# The Van Cortlandt Jewish Center

3880 Sedgwick Avenue - Bronx, NY 10463



## Honors

## Howard E. Kamiel

27 Sivan 5779

June 30, 2019



## Dear Rabbi David Borenstein,

Todah Rabbah for all you have done for VCJC during your tenure with the shul.

The shul will miss you, the Rebbetzin (and her cholent), and Binyamin and Elisha!

May Hashem bless you and your family with good Health, Happiness, and Prosperity in Eretz Yisrael!

Yasher Koach and Sincerely,

Neil Harrow and Ben-Z Panush





## ✿ PROGRAM ◆

Welcome

Robert Gillman President

Mistress of Ceremonies

Ceil Hartstein Co-Chair, Journal Gala Committee

### **Star Spangled Banner**

### Hatikvah

Invocation

Family Remarks

Rabbi David Borenstein

Tere Kamiel

### DINNER

Committee Welcome

Phil Friedman Co-Chair, Journal Gala Committee

Robert Gillman

Ceil Hartstein

Howard E. Kamiel

Plaque Presentation

Gift Presentation

Guest of Honor

## 

| 1995 | Leonard Stoller  |  |
|------|--|--|
| 1997 | Rabbi Dr. Jacob Sodden & Mrs. Jean Sodden  |  |
| 1998 | Gerald Davidson and Benjamin Davidson  |  |
| 2000 | Robert Gillman and David Lieber  |  |
| 2001 | Robert Belsky  |  |
| 2003 | Phillip Friedman   |  |
| 2004 | The Sodden Family – Rabbi Dr. Jacob Sodden,<br>Mrs. Jean Sodden and Rabbi Mayer Sodden |  |
| 2005 | Ben-Zion Panush and Zelda Panush   |  |
| 2006 | Robert Gillman   |  |
| 2007 | Neil Harrow  |  |
| 2008 | Richard Rosenthal  |  |
| 2009 | Larry & Ceil Hartstein   |  |
| 2010 | Stuart & Marcy Harris  |  |
| 2011 | Howard G. Leventhal  |  |
| 2012 | Joel & Bonnie Garfinkel  |  |
| 2013 | Marc Friedman  |  |
| 2014 | Rabbi David Borenstein   |  |
| 2015 | Mickey Axelbank and Renee Stoller  |  |
| 2016 | Jack Kleinfeld and Jack Spiegel  |  |
| 2017 | Brad Silver and Bronx Jewish Community Council   |  |

2018 Gary Axelbank

### HOWARD E. KAMIEL



This year's honoree, Howard Kamiel, is a native Bronxite. His parents, Simon and Shirley (Finkelman), were both native New Yorkers. Simon was a Supervisor in the Post Office. He was also very active in community organizations, including being a founding member of the West Bronx Jewish Community Council, which later evolved into the Bronx Jewish Community Council (BJCC). Shirley was a traditional homemaker, busy raising a family of three children, Marvin, Howard, and Denise. Helping establish a family tradition, she was also involved in several community activities.

Howard's older brother Marvin is retired. He and his wife Harriet split their residence between an apartment in the Amalgamated Houses and a home in Florida. They have two children, Sherri and Andrew. His younger sister Denise is a medical assistant. She and her husband Craig Clescere, a substitute teacher, reside in Yorktown Heights, NY, and have a son, Daniel.

Howard was raised in the Highbridge section of the Bronx but in 1970 his family moved to the Amalgamated Houses, where he still resides. The seeds of his involvement in synagogue activities were planted in those early years. His family were members of the Jewish Center of Highbridge from 1954 to 1970, and he celebrated his Bar Mitzvah there in 1966. He graduated from William Howard Taft High School and continued his education initially at Manhattan Community College but transferred to, and graduated from, Lehman College in 1976 with a B. A. degree in Accounting. Following his father's lead, for 34 years, he was a carrier for the United States Postal Service until his retirement in 2008.

In 1980, he married Toby Tanchum. Unfortunately, she passed away in 1999, a victim of breast cancer. However, they had a daughter, Stephanie, who currently is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor for the Westchester County Board of Corrections, and lives in Yonkers with Jon Carmo. In 2003 Howard married Teresita Gomez, who is a teller at the Van Cortlandt Federal Credit Union.

Since he retired, Howard has been very active in VCJC and several community organizations. Currently, he is President of the Amalgamated Houses Corporation and Secretary of the Herman Liebman Memorial Fund. He is past President of AH Consumers. Again following in his father's footsteps, he is a Board member of the Bronx Jewish Community Council and serves on its Finance Committee. He is also on the Board of its affiliated Amalgamated-Park Reservoir NORC (Naturally Occurring Retirement Community) program.

Howard has been a member of VCJC since 1980 and has served on our Board since 2002. For 15 years he headed the High Holidays Ticket Committee. From 2005 through 2010, he served as Secretary of the Board. Currently he is Chair of the important Administration and Finance Committee. He has also been very active in many of VCJC's fundraising programs.

For almost four decades, Howard Kamiel has been a valued member of the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center. We look forward to many more years of his contributions to the welfare of VCJC.

### RABBI'S MESSAGE

I am proud to salute this year's Van Cortlandt Jewish Center's Gala Journal Honoree, Howard E. Kamiel. Since his retirement, Howard has been very active in several community organizations, serving as President of the Amalgamated Houses Corp, and Secretary of the Herman Liebman Memorial Fund. He is a board member of the Bronx Jewish Community Council and on its Finance Committee. Howard has been a member of VCJC since 1980 where he has served on various committees, currently serving as Chair of the important Administration and Finance Committee. For all of his decades of wonderful service may the Almighty bless Howard with everything good from upon High, together with his wonderful family, till 120 years in the best of health, Amen.

Since becoming Rabbi of the VCJC almost a decade ago, the attribute that most impressed and deeply touched me is the incredible spirit of dedication of so many of you, (as detailed in my June farewell Center Light column), whether attending or actively participating in the various minyans, or giving of one's time, money or effort, and all the hard work of the board and committee members, as well as all of our dedicated volunteers. May each and every one of you be showered by G-d with all the desires of your hearts for good and enjoy good health for many years to come. All of your examples have elevated in my mind the realization of what true devotion means and has helped inspire me to accomplish whatever I have done for the Synagogue, with G-d's help.

It is with mixed emotions that I conclude my final message for the VCJC's Gala Journal. On the one hand, my family and I are happy as we look forward with anticipation to going on Aliyah, and reconnecting with loved ones as we emigrate to Israel, (though, to a large extent, to help care for a family member with, unfortunately, deteriorating health). At the same time, so very sad, realizing this move may very well mean a drifting apart from our close relationship with all of you, our VCJC extended family, that we will sorely miss.

I would like to leave you all with a unique word in the Holy tongue, having numerous translations and connotations. That word, one of G-d's names, meaning the source of all blessings, and my message to you, is Shalom. It means Goodbye. Yet at the same time it means Hello. It means that all important blessing, Peace. Yet perhaps, most importantly, it also alludes to being whole, complete, and striving for perfection. That is the reason it is the blessing I have always left you with at the conclusion of each Center Light article, every month for the last decade.

As we say Goodbye to you, (until the Messiah, who will soon come and reunite us all in Israel), we say Hello to Israel, and pray to G-d, the source of all blessings, for Shalom, Peace in the Holy Land. At the same time, we also hope and pray that the Almighty will bless the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center with soon finding a new and worthy Rabbi and spiritual leader, who is personable and friendly, wise and inspiring, and who is passionate while remaining compassionate. With his enthusiasm and vitality, he will, please G-d, guide you all towards Shalom, or peace and contentment in your spiritual growth and perfection in your relationships with G-d, your fellow man and especially within yourselves. May we all be reunited, Next Year in Jerusalem!

#### Shalom, Rabbi Dovid Eliezer Borenstein

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Anybody who lives in Amalgamated or Park Reservoir Houses knows Howard Kamiel. He is President of Amalgamated, past President of AH Consumers Society, Secretary of the Herman Liebman Memorial Fund, affiliated with the NORC program for seniors, is on the Board of the Bronx Jewish Community Council and most importantly to us has been on the Board of our shul since 2002.

Those of you who have lived in Van Cortlandt Village for more than 20 years, may remember the best letter carrier we've known, Howie. His dedication to his job with the post office has transferred to his work in our neighborhood and the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center, not to ever forget his devotion to his daughter Stephanie, his wife Tere and family and friends. He doesn't look for praise and does not accept it easily. It is not easy to write nice things about Howie without him telling you that whatever you say is overboard, but it is easy to tell you what a good man he is, whether or not he accepts it.

### Congratulations Howie on this honor.

It is well deserved.

Robert Gillman, President

### JOURNAL/GALA CO- CHAIR'S MESSAGE

In each of the past few years, Marcy Harris has been either the Chair or Co-Chair of a committee coordinating our annual Gala. The success of each of those events was a testament to the excellent job she did each year. Unfortunately, this year she was unable to continue to serve in this position. As a further indicator of how good she has been, it is taking two people to replace her, Ceil Hartstein and myself.

Putting together this year's Gala was a little more complicated than usual. For the past two years we have had the event at Riverdale Kosher Grill, which served as both the venue and the caterer. However, they unfortunately closed their doors this year, and so we were faced with the task of finding both a new venue and a new caterer. We were fortunate to locate the beautiful room at Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, conveniently located on Henry Hudson Parkway, for our new venue. After a long search, Ceil reached out to New Jersey to find 8<sup>th</sup> Day Caterers, located in Bergenfield, as our new caterer.

Although the Gala is an important synagogue and community event, it is first and foremost our biggest fundraising effort of the year. The core of this, of course, are the ads in the accompanying journal. To get these ads is an effort of a dedicated group who this year did an excellent job. They include Jack Kleinfeld, Marcy Harris, Stuart Harris, Ceil Hartstein, Roberta Seidner, Phil Friedman, and Bob Gillman. Our sincere thanks to each of them for a job well done. Special thanks go to our honoree, Howard Kamiel, who did a tremendous job in raising thousands of dollars in ads to fulfill a self-imposed commitment to make this one of the most financially successful journals.

Production of the journal was also a collaborative effort. Roberta Seidner entered all of the ads from the materials received from friends and family of the honoree, members and supporters of the synagogue, as well as our business partners and advertisers. The final product was reviewed, formatted, and prepared for printing by Marc Friedman and Phil Friedman. The final step was the in-house production of the Journal, saving us thousands of dollars in outside printing costs, which was also done by Roberta, along with Claire Haime. Jack Kleinfeld ably assisted with all technical aspects in both the entering of ads, and the in-house production of the Journal. Our thanks to all of them for their efforts.

We hope you'll enjoy today's event, and the accompanying journal, and continue your ongoing support of the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center.

### Phil Friedman, Co-Chair, Gala/Journal Committee



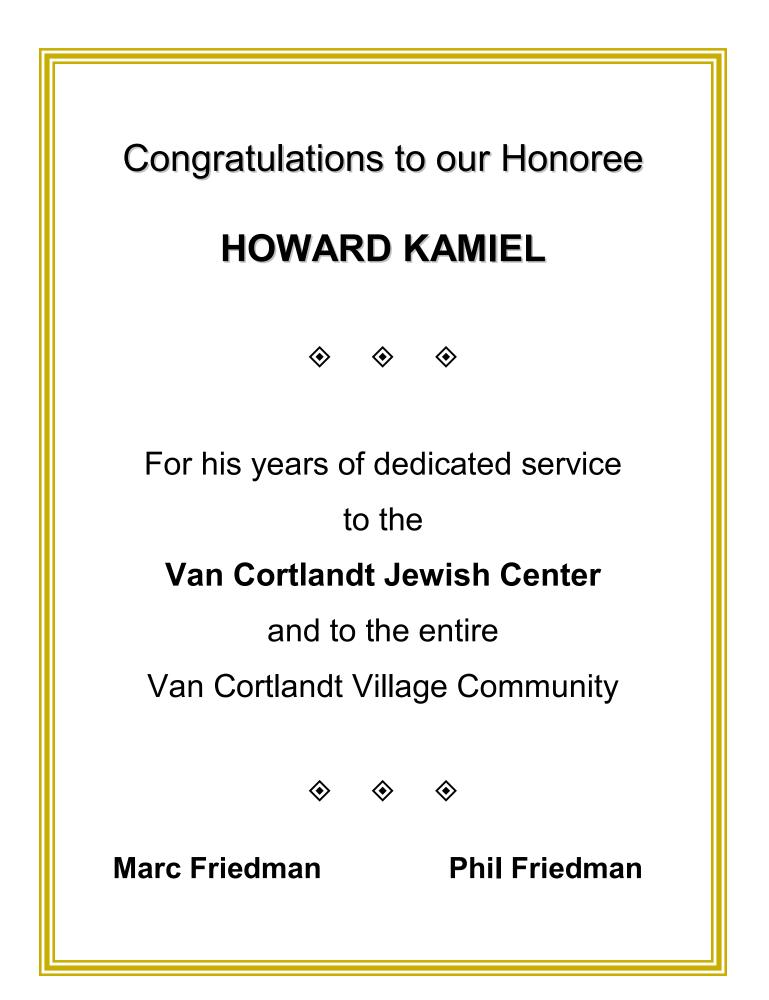
We are proud to support the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center and its mission to make our community a better place to live for all residents. We are grateful to all those individuals at VCJC and allied organizations that decide to serve for the good of others.

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Congratulations to Howard E. Kamiel for his years of service to the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center **Board of Directors Park Reservoir Housing Corporation** 



## Laura and Bob Gillman

Extend Congratulations

and Best Wishes to

our honoree

## HOWARD KAMIEL

We appreciate the work he has diligently performed for our shul and neighborhood for the past number of years. We pray for a bright future for him and his family for many more years

May We All Live and Be Well to 120 Years, and May We Work Together and be friends for All of That Time.

| Mazel Tov                   |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
|                             |  |  |
| to                          |  |  |
| Howard Kamiel               |  |  |
| with gratitude              |  |  |
| for your                    |  |  |
| dedicated service           |  |  |
| to the                      |  |  |
| Van Cortlandt Jewish Center |  |  |
| and to                      |  |  |
| The Cooperative Community   |  |  |
| <ul> <li></li></ul>         |  |  |
| Jackie & Howie Leventhal    |  |  |

In loving memory of my wonderful parents,

## **CANTOR CHAIM PANUSH ז"ל**

and

## ZELDA (KAMINETZKY) PANUSH ז"ל

May they rest peacefully in Gan Eden

**Ben-Z Panush** 

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Congratulates the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center on its Annual Gala

June 30, 2019

and its Honoree our mutual Board Member

### **HOWARD KAMIEL**

In recognition of his service to VCJC and the community.

Howard Bruce Neufeld, President Howard Jonas, Chairman of the Board Charles Landsberg, Vice President Ted Weinstein, Vice President Phillip Friedman, Treasurer Arlene Salman, Secretary

Brad Silver, *Executive Vice President* Judith Uman, *Director of Social Services* Rodney Marshall, *Director of Finances* 

Miriam Perez, Director of Patient Services, BJCC Home Attendant Services, Inc.

Sally Barker Dunford, *Exec. Director West Bronx Housing & Neighborhood Resource Center, Inc.* 

## **ORLOFF TOWERS**

# Congratulates your Honoree **HOWARD KAMIEL**

For his many contributions and strong support of the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center and Van Cortlandt Village





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### **HOWARD KAMIEL**

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*Congratulations and Best Wishes to the 2019 Honoree* 

Howard E. Kamiel

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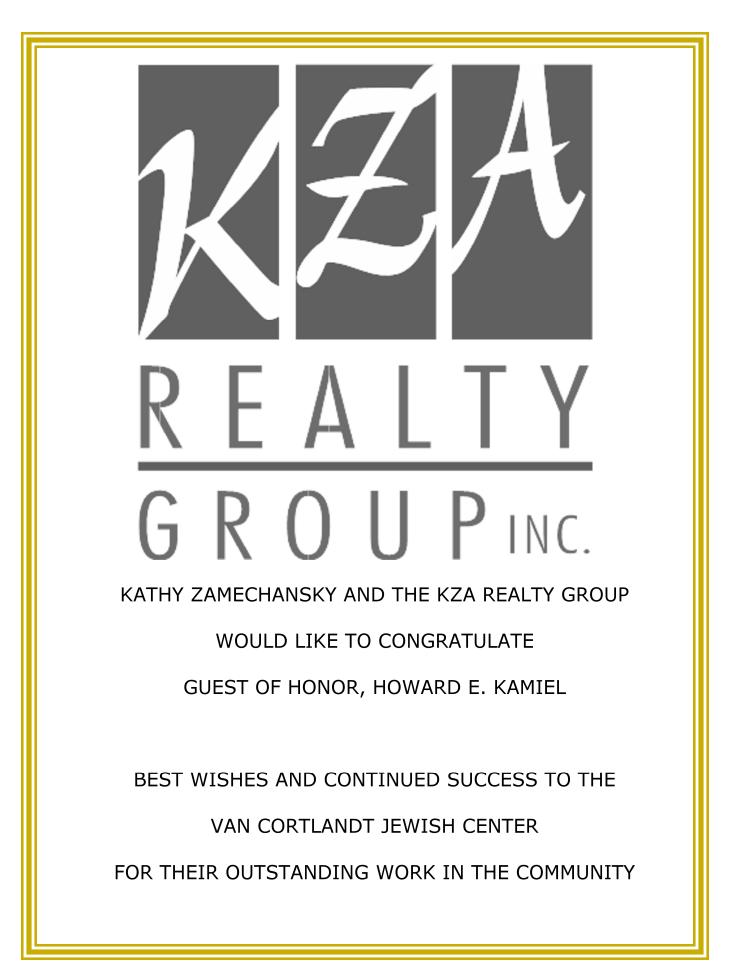
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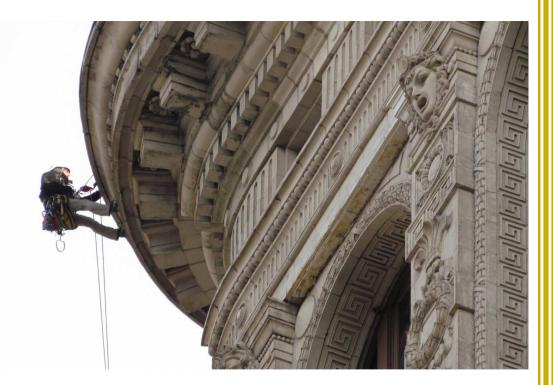
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Council Member Andrew Cohen

277 West 231<sup>st</sup> St Bronx, NY 10463 (718) 549-7300



Congratulations on this honor!!! We're so proud of you!

Love always,

Stephanie, John & Boston



To my lovely husband on his special day.

A well deserved honor for his tireless effort.

Teresita Gomez Kamiel



### We Proudly Support the

Van Cortlandt Jewish Center

and

*Congratulations to this year's Guest of Honor* 

Howard E. Kamiel



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## Mazel Tov and Best Wishes to **Howard Kamiel**

for your many contributions to the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center along with our Community

May you go from strength to strength! מחיל אל חיל



Marcy and Stuart Harris and daughters WARMEST BEST WISHES TO OUR FRIENDS AT VAN CORTLANDT JEWISH CENTER

WE JOIN WITH YOU TO THANK AND HONOR

## **HOWARD E. KAMIEL**

FOR HIS MANY YEARS, AND CONTINUING, OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE SHUL

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**



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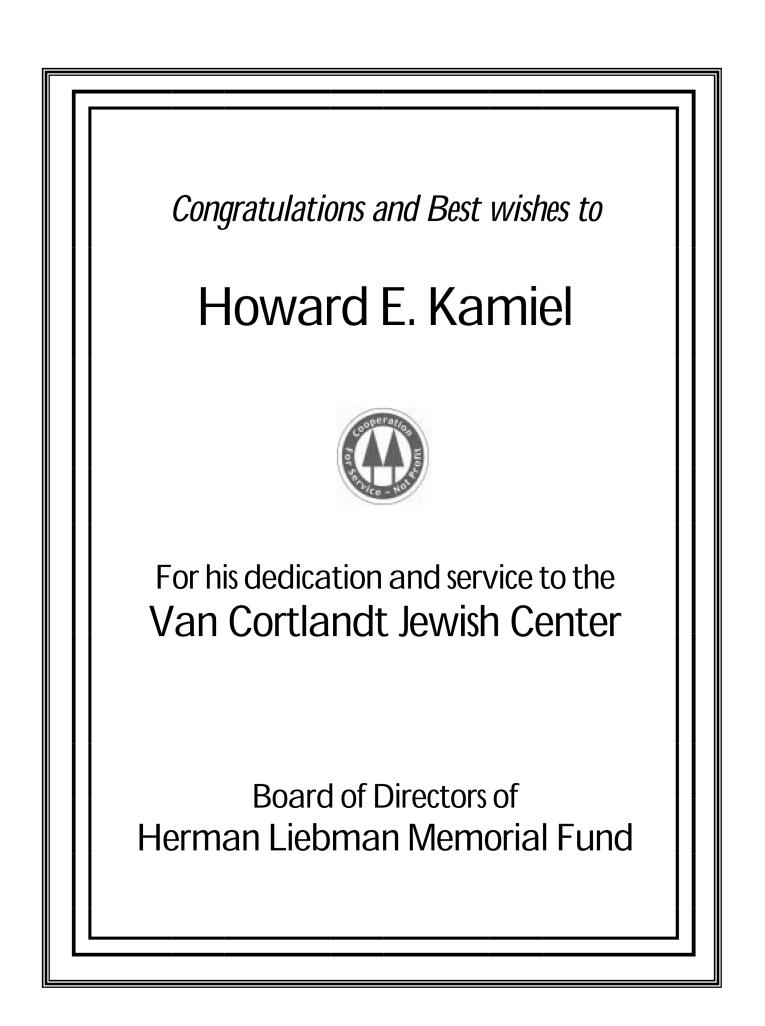
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# The Van Cortlandt Jewish Center

For Over 85 Years of Service to The Community

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

### **Marcia and Paul Miller**

and the extended

### **Panken and Miller Families**

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

With thoughts of former long-time members:

Abby & Saul Panken, o.b.m Mildred Epstein, o.b.m. Annie Becker, o.b.m.

and also

Ruth & Manny Miller, o.b.m.

Mazel-Tov to

### **Howard Kamiel**

on being honored by the VCJC.

May you be blessed with good health and much happiness.

Let us acknowledge other U.S. Postal Employees also important historically to the VCJC:

ז"ל Leon Newman

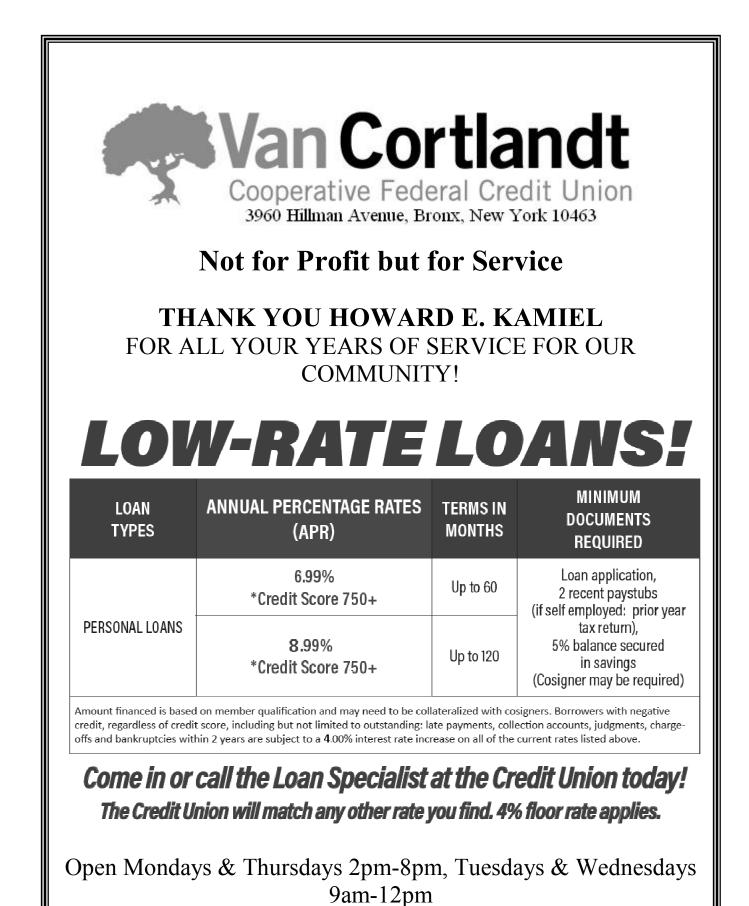
Stanley Krell Alan Schreck

Sincerely,

**Ben-Z Panush** 

# In loving memory of JOSEPH SASSOON who loved to daven at the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center We miss you. **\***\* • • • Harriet Sassoon **David & Erica** Yitzchak & Sara Robbie & Jenny and grandchildren





ATM on premises accessible 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week.

The Officers of the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center extend Congratulations and Best Wishes to:

### HOWARD E. KAMIEL

#### **OFFICERS**

Robert Gillman Phillip Friedman Howard Leventhal Marc Friedman

Stuart Harris

- President
- The Vice President
- The Vice President
- 🛞 Secretary
- 🛞 Treasurer





The Board of Trustees of the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center extends Congratulations and Best Wishes to

#### **HOWARD E. KAMIEL**

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# CONGRATULATIONS

# **HOWARD KAMIEL**

FOR A WELL-DESERVED HONOR



Lynn Schwarz

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on the great honor bestowed upon you for your dedication and commitment to Van Cortlandt Jewish Center and the greater community!

Well done!



Fondly, Charles & Lisa Zsebedics



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#### **HOWIE KAMIEL**

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From your friend,

Steven K. Schwabe, DDS 3898 Sedgwick Avenue Bronx, NY 10463 718-543-0611

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### CONGRATULATIONS & MAZEL TOV to HOWARD E. KAMIEL

on this well deserved honor



Clara Gomez, Claudia Gomez Mateo Piragua Gomez & Maria Torres Gomez

#### **Best Wishes to the Honoree**

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# Sisterhood Congratulates

# **Howard Kamiel**

for your dedication and commitment to the continued success of the **Van Cortlandt Jewish Center** 

Your hard work is most appreciated

**Sisterhood of Van Cortlandt Jewish Center** 

Congratulations

to

# **HOWARD E. KAMIEL**

on a well deserved honor

Mazel Tov!

ЯФ

Sharon & Alan Godlewicz

### **Congratulations to Guest of Honor**

### HOWARD E. KAMIEL

Your dedication to the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center and Community is much appreciated

Mazel Tov and Best Wishes Always

#### The Baiser Family

In Loving Memory of our Parents

#### **ROBERT & ANNETTE BELSKY ז״ל**

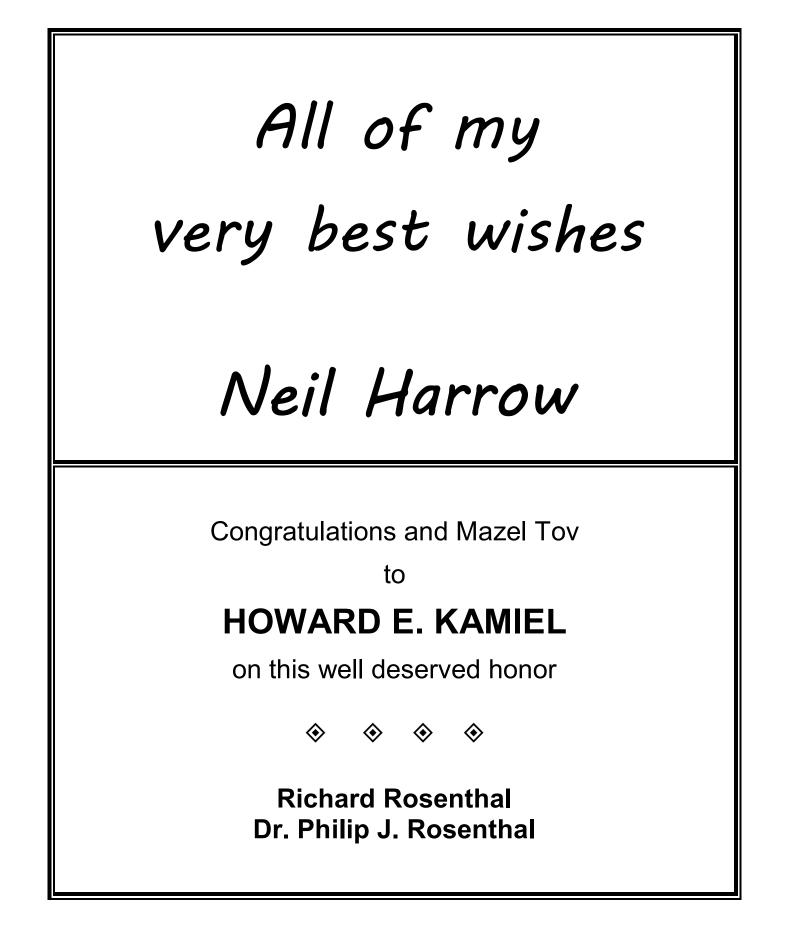
and our Grandparents

ABRAHAM & BESSIE BELSKY ז"ל JONAS & GOLDIE KARDISH ז"ל

 $\diamond \ \diamond \ \diamond \ \diamond$ 

Congratulations to honoree **HOWARD E. KAMIEL** 

Sandra & Richard Auerbach & family Jeffrey & Rosalie Belsky & family



# Congratulations our friend HOWARD E. KAMIEL

God Bless

Timothy Patrick and Janet Monahan

Congratulations to Howie Kamiel

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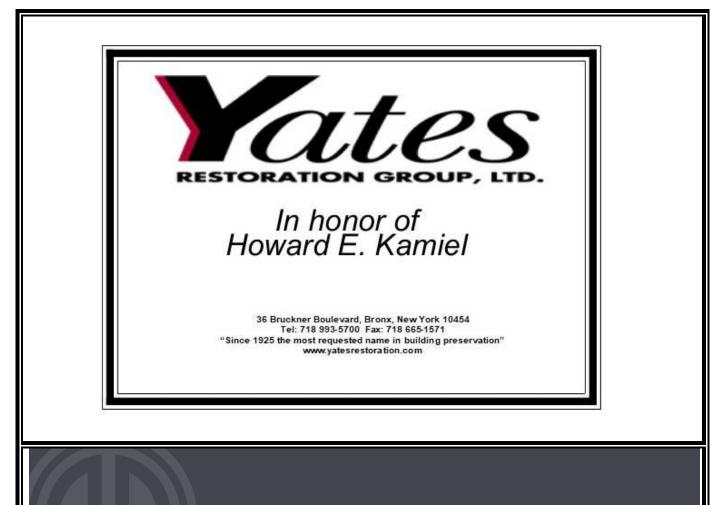
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## MAZEL TOV HOWARD

"A true mensch"

on this well deserved honor



Claire Haime Roberta Seidner

# The Rossberg Family congratulates

#### Howard E. Kamiel

on this honor and thanks him for his years of treasured friendship.

# $\triangleright \triangleleft$

Ellin, Amy, and Sammy Rossberg

#### HOWARD

Thank you for all the vital work you do for the shul and the community



**Stuart Trivax** 

### In Appreciation of

Van Cortlandt Jewish Center

And

**Howard Kamiel** 

A friend and a colleague

**Ed Yaker** 



Congratulations In Loving Memory of and Jack, Gertrude & Julian Siva **Best Wishes** to Congratulations and Mazel Tov to **Howard E. Kamiel** Howard E. Kamiel ..... **Jack and Batya** The Siva Family Kleinfeld Please support those businesses that support the Van Cortlandt Jewish Center. **KINNERET DAY SCHOOL** Patronize our advertisers and let them know you come from Salutes the VCJC. Van Cortlandt Jewish Center Some of our advertisers offer and its honoree discounts when you mention that you saw their ad in the **HOWARD E. KAMIEL** VCJC Center Light. Show them that advertising with the VCJC is a good investment.



| Mazel Tov, for all the things<br>that you do for the temple, Howard.<br>♥ With love ♥<br>Marilyn Newman<br>&<br>Robin & David Glucksman<br>and Family                                    | <b>CONGRATULATIONS</b><br>to<br><b>HOWARD</b><br>A Loyal and Reliable Friend<br><b>Irene Wisoff</b>   |
|--|---|
| Congratulations to the<br>2019 Honoree.<br><b>Howard E. Kamiel</b><br>Respectfully,<br><b>Alan Paul Katz</b>   | Howard<br>Thank you for always being there.<br>We know we can always count<br>on you to lend a hand.<br>Arlene Salman<br>A fellow BJCC volunteer          |
| Howard -<br>Wishing you good health,<br>lots of love & laughter & happy<br>days for the rest of your life.<br>Thanks for all you have done<br>for our community.<br>Sandra Salvatore     | To <b>Howard</b> the Hero and one of the<br>best fixtures in the neighborhood -<br>Best Wishes and a plea for more.<br>Jerzy Warman and Monika Fabijanska |
| <u>Thank you!</u><br>To everyone who either<br>took out a journal ad<br>or attended our dinner (or both!)<br>for your continuing support<br>of the<br><b>Van Cortlandt Jewish Center</b> | The Van Cortlandt Jewish Center<br>gratefully thanks those who<br>made donations to the<br>Journal & Gala   |



## The Following Friends Extend Best Wishes to our Synagogue and to

#### HOWARD E. KAMIEL



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### CONGRATULATES

### HOWARD E. KAMIEL

### AND

### VAN CORTLANDT JEWISH CENTER

#### FOR THE GOOD WORK THEY DO

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