

THE MICHAEL C. ROTHBERG SEPTEMBER 11TH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Rachel Shatz

I sat in the middle of Sharon, staring at the tall beautiful clock, and wondered if it had a story. I looked closer, and noticed that it said "In Memory of Michael C. Rothberg". My mom caught my eye, and began explaining about this remarkable man, whose life was cut horribly short due to the atrocities of 9/11. So many of the words used to describe Mr. Rothberg, are words that I hope to use in the future when defining myself. It is also clear that we already share many of the same strong values and traits such as the importance of family, being a giving and welcoming part of any community, and having a kind and selfless heart.

All of my life, I have been taught to live by the notion of *Tikkun Olam*, meaning "Repair the World" in Hebrew. This dedication led me to my current seat on the Regional Board of NFTY (North American Federation of Temple Youth) Northeast as the peer-elected Membership and Financial Vice President. A large part of this role is to create welcoming environments for all teens, many of whom do not feel accepted in their everyday lives. Another part of my position included purchasing, budgeting and other financial transactions. A last key part of my position is to work hand in hand with the Social Action Vice President, to create successful fundraisers to support many philanthropies. My goal for the future is to use these skills, as well as my formal academic studies to work in the field of Engineering within a nonprofit organization.

Mr. Rothberg leaves a legacy that each and every man and woman should try to fulfill, as he represents the best of "mind, body and soul". As a fellow East Elementary, Sharon Middle School, and soon to be Sharon High School graduate, I hope to continue to follow in Mr. Rothberg's impressive footsteps, making our world a better place for everyone.