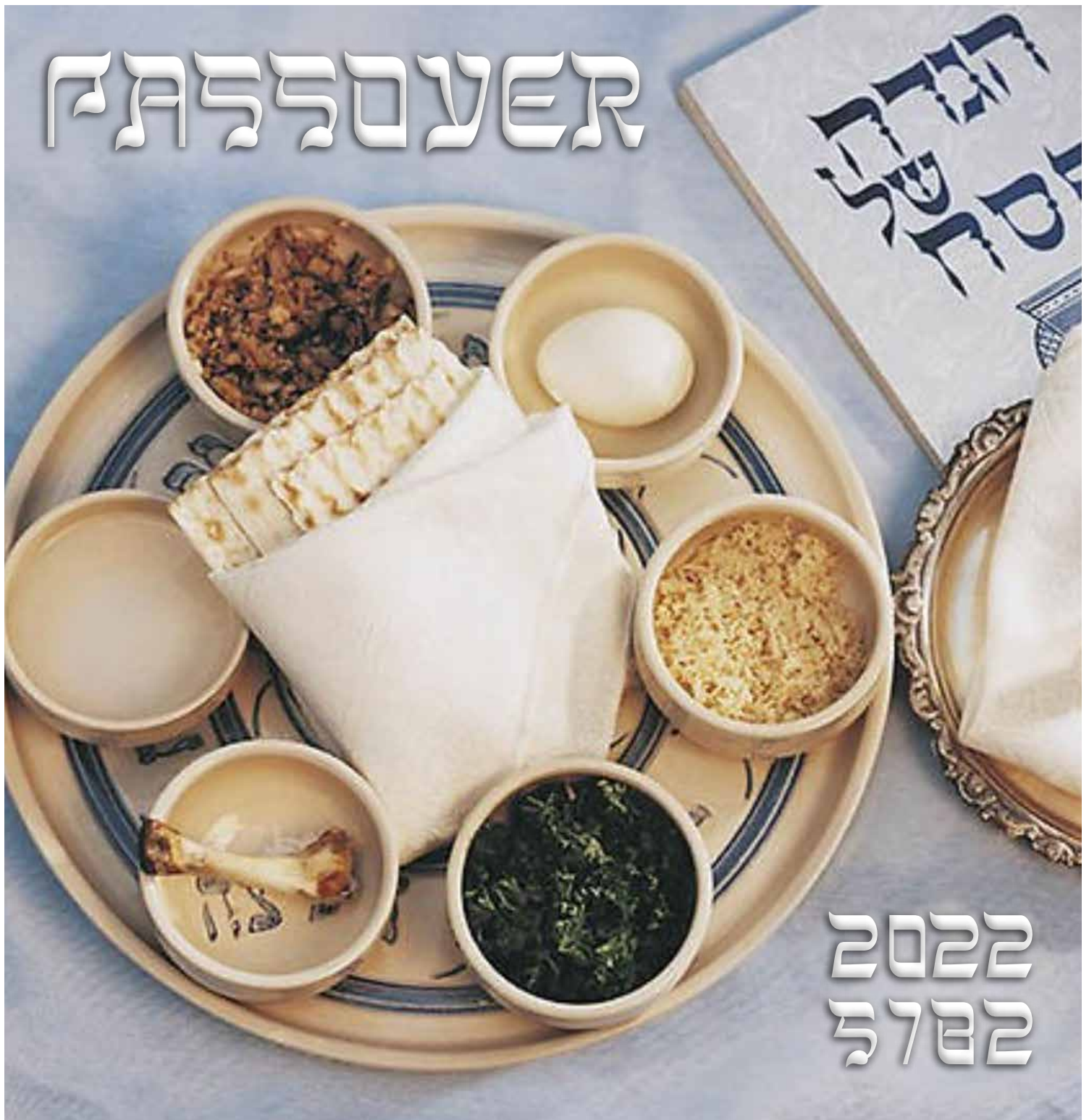




April 2022 | Adar II / Nisan 5782 Bulletin

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER
NEWS / COMMUNITY / CONNECTION

PASSOVER



2022
5782

Sisterhood News

by Evelyn Abraham

Mishloach Manot

Thank you to the members of the Huntington Jewish Center Community for their generosity this year with the Purim Bag Fundraiser. Thank You to our Hamantaschen Bakers, to our shoppers and Sisterhood Members who assembled and delivered 300 Mishloach Manot to the local area. The proceeds will be used to support the Huntington Jewish Center.

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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Rabbi Emeritus

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From Rabbi Ari Saks



Passover, Spring, and the Cycle of History

Well, Passover is upon us. We mark it with food, with conversation (and debate, of course), but most of all we mark it as a milestone of the year. No matter how Jewish we feel or what Jewish practice we do, we are aware of Passover's arrival.

But why is the approach of Passover so noticeable? Perhaps because it is at the onset of spring. With weather warming, flowers budding, wardrobes changing, and snowbirds returning, the spring forces us through its sheer will to take notice of its presence. As such, any holiday timed with the onset of spring derives some beneficial publicity from its association -- when people think of spring, they think of that holiday. Indeed one of the many names of the holiday of Passover is Hag Ha-Aviv, the spring Holiday.

Yet while this confluence of timing seems to have helped Passover's marketing abilities, it may be that, within the Jewish world at least, Passover has become a force of nature unto itself. It is no longer the holiday of springtime, it is the holiday of our people's liberation, of our freedom from slavery.

This is no accident. As Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel says in his amazing book *The Sabbath*:

"The festivals of ancient peoples were intimately linked with nature's seasons...to Israel the unique events of historic

time were spiritually more significant than the repetitive processes in the cycle of nature" (7).

In other words, Heschel is saying that we turned holidays that are marketable by their timing into opportunities for teaching the unique history of our people. Extending Heschel's thinking for a moment, I wonder if he's also intimating that more than just a marketing strategy, our holidays follow the cycle of nature because our stories reverberate through the cycle of history! How can we not listen to President Zelensky's entreaty for Ukrainian freedom and not hear the echo of Moses' plea to Pharaoh to "Let my people go"? How can we not be reminded of the price of resisting Vladimir Putin's aggression and not note that Yom Hashoa is commemorated soon after Passover to mark the fact that the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising began on Passover? And how can we not be amazed that the eternal desire of our people to be "a free nation in our own land (lee-hi-yot am chof-shee bi-ar-tzay-nu)" will be celebrated on Yom Ha'atzmaut, which occurs a week after Yom Hoshua, as the Israeli government continues to welcome Jewish refugees from Ukraine and Russia as they return to their ancestral homeland? So don't just be aware that it's the time of year to celebrate Passover because it's spring; use the marketing opportunity provided by the cycle of nature to share the dramatic story of our people's history that reverberates through the cycle of history.

Chag kasher vi-samayach
(Have a happy and kosher holiday of Passover),

Rabbi Ari Saks



From Hazzan Israel Gordan



Greetings from Jerusalem!

Even though I am officially away from HJC with my family in Israel this year, Andrea Smoller thought it would be a good idea to submit a bulletin article to check in and update folks on how things are going. It also seemed like a good idea to submit this article in time for the Passover edition of the Bulletin, so I hope everyone is looking forward to a happy and meaningful festival.

Things here have been great. It has been such a gift to be able to spend time with my family in Israel and I have been amazed at how quickly and well everyone has adapted to life in this new country. It was not an easy journey to make it here, but somehow we did it. I want to thank Andrea, the EC, the Board of Trustees, and the entire community for all of your love and support in making this possible.

When I was young, we had very good family friends whose father was an engineer. One year, he had the opportunity to transfer to his company's London office and live with his family in England. I still remember taking all of their spices and condiments and even driving them to the airport for their departure. When they came back a year later, it seemed incredible to me that this family of five not only had the chance to live in a foreign country for a year, but they also got to travel in and around Europe as well, and that memory has stayed with me.

While many people travel while they are in college or still single, it is not easy to pick up a family of five for the year. We have always wanted to live in Israel with our children and we are so grateful that we have. Our kids have adapted to being in a new school, made new friends, and their Hebrew is improving by leaps and bounds. They are also able to enjoy much more freedom and independence than they had previously.

In addition to the changes of being in Israel, there are also the differences of living in an apartment in a city rather than in a house in suburbia. We do not have a car and are able to walk everywhere we need to go. We're able to go to the old city, the shul, and even just the park right next to our building, whenever we want.

For me, it has been such a privilege and honor to be able to study Torah in Jerusalem. Not only is almost everyone Jewish, almost all the food is Kosher, and the calendar runs on the Jewish year, but it also feels significant to be engaged with our tradition in the midst of the eternal capital of the Jewish people. And not just in an historical sense, but also in connection with this incredibly diverse, vibrant, modern, and constantly changing city.

Most importantly, I think we realize the value of this year as a gift in that we are able to spend so much high quality time together as a family. As we all contemplate the true meaning of freedom during Passover, my hope and prayer for all of us, is that we have the strength and fortitude to confront our challenges, and the ability to appreciate our blessings and gifts. Looking forward to seeing everyone soon!





A Festival for Freedom

Passover is more than just a festival, and it's more than just the Seder meal (although that is quite a delicious feast!). It is the journey each of us is personally invited to take from slavery to freedom. Pesach, or Passover, is our festival of freedom and for freedom. At its core, the story of Passover illuminates the narrative that we were once slaves in Egypt, but now we are free. This

story resonates today, more than ever, with the struggles and journeys to freedom still traveled by so many communities around the globe.

This year, it is our brethren in Ukraine who are experiencing oppression, devastation, loss of independence, and, indeed, war. It is they who are striving to maintain their freedom. Jewish aid organizations estimate that there were over 200,000 Ukrainian Jews, some religious, and many more not, who were integrated into the fabric of the country. After centuries of pogroms and emigration driven by antisemitism, followed by the devastation of the Holocaust in World War II, and then Soviet repression, recent decades had brought a flourishing of synagogues, Jewish schools and community centers. Amid the war and the general devastation, many of the pillars of Jewish communities have already left or are under dire threat. Rabbis have fled with their congregants, and synagogues, community centers and schools have closed. A multitude of Jewish aid groups, and Israel, have been helping Jews leave Ukraine and travel to safety.

As the war in Ukraine has continued, a wave of pain, sadness, fear and terror has swept across us all. I know I am

speaking for each one of us when I express our shock and alarm at the unfolding devastation and the horrific political and humanitarian crisis. But, if we're lucky, we can feel a small glimmer of hope, remembering that anyone who has walked through the valley of despair, may find seeds of light once they have passed through the tunnel of darkness. These tendrils of light can reach out of the gloom and into the daylight. When we find ourselves in a place of despair, it can help to remind ourselves of this. Sometimes, we need to stop and take a deep breath to help ourselves remember. Although there is devastating destruction, suffering and loss in Ukraine, there can also be moments of great strength, comfort and hope. Hope for freedom.

Passover offers the gift of many freedoms. Let us each strive to empower the retelling of the story of Passover to fill us with hope this year. In every generation we are each asked to view ourselves as though we each have personally gone forth from slavery in Egypt. May the story of the exodus from Egypt be a powerful metaphor for freedom, gratitude and a celebration of the hope of freedom for all.

Jonathan Wittenberg, Senior Rabbi, Masorti Judaism, says: "The Haggadah, the Passover story, is the foundation of Judaism. Our people is born, not amidst battles and victories, but in slavery. Through experiencing injustice, cruelty and the loss of freedom, we learn the importance of justice, truth, compassion and liberty. These values form the basis of our faith, our ethics and the society we strive to create." May we continue to pray to see the day when war and bloodshed cease and a great peace will embrace the whole world.

From my family to yours, wishing you a sweet and joyous festival of freedom.

Chag Pesach Sameach

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**

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



My New Role as Executive Director

Growing up as a child, Passover was always one of my favorite and memorable holidays. I would watch my mother clean out the cabinets of chametz to prepare for all of the Passover "safe" related items on our shelves. I vividly remember the windows would be open ushering in a slight, refreshing spring breeze,

while we prepared our house for Passover. Although it is always nice to get together with my family & friends having a Seder, reading from the Haggadah, and enjoying the meal that was prepared, it is the act of cleaning the chametz that I enjoy the most. Passover and cleaning out the chametz, celebrates spring, rebirth and renewal, which is symbolized by the green karpas and the egg on the Seder plate. It is also a time of "beginning," as exemplified by the first grain harvest and the birth of Israel as a nation. It is ironic that the holiday of Passover occurs just as I am about to embark on my own clean slate, or "beginning" here at Huntington Jewish Center, in my new role as Executive Director.

I feel extremely privileged to have gotten to know so many of you during the last year as your Office Manager, whether it was on the phone, in person, or over email. I was able to

take part in your everyday lives, with both your simchas and sorrows. As challenging of a year as this was with Covid still in the backdrop, coming into HJC every day gave me hope, a sense of purpose, and the ability to make HJC a better place for all of you! With that said, there are still many of you I do not yet know, or conversely do not know me. I am excited to truly ingratiate myself in all aspects of the Huntington Jewish Center community.

Prior to working at HJC, I worked as the Office Manager at Temple Tikvah of New Hyde Park, managing the office and its facility. I have held many positions in the greater NY Jewish community, as well as in Austin, where I lived for ten years; such as fundraising, membership, engagement committees, assisting with youth programming, as well as serving on the board of my local synagogue. Prior to being a Synagogue professional, I spent ten years working in the financial sector in trading firms, as well as in private investment firms. I graduated from Molloy College with an MBA, and Binghamton University with a BS in Business Management with a concentration in Marketing and Management Information Systems. In my personal life, I enjoy spending time with my husband, my three children, friends and family. I am thrilled to be a part of the HJC community and invite everyone to come in and explore all of the multifaceted programming and events that Huntington Jewish Center has to offer.



PASSOVER IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

SEDER PLATES, MATZAH COVERS, PLAGUE BAGS, and OTHER ITEMS
TO ENHANCE YOUR SEDER AND SEDER TABLE
(your ZEDER-Zoom Seder-as well)

The HJC Sisterhood Gift Shop is ready to assist you with all your
PASSOVER and Judaica needs

Gifts for Bar/Bat Mitzvah, graduation, birthday, holidays, engagement, wedding, baby, and many other occasions!

Our items are sold at below market cost, no tax, and all profits go right back to supporting the Sisterhood of HJC!

For more info or to make an appointment, please contact:

Eileen Berger: berger4u@optonline.net/631-261-2164

Maxine Fisher: mirifish@aol.com/631-757-7455

Pam Fleiss: threebearsf@verizon.net/631-549-9629

Shari Klair: cranky20@aol.com/631-271-0258

Andrea Forman Morris: joligran@gmail.com/631-513-3631



Purim Day, What a Happy Holiday!

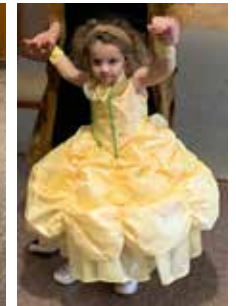
One of my favorite aspects of the Jewish holidays is that there are always undeniable life lessons for all that span every generation. It is a great learning experience for even our youngest of children in the ECC. Purim is more than just dressing up in costume, singing, and dancing. It gives us the opportunity to explore characteristics such as bravery,

courage, equality, and to always be proud of our beliefs. We learn of two powerful and courageous women, Vashti and Esther. We also reinforce that Esther was kind and brave instead of her being the most beautiful of queens. The ECC educators use puppets, literature, and dramatic play to act out the story of Purim emphasizing the important characteristics, values, and life lessons.

This year we hosted our very first annual Purim parade for our parents. In keeping with the past several years and our powering through and thinking outside of the box, it did rain on our parade, but nothing was going to stop us from

having our parade. After drop off on Purim day, every child and teacher marched outside on the sidewalks in costumes, shaking their hand made groggers for their families. Would it have been better if the day was a beautiful one, perhaps, but a little rain would not dampen our spirits. Following the parade, the children attended a school Purim "carnival" and were given delicious hamantaschen compliments of the Parent Association.

We are looking forward to our eggs hatching into chicks in our very own incubator and celebrating Passover. Stay tuned....





There's no place like home

Last month we had come full circle as Purim 2020 was the last holiday to be celebrated together and now Purim 2022 was the first holiday we welcomed parents and families back into the Religious School. We sang and danced, and paraded, and put our groggers to work as we listened to a bit of Megillah. We even shared a hamantaschen together. A simple annual ritual but somehow this

cookie was the best tasting hamantaschen I have ever eaten, not because of the recipe but because of the company. The joy I saw on people's faces may not have been directly related to Purim but they were genuinely thrilled to see one another again in a familiar and warm environment. I was equally delighted to include parents for the Kindergarten/1st Grade Shabbat Workshop. Watching families interact together is rewarding for all involved. Students love seeing their parents in a school setting and parents receive a glimpse of our curriculum in action. Parental presence in our building reinforces the importance of Jewish learning to our children and sustainability of Judaism. Soon we will once again welcome parents to our school wide model seder, a true traditional favorite for many.

Every Passover we are expected to see ourselves as if we escaped from Egypt. I'm not certain whether that includes

the feeling of bondage, the feeling of liberation or perhaps both. I do know how difficult it is for our children to imagine themselves in that situation when we are thousands of years removed from the experience. Naturally, any contemporary comparison would be pale and fall short of our Biblical life in Egypt and the true exodus. Nonetheless with two years of COVID restrictions behind us, we all have had a taste of living life with limitations and hardship. I am not suggesting the nightmare is over, but I do remain cautiously optimistic. We have learned to adapt our lives and more recently with COVID restrictions loosening, we are asked to define a new way of living as we navigate familiar waters and perhaps cross the sea to the new normalcy. Home, a location usually synonymous with warmth, care, compassion, love, and tradition. "Home" is reliable and safe. It is liberating and exciting to once again invite parents to our events at HJC and say "welcome home."

I want to thank HJC for purchasing 80 brand new desks for our Religious School! A very generous step in our future that will benefit every attending child. My staff and I are enormously grateful and appreciate your commitment to Jewish education.



Donations

GENERAL FUND

Stephanie & Alan Kane in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
Howard Dubow in memory of Rose Sirulnick at yahrzeit.
Renee & Bill Saperstein in memory of Seymour Schpoont, father of Robert Schpoont.
Renee & Bill Saperstein in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.
Renee & Bill Saperstein in memory of Florence Mane.
Renee & Bill Saperstein in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
Leslie & Jeff Stark in honor of the birth of Miles Solomon Rubin, grandson of Leslie & Jack Rubin.
Eve Krief in memory of Leonard Meltzer at yahrzeit.
Miriam & Joel Wirchin in memory of Seymour Schpoont, father of Robert Schpoont.
The Holbreich Family in memory of Mortimer Holbreich at yahrzeit.
Alan Schuller in memory of Amy Kennedy at yahrzeit.
Ellen & Jay Steinberg in honor of the birth of Miles Solomon Rubin, grandson of Leslie & Jack Rubin.
Phyllis Simon in honor of Jay Steinberg's 65th Birthday.
Vered Cole in memory of Meir Levanon at yahrzeit.
Elaine & Burt Epstein in memory of Irving Gleicher at yahrzeit.

CENTENNIAL GARDEN FUND

Miriam & Joel Wirchin in memory of Harriet Hummel, mother of Lenny Hummel.

DAILY MINYAN FUND

Miriam & Joel Wirchin in memory of Betsy Rosen Rosenberg, sister of Tom Rosen.
Miriam & Joel Wirchin in memory of Florence Mane.

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of Miles Solomon Rubin, grandson of Leslie & Jack Rubin.
Judy & Lester Fox in honor of Miles Solomon Rubin, grandson of Leslie & Jack Rubin.

DONALD L. GORDON ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of the birth of Maddie Nicole Weiner, granddaughter of Marcey & Bob Wagner.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of Dan Schoeffler with wishes for a quick recovery.

RABBI'S DEVELOPMENT FUND

Donald Haber & Family in memory of Rosalyn Haber.

SOCIAL ACTION FUND/JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Tyna Strenger in memory of Lorraine Haber at yahrzeit.
Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith in honor of Presley Nicole Ellstein, granddaughter of Gail and Jerry Ellstein.
Joel Kuppersmith in memory of Rosalyn Kuppersmith at yahrzeit.
Michele & Mark Kolier in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
Janet & Richard Ganes in memory of Jack Lust at yahrzeit.
Janet & Richard Ganes in memory of Regina Bienenfeld at yahrzeit.
Janet & Richard Ganes in memory of Leo Bienenfeld at yahrzeit.
Jennifer Bring Ingber in memory of Robert Bring at yahrzeit.
Robert Cray in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
Shelley Weinberg & family in memory of Marc Weinberg at yahrzeit.
Miriam & Joel Wirchin in memory of Rosalyn Haber.
Jill & Arnie Sherman in honor of Miriam Wirchin for a speedy recovery.
Barbara & Joel Kuppersmith in honor of the engagement of Mollie Finkel, daughter of Risa & Noah Finkel, to Raj Aidasani.

SCHECTER SCHOOL FUND

Cindy & Moti Dolgin in honor of Jay Steinberg's Big Birthday.

Mazal tov:

Gail and Jerry Ellstein announce the birth of their granddaughter, Presley Nicole Ellstein
Leslie & Jack Rubin announce the birth of their grandson, Miles Solomon Rubin

Condolence:

Dan Himmel, husband of Mimi Himmel.

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 Environmental Committee Presents:

Dedication of the Native Species Garden

Saturday, April 2, the Jewish first day of spring

Please join us at 12:00 PM following services on Shabbat, Rosh Chodesh Nisan - The New Month of Nisan, April 2, for the dedication of the HJC Native Species Garden. A celebratory kiddush will follow.



Here are just a few of the benefits a native species garden yields for the environment:

- Since native plants don't require fertilizers or pesticides, we are keeping harmful chemicals out of the garden. By not allowing them to seep into the ground, we are also keeping them out of our drinking water.
- The deep roots of native plants ensure that this garden, once established, will not be reliant on regular watering, enabling us to conserve water.
- Native plants, like all plants, remove carbon dioxide from the air. With their deep roots, native species more effectively store carbon than other plants.
- Native plants provide shelter and food for wildlife.
- Native plants promote biodiversity and stewardship of our natural heritage.
- Native plants are beautiful and increase scenic value.

Caring for the HJC Native Species Garden is the responsibility of the HJC Environmentalism Committee. We have taken on this program to make our congregational home more aligned with our values. Through this garden, we will not only provide a welcome environment for pollinators, but we are also giving congregants a space for reflection as well as amazement. As seasons change in the garden, each one will be marked with colorful blooms and a variety of insects for us to observe.

Children's programming

A special Nitzanim and Junior Congregation will be held that morning at 11:00 to mark the first day of Jewish spring.

Please register at: <https://hjcny.org/event-rsvp/>

HJC Youth Group* Presents:

MACAROONS TO MATZAH BRIE



**Sunday, April 3rd 12:00-1:30
Grades 4-7**

**Prepare AND enjoy some Passover staples!
Lunch included**



\$20/PP

RSVP: www.hjcnj.org/event-rsvp



***HJC Youth Group provides various social opportunities throughout the school year for all children ages 5-18 including but not limited to Chaverim, Kadima & USY**

Rally in Support of Ukraine at the United Nations

It is Purim and it's March 16th, 2022. It is a particularly warm and bright day for this time of year. I have been in classes that explore Vashti and her refusal to perform for the king. I've listened to interpretations of Esther's request for support before she pleads her case to the king. As interesting as all these classes are, it's the horror of Haman that seizes my stomach. I clearly can see his lineage to Putin.

This year, with the Russian invasion of Ukraine I'm not feeling frivolous. Neither the graggors nor the Hamantaschen interest me. We Jews are supposed to make jolly on this holiday. We are not to distinguish between day and night.

I have heeded the call of my Rabbis to join them at a clergy rally in support of Ukraine at the United Nations. It's a daytime rally and there aren't more than 50 very vocal people there. The group has gathered outside of the American mission to the United Nations. There were three Ukrainian priests. They began by holding their flag high up in the air and singing their national anthem. This was formally adopted less than three decades ago, following the country's independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

"The glory and freedom of Ukraine has not yet perished
Luck will smile on us brother-Ukrainians.
Our enemies will die, as the dew does in the sunshine,
And we, too, brothers, we'll live happily in our land.
We'll not spare either our souls or bodies to get freedom
And we'll prove we brothers are of Kozak kin." ⁽¹⁾
Rousing cheers from the crowd.

The Rabbis invoke urgent prayers from the Psalms:
All of us are attentive and hear:

Psalm 3: "Oh Lord, my foes are so many!
Many are those who attack me...
But You, O Lord, are a shield about me..."

Psalm 7: "Rise, O Lord, in Your anger.
Assert Yourself against the fury of my foes.
Let the evil of the wicked come to an end..."



The crowd is stirred up. The Ukrainians lead us in their plea to President Biden to "DO MORE, DO MORE." I'm standing in the second row of the crowd. A small pine box appears. It is a child's coffin. The Ukrainian flag is draped on top of the coffin. The starkness of the box has silenced all of us. The rally has shifted from a plea for help to a funeral procession. We are walking quietly and slowly towards the front door of the American mission. This coffin placed on the front step of my New York, America, UN Mission. My heart hears the words:

"And the rocket's red glare
The bombs bursting in air
Gave proof through the night
That our flag was still there...
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free
And the home of the brave?"

My eyes singe with salty tears...there is no answer to the question that our Anthem is asking.

Footnote 1. Websearch source Classic fm

Joni Brenner
Women's League Writer's Beit Midrash

HJC Religious School invites you to:

A Taste of Gan



**HIGH QUALITY
JEWISH EDUCATION
FOR OUR YOUTH**

With Morah Stacey or Barbara & Gina Giuffre, Director of Education

Thursdays, April 7 & 14, 2:00-3:00PM

Sundays, March 27 & May 1, 9:30-11:00

**Let your child experience Religious School Kindergarten
with crafts, music, and Jewish learning!**

All Classes are Free!



RSVP: HJCRSDirector@HJCNY.Org by March 25th

Special discount for families that register for 2022-2023 school year by May 15th!

HJC Adult Education and Sisterhood Present:

Passover's Evolution: Passages, Practices, and Palates

with Dr. Cindy Dolgin

Thursday, April 7th 7:30pm

IN-PERSON at HJC with Zoom Option

Home-baked Passover treats and coffee provided by Sisterhood

Please bring your FOB to enter the building



Get some (re)new(ed) ideas and freshen up your Seder experience by exploring the evolution of selected:

- ***Passages from Torah to Mishnah to Haggadah***
- ***Practices from Torah to Mishnah to Today***
- ***Palates from Lamb and Matzah to Greco-Roman Talk-Feast to our 21st century Seder meals.***

MUST REGISTER BY 3/30/22 to receive ***Sisterhood's Taste of Passover*** food sampling prepared and packaged by Woodbury Kosher to be delivered prior to program (one per household). Sisterhood is covering the cost of the sampling and will be delivering the food.

Please register by March 30th at:

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

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



Sisterhood of the Huntington Jewish Center

510 Park Avenue, Huntington, NY 11743

Matzah Fund



Dear Congregant,

It is that time of year: It is Sisterhood's Annual Matzah Fund Appeal.

For each of us, Passover is a holiday overflowing with memories – seders with our grandparents, relatives and friends; asking the four questions for the first time; a first seder with a new husband or wife or baby; or the first time a loved one was not present. Happy memories and sad merge together at one time as we gather around the seder table during this special Jewish holiday.

This year, as you know, is a horrific time in the Ukraine. We have been sending our support to so many that are suffering there. Here we are asking for your local support. If you can, please consider making a donation to those in our community who are in need. Many struggle in our community and are in great financial need.

On Shabbat HaGadol, the Shabbat before Passover, we read in Leviticus 6:13 that the “fire on the altar is to be kept burning...” in case we miss the message G-d repeats... “a perpetual fire shall be kept burning on the altar, not to go out.”

We are here to help each other - to keep the fires burning for those who need light. Please be part of this mitzvah, especially this year. Your check can be made payable to the HJC Sisterhood, sent to my attention to the synagogue office (your check will be received) or payment can be made online at www.HJCNY.org – click on Quick Donate and specify Matzah Fund. As Passover is right around the corner, please send in your contribution as soon as possible.

Thank you on behalf of the entire Sisterhood community for your generosity and concern.
Wishing you and your family safety and good health during this Pesach season.

Sincerely,

Joni Brenner

V.P. Cooperation and Community Service

Spotlight: A Bonus Special

Catching up with the Gordan-Uhrman Family

By Miriam Eckstein-Koas

I recently chatted with Abby Uhrman to find out what she, our beloved Cantor, and their kids were up to during their year in Israel.

Can you fill us in on what you and your husband have been doing work/school-wise?

Izzy has been a full-time student, half-time at the Conservative Yeshiva and half-time at the Schoeken Library. Most of his studies are text classes-- Talmud, Tanach, halacha. He also takes Hebrew and an Israel studies course (which includes a lot of trips in and around Jerusalem).

Fortunately, I have been able to do my job from here. I have taught our students here in person, plus Zoom and asynchronous courses. I have also been continuing with my research and writing. I have a lovely office here, and the transition has been surprisingly smooth.

How have the kids adjusted to school in Israel? How is it the same as and/or different from their school experience in the States?

The kids are incredible-- they are thriving. They're learning and have made wonderful friends. It is VERY different from school in the

States. As they will tell you, there is a lot of screaming and running around, and there are no grownups anywhere! It's not entirely true,

but kids definitely have a lot more freedom here and, yes, in school as well as after. The classes are pretty big (at least relatively-- 30-35 kids in a class), and it is all in Hebrew. The language is still a challenge, but they're getting there, and they have a lot of additional support. There is also a real focus on social/emotional learning here-- the school is very committed to helping kids develop strong connections to each other (across the grades), feel responsibility for each other, etc. The kids' favorite part: no homework (or very, very little). Least favorite: school 6 days a week. Sundays are very rough in our house!

How has the pandemic situation impacted you?

Not too much, fortunately. The school has stayed open the entire time, and other than a few of us getting Covid, it feels relatively "normal" here.

What have you been doing in your free time?

The first semester was really spent just getting adjusted to a normal schedule. The school day is relatively short, so after-school activities are a very big deal here. Between getting everyone settled at school, figuring out their activities, and Izzy and I starting school and work, that was enough to keep us busy. We did travel all over Jerusalem, though-- there is so much to explore right here! After this initial stretch, we started venturing out: we spent a few days in Tel Aviv and went on a tiyul in the South for a week. And we have more travel coming up: we are at Masada this Shabbat, we are having family come for Pesach so we will travel with them then...we're very excited!

Have you found a shul community? Tell us about it.

This is something that has really changed dramatically since the last time Izzy and I were in Israel-- there are so many more egalitarian minyanim than we remember. Within a 15-minute walk, there are at least 7 to choose from. We mostly go to Hakel, the egalitarian minyan in Baka, the neighborhood where we live. It has separate seating, but women can do everything. Most of our kids' friends from school go there, so everyone is happy there.

What do you miss most about the US?

The people! And the checkout lines...they are a disaster here!

What do you like most about living in Israel?

Living our lives according to the Jewish calendar. It's very special.

Do the children speak Hebrew with Israeli accents yet?

Yes!

Where is the best falafel in Jerusalem?

Doron Falafel on Rachel Imenu Street (although everywhere is delicious).

When will you be returning?

Soon!



A NIGHT OF BROADWAY STARS

Monday, April 4, 2022 • 7:30 pm • Virtual

Join us for what is certain to be a “can’t miss” evening for audience members of all ages. Created exclusively for UJA by producer Stephen DeAngelis, six of New York’s finest performers, with numerous Broadway shows to their credit, will recreate some of their most memorable roles and display their great versatility in this virtual live celebration.

Scheduled performers:



Todd Buonopane



Jackie Burns



Lana Gordon



Aaron Lazar



Stephanie Lynne Mason



Drew Seigla

Plus, you’ll learn more about UJA’s critical work supporting New Yorkers during the pandemic.

We’ll also celebrate our community’s generosity in support of UJA.

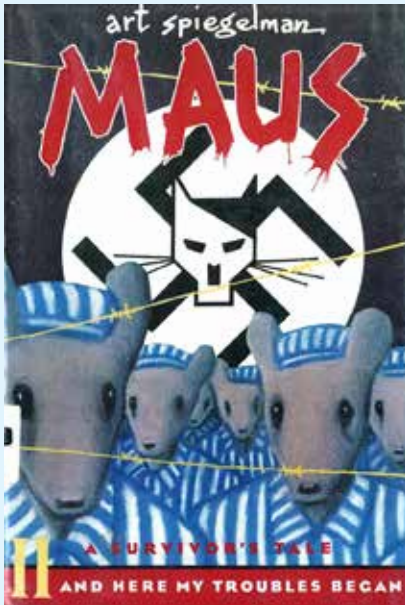
Register online at www.ujafedny.org/broadway-stars.

Please consider making a donation to support UJA’s life-saving work.

Huntington Jewish Center Co-Chairs: Miriam & Joel Wirchin

For more information, contact Laurie Birzon at birzonl@ujafedny.org or 516.762.1819.

MAUS by Art Spiegelman



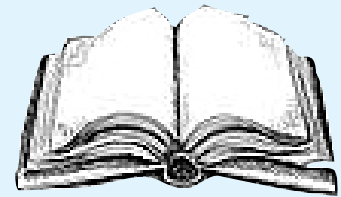
The definitive edition of the graphic novel acclaimed as “the most affecting and successful narrative ever done about the Holocaust” (Wall Street Journal) and “the first masterpiece in comic book history” (The New Yorker) • PULITZER PRIZE WINNER • One of Variety’s “Banned and Challenged Books Everyone Should Read”

A brutally moving work of art—widely hailed as the greatest graphic novel ever written—*Maus* recounts the chilling experiences of the author’s father during the Holocaust, with Jews drawn as wide-eyed mice and Nazis as menacing cats.

Maus is a haunting tale within a tale, weaving the author’s account of his tortured relationship with his aging father into an astonishing retelling of one of history’s most unspeakable tragedies. It is an unforgettable story of survival and a disarming look at the legacy of trauma.

Volume I and Volume II are in the HJC Library. These are books to be learned from and not to be banned or destroyed.

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



Save the Dates for 2022!

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

Search for Chametz, evening	April 14	Lag Ba’Omer	May 19
Fast of First Born	April 15	Jerusalem Reunification Day	May 29
Erev Passover, 1st Seder	April 15	Erev Shavuot	June 4
1st Day of Passover, 2nd Seder	April 16	1st Day of Shavuot	June 5
7th Day of Passover	April 22	2nd Day of Shavuot - Yizkor	June 6
8th Day of Passover	April 23	Fast of Tammuz	July 17
Holocaust Memorial Day	April 28	Tisha B’Av	August 7
Israel Independence Day	May 5		



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.

RABBI HOSPITALITY FUND - supports entertaining congregants at the Rabbi's home.

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL ACTION FUNDS

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

INCLUSION FUND

supports inclusion projects so all members, no matter their abilities, can access meaningful prayer and communal experiences.

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 DEVELOPMENT FUND provides funds for the Rabbi for education, development and programming support.

RABBI'S TZEDAKAH FUND provides funds for the Rabbi for charitable giving to third parties.

CANTOR'S DEVELOPMENT FUND provides funds for the Cantor for education, development and music 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.

HJC Bulletin

April 2022

**Huntington Jewish Center
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Our Culinary Legacy Cookbook

OUR CULINARY LEGACY COOKBOOK MAKES A GREAT GIFT

If you are looking to add some new Passover Recipes for your Seder or any day, the Culinary Legacy Cookbook should be your source. Look at the Holidays Section for Passover Main, Side Dish and Yummy Dessert recipes. There are interesting stories as well from our HJC Community.

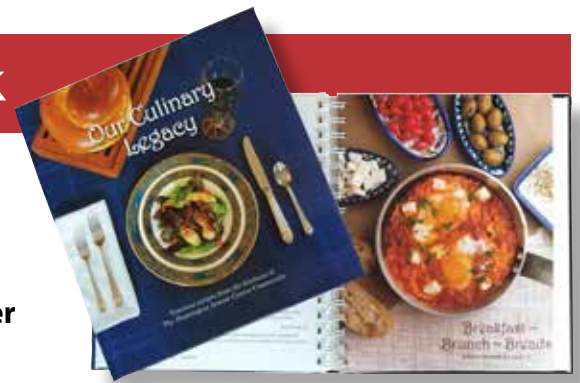
If you have not placed your order yet, the cost is \$36 a book.

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.*