

Brookville

Multifaith Campus

NEWS

One house, many faiths, endless opportunities for growth!

RfA
Room for All
An Open and Affirming
Campus to the
LGBTQIA+ community.

August
2025

2 Brookville Road, Glen Head, NY 11545
516-626-0414

Facebook: [Brookville-Church-Multifaith-Campus](https://www.facebook.com/Brookville-Church-Multifaith-Campus)
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vickyleastland@gmail.com



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The New Synagogue of Long Island

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Muslim Reform Movement

Organization. MRMO.org
muslimreform@hotmail.com



Dr. Syed Asad, Co-Founder
mmsglobalfoundation.org/

Vision Statement

Through learning opportunities, essential partnerships, and occasional shared worship, our campus welcomes all who want to learn, question and grow, while making a positive and lasting impact in the community and world.

Mission

To build a multifaith community of people from different faiths who connect to one another by embracing similarities while celebrating differences.

Find a Place to Belong

We invite you to discover a spiritual community made up of different religious groups. Each group maintains its own religious identity but fosters an open environment for learning, celebrating and honoring each distinct religion.

For many, summer is more than just a change in weather, it is an invitation to pause. In the warmth and stillness of these longer days, we often find space to reflect, to reconnect, and to renew our spirits. Whether through time spent with loved ones, a walk in nature, or moments of quiet meditation, we are reminded of the sacredness that dwells in ordinary life.

This season, I find myself remembering the beautiful, complex journey of welcoming our son, Raju, into our family. Raju was nine years old when we first met him in a children's home in India. From the first moment, we knew he belonged in our lives. We felt something larger than ourselves drawing us together—a calling, a knowing, a gift.

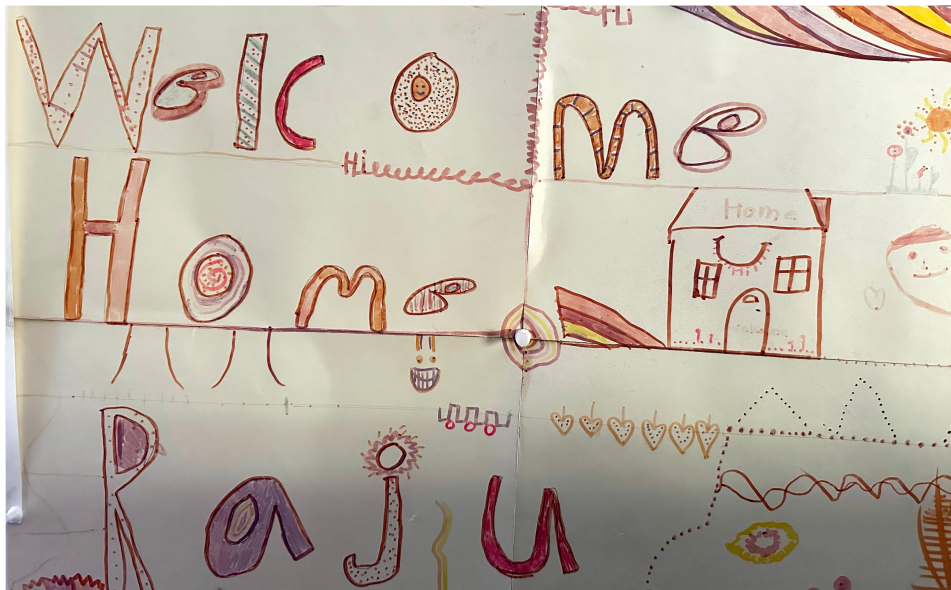
But love's path isn't always easy. Over the next year and a half, we navigated a maze of legal, logistical, and emotional hurdles. At times it felt uncertain. Yet, through every delay and obstacle, the deep sense of connection we felt never wavered. It was, in the truest sense, a journey of faith—not only in the Divine, but in each other.

When we journeyed back to India to finally bring Raju home, now 11 years old, the amazing children's home where Raju spent his childhood, celebrated with joy and tears. We left with full hearts. Back in upstate New York, our dear friends, the Millers, were waiting for us at the

airport. Though our flight was delayed by three hours and the balloons they had brought had deflated, their love and welcome had not. They greeted us with open arms and bright smiles, and their young children were ready to meet their new "cousin." The handmade sign they made for Raju's arrival still hangs in his room today; a quiet testament to a love that endures.

The Millers became part of our extended family. Holidays, birthdays, and ordinary weekends were shared with them. Raju grew up with their children, surrounded by laughter and the

comfort of belonging. To this day, their friendship continues to be one of the great blessings in our lives—a reminder that sometimes family is chosen, and that the Divine often works through the steady presence of people who simply refuse



to let go of each other.

As we move through this summer, may we all find spaces to reflect on the gifts of community, belonging, and the journeys that shape us. May we remember the unexpected angels who walk with us along the way. And may we remain open to the surprising ways the sacred shows up—in airport reunions, in shared holidays, and in love that never lets go.

~Rev. Vicky

My Go-to Prayer in Times of Trouble

My go-to prayer when I am in trouble is a beautiful line in a thanksgiving morning prayer in Hebrew known as "Mode/a ani lefanecha" which means "I am grateful to you, God." This prayer is based on the belief that our soul returns to the body after leaving through the night to return to its source (God.) In other words, each day we awaken with gratitude for life. Not only is it the first prayer that comes to my mind every morning when I open my eyes, but also it is a comforting impulse that enters my heart whenever I face trouble.

This focus on gratitude is very important in facing the crisis with hope and excitement. As a Jewish Cantor and Yoga instructor, I have added a melody and movement to the words enabling me to express the full range of this prayer. Singing facilitates breathing and helps me calm down in times of urgent pleading. Addressing God in the second person "you" builds an intimate relationship with this ultimate guide for my life. My go-to prayer delivers a message that "whatever happens I am not alone."

~ *Rabbi Irene Failenbogen*

Save the Date!

Blessing of the Pets

Our annual Blessing of the Pets will be held on **September 14**, 10 am during our worship service. This year, Cove Animal Rescue will be our guest and will speak about their Rescue and bring a few pets for us to see.

Cove Animal Rescue is located in Glen Cove.

Their Mission Statement is:

Help us increase the adoptability of homeless dogs and cats through training, socialization and improved surroundings that facilitate transition to a home environment.

And here is what sets them apart:

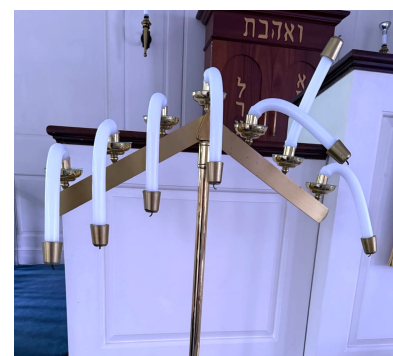
Cove Animal Rescue is dedicated to rescuing, rehabilitating, and rehoming

animals in need while promoting responsible pet ownership. Our compassionate team provides comprehensive care and works tirelessly to match animals with loving forever homes. Through outreach and advocacy, we strive to create a world where every animal is valued and cherished

We are asking our campus to help by donating any of the following items:

- cash donations
- laundry soap
- dish soap
- bleach
- vinegar
- Lysol lemon cleaner
- kitchen-size garbage bags with strings
- Large black garbage bags
- dry & canned cat food
- dog & cat treats

Have you been feeling a bit droopy in the July heat? Rigo snapped pictures of some sympathetic candles in the sanctuary ...



BRAG BOX

Congratulations to:

Cara Schombs, who graduated Magna Cum Laude from SUNY New Paltz this past May, with a degree in Biology with a concentration in Environmental Biology and a minor in Evolutionary studies.



Alaina Pinto, who will be attending the University of Notre Dame. She will be a double major in Neuroscience and Italian on the pre-med track.



Hailey Schombs, who is excited to head off to SUNY New Paltz in the fall.

She will be majoring in Journalism.



Ian Schombs, who will begin working in the Minisink School District in Middletown this fall. He will be a middle school and high school band teacher.



Do you have exciting news to share ... special accomplishment, performance or graduation?
Please send a note (and picture) to brookvillechurch@gmail.com before August. 20.



Join the
**New Synagogue
of Long Island**
for

**In-person Shabbat Service
Friday, Sept. 5, 6:30 PM**

To celebrate Rabbi Irene Failenbogen's
Ordination as Rabbi

Interfaith Community of L.I.

OPEN HOUSE: September 21st at 11 AM

New members are always welcome! Please send us an
email at ifcoflongisland@gmail.com

or message us on our Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/interfaithcommunityli/>

or Facebook page www.facebook.com/ifcli/

**Muslim Reform
Movement Organization**



**Virtual Friday Jumu'ah Prayer
1 PM**

**Virtual Quran Study
every other Sunday, 2:30 - 4:30 PM**
All are welcome!

For Zoom link, please email
muslimreform@hotmail.com

*Brookville Church
Summer Schedule*

Brookville Church will combine with the
Reformed Church of
Locust Valley for
Sunday 10 AM worship
in July and August.

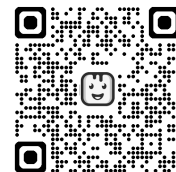


August: in Brookville,
2 Brookville Road

Support Brookville Church thru

Givebutter

[https://givebutter.com/
Sh1iYB](https://givebutter.com/Sh1iYB)



Venmo

**@Brookville-
Church
(7478)**



Death Cafe'

Join us at
11:30 AM
Sundays
Aug. 24



Brookville Multifaith Campus
2 Brookville Rd. Glen Head, NY 11545
ALL ARE WELCOME!



ב'ה

HIGH HOLIDAYS 5786

The New Synagogue of Long Island The Synagogue for Spiritual Judaism

Warmly invites you to join
Rabbi / Cantor Irene Failenbogen
in celebrating the New Year Season

High Holy Day Services

Rosh HaShanah

Monday Evening, September 22nd at 7:00pm
Tuesday, September 23rd at 10am to 12:00pm



Yom Kippur Eve - Kol Nidre

Tuesday, October 1st at 7:00pm

Yom Kippur Day

Service – Wednesday, October 2nd at 10:00am to 12:00pm
Yizkor Service at 12:00pm
Concluding Service at 5:00pm



Synagogue of the Month Shabbat Services

Virtual Shabbat Service at 7:00pm

We have no membership dues or fees. All are welcome.

Please respond as soon as possible.

Please support The New Synagogue of Long Island as generously as you can. Your contributions are the life blood of The New Synagogue. Please help us keep alive our inspiring teachings of Spiritual Judaism.

Kindly send your responses to:

The New Synagogue of Long Island ~ 10 Cuttermill Road, Suite 302 ~ Great Neck, NY 11021
NewSynagogue.LI@gmail.com ~ www.newsynagogue-li.org

I / We are happy to join you in celebrating the High Holidays this year.
Enclosed is a free will donation made out to **The New Synagogue of Long Island:**

___ \$50 ___ \$75 ___ \$100 ___ \$180 Other Amount: \$ _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

The Next Chapter



Before World War 2, life vests were made with Kapok as the flotation material until it became unavailable from the remote Pacific Islands. I remember going out with an uncle to the

nearby woods on the town's perimeter and picking Milkweed pods which was a good substitute. Picking the pods was what was needed. When I looked it up online there was also a picture of the plant with a damaged leaf showing a white sap that reminded me how sticky it was and hard to clean off my fingers. The floss in the pod was lightweight, buoyant and water-repellent. We would bring our bag of pods to the Post Office, which had a scale, and get some money for doing it. At the age of 7 or 8 any money was nice to have for candy. Today I am stunned that something happening over 80 years ago can still be remembered and then reminded about.



When the war ended and gasoline was available, the people were playing catchup doing things they had been denied. Driving back to a lake towing the boat and going fishing was always an enjoyment that my brother and I had just learned. We were ages 9 and 10 and an uncle who was a veteran often took us fishing on the weekday evenings giving us lessons for one of the best things to do in Minnesota and still is.

Another summertime pleasure was for our family to drive two hours north to Itasca Park where the Mississippi River starts (the second oldest park in the nation) to pick wild blueberries in the nearby meadows. Blueberries were not available in stores then as they are now, we had to find them in the wild. While I can remember doing the picking of the free gift of the fruit I remember better the pleasure of eating the berries at home. Put into a small bowl with milk and



sugar it was a favorite dessert lasting for just a few weeks. I am reminded of those days often as I now pour blueberries on top of my cereal and reflect on how their specialness continues even though they are sold in most grocery stores. My brother reminded me that the wild berries were smaller than what we buy now. He says the larger highbred berries now sold are good, but that goodness is proportionally less versus the smaller, but sweeter wild berries.

When we moved to NJ in 2020 I promised Nancy that I would give her flowers every week. They often lasted longer than a week so every other week was just as good. She would arrange them in a vase. About a month ago I brought in the usual three bunches and it was evident that Nancy would enjoy them even more if I arranged them and guess what -- I liked doing that. I learned that the flowers last longer and brighter by adding more of the small packages of flower food and the staff in the flower shop will give me as many as I want. The current vase is in week 2 now.



The retirement community we live in has many convenient services: garbage pick ups, lawn mowing, mail and local emergency medical care. Garbage was once a week and another day for other stuff limited to paper, glass, plastic and metal. Our third year here was 2023 when the garbage service became broader; bagged kitchen garbage or other junk would still be picked up on one day and all bottles, cans, metal and paper and even all food boxes and stiffer cardboard cartons would be collected for recycling on another day. A year ago the community was told that the sales income received from several specialized customers had provided many thousands of dollars profit.

The new process was called single stream recycling and everything except kitchen garbage was going to be put into separate containers for every other week pickup and sorting, recycling and making a profit. The garbage was still garbage - but only the kitchen stuff was for the dump -- everything else that was thrown away is now in a separate blue garbage can which is the single stream of garbage.

Continued next page...

The Next Chapter



One 6 AM July morning a lot of noise was going on as a large trailer was delivering the new containers that every home must use. It doesn't take long to place two containers in front of every house, but there are 3,400 homes here and that means 6,800 containers are delivered as free to every home. So it is evident the town will make enough money to pay for all of this.

I thought all of this was a wondrous new way for all towns to make money with their garbage waste and wondered if it has come to Long Island since the five years we have been away. The answer is YES the single stream recycling is very prominent on Long Island. It is interesting that it seems to have quietly arrived and was well ahead of here in New Jersey.

Inside our house there is also a new process with all parts of the recycle garbage being involved. We save almost every scrap of paper, newspaper, cardboard boxes including cereal boxes and all similar boxes brought into the house. It amazed me how many things can be thrown into a large paper bag then dumped into the new Blue Recycle Container. Right now that large paper bag is conveniently in the middle of the main floor, but it has to become both convenient and not so in your face noticeable. It will take awhile and possibly a new piece of furniture of some sort.



But there is more to the sorting. All four of our children have fireplaces in their homes and three of them keep their fires burning nearly every winter day and night. Sometimes the fire goes out and they have requested the newspaper we get to be saved for them to use as starter fuel because they do not get a daily paper.

The five various sections of our town now have a goal of collecting the thin plastic bags from grocery stores, the cereal container inside the cereal boxes and a couple of similar items. There is a U.S. company that converts those plastics into numerous useful items and they have an offer to any community that collects 1000 pounds of the plastic will get a free park bench that is made from it. It has amazed me at how fast I can collect two large bags filled with plastic. I will drop them off at the Club House this month and keep collecting. Our own local community had 800 pounds in the first three weeks.

Our morning newspaper is put into a plastic bag which could be included in the plastic for the bench except our daughter has two dogs and a yard and those plastic bags are a convenient way to keep their hands clean while picking up doggy-doo. So now, in our house, we have several different sorting requirements every day.



Some of the suggestions for this month's article came up from the deep well of my mind. I have already written how surprised I was to make some recalls. Looking back is easy - looking forward is the hard part even though the number of years ahead are few - limited by the time I am given. This aging process is an interesting experience -- it is all new compared to nearly 90 years of memories stored in my mind. It is enjoyable and not yet disconcerting that it is limited. I hope you will stay with me as I gather some unexpected things just this week, but I need to understand them better - I think - and maybe write about them in September.

~Branch Worsham.

PS "BEAT NAVY" was explained to me July 1954 (71 years ago) with my classmates as we became new West Point Plebes to be used as a Rallying call for success whenever the two Academies compete in sports, but especially in the Army-Navy football game. I don't remember when I decided to include it in my articles during the months that the Army football team has a scheduled game, but the simple act of writing it has always been able to help me connect again and again with the enthusiasm and feelings that were part of living through four years at West Point. It is even appropriate to use it again here: BEAT NAVY