



APRIL 2021 | NISSAN/IYAR 5781 Bulletin

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER NEWS / COMMUNITY / CONNECTION

יום השואה

Holocaust Remembrance Day

NEVER FORGET



Sisterhood News

by Evelyn Abraham

SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP

Join Us and Support the Sisterhood of HJC

It is not too late to send in your Sisterhood Dues

New members to HJC receive a complimentary Sisterhood membership for their first year. Please return your Membership Letters as soon as possible. Checks are payable to Sisterhood of the Huntington Jewish Center.

**\$45 - regular membership \$40 - Z'havah
\$30 - senior membership**

B'Yachad

The 2020-2021 Torah Fund Campaign Is Underway

Funds raised by Torah Fund have gone toward scholarships in support of the Jewish Theological Seminary (New York, NY), Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies (Los Angeles, CA), Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies (Jerusalem), Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano (Buenos Aires, Argentina), and Zacharias Frankel College (Potsdam, Germany).

Our Torah Fund theme this year is "B'Yachad" – Together. In these unsettled times we're living right now, we will experience many changes. We will navigate the changes and uncharted territory B'Yachad, Together.



Since the Torah Fund office and JTS remain closed, greeting cards and the 2020 – 2021 pins are not available yet.

Thank you for your donations to Torah Fund, supporting programming that prepares our future Jewish leaders for their roles in this continuously changing world. If you would like to make a contribution to this year's Torah Fund campaign, please contact Evelyn Abraham.

evelyn_abraham@optonline.net

JUDAICA SPECIAL SALE:

20% off

all gift items
by renowned
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Gary Rosenthal



OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND FOR YOUR HOLIDAY AND SIMCHA NEEDS

Sisterhood Contact: Evelyn Abraham
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From Rabbi Ari Saks



The REAL Cleaning for Passover

"And they baked the dough which they brought out from Egypt into unleavened cakes, because it did not rise, because they were expelled from Egypt, and they could not delay and they also had not made preparations for themselves"

(Exodus 12:39).

It's inevitable. No matter how far in advance we may remind ourselves that Passover is approaching, it is inevitable that it takes us to the last days (or last hours) to do our personal cleaning and preparations necessary to celebrate the holiday according to our personal traditions. And perhaps that's the point. As the quote above teaches us, we're supposed to rush around at the last minute before the holiday, perhaps as a reminder that significant changes (like going from slavery to freedom) aren't gradual changes but sudden ones. Whether it's getting fired from or being hired for a job, the onset of an illness, finding out you're pregnant or a whole host of other significant life moments, we often don't have time to ease ourselves into them. They come upon us like a sudden wave, swooping us into the ocean whether we want to or not.

But if it's the case that the Passover holiday we just celebrated is all about the suddenness of freedom, what about the teaching that by ridding our homes of chametz (unleavened food products) we symbolize the need to rid our souls and our spirits of the chametz that puffs out our pride, that massages our ego, that makes us think we're bigger than we truly are? This process is anything but sudden.

Even for those of us who truly want to do the self-work of cultivating our better nature, it doesn't just happen overnight. It's a mixed bag of two steps forward and three steps back as we slowly unlearn some parts of who we are to replace them with parts of who we want to be. And if we truly want to engage in that process, we have to know it'll take a long time.

That's why we need the period we're currently in -- the Omer. It's not only a long time (50 days) but it connects our celebration of freedom at Passover to our acceptance of God's command at Shavuot. Or to put it another way, it symbolizes the journey from the suddenness of realizing we want to be free, to the actualization of freedom through accepting a new reality of being free. If Passover symbolizes the intuition of freedom, Shavuot is the practical realization of that intuition in our lives...and the Omer is the period of figuring it all out.

With that in mind, I will be joined by members of our community during the course of the Omer to post thoughts and questions in our HJC Quarantine Facebook Group to inspire our community on the journey from desiring freedom (i.e. Passover) to becoming free (i.e. Shavuot). We invite you to share your thoughts and comments on these posts as we take this time of the Omer to improve our spiritual selves; to clean away the chametz that impedes our best selves from being actualized.

Welcome to the REAL cleaning for Passover.

Rabbi Ari Saks



COUNTING the OMER
to
Shavuot
שבועות

From Hazzan Israel Gordan



A Different Kind of Anniversary

I've had the opportunity to talk a bit about my upcoming tenth anniversary at HJC in this space before and it's been great highlighting the programs we've had: our PJ Library Tu B'Shvat concert in January, Pizmon a cappella in February, and artist-in-residence Rabbi Josh Warshawsky in March. I'm also looking forward to the Kol Sasson a cappella

concert on April 11th, followed by my celebration on May 2nd, but I actually wanted to talk about an anniversary of a different kind here this month.

Monday, March 15th, 2021 represented the one year anniversary of quarantine at HJC. I remember the month of March 2020 very clearly: on Sunday evening, March 8th, I received notice that a member of the Columbia University community had tested positive for Covid-19. In response, Columbia University was cancelling classes for a week, especially since the following week was their spring break, allowing them ample time to figure out what to do next. Shortly thereafter, we learned that JTS would also close for the week and I did not have class while my children were still attending school for a few more days of in-person instruction.

Monday evening, March 9th was Purim, which was certainly marked by a smaller than usual crowd as many people were beginning to take precautions and not congregating with others. While my kids still attended school through Thursday the 12th, on Friday, March 13th, they had the day off, as their school considered what to do next.

Saturday, March 14th was our last in-person service. On Sunday, March 15th, we cancelled religious school. On Monday, March 16th, my kids had another day off of school, and the ECC was closed. Starting on Tuesday, March 17th, my kids were in zoom school. The Shabbat of March 20/21, was the first and last time that we did not have Shabbat services at HJC. After that point, all of our services, programs and activities moved online, as did my schooling at JTS. And life was never the same.

And here we are, a year later. It's amazing what we've learned and experienced; how we've adapted and how we continue to adapt. We've become acutely aware of our new normal and our life centered around screens. This has been a particular change for synagogue life because so much of our reason for being has to do with congregating together: the requirement of a minyan for certain prayers, visiting the sick, making a shiva call, classes, and eating, are all central to our lives as a faith community. And yet, we have continuously innovated in what we do and how we do it, in an attempt to serve people's needs living under the threat of a global pandemic.

As of this writing, I have received the first dose of the vaccine and will receive the second in the middle of April. Many of our congregants have received or will receive their vaccines and with the warmer weather and the ability to more comfortably be outside, there is a renewed sense of hope.

And yet, there is still so much uncertainty about life, in addition to the troubling variants and continuing numbers of new infections. What will our new normal look like? Is it possible for things to go back to the way they were? Only time will tell, but let's hope we can continue to rely on each other to help and figure out new ways to be there for each other as a community.

HJC Summer 2021 Scholarships

"The most important thing about Judaism, is that it is not a subject to be learned in class or studied from a book, but a way of life that is to be experienced every day. The beauty of camp is that it makes that possible – a completely immersive Jewish experience. Instead of trying to impart lessons seated at a desk, children experience a living, breathing Judaism all day every day at camp. And not just Shabbat and Kashrut, but Hebrew Language, Israel, Rosh Chodesh, and Jewish values that imbue the rhythms of a regular day with even more meaning.

Sleep-away camp also allows kids to learn and grow, away from their parents, surrounded by friends their own age. The set-up of 18 year-old counselors caring for 13 year-old campers allows for major advancements and developments in personal identity growth and faith formation in ways that no other setting can. Daily rituals like morning prayers and birkat hamazon (grace after meals) become simply part of the routine. Jewish learning is engaged in by not only the campers, but all staff. The Ramah Camps is the official network of Jewish summer camps created and run by the Conservative movement."

~ Hazzan Israel Gordan, *The Gift of Jewish Summer*, HJC Bulletin, September 2016

Donald L. Gordon Israel Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded to high school juniors and seniors who spend six to eight weeks during the summer in Israel. They tour, learn, and live the Israeli life in a Jewish educational program.

David S. Rosenman Camp Ramah Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded to youngsters in grades 4 through 12 who spend either four or eight weeks at Camp Ramah in the Berkshires. This camp is under the auspices of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

Applications for both scholarships are available in the HJC Main office and the deadline for submission is April 5, 2021.

President's Perspective



Our pandemic, 1 year on

It's hard to believe that it has been over a year since the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic landed in the New York area. It has been a year in which many of us have experienced the anguish and uncertainty unleashed by this scourge, whether through the loss of loved ones and friends, through struggling with it ourselves or nursing others through the course of the disease, or through

feeling the effects of isolation and disconnection from the routines and people which were so much a part of our lives. This may be the first time in our 114 years that we have closed our doors for more than just a brief holiday; it is certainly the first time we conducted our services online. And yet, despite everything, it is a year in which we have come together to support each other in ways we never imagined would be needed, and there is concrete hope that things will get better from here.

Our closure last March and shift to virtual operations meant dealing with some difficult challenges. First and foremost, we had to safeguard the health of all of our constituencies — employees, members, and families. At the same time, we were ever mindful of the important role we play in the lives of our congregants — religious, social, spiritual, educational — and knowing how difficult this pandemic was for all of us, we were determined to continue fulfilling that role.

We began by working to move Shabbat services onto Zoom and livestreaming them from our website. Our Religious School and Early Childhood Center teachers adapted their curricula to teaching online and to the challenges of engaging our children over Zoom. And we began holding synagogue events like Adult Education, social programs, and our Annual Meeting online. Despite the difficulties of transitioning to this new way of doing things, two advantages quickly became apparent — we had con-

sistently better attendance and everyone got there on time!

Of course, synagogues were never meant to be online — in fact, the roots of the word “synagogue” are from the Greek for “bringing together”. Many of us longed to be back in shul and with the good counsel of our Medical Advisory Panel, we worked out plans to do this safely. Beginning in June, under strict operating conditions, we returned to our sanctuary for Shabbat. We then bootstrapped that experience to develop a blueprint for conducting High Holiday services in the fall. Making those services happen required an incredible amount of organization and at times felt like a three-ring circus, but we were able to design and execute services that were safe and accounted for the needs of all of our members, including those who were ready and able to attend services indoors and in person outside. Afterwards, we heard that we had presented the most extensive range of options available at any synagogue on Long Island, but we had been determined to keep our membership engaged and united. And of course, we all owe an enormous debt of gratitude to our incredible clergy, staff, and volunteers who worked so diligently and successfully to make this happen.

Since then, we have continued to work toward ever greater inclusion of our membership in a wide range of service and programs and to returning our Religious School and ECC students to our building. (And as you might expect, there have been hiccups along the way but we are working continually to make improvements.)

As I write this, spring seems to have definitively arrived. With the advent and availability of COVID vaccinations for many in our community, we are hopeful that as conditions improve, more of us will feel comfortable returning to normal synagogue life, to seeing friends we have missed, to being in each other's company during prayer and other activities. We are already beginning to scope out the coming High Holidays and while I expect there will be a similar range of options as last year, I am very hopeful that most of us will be able to attend in person. I look forward to greeting you at HJC this fall, if not sooner!

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

Each year at Selichot, we dedicate plaques in memory of our departed loved ones.

This year, Selichot falls on Saturday evening, August 28.

The plaques are \$450 and the deadline to order is June 21.

If you are interested in purchasing a plaque, orders are now being taken.



Interesting Facts about Passover!

The following list was presented by Marilyn Schwartz at an Orlando Chapter of Hadassah meeting a few years ago. The information so delighted and fascinated the members that passing it along to all became a priority. Blessings and good wishes to you and your family this Passover and please enjoy these interesting facts!

1. Coca-Cola makes a special batch of Kosher Coke for Passover.

While Coke is generally a kosher product, the dietary laws tighten during the Passover holiday making high-fructose corn syrup a no-no for observant Jews (it really should be a no-no for everybody all the time, but that's neither here nor there). In response, Coca-Cola pumps out a batch of limited edition Coke that uses (gasp) real sugar instead of the kitniyot corn. Look for bottles with yellow caps on them to be sure you're getting the correct one.

2. The world's largest Passover seder takes place in Nepal.

Each year members of the Chabad-Lubavitch movement hold their "Seder on Top of the World" in Kathmandu for Jewish locals and travelers alike (I'm guessing more the latter than the former). Last year they had around 2,000 people attend the festivities, and between the flowing wine and the thin air, it was quite the party.

3. Abraham Lincoln was assassinated during Passover.

According to the American Jewish Historical Society, many Jews were in synagogue for the holiday when news of Lincoln's assassination broke. Altars in temples "were quickly draped in black and, instead of Passover melodies, the congregations chanted Yom Kippur hymns. Rabbis set aside their sermons and wept openly at their pulpits, as did their congregants." Sadly, a time that was supposed to be full of celebration became one of mourning.

4. Flogging fun at Passover.

Jews from Iran and Afghanistan have a particularly lively custom in which they whip each other with oversize scallions. Before the song begins, each seder participant stands, takes a scallion and starts whacking the other members of the feast. In some families, one scallion is passed around the table while each

person takes a turn whipping. There is some debate about where the custom originates. Many believe it is a way to mimic the whips of slave drivers in Egypt. Seder participants whip one another as a way to scold one another for desiring any aspect of their lives of enslavement.

5. Crossing the Red Sea in Poland.

In the Polish town of Gora Kalwaria, Hasidic Jews mark Passover by re-enacting the crossing of the Red Sea. To make it as realistic as they can, they pour water on the floor, lift up their coats and recite the names of the towns they would cross. They also make sure to raise a glass at each mention of a town and offer thanks to God for being able to reach their destination.

6. Break a dish for Passover.

Many Ethiopian Jews, who for hundreds of years endured persecution in their homeland because of their unique religious rites, left Ethiopia in two secret airlifts in 1984 and 1991. During Passover, to commemorate their past and celebrate renewal, some Ethiopian Jews break all their dishes and cookware and make new ones. The tradition is in keeping with the hope for emancipation and redemption that the holiday signifies.

7. The first American edition of the Haggadah was published in 1837.

The Haggadah is the book or text Jews read from during Passover. It tells the origins of the holiday and explains how the seder is supposed to proceed. Solomon Henry Jackson, an English-born American Jew, published the first American edition of the Haggadah in 1837 in New York. Jackson had moved to the city in the 1820s to establish the first Hebrew printing press, and The Jew, a monthly newspaper and the first Jewish periodical in the United States. One could say Jackson was the original member of the Jewish media elite.

8. And if that's not enough facts about Passover...

The traditional Passover song "Dayenu" literally means "it would have been enough" and lists the 15 gifts and miracles given to the Jewish people by God in the Book of Exodus. The idea that each blessing would be enough on its own, even without further or more profound blessings, is a theme presented throughout the holiday.



Religious School

Leigh Murphy, Director



Hakarat HaTov (gratitude), Ahrayut (responsibility), Koach Hadibbur (the power of words)

We are all grateful to Sari Sternschein for organizing the HJC T-shirt and sweater swag fund-raiser that raised \$1,100 for the Religious School.

Gan: We all know how important it is to welcome Shabbat, the day of the week for which we are most grateful. This month, we learned about Havdalah...saying goodbye to Shabbat. We did a maze showing the busy week that starts and finishes with Shabbat. We learned about the mitzvah of returning lost items via the book *Sara Finds a Mitzva*. After the story, we had a discussion about this idea versus “finders keepers losers weepers” and how people feel. We began our Passover lessons: children shared memories of matzoh, Pharaoh, slaves, Moses.

Alef: Alef has been having fun preparing for Passover by learning the Ma Nishtanah prayer (The Four Questions) and identifying chametz (leavened) and non-chametz foods for Passover. We also have been learning the story of Passover with a special focus on the story of Moses and his life growing up in the Egyptian palace.

Bet: We decorated a cup for Elijah and made matzah covers. We also discussed the Passover story and the steps of the Seder, along with what 10 plagues there would be in 2021.

Gimel: Last week, Gimel started the unit about Koach Hadibbur (the power of speech). The focus last week was on Lshon Hara (gossip) and how destructive it can be. This week and next, we will turn focus toward Passover and how speech was an important factor in that narrative. We have also been learning some Passover songs—Modeh Ani and Dayenu. We will continue practicing them and others up to Pesach.

Dalet: The class spent much of the last month creating Passover decorations, which we posted on the hallway display board. We

reviewed The Four Questions and other parts of prayers, practiced Hatikvah and Hebrew from Morah Tara's lesson, and played Jewish-themed games.

Hey: Our students discussed the importance of feeling comfortable asking questions as a form of speech. We noted the relevance of asking questions to the Passover Seder (The Four Questions). We recognized asking questions as a form of speaking up, and, although it can be embarrassing or scary, we are responsible for saying something difficult. We had the first lesson with the Cantor to chant from the Chumash after learning all the Torah tropes.

Vav: The sixth grade is completing the Ahrayut (Responsibility) unit of the Shalom Learning curriculum. Through a forced-choice activity of allocating \$1,000 to different people or organizations, the children began to think about to whom they are responsible – primarily to people in our community or outside of our country, primarily to Jews or to anyone in need, etc? We are now taking a careful look at the Gilad Shalit hostage horror that gripped Israel and all people throughout the world five years ago. What does responsibility mean both in our own families and in that extreme and agonizing situation?



FYI - We have a private Facebook page (“HJC Religious School Members”)! Persons requesting access have to be accepted by the administrator. Please search for it on Facebook and sign up to get access to interesting postings about Jewish education and holidays and raising healthy, well-adjusted Jewish children.

Sincerely,

Morah Stacey, Morah Melanie, Morah Jen, Moreh Ari, Morah Tara, Moreh Paul, Morah Sharone, Moreh Phil Mark Richman, Religious School Committee President Leigh Murphy, Religious School Director

Religious School Director Search

We are embarking on a search for HJC's next professional Director of Religious Education and Youth and Family Services. The Director will both guide our school forward and lead us in community-building and engagement. If you know of a strong candidate, please send them our way!

The ideal person will be an effective administrator, organizer, planner, thinker, educator, communicator, and community builder. They will be familiar with Conservative Jewish practice and programming in support of our children's progression in Judaic and Hebrew studies, from early childhood through post-B'nai Mitzvah. They will be experienced in both education administration (including budget and human resource management) and Jewish education (including teaching and curricular coordination). Musical and singing skills and knowledge of Hebrew are pluses.

If there is someone you would recommend for this mission-critical position, please encourage them to reach out and send their resume to Mark Richman (Religious School Committee President) at mrgbuspm@gmail.com.



"The best classroom and the richest classroom is roofed only by the sky." Margaret McMillan

Clearly this has been a year like no other, but with all the challenges, disappointments, and pain, have also come some benefits. We have had to think out of the box, think creatively, think as we never had to before, to find alternatives to our traditional layout of school. One of the most positive aspects of reworking our school was to make it safer due to Covid, was incorporating even more outdoor learning. It has given the children a totally new experience, a very positive experience. Whoever said or thought that learning should only take place in the confines of four walls was sorely mistaken. Research shows that learning outdoors:

- Enhances personal and social communication skills.
- Increases physical health.
- Enhances mental and spiritual health.
- Enhances spiritual, sensory, and aesthetic awareness.
- Instills the ability to assert personal control and increased sensitivity to one's own well-being.

It is incredulous that any school, particularly Early Childhood schools would want all learning to occur in a classroom.

Our teachers have completely and brilliantly adapted to our new routine of outdoor learning and bringing the learning outdoors. They are at school early in the morning packing up their wagons and carts with books, markers, paper, magnifying glasses, playdough, and so much more. Not only have the teachers of the ECC adjusted their teaching techniques, but so have Rabbi and Cantor. Because they cannot enter the classrooms due to our Covid policies, they can also bring their learning safely outdoors to each class. It has been truly amazing to observe Cantor conducting his music classes and Shabbat outside in frigid temperatures and even more unbelievable watching Rabbi teaching and participating in the Aleph Bet Yoga curriculum. The parents too, have played their part in outdoor learning, still being able to be part of their child's school and community. The parents are welcome to come to school to be the "Mystery Reader", Shabbat guest, or for birthday celebrations.

Learning in the great outdoors has only enriched and expanded the children's school experience. It also has given us the opportunity to understand that education takes many different forms and there is always an opportunity to learn.



Donations

GENERAL FUND

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in memory of Ann Cole at yahrzeit.

Cecil & Richard Klein in memory of Doris Sausmer at yahrzeit.

Micki Sokol with thanks to Sisterhood for the Purim bag.

Lesley & Jeff Stark in honor of the birth of Hazel Lynn Berry, granddaughter of Marcey & Bob Wagner.

Lesley & Jeff Stark in honor of the birth of Silas Kenneth Shoemaker, grandson of Renda Rosenblatt.

Lesley & Jeff Stark in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg & Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Leslie & Jack Rubin in honor of the birth of Hazel Lynn Berry, granddaughter of Marcey & Bob Wagner.

Leslie & Jack Rubin in honor of the birth of Silas Kenneth Shoemaker, grandson of Renda Rosenblatt.

Leslie & Jack Rubin in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Leslie & Jack Rubin in memory of Leonard Meltzer, father of Eve Meltzer Krief.

Gloria Safran in honor of the appointment of Billy Wertheim as the Interim Dean of the Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University.

Gloria Safran in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Shelley Weinberg in memory of Mia Freilich at yahrzeit.

Dale & Phil Mintz in honor of the birth of Silas Kenneth Shoemaker, grandson of Renda Rosenblatt.

Dale & Phil Mintz in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Dale & Phil Mintz in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Dale & Phil Mintz in honor of the birth of Hazel Lynn Berry, granddaughter of Marcey & Bob Wagner.

Vered Cole in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Jessica & Arthur Frischman in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg and Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Judith Schwager in memory of Carole Weissberg at yahrzeit.

Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz & Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg and Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Rosalie Malkiel in memory of Frieda Lishinsky at yahrzeit.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Ruth Steinberg at yahrzeit.

BEN TASMAN LIBRARY FUND

Pam & Bruce Fleiss in memory of Elsa Gjini, mother of Irma Mile.

CANTOR'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Gloria Safran in memory of Kenneth Greenberg at yahrzeit.

Cantor Israel Gordan & Dr. Abigail Uhrman in memory of Elsa Gjini, mother of Irma Mile.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND

Huntington Jewish Center Sisterhood

Gwen Goldstein in memory of Philip Marcus at yahrzeit.

COVID-19 RECOVERY FUND

Theresa Brady in honor of her generous friend, Rosalind Carter.

Gloria Safran in memory of Reuben Safran at yahrzeit.

Ilene Brown in memory of Leonard Meltzer, father of Eve Meltzer Krief.

Shari & Larry Feibel in memory of Leonard Meltzer, father of Eve Meltzer Krief.

Johanna & Ari Perler in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

DONALD L. GORDAN ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of the birth of Silas Kenneth Shoemaker, grandson of Renda Rosenblatt.

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg and Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judy & Lester Fox in memory of Elsa Gjini, mother of Irma Mile.

Judy & Lester Fox in memory of Leonard Meltzer, father of Eve Meltzer Krief.

Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Elliott & Debbie Barish in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

ETHEL SACHS ENGAGEMENT FUND

Laura & Jeffrey Winkler in memory of Ethel Sachs.

Nancy & Brian Cooper in honor of the birth of Silas Kenneth Shoemaker, grandson of Renda Rosenblatt.

Robert Schpoont in memory of Ethel Sachs.

Andrea Marcus Smoller in memory of Ethel Sachs.

Andrea Marcus Smoller in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Andrea Marcus Smoller in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Elaine & Walter Kleinmann in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Elaine & Walter Kleinmann in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT FUND

Johanna & Ari Perler in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Rabbi Hayim Herring in appreciation of being a virtual congregant.

Jacob Biel in appreciation of the virtual Megillah reading.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND Continued

Carol Einhorn in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg and Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Shari & Larry Feibel in honor of the birthday of Rabbi Saks.

Carol Himmelstein in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Eli David Himmelstein.

Amira Garbus in memory of Albert Garbus at yahrzeit.

Susi Susskind in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg and Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Huntington Jewish Center Sisterhood

Nancy & Brian Cooper in honor of the birth of Hazel Lynn Berry, granddaughter of Marcey & Bob Wagner.

Gloria Safran in memory of Ray Stecker at yahrzeit.

Maxine & Rob Fisher in memory of Elsa Gjini, mother of Irma Mile.

Maxine & Rob Fisher in memory of Leonard Meltzer, father of Eve Meltzer Krief.

Eileen & Harvey Berger in memory of Elsa Gjini, mother of Irma Mile.

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of the birth of Hazel Lynn Berry, granddaughter of Marcey & Bob Wagner.

Marilyn & David Klein in memory of Elsa Gjini, mother of Irma Mile.

Shari & Larry Feibel in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg & Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

Miriam Eckstein-Koas in memory of Leonard Meltzer, father of Eve Meltzer Krief.

Gail and Jerry Ellstein in memory of Millicent Kuppersmith, stepmother of Joel Kuppersmith.

YOUTH FUND

Huntington Jewish Center Sisterhood

Shari & Scott Klaire in memory of Rachel Tal Kirschner, mother of Maayan Klein.

Shari & Larry Feibel in memory of Sandra Kessler at yahrzeit.

CONDOLENCES

Eve Meltzer Krief on the death of her father, Leonard Meltzer z"l.

Barbara Axmacher on the death of her Life Partner, Tom Mola z"l.

MAZAL TOV

Marcey & Bob Wagner announce the birth of their granddaughter, Hazel Lynn Berry.

Ellen & Jay Steinberg announce the birth of their grandson, Winston Maccabee Steinberg.

Our Culinary Legacy Cookbook

To fulfill Our Culinary Legacy Cookbook's mission to feed the hungry on Long Island, Sisterhood has made a generous donation to the Jewish Nutrition Network.

DONATIONS

Evelyn Abraham and Roger Silverberg in honor of the birth of Russell and Winston Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen and Jay Steinberg.

Eileen and Harvey Berger in memory of Irving and Dolores Rothenberg and Irving Berger at yahrzeit.

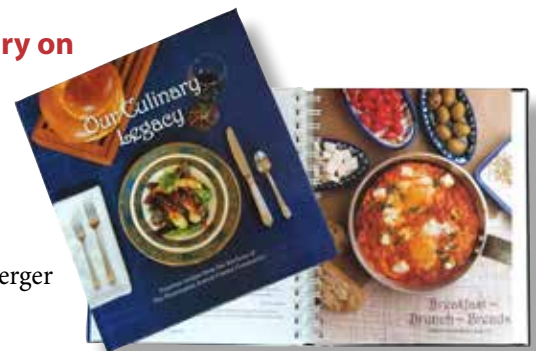
Leila and Elliott Waldman in memory of Ethel Sachs.

THE CULINARY LEGACY COOKBOOK MAKES A GREAT GIFT

If you have not placed your order yet, the cost is \$36 per book. Since this is a limited run, submit your orders now. You can order online <https://hjcny.org/hjc-cookbook/> or send a check to HJC and mark attention Sisterhood Cookbook.

APRONS AND BAGS WITH CULINARY LEGACY COOKBOOK

If you are looking for a gift to give family or friends, in addition to the cookbook, buy an Apron (\$15) and Grocery Bag (\$5) with the Cookbook logo. Please contact Evelyn Abraham (evelyn_abraham@optonline.net) if you have any questions about making donations and ordering the Cookbook, Apron or Grocery Bag.



**Thank you to all those who donated clothing to HIHI this season.
Our clothing drive is complete and we are no longer accepting donations.**

The Huntington Jewish Community's Annual Commemoration **Sponsored by Huntington Jewish Center,** **Temple Beth-El, and Kehillath Shalom**

Wednesday, April 7th
7:30 pm over Zoom

A short, online commemoration including:

- ~ Readings & Prayers by clergy and community members
- ~ Ritual for members of our communities to recite names of loved ones
- ~ Presentation of the story of the late Irving Roth z"l, a renown Holocaust educator



Temple Beth El
of Huntington



**KEHILLATH
SHALOM**
SYNAGOGUE

RSVP to your congregation's office by Monday, April 5th to receive Zoom details

Celebrate with Cantor Gordan as he approaches his Tenth Anniversary at HJC!

These monthly ZOOM events are Cantor Gordan's gift to us as we move toward his May celebration. All generously sponsored by the Cantor's Professional Development Fund.

APRIL

Kol Sasson Jewish A Cappella community concert

Sunday, April 11th

**Community-wide concert
at 11:30am**





COME TOGETHER AGAIN
FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL

Yom Ha'atzmaut Across America



A Live Streaming Concert Event
with communities across America



We'll be there!



JOSH NELSON

**Supported
by the
HJC Israel
Committee**



HADAR AND SHELDON



CHAVA MIREL

FULL BAND PERFORMANCES

**Login info
Coming Soon!**

**Sun 4/11
2PM ET**

Proceeds benefit

MAZON

A Jewish Response
To Hunger



HJC Men's Club, in association with Yodeah, presents

Born in the USA and Jewish

Bruce Springsteen's drummer, Max Weinberg and his daughter, Ali Rogin, TV producer and author share their story of how a BRCA mutation impacted their family.



Sunday, April 18, 2021, 10:00 am

With 1 in 40 Ashkenazi Jewish men and women carrying this mutation, this is a conversation you won't want to miss! This program is for all fathers, sons, brothers, husbands, and those who love them.

Presented by The Huntington Jewish Center Men's Club via zoom, the event will feature a conversation with Max and Ali, as they share their story of what it means to be a BRCA positive man, passing that genetic mutation on to your child, and the life-saving choices they made regarding their health. While this part of the program has been pre-recorded, it will be moderated by Dr. Elizabeth Etkin-Kramer, founder of Yodeah, who will discuss the increased risk of cancer in men and women with BRCA mutations, describe the preventative steps you can take to mitigate your risk of cancer and the risk to your children and future generations, and answer questions.

Dr. Etkin-Kramer is a Board Certified Gynecologist who, in addition to her practice, holds teaching positions at the University of Miami and Florida International University medical schools and Miami-Dade College. Dr. Etkin-Kramer serves on the ACOG Presidential Task Force on Knowledge Gaps in Breast and Ovarian Cancer Risk Assessment and Genetic Testing for Hereditary Cancer Susceptibility Genes. She is a frequent author and speaker on the BRCA gene mutation and recently moderated an international symposium entitled Population Based Testing for Cancer Susceptibility Genes: The Ashkenazi Model and Beyond.

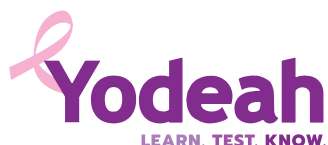
Knowledge is Power. **Knowledge Saves Lives.**

Yodeah is a non-profit organization committed to educating the Jewish community on hereditary cancer genes and facilitating low-cost testing.

RSVP

by sending an email with your full name to HJCMensClub@Gmail.com

The Zoom link will be sent on April 15 to registered attendees.



WWW.YODEAH.ORG
 INFO@YODEAH.ORG

[YODEAH.KNOW](https://www.facebook.com/YODEAH.KNOW)
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Yodeah is funded in part by
 GREATER MIAMI JEWISH FEDERATION
The Strength of a People. The Power of Community.

Spotlight On...

Paul and Gale Greenstein

It was a pleasure to get to know Paul and Gale for the Storytelling Project through our first-ever “live event” on zoom in January 2021.

Paul’s history at HJC starts with Selma whom we all know but “met” through the Storytelling Project when her profile appeared in the spring 2016 HJC newsletter. Selma grew up in the Bronx, her husband, Morty, grew up in Brooklyn. They lived in Queens after they were married in 1955 and moved to Huntington in 1959 when Morty bought a window cleaning business in Hicksville. Paul was Selma and Morty’s first born and with his siblings, Caryl and Lee, grew up going to HJC religious school and Shabbat services. Thus began a life-long involvement and commitment to the HJC. While growing up Paul loved sports (he still does!) and was a member of the HJC youth group basketball team that played at halftime of a Nets game at Nassau Coliseum. Paul graduated from C.W. Post College and then law school at St John’s. He remains close to his brother who lives near Albany, and his sister who lives on the south shore of LI.

Paul’s father, Morty, was involved in HJC for many years as a one-man House Committee; and was the construction chair when the Lief Chapel was initially built. They had the opportunity to serve on the HJC Board together in 1992-93 while they were partners in the window cleaning business. Paul is the all-around “everywhere person” who we can all count on. His easy-going style and reliability have created a sense of well-being when “Paul is in the house.” Paul was president of HJC from 1998 – 2000. [Remember the Y2K computer scare!]. He is a regular Torah reader and Gabbai. Paul credits Lester Fox for teaching him to read Torah, and many other valuable lessons. One can always count on Paul to be at the ready at the Kiddush table, pouring wine and whiskey. He tends to the needs of the building and knows exactly how to adjust the heat, find prayer books, extra chairs, etc. One can always turn to Paul to problem solve! Paul expresses much gratitude and love for his life-long experiences at HJC which is an example of the life lesson that the more you put into something the more you get out of it. He feels blessed to have such a rich and enriched connection.

Gale was born in Brooklyn and lived there until she was eleven years old. She has fond memories of her childhood in Brooklyn, describing the experience of being closely connected to neighbors, playing in the streets, walking to school and being relatively carefree. Her family moved to Matawan, NJ when she was 11, as Brooklyn “changed;” and it was an easy commute for her father, Marvin “Buddy,” into the city for work. In NJ Gale en-

joyed a typical, happy suburban life with many good memories including time with friends and summers at the pool club where her mother, Arlene, was a mainstay. Gale describes her parents as not being observant Jews, but there was a feeling of Judaism in her family; the importance of family, tradition and good values. They were all very proud when her younger brother, David, became a bar mitzvah. He now lives near Green Bay. Gale’s older sister, Marilyn, moved near Clearwater, Florida many years ago and were followed by their parents who enjoyed retirement life for years. Gale went to college at Brookdale Community College and worked in the garment district in Manhattan for a few years prior to starting a family.

Gale was introduced to Paul by her cousin who was dating Paul’s cousin at the time. She was not familiar with kashrut

but came to understand that it was part of the package with marrying into the Greenstein family. She and Paul were married in 1983.

Jason was born in 1984 and then Joey in 1986. They lived in Bayside and Paul

brought the growing family back home to Huntington later that year. Alli completed the family in

1990. When Jason started at the HJC Nursery school, Paul immediately reconnected to HJC.

All three children attended HJC nursery school and religious school. Gale became involved in HJC when the children were young, and she sat on the PTA of the religious school. Gale attended Rabbi Kurshan’s adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah class and became a bat mitzvah in 1998. She was also involved in Sisterhood.

Gale works at Huntington High School where she has been for the last 25 years. She is currently an aide in the Special Ed Department.

All three Greenstein offspring speak openly about the strong bonds they formed with other HJC families who remain their closest confidantes. Jason described his parents as having hearts of gold; he enjoys cooking and has a deep love of sports as does the whole family. He works for a financial company and lives in Manhattan with his brother, Joey, who as the middle child, was always in the fray. Joey is described as very dependable. Alli has the ability to bring order to “family chaos.” She has a love of dancing and currently lives in Long Beach working as a liaison to college students who are being treated at Zucker-Hillside Hospital. They think of HJC as a second home and describe the life-long friendships they have through their HJC connections as so meaningful. The connections that three Greenstein generations have to HJC run very deep. The community is appreciative of their involvement and generate the love in return.

Narrative compiled by Nancy Cooper, Paul & Gale Greenstein



HJC Adult Education Virtual Learning

Last Tuesday of the month, 12 pm

Apr 27, May 25

HJC's Main Zoom Room

• Meeting ID: 290 291 082 • Password 7fkXvu

• Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/290291082?pwd=TGtWWjFGTTcxTzdnRnJnWjhZWUx5dz09>



SECRETS OF THE HEBREW PRAYERBOOK CLASS

Once a month we will gather over Zoom to unlock the secrets of our prayers hidden within our ancient Hebrew text. We will have a chance to read together in class as well as developing skills for following/reading the Hebrew text during services.

Rabbi Saks is also offering a single 1-on-1 30-minute session for all members of HJC who want to practice their Hebrew reading skills.

Please note: You do not need to attend this once-a-month class to take advantage of the 1-on-1 30-minute session.

RSVP via hjcny.org/event-rsvp



MONDAY EVENINGS at 8 PM

Lester Fox is offering a weekly study of two fundamental texts:

The Torah

through the weekly portion, and

Pirke Avot

(Ethics of the Fathers)

which are ethical teachings and moral maxims providing compelling entry points to the study of Talmud.

These study sessions will entail a close review of the texts. Lester's lifetime of study has given him a rich background in Jewish ideas and practices. His extensive knowledge is matched by his capacity to teach. Lester brings to discussions a unique blend of humor, erudition and, above all, passion.

Please contact Lester Fox at foxles@optonline.net

HJC SISTERHOOD

SAVE THE DATES

Tuesday, 5/4 @ 7:30pm

**Mother's Day:
Margaritas,
Mimosas
Mojitos**



Thursday, 5/20 @ 1:00pm

**Book Discussion:
The Four Winds
by Kristin Hannah**



HJC Sisterhood presents...

JEOPARDY!

Heroes, Icons, and Trailblazers

An interactive game night via zoom*

THURSDAY, April 22, 2021

@ 7:30pm

Test your knowledge in 10 different categories

**Must RSVP by 4/20 to be randomly assigned a team number
and sent a zoom link...**

each device must have its own RSVP

MUST PRE-REGISTER IN ORDER TO PLAY

RSVP by 4/20

**Evelyn Abraham at evelyn_abraham@optonline.net
or 631-424-6922**

***Please note that game will be best played on a
desktop or laptop computer**

Cannot guarantee quality interactive play on a phone or iPad

**Invite your family and friends
All are invited!**



HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

510 PARK AVENUE, HUNTINGTON, NEW YORK 11743

TRIBUTE FUNDS - DONATION FORM



GENERAL BUILDING AND OPERATING FUNDS

GENERAL FUND - supports services and operational continuity of the synagogue.

TREE OF LIFE - (\$360 minimum contribution)

BUILDER'S WALL - (\$500 minimum contribution)

ARK & PULPIT FUND - supports ongoing care and restoration of the Ark and Torahs.

LIEF CHAPEL BENCH PLAQUES - dedicate a seat of a Lief Chapel bench (\$500 minimum contribution)

HUMASH - a limited number of *Etz Hayim Humashim* are available for dedication. A contribution of \$72 includes a dedication bookplate.

BEN TASMAN LIBRARY FUND - defrays the expense of library supplies.

PRAYERBOOK AND BIBLE FUND - supports the ongoing need for prayer books.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND - established in recognition of our 100 years, enables the synagogue to continue to beautify the grounds.

DAILY MINYAN FUND - helps maintain materials and books for minyan and the Lief Chapel.

LEAH GREENE GARDEN FUND - supports general landscaping and property beautification.

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL ACTION FUNDS

ETHEL SACHS ENGAGEMENT FUND - Provide financial support that promote, continue or enhance the engagement of our members.

SOCIAL ACTION FUND / JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK - defrays operating costs of the weekly program of feeding the needy and supports *mitzvot*, holiday baskets and activities for the needy.

HJC COVID-19 RECOVERY FUND

Provides support to HJC families impacted by COVID-19.

EDUCATIONAL FUNDS

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND - supports current Nursery School activities and special projects.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND - supports Religious School activities and special projects.

YOUTH FUND - supports activities for *Chaverim*, *Kadima* and USY groups within the HJC.

ARNIE KERNS FUND - supports special projects in the Nursery and Religious Schools.

COLLEGIATE FUND - supports holiday packages and mailings sent to college students (along with Sisterhood).

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND - defrays expenses of seminars and leadership development programs for lay leaders.

TEACHER DEVELOPMENT FUND - enables HJC Religious School teachers to participate in continuing education programs.

EDWARD SPEVACK KOCHAVIN FUND - subsidizes expenses for Special Education programs.

DAVID S. ROSENMAN / CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND - provides scholarships for children attending Camp Ramah.

DONALD L. GORDON / ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND - provides scholarships for children to travel to Israel.

ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT FUND - fund to support Israel education and quality programming to enhance Israel engagement.

SCHECHTER FUND - provides scholarships for children attending the Schechter School of Long Island.

CLERGY FUNDS

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND - provides funds for the Rabbi for needed purposes.

RABBI HOSPITALITY FUND - defrays expenses of entertaining congregants at the Rabbi's home.

CANTOR'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND - provides funds for the Cantor for education, development and musical support.

Date: _____ Please direct my contribution of \$ _____ to the _____ Fund.

Name: _____ Phone Number: (____) _____

Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Speedy recovery to: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION: I have enclosed a check in the amount of \$ _____ payable to the Huntington Jewish Center.

Please bill my Visa / Master Card / AmEx Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date: _____

Card Security Code (3 digits on back of Visa / Master Card or 4 digits on front of AmEx) _____ E-mail: _____

All donations of \$10 and above will be listed in the HJC Bulletin. Donations must be received by the 10th of the month to go in the next month's Bulletin.

SAVE THE DATE

A DECADE OF MUSIC



JOIN US IN HONORING
CANTOR ISRAEL GORDAN
HIS FIRST TEN YEARS

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER
A VIRTUAL EVENING
OF MUSIC AND TRIBUTES

MAY 2, 5-6 PM



HJC Bulletin

April 2021

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From the Ben Tasman HJC Library Tyna Strenger

Written any good books lately? Neither have I, but many others have and here are a few titles that have come into our mailbox recently:

NON-FICTION:

When Time Stopped: A Memoir of My Father's War and What Remains, written by Ariana Neumann, growing up in Venezuela, of her Jewish family's experiences during World War II. An extraordinary story of espionage, industrialism and suspense, all of which the author learned about after the death of her father.

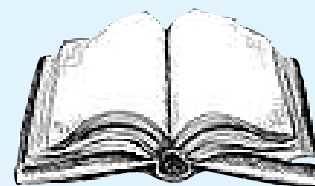
FICTION:

The Takeaway Men, a debut novel, by Meryl Ain, a story of twin sisters born to Polish parents in a displaced persons camp and raised in Queens, New York in the 1950's. Trying to protect the girls, the parents shield them from information about their past and only when their curiosity is sparked do they look into the mystery of their parent's history.

FICTION:

The Lost Boys, by Faye Kellerman. Another adventure (#26) in the Peter Decker/Rina Lazarus series of the famous Jewish observant detective and family. A confluence of two cases including missing persons, current and cold, foster/step/biological parents, Jewish family life and even bits of Torah. If you follow the series you began with The Ritual Bath. (Unfortunately, our library does not have that title).

The Library has not yet opened but when it does we hope to have titles like these and many others added to our catalog.



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.