

## ELUL 8 By Bill Milgrim

I look at each day as presenting the opportunity for growth, and a meaningful interaction with another human being.

My challenge is to put out into the universe my experience, truth and authenticity. My quest is to, as Joseph Campbell said, “follow your “bliss.” Living in accordance with my inner self helps to promote purpose and enthusiasm.

Once this inner state of “aliveness” is received by another person, there’s no telling the positive effect it may have. It might be just momentary, or it could be enduring. My “job” is to put forth the best of myself, which includes kindness, thoughtfulness, and compassion. What happens afterward is beyond my control.

The prolific Cuban writer, Jose Marti, wrote a soulful poem, which was put to a popular tune after his death. The wonderful song, “Guantanamera” has been sung by Pete Seeger and Jose Feliciano, among others. Marti could not have imagined the journey his words would have when he first put pen to paper. A couple of simple, humble lines help to give me guidance in my daily life:

I’m just a man who is trying

To do some good before dying

Bill and Jill have been members of Temple Beth Torah for about 5 years. We are grateful for the sense of community, and many activities this wonderful synagogue offers. Bill is a Golf Professional. His passions include sports, writing, and feeling a connection to a higher power.  
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