



May 2021 | Iyar / Sivan 5781 Bulletin

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER  
NEWS / COMMUNITY / CONNECTION

CELEBRATING



CANTOR GORDAN

TEN YEARS

# A DECADE OF MUSIC

## JOIN US IN HONORING CANTOR GORDAN

Thank you to the following people who have generously contributed to a Scroll of Honor to commemorate Cantor Gordan's 10 years at HJC. The Scroll will be displayed in our kiddish lounge. If you haven't yet contributed and wish to, please go to the HJC website to make your donation. This list has been updated through April 22nd.

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# **CANTOR GORDAN'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

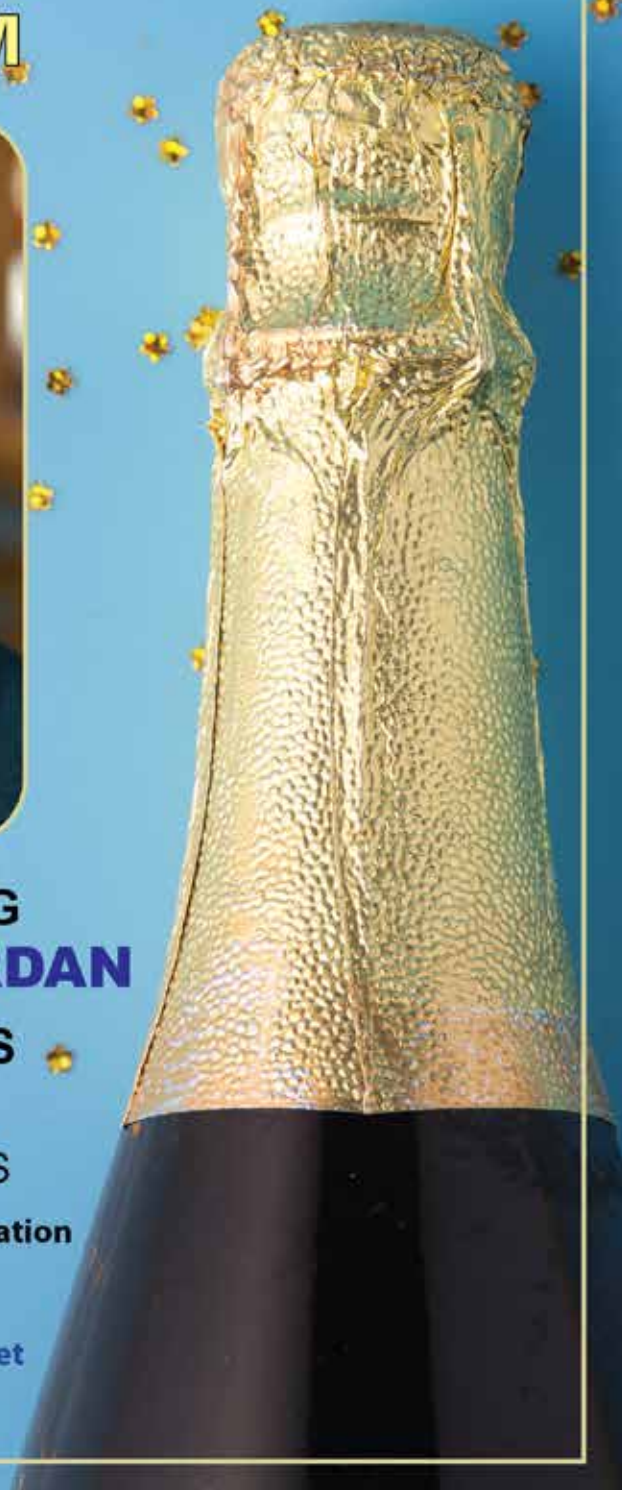
**MAY 2, 5-6 PM**



**JOIN US IN HONORING  
CANTOR ISRAEL GORDAN  
HIS FIRST TEN YEARS**

A VIRTUAL EVENING  
OF MUSIC AND TRIBUTES

RSVP by April 20th on the digital invitation  
you received via email  
or, if you prefer, just email  
Lesley Stark at [ldelia@optonline.net](mailto:ldelia@optonline.net)



# 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**

## BQLI REGION

## WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT GALA

**The annual BQLI  
Region Woman of Achievement Gala is  
Thursday June 10th at 7:30 PM.**

It will be a Virtual Event and the HJC Sisterhood will be honoring Joni Brenner. If you are interested in attending, please contact Evelyn Abraham for reservation information.

[evelyn\\_abraham@optonline.net](mailto:evelyn_abraham@optonline.net)

## 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](mailto:evelyn_abraham@optonline.net)

## JUDAICA SHOP

OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND

FOR YOUR HOLIDAY AND SIMCHA NEEDS

**Sisterhood Contact:** Evelyn Abraham  
[evelyn\\_abraham@optonline.net](mailto:evelyn_abraham@optonline.net)



**Rabbi Ari Saks**

Rabbi  
631-423-5355

**Cantor Israel Gordan**

Cantor  
631-427-1089 ext. 22

**Leigh Murphy/Mark Richman**

Religious School  
631-427-1157

**Dan Schoeffler**

President  
631-423-4866

**Barbara Axmacher**

Executive Director  
631-427-1089 ext. 23

**Ilene Brown**

Director, Early Childhood Center  
631-427-1089 ext. 15

**Neil Kurshan**

Rabbi Emeritus

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# From Rabbi Ari Saks



## *Experiencing the Spark of Your Inner-Yid*

Chances are that if you're reading this message, there's been at least one seminal moment in your life when you either felt a connection to being Jewish, or (if you don't identify as Jewish) you developed an appreciation for what Judaism has to offer. In other words, regardless of our particular experiences, we share a universal feeling of the importance of whatever-it-is-that-we-call-"Jewish."

Understanding these experiences is critical because they spark our "inner yid," the part of us that feels a deep attachment to Judaism, and it is only by tapping into that "inner yid" that we can begin to more deeply explore the importance, relevance, and impact that Judaism can have on our lives. Torah has always been a pathway to experience that attachment. As our tradition teaches us, talmud Torah k'neged kulam, which could be translated as "the study of Torah is the greatest of all Jewish pursuits." As we approach the holiday of Shavuot this month, I encourage you to take advantage of the oppor-

tunities available to experience how Torah can connect you to your "inner yid."

Music is also a key pathway for igniting our "inner yid." I've been in conversations with many of you in which we've talked about the critical role that music plays developing a connection to Judaism. For some that's discovering a new tune and for others it's harnessing the nostalgic power of traditional melodies. Over his first 10 years at HJC, Cantor Gordan has demonstrated his superior ability to spark our inner yid with melodies new and old, and I am so excited to join our congregation in celebrating his decade of music with all of you at the beginning of the month.

So whether our services and programming this month leaves you with a tune, a story, or a teaching bouncing through your head, I pray that you will experience a moment (or more) of attachment to your "inner yid," because once you feel that "inner yid" there's no telling how much whatever-it-is-that-we-call-"Jewish" can make a positive impact in your life.

Kol Tuv,

Rabbi Ari Saks

## ***Shavuot 2021 will begin in the evening of Sunday, May 16 and ends in the evening of Tuesday, May 18***

**Shavuot marks the wheat harvest in the Land of Israel (Exodus 34:22) and it also commemorates the anniversary of the giving of the Torah by God to the Children of Israel at Mount Sinai.**

**The word Shavuot means "weeks" and it marks the conclusion of the Counting of the Omer. Its date is directly linked to that of Passover; the Torah mandates the seven-week Counting of the Omer, beginning on the second day of Passover, to be immediately followed by Shavuot. This counting of days and weeks is understood to express anticipation and desire for the giving of the Torah. On Passover, the people of Israel were freed from their enslavement to Pharaoh; on Shavuot, they were given the Torah and became a nation committed to serving God.**

# From Hazzan Israel Gordan



## *The Delights of the Sabbath*

This past fall in rabbinical school I took a Halachot of Shabbat class and just this spring, I took a Talmud class called The Sabbath through History. With all of that material in mind, I have been teaching an adult ed class entitled the History and Halachot of Shabbat and even though we have already met five times, we still have three more sessions before the end

of the year if you'd like to join us! We meet every third week on Saturday mornings over zoom before services begin from 9:15am to approximately 9:52 or so. We've been looking at a lot of sources and have had some fascinating discussions together as a small group. I'd love to share a little bit of what we've learned.

Like most things that we practice as rabbinic Jews, the origins of the Sabbath as described in the Torah are sparse and the details are few. Shabbat is first described as what God did after creating the world in six days. Later it is given as a commandment for the Israelites to imitate and honor God through its observance. Later still it is given a few prohibitions concerning gathering and lighting wood for fire, preparing food, and the distance one can travel. The commandment is widened to include non-Israelites living within the Israelites midst as well as animals. Finally in remembrance of the exodus from Egypt is added to the reasons why the Sabbath is observed (in addition to remembrance of creation), which is about it when it comes to the Torah and Shabbat.

The main question that arises from this initial description is: to whom does Shabbat belong? Is it God's day? Is it a day for us to emulate God's behavior? Is our observance of the Sabbath a way to honor God? Does not observing the sabbath offend and upset God? Is it just for Jews, all people, or all creatures, including the land itself (which rests every seven years on the sabbatical cycle in Israel)?

The rabbis quickly set to the task of fleshing out what the requirements and restrictions are for observance of the sabbath in their post-biblical writings. There are many detailed commandments and prohibitions concerning Shabbat, but one of the most important ideas for the rabbis is "hachanah l'Shabbat" or preparing for Shabbat. While God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh, our weekly rhythm is supposed to be more like working five days a week, preparing for Shabbat on the sixth, and then observing Shabbat on the seventh and final day.

Interestingly enough, it is this preparation for Shabbat that is probably least observed in the non-Orthodox world. Many of us do not feel compelled to have everything that we need for the 25 hours starting Friday evening set up before Friday evening, and everything that we do not need, removed from our space. And yet, that is what much of the discourse surrounding Shabbat is concerned with.

I'm wondering how you feel about this, and if you'd like, please join us on Saturday, May 8th, May 29th, and June 19th to continue the conversation!

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## 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.**





## ***After A Second COVID Shot, A Taste of Freedom*** By Len Berk

*This article is being reprinted from The Forward. Len Berk worked for 26 years behind the lox counter at Zabar's. He is the Forward's lox columnist.*

*I hope you find this article speaks as universally as I did, which is why I decided to share it here. Read along and swap out Len's personal information for your own. Maybe*

*you got your shot at Jones Beach, or Stony Brook, or Walgreens! And maybe you took a walk in Hecksher Park or at Caumsett State park or at your local high school track. No matter - it's the feeling, the feeling we all have that is the same; the relief, the comfort, the excitement, the joy. WELCOME BACK, BABY!*

It's 10 degrees in Kansas City, and snowing. It's 17 degrees in Memphis, and snowing. Traffic is snarled all over the country's midsection and there are accidents because of icy roads and poor vision, but here in New York where we usually get the snow and ice, it is 45 degrees and partly sunny. This is what I woke up to this morning. It's a sign! I normally don't believe in signs, but this is a sign. I'm very excited. At 1 p.m. this afternoon Llewellyn and I will get into my car and drive to The Atrium, In the Montifiore Health complex in the Bronx, to get our second shot of the Pfizer COVID vaccine and then, the way I see it, I may have to wait another week to be sure of my 95 percent security blanket, but as George Costanza's father says "I'M BACK, BABY."

I've been waiting for this day since March 2020, when I stopped working, as did so many others, and went into a modified hibernation. I haven't hugged my kids or grandkids in almost a year. Nor have I been to a restaurant, a movie theater, a Broadway play. All this inactivity crept up on me slowly starting last March and then one day it was as though life as I knew it was over. For how long, it was anybody's guess. But now, for Llewellyn and me, the hard times will be coming to an end. I think I'll even go back to work. There's a lot of lox out there for me to slice. It'll be great to see all the guys behind the counter. Will I remember how the scales work?

12 p.m. arrived. We got into the car for our short trip to the vaccination site. I drove kind of slowly so as to prolong the whole episode. I thrived on getting closer and closer to the site. I pulled in to the parking area and someone was pulling out. Last month, when we took our first shot, parking spots were hard to find.

We exited the car and entered the Atrium, approached the reception desk and showed our credentials. No one was there but us. A month ago, when we arrived for our first shot it was quite crowded. "Second floor," he said. We proceeded to the elevator, got off on the second floor, and stepped out into a long and empty corridor. Last month, same spot there was a long and slow moving line. It took nearly an hour to arrive at the entrance to the rooms

where the vaccinations were being given. Today there was no one in sight. We just walked down the long corridor, turned the corner and saw the official waiting at the entrance to the vaccination room. We entered the almost-empty room and were ushered to a small semi-enclosed area where the person who was to administer the shot was seated. She was very friendly. She requested a fan from someone in the section in front of us to help with her hot flashes. She turned on the fan, sat back, and gave a sigh of relief as the cool air enveloped her area.

"Second Shot?" she asked. "Yes," I said and proceeded with a long tirade about how excited I was. When I finished, she looked at me and remarked that she knew why I was so excited, removed the needle from its housing and inserted it into my forearm, pushed the plunger, removed the needle and it was over. Then she administered Llewellyn's shot. We said our goodbyes and were off to the observation room where we sat for about 10 minutes to wait for a possible reaction to the vaccine, which did not occur, so we got up and retraced our steps back to the car and drove home. Music from "Fiddler on the Roof" was playing on the car radio and it seemed to fit the occasion. "Sunrise, Sunset," "To Life." Yeah life, that's the thing, that's what it's all about.

At home we had some lunch, got back into the car and drove to Orchard Beach. We parked the car and proceeded to walk the path leading to the beach promenade, where we take our daily walk, weather permitting. We were both still on a kind of high, still tasting the flavor of just having completed our second COVID shot, and what that meant in terms of a return to a more normal life. There were some other beach walkers there and others sitting on the benches scattered over the promenade. We decided to walk to the east end of the promenade to liaison with the ducks and sea gulls in and above the water.

This spot brings us much closer to nature and we stand there and take in all the natural sights and sounds of the moment. On the way back we passed a couple sitting on a bench absorbing the sun's warmth. A need came over me and I walked over to the two complete strangers and abruptly said. "We just got our second COVID shot about an hour ago and I'm very excited about the new life that awaits us."

The couple stood up. The woman applauded; the man raised his arms toward the heavens and said "God bless you." I have had many occasions when I entered an interesting and sometimes personal conversation with a total stranger. Sometimes you can say things to a stranger that you would not say to one close to you. C'est La Vie.

On the final stretch of our walk we encountered another couple walking toward us and I repeated the cry of having had the second COVID shot and they too responded with big smiles, positive comments and good wishes. They seemed genuinely happy for us. We returned to the car and drove home, renewed by the sights, sounds and invigorating environment of Orchard Beach and its inhabitants.



## Freedom

***"The message of Passover remains as powerful as ever. Freedom is NOT won on the battlefield but in the classroom and the home. Teach your children the history of freedom if you want them never to lose it."***

~Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks

In today's world the above quote speaks volumes of the legacy we have been left to restore. Instead of fighting wars, fighting in the streets, rampant senseless violence and brutality, and hatred that overshadows love, WE must teach our children at home and in school about the most important values of humanity, equality, and freedom.

I love all the Jewish holidays, not just for the traditions they create for us, but also because of the invaluable lessons they instill in us. Character, human rights, and equality all play a significant

part of every Jewish holiday. Passover brings us the lesson of freedom, one of the most important and basic rights of any person. In the ECC we are very aware of the importance of all of the messages and gifts of the Jewish holidays. Not only do we learn them, we live them. We impart life lessons, respect, tolerance, acceptance, and values every day and then bring them to our outside community with expressions of gratitude and kindness.

For the first time this year we were able to have the entire school together safely outdoors for our Passover celebration. In a way it was very liberating for us in light of Covid which has robbed us of some of our "freedom." The Rabbi, Cantor, and I told the story of Passover with help from our teachers. The teachers incorporated a great deal of dramatic play into their lessons for Passover so that the children understood the concept of what it meant to be a slave. It was one of the best ECC Passovers on record for us because we were all together.





# Donations

## GENERAL FUND

**Rosalie & Maxwell Malkiel**

**The Satin family** in memory of Steven Thall at yahrzeit.

**The Satin family** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Tami & Scott Schneider** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Evelyn Abraham & Roger Silverberg** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Dale & Phil Mintz** in memory of Lee Mintz at yahrzeit.

**Patricia Schoeffler** in memory of Lilian Cochrane at yahrzeit.

**Roz & Marty Spielman** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Shelley Weinberg** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Nili Gitig** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Lesley & Jeff Stark** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Jeff Stark** in memory of Sidney Stark at yahrzeit.

**Gladys Mishkit** in memory of Beatrice Harrison at yahrzeit.

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in memory of Rachel Tal Kirschner, mother of Maayan Klein.

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in memory of Elsa Gjini, mother of Irma Mile.

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in memory of Leonard Meltzer, father of Eve Meltzer Krief.

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Selma Greenstein** in memory of Rubin Bass at yahrzeit.

**Vered Cole** in memory of Millicent Kuppersmith, stepmother of Joel Kuppersmith.

**Vered Cole** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Vered Cole** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Barry Chase** in memory of Tevah Chaikin at yahrzeit.

**Barry Chase** in memory of Rona Chase-Robbins at yahrzeit.

**Robin Rubel** in memory of Emily Frischman at yahrzeit.

**Randi & Alan Schuller** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Shelley Weinberg** in memory of Milton Weinberg at yahrzeit.

**Shelley Weinberg** in memory of Elsa Gjini, mother of Irma Mile.

**Shelley Weinberg** in memory of Millicent Kuppersmith, stepmother of Joel Kuppersmith.

**Shelley Weinberg** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Yolanda Barfus** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Carol Himelstein** in memory of Seymour Himelstein at yahrzeit.

**Pam & Bruce Fleiss** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Pam & Bruce Fleiss** in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg and Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz & Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in honor of the 80th birthday of Walter Kleinmann.

**Andrea Marcus Smoller** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Laurie & Peter Birzon** in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg and Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

**Laurie & Peter Birzon** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**The Satin family** in memory of Irwin Thall at yahrzeit.

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in memory of Steven McCartin, brother of Donna Zimmerman.

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in honor of Alan Kriegstein being named the HJC Men's Club Man of the Year.

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in honor of Ilan Messing, Faith Zimmerman, Russell Strachan and Alexa Rind being named the HJC Men's Club Youths of the Year.

**Selma Greenstein** in memory of Anna Greenstein at yahrzeit.

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in memory of Steven McCartin, brother of Donna Zimmerman.

**Laurie & Peter Birzon** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz & Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz & Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in memory of Steven McCartin, brother of Donna Zimmerman.

## CANTOR'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg and Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in honor of the birth of Hazel Lynn Berry, granddaughter of Marcey & Bob Wagner.

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in honor of the birth of Silas Kenneth Shoemaker, grandson of Renda Rosenblatt.

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in honor of Cantor Gordan's 10th anniversary at HJC.

**Samara Rossi** in honor of Cantor Gordan's 10th anniversary at HJC.

**Andrea Marcus Smoller** in honor of Alan Kriegstein being named the HJC Men's Club Man of the Year.

## CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND

**Alice & Bruce Rosen** in memory of William Goldgeier at yahrzeit.

**Evelyn Abraham & Roger Silverberg** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Alice & Bruce Rosen** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Miriam & Joel Wirchin** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

## COVID-19 RECOVERY FUND

**Bill Yelen** in memory of Helen Yelen at yahrzeit.

**Michelle & Michael Behr** in memory of Steven McCartin, brother of Donna Zimmerman.

## DAILY MINYAN FUND

**Bea Pedowicz** in memory of Morris Pedowitz at yahrzeit.

**Joan & Robert Goodman** in memory of Millicent Kuppersmith, stepmother of Joel Kuppersmith.

**Kathy Brookhart** in memory of the brother of Carolyn Breda.

## DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**Judy & Lester Fox** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Judy & Lester Fox** in memory of Rhoma Phillips, wife of Howard Phillips.

**Judy & Lester Fox** in memory of Larry Silverman, husband of Toby Silverman.

**Judy & Lester Fox** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Judy & Lester Fox** in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Yardena Rogoff, granddaughter of Pat & Larry Schatt.

**Judy & Lester Fox** in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Yardena Rogoff, granddaughter of Rabbi Chaim & Debbie Rogoff.

**Judy & Lester Fox** in memory of Steven McCartin, brother of Donna Zimmerman.

## EDWARD SPEVACK KOCHAVIM FUND

**Janet & Mark Zimmerman** in memory of Steven McCartin, brother of Donna Zimmerman.

**The HJC Inclusion Committee** in memory of Steven McCartin, brother of Donna Zimmerman.

## ETHEL SACHS ENGAGEMENT FUND

**Nancy & Brian Cooper** in memory of Leonard Meltzer, father of Eve Meltzer Krief.

**Nancy & Brian Cooper** in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

**Nancy & Brian Cooper** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Rosalind & William Wertheim** in memory of Ethel Sachs.

**Wendy & Joseph Glassman** in memory of Ethel Sachs.

**Janet & Mark Zimmerman** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**HJC Executive Committee & Board of Trustees** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Gwen & Ron Goldstein** in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

**Gwen & Ron Goldstein** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Sue & David Lefkowitz** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Sue & David Lefkowitz** in memory of Milfred Goldstein at yahrzeit.

**Sue & David Lefkowitz** in memory of Lynda Cohen at yahrzeit.

**Sue & David Lefkowitz** in memory of Samuel Lefkowitz at yahrzeit.

**Sue & David Lefkowitz** in memory of Bella Lefkowitz at yahrzeit.

**Marlene & Lenny Hummel** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Andrea Marcus Smoller** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Nancy & Brian Cooper** in memory of Joyce Berlow at yahrzeit.

**Nancy & Brian Cooper** in memory of Steven McCartin, brother of Donna Zimmerman.

**Miriam & Joel Wirchin** in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg and Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

## ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT FUND

**Nili Gitig** in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

## NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

**Marsha Perlmutter Kalina** in memory of Doris Perlmutter at yahrzeit.

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Eve Meltzer Krief** in memory of her father, Leonard Meltzer.

**The Messing family** in memory of Mel Messing at yahrzeit.

**Susi Susskind** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Amy Kulchinsky** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Carol Einhorn** in memory of Steven McCartin, brother of Donna Zimmerman.

## SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

**Marilyn & David Klein** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Jennifer & Scott Ingber** in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

**Jennifer & Scott Ingber** in memory of Leonard Meltzer, father of Eve Meltzer Krief.

**Jennifer & Scott Ingber** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Eileen & Harvey Berger** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Maxine & Rob Fisher** in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg and Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

**Maxine & Rob Fisher** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Ora & Alan Kriegstein** in memory of Elsa Gjini, mother of Irma Mile.

**Rosalind & William Wertheim** in honor of the birth of Russell Irvin Steinberg and Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandsons of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

**Ora & Alan Kriegstein** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Jill & Arnie Sherman** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Gloria Safran** in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

**Jill & Arnie Sherman** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Debra A. Silverman** in memory of Herbert Silverman at yahrzeit.

**Joanne & Peter Cohn** in memory of Tom Mola, life partner of Barbara Axmacher.

**Joanne & Peter Cohn** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Jennifer & Scott Ingber** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.

**Jennifer & Scott Ingber** in honor of the birth of Winston Maccabee Steinberg, grandson of Ellen & Jay Steinberg.

**Jennifer & Scott Ingber** in honor of the engagement of David, son of Bruce and Alice Rosen, to Jamie Epstein.

**Rosalind Spielman** in memory of Dora Reingold at yahrzeit.

**Rosalind Spielman** in memory of Eli Reingold at yahrzeit.

**Andrea Marcus Smoller** in honor of Ilan Messing, Faith Zimmerman, Russell Strachan and Alexa Rind being named the HJC Men's Club Youths of the Year.

**Nancy & Brian Cooper** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin.



## CONDOLENCES

**Joel Wirchin** on the death of his father, Arthur Wirchin z"l.

**Donna Zimmerman** on the death of her brother,  
Steven McCartin z"l.

**Janet Ganes** on the death of her mother, Fanny Lust z"l.

## MAZAL TOV

**Alice & Bruce Rosen** announce the engagement of their son,  
David, to Jamie Epstein.

## THANKS TO ALL

My sincere appreciation to the HJC community  
for your kind words of support and expressions of  
condolence in memory of Tom.

# 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

**Eileen and Harvey Berger** in memory of Dolores and Irving Berger and Irving Rothenberg a

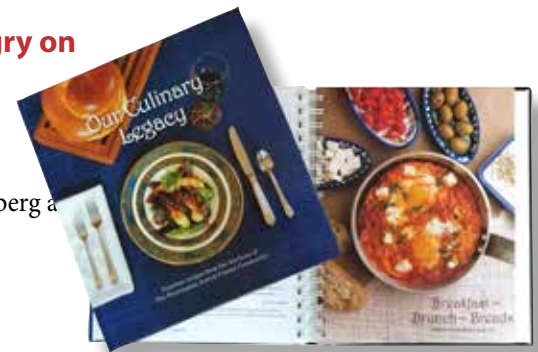
**Eileen and Harvey Berger** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin

**Phyllis and Andrew Levy** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin

**Phyllis and Andrew Levy** in memory of Saul Goldblum at yahrzeit

**Vicki and Tom Rosen** in memory of Tom Mola, Life Partner of Barbara Axmacher

**Vicki and Tom Rosen** in memory of Arthur Wirchin, father of Joel Wirchin



## 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](mailto:evelyn_abraham@optonline.net)) if you have any questions about making donations and ordering the Cookbook, Apron or Grocery Bag.

## ANNUAL MATZO FUND APPEAL

Thank You to all who generously contributed to this year's Annual Matzo Fund Appeal. Your donations allowed our community members who are in need and need financial support to have a memorable Passover.

## 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.

Contact Debbie at [debbier@hjcny.org](mailto:debbier@hjcny.org) for more information.

## Alexander Ryan Houslanger

*Son of Victoria and Todd Houslanger*

Alexander lives in Fort Salonga, where he is an honor student in the 8th grade at William T. Rogers Middle School in Kings Park. He was recently inducted into the Junior National Honor Society. He is a proud member of Boy Scout Troop 75 and has attained the rank of Star. Alexander participates in chorus and band, and plays the Baritone.

Alexander loves being with his family. Alexander is an only child, born to parents Victoria and Todd, who have been long term HJC members. He takes great care of his Grandmother, Nannie Betty and her dog, Petey. Alexander adores his pets, Emma (dog) and Thor, Isis, Cece and Precious (cats) and 2 fish. Alexander has volunteered to make meals with the JNN, takes an active part in USY and attends services regularly. He enjoys cooking as much as he enjoys eating. Although studying Spanish, Alexander is fluent in code, the language of computers, his most favorite pastime.

Alexander is a good person, kind, considerate, has a great sense of humor. He is supportive of others and an all-around avid digital aficionado. He is known to be brave, true, devoted and fearless and always offers assistance to all who ask.

Although Alexander's Bar Mitzvah had to be rescheduled three times, he maintained a positive attitude and avoided the Coronavirus. Insistent on having his Bar Mitzvah ceremony before he gets married, Alexander learned every haftorah (only kidding). Be prepared for his Bar Mitzvah has become his motto.

Alexander is so happy to share this simcha with his family, friends and HJC Community, his second home. Alexander wishes everyone health and happiness and thanks everyone for being a part of this occasion!



## Abby Layah Schueller

*Daughter of Cari and Bob Schueller*

Abby Schueller is an 8th grade high honor student at J. Taylor Finley Middle School. She is a member of the High School Marching Band, Studio Art, and National Junior Honor Society as well as takes an active part in HJC's Mitzvah Team. Some of her favorite activities are cooking, playing the saxophone, Studio Art, and Ninja Warrior classes. Since kindergarten, Abby has been studying Spanish in a Dual Language program and is currently enrolled in an 11th grade level class. Each summer, Abby spends her summer at the Mid-Island Y JCC day camp; this summer she is planning on becoming a CIT Apprentice.

We are extremely proud of all of the hard work, dedication, and passion Abby has put into her Bat Mitzvah studies. We are excited to celebrate this mitzvah together with our extended HJC family on June 12th. During the summer of 2022, the Schuellers will be celebrating this simcha with a Jewish Heritage Tour through Spain.



# HJC is happy to be participating in this Long Island community event supporting UJA.

We hope you will join us for this family friendly program supporting a great organization doing so much for the community.

**HJC co-chairs: Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer and John & Michelle Shallat**  
Please RSVP at [www.ujafedny.org/ozpearlman](http://www.ujafedny.org/ozpearlman)



**Wednesday, May 5, 2021 • 7:30 pm**

We have the hottest ticket in town! **Join with your Long Island friends and neighbors for an unforgettable evening with celebrity mentalist Oz Pearlman.** Get ready to be blown away by Oz's world-class sleight-of-hand and mind-reading abilities.

Plus, you'll learn more about UJA's critical work supporting our community during the pandemic.

**Register online at [ujafedny.org/ozpearlman](http://ujafedny.org/ozpearlman)**

Please consider making an additional donation to support UJA's life-saving work.

**Huntington Jewish Center Co-Chairs: Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz & Jonathan Boxer, Michelle and John Shallat**

## FEATURING



### **Oz Pearlman**

Oz Pearlman is an Emmy Award-winning mentalist who came to fame on *America's Got Talent*. He was a fan favorite on the show, winning third place out of thousands of acts.

Space is limited.

This event is hosted by UJA Long Island.



# NEW YORK METROPOLITAN REGION

## FEDERATION OF JEWISH MEN'S CLUBS

37<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FUNDRAISING AWARDS PRESENTATION

# Huntington Jewish Center Men's Club Honorees



Alan  
Kriegstein  
*Man of the Year*



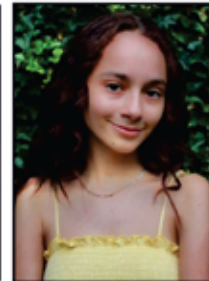
Ilan  
Messing



Faith  
Zimmerman



Russell Strachan



Alexa Rind

### *Youth of the Year*

Premiering Virtually Sunday, May 23rd, 2021 6:30 PM  
Donations are tax deductible in accordance with the law.

**Support our honorees with an ad in the NY Metro Journal.**

Ad forms are available online at

**[www.newyorkmetrofjmc.org](http://www.newyorkmetrofjmc.org)**

**PROCEEDS go to help us to donate to some very worthy organizations:**



Camp Ramah • Mercaz • JNF • USY Scholarships • Holocaust and Tolerance Center in Glen Cove • Neve Hanna Children's Hospital, Israel

**ADS MUST BE SUBMITTED W/ FULL PAYMENT by May 7, 2021 to be included in the Journal**

Ads submitted after 5/7/2021 will be subject to a 20% price surcharge and  
may be placed as an addendum to the Journal

**NEED HELP? HAVE QUESTIONS?**

Contact Ofer Rind at [hjcmcpres@gmail.com](mailto:hjcmcpres@gmail.com) or [info@nymfjmc.org](mailto:info@nymfjmc.org)



# HJC & HUMuS: Huntington Mobilization for Sustainability

*By Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Joanne Mulberg & Emily Schwartz May*

There is a Jewish tradition that before writing your name in a book to show ownership, you write: "The earth belongs to God along with its bounty" (Psalm 24.) The purpose of this statement is to make clear that human ownership of anything is fleeting. At best, we can be stewards, caring for what we possess and that which we don't, until it passes to the next generation.

In February, we began as members of the inaugural class of the Huntington Greening Fellowship. Along with 23 of our peers, we learn from NY-based experts in environmental conservation how we can do more in our homes, our communities, and throughout the state to protect the environment. This initiative, funded through a UJA-Federation NY grant, includes participants representing at least eight Christian and Jewish congregations. The interfaith nature of this fellowship highlights that sustainability is a concern of all religions and that working together, across congregations, our impact on Huntington of today and tomorrow has the potential to be significant.

Yet, we are challenged, when the issues of sustainability are so vast and immediately pressing, where do we begin the process of creating change? For guidance we turn once again to Jewish tradition: "You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it" (Ethics of the Fathers 2:21). With this teaching in mind, we are inspired to begin the process of making environmentalism an issue of importance within HJC.

When something is important to HJC members, a committee of the board is formed to address that concern and to research and recommend concrete actions that the congregation can take in support of the committee's mission. As we begin the process of interweaving our learning with our desire for action, we call on you, our fellow congregants to join us by expressing your interest to serve on this committee as it forms. Please reach out to any of us to let us know the changes you wish to see

and to join this important committee.

What are some issues we might address together with congregations throughout Huntington in the short and long-term?

Limiting the use of disposables at congregational gatherings. We have learned that no matter the religion, fellowship/kiddush following prayer is where community and friendships are formed. Yet, these gatherings create unnecessary garbage, as plates, cups and plasticware fill our dumpster. Together with other congregations, we can explore sustainable fellowships that use washable dishes, or compostable ones.

Rewilding - HJC is blessed with a large property that includes lawns, multiple gardens and playgrounds. The grounds are well manicured and add beauty to our corner of Park Avenue. Rewilding asks: Can we achieve more with the space we have? Can we identify small areas of the property where species native to Long Island, ones that attract native butterflies and dragonflies, can be planted and maintained? This effort will strengthen our ecosystem and improve biodiversity.

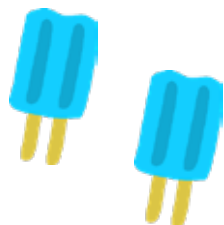
Solar energy - The last decade has seen many advances in solar energy. Today's solar cells more effectively capture the sun's rays and convert them for immediate use, for storage, or for use as a commodity that is sold to PSEG. Together we can explore how alternatives to fossil fuels can lower our carbon footprint, save the congregation money, and align our values with our practices.

Through HUMuS, the three of us have connected with peers, people who share our values of faith and environmental responsibility. We have learned about environmental activism and how to support leaders who are already making meaningful changes in our region. And we have been inspired to positively impact our congregational community by becoming environmental stewards, working hand in hand with other faith communities. Won't you join us in greening HJC?





# HJC SUMMER ADVENTURE



*Our Exciting Summer Program is getting  
Better & Better!!!*



*Our warm, loving, energetic and experienced staff is here to give  
your child an amazing and totally age appropriate summer.*

*NEW Sports and Dance & Movement Specialists, Theme Days,  
Special Events, Character visits, Live Theater, Magic Shows, Disco  
Dance, Carnival days, the fun never ends!*

*Our daily activities include: Sports, Drama, Water Play, Music,  
Stem, Arts & Crafts, Nature, Dance and much more!*

*PLUS classes from "Super Soccer Stars" !!!*



*June 28th - August 20th*

*9:30-1:30*

*Discounts being offered now!*

*Flexible weeks and days*

*Early and late care available*

*For more information call Ilene Brown - 631-425-0525, [ibrown@hjcny.org](mailto:ibrown@hjcny.org)*



# **SAVE THE DATE**

## **Shabbat By The Sound Scudder Park Northport Village**

**Friday, May 21st  
6:00 pm**

Experience the majesty of welcoming Shabbat with a beautiful view of the Long Island Sound!  
Pray, Play, Schmooze, and Eat\*

Park open for arrival 5:15 pm  
Kabbalat Shabbat service starts at 6 pm  
Time to hang out, play, and/or eat\* beginning around 7 pm

Limited seating available.  
Bring beach chairs, lawn games, and other items for spending time in the park.  
Small playground accessible.

\* Members are invited to BYO Kosher DAIRY Dinner.  
Picnic tables are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Picnic blankets encouraged!

**Mandatory COVID 19 guidelines will be followed. Masks required upon entry.**

**RSVP's REQUIRED for contact tracing purposes  
by Tuesday May 18th via [hjcnj.org/event-rsvp](http://hjcnj.org/event-rsvp)**



# HJC Adult Education Virtual Learning

**Last Tuesday of the month, 12 pm  
May 25**

HJC's Main Zoom Room  
• Meeting ID: 290 291 082 • Password 7fkXvu  
• Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/290291082?pwd=TGtWWjFGTTcxTzdnRnJnWjhZWUx5dz09>



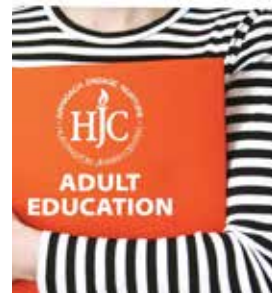
## SECRETS OF THE HEBREW PRAYERBOOK CLASS

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](http://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](mailto: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's Tikun Leil Shavuot**

**over Zoom**

## **Learn with the Rabbi & Cantor**

**May 16**

**6:45 pm - Why I love Torah**  
**with Cantor Israel M. Gordan & Members of HJC**

Cantor Gordan will moderate a panel of HJC members who will share some of their favorite teachings from Torah and why those teachings mean so much to them. Q&A to follow.

**7:45 pm - Shavuot Evening Service**

A traditional evening service for the holiday of Shavuot

**8:15 pm - Are Vaccine Passports Kosher?**  
**With Rabbi Ari Y. Saks**

Rabbi Saks will explore Jewish teachings to help us understand the ethical complexities of institutions demanding that only people who are fully vaccinated from COVID-19 can participate in their in-person programming.

**RSVP today at [www.hjcnny.org/event-rsvp](http://www.hjcnny.org/event-rsvp)**

# HJC Bulletin

May 2021

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## From the Ben Tasman HJC Library Tyna Strenger

### *Some New and almost new Titles to Consider:*

#### **NON-FICTION:**

**Nobody Will Tell You About This But Me: A True (as Told To Me) Story**, written by Bess Kalb listening to years of saved voice mails and recorded phone calls from her grandmother, who had died. She spoke of leaving Belarus to escape persecution as a Jew, emigrating to New York alone, told and re-told family stories and her thoughts on anything and everything, fun, touching, intriguing.

**Learning On The Left: Political Profiles of Brandeis University**, written by Stephen J. Whitfield  
Brandeis U. is the only non-sectarian Jewish sponsored university in the U.S. This is not a complete history of the school but rather how it has employed and taught remarkable men and women through the past several decades.

#### **FICTION:**

**Eternal** by Lisa Scottoline. Set in Italy in 1937 as anti-Semitism and Fascism increase, the novel spans decades of a love triangle, family, food, war. A tale of loyalty, love and loss written by a prolific and popular author.

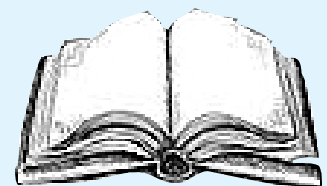
**kaddish.com** (any book is 'new' if you never read it) written by Nathan Englander. What happens as the son in an orthodox family refuses to say kaddish when the father dies, but hires a stranger to do it daily. A tale of faith, identity and family.

Submitted by Friends of the Ben Tasman HJC Library.

If you would like to suggest a title or author for a future listing please send it to:

***hjclibrary@gmail.com***

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](mailto:hjcadmin@hjcny.org).*