



Cheshvan - Kislev 5779

Bulletin

# HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

NEWS / COMMUNITY / CONNECTION

**Kindle the Chanukah Lights: Beginning Sunday Evening, December 2**



## HAPPY HANUKKAH

# Sisterhood News

by Evelyn Abraham

## Paid Up Membership

Thank you to all who helped with the planning and preparation for the Annual Paid Up Membership Event. A special thank you to Eileen Berger, Vice President of Membership and Lori Sklar, Vice President of Education for chairing the event. Congratulations to our Woman of Achievement, Marilyn Klein.

## Fall Rummage Sale

Thank you to all who donated for the Fall Rummage Sale and to all who assisted with the set-up of the Sale. Any items not purchased were donated to local organizations. A Special Thank You to Marlene Hummel, Vicki Rosen and Kathy Brookhart for co-chairing the Fall Rummage Sale.

## MEMBERSHIP

Join us and support the Sisterhood of HJC New members to HJC receive a complimentary Sisterhood membership for their first year.

Please return the Membership Dues Letter as soon as possible. Checks are payable to:

*Sisterhood of the Huntington Jewish Center.*

**\$45** regular membership

**\$40** Z'havah

**\$30** senior membership

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Game Nights

November 1st and 29th 7:30 PM– Mah Jongg, Bridge or bring your own games.

### Rosh Chodesh

November 8th 7:30 PM – Welcoming the New Moon with a special Women's Study Group led by Rabbinic Chaplain Joni Brenner.

### Fall Book Discussion

November 15th 1 PM - THE WOMAN WHO SMASHED CODES by Jason Fagone. Love story, spy novel and war tale. Please join us for a light lunch and discussion led by Maxine Liebowitz.

## JUDAICA SHOP OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND FOR YOUR HOLIDAY AND SIMCHA NEEDS

**Sisterhood Contact:** Evelyn Abraham  
evelyn\_abraham@optonline.net

**Rabbi Ari Saks**

Rabbi

631-423-5355



**Vicki Perler**

President

631-427-1089

**Cantor Israel Gordan**

Director, Synagogue Programming  
And Religious School Innovation

631-427-1089 ext. 22

**Maxine Fisher**

Religious School Administrator

631-427-1157

**Ilene Brown**

Director, Early Childhood Center

631-427-1089 ext. 15

**Neil Kurshan**

Rabbi Emeritus

**Barbara Axmacher**

Executive Director

631-427-1089 ext. 23

## HJC Board of Trustees / 2018-2019

**Vicki Perler, President**

Dan Schoeffler, 1st V.P.

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Cari Schueller

Ellen Steinberg

Tyna Strenger

Louis Walsdorf

## HJC Committee Chairpersons

Beautification ..... Cari Schueller & Alissa DiBlasio

Bereavement..... Debbie Stein

Bulletin..... Sandy Lynn Karow

Calendar ..... Gwen Goldstein

Cemetery ..... Louis Walsdorf

Chai Club..... Ellen Kahn & Rosalind Haber

Chaverim/Kadima..... Samara Rossi

Colleges..... Patricia Schoeffler & Debbie Cadel

Digital Transformation ..... Mile Richter

Early Childhood Center Board..... Jaime Meyer & Ginny Richman

Finance and Budget..... Jeff Stark

Friday Night Live..... Abby Uhrman

Fundraising ..... Arthur Frischman

Greeters..... Maxine Fisher

High Holiday Honors..... Ofer Rind

HIHI..... Karen Flanzenbaum & Ellen Steinberg

House ..... Daniel Lerner & Marvin Rosenthal

Inclusion ..... Miriam Eckstein-Koas

Israel ..... Scott Ingber

Israel/Ramah Scholarships ..... Judy Fox

Kol Nidre Appeal..... Debra & Arnie Stillman

Leslie Lane..... Larry Wagner

Library..... Syd Schlesinger

Lief Chapel Beautification ..... Marsha Perlmutter Kalina

Membership ..... Leslie Hantverk & Allison Reiver

Men's Club..... Ofer Rind

Religious School Board..... AJ Hepworth & Felicia Messing

Ritual..... Andrea Smoller

Security ..... Alan Kriegstein

Sisterhood..... Evelyn Abraham

Social Action ..... Janet Kushnick & Marilyn Klein

Special Arrangements ..... Vered Cole & David Walsdorf

Storytelling Project..... Nancy Berlow Cooper

Sunshine ..... Leslie Hantverk

Theatre Development..... Arthur Perler

Technology ..... Jeff Stark

Tree of Life..... Danny Klein & Tom Rosen

UJA ..... Scott Ingber

USY Director..... Samara Rossi

Webmaster..... Arthur Perler

Youth ..... Shari Feibel

NOVEMBER 2018				CHESHVAN-KISLEV 5779		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1/23 Cheshvan</b> USY Suffolk Signature Event - 6:30pm SH Game Night-7:30pm	<b>2/24 Cheshvan</b> Minyan Breakfast-8:00am	<b>3/25 Cheshvan</b>  <i>Chaye Sarah</i>
<b>4/26 Cheshvan</b> JNN RS/RS Board Meeting USY/Kadima Israel Committee Community Program	<b>5/27 Cheshvan</b>	<b>6/28 Cheshvan</b> ECC Closed Staff Develop Mtg RS Closed Teacher Develop Mtg	<b>7/29 Cheshvan</b> Mid-Week Manna-9:30am & 1:00pm SA Comm Mtg-2:00pm EC Meeting-7:30pm	<b>8/30 Cheshvan</b> SH Rosh Chodesh Program-7:30pm  <b>Rosh Chodesh</b>	<b>9/1 Kislev</b>  <b>Rosh Chodesh</b>	<b>10/2 Kislev</b>  <b>Toldot</b>
<b>11/3 Kislev</b> JNN RS Closed  <b>Veterans Day</b>	<b>12/4 Kislev</b> ECC Closed Veterans Day SH Board Mtg-8:00pm	<b>13/5 Kislev</b> RS/Chaverim	<b>14/6 Kislev</b> Mid-Week Manna-9:30am & 1:00pm Board Meeting-8:00pm	<b>15/7 Kislev</b> SH Book Discussion 1:00pm SH Evening Program (TBD)	<b>16/7 Kislev</b> FNL-6:00pm	<b>17/9 Kislev</b> Jr Congregation-10:30am  <b>Vayetze</b>
<b>18/10 Kislev</b> JNN RS/Vav 2/Hey Workshop Ridotto-4:00pm Comm Thanksgiving Svc	<b>19/11 Kislev</b>	<b>20/12 Kislev</b> RS	<b>21/13 Kislev</b> Mid-Week Manna-9:30am 1:00pm & 8:00pm	<b>22/14 Kislev</b> ECC/Main Office Closed	<b>23/15 Kislev</b> ECC/Main Office Closed	<b>24/16 Kislev</b>  <b>Vayishlach</b>
<b>25/17 Kislev</b> JNN RS Closed	<b>26/18 Kislev</b>	<b>27/19 Kislev</b> RS/Chaverim	<b>28/20 Kislev</b> Mid-Week Manna-9:30am 1:00pm & 8:00pm	<b>29/21 Kislev</b> SH Game Night-7:30pm	<b>30/22 Kislev</b> ECC Dudes & Donuts	

DECEMBER 2018				KISLEV-TEVET 5779		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1/23 Kislev</b> Jr Congregation-10:30am  <i>Vayeshev</i>
<b>2/24 Kislev</b> JNN RS/Kadima/USY Camp Fair-11:00am Hanukkah Happening  <b>Erev Hanukkah</b>	<b>3/25 Kislev</b>  <b>Hanukkah</b>	<b>4/26 Kislev</b> RS/Chaverim Community Candle-lighting-6:00pm  <b>Hanukkah</b>	<b>5/27 Kislev</b> Mid-Week Manna-9:30am, 1:00pm & 8:00pm  <b>Hanukkah</b>	<b>6/28 Kislev</b>  <b>Hanukkah</b>	<b>7/29 Kislev</b> Minyan Breakfast-8:00am  <b>Hanukkah</b>	<b>8/30 Kislev</b> Maya Sakallarios Bat Mitzvah ECC Havdalah Dinner <b>Rosh Chodesh/Hanukkah</b>  <b>Miketz</b>
<b>9/1 Tevet</b> JNN Kadima/USY/ RS/RS Board Meeting Gimel-Daled Workshop Maya Sakallarios Bat Mitzvah  <b>Rosh Hashanah</b>	<b>10/2 Tevet</b> SH Board Mtg-8:00pm  <b>Rosh Hashanah</b>	<b>11/3 Tevet</b> RS/Chaverim  <b>Rosh Hashanah</b>	<b>12/4 Tevet</b> Mid-Week Manna-9:30am & 1:00pm HIHL-6:00pm EC Meeting-7:30pm  <b>Fast of Gedaliah</b>	<b>13/5 Tevet</b> SH Game Night-7:30pm	<b>14/6 Tevet</b> Family Friday Night Jr Congregation	<b>15/7 Tevet</b> (mostly) True Things Event  <b>Vayigash</b>
<b>16/8 Tevet</b> JNN RS/Vav 3 MC Meeting-9:45am Challah Braiding Workshop Ridotto-4:00pm	<b>17/9 Tevet</b>	<b>18/10 Tevet</b> RS  <b>Fast of 10th of Tevet</b>	<b>19/11 Tevet</b> Mid-Week Manna-9:30am & 1:00pm HIHL-6:00pm Board Meeting-8:00pm	<b>20/12 Tevet</b> Inclusion Committee Meeting-7:30pm	<b>21/13 Tevet</b>	<b>22/14 Tevet</b>  <b>Veyechi</b>
<b>23/15 Tevet</b> JNN RS Closed thru 1/8/19  <b>30/22 Tevet</b> JNN	<b>24/16 Tevet</b> ECC Closed thru 1/2/19  <b>31/23 Tevet</b>	<b>25/17 Tevet</b> Main Office Closed  <b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>26/18 Tevet</b> HIHL-6:00pm	<b>27/19 Tevet</b>	<b>28/20 Tevet</b>	<b>29/21 Tevet</b>  <b>Shemot</b>

# From Rabbi Ari Saks



## Using All of our Shoes

Imagine you're having a conversation with someone, anyone; it could be at work, at home, or at play. In the conversation you're making a point that you think is *totally* obvious. In fact, it is so obvious it is מובן מאליו (*muvaṇ me'ailav*), it should go without saying. You are so sure that you're right about your point that you can't believe it's even

possible for someone else to have a *different* point of view! And as your conversation partner presses on with his or her point, you feel yourself becoming heated, indignant with the fire of self-righteousness leading you to exclaim at the top of your lungs... well, something you would regret the second it came out of your mouth. Amazingly, what started out as a simple conversation between equals so quickly turned into a battle of wills.

Why does this happen? What leads us to develop such righteous indignation when we disagree with people, especially around this election season? Interestingly, according to the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator test, such conflicts are the result of *preferences*, particularly preferences in how we tend to think about issues that concern us. For instance, when we're talking about any subject – like the services during the High Holidays – there are people who *prefer* to approach the subject asking “*what's a new way to do this?*” which would lead them to suggest new and creative programs for the High Holidays. Others meanwhile *prefer* to approach the subject asking “*does anything really need changing?*” in which case new and creative programming may seem irrelevant, superfluous, and perhaps dangerous to the established status quo. Conflict between these two views is thus inevitable simply because we approach the subject through the prism of our preferred perspectives. Yet conflict only persists when we fail to realize that the other person is

doing the *exact same thing we're doing*, trying to make sense of the situation in front of them, through their preferred prism.

In Pirkei Avot, the Ethics of our Ancestors, our sages teach us “do not judge your fellow being until you reach his place” (2:5). The idea of not judging your fellow until you have walked to or arrived at that person's place reminds me of another beautiful saying related to this topic: “Don't judge your fellow human being until you walk in his or her shoes.” The image of walking in another person's shoes, especially to some far off destination, evokes discomfort, as we imagine what our soles must feel like settling into shoes that have been molded over time to fit the feet of others.

I wonder though, maybe this metaphor is not trying to ask us to act like or think like someone else. Maybe instead it's trying to remind us that the shoes that others prefer to wear *can also be found in our closets*, we just don't wear those pairs that often. Thus, the message is that in order to understand how other people think we need to use those less preferred “shoes,” those less preferred ways of thinking, a little more often, in order to speak the same language as our conversation partner.

So if our preference is to wonder “what cool ideas can we come up with?” perhaps we can try to consider asking “what are the real costs?” Or if we're always focusing on “what's wrong with this?” it might be beneficial to ask “what's beneficial in this?” Using our non-preferred prisms doesn't mean we change who we are because we use *all* methods of thinking and decision making at one time or another. Yet the more we try on all of our different shoes, the more able we will be to enter into a conversation with someone else and identify what shoe needs to be worn in that moment, what way of thinking will get us to the preferred destination. And if we do that, there's no issue we can't address, no challenge we can't tackle. So let's lace up our shoes – all of them – for the journey ahead.

## Join us at the Huntington Community Thanksgiving Service

November 18, 7:00 PM

The Congregational Church of Huntington, United Church of Christ  
30 Washington Drive, Centerport



# From Hazzan Israel Gordan



## *The Future of Conservative Judaism*

From Sunday evening, October 7th to Tuesday afternoon, October 9th, I was one of 25 people, and the only cantor, invited to Atlanta, GA to spend two nights at the Sheraton Hotel there to discuss the future of Conservative Judaism. At the end of this fiscal year the professional heads of both the Rabbinical Assembly (RA) and the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ) will

be stepping down and a group of seven leaders from the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at the American Jewish University (AJU), the RA, and the USCJ recognized the historic opportunity this presented: what better time to discuss the future of Conservative Judaism and the chance for major organizational change than now?

This group of people was an impressive array of mostly rabbis from pulpits across the country, retired rabbis, other Jewish professionals, and lay leaders. We engaged in intense activities, reflection, and discussion over the course of 42 hours. And while no definitive decisions were made, there is a clear desire for movement before the end of this calendar year to plant the seeds for a renaissance of Conservative Judaism.

It was both humbling and inspiring to be in a room with so many luminaries from our movement, both seasoned scholars, and new, young innovators. It's also fascinating to hear how the issues that we face at the Huntington Jewish Center are similar to Conservative synagogues across the country, but also how they differ. And it was interesting to wrestle with personal issues of faith and philosophy within the context of a movement's framework.

By the time this bulletin article comes out, there will be less than two months left in 2018. And what better time than now to discuss the future of Conservative Judaism. What does it mean today to be a Conservative Jew or a Conservative Jewish institution? How does the Torah we teach and the Judaism we practice align or differ from each other? How are we meeting the needs of our members in contemporary America? How are we missing the mark for all of those who do not come inside of our walls? What ways should we be doing outreach as well as in-reach? How are we different from Reform, Orthodox, and Reconstructionist Jews? And how does this matter in an increasingly post-denominational world, where fewer people are affiliating with religious institutions, let alone organizations in general?

Conservative Judaism has always been about holding onto the polarities of tradition and change at the same time. But that is easier said than done. Unfortunately occupying the middle ground has become less popular in the 21st century as people are pushing farther to the extremes of the spectrum. As we struggle with issues of pluralism, intermarriage, assimilation, and maintaining certain standards and communal norms, I believe we have done a pretty good job of engaging in this dialogue and the HJC. I hope we can continue this conversation in the face of all this societal change and seize this opportunity as an exciting time that is both scary and hopeful.

## ***Calling all babysitters!***

Please email your current information if you would like it to be included in the bulletin on a monthly basis.

Email your updated information to  
**[hjcbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:hjcbulletin@gmail.com).**

Please include your current home and cell numbers.

### ***HJC Babysitters***

<b>Sarah Gemunder</b>	cell:	631-766-7130
<b>Noah Morris</b>	cell:	631-427-4798
<b>Zoe Sakellarios</b>	cell:	631-848-9102
<b>Ilyssa Stein</b>	cell:	631-678-1654
<b>Grace Willen</b>	home:	631-754-5865
	cell:	631-871-1477

## **HJC Community Candle Lighting**

**Tuesday, December 4  
6:00 pm**



Join with the HJC Community at the chanukiah  
in front of HJC.

**Add to the joy and light of Chanukah by celebrating  
with the HJC community!**

**Everyone is invited to come inside afterwards  
for hot cocoa and donuts.  
(Courtesy of Sisterhood)**

**All are welcome!**



## Look for the Helpers

*When I was a child and would see scary things on the news, my mother would say to me, "Look for the helpers." You will always find people who are helping.*

*Mr. Fred Rogers*

While we were in the midst of the High Holidays, my dear high school friend and her family were right in the path for Hurricane Florence in North Carolina. Most of them were forced to evacuate, but a few chose to stay and weather the storm. As I spoke to my friend every day, I was vividly reminded of sitting in my home awaiting the approaching Hurricane Sandy several years ago. I remember continually looking outside and praying that my family and I would remain safe throughout the storm, and I vividly remember my neighbor struggling in the wind to get to my front door to tell us that a tree had fallen right in the front of his house, knocking down the electrical wires. The tree that fell and clipped our home was a close call, but thankfully, we were all unharmed. We helped our neighbor to make sure our homes would not catch fire. The disaster was intense, and each one of us has a story.

On the South Shore, so many, families – friends, family and strangers – suffered unimaginable losses from that storm, and HJC naturally geared up to support the relief efforts. HJC teams formed to deliver cleaning supplies and essential provisions and to instruct bewildered residents, stuck in flooded, dark and cold homes, how to apply for government help. In many cases, we were the first friendly faces that the homebound encountered.

Once again, the recent hurricanes have created intense damage, and many of us are still working to help those in need. Fortunately, my

friend and her family did not have devastating damages to their homes and they are all safe. During this time of disaster of biblical proportions, our family was blessed with two new grandchildren, and my friend and I discussed how each of us was grateful for our very different experiences. We both recited the Shehecheyanu, the Prayer of Thanksgiving, together.

Thanksgiving, the quintessential American holiday, arrives in a few weeks, and I would like to say thank you to the special helpers in our community. "Who are the helpers?" Mr. Roger's asks. The helpers are each one of us. In times of need, your individual acts of kindness are inspirational. The support, generosity and outpouring of love from one family to another in this community is beautiful. Whether you offer your home, cook for others, donate essential supplies and food to the needy, or share words of encouragement and support, you are the helpers and heroes in the community.

We all have thankfulness and gratitude on our minds right now, and this is the spirit that should carry us into our Thanksgiving celebration this month. While Thanksgiving is not a Jewish holiday, giving thanks, showing gratitude, and acting graciously and generously are part of daily Jewish practices and rituals, from the very moment that we wake. As we celebrate Thanksgiving this year, it is my hope that each one of us finds comfort and contentment with our families and friends. May we all take time to count our blessings and pledge, in our own way, to show our gratitude by the deeds we do and the help we give to our neighbors. As Mr. Rogers teaches, if we look for the helpers during these scary times, the world can be a better place.

From my family to yours, we wish you a joyous and spiritual Thanksgiving Holiday.

Vicki

Dear Members and Staff,

Our wonderful High Holiday services are so special because their creation involves so many of us. I want to extend a huge thank you to our fabulous staff. Each of you worked tirelessly to make sure that HJC was ready - Rabbi Saks, Cantor Gordan, Barbara Axmacher, Debbie Rosenkrantz, Irma Mile, Ilene Brown, Maxine Fisher, Blair Billings, Danny Carrillo-Masa, Victor Salinas and Alex Salinas.

I especially want to thank Rabbi Saks and Cantor Gordan for creating such beautiful, inspiring, and meaningful High Holiday experiences. Thank you to our dedicated Board members and Past Presidents who took on welcoming and security responsibilities and many behind the scenes functions.

I am continually amazed at the level of volunteerism and participation by the members of our community during these important days. Thank you for your devotion and loyalty. We all are so grateful for your help:

**High Holiday Honors:** Ofer Rind

**Kol Nidre Appeal Chairpersons:** Deb and Arnie Stillman

**Leading/participating in Services:** Rabbi Saks, Cantor Gordan, Joel Kuppersmith, Lester Fox, Caleb Kapen, Russell Strachan, Juliette Amram, Sean Kaplan, Leigh Hepworth, Sy Okwit, Arthur Perler, Paul Greenstein, Jay Steinberg, Scott Ingber, Jay Weiss, Mark Zimmerman, Billy Wertheim, Sarah Saunders, Jack Rubin, Tracy Kaplowitz, Abby Uhrman, Amy Koreen and Alex Steinberg  
**Shofar Master:** Matt Raskin

**Security Committee Members:** Alan Kriegstein, David Stein and Arthur Perler

**Program Guide:** Barbara Axmacher

**Book of Remembrance:** Debbie Rosenkrantz

**Children's Programming:** Rabbi Saks, Cantor Gordan, Maxine Fisher, and Samara Rossi

**Children's Programming Teachers, Specialists and Consultants:** Lea Winkler, Jess Winkler, Yair Koas, Taylor Fox, Brooke Newmark, Jennifer Levine Riley, Jillian Gorelick, Nicole Gorelick, Ronny Murphy, Susan Pataki, Victoria Houslanger, Jessica Frischman, Joanne Mulberg, Ilene Brown, Stacey Moss, Ellice Schneider and Aimee Lerner

**Apples and Honey for the Children:** Sisterhood/ Felicia Messing and Suzanne Hepworth

**Silver Polishing:** Donna Fleiss, Dori Herman, Ellen Kahn, Marsha Kalina, Phyllis Levy, Felicia Messing, Andrea Forman Morris and Miriam Wirchin

**Changing the Torah Covers and Ark Curtain:** Janet and Mark Zimmerman

**Tallit Folding:** Leslie Hantverk

**Audio System:** Bruce Fleiss

**Greeters:** Maxine Fisher

**Martyrology Presentation:** Roz Spielman, Maxine Liebowitz, Ellen Kahn, Joan Mattisinko

**Bimah Flowers sponsored by Sisterhood** (Rosh Hashanah and Sukkot), Judy Leopold and Alan Orloff (Yom Kippur)

**New American and Israeli Bima Flags:** Johanna and Ari Perler

**Selichot Program:** Cantor Gordan and Rabbi Saks

**Honey Fundraiser:** Leslie Hantverk and Miriam Wirchin

**Memorial Plaques:** Paul Greenstein

**Kol Nidre Appeal Board:** Marty Spielman and Barbara Axmacher

**Congregational New Year Card:** Andrea Forman Morris

**Healing Service:** Dafna Soltes Stein

**Hallway Monitor:** Blair Billings

**Mail Helpers:** Eileen Berger, Tom and Vicki Rosen, and Tyna Strenger

**Membership Packets:** Allison Reiver and Leslie Hantverk

**Sukkot Pizza in the Hut:** Maxine Fisher, Cantor Gordan

**Sukkot Steak & Scotch:** Ofer Rind, Jeff Stark, Arthur Perler, Ed Fleiss, Bruce Fleiss & Todd Houslanger

**Sukkot Kiddush in the Sukkah:** Joanne Cohn

**Ladies and Libation:** Sisterhood

**Building the Sukkah:** Men's Club

**Lulav and Etrog:** Sheri Bram

**Decorating the Sukkah:** Sisterhood (Z'Havah)/Donna Fleiss, Barbara Gruber, Sarah Saunders and Miriam Wirchin

**Simchat Torah Luncheon:** Donna Fleiss, Leslie Delia Stark and Maxine Fisher

**Simchat Torah Honorees:** Miriam and Joel Wirchin

With sincere gratitude,  
Vicki





## ***Nature Deficit Disorder: What is it and is it contagious??!!***

The encyclopedia defines Nature deficit disorder as the idea that human beings, especially children, are spending less time outdoors, and the belief that this change results in a wide range of behavioral problems. In early childhood we have seen an increase in more troublesome behavior such as impulsivity, sensory disorders, attention disorders, aggression, and much more. Scary isn't it? Researchers all over the world point to the increase of "screen time" and the decrease of being outdoors in unstructured play. Unstructured play vs structured play, such as being on sports teams or being carted around from activity to activity (this is another issue for another bulletin). In fact, the average American child is said to spend 4 to 7 minutes a day in unstructured play outdoors, and over 7 hours a day in front of a screen. Mind boggling! We now see screens everywhere—in restaurants, cars, children clutch them like a security blanket. What happened to talking, discussions, and any interaction between two people? Some parents don't help this dilemma because they are on screens themselves for hours at a time instead of engaging their children. They are serving as the role model for their children and if they are using

technology, then their children will be "screeners" themselves.

Research has shown that children do better physically and emotionally when they are in green spaces, benefiting from the positive feelings, stress reduction. Nature is a natural stress reducer, so why do we and our children spend so much time indoors feeling stressed? Nature brings a natural sense of wonderment to children, something that we see less and less of these days. This wonderment leads to a higher level of thinking and encourages children to be inquisitive and thoughtful.

At our ECC, the children spend a good amount of time outside. Every class is outside daily as long as it is not raining heavily or bitter cold. Judaism helps encourage being outdoors with holidays such as Sukkot and even Taslich takes place outdoors. We have created vegetable/herb, sensory, and butterfly gardens as part of our program and curriculum. We have enhanced and beautified our play areas because this is a priority to the ECC.

So, turn off your phone, iPad, computer, TV, video game, and go outside with your child. Destress, talk, engage, wonder, and enjoy God's beauty.







## Our HJC Sukkah

Every year during the festival of Sukkot, HJC's Sukkah is assembled in the courtyard outside of my office. Even though the Sukkah is meant to be a temporary fixture, the memories created within it are long lasting. Special thanks to our Men's Club who took time out of their busy Sunday morning to put the Sukkah together which enabled all of the wonderful events to take place.

Sisterhood held their Z'havah program for mothers and their children where they created decorations, ate pizza and went into the Sukkah to hang the creations that they and the religious school students made.

The first two days of Sukkot after services, the Congregation made Kiddush in the Sukkah where they sat and schmoozed.

Midweek, Sisterhood held Ladies and Libations. With the unfortunate threat of rain that evening, most of the time was spent inside; however, the ladies still enjoyed a wine tasting from Seaholm Wines and Liquors. It was a lovely evening partially spent in the Sukkah. The following night, Men's Club held their Steak and Scotch which resulted in an amazing turnout and an enjoyable evening had by all.

As for the kiddos, our early childhood and religious school both spent time in the Sukkah learning about Sukkot. The religious school children also learned about the Lulav and Etrog and how to shake them. The last Sunday, Pizza in the Hut took place after Religious School where we were joined by many ECC families.

Now that the Sukkah has been disassembled and returned to storage, we move on to many programs inside HJC.

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 6th, there is no religious school. While our teaching staff will be at a Yom Iyun teacher development day, we will have an optional cooking class with Joanne Cohn. Joanne spent a little time at Camp Isabella Freedman over this past summer, and she is bringing back to our children some of the wonderful things that she's learned.

On Tuesday, November 13th, students from Our Lady Queen of Martyrs will join our 5th-8th grade students as they learn about Judaism. This year for the first time, our students will reciprocate the visit as they head to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs the following day.

We have so much more going on, so please follow our calendar and my weekly updates!

Maxine



## ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

Please join us at the Chai Club on the first Wednesday of every month, at 2:00 pm. Activities include; a book discussion, game event, feature film, slideshows for interesting countries, a lecture on Israeli issues, a combined event with Temple Beth El and much more.

*Non-members also welcome.* Roz Haber and Ellen Kahn, Club Co-Chairs.





## *The Life Within*

The role of an Executive Director is similar to that of being a mother. It is an all-encompassing role, developed around core job requirements and responsibilities which vary enormously from day-to-day. You have help as a mother to raise your family - it takes a village after all, but at the end of each day your goal is to have kept your family on track, safe from

harm and happy in the home you have created for them.

In 1972 Hurricane Agnes roared through the backyard of my childhood home, toppling a giant weeping willow tree. If I close my eyes and think back I can still hear the thump this behemoth tree made when it hit the ground and feel the vibration of our house shaking from its impact. In the morning after the storm had passed, our family went outside to inspect the damage to our property. Seeing this beautiful tree, which I had played on and under for my entire life, viciously ripped from the ground and laying in a huge, crumpled heap, made me cry. The tree had been like a fortress to me; a special home which offered privacy and protection under its massive hanging limbs and leaves. I wrote a poem about the tree that day. I was 11 years old.

When I was in 8th grade, our family business burnt down. In the middle of the night the phone rang, jarring everyone out of bed. My father, jumped up and rushed out of the house, leaving my mother, me and my siblings, worried and scared. Later that morning, my mother drove us to the site of the fire. As if in slow motion, I saw my father, after being up all night, sooty and disheveled, walk towards my mom. He collapsed into her arms. It was the first time I had ever seen him cry. He had lost his livelihood. His home away from home. When I got married, we bought a beautiful, comfortable home in South Huntington with gorgeous property. I was very proud of our home and took great care in its upkeep. We hosted wonderful family gatherings and fun filled birthday parties. When my marriage ended, the thought of leaving that home, the only home my children had ever known crushed my soul. Sometimes I think I mourned the loss of that haven more than the demise of my marriage.

After a divorce, with shared custody of my children, I moved to a tiny historic home in Huntington Village. This house, built in 1862, was a fraction of the space I had moved from. It was old and temperamental. The rooms were small, the stairways were narrow and during the winter months the house could be more than a little drafty. But it became home. I spruced it up and made it a comfy place for us all. My children and I spent 10 years in that house, most of the formative years of their childhood in fact. I grew to love that little house for being so kind to us during our time of need; keeping us safe and dry, tucked away in the sleepy corner of a historic village.

Throughout our lives, there are relationships we build with our homes and places of livelihood through which we experience love and loss. Yes, a building is inanimate but somehow it lives and breathes; the

halls absorb the spirit of those who walk through it, the walls hold the secrets of the souls who inhabit it. We tend to our homes, care for them when they are injured or sick just like we would our children or our pets. The structure gives us warmth and safety and we in return become its caretaker, sustaining it so that we too can be sustained.

510 Park Avenue is such a place for all of us. It is our home and we must care for it. It has no voice, yet it speaks volumes. It has no sight, yet it sees all. It has no heart, yet it has loved generations of families in our community during sickness and loss, love and joy. Floor tiles are cracked and sometimes the roof leaks. Some doors are hard to open and some doors don't close all the way. But just because it isn't perfect, doesn't lessen what it is, what it represents to us. The building doesn't get much sleep. She gets tired.

I have spent many hours in this building and we have developed an intimate relationship. She is my home away from home. I have grown to love and respect her as I have all of the amazing, wonderful, homes I have ever lived in. I understand her to be a humble, nurturing place of wonder and peace and I know she didn't get that way overnight. It took decades. Her battle scars are a testament to all of the life that has been lived here.

Recently a very active and supportive House Committee has been developed. This team has taken on a shared responsibility to care for our house, to help re-vitalize and breathe new life into her, so she in turn can continue to protect and sustain the life within. And although she can't tell you herself, I know our house is very happy about this. And so am I.

## **Sisterhood Fall Book Discussion**



**Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> @1:00pm**

## ***The Woman Who Smashed Codes***

*by*  
**Jason Fagone**

***A true story of love, spies, and the unlikely heroine  
who outwitted America's enemies.***

Please join us among friends  
The book is available at Amazon.com and libraries as well as bookstores

RSVP no later than November 9th  
Syd Schlesinger: [syd519@gmail.com](mailto:syd519@gmail.com) or 631-261-2330

***Post-lunch lite refreshments will be served  
Looking forward to seeing you!***

## Kindling the Chanukah Lights: Beginning Sunday evening, December 2



This year (2018), we begin lighting candles **on Sunday night, December 2** and we light the last candle **on the night of December 9**.

Remember to put the first candle on the rightmost holder of your Chanukiyah and add candles from right to left each night. Then light the Shamash and begin lighting the newest candle first (the one on the left) while saying or singing the blessings below. **On the Shabbat night of Chanukah, light the Chanukah candles first and then the Shabbat candles.**

### First Blessing

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם  
אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק  
נר של חנוכה.

**Baruch atah adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam, asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel chanukah.**

Blessed our God, ruler of the universe, by whose mitzvot we are sanctified and who commands us to kindle the lights of Chanukah

### Second Blessing

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם  
שעשה נסים לאבותינו  
בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

**Baruch atah adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam, sheh-asa nissim la-vo-tei-nu bayamim ha-haim bazman hazeh.**

Blessed our God, ruler of the universe, who performed wonderous deeds for our ancestors in days of old, at this season.

### Third Blessing (only on the first night)

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם  
שהחיינו וקימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה

**Baruch atah adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam, she-he-che-yanu v'ki-ye-manu v'he-gi-yanu la'zman ha-zeh.**

Blessed our God, ruler of the universe, for giving us life, sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

## Simchat Torah honorees Miriam and Joel Wirchin

**JOEL:** Rabbi Saks, Cantor Gordan, HJC President Vicki Perler, friends, family and fellow congregants...

Miriam and I are deeply honored to stand before you on this beautiful autumn morning (and afternoon) as this year's Simchat Torah honorees. Beyond honored, we are also grateful for your recognizing our efforts on behalf of this community that we love so much. In truth, we are humbled to be named recipients of this honor because, for us, "giving of ourselves" and "giving to others" has always been a natural part of who we are. And perhaps that is part of the reason why Miriam and I were destined to join hands and become lifelong partners nearly 35 years ago (and actually more years ago than THAT if you count our years of dating that began as college juniors at Albany State University in 1980). In fact, we were married at the Huntington Town House, and spent the first five years of our marriage living in Westchester. Perhaps it was meant to be that our lives would turn full circle when we returned and settled in Huntington where we joined the Huntington Jewish Center and raised our family. What a blessed decision that turned out to be. HJC has been, for us, truly and without question, our home away from home. It is the community in which we live and which lives within us. Our love for this blessed synagogue is unconditional and unwavering, and so your honoring us today means the world to us both.

**MIRIAM:** For me, my involvement here at HJC is directly attributable to two incredible and loving people who are here today to join us for this simcha - my mom and dad, Norma and David Raspler. Joel and I are so fortunate and blessed to have such role models around whom we have patterned our own lives as members of a loving, embracing Jewish community - one where we feel a deep and abiding bond of family, friendship and belonging.

Growing up in a kosher home on the South Shore of Long Island in Massapequa, where candles were lit and chicken was served every Shabbat evening (and still is to this day), I fondly recall my parents' synagogue involvement at the Farmingdale Jewish Center including their involvement these days at Congregation Beth Tikvah in Wantagh.

I attended Hebrew School (having the "pleasure" of carpooling with five boys), was active in junior congregation and our synagogue's youth groups, and celebrated my Bat Mitzvah on a Friday Shabbat evening in December 1972 at a time when, for girls, this was not necessarily a given. I then continued my religious school education for three additional years being confirmed as a Hebrew High School graduate.

After having been involved here at HJC since first joining the Nursery School Board as a founding member in 1992 and later the Religious School Board, I found myself committed to other areas of involvement as well, such as synagogue theatre - sharing the experience both with my actor/singer/dancer husband and our entire family in numerous HJC musical productions, the revitalization of the Ben Tashman Library, and the beautification of our beloved synagogue with the Centennial Garden Committee. Also, as most of you know, I have chosen to involve myself heavily in the good work done by the women of our Sisterhood and am SO proud of what we do and bring to the HJC community.

I am filled with pride at the opportunity to "give back" to a place that has given me and my family SO much for so long.

When I think of the areas where I have chosen to be involved, I realize that so many of them, if not all, are so very similar to those which my mom and dad have been and still are involved with at their own synagogue community...and I think of how true it is to say, "Idor v'dor" - "from generation to generation".

**JOEL:** For me, synagogue involvement growing up in Queens required a bit more initiative. I, too, grew up in a solidly Jewish home, but one where my parents - my dad, Arthur, who just celebrated his 90th birthday last month, and my mom, Bernice, of blessed memory - saw their Judaism as being defined more by a sense of heritage than by a sense of ritual practice and regular synagogue attendance. And so it is little wonder that after my Bar Mitzvah at the Bay Terrace Jewish Center in Bayside in April 1972, that it was more up to me to find a path to the synagogue; and so I did, relying on friends and other family members to provide me access to synagogue services after my immediate family was no longer affiliated with a shul. Maybe this makes me a self-made Jew. I don't know. But I do know that my family moved from Bayside to Little Neck during the year of my Bar Mitzvah. And while my simcha would be held in Bayside, my lessons were learned in my new neighborhood. Lessons were every Sunday morning; the shul was a distance away atop a big hill that my bicycle and I navigated weekly, with my haftarah study guide clutched in my right hand.



Still, I reflect on my Jewish upbringing with love and appreciation - and an awareness of how it has helped define my work here at HJC. There is an analogy to be drawn between riding one's bicycle up hill and being synagogue president (twice)... For me, to have been able to be so active at HJC over the years - including two terms as shul president, was a gift - a gift built on what I was shown as a child and strengthened by what I was shown by the family into which I married. And Mom and Dad, I want you to know how much I have valued

our private time sharing "temple talk" and discussing synagogue life over the years.

**MIRIAM:** Joel and I have been blessed with three extraordinary children: our eldest, son Jason now married to our beloved daughter-in-law Ellen; our son Benjamin (who most of the world knows as Ben), and our daughter Renna. They all attended their pre-school and religious school years here in addition to rejoicing at their becoming a Bar /Bat Mitzvah amid our beloved community. And Jason celebrated his aufruf here at HJC as well. Each has an appreciation of who they are and from whence they come, and how each of their lives have been blessed by HJC perhaps more than they even realize; we need look no further than their nursery school haggadot on our Seder table each year to this day, their hanukkiah made of driftwood or mosaic tile still aglow each Hanukkah; and the memories and friendships they, and we, have been blessed to find here which are central to our lives to this very day.

**JOEL:** HJC, to us more than anything else, is about community. It is about being the wind beneath your wings, where you find a culture of love and friendship, and where you seek shelter from the storm. And so, for us, nearly 10 years ago, when my serious illness brought storm clouds into our lives, it was the HJC community who rescued us with love, kindness, immeasurable support and inevitable sunshine - the likes of which no couple - no family could ever be more grateful. For Miriam and me and our family, life is good. And that is very much the case because of HJC and all it has meant to us for nearly 30 years.

**MIRIAM:** We are so grateful and appreciative of this honor as we stand here on this beautiful and blessed morning. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank the leadership of this incomparable synagogue - our spiritual home, our family - for bestowing this honor upon us.

**JOEL:** May it be our collective good fortune to worship together and celebrate together for many, many more years to come. TODAH RABAH.



# ROOTS OF PEACE

A truly innovative program brought to you by  
Dix Hills Jewish Center and Huntington Jewish Center  
Israel Committees

In the West Bank Palestinians and Israelis live in separate universes without real human contact. Now **ROOTS** is changing that reality. Fostering a grassroots movement of understanding, nonviolence, and transformation among Israelis and Palestinians.

## Come hear first hand from:



**Shadi Abu Awwad**  
the Roots Palestinian youth director,  
and  
**Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger**  
one of the founders of  
Roots, as they share their  
personal, interconnected  
stories and present the  
groundbreaking grassroots  
work of their initiative.



## BRUNCH AND LEARN

Sunday Nov. 4th, 10:00 AM-12:00 Noon  
Huntington Jewish Center  
510 Park Avenue, Huntington



Presentation and Brunch \$10.00 (before Oct.31), \$15 at the door  
Send in your check payable to HJC Israel Committee, or go online to  
<https://hjcny.org/brunchandlearn/>

Stories may well be lies, but they are  
good lies that say true things, and  
can sometimes pay the rent.\*  
\*Neil Gaiman

A high-energy, often hilarious,  
sometimes emotion-packed and  
always entertaining show  
that is a ton of fun!



## Unvarnished Truth?

### Little White Lie?

A storytelling game  
where you decide!

Featuring 4 Surprise  
Guest Storytellers

Saturday night, Dec 15  
(Time to be announced)

\$25 pp includes 1 coffee, 1 cordial  
and delicious dessert buffet

### The game is this:

1 unvarnished truth, 3 little white lies.  
Query the storytellers, vote for who you  
think told it straight and win a prize!

Reservations Suggested or \$30 at the door  
RSVP by 12/5 — HJC Main Office or visit [www.hjcny.org](http://www.hjcny.org)

(mostly) TRUE THINGS was created and  
is hosted by Jude Treder-Wolff

To learn more visit:

[www.mostlytruethings.com](http://www.mostlytruethings.com)

## Let's make Mental Health First Aid as Common as CPR

Most of us would know how to help if we saw someone having a heart attack—we'd start CPR, or at the very least, call 9-1-1.

But too few of us would know how to respond if we saw someone having a panic attack or if we were concerned that a friend or co-worker might be showing signs of alcoholism.

**Mental Health First Aid takes the fear and hesitation out of starting conversations about mental health and substance use problems by improving understanding and providing an action plan that teaches people to safely and responsibly identify and address a potential mental illness or substance use problem.**

When more people are equipped with the tools they need to start a dialogue, more people can get to the help they may need. Mental Health First Aiders can even save lives. Mental illnesses are common: affecting 1 in 5 adults in any given year. Anyone, anywhere can be the one to make a difference in the life of someone with a mental health or substance use challenge – if he/she knows what to do and what to say.

**Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour course that teaches how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders.** More than 1 million people across the United States have been trained in Mental Health First Aid by a dedicated base of more than 12,000 Instructors. Topics covered in training include:

- Risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems.
- Information on depression, anxiety, trauma, psychosis, and addiction disorders.
- A 5-step action plan to help someone developing a mental health problem or in crisis.
- Where to turn for help — professional, peer, and self-help resources.

### Mental Health First Aiders are teachers, first responders and veterans.

They're neighbors, parents and friends. They're people in recovery, and those supporting a family member. They're First Ladies and Mayors. Mental Health First Aiders are anyone who wants to make his/her community healthier, happier and safer for all.

**HOW DO I GET TRAINED?** Go to [www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org](http://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org) to find a course in your area.





# Jewish Artists

## Edward Ben Avram



Edward Ben Avram (born 1941) is an artist who was born in Bombay, India and immigrated to Israel as a teenager. He graduated from the Bezalel Academy of Art and Design in 1965 and continues to call Jerusalem his home.

Most of Avram's oil paintings and watercolors portray Israeli cities, religious festivals, and Bible stories. He paints in creamy sensual tones incorporating symbols such as doves, a menorah, and Shabbat candles.

He especially loves to paint landscapes of his beloved Jerusalem: vaulted alleys, steep narrow streets, towers, forts and famous gates.

His works are included in important collections in the United States, Canada, Israel, Panama, Mexico, Brazil, France, England, Switzerland and Germany.



**Jerusalem Gate**



**Noah's Ark**



**Kotel**



**Jewish Wedding**



**HJC's Theater Development Committee is excited to invite you to join the Park Avenue Players for our full-scale Broadway-style production of**



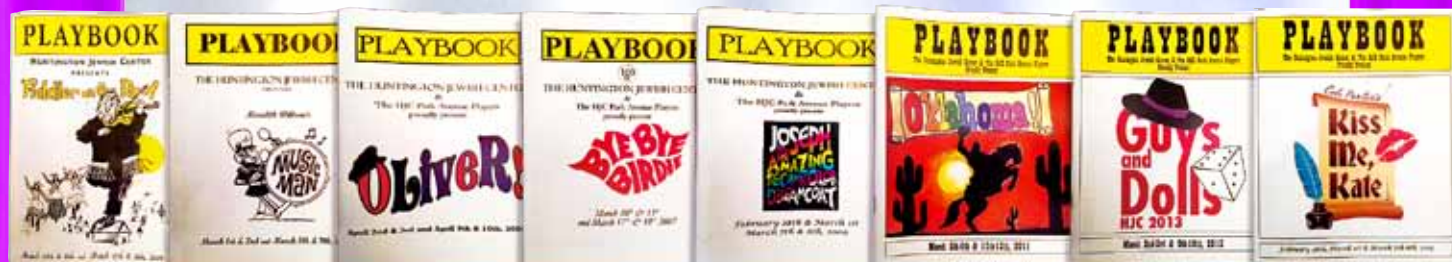
# **Damn Yankees**

**There is no better way to have fun, make friends, bond with the HJC community, immerse yourself in theater and strut your stuff! Even if you think you are not a theater talent, we still need you for the many production and technical tasks.**

***Needed:*** Stage Manager, Stage Crew, Lighting and Electrical Crew and Directors, Sound Crew and Directors, Assistant Producers, Set Builders and Painters, Prop Directors...Actors, Actresses, Chorus Members, Dancers, Musicians, Costumers, Make-up and Hair Artists, Graphic Designers, Photographers, Publicity, Raffles, Hospitality, Ticket Sales, Ad Sales, Concession Staff, Bartenders, Fundraisers, Babysitters, Ushers, and more.

**AUDITIONS**  
**Tuesday,**  
**November 13th**  
**and Wednesday,**  
**November 14th**  
**at 6:00pm**  
*Come prepared to sing*  
*16 bars of any song!*

***There is a role or job for everyone - adults & older children.***



2001

2003

2005

2007

2009

2011

2013

2015

**To volunteer or if you have any questions, contact:**

**Arthur Perler, Chairman of Theater Development: [arthur@milspecwire.com](mailto:arthur@milspecwire.com) /516-395-0193**  
**or Maxine Fisher, Producer: [mirifish@aol.com](mailto:mirifish@aol.com) /631-988-4673**



# Spotlight On...

## Al & Helga Kramer

Al and Helga Kramer have a remarkable story. Al was born and raised in Brooklyn. He studied for his BA at NYU and then completed his medical studies at Drexel in Philadelphia. He and his first wife, Eva, were married after medical school. Al first practiced medicine in the Navy where he was based in Rhode Island. His first son, Jeffrey, was born in RI. Upon his discharge from the Navy, Al and Eva settled in Huntington where he joined Eva's father's medical practice in internal medicine in 1956.

Helga arrived in Huntington in the early 1960s. She grew up in Switzerland and went to high school in Germany. Helga's parents were not Jewish. When she was 17 she converted to Judaism on her own accord after being dismayed by her experiences while living in Germany in the aftermath of World War II. She became convinced she could not believe in Christianity and was drawn to Judaism, which Helga saw as the "original religion." After high school Helga returned to Switzerland. She studied at the University of Basel and worked part-time doing stage design at the Opera House. There she met her first husband, David Garen, an operatic tenor. David, originally from Hungary, was a survivor of both Theresienstadt and Auschwitz and had immigrated to the US after World War II. He became an American citizen, studied at the Mannes School of Music and sang at opera houses and festivals, including City Opera, the Chicago Lyric, Denver and Tanglewood. On the advice of his voice teacher he returned to Europe to further his career. Two years after their marriage and birth of their daughter, David was not able to extend his visa and they came back to the US. Because of his cantorial background (his father was a cantor at the Great Synagogue of Budapest), David was recruited to the position of cantor at the Huntington Jewish Center when Rabbi Tannenbaum was the rabbi. Sadly, David died after only 2 ½ years at HJC after surgeries for gallbladder and liver ailments. Helga's parents begged her to return to Europe but she persisted in her desire to remain in the U.S. and found work at a bank in Huntington. Her daughter Rhea Eileen attended Hilltop Nursery School and was watched by Moses, then the custodian of HJC, in the afternoons until Helga finished work.

During David's short tenure at HJC, Helga and David became close friends with Al and Eva Kramer. Helga and Eva's families both came from the same area near the Black Forest. Additionally, Eva's sister, who also was a trained singer, on occasion joined with David for musical recitals at Al and Eva's home. Plus, Al was Helga and David's physician. Several years after David's death, Al and Eva introduced Helga to Al's brother, Rubin, a dentist in Queens. They married and

Helga had two more daughters. They lived in Queens, then Westbury until settling in West Hills. During this time Helga began working for an architectural firm doing advertising, public relations and marketing. Sadly, Rubin was diagnosed with multiple myeloma and after 5 years died in 1989. Unfortunately, Eva Kramer, battled cancer for the same 5 years and also died in 1989.

It was natural for Al and Helga to gradually become closer and drawn to each other; and after three years, considered a life together. In 1992 they were married by Rabbi Kurshan in the Rabbi Lief Chapel (Helga remembers vividly Al's twin grandsons engaging in fist fights on the bima during the ceremony). They have now been together for 26 years.



Al has maintained a strong connection to HJC and Judaism. He was an active Torah reader and Haftorah chanter for many years and knows the service by heart. Al and Helga come to Shabbat and other services as often as they can. Al was instrumental in organizing Lester Fox's Bible study group and has been an active participant since its inception. Al was involved in the UJA campaign at HJC for many years. He also chaired the annual Eva Hoffman Kramer Memorial Lecture started in Eva's memory

by her father Dr. Ernest Hoffman. With distinguished guest lecturers, Allan Dershowitz, Marvin Kalb and Brett Stephens, to name a few, this series helped to make Selichot services a big draw for many congregants. Helga is a lifetime member of Hadassah where she was involved for many years including participation in international Hadassah conventions. Helga maintains her love of opera and has been deeply involved for over thirty years in The Olga Forrai Foundation whose mission is to grant support for training and career development to aspiring opera singers with exceptional dramatic voices. She travels into NYC frequently for meetings, auditions and performances. Helga has visited and attended musical events in many cities and venues in and outside of the U.S.

For the last eighteen years Al and Helga have spent winters in Florida. Together, they have also traveled to Israel many times. Al will turn 92 in the spring. Helga and Al share ongoing naches from their combined five adult children, sixteen grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren (a third on the way). Sadly, Al's oldest son, Jeffrey, died of ALS in May 2018.

Al and Helga find many blessings in the life they continue to share together. Their story is truly biblical in how it has evolved and they acknowledge its unique and beautiful quality.

*Narrative compiled by Nancy Cooper, Al and Helga Kramer*

## Hospital, Rehab & Home Visits With Rabbi Saks

Are you sick or recuperating from an illness? Would you like Rabbi Saks to visit you, a family member, or a friend (from the congregation) in the hospital, rehab center or at home? Rabbi will be available for visits on Wednesday mornings.

**Please contact Debbie in the Main Office by 3:00 pm on Tuesday if you would like to be visited the next day.**

## This winter, HJC will again participate in the HHI program

HHI stands for **Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative** which is a Family Service League program.

From December 1 until March 31, different congregations in the Huntington area provide shelter, food and clothing for a group of homeless men. This year, we will be hosting for 8 nights. There are many different types of volunteer activities for adults and children 5th grade and older. If you are interested or want to learn more about this wonderful program, please contact:

**Ellen Steinberg** at [ellen.steinberg728@gmail.com](mailto:ellen.steinberg728@gmail.com) or **Karen Flanzenbaum** at [kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com](mailto:kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com)

**We will be hosting on the following nights (Wednesdays except where indicated)**

**December 12, 19, January 9, 16, March 13, 21 (Thursday), 27.**

Donations of gently used men's jeans, sweatshirts, coats, hats, gloves, scarves and warm long-sleeved shirts are greatly appreciated. Other needed items include new socks, boxers and T-shirts.

## Women's League Torah Fund 2018-2019

**Atid** means 'future' in Hebrew and as Women's League for Conservative Judaism enters its second century and Torah Fund begins its 77th year, we look forward to our future together. 5779 Torah Fund Pin envelopes the Hebrew word for 'future' with a stylized Magen David. It represents our wish for a distinctly Jewish future, for ourselves as individuals, our families and our communities.

The mission of Torah Fund is to provide support and funding for our future Conservative Rabbis, Cantors, Educators and Administrators for Day and Synagogue Schools, Social Workers, Scholars, Professional and Lay Leaders and Researchers. Our donations make it possible for students to study at the Jewish Theological Seminary, Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, Schechter Institutes of Judaic Studies, Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano and the Zacharias Frankel College in Potsdam, Germany. Please contact Kathy Brookhart or Ethel Sachs to discuss donations, Torah Fund pin or Torah Fund Greeting cards. Please make all checks payable to Torah Fund and send to Huntington Jewish Center attention Torah Fund.

**Atid - Torah Fund Pin for 5779**



## CHAI Institute returns for Fall 2018

Join us at the Dix Hills Jewish Center for a series of contemporary, relevant and riveting programs from an impressive roster of Guest Scholars.

**Tuesday, November 13, 2 pm (New Date)**

Dr. Rafi Weiss will speak about the rift between the American and Israeli Jewish communities. Dr. Weiss, born in Israel, is a retired physician, who presently lectures at Stonybrook and Farmingdale college on Israeli current events.

**Refreshments will be served.**

Chai Club members are free.  
A \$5 donation is requested for non-members interested in attending.

Please RSVP to  
**Dr. Ellen Kahn** at [ellenkahn@optonline.net](mailto:ellenkahn@optonline.net)  
or  
**Rosalyn Haber** at [herhb54@gmail.com](mailto:herhb54@gmail.com).

## Torah Teaser Sign Up

Torah Teasers are short emails that arrive in your inbox Thursday mornings to "tease out" some questions on the Torah portion of the week that Rabbi Saks is thinking about leading into Shabbat. Many members of the congregation reply to these questions over email thus fostering a space for meaningful dialogue in our community on moral, ethical, and spiritual questions. If you'd like to sign up to receive these Torah Teasers, please contact:

**Dan Schoeffler** - [Huntington-jc-request@uscj.net](mailto:Huntington-jc-request@uscj.net)

# Notable American Jews

## Kirk Douglas

Cleft-chinned, steely-eyed and virile star of international cinema who rose from being “the ragman’s son” (the name of his best-selling 1988 autobiography) to become a bona fide superstar, Kirk Douglas, also known as Issur Danielovitch Demsky, was born on December 9, 1916 in Amsterdam, New York. His parents, Bryna (Sanglel) and Herschel Danielovitch, were Jewish immigrants from Chavusy, Mahilyow Voblast (now in Belarus). Although growing up in a poor ghetto, Douglas was a fine student and a keen athlete and wrestled competitively during his time at St. Lawrence University. However, he soon identified an acting scholarship as a way out of his meager existence, and was sufficiently talented to gain entry into the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. He only appeared in a handful of minor Broadway productions before joining the United States Navy in 1941, and then after the end of hostilities in 1945, returned to the theater and some radio work. On the insistence of ex-classmate Lauren Bacall, movie producer Hal B. Wallis screen-tested Douglas and cast him in the lead role in *The Strange Love of Martha Ivers* (1946). His performance received rave reviews and further work quickly followed, including an appearance in the low-key drama *I Walk Alone* (1947), the first time he worked alongside fellow future screen legend Burt Lancaster. Such was the strong chemistry between the two that they appeared in seven films together, including the dynamic western *Gunfight at the O.K. Corral* (1957), the John Frankenheimer political thriller *Seven Days in May* (1964) and their final pairing in the gangster comedy *Tough Guys* (1986). Douglas once said about his good friend: “I’ve finally gotten away from Burt Lancaster. My luck has changed for the better. I’ve got nice-looking girls in my films now.”

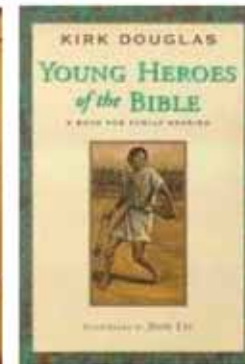
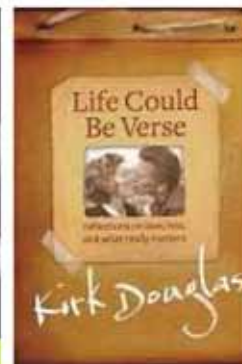
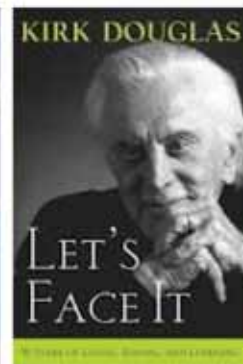
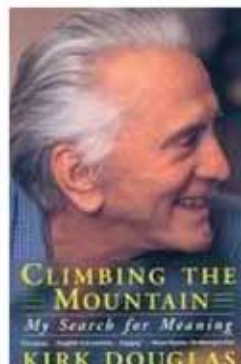
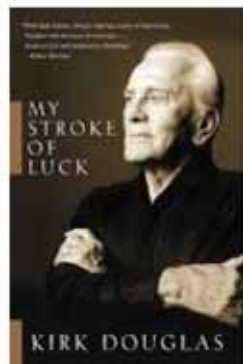
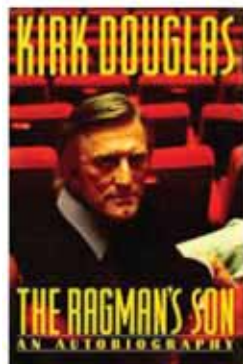
After appearing in *I Walk Alone*, Douglas scored his first Oscar nomination playing the untrustworthy and opportunistic boxer Midge Kelly in the gripping *Champion* (1949). The quality of his work continued to garner the attention of critics and he was again nominated for Oscars for his role as a film producer in *The Bad and the Beautiful* (1952) and as tortured painter Vincent van Gogh in *Lust for Life* (1956), both directed by Vincente Minnelli. In 1955, Douglas launched his own production company, Bryna Productions, the company behind two pivotal film roles in his career. The first was as French army officer Col. Dax in director Stanley Kubrick’s brilliant anti-war epic *Paths of Glory* (1957). Douglas reunited with Ku-

brick for yet another epic, the magnificent *Spartacus* (1960). The film also marked a key turning point in the life of screenwriter Dalton Trumbo, who had been blacklisted during the McCarthy “Red Scare” hysteria in the 1950s. At Douglas’ insistence, Trumbo was given on-screen credit for his contributions, which began the dissolution of the infamous blacklisting policies begun almost a decade previously that had destroyed so many careers and lives.

Douglas remained busy throughout the 1960s, starring in many films. He played a rebellious modern-day cowboy in *Lonely Are the Brave* (1962), acted alongside John Wayne in the World War II story *In Harm’s Way* (1965), again with The Duke in a drama about the Israeli fight for independence, *Cast a Giant Shadow* (1966), and once more with Wayne in the tongue-in-cheek western *The War Wagon* (1967). Additionally in 1963, he starred in an onstage production of Ken Kesey’s *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*, but despite his keen interest, no Hollywood studio could be convinced to bring the story to the screen. However, the rights remained with the Douglas clan, and Kirk’s talented son Michael Douglas finally filmed the tale in 1975, starring Jack Nicholson. Into the 1970s, Douglas wasn’t as busy as previous years; however, he starred in some unusual vehicles, including alongside a young Arnold Schwarzenegger in the loopy western comedy *The Villain* (1979), then with Farrah Fawcett in the sci-fi thriller *Saturn 3* (1980) and then he traveled to Australia for the horse opera/drama *The Man from Snowy River* (1982).

Unknown to many, Kirk has long been involved in humanitarian causes and has been a Goodwill Ambassador for the US State Department since 1963. His efforts were rewarded with the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1981), and with the Jefferson Award (1983). Furthermore, the French honored him with the Chevalier of the Legion of Honor. More recognition followed for his work with the American Cinema Award (1987), the German Golden Kamera Award (1987), The National Board of Reviews Career Achievement Award (1989), an honorary Academy Award (1995), Recipient of the American Film Institute’s Lifetime Achievement Award (1999) and the UCLA Medal of Honor (2002). Despite a helicopter crash and a stroke suffered in the 1990s, he remains active and continues to appear in front of the camera.

- IMDb Mini Biography By: firehouse44





# Donations

## GENERAL FUND

**Cristina Pruzan**

**Nancy Cooper** in memory of Richard Berlow at yahrzeit.

**Sy Schpoont** in memory of Hirsh Schpoont at yahrzeit.

**Sy Schpoont** in memory of Edward Diamond at yahrzeit.

**The HJC Board of Trustees** welcomes Jonathan & Rachel Brill of Cold Spring Harbor and their children, Joseph, and Alexander.

**The HJC Board of Trustees** welcomes Karin & Greg Krinsky of East Northport and their daughter, Morgan.

**The HJC Board of Trustees** welcomes new members Adam & Talia Chayon of Huntington and their children, Avi and Mila.

**Linda Jonas** in memory of Shirley Ackerman at yahrzeit.

**Robert Lifson** in memory of Hannah Lifson at yahrzeit.

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in honor of the birth of Victor Sasson Perler, son of Ari & Johanna Perler & grandson of Arthur & Vicki Perler.

**Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer** in honor of the birth of Victor Sasson Perler, son of Ari & Johanna Perler & grandson of Arthur & Vicki Perler.

**Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer** in honor of the 50th birthday of Steven McCartin, brother of Donna Zimmerman.

**Roger Koreen** in memory of Grace Koreen at yahrzeit.

**Pamela Singer** in honor of Howard, Shanah, Bianca & Elijah Gordon.

**Philip Glaser** in memory of Jerome Cohen at yahrzeit.

**Philip Glaser** in memory of Gertrud Hofbauer at yahrzeit.

**Gwen & Ron Goldstein** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.

**Joyce Sacknoff** in memory of Margaret Fuchs at yahrzeit.

**Martin Rosenblatt** in memory of Sidney Rosenblatt at yahrzeit.

**Rosalind Wertheim** in memory of Mark Carter at yahrzeit.

**Yolanda Barfus** in memory of Eva Barfus at yahrzeit.

**Marvin Lipkind** in memory of Sylvia Hudes at yahrzeit.

**Rosalind Shaffer** in memory of Sam Shaffer at yahrzeit.

**Myrna Tils** in memory of Louise Freidman at yahrzeit.

**Shelley Weinberg** in memory of Rose Kramer at yahrzeit.

**Joan & Norman Mattisinko** in honor of the 50th birthday of Steven McCartin, brother of Donna Zimmerman.

**Ellen & Newt Meiselman** in memory of Jennie Bloom at yahrzeit.

**The HJC Board of Trustees** in honor of the birth of Sasha Helen Perler, granddaughter of Vicki & Arthur Perler.

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in honor of the birth of Sasha Helen Perler, granddaughter of Vicki & Arthur Perler.

**Philip Glaser** in memory of Sara Glaser at yahrzeit.

**Susi Susskind** in memory of Elsa Laemmle at yahrzeit.

**Susi Susskind** in memory of Isaak Laemmle at yahrzeit.

**The HJC Board of Trustees** in memory of Sandra B. Rosen, mother of Bruce Rosen.

**The HJC Board of Trustees** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.

**The HJC Board of Trustees** in memory of Ellen Arditti, mother of Janet Goldstein.

**Harriet Harris** in memory of Benjamin Alpert at yahrzeit.

**Loron Simon** in memory of Manny Aaront at yahrzeit.

**Andrea Smoller** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.

**Andrea Smoller** in memory of Sandra B. Rosen, mother of Bruce Rosen.

**Andrea Smoller** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.

**The HJC Board of Trustees** in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Michelle, daughter of Matthew & Milena Kantor.

**Vered & Jack Cole** in memory of Sandra B. Rosen, mother of Bruce Rosen.

**Vered & Jack Cole** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.

**Randi & Alan Schuller** in memory of Sandra B. Rosen, mother of Bruce Rosen.

**Sy Schpoont** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.

**Patricia & Dan Schoeffler** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.

**Patricia & Dan Schoeffler** in memory of Sandra B. Rosen, mother of Bruce Rosen.

**Phyllis & Andy Levy** in honor of the birth of Sasha Helen Perler, granddaughter of Vicki & Arthur Perler.

**Phyllis & Andy Levy** in honor of the birth of Spencer James Kupper Smith, grandson of Barbara & Joel Kupper Smith.

**Phyllis & Andy Levy** in memory of Sandra B. Rosen, mother of Bruce Rosen.

**Phyllis & Andy Levy** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.

**Phyllis & Andy Levy** in honor of the upcoming marriage of Jonathan, son of Ellen & Jay Steinberg, to Blair Chizner.

**Janet Goldstein** in memory of Ralph Arditti at yahrzeit.

**Jayne & Eric Butlein** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.

**Michael Butlein & Marc Butlein** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.

## ARNIE KERNS FUND

**Harriet Kerns** in memory of Clara Feit at yahrzeit.

## BEN TASMAN LIBRARY FUND

**Yolanda Barfus** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin.

**Micki Sokol** in memory of Bernhard Stein at yahrzeit.

**Micki Sokol** in memory of Toni Deutsch at yahrzeit.

**Jennifer & Scott Ingber** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.

**Syd Schlesinger** in honor of the marriage of Sandy Riefberg and Tom Karow.

**Vered & Jack Cole** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named by UJA-Federation of NY as the recipients of the Community Leadership Award.

**Tyna Strenger** in memory of S. Gordon Strenger at yahrzeit.

## CANTOR'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

**Lawrence Maltin** in memory of Ruth Maltin at yahrzeit.

## DAILY MINYAN FUND

**Nancy & Brian Cooper** wishing a speedy recovery to Barbara Kupper Smith.

## DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**Judy & Lester Fox** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.

**Judy & Lester Fox** in honor of the birth of Sasha Helen Perler, granddaughter of Vicki & Arthur Perler.

**Judy & Lester Fox** in memory of Sandra B. Rosen, mother of Bruce Rosen.

**Judy & Lester Fox** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.

**Judy & Lester Fox** in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Talia, daughter of Miriam Eckstein-Koas.

### ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT FUND

**Joan & Norman Mattisinko** in honor of the birthday of Jennifer Ingber.  
**Shari & Laurence Feibel** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND

**Janet & Mark Zimmerman** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.

### PRAYERBOOK AND BIBLE FUND

**Joan & Norman Mattisinko** in memory of Myra Berkowitz at yahrzeit.  
**Joan & Norman Mattisinko** in memory of Max Mattisinko at yahrzeit.

### NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

**Miriam Eckstein-Koas** in memory of Michael Stein, father of Ilene Brown.

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Liz & Steve Holbreich** wishing a Shana Tovah to Rabbi Saks & family.

### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

**Joan & Norman Mattisinko** in honor of the 25th wedding anniversary of Felicia & Keith Messing.  
**Shari & Laurence Feibel** in honor of the marriage of Sandy Riefberg and Tom Karow.

### SCHECHTER FUND

**Janet & Mark Zimmerman** in honor of the birth of Victor Sasson Perler, son of Ari & Johanna Perler & grandson of Arthur & Vicki Perler.

### SOCIAL ACTION/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

**Arlene Steinberg** in memory of Fred Steinberg at yahrzeit.  
**Vicki & Tom Rosen** in honor of the 90th birthday of Marty Kushnick.  
**Vicki & Tom Rosen** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.  
**Vicki & Tom Rosen** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named by UJA-Federation of NY as the recipients of the Community Leadership Award.  
**Ora & Alan Kriegstein** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.  
**Ora & Alan Kriegstein** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named by UJA-Federation of NY as the recipients of the Community Leadership Award.  
**Janet & Martin Kushnick** in memory of Ann Labb at yahrzeit.  
**Jill & Arnie Sherman** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named by UJA-Federation of NY as the recipients of the Community Leadership Award.  
**Gail Lodge** in memory of Jack Grunberger at yahrzeit.  
**Gail Lodge** in memory of Lillian Grunberger at yahrzeit.  
**Nancy & Brian Cooper** in honor of the birth of Sasha Helen Perler, granddaughter of Vicki & Arthur Perler.  
**Nancy & Brian Cooper** in memory of Sandra B. Rosen, mother of Bruce Rosen.  
**Nancy & Brian Cooper** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.  
**Nancy & Brian Cooper** in honor of the milestone anniversary of Susie & Steve Lax.  
**Janet & Martin Kushnick** in memory of Allen Miller at yahrzeit.  
**Eileen & Harvey Berger** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named by UJA-Federation of NY as the recipients of the Community Leadership Award.  
**Eileen & Harvey Berger** in memory of Ellen Arditti, mother of Janet Goldstein.  
**Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith** in honor of Miriam & Joel Wirchin being named the HJC Simchat Torah honorees.  
**Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith** in memory of Erwin Kleinmann, brother of Walter Kleinmann.  
**Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith** in memory of Sandra B. Rosen, mother of Bruce Rosen.

### NEW MEMBERS

**Jonathan & Rachel Brill** of Cold Spring Harbor and their children, Joseph, age 6 and Alexander, age 4.  
**Karin & Greg Krinsky** of East Northport and their daughter, Morgan, age 8.  
**Adam & Talia Chayon** of Huntington and their children, Avi, age 7 and Mila, age 3.

### MAZAL TOV

**Vicki & Arthur Perler** announce the birth of their granddaughter, Sasha Helen Perler.

### CONDOLENCES

**Bruce Rosen** on the death of his mother, Sandra B. Rosen.  
**Walter Kleinmann** on the death of his brother, Erwin Kleinmann.  
**Janet Goldstein** on the death of her mother, Ellen Arditti.

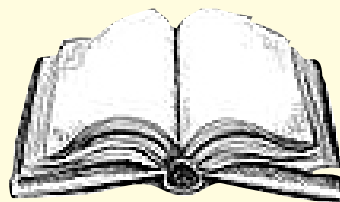
## ~People of the Book~ Ben Tasman Library

*With autumn here, why not fall  
into a library chair?*

A quiet and welcoming place for our HJC family... stop by and browse, meditate, visit while you volunteer, or simply wait for your child while he/she is in Religious School or our ECC. Books can be taken out for 2 weeks and magazines are always there for browsing. We have quite a selection of fiction, non-fiction, children's and adult books. Our featured books for this season are *Away* by Amy Bloom, *Famous Father Girl: A Memoir of Growing Up Bernstein* by Jamie Bernstein, *Waking Lions* by Ayelet Gundar Goshen, and *Chicken Soup for the Soul: The Empowered Woman*, which has a featured story by HJC congregant Molly England. Come and check it out or check them all out! Surprise yourself with a visit to our library. Hope to see you there!

Happy Reading!

*Syd Schlesinger, Library Chair*



# HJC Bulletin

## November 2018

Huntington Jewish Center  
510 Park Avenue  
Huntington, NY 11743

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**ROSH CHODESH: Welcoming the New Moon**  
**Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm**

**Please join HJC Sisterhood on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2 Kislev,  
for a special Women's Study Group**

Rosh Chodesh is the time when the moon is a small sliver of light.  
It's the beginning of a new cycle.  
Like the moon, we have the chance to start over, and to grow into  
who we want to be.

Join us as we spend 90 minutes studying text  
and exploring our inner wisdom.

The workshop is being led by our HJC congregant and Sisterhood member,  
Rabbinic Chaplain Joni Brenner

**Please RSVP to Evelyn Abraham**  
**(evelyn\_abraham@optonline.net /631-424-6922**

**Hope you can join us for this spiritual evening**

## Game on! Game Night!



**November 1<sup>st</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM at HJC**

Join us for a night of fun and games!

Mah Jongg, Scrabble, Parcheesi, Backgammon,  
Rummikub, Bananagrams, Cards (Bridge, etc.), and more!  
Games can increase your cognitive and memory abilities.

And it's fun!

**Bring your games! Bring your friends!**



Please RSVP

Lori Sklar at [lsklar2@gmail.com](mailto:lsklar2@gmail.com) or 631-737-6058

Hope to see you there!

~Additional Game Nights~

December 13<sup>th</sup>

January 3<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> and February 7<sup>th</sup>

March 28<sup>th</sup> & April 4<sup>th</sup>

*Huntington Jewish Center encourages the participation of people of all abilities in its programs and activities.  
If you or a family member would like to attend an activity, program, meeting or event but require additional support or  
special accommodations, please call the HJC Main Office at 631-427-1089 or email [hjcadmin@hjcny.org](mailto:hjcadmin@hjcny.org).*