

## Presidential Matters



Passover has just been completed so it's an appropriate time to reflect on the holiday and take a moment to wish you and your families a zissen pesach. It's my favorite holiday, probably because I love getting together with family and friends, I enjoy the each seder and I really like the food, particularly matzah brei!

There is more to this, of course; it's the compelling story of Passover and how the seder provides the opportunity to reflect our history to today's world. For me, it gives us the chance to consider the events confronting us in our lives.

And that brings us to our synagogue and how we conduct business "right at home."

You've probably never heard of Jules Harlow, but trust me, his words are poetic and I'm certain you will agree - each of us can take something from them.

And that is where I came across his work.

Sitting at the synagogue at a recent Passover service, I found his words spiritually meaningful, so much so that I have been thinking about them since and went to the synagogue last Sunday to copy some excerpts so that I could share them with you.

"Torah is given each day;  
Each day we can choose to reject or accept it."

"It is not a mystery, far beyond reach;  
it is not in heaven, beyond our grasp."

"It is as close to us as we allow it -  
on our lips, in our heart, integral to our deeds."

As I sit through services, the words 'ring a bell.' Over and over, we are always reminded to get involved, to participate, to attend. I've been part of the script, both as a messenger, and more comfortably, as a recipient. But on one evening a few weeks ago, Rabbi Harlow's words hit home. The passage so simple, so beautifully written that I had to tell someone. Regardless of who delivers the message, it is individual choice whether we choose to open ourselves to the lessons of the Torah.

We are going through a challenging time with so many questions and, right now, not many answers. Isn't now the time to step forward?

Please do not take this as a sermon - that is clearly not my role. With all going on here, I thought a 'time out' from the usual 'TT business' was a good idea.