

Sisterhood News

by Evelyn Abraham

PURIM



Please participate in the Sisterhood Purim Basket Fund Raiser by making a donation on the Happy Purim Website with your personal code or by sending a check payable to HJC Sisterhood. The Purim Bags will once again include

the Sisterhood Hamantaschen as well as other sweets and treats. Recipes for Hamantaschen can be found in the Sisterhood Cookbook, Our Culinary Legacy. If you want to learn how to prepare your own using the HJC Hamantaschen recipe, please join us for the 2 Virtual Programs, Adults on Wednesday March 2nd at 7 PM and Sunday March 6th at 3 PM for families. Please contact Donna Fleiss if you are interested in attending.

B'Yachad

The 2021-2022 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.



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 or purchase Torah Fund cards, please contact Evelyn Abraham.

evelyn_abraham@optonline.net

JUDAICA SHOP

OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND

FOR YOUR HOLIDAY AND SIMCHA NEEDS

Sisterhood Contact: Evelyn Abraham
evelyn_abraham@optonline.net



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631-423-5355

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516-901-7179

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Rabbi Emeritus

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Social Justice..... Susan Jouard & Janet Zimmerman

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Storytelling Project..... Nancy Berlow Cooper

Sunshine Ellen Steinberg

Theatre Development..... Arthur Perler

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

From Rabbi Ari Saks



Welcome to our Second High Holiday Season

This month we will celebrate the holiday of Purim and with it we begin the countdown to the next Jewish High Holiday - Passover.

Purim though, often gets overlooked because of the importance of Passover to Jewish history and to the Jewish psyche. What's more, the stories of Purim and Passover are very different from one another. The Jews

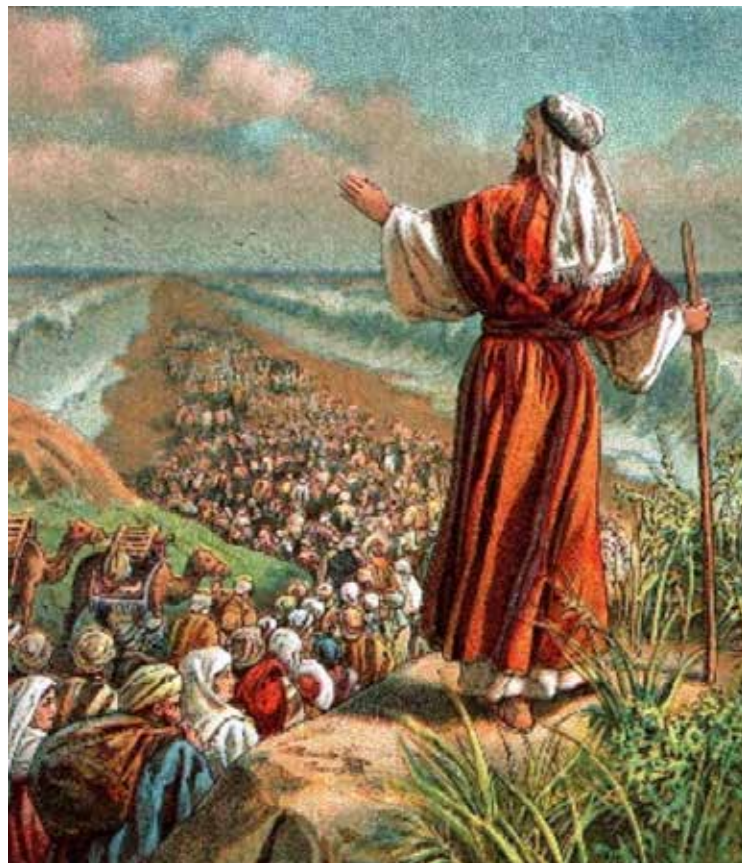
of Purim assimilated in mainstream society; the Israelites of Passover were slaves to the Egyptians. The existential threat to the Jews of Purim was rapid and genocidal; the bondage of the Israelites of Passover was generational and soul crushing. The salvation of the Purim Jews came about by the guile of a heroine working with the oppressive regime; the exodus of the Passover Jews came about by a hero working to destroy their oppressors. And perhaps the most glaring of differences between the stories, God's name is absent and God's presence is hidden in the Book of Esther, whereas God's name is ubiquitous, and God's presence is strikingly imminent in the Book of Exodus.

But as Israeli scholar Yossi Klein HaLevi writes, the stories of Purim and Passover are both essential to Jewish survival: ***"Passover Jews" are motivated by empathy with the op-***

pressed; "Purim Jews" are motivated by alertness to threat. Both are essential; one without the other creates an unbalanced Jewish personality, a distortion of Jewish history and values.

I agree with HaLevi's statement that both "Passover Jews" and "Purim Jews" are essential, and in that vein I would like to offer an additional idea on how Purim and Passover can be seen in tandem so that Purim can be appreciated as an important introduction to our "second" High Holiday season. The primary command of Purim is "to be joyful," as we say, "one who enters the month of Adar increases their happiness." We create joy by giving gifts to our friends, we spread joy in sharing with those most in need, and we revel in joy with our silly dress and behavior. Passover's main message is to "remember you were slaves in Egypt," a time when our joy seemed to be taken out of our hands by the political power of the time. Perhaps Purim comes before Passover to teach us that before we can remember being slaves, we have to experience the joy of being free to be Jewish. The feeling of singing at the Sea is a feeling of "Purim joy" that was hidden but ever present throughout the ordeal of slavery because only with joy in our hearts could we endure the pain of slavery and then relish the moment of redemption.

Happy Holidays!
Rabbi Ari Y. Saks





Connections

As we enter the month of March with its promise of Spring and the holiday of Purim not far off, we find we are still enveloped in the snow and frigid temperatures of winter. Covid cases have thankfully declined since the spike in early January, but many have continued to cautiously limit activities and engagement with others. How can we continue to maintain the human connection through this chal-

lenging time, as the months of this pandemic turn to years? Maybe the question is, do we actually need to be in physical proximity to others to really feel connected? What type of connection both fosters and deepens the human connection?

Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. This is the interrelated structure of reality - Martin Luther King Jr.

There are times, and perhaps many days over the past almost 2 years of this pandemic, when we may feel disconnected from our family, our friends, and our synagogue community. We may even feel disconnected from the world. Sometimes we may feel like we exist in our own little world, our own personal vacuum, or in one of those little personal igloo restaurant bubbles that have popped up. Often it's hard to see that our simplest thoughts or actions, the decisions we make each day, how we see and relate to the world, can have a profound impact on the lives of those around us. And like the pebble landing in the water, this ripple effect can spread out to the world at large. If we believe that we are all connected, and that there are intangible connections between people, animals, plants, the air, the water, and soil, then we can see that even insignificant actions can impact others and the environment around us. If we see interconnection between all things we can begin to see how we are always impacting the world.

Here at HJC, whether a Shabbat "regular" or a more casual participating member, everyone is important. Whether we see you in person, with a mask or without, or virtually over Zoom, we are each an integral part of the HJC spiritual community. We are all connected.

A human being is a part of the whole, called by us Universe, a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings

as something separated from the rest--a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole nature in its beauty
- Albert Einstein

Perhaps this pandemic has been an opportunity to think about community as something we can actively create and impact through our actions, thoughts, and words. We can reach out to those in our community who are in need: we can pray for someone who is suffering, make a phone call, write a letter, or drop off a basket of nutritious treats. These purposeful actions create a sense of community for both the giver and receiver. This is the kind of community that not only keeps us from feeling alone, but gives us a sense of home and belonging.

We may wonder how we are going to get through the last of the winter with ongoing concerns about connecting with those we love and the communities that bring sustenance to our souls. Although they are wonderful, sometimes Zoom and LiveStream just don't cut it. As humans, we need that physical face to face connection, with masks or without. As we utilize creative ways to maintain social connections, we know we are resilient and we are again reminded that we are all connected. The strength of the human connection will continue to provide sustenance in the months ahead.

Know that the HJC Board of Trustees, Executive Committee, Medical Advisory Panel, clergy and staff at HJC are working diligently to keep us all as safe and healthy as possible when participating in services, programs and activities at HJC. To that end, our "Covid Policies and Procedures" document will continue to be a useful resource guiding our policies to best ensure everyone's safety. As we have already found, it is a "living" document, already requiring frequent updates and modifications. As we continue to ride the roller-coaster of the Covid pandemic, we anticipate that our policies will continue to reflect these changes. Over time, it is our hope, and expectation, that folks will continue to return to our beautiful sanctuary, and robust in-house programming will return. Currently, as per CDC guidelines, masks continue to be required while in the building at HJC, but you will start to see some modifications here and there, as safety protocols allow.

We all certainly look forward to the day when we can be together again, in person, in our spiritual home without concern. Until that day, as well as long after, the safety of our Kehillah Kedoshah, our holy community remains uppermost in our minds. After all, we are all connected.





“In the long run, the sharpest weapon of all is a kind and gentle spirit.”

Where there's hope, there's life. It fills us with fresh courage and makes us strong again.” *Anne Frank*

For the past few years starting in January in conjunction with Martin Luther King Jr's birthday, we have kicked off our Acts of Kindness curriculum. It seems even more appropriate this year as our Covid beliefs divide us, that we need something to unite us. In 2020, we were unified by the fear of Covid. We all stood together full of fear and anxiety of the unknown. As time passed, our points of view came to vary about Covid vaccines, the efficacy of masks, the need to quarantine, testing, and by 2021, the division was clear. I recall the first time we had a case of Covid in the ECC in November 2020. Everyone was terrified and prayed that no one else tested positive in the classroom (no one did), let alone bring Covid into their home that could be inhabited by babies, grandparents, or immune compromised household members. Presently, if we have a case of Covid in an ECC classroom, it is more of a nuisance and an inconvenience as the children of that class still need to quarantine as they are considered close contacts. While many are still fearful of Covid, rightfully so as we still don't know how it will affect an individual or what the long-term effects will be, most are frustrated and long to have normalcy return. No one is wrong in this situation. It is exhausting. The one constant in all of this is the children's happiness.

I am grateful that our children are too young to be aware of the battling of opposing sides of masks and vaccines. I feel for those children who are in the middle of their parent's beliefs and frustrations, turning on one another because their parents don't want their kids to wear masks or vice versa. They are the casualties of this war. The children in our ECC are HAPPY, masks or no masks. They are happy to come to school. They are just happy to be together. This is the innocence of early childhood. I am blessed to see the joy within each child at school which has helped keep me grounded and remind me of what is most important. So, it is with all this weighing on us daily, that we welcomed our kindness curriculum. It was refreshing and reinvigorating to see the teachers, children, AND parents participate in this event. Parents helping each other and spreading kindness and joy to every child and family in their classroom. This year we added “Cool to be Kind” week and encouraged all children (with their parents) to draw pictures, create hand made cards and hearts for every child in their classroom. The joy of giving was documented on every child's face as they experienced the intrinsic reward of performing an act of kindness.



Religious School

Gina Giuffre, Director



When Adar is here, we are happy!

The month of Adar always puts me in a good mood. This year we have two months of Adar so we kicked off the first month with an after school class in Krav Maga for older students and another class in agility for younger students. Both classes truly were enjoyed by the participants and set the stage for the coming second month of Adar. There is so much joy associated with the holiday of Pu-

rim. Celebration with food and drink, gift giving, helping others and of course hearing the story of Esther, after all who doesn't love a story with a happy ending? It also reminds me warmer weather is not far away and Daylight Savings Time will soon offer us more hours of light.

As a child I remember entering costume contests of which I won three times with the help of my sister's masterful make-up artistry. In those days everyone was not a winner and the acknowledgement of being the winner among my peers was exhilarating and rewarding and made me feel ever so special even if it was just for one day. I love giving gifts to people so Mishloach Manot is a wonderful opportunity to use my creativity in its presentation. I enjoy learning how Jews celebrate holidays all over the world and bake hamantaschen cookies from various countries. Purim also reminds me of the ongoing struggles of the Jewish people from a historical reminder of

anti-Semitism to its relevance today. It is a lesson in what can be achieved with bravery, luck, faith and of course having a shaynah punim, if you are lucky, could not hurt. It's a holiday where I am reminded once again G-d has not forsaken us and it is as if I won the costume contest all over again.

This year HJC has a wonderful array of Purim festivities lined up.

March 2 – 7:00 p.m.

Virtual Sisterhood sponsored Adult Hamantaschen baking

March 6 – 3:00 p.m.

Virtual Sisterhood sponsored Child Hamantaschen baking

March 13 – 11:00 a.m.

Religious School celebrates Purim

March 13 – 12:00 p.m.

Purim on Ice in Dix Hills – Come skate with us in costume!

March 16 – 7:30 p.m.

Virtual Megillah reading with PowerPoint presentation

March 17 – 7:00 p.m.

Virtual Purim Family Fun Night

Details for all events can be found on our website. I hope you take advantage of as many events as possible because as the song says "those who enter the month of Adar are full of joy!" Chag Purim Sameach!



Donations

GENERAL FUND

Roz & Marty Spielman in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.
Leslie & Jack Rubin in memory of Harriet Hummel, mother of Lenny Hummel.
Leslie & Jack Rubin in memory of Mordecai Rubin at yahrzeit.
Leslie & Jack Rubin in memory of Gilla Rubin at yahrzeit.
Leslie & Jack Rubin in memory of Paula Marenberg at yahrzeit.
Leslie & Jack Rubin in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.
Dawn & Barry Sosnick in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.
Joan & Paul Cohen in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.
Vered Cole in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the birth of Finn Parker, grandson of Amy Kulchinsky.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.
David Schoenfarber in memory of Bertel Robbins at yahrzeit.
Yolanda Barfus in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
Joshua Elman in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
Jeanette Louise Spangle in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
The Spiel Family in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
Elaine & Burt Epstein in memory of Samuel Epstein at yahrzeit.
The Satin Family in memory of Jack Snyder at yahrzeit.
Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob, and Nina in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.
Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob, and Nina in memory of Harriet Hummel, mother of Lenny Hummel.
Demetra & Ron Roth in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
Joan & Paul Cohen in memory of Abraham Cohen at yahrzeit.
Andrea Dubow in memory of Rose Goldstein at yahrzeit.
Bonnie Miller & David Etke in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
Evelyn Hersch in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
The Holbreich Family in memory of Laurie Wolberg at yahrzeit.
The Cole Family in memory of Jack Cole at yahrzeit.
Vered Cole in honor of Owen Harvey, grandson of Andrea Marcus Smoller.

ANNUAL KOL NIDRE CAMPAIGN

Caroline & Darren Karger & Family in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
Edward Mosberg in memory of Rosalyn Haber.

BEN TASMAN LIBRARY FUND

Pam & Bruce Fleiss in memory of David Tasman, husband of Sheila Tasman & cousin of Bruce Fleiss.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND

Gwen Goldstein in memory of Sadie Paternostro at yahrzeit

COVID-19 RECOVERY FUND

Philip Fea in memory of Martha Fea

DAILY MINYAN FUND

Alice & Bruce Rosen in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen
Nancy & Brian Cooper in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen
Susan Goldmeier in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen
Pam & Bruce Fleiss in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen

Barbara & Joel Koppersmith in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

Liz & Steve Holbreich in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

Marlene & Lenny Hummel in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

Bea Pedowicz in memory of Martin Rencoff at yahrzeit.

Suzanne Susskind in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen

Carol Einhorn in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judy & Lester Fox in memory of Alan Kadin.

Judy & Lester Fox in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

Judy & Lester Fox in honor of the engagement of Mollie Finkel, daughter of Risa and Noah Finkel, to Raj Aidarani.

ETHEL SACHS ENGAGEMENT FUND

Amy Stein & Michael Moskowitz in memory of Rosalyn Haber.

Barbara Koppersmith in memory of Lawrence Meshover at Yahrzeit.

INCLUSION FUND

Miriam Eckstein-Koas in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen

Kathy Brookhart in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

Bill Yelen in memory of Seymour Schpoont, father of Robert Schpoont.

Bill Yelen in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

Selma Greenstein in memory of Herman Greenstein at yahrzeit.

Selma Greenstein in memory of Max Bass at yahrzeit.

ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT FUND

Ellen Kahn in memory of Lilly Levy at yahrzeit.

LEAH GREENE GARDEN FUND

Anne & Barry Specht in memory of Joseph Specht at yahrzeit.

RABBI'S DEVELOPMENT FUND

Adrienne & Bernie Rosof in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

RABBI'S TZEDAKAH FUND

Sandra Schpoont in memory of Seymour H. Schpoont, and in appreciation of Rabbi Saks.

Robert Schpoont in memory of Seymour H. Schpoont, and in appreciation of Rabbi Saks.

Robert Schpoont in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

Shari and Laurence Feibel in memory of Sandra Kessler at yahrzeit.

RABBI HOSPITALITY FUND

Hui & Scott Herskovitz in honor of Rabbi Saks to make meaningful connections with members of the community.

SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Evelyn Abraham in memory of Ralph Abraham at yahrzeit.

Evelyn Abraham & Roger Silverberg in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

Barbara & Joel Koppersmith in memory of Harriet Hummel, mother of Lenny Hummel.

Barbara & Joel Koppersmith in honor of the engagement of James Fishelson to Elizabeth Berger, son of Karen & Michael Fishelson.

Phyllis & Andrew Levy in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

Sarah & Jerry Saunders in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen

Sarah & Jerry Saunders in memory of Rosalyn Haber.

Marilyn & David Klein in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

Marilyn & David Klein in memory of Harriet Hummel, mother of Lenny Hummel.

Marilyn & David Klein in memory of Rosalyn Haber.

Maxine & Rob Fisher in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

Maxine & Rob Fisher in memory of Harriet Hummel, mother of Lenny Hummel.

Vicki & Tom Rosen in memory of Rosalyn Haber.

Marjorie & Lawrence Maltin in memory of Mel Schoenfeld, husband of Bela Schoenfeld & a cousin of Walter Kleinmann.

Joel Koppersmith in memory of Seymour Koppersmith at yahrzeit.

Marjorie Maltin in memory of Sylvia Solomon at yahrzeit.

Evelyn Abraham & Roger Silverberg in memory of Rosalyn Haber.

Edward White in memory of Rosalyn Haber.

Eileen & Harvey Berger in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.

Suzanne Susskind in memory of Rosalyn Haber.

Wendy & Joseph Glassman in memory of Selma Glassman at yahrzeit.

Shelley Weinberg in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen

Shelley Weinberg in memory of Seymour Schpoont, father of Robert Schpoont.

Shelley Weinberg in memory of Rosalyn Haber.

Lawrence Lewis in memory of Rosalyn Haber.

Sisterhood of the Huntington Jewish Center in honor of Michael Chait.

Vicki & Tom Rosen for a speedy recovery of Miriam Wirchin.

Mazal tov:

Amy Kulchinsky on the birth of her grandson, Finn Parker

Risa and Noah Finkel announce the engagement of their daughter Mollie Finkel to Raj Aidarani

Condolence:

Rosalyn Haber

HJC SUMMER 2022 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.

The deadline for submission is April 8, 2022.

**HJC's Social Justice Committee
invites you to a virtual program:**

Reflections from a Charlottesville Rabbi:

Antisemitism, Social Justice and a Way Forward.

When:

March 3, 2022

7:30 - 8:30 pm

Speaker:

Rabbi Tom Guthertz

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Rabbi Guthertz grew up in Rochester, New York. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in History at SUNY at Binghamton in 1977 and a M.A. in Religious Studies from the University of Virginia in 2014.

He was a member of Kibbutz Gezer in Israel from 1984-1989, where he worked in preschool and primary school education and as a dairy farmer.

Rabbi Guthertz was ordained in 1993 by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (NY) and has over 45 years of experience in formal and informal Jewish education. He served as rabbi at Agudath Sholom Congregation in Lynchburg, Virginia (1993-2005) and now at Congregation Beth Israel in Charlottesville, Virginia (2005-present).

He is engaged in interfaith and social action work through IMPACT and the Charlottesville Clergy Collective, and is the Board Chair of the Habonim-Dror Foundation. In 2018 he was honored with a Human Rights award for "Action Under Fire" by T'ruah, the Rabbinic Call for Human Rights. In 2021 The Forward selected him as one of their seven "fascinating" (sic) Jews of the Year. <https://forward.com/news/480062/forward-shortlist-2021/>



► **RSVP at www.hjcny.org/event-rsvp**

ZOOM link will be provided upon registration.





CELEBRATING PURIM

March 2 – 7:00 p.m.

Sisterhood Adult Hamantaschen Bake

March 6 – 3:00

Sisterhood Children's Hamantaschen Bake

March 13 – 11:00

Religious School invites all families for Purim Fun & Costume Parade

March 13 – 12:00

Purim ice skating in costume in Dix Hills Rink

March 16 – 7:30

Virtual Megillah reading with PowerPoint

March 17 - 7:00

Virtual Purim Family Fun Night

Please see website for specific details to register for events

www.hjcn.org

www.vecteezy.com

Just Between Us

Tyna Strenger

When I returned from my last 'annual' trip to visit my daughter and her family on Kibbutz Ketura it was February 28, 2020 and I had pictures of the family and friends. I printed them and made a poster board explaining the various relationships of these people with members of HJC congregants. Barbara put the board on an easel in the front lobby of the synagogue for all to see. Then everything hit the fan and closed down the 'world' as we know it. I'm sure that board got lost or trashed and now I'd like to share what was on it, with you here.

Kibbutz Ketura is located in the southern Arava about a 30 minute drive north of Eilat. It was founded in 1973 by Young Judea members, sponsored by Hadassah, and my daughter, Aliza, settled there around 1993. The Judean Date Palm, Methusalem, that Barbara mentioned in her article about trees, was developed by a founding member of Ketura, the agronomist Dr. Elaine Solloway, and it is growing there.

Lisa Solomon and her & Howie Yudkin's daughter Adva. Lisa is a good friend of Nancy Cooper's from college days. 'We attended different schools but had a lot of friends in common.' Lisa has been at Ketura since about 1979. Adva is their 33 year old daughter who also lives on Ketura (in the "Bait LeChaim" housing & program for adults with special needs). Their son, Gal with his wife and son, live in Costa Rica. Lisa became an expert in date farming and has advised date growers all over the world. She and Nancy are still in close contact.



Jackie Schmidt (with her caregiver Julie), mother of Anne, best friend of Sarah Saunders, growing up in Baltimore. Anne moved to Israel shortly after graduating from college, married, moved to Maine, divorced, moved back to Israel with her 2 girls, settling in Ketura, where her sister Mala also lived. Unfortunately Anne passed away from leukemia in 1987. Jackie and husband Bill spent 6 months every year in Ketura for several years and eventually settled there as well. Jackie had just celebrated her 102nd birthday, but since I began this project she contracted covid and passed away (fully vaxxed and boosted but already frail). She was buried at the Ketura cemetery alongside Bill and their daughter, Anne. Mala and her husband, have part of their next two generations also living there. Their other daughters and Anne's two live elsewhere in Israel.



Roy Kagan is cousin to Sy Schpoozt z'l and every visit I would see him and call Sy and give him a current report, although they didn't need me to do it as they were in touch through family by all the technologies available. But it was always special for me to be able to tell Sy that I actually saw and spoke with Roy, who travels a lot and has taught in Africa about farming methods and sustainability. When Sy and I first found our connection there we were very pleasantly surprised and it never became 'old hat' to talk about it.



Aliza as I noted above, moved from Jerusalem to Ketura in September 1993. She and David Factor married in Ketura in 1998. Eldest son is in China teaching English to young Chinese children, next is travelling in Asia as twenty something Israelis are happy to do, daughter is serving in Israel army/air force and youngest son is finishing high school. Aliza is a licensed tour guide & is in charge of volunteers which can number from four to thirty, depending on the season (and Corona).



And the final picture which was taken while I was already at home, is of a visiting family, related to all of us. Word is they are having an amazing year, for which we are all grateful, but won't we all be happy to see them come home!!!



It has been a joy to put all of this together and my only regret is that I couldn't get it done in time for Sy and Jackie to have the pleasure of seeing it. They were both very dear people who added so much positivity to many lives and that is how I remember them.

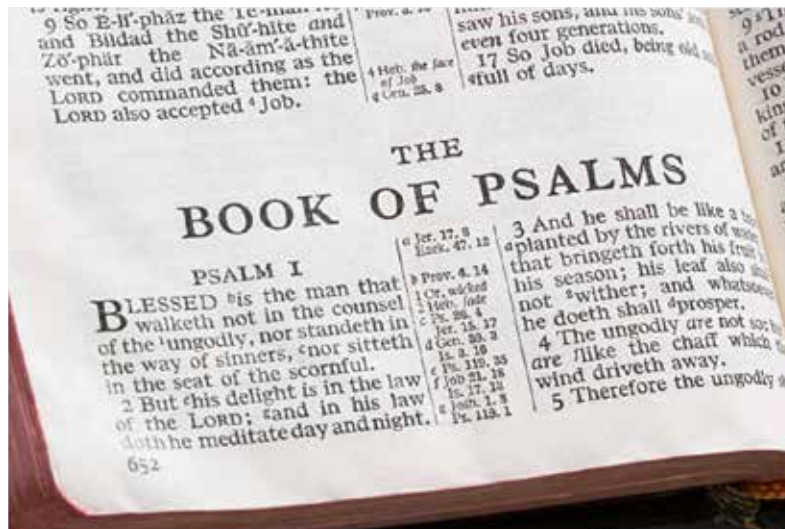
HJC Adult Education Presents:

PSALMS

with Rabbi Emeritus Neil Kurshan

Tuesdays March 1, 8, 15, 22

7:30pm via ZOOM



The Book of Psalms is comprised of some of the most beautiful spiritual poetry in world literature. For thousands of years the Psalms--especially during difficult times, but also during times of great joy--have given people of faith and those questioning their faith strength and solace, individual insight and communal connection. The Psalmist writes out of life's most fundamental experiences: grief and gratitude, regret and rejoicing, hurt and healing.

Each of the four class sessions will ask participants to experience a specific Psalm and to ask some of the following questions:

- *What do you think is the poet's existential situation from which the poet is writing?*
- *What prompted the poet to write the psalm?*
- *How does the Psalmist's situation connect to your own experience?*
- *Has your perspective changed as a result of studying this Psalm?*

The Book of Psalms offers us the promise of accessing a spiritual language of hope and optimism in an unsettled world.

You do not need to have a background of reading in Hebrew in order to participate.

You do not have to attend all 4 classes, but please remember to sign up for each one.

Please register at:

<https://hjcny.org/event-rsvp/>

Choose "Psalms with Rabbi Kurshan" in the drop down.

Questions? Nancy Cooper: Nancyberlow@gmail.com / Phone 516-356-7109



**HJC Sisterhood
presents
Hamantashen at Home
(For Adults Only)***



**What: Hamantashen Baking
When: Wednesday, 3/2 @ 7:00 pm
Where: In your own home**

**Join us for an informative and fun hour
of preparing your own tray of delicious hamantashen
to be baked and enjoyed at home!**

Come gather with our HJC synagogue community

**MUST RSVP by Thursday, 2/24 to receive zoom link and
instructions/ingredients for preparing dough ahead of time and
making hamantashen during the program**

Please RSVP to Donna Fleiss

Questions are welcome

Email donna.fleiss@gmail.com or text (516) 635-7829

***This event is for adults only**

**If you have children or grandchildren who would like to participate, please join
us at Sisterhood's virtual Purim event on 3/6 @ 3pm (see separate flyer)**

This event is sponsored by HJC Sisterhood

**Join us for a virtual Purim family
event!
Hamantashen at Home
...for ALL kids and their parents...**



**What: Hamantashen Baking
When: Sunday, 3/6 @ 3:00 pm
Where: In your own home**

**Join us for a FUN hour
of preparing your own tray of delicious hamantashen
to be baked and enjoyed at home!
Come gather with our HJC synagogue community**

**MUST RSVP by Tuesday, 3/1 to receive zoom link and
instructions/ingredients for preparing dough ahead of time and
making hamantashen during the program**

**Please RSVP to Donna Fleiss
Questions are welcome
Email donna.fleiss@gmail.com or text (516) 635-7829**

This event is sponsored by HJC Sisterhood

HJC Adult Ed & Sisterhood Present for Women:

Mussar with Rabbi Cantor Marcey Wagner

Mussar is a traditional Jewish path of spiritual development that leads to awareness, wisdom, and transformation.

Wednesday March 30th at 7:30pm

Question: *If you follow all (or most) of the laws in the Torah, Talmud, and other books of the tradition, will you be a kind, nice and considerate person?*

Answer: *Not necessarily.*

This is the challenge that Mussar attempts to address. Mussar is a centuries old Jewish spiritual practice that gives very specific instructions on how to live a meaningful and ethical life.

Mussar is based on ethics and morals and uses practices to help develop internal virtues. By following these practices and nurturing these inner virtues we become better, kinder, more moral individuals.

In contrast to much of "traditional" Judaism, Mussar does NOT rely on rules of do's and don'ts. Therefore, those who are not inclined to follow traditional rules are attracted to Mussar as a way to improve and transform themselves through a Jewish lens.

Mussar was originally created in a male dominated environment, however it works well in multiple settings in today's world, including in an all women's group. The dynamic of studying together as women is particularly suited to Mussar, where issues concerning ethics and morals can be studied in a gender-specific environment where participants have shared sensibilities.

In this 3-part series we will explore the following:

Part 1: *What is Mussar? The history and development of Mussar. The study of Mussar today.*

Part 2: *Middot and Practices: A look into the defined characteristics of the soul and how to strengthen them through various proscribed practices*

Part 3: *What can Mussar add to my life? How can I incorporate aspects of this practice in my life today?*

Please register for this at:

<https://hjcny.org/event-rsvp/>

Choose "Mussar with Marcey Wagner" in the drop down.

For questions about this course please contact:

Nancy Cooper - nancyberlow@gmail.com 516-356-7109

Marcey Wagner - marceywag@gmail.com





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.

Jewish Entertainers

Bette Midler



Bette Midler, born December 1, 1945, is an American actress, comedian, singer, songwriter and author. Throughout her career which spans over five decades, Midler has received numerous accolades, including four Golden Globe Awards, three Grammy Awards, three Primetime Emmy Awards, two Tony Awards and a Kennedy Center Honor, in addition to nominations for two Academy Awards and a British Academy Film Award.

Bette Midler was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, where her family was one of the few Jewish families in a mostly Asian neighborhood. Her mother, Ruth (née Schindel), was a seamstress and housewife, and her father, Fred Midler, worked at a Navy base in Hawaii as a painter, and was also a housepainter. Both parents were born in New Jersey. She was named after actress Bette Davis, though Davis pronounced her first name in two syllables, and Midler uses one. She was raised in Aiea and attended Radford High School in Honolulu. She was voted "Most Talkative" in the 1961 school Hoss Election, and "Most Dramatic" in her senior year (class of 1963). Midler majored in drama at the University of Hawaii at Manoa but left after three semesters. She earned money in the 1966 film *Hawaii* as an extra, playing an uncredited seasick passenger named Miss David Buff.

Midler began her professional career in several off-off-Broadway plays, prior to her engagements in *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Salvation on Broadway* in the late 1960s. She came to prominence in 1970 when she began singing in the Continental Baths, a local gay bathhouse where she managed to build up a core following. Since 1970, Midler has released 14 studio albums as a solo artist, selling over 30 million records worldwide, and has received four Gold, three Platinum, and three Multiplatinum albums by RIAA. Many of her songs became chart hits, including her renditions of "The Rose", "Wind Beneath My Wings", "Do You Want to Dance", "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy", and "From a Distance". She won Grammy Awards for Best New Artist, Best Female Pop Vocal Performance for "The Rose", and Record of the Year for "Wind Beneath My Wings".

Midler made her film debut with the musical drama *"The Rose"* (1979), which won her the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress – Motion Picture Comedy or Musical, as well as a nomination for the Academy Award for Best Actress. She went on to star in numerous films, including *"Down and Out in Beverly Hills"* (1986), *"Ruthless People"* (1986), *"Outrageous Fortune"* (1987), *"Big Business"* (1988), *"Beaches"* (1988), *"Hocus Pocus"* (1993), *"The First Wives Club"* (1996), *"The Stepford Wives"* (2004), *"Parental Guidance"* (2012), and *"The Addams Family"* (2019). Midler also had starring roles in *"For the Boys"* (1991) and *"Gypsy"* (1993), winning two additional Golden Globe Awards for these films and receiving a second Academy Award nomination for the former.

Midler married artist Martin von Haselberg on December 16, 1984. Their daughter, actress Sophie von Haselberg, was born on November 14, 1986.

In 2008, Midler signed a contract with Caesars Palace in Las

Vegas for a residency, *"Bette Midler: The Showgirl Must Go On"*, which ended in 2010. She starred in the Broadway revival of *"Hello, Dolly!"*, which began previews in March 2017 and premiered at the Shubert Theatre in April 2017. The show was her first leading role in a Broadway musical. Midler received the Tony Award for Best Actress in a Musical for her performance.

In 2020, Midler starred in *"The Glorias"* a biographical film revolving around the life of Gloria Steinem portraying the role of Bella Abzug, directed by Julie Taymor. She also starred in the second season of *"The Politician"* after previously guest starring in the first.

Midler has written several books, including *"Saga of Baby Divine"*, *"A View from a Broad"*, *"Bette Midler Greatest Hits: Experience the Divine"*, *"The Wind Beneath My Wings"*. In 2020 she published a children's book entitled *"The Tale of the Mandarin Duck"*, based on the story of a rare duck seen in Central Park in 2018.

She played Miriam Nessler, a retired teacher from New York, in HBO's *"Coastal Elites"* by Paul Rudnick.

On December 4, 2021, Midler received the Kennedy Center Honor for a lifetime of achievement in the performing arts at the Medallion Ceremony, held at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. The next day, Midler attended the show at the Kennedy Center.

In 1991, Midler was an early sponsor of the Adopt-a-Highway, paying \$2,000 a month for a crew to clean up a 2 mile section of the Ventura Freeway in Burbank, California. The location was so prominent that it became fodder for her 1993 guest appearance on the *Simpsons* episode "Krusty Gets Kancelled", where she is seen picking up trash along a stretch of highway she has adopted and causes car crashes for drivers who deliberately litter. In 1995, she carried the same idea to the east coast, adopting a section of the Long Island Expressway and Bronx River Parkway.

Midler founded the New York Restoration Project (NYRP) in 1995, a non-profit organization with the goal of revitalizing neglected neighborhood parks in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods of New York City. These include Highbridge Park, Fort Washington Park, and Fort Tryon Park in upper Manhattan and Roberto Clemente State Park and Bridge Park in the Bronx.

When the city planned in 1991 to auction 114 community gardens for commercial development, Midler led a coalition of green-ing organizations to save them. NYRP took ownership of 60 of the most neglected plots. Today, Midler and her organization work with local volunteers and community groups to ensure that these gardens are kept safe, clean and vibrant. In 2003, Midler opened Swindler Cove Park, a new 5-acre public park on the Harlem River shore featuring specially designed educational facilities and the Peter Jay Sharp Boathouse, the first community rowing facility to be built on the Harlem River in more than 100 years. The organization offers free in-school and after-school environmental education programming to students from high-poverty Title I schools.

In 2001 after 9/11, she established programs run by her foundation which help wounded service members and their families by providing them resources, including custom homes. One of these programs helps service members recovering from trauma, injury, and loss. Also, since the first Gulf War she visits the USO and military bases to show her gratitude to service members by serving them meals just before deployment.

Bette Midler pledged to match Pink with a donation of \$500,000 to help Australia during the wildfires in 2020.

Some interesting titles that have come across the desk:

FICTION:

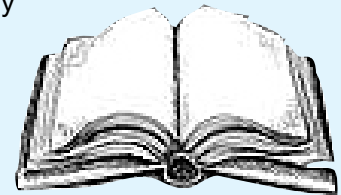
The Hidden Palace: A Novel of the Golem and the Jinni by *Helene Wecker* A follow up to her debut novel *The Golem and the Jinni*. Is this Modern fantasy, historical fiction, romance or mythology? Or not any of those. The 2nd book follows the friendship between Chava Levy, a golem, and Ahmad al-Hadid, a jinni. Set mostly in NYC in early 20th century as it is being developed and various groups of Christian, Jewish, Muslim immigrants strive to make a go of it in the New World.

The Rabbi Who Prayed With Fire by *Rachel Sharona Lewis* Set in Providence R.I., an homage to the Rabbi Small series by Harry Kemelman (available in our library). This debut novel introduces a gay rabbi as a new sleuth/clerical leader who offers her 'flock' a lot more than they ask for as they try to recover from a synagogue fire.

NON-FICTION

Try this website: **jewishlives.org** which has the Jewish Lives Series of books. There are the 'usual suspects' - Moses; Martin Buber; Rabbi Akiva; Einstein and many more. Find more bios about Emma Goldman; Stan Lee; Barbra; Harvey Milk to name a few. My search began by looking for a bio of Houdini, which it seems is also available as an e book.

If there is something you would like the library committee to consider, please submit that to hjclibrary@gmail.com.



Save the Dates for 2022!

January 9	Sisterhood Dinner & A Movie	May 22	Celebrate Israel Parade
January 27	Social Justice Speaker Event	May 29	Minyan in the Park
February 12	Progressive Dinner	June 15	Golf Outing
March 13	Purim Carnival	June 17	Shabbat by the Sound: Sisterhood & Men's Club Shabbat
March 27	Mitzvah Day		
April 8	Friday Night Live		
May 3	Sisterhood's Mother's Day Cocktails		
May 4	HJC's Celebration of Congregational Trip to Israel		
May 12	Comedy Night/Murder Mystery		
May 16-26	HJC's Trip to Israel		

List of Holidays 5782 - 5783

1st Hannukah Candle	November 28	8th Day of Passover	April 23
2nd Hannukah Candle	November 28	Holocaust Memorial Day	April 28
Tu B'Shevat	January 17	Israel Independence Day	May 5
Fast of Esther	March 16	Lag Ba'Omer	May 19
Purim Reading of the Megillah	March. 17	Jerusalem Reunification Day	May 29
Search for Chametz, evening	April 14	Erev Shavuot	June 4
Fast of First Born	April 15	1st Day of Shavuot	June 5
Erev Passover, 1st Seder	April 15	2nd Day of Shavuot - Yizkor	June 6
1st Day of Passover, 2nd Seder	April 16	Fast of Tammuz	July 17
7th Day of Passover	April 22	Tisha B'Av	August 7

HJC Adult Ed Happenings Feb-April 2022

We are pleased to have had some nice offerings through the fall and early winter and are looking forward to more programs in the coming months. Until further notice all classes will continue to be held via Zoom. We feel so fortunate that this has become a comfortable way for the community to learn together.

Please take note of the upcoming programs and dates:

Every Monday at 8pm –

Prophets ongoing class with *Lester Fox*

Wednesday March 30th at 7:30pm –

Mussar (Ethics and Spirituality) with *Marcey Wagner* – this class is for women only and is being co-sponsored by HJC Sisterhood

Mussar is a centuries old Jewish spiritual practice that gives specific instructions on how to live a meaningful and ethical life. It is based on ethics and morals and uses practices to help us develop our internal virtues. The dynamic of studying as all women is particularly suited to Mussar, where issues concerning ethics and morals can be studied in a gender-specific environment where participants have shared sensibilities.

Details to follow on the upcoming flyer.

Tuesday March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd at 7:30pm –

Psalms with *Rabbi Emeritus Neil Kurshan*

The Book of Psalms offers us the promise of accessing a spiritual language of hope and optimism in an unsettled world. It is comprised of some of the most beautiful spiritual poetry in world literature. These classes will give participants the opportunity to experience and answer questions about specific Psalms. No knowledge of Hebrew required.

More details on the upcoming flyer.

Thursday, April 7th –

A **Pesach learning program** with *Cindy Dolgin* – details to be announced.

Sunday, April 24th –

A **Yom Hashoah program** – details to be announced.

Thursday, April 26th –

Jewish Public Affairs with *Ken Bob*

Questions about programs may be directed to Nancy Cooper: nancyberlow@gmail.com or 516-356-7109

HJC Bulletin

March 2022

Huntington Jewish Center
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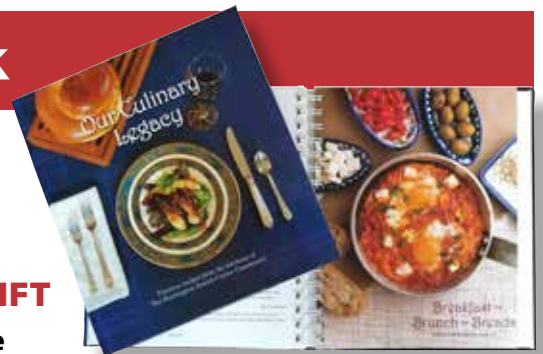
Our Culinary Legacy Cookbook

DONATIONS

Sue and David Lefkowitz wishing a speedy recovery to Phyllis Levy
Sue and David Lefkowitz in memory of Harriet Hummel, mother of Lenny Hummel

OUR CULINARY LEGACY COOKBOOK MAKES A GREAT GIFT

If you are looking to add some new recipes for the holidays or any day, the Culinary Legacy Cookbook should be your source. There are interesting stories as well from our HJC Community. If you have not placed your order yet, the cost is \$36 a book. You can order online <https://hjcny.org/hjc-cookbook/> or send a check payable to HJC Sisterhood 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 if you have any questions about making donations and ordering the Cookbook, Apron or Grocery Bag. evelyn_abraham@optonline.net

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.