of time over so many years. Each of them has had an impact on our Board of Trustees, Sisterhood and Brotherhood, our congregation as a whole and too many committees to list. What these dedicated individuals have done behind the scenes to keep Temple Israel moving into the future is especially incredible.

Thank you to our 2024 Gala honorees for helping Temple Israel Reform Congregation to flourish and to be an institution of great pride on Staten Island.

Bryn Biren & Felicia Otto, Co-Presidents

# Temple Israel BOARD of TRUSTEES

2023/2024 • 5783/5784

Rabbi Michael D. Howald  
Cantor Suzanne Bernstein

2024/2025 • 5784/5785 INCOMING

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Larry Hanibal	Sarah Sarfati
Cheryl Levine	Judy Scher
Beverly Mazer	Alan Siegel
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Dr. Leonard Leef	Alan J. Siegel
Bruce J. Primet	Linda Brill
Gerald Lustig, MD *	Sandy Mazzucco
George Lachman	Felicia Otto

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2023/2024 • 5783/5784

2024/2025 • 5784/5785 INCOMING

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Second Vice Presidents.....Sandy Feuerstein, Claire Guttsman  
Third Vice Presidents.....Pamela Rogozin, Shari Stein-Ballow  
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Deborah Chernoff	Sandy Mazzucco
Maxine Cohen	Felicia Otto
Karen Frey-Gamoran	Jesse Siegel
Barbara Fried	Anna Wu
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## HONORARY MEMBERS

Cantor Suzanne Bernstein  
Robin Howald

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Ruth Andriani	Claire Guttsman	Adrienne Nash
Bryn Biren	Rhona Hanshaft	Judith Pessah
Linda Brill	Phyllis Jacobs	Pamela Rogozin
Pamela Carlton	Betty Kaplan *	Nina Rohan
Eleanor Ecker *	Gloria Malden Kaplan	Lise Rosenberg
Margaret Eichler	Rita Kempner	Susan Sappin
Deanna Feder	Valerie F. Klauber *	Muriel Schlefstein
Marilyn Feldman	Barbara Kurlander *	Tracy Schulman
Susan Freedman	Leatrice Kolodney *	Marie Schwarz *
Vivian Gaines	Carole R. Lachman *	Jodi Siegel
Shariann Ganz	Cheryl Levine	Lynn Silberman
Jeanette Glazer *	Celia Levy	Inez Singer
Estelle Gootenberg *	Sylvia Lindner	Barbara Tepper
Betty Greenspan	Susan Marks	Claudia Tobak
Karen Gross	Beverly Mazer	Beatrice Victor *

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Linda Hanibal, Sandy Mazzucco  
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Terry Baver	Geri Lauter
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Deanna Feder	Sarah Sarfati
Barbara Fried	Judy Scher
Susan Freedman	Jesse Siegel
Karen Frey-Gamoran	Inez Singer
Robin Hertzberg	and All Active Past Presidents

## HONORARY MEMBERS

Cantor Suzanne Bernstein  
Robin Howald

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Estelle Gootenberg *	Sylvia Lindner	Claudia Tobak
Betty Greenspan	Susan Marks	Beatrice Victor *
Karen Gross	Beverly Mazer	Anita Zuckerberg
Claire Guttsman	Adrienne Nash	

\* of blessed memory

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2023/2024 • 5783/5784

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Russell Kaminsky  
Jerry Mulnick  
Alan Siegel  
Bob Zuckerberg

2024/2025 • 5784/5785

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First Vice President ..... Larry Hanibal  
Second Vice President ..... Larry Flaum  
Secretary ..... Jerry Mulnick  
Treasurer ..... Alan Siegel

### Honorary Member

Rabbi Michael Howald

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Richard Braun	Wayne Schwartz
Harry Elrich	Adam Schulman
Jeffrey Ganz *	Alan Siegel
Jerrold Gross	Alan Tepper
Scott Levine	William Weerth

\* of blessed memory

## Past Gala Honorees (since 1984)

- 1984** Estelle Gootenberg, Albert Melniker, Sanford Nalitt, Norman Saunders, Robert Straniere, Gloria Tilzer, Allan Weissglass
- 1986** Dr. Gerald J. Lustig
- 1987** Selma Blumin, Siggy Kahn, Herman Wetschler
- 1991** Max & Ada Kadin, George & Carole Lachman, Dr. Stephen & Harriett Pollack, Beatrice Victor
- 1992** Dr. Ronald & Helene Leventhal, Alvin & Eleanor Nalitt, David & Susan Sappin, Joan Tenney
- 1993** Edward & Phyllis Elman, Jerrold & Karen Gross, Michael & Janet Sirota, Louis Stolzenberg
- 1994** Phyllis & Harry Elrich, Linda & Jerrold Mulnick, Eileen & Steward Sandman, Rev. Terry Troia
- 1995** Bryn & Richard Biren, Ellen & Bart Horowitz, Hon. Susan Molinari
- 1996** Terry & Steve Baver, Lois Gold, Eleanor Goldberg, Joyce & Vernon Scholar
- 1997** Linda & Alan Brill, Geri Kitoff, Susan & Stewart Marks
- 1998 Jubilee Year Celebration**
- 1999** Cheryl & Michael Levine, Adrienne & Gordon Nash, Judith Pessah
- 2000** Diane & Michael Eisenkraft, Norman Linscheid, Ann & George Targownik, Florence & Lewis Werb
- 2001** Pam Carlton, Arnie Grossman, Jennifer Straniere, Barbara & Alan Tepper
- 2002** Rabbi David & Nancy Katz
- 2003** Judy Scher, Janet Harris Smith, Dr. Fred Hecht
- 2004** Jodi & Alan Siegel, Janice Gross & Larry Flaum
- 2005** Cantor Suzanne Bernstein
- 2006** Gale & Wayne Schwartz, Assemblyman John Lavelle
- 2007** Nancy & Ron Avis
- 2008** Claire Guttsman, Ada & Max Kadin—representing the Founding Members of Temple Israel
- 2009** Karen & Jay Duskin, Sheila & Arnie Grossman, Nina & Jim Rohan
- 2011** Shariann & Jeffrey Ganz, Linda & Larry Hanibal Lynn & Robert Silberman
- 2012** Deanna Feder, Ida Grober, Josephine Grober, Joanna & David Meltzer, Muriel & Maurice Schlefstein
- 2013** Jaime Blackman, Jerry Gross, Ilene Pappert, Tracy Schulman
- 2014 Golden Gala—**  
*Celebrating 50 Years in our Spiritual Home*
- 2015** Libby & Ira Gershansky, Richard Maren, Lenore Miller, Cindy & Searle Selmon, Inez Singer
- 2016** Andrea & Fred Simon, Barbara Fried, Rebecca Hand, Beverly Mazer, Rhonda Trontz-Allen
- 2017** Kim & Victor Avis, Linda & Alan Brill, Pamela J. Carlton, Pamela Rogozin, Barbara Tepper
- 2018** The Adult Choir & Accompanists, Claire Bleiman, Karen & Joe Gamoran, Blanche Ricci
- 2019** Bryn Biren
- 2020** Rabbi Michael D. Howald
- 2021** The Resilience of the Congregation
- 2022** “22 & You”
- 2023** 75th Congregational Anniversary Celebration



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Honoring  
Dr. Ronald Avis  
Foundation for  
Temple Israel

# Honoring Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel



We are grateful.

Tonight we acknowledge and honor extraordinary vision, dedication, generosity, and commitment to ongoing support.

In 2017, recognizing the need to engage families with young children in the synagogue community, our long-standing, esteemed member, Ronald Avis established the Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel.

The Foundation's grants have already provided financial support enabling 35 families to join the congregation with adjusted membership dues and free-of-charge religious school.

Moreover, all members of the congregation have benefitted from an array of innovative, meaningful spiritual, educational, and community-building experiences that affirm Jewish values and celebrate our traditions.

Now, more than ever, congregations are challenged to serve as welcoming, safe homes for ethical, spiritual, respectful, socially conscious communal life.

We are grateful.

Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel



**COMMUNITY**

fostering connections  
& lifelong friendships

**SPIRITUALITY**

honoring spiritual  
exploration & growth

**LIFE-LONG LEARNING**

engaging in creative  
educational programs

**TIKKUN OLAM**

caring for each other  
& creating a better world

**INCLUSION**

embracing diversity  
& welcoming all

**TRADITION**

cherishing & celebrating Shabbat,  
holidays, festivals, & lifecycles

## More about the Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel

LegoRobotics, Sing Yoga, PJ Library story/snack/craft time, Brian the Animal Guy, with take-home Jewish value packs.



Museum visits, Staten Island Holocaust Center program, challah-baking class, Chanukah cookie design event, and more.

## More about the Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel



Adults' programming: weekly chair and mat Yoga sessions with a babysitting option.

During COVID, Foundation launched zoom classes and continues to support Adult Education.

By 2023, the Foundation helped underwrite the milestone in-person celebration of the congregation's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



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Honoring  
Larry Hanibal

## Honoring Larry Hanibal



Larry is the youngest of three children from an interfaith family raised in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn. From childhood, Judaism was very important to him. After arranging to meet with Rabbi Friedman from a Crown Heights synagogue at age twelve Larry told his parents he wanted to study to become a Bar Mitzvah. When his parents agreed, he studied three days a week for a year and a half to accomplish his goal. Larry was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah at Temple Ahavath Shalom (Avenue R Temple). Having many friends in the neighborhood he remained active in the temple youth group where Larry and Linda met in 1969 and subsequently married 50 years ago at that same synagogue.

Synagogue life has remained an important part of life for the Hanibal family from their first Brooklyn congregation to Temple Israel Reform Congregation of Staten Island since 1987. Larry and Linda's children Brian and Rachel were raised at Temple Israel through confirmation.

Larry chose to join the adult confirmation class 1994-1995; the same year Brian was in religion school confirmation class. Nice father-son bond. Larry has served Temple Israel on the Board of Trustees as well as the executive board for many years. Then came his dedication to fund raising via the Gift Certificate Program. Many of you know that he expanded the gift certificate offerings from the island grocery stores to dozens of options. Then Larry began to personalize the delivery of the certificates so that the program could continue through the COVID pandemic lockdown. It has brought in a steady stream of funds. His commitment to Judaism and Temple Israel is a given when one thinks of Larry Hanibal, but anyone who knows him, knows that Dad and Grandpa are the two most important titles he has ever held or ever will.









The background is a solid purple color, densely populated with small, colorful, crescent-shaped confetti pieces. The colors include red, blue, green, yellow, and pink, scattered across the entire frame. In the center, the text "Honoring Jim Rohan" is displayed in a white, serif font. The word "Honoring" is on the top line, and "Jim Rohan" is on the bottom line, both centered horizontally.

Honoring  
Jim Rohan

## Honoring Jim Rohan



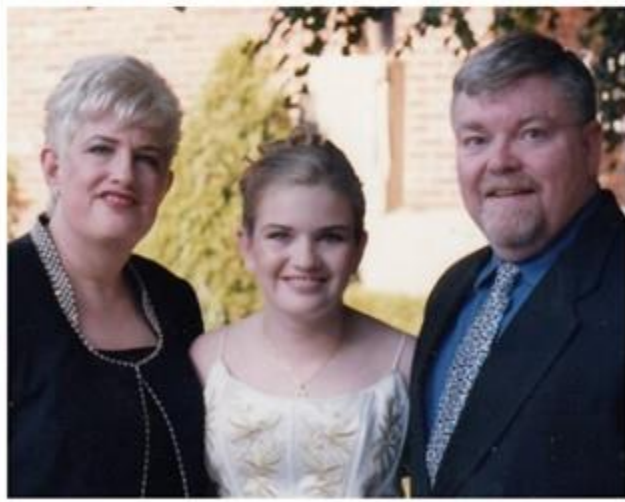
Jim and his wife Nina joined Temple Israel in 1998. They were looking for a place where they and their daughter, Elizabeth could worship together. Except for occasional interruptions, they have been at Friday night services ever since. When Nina's family was unable to come to Elizabeth's Bat Mitzvah after the events of September 11, the whole congregation came forward to help. It is this feeling of a temple family that Jim believes makes our congregation so special.

Jim is a longtime member of Brotherhood and he participated in many Sukkah construction crews. He played King Achashverosh for many Purim spiels and has occasionally served as an usher for services. He has served both on nominating committees for temple leadership and on Cantor search committees. But his favorite activity has always been music.

Jim was recruited to join the choir where he still sings bass. He became a percussionist for the Rock of Israel Band and often also plays percussion at Friday night services. When there was no music for Tot Shabbat, he began regularly playing guitar for that service. When Temple Israel began using student cantors whose contracts ended with their school year, Jim stepped up and began playing for summer services eight years ago. He has also played the Sunday morning learning service and the Saturday morning service on occasion. He currently acts as the song leader and plays guitar for those Friday nights when Cantor Bernstein is not singing.









The background is a solid purple color, densely populated with small, colorful, crescent-shaped confetti pieces. The colors include red, blue, green, yellow, and pink, scattered across the entire frame. In the center, the text "Honoring Jodi & Alan Siegel" is written in a white, serif font. The word "Honoring" is on the top line, and "Jodi & Alan Siegel" is on the bottom line, both centered horizontally.

Honoring  
Jodi & Alan Siegel

## Honoring Jodi & Alan Siegel



Jodi and Alan Siegel met when they were both teaching at John Dewey High School in Brooklyn. It was hate at first sight, but they managed to overcome their initial loathing to create a wonderful loving partnership both professionally and personally for the past 37+ years. This partnership resulted in many fabulous theatrical productions and Jesse, one absolutely incredible daughter. Upon joining Temple Israel in 1993, they immediately found their Jewish home. Jesse found sisters and brothers and more moms and dads than she can count and Alan and Jodi found a way to fill up every single second of spare time they might ever have had.

Alan and Jodi are both career educators. Alan served as a teacher, assistant principal and principal with the New York City Board/Department of Education for 38 years, retiring as Principal of Lafayette High School in 2005. Jodi taught high school for 20 years before being lured to the Superintendent's Office which then became Regional Offices which then became Children First Networks, where she served multiple schools in multiple boroughs as a Lead Instructional Mentor, Achievement Coach and Leadership Development Specialist. She and Alan are both currently enjoying their retirements.

At Temple Israel, Alan has served as President, Vice President, Financial Secretary, House Committee Co-Chair, and a member of the Finance Committee. Over the years, he has also served as President of Brotherhood and continues to serve as a member of Board of Trustees. He has also worked on Rabbinical Search, Ways & Means and Gala Committees, Memorial Wall and Tree of Life Refurbishments and the security and sound systems. On any given day, Alan can be found cleaning refrigerators, installing leaves, hanging pictures, tightening pews, measuring spaces, cutting branches, putting up plaques, hanging Mezuzahs, or just being an "old Jew telling jokes."

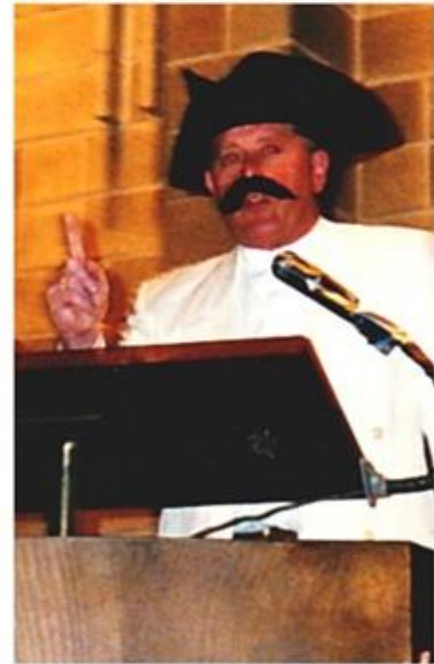
## More about Jodi & Alan Siegel



Jodi currently holds a position on the Temple Board of Trustees and is a member of the Ritual and Aesthetics Committees and a long-time member of the Temple Israel Adult Choir. She has been the editor of the temple's monthly e-bulletin since its creation in 2017. In a few weeks, she will be reprising her role as Sisterhood Co-President, a position she previously held from 2014-2021 and 2001-2004. Jodi is proud to have served as Co-Chair of the Annual Gala Committee for almost 20 years and is especially thrilled to have passed that torch onto Jesse Siegel!

The design and installation projects of a (not-so-new anymore) Memorial Wall and the re-furbishment of the original Memorial Wall in the Temple Israel sanctuary were spearheaded by Jodi, in addition to a new Tree of Life in the lobby. She has served on the School Board, Rabbinical and Cantorial Search Committees, and has coordinated more Passover Seders, Shabbat dinners and Festival lunches and fundraisers than she cares to remember. Jodi has also taught the Confirmation Class, written and directed many Purim Schpiels, created hundreds of flyers and journal pages and, for years sent out all acknowledgements for donations made in our Shabbat programs. Of all her Temple accomplishments, Jodi is most proud to have been able to read from Temple Israel's Holocaust Torah and to have been able to chant Torah and Haftorah at High Holiday services-- opportunities she may never have had at another synagogue.

Jodi and Alan are proud to support Hillel at the College of Staten Island, where Alan serves on the Board of Directors, and at the University of Delaware (Jesse's Alma Mater), On Your Mark, The Staten Island Museum, the JCC, the JNF, the UJA and many other Staten Island community organizations.





Listening intently to the story of Passover, Jodi Siegel holds her daughter Jesse on her lap during the Women's Seder at Temple Israel in Randall Manor.





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Temple Israel  
Reform Congregation of Staten Island

BENEFACTORS'  
TRIBUTES

# BENEFACTOR

Larry, Jim, Jodi and Alan



*Thank you for everything you do for Temple Israel...  
May our shared journey continue to inspire  
and uplift us all!*

The Avis Family



The background is a solid purple color, decorated with a dense pattern of colorful confetti. The confetti consists of small, crescent-shaped pieces in various colors including red, blue, yellow, green, and pink, scattered across the entire surface. At the top center, the word "BENEFACTOR" is written in a white, serif font.

**BENEFACTOR**

**BEST WISHES**

**ROBERTA ROHAN BRENMAN**

# BENEFACTOR

## **Congratulations to our Honorees**

Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel

Larry Hanibal

Jim Rohan

Jodi & Alan Siegel

**JAY CHAZANOFF**

# BENEFACTOR

**בְּנִדְבָה אֶזְבְּחֶהָ לְךָ אֲוֹדָה שְׂמֵחָ יְהוָה כִּי־טוֹב**

**With generosity, I freely offer to You  
and give thanks for Your good name.**

(Psalms 54:8)

**In appreciation and gratitude for those  
who contribute so much of their wisdom,  
time and resources to support this  
Kehillah Kedoshah, this sacred congregation.**

**Robin and Rabbi Michael Howald**

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# BENEFACTOR

**Congratulations to the Honorees:**

**Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel**

**Larry Hanibal**

**Jodi and Alan Siegel**

**and especially to our husband, Dad and Pop Pop**

**Jim Rohan**

**Jim has selflessly donated his time and  
talent to our temple for many years.**

**With love,**

**Nina, Elizabeth, Jereme and Sadie Rae**



# BENEFACTOR

*Congratulations to our Fellow Honorees*

***Larry Hanibal, Jim Rohan and The Avis Foundation***

*We are grateful for all you do on behalf of Temple Israel.*

*Special Thanks to all those whose hard work, dedication,  
friendship, love and presence tonight  
made this such a special evening.*

***Jodi & Alan Siegel***



# BENEFACTOR

**Hey old friends  
Here's to us old friends  
Who is like us?  
Damn few!**

## **The Straniere Family**

Nicholas (1908-1986)

Augusta (1909-1964)

Jennifer (1951-2021)

Philip

Gregory

Amanda

Nicholas

Abigail

The background is a solid purple color, densely populated with small, colorful confetti pieces. The confetti consists of various shapes, including crescents and irregular fragments, in shades of red, blue, green, yellow, and pink. The text is centered on the page.

# Temple Israel

Reform Congregation of Staten Island

SPONSORS'  
TRIBUTES






# SPONSOR

With deep gratitude to Dr. Ronald Avis,  
Larry Hanibal, Jim Rohan, and Jodi & Alan Siegel  
and in support of Temple Israel—

Ann and George Targownik



SPONSOR



In honor of  
Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation  
Larry Hanibal  
Jim Rohan  
Jodi & Alan Siegel

**Temple Israel Board of Trustees**  
**2023-2024**

# SPONSOR

*Best Wishes from*

*Sisterhood of Temple Israel*



*Women of Valor*

*Congratulations to all our Honorees*

*Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation*

*Jodi Siegel, Sisterhood Member and Alan Siegel, Friend of Sisterhood*

*Jim Rohan, Friend of Sisterhood*

*Larry Hanibal, Friend of Sisterhood*

Thank you for your unending dedication and service  
to Temple Israel and its members

*Pamela J. Carlton, Sue Freedman, Judy Lee, Anita Zuckerberg, Co-Presidents*

The background is a solid purple color, densely populated with small, colorful, crescent-shaped confetti pieces in shades of red, blue, yellow, green, and pink. The confetti is scattered across the entire page, creating a festive and celebratory atmosphere.

# Temple Israel

Reform Congregation of Staten Island

FULL PAGE  
TRIBUTES



**Congratulations  
to Temple Israel's  
Gala 2024 Honorees**

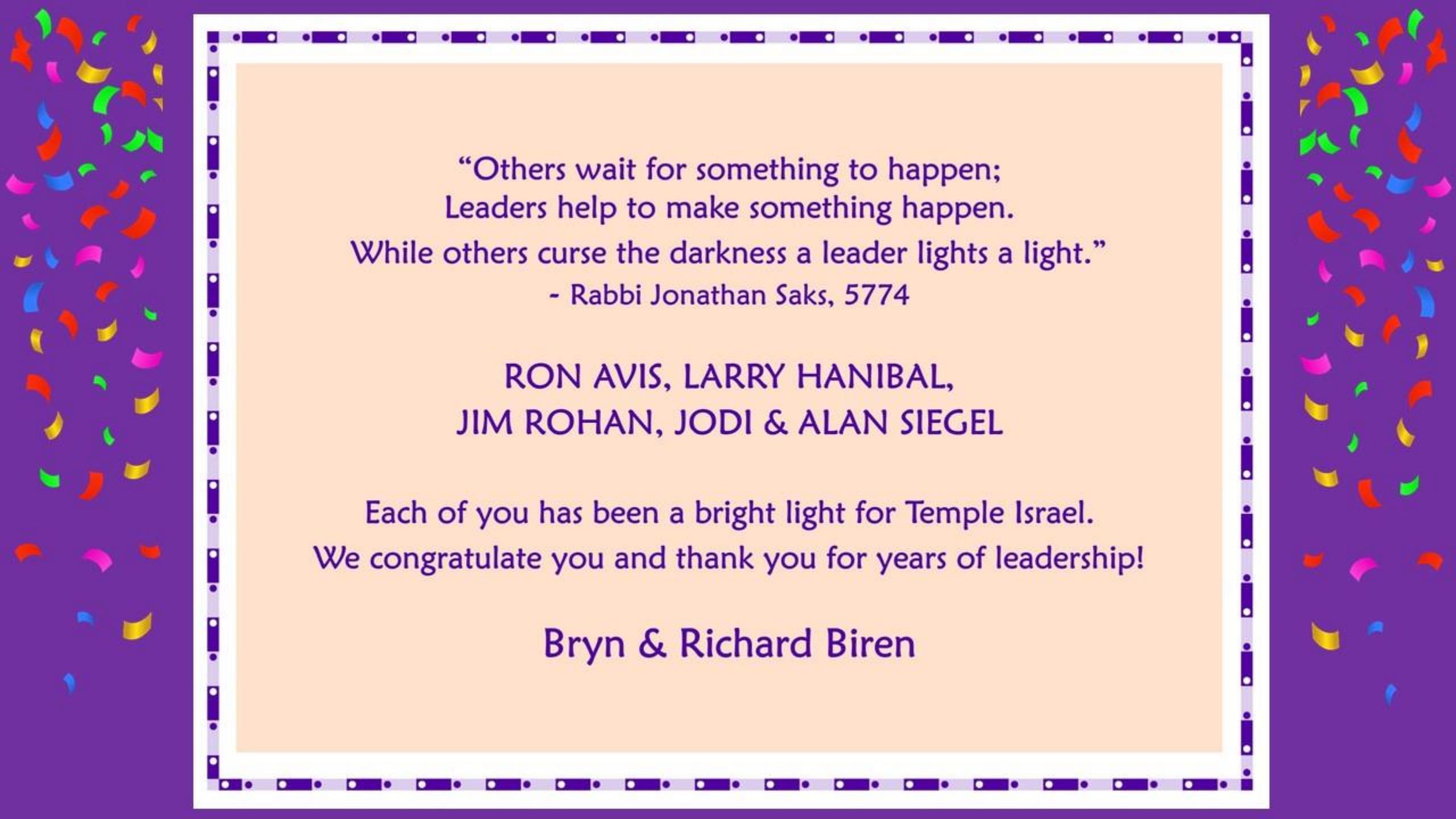
**Murray Berman & Sherry Diamond**



*Mazal Tov!*

*Thank you to  
Dr. Ronal Avis Foundation  
Larry Hanibal, Jim Rohan  
and Jodi & Alan Siegel  
for their altruistic generosity, dedication, and leadership  
to preserve and enrich the future  
of our beloved Temple Israel.*

*Ellen, Jeff and Aly Birch*



“Others wait for something to happen;  
Leaders help to make something happen.  
While others curse the darkness a leader lights a light.”  
- Rabbi Jonathan Saks, 5774

RON AVIS, LARRY HANIBAL,  
JIM ROHAN, JODI & ALAN SIEGEL

Each of you has been a bright light for Temple Israel.  
We congratulate you and thank you for years of leadership!

Bryn & Richard Biren



*As Temple Israel Past Presidents, we congratulate and deeply thank  
our Gala 2024 Honorees, with a special acknowledgement  
of our fellow Past President, Honoree Alan Siegel.*

<i>Terry Baver</i>	<i>Jeffrey Ganz*</i>	<i>Susan Sappin</i>
<i>Bryn Biren</i>	<i>John Greenbaum</i>	<i>Wayne Schwartz</i>
<i>Linda Brill</i>	<i>Jerrold Gross</i>	<i>Alan Siegel</i>
<i>Phyllis Elrich</i>	<i>George Lachman</i>	<i>Fred Simon</i>
<i>Wilhelm Figueroa</i>	<i>Sandy Mazzucco</i>	<i>Ann Targownik</i>

\* in memoriam



A festive border surrounds the central text, featuring colorful balloons (red, blue, yellow, green, pink) and confetti (small colorful shapes) on a white background. The border is framed by a purple and white dotted line. The entire graphic is set against a purple background with falling confetti.

Temple Israel  
Reform Congregation of Staten Island  
***2024 ANNUAL GALA***

***Congratulations to our honorees,***

**The Avis Foundation**

**Larry • Jim**

**Jodi & Alan**



***Best wishes and thanks***

**Linda and Alan Brill**



*Congratulations*

*Alice Diamond*



**Thank you to the Avis Foundation  
for your contributions to the life and vitality  
of Temple Israel.**

**Congratulations to all the 2024 Honorees  
and thank you for all you do for our Temple.**

**Jay & Karen Duskin**



Mazel Tov to  
The AVIS FOUNDATION for TEMPLE ISRAEL  
and our very dear friends  
LARRY HANIBAL  
JIM ROHAN  
and JODI & ALAN SIEGEL

Temple Israel is fortunate for your many, many years  
of dedication and support for our spiritual home.

We are grateful to Temple Israel for brining us together  
and for the close family bond that we have formed.

With much love,

Libby & Ira and  
Sarah, Aaron, Eli & Gabriela



Mazel Tov

to my wonderful parents

JODI & ALAN

who are most deserving of this honor!

Love, Jesse



*Thank you to the Avis Foundation  
for all you have done to enrich Temple Israel*

*Special thanks and congratulations  
to our dear Friends on being honored at the 2024 Gala  
Larry Hanibal • Jim Rohan • Jodi and Alan Siegel*

*"Many people will walk in and out of your life but only true friends  
will leave footprints in your heart!" - Eleanor Roosevelt*

*"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless,  
but because they're priceless!" - Sherry Anderson*

*With love and admiration for who you are and what you do!*

*Claire and Dennis Guttsman*

The background is a solid purple color, decorated with numerous small, colorful confetti pieces in shades of red, green, yellow, blue, and pink. The confetti is scattered across the entire page, with a higher density on the left and right sides. The central text is enclosed in a white rectangular frame with a thin purple border.

**Heartfelt Thanks  
and Congratulations!**

**Caroline and Tim Harrison**



# CONGRATULATIONS



\* Avis Foundation \*

\* Larry Hanibal \* Jim Rohan \* Jodi and Alan Siegel \*

***The accomplishments of our honorees demonstrate the strength of our community and the impact that can be achieved when we work together towards a common goal.***

“The task of the leader is to get their people from where they are to where they have not been .” - Henry Kissinger

“Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality.” - Warren Bennis

*We express our sincere gratitude to our honorees for their dedication and commitment to Temple Israel and to the betterment of our community.*

*With Love*

*Sandy Mazzuco & Richie Marlieb*





THE **NICOTRA GROUP** LLC.



Lois & Richard Nicotra  
are proud to support  
Temple Israel Reform Congregation  
of Staten Island.

Congratulations to the Honorees:

Jodi & Alan Siegel

Larry Hanibal

Jim Rohan

Dr, Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel

---

*And a special note to the Siegels - your family is a part of our Nicotra Family, and we are so proud that you've made so many memories with us...including this evening.*





# L'Dor V'Dor

In honor of

*Jesse Siegel*

who truly understands and embodies the words "From Generation to Generation".

Thank you for the incredible being that you are.

You make us proud every single moment.

*Mom, Dad and Miss Adelaide*



To Our Honorees:

The time and effort you put into our Temple serves as an example for us all.

You are always willing to step up when needed, and our Temple is richer for your being a part of it.

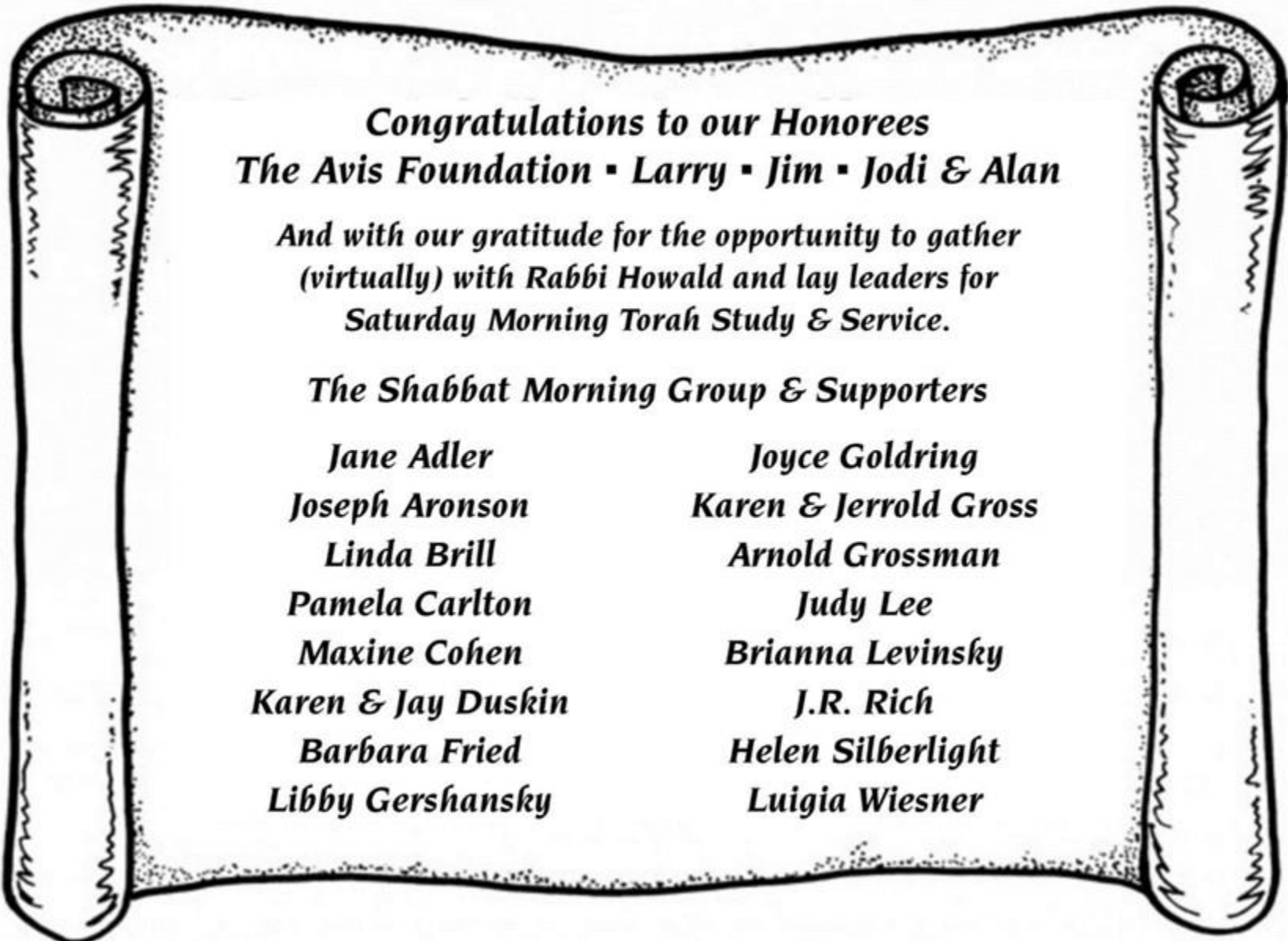
Mazel Tov on your truly well-deserved honor!

**Bob and Anita Zuckerberg**

*Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of Community and Temple you want to live in and belong to.*

Anonymous





***Congratulations to our Honorees***  
***The Avis Foundation ▪ Larry ▪ Jim ▪ Jodi & Alan***

*And with our gratitude for the opportunity to gather  
(virtually) with Rabbi Howald and lay leaders for  
Saturday Morning Torah Study & Service.*

***The Shabbat Morning Group & Supporters***

***Jane Adler***

***Joseph Aronson***

***Linda Brill***

***Pamela Carlton***

***Maxine Cohen***

***Karen & Jay Duskin***

***Barbara Fried***

***Libby Gershansky***

***Joyce Goldring***

***Karen & Jerrold Gross***

***Arnold Grossman***

***Judy Lee***

***Brianna Levinsky***

***J.R. Rich***

***Helen Silberlight***

***Luigia Wiesner***



The AVIS Foundation Families wish a big  
Mazel Tov to the Temple Israel 2024 Gala Honorees:

Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel  
Larry Hanibal  
Jim Rohan  
Jodi and Alan Siegel

With appreciation and gratitude for all that you have provided us,  
**The 2023-2024 AVIS Foundation Families**

The Astman Family  
The Ballow/ Padilla Family  
The Baver Family  
The Berger Family  
The Blitt/Schwartz Family  
The Brown Family  
The Chason Family  
The Cortijo Family  
The Donovan Family  
The Feldman Family  
The Kaminsky Family  
The Leibovich Family  
The Lenner Family  
The Levinsky Family  
The Lopez Family  
The Michaeli Family

The Otto Family  
The Pally Family  
The Rabinowitz Family  
The Rachman Family  
The Sarfati Family  
The Sherer Family  
The Shperling Family  
The Shagenov Family  
Alina Shtynberg & Family  
Rian Silverman & Family  
Amanda Straniere & Family  
The Sussman Family  
The Weinberg Family  
The Weintrob/Papas Family  
Amanda and Kahl Weiss Family  
Liz and Steve Weiss & Family



**Congratulations, and thank you, Dr. Ronald Avis, for your leadership and selflessness.**

**You are so deserving of this acknowledgment from Temple Israel.**

The Staten Island Academy Board of Trustees, Dr. Eileen F. Corigliano, Head of School, faculty & staff, students, alumni, and parents are forever grateful for your selfless service to our community.



**We are honored to call Dr. Ronald Avis a member of our Staten Island Academy family!**


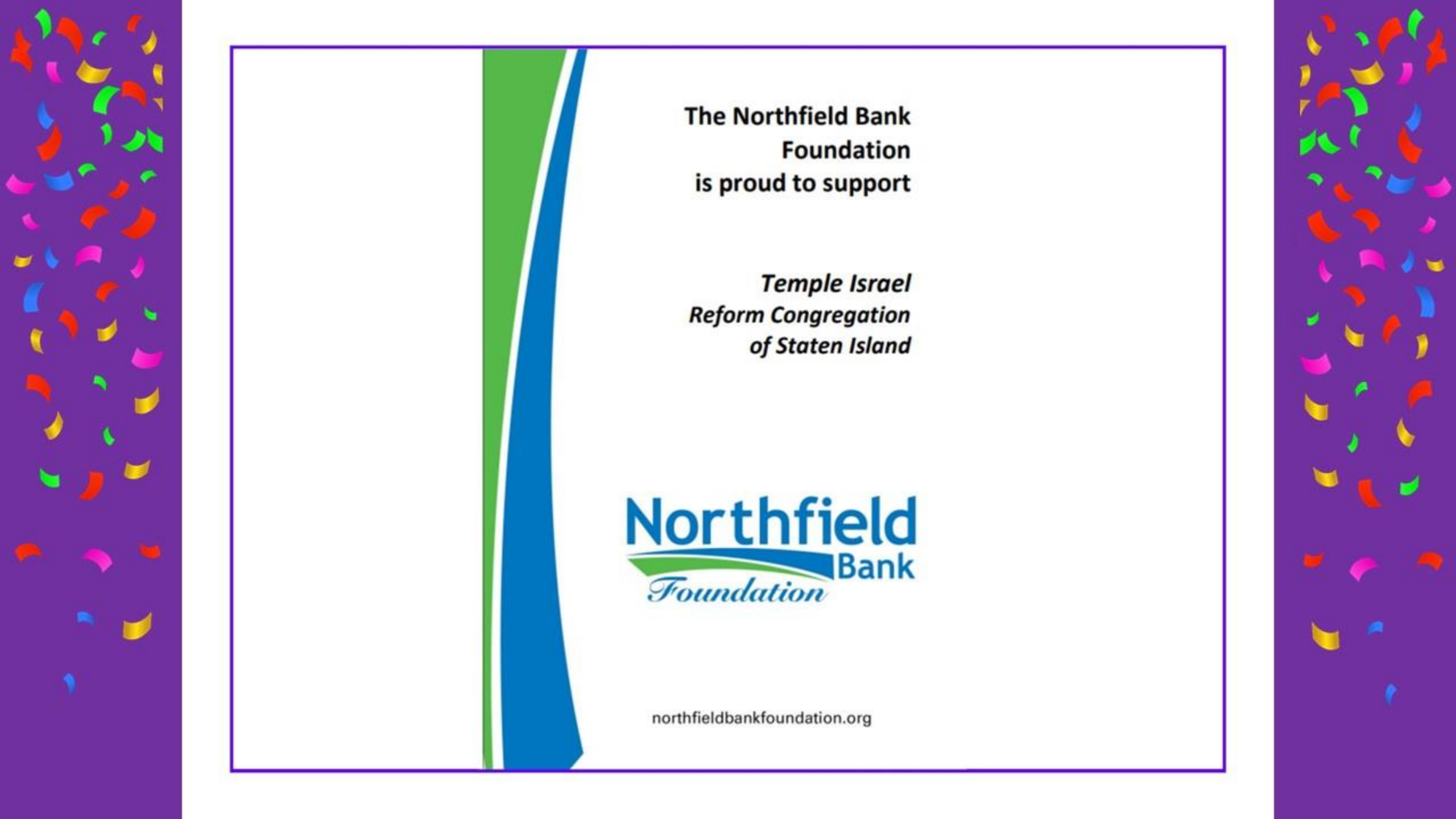
**Congratulations to the  
Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation,  
Jodi & Alan Siegel,  
and all of today's honorees!  
Your work makes Staten Island a better place!**

*With admiration from  
your friends at the JCC and Hillel of Staten Island*



Joan & Alan Bernikow  
Jewish Community Center  
of Staten Island





**The Northfield Bank  
Foundation  
is proud to support**

*Temple Israel  
Reform Congregation  
of Staten Island*

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# GERALD PETERS

— SINCE 1982 —

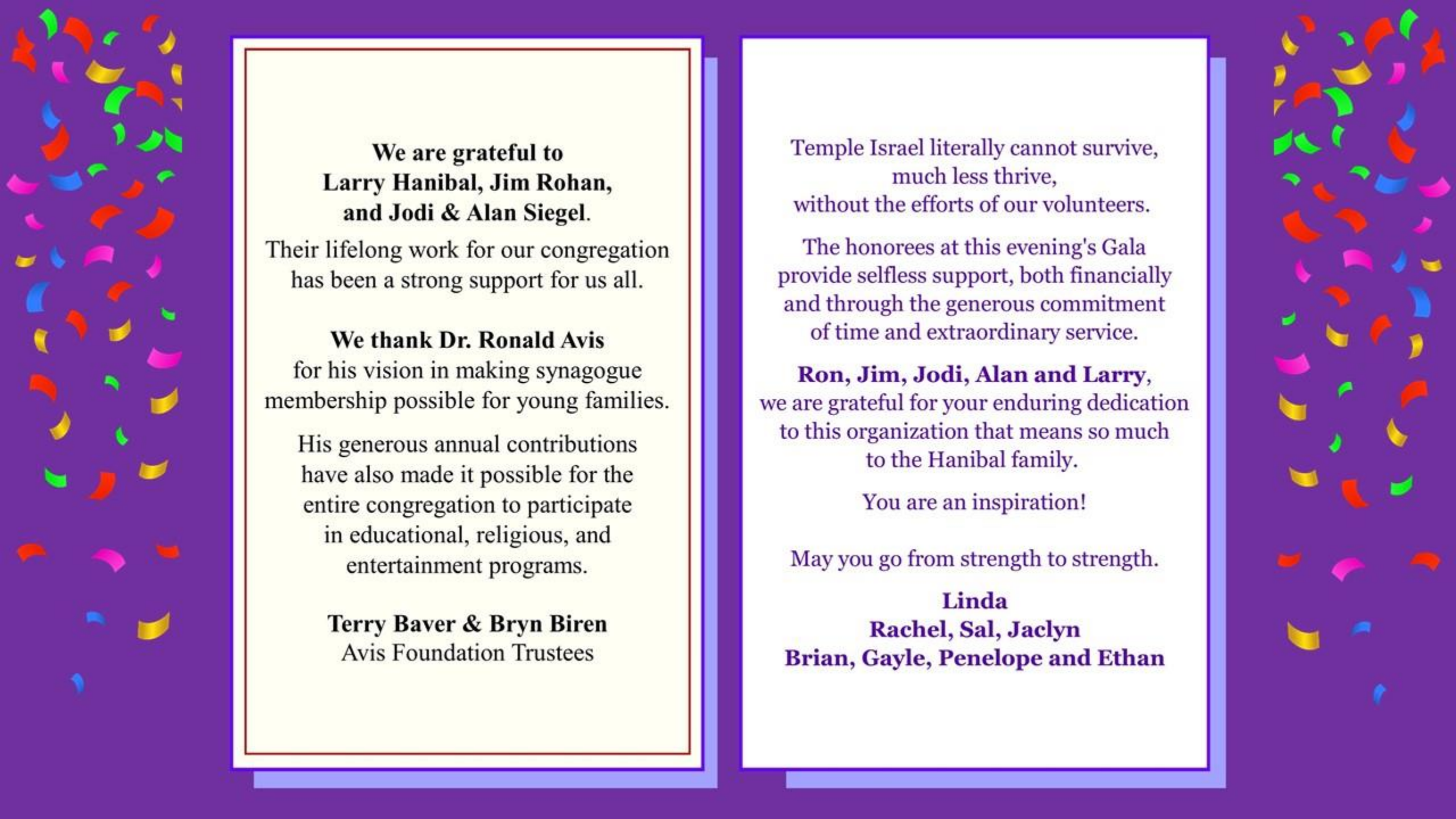
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE HONOREES

The background is a solid purple color, densely populated with small, colorful, crescent-shaped confetti pieces. The colors include red, blue, green, yellow, and pink, scattered across the entire frame.

# Temple Israel

Reform Congregation of Staten Island

TRIBUTES



**We are grateful to  
Larry Hanibal, Jim Rohan,  
and Jodi & Alan Siegel.**

Their lifelong work for our congregation  
has been a strong support for us all.

**We thank Dr. Ronald Avis**  
for his vision in making synagogue  
membership possible for young families.

His generous annual contributions  
have also made it possible for the  
entire congregation to participate  
in educational, religious, and  
entertainment programs.

**Terry Baver & Bryn Biren**  
Avis Foundation Trustees

Temple Israel literally cannot survive,  
much less thrive,  
without the efforts of our volunteers.

The honorees at this evening's Gala  
provide selfless support, both financially  
and through the generous commitment  
of time and extraordinary service.

**Ron, Jim, Jodi, Alan and Larry,**  
we are grateful for your enduring dedication  
to this organization that means so much  
to the Hanibal family.

You are an inspiration!

May you go from strength to strength.

**Linda  
Rachel, Sal, Jaclyn  
Brian, Gayle, Penelope and Ethan**



We are very grateful to  
Larry Hanibal,  
Jim Rohan, and  
Jodi & Alan Siegel  
for their dedicated commitment  
to our congregation.

And we are so very grateful  
to Ron Avis for his  
extraordinary decision to  
provide us with a powerful,  
wonderful foundation.

Terry & Steve Baver

Congratulations to  
the Dr. Avis Foundation,  
Larry Hanibal,  
Jim Rohan and  
Jodi and Alan Siegel.

Thank you for all you do.

**Barbara Feigelman**

**AS WE SING, SO WE PRAY.**

***Congratulations to all the Honorees—  
Alan Siegel, Larry Hanibal,  
and the Avis Foundation, and  
Choir Members Jim Rohan and Jodi Siegel***

***The Temple Israel Senior Choir***

***Bryn Biren  
Pamela J. Carlton  
Scott Fuller  
Sam Gornstein  
Judy Lee  
Beverly Mazer  
Elona Migorov, accompanist  
Judy Pessah  
Pamela Rogozin  
Jim Rohan  
Jodi Siegel  
Shari Stein-Ballow  
Luigia Wiesner  
Anne Young***

**The Membership Committee  
congratulates this year's honorees  
on their most deserved honors.**

**Fern Barris  
Maxine Cohen  
Barbara Fried  
Claire Guttsman  
Susan Marks  
Sandy Mazzucco  
Joanna Meltzer  
Nina Rohan  
Sarah Sarfati  
Judy Scher  
Rian Silverman  
Inez Singer**



**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO ALL THE HONOREES  
and  
BEST WISHES TO THE  
TEMPLE ISRAEL FAMILY**

From  
**JOEL GOLDBERG** and  
(the late) **ELLIE GOLDBERG**

Congratulations  
to All of the Honorees  
for all your hard work!

**Julie, James  
and Allison Cohen**

To our dear  
brother, uncle and great uncle

**Larry Hanibal**

Congratulations  
on being chosen as one of  
Temple Israel's 2024 honorees.  
It is a well-deserved recognition.

We salute you!

With much love,


**Meryl, Mark,  
Cara, Charles, Andrew, Meaghan,  
Mayana, Judah, Eleanora  
and Philip**

**BEST WISHES  
TO THE HONOREES  
FOR ALL THEY DO FOR**  
*Temple Israel*



**THE LEE FAMILY**

**EILEEN & R. RANDY LEE  
MICHELLE, NATHANIEL  
& ELLIOT LEE**



*We wish Temple Israel  
all the best during this celebration  
and are so happy to be sharing  
this day with our friends!*

*With love,  
Alison, Russell,  
Carly, Jenna, Sydney  
and Ethan Kaminsky*

**CONGRATULATIONS**


**Jodi & Alan Siegel  
Larry Hanibal  
Jim Rohan  
Dr. Ron Avis**

**Temple Israel is a better place  
with all of you in it.**

**Thank you for being there  
and for all you do.**

**Andrea & Fred Simon**





*We wish only success to the 2024  
Temple Israel GALA, to its  
honorees Larry Hanibal & Jim Rohan  
and  
to our dear, long, longtime friends,  
with room in their hearts for us all  
Jodi & Alan Siegel*

*With love,  
Vivian & Stuart Aronow  
Susan & Stanley Bloomfield  
Diane & Barry Goldstein  
Anne & Matt Kaufman  
Roberta & Mitchell Newman  
Myra & Paul Rose  
Ray & Steve Wolfson*


Congratulations  
to the Honorees.

Thank you so much  
for all you do for  
our congregation.

You are a big part of what makes us  
“the little congregation that could.”

**Janice Gross  
Dr. Larry Flaum  
and Family**





**Congratulations  
to all of the honorees.**

**We appreciate  
your dedication and  
continued service to  
Temple Israel.**

*Linda & Jerry Mulnick*



**Congratulations  
to all the Honorees**

**Alan & Freya Poritz**

**Clean Swift  
Janitorial Services, Inc.**

*The Ritual Committee  
congratulates one of our own  
**JODI SIEGEL**  
and all the honorees for this year  
Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation*

*Larry Hanibal*

*Jim Rohan*

*Alan Siegel*

*Mazel Tov to all the Honorees  
on this well-deserved honor.*

*Thank you for all you do  
for our Temple.*



**THE BROTHERHOOD  
OF TEMPLE ISRAEL**



**Congratulations  
to our Temple Honorees  
Your Past Sisterhood Presidents  
have been there always.**

**Ruth Andriani  
Linda Brill  
Pamela J. Carlton  
Deanna Feder  
Susan Freedman  
Shariann Ganz  
Karen Gross  
Claire Guttsman  
Cheryl Levine  
Susan Marks  
Beverly Mazer  
Judith Pessah  
Nina Rohan  
Susan Sappin  
Muriel Schlefstein  
Jodi Siegel  
Inez Singer**

**Congratulations  
to our Temple Honorees**

Thank you for your  
dedication and service.

In appreciation

**The FUNraising Committee**

**Barbara Feigelman  
Larry Flaum  
Joe Gamoran  
Karen Frey Gamoran  
Rebecca Hand  
Joyce Miller  
Jesse Siegel  
Rhonda Trontz-Allen  
Lissa Winchel**

**Congratulations  
to all the honorees**

*Linda Brill  
Deborah Chernoff  
Maxine Cohen  
Deanna Feder  
Barbara Fried  
Claire Guttsman  
Robin Hertzberg  
Karen & Jerry Gross  
Susan Marks  
Beverly Mazer  
Blanche Ricci  
Pamela Rogozin  
Roni Schorr  
Inez & Steve Singer  
Anita & Bob Zuckerberg*

**TEMPLE ISRAEL  
MALL WALKERS**

*"Don't ever question the value of volunteers.  
Noah's ark was built by volunteers,  
the Titanic was built by professionals."*

**WE HONOR**

*Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation  
Larry Hanibal  
Jim Rohan  
and our dear friends,  
Jodi & Alan Siegel*

*Heartfelt Thanks  
for your amazing generosity and dedication*

**The Barris Family**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

to all of the Honorees.

Each one has always supported  
Temple Israel in enormous ways.

We are so proud.

Thank you for all you do,  
and for all you are.

Kudos and love,

**Phyllis and Harry Elrich**

**congratulations**  
**MOM & DAD**

I wish I could be there to  
celebrate with you tonight!

Sending you lots of  
Frenchie kisses!

Love,  
**MISS  
ADELAIDE**



# WAGNER COLLEGE

THANKS

## RON AVIS

Wagner College extends our heartfelt thanks to Ron Avis for his exceptional leadership and steadfast support of our campus. Ron's vision and contributions have shaped our institution and inspired us all. His profound generosity and dedication continue to strengthen our community and enrich the lives of countless individuals.



Today, we celebrate Ron Avis—a true leader and friend whose impact will resonate for years to come. Thank you, Ron, for your remarkable vision and commitment to excellence.



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**Congratulations Jim!**

**Love,  
Betsy & Walter**

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO ALL THE HONOREES!  
MARNIE AND SCOTT**

**Congratulations  
to all the Honorees  
on a job well done.  
This is a well deserved honor.**

**Rhonda Trontz-Allen  
& Mike Allen**

**Congratulations  
to Jodi and Alan  
on being honored this year.**

**You are a most deserving couple.  
Marcia Reimer**





In celebration of  
all the Honorees

Pamela J. Carlton

Thank You to the Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation

*Temple Israel Reform Congregation  
of Staten Island*

*Congratulations*

Larry Hanibal

Jim Rohan

Jodi & Alan Siegel

*Charles Nadel & Roslyn Persky*


In appreciation for  
all your hard work.

The Shperling Family

**We are delighted to be new members  
of Temple Israel and glad to be  
attending this joyful Gala Event  
as we make new friendships  
with fellow congregants.**

**We moved to Staten Island  
on August 31, 2023, so having  
membership in this house of worship  
is very important to us.**

**Mavis & Michael Smook**



Congratulations and Thank you  
to the Honorees for their  
great service and dedication  
to Temple Israel

**Silvia & Sam Gornstein**

Congratulations  
to all the honorees  
for your dedication and  
service to the temple

**Karen and Joseph Gamoran**

“Some people want it to happen.  
Some wish it would happen.  
Others make it happen.” - Michael Jordan

**We are proud to honor those who make  
wonderful things happen for Temple Israel**

Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel  
Larry Hanibal, Jim Rohan and Jodi & Alan Siegel


**With Love from The Meltzer Family**

**To All the Honorees**

**Thank you for all you have done  
and continue to do for our Temple.**

**Blanche Ricci**





Congratulations and Best Wishes to  
**Dr. Ronald Avis**  
who has been a continued  
source of inspiration to the  
Jewish Community on Staten Island.

You are now, and always have been,  
an inspiration to all.

**Dee and Tara**

My entire family is extremely  
proud of the efforts by  
**Larry Hanibal**  
on behalf of Temple Israel

Love,

**Steve, Susanne & Kate**

Congratulations  
to all the honorees  
Thank you for all you  
do for Temple Israel


**Karen & Jerry Gross  
and family**

Our very best wishes  
to our dear friend  
**Dr. Ronald Avis**  
on this most deserving honor.

We Love You,


**James and Riley Seagriff**





**Congratulations  
to all the honorees!**

**Harriet & George Kurlander**



**Congratulations  
to all the honorees**

**Sandy & Les Feuerstein**

**My fellow choir members,  
their hard-working spouses,  
and their families –**

**Thank you for all you do  
to make our temple run so well.**

**Love, Shari Stein-Ballow**

**We acknowledge  
the continuing special contributions  
that the honorees provide  
for our Temple life.**

**Thank you–  
Larry, Jim, Jodi, Alan,  
Terry, Bryn & the Avis Family**

**Judy and Steve Scher**



**Congratulations  
to the GALA 2024 Honorees**

**Thank you for all you do  
for Temple Israel.**

**Ilene Pappert**

*Congratulations to the Honorees,  
and many thanks to them for  
all they do for Temple Israel.*

***Judith Pessah***

Kudos  
to all the honorees for  
their endless hard work, dedication  
and devotion to Temple Israel

Mazel Tov and much thanks

**Ellen & Bruce Sheirr**

Congratulations  
to Dr. Ron and all the Honorees.

Dr. Ron,  
the community is fortunate for all you do,  
and I am lucky and blessed to  
have you in my life.

Love always,  
**Dawn**

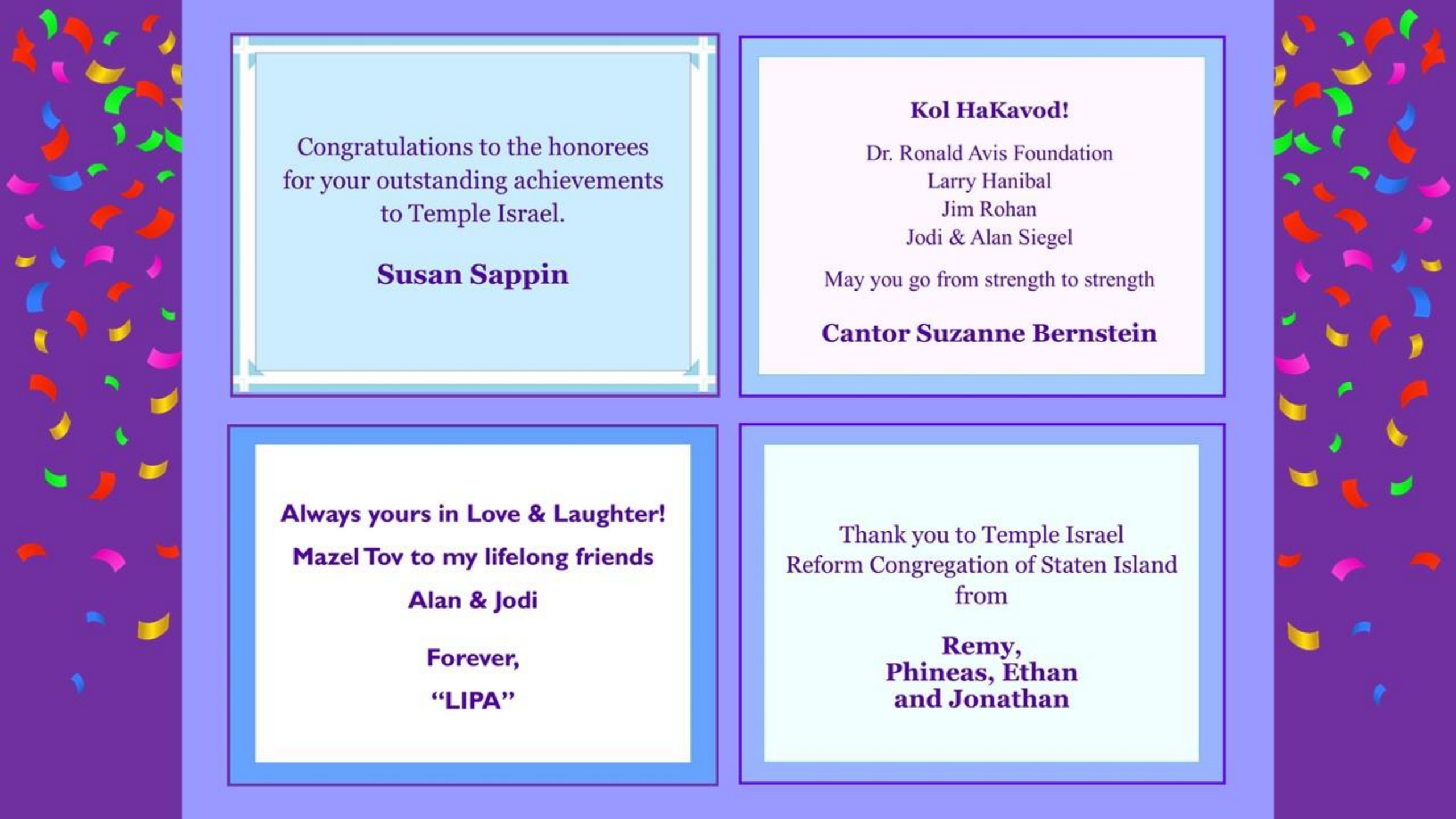


Congratulations  
to the Avis Foundation,  
Larry Hanibal, Jim Rohan and  
Jodi & Alan Siegel  
  
Jackie, Mike and Emi Rabinowitz

With sincere thanks  
to all those congregants  
we honor today.  
  
**Debra Smith Levine,  
Scott Levine & Family**

**Mazal fSN** ☆  
**Tov! !NIG** ☆  
2024 Gala Honorees  
You exemplify to us a great lesson in  
what it means to be a Mensch!  
☆  
Temple Israel Religious School  
Students and Families

**Congratulations  
to the Honorees**  
  
**The Popler Family**



Congratulations to the honorees  
for your outstanding achievements  
to Temple Israel.

**Susan Sappin**

**Kol HaKavod!**

Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation  
Larry Hanibal  
Jim Rohan  
Jodi & Alan Siegel

May you go from strength to strength

**Cantor Suzanne Bernstein**

**Always yours in Love & Laughter!**


**Mazel Tov to my lifelong friends**

**Alan & Jodi**

Forever,  
**“LIPA”**

Thank you to Temple Israel  
Reform Congregation of Staten Island  
from

**Remy,  
Phineas, Ethan  
and Jonathan**



To all my friends—  
I wish you well!

**Muriel Schlefstein**

Mazel Tov & Thank you  
to our wonderful Honorees!

**Cheryl Levine & Family**

Congratulations  
and thank you to  
all the honorees.

**Deanna Feder**

Mazel Tov  
to the honorees!

**Orit & Ed Lender**



**In honor of  
Dr Ron Avis,  
Larry Hanibal,  
Jim Rohan and  
Jodi and Alan Siegel**

**Thank you for all you do....**

**The Sherer Family**



**Toda Raba to Rabbi Howald,  
Cantor Bernstein, and the  
Temple Israel Family for  
welcoming us and making our  
Bat Mitzvah year so special.**

**We deeply appreciate the  
Avis Foundation support.**

**Lori Weintrob, Phil Papas,  
Joelle and Sophia**

**Dear Larry,  
Congratulations on getting this honor.  
It's wonderful to see your efforts  
on behalf of Temple Israel have been  
recognized and rewarded by others**

**Ruth Andriani, Roni Schorr, Cindy Selmon,  
Lynn & Robert Silberman  
Sheila & Arnie Grossman**

**To all our Honorees—  
Thank you for all you do  
to make Temple Israel our  
home away from home.**

**Inez and Stephen Singer**

# *Congratulations!*

Congratulations to all the honorees and a special thank you to Ron Avis for his leadership, dedication and generosity as he continues to serve as a pillar of the Staten Island community.

Sincerely,

*Ruta Shah-Gordon & David Gordon*

Jodi and Alan, with this Temple honor, we couldn't be prouder of your ability to bring laughter, love and a healthy dose of sarcasm to every occasion.

Here's to Jodi and Alan, the unrivaled champions of wit and wisdom in our little family circle. We love and miss you.

**The Benowitz Family  
Cory, Tara, Matthew & Sofia**

**To all the Honorees:**  
"The one occupied with the needs of the community is like one who is occupied with matters of Torah"  
- Rabbi Yirmiyah

**Thank you for all that you do.**

**Jane Adler and Barbara Fried**

*Congratulations*  
**JODI & ALAN  
SIEGEL**

**LOVE, STEVE**



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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
HONOREES OF TEMPLE ISRAEL REFORM  
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**IN MEMORIAM**

**We lovingly remember  
congregants who passed away  
since Gala 2023.**

**Richard Leimsider**

**Alan Bernikow**

**Jeffrey Ganz**

*May their memories  
be for a blessing.*



The background is a solid purple color, densely populated with small, colorful, crescent-shaped confetti pieces in shades of red, blue, green, yellow, and pink. The text is centered in white.

# Temple Israel

Reform Congregation of Staten Island

## Acknowledgements



## IN APPRECIATION

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