



August 2022 | Av / Elul 5782 Bulletin

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER NEWS / COMMUNITY / CONNECTION

Showing Solidarity with the Muslim Community

by Dr. Eve Meltzer Krief

On July 12th, some of our Huntington Jewish Center members spent a wonderful evening at the Masjid Noor mosque in Huntington. In the wake of a recent attack on the Masjid Fatima Al Zahra mosque in Ronkonkoma, our community wanted to show support and solidarity with our Muslim neighbors and friends. We delivered cards of support that had been written by several of our congregants along with a fruit basket and drawings and notes of love created by children in our Summer Adventure program. During our visit we sat together and discussed how both our communities have fallen victim to the rise in hate incidents we have seen across the country the past several years. We agreed that we must always stand together against hate and ignorance, that more unites us than divides us, and that love is always more powerful than hate.



Sisterhood News

by Evelyn Abraham

SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Join Us and Support the Sisterhood of HJC.
Watch for Emails with Information on
upcoming Membership Events.

New members to HJC receive a complimentary
Sisterhood membership for their first year.

Please return your Membership Letters as soon as
possible. Checks are payable to Sisterhood of the
Huntington Jewish Center. Mail to Huntington Jewish
Center attention Sisterhood Dues.

\$45 - regular membership

\$30 - senior membership

WOMEN'S LEAGUE TORAH FUND CAMPAIGN

This year, the Torah Fund campaign—the dedicated
philanthropy of Women's League for Conservative
Judaism—has reached its 80th birthday.

The new campaign, **Our Chazak v'Ematz campaign,
Be Strong & Courageous** has begun.

We summon strength and fortitude in these changing
times to continue to make an important impact at our
global Conservative/Masorti institutes of higher
education: Jewish Theological Seminary, Ziegler School
of Rabbinic Studies, Schechter Institutes, Seminario
Rabinico Latinoamericano and Zacharias Frankel College.
Your generosity helps provide essential scholarships and
programs to train future leaders of the Jewish
community. Torah Fund helps develop future rabbis,
cantors, educators, synagogue administrators, social
workers, scholars, researchers, lay leaders and others.
If you would like more information on Torah Fund,
please contact Evelyn Abraham. If

you would like to make a donation:

<https://inspired.jtsa.edu/torahfund>

Save paper and send ecards for any
occasion. For only \$5 per recipient,
you can send an attractive message—
and you can even schedule your
card to be sent at a specific time!

**Revenue from ecard purchases will benefit the Torah
Fund Chazak v'Ematz campaign (beginning July 1, 2022).**

**US supporters, please make your selection today at
torahfundecards.jtsa.edu.**



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OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND

FOR YOUR HOLIDAY AND SIMCHA NEEDS

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A Leap of Faith?: The Torah of Tandem Skydiving

I couldn't believe it. There I was flying in a small plane above the south shore of Long Island, strapped to my instructor Dakota, and about to fulfill a life-long, bucket list dream to skydive.

Dakota told me to cling tightly to my safety straps, but once we were stable he'd tap them and tell me to let go of the straps and put

my hands up as we were free falling. When I let go, the feeling was incredible. I felt like I could fly. But I couldn't have flown if I didn't take that leap out of the plane.

Now most people I talk to about this experience can't believe I went skydiving. Or more to the point, they never would have tried it themselves. Who in their right mind jumps out of a perfectly good airplane! It's too dangerous. Even when I shared how tandem skydiving - in which you are attached to an experienced skydiver - has a strong safety record, many people could not believe it. The perceived risk of skydiving is so great that they mistook it for actual risk.

This kind of mistake, of confusing perceived risk for actual risk, is lamented by many scholars as a reason for why human beings are not good at assessing risk. We are scared about things that are safe, like tandem skydiving, and we feel safe about things that should make us fearful, like driving a car.

So why do we make such mistakes? Or to address the question from a spiritual perspective, what is unique to the human condition that we confuse our beliefs (like how "skydiving seems dangerous") for reality (like how "tandem skydiving is safe")? The spiritual scholar Alan Watts, in his book *The Wisdom Insecurity*, delves deeply into this issue and argues that the answer can be found in understanding the difference between "belief" and "faith." Belief, says Watts, is a way of viewing the world as we "lief, or wish, it to be."

Since jumping out of a plane sounds very risky, it must be so! On the other hand, faith is an approach to dealing with reality that is ever-changing and often, though not always, contrary to what we believe it to be. Our beliefs make us feel secure by giving us something to cling to, especially when life is hard, and we want to know for sure that everything will be ok. On the other hand, faith is the courage to let go of beliefs that

inhibit our ability to take a leap of faith and embrace new opportunities which are created by an insecure world.

Watts clearly holds that "faith" is superior to "belief," because while belief clings to outdated ideas, faith gives us the ability to let go and experience the world as it is. While I find much of Watts' thinking on this topic very interesting, I wonder if he's ultimately mistaken about the superiority of faith over belief. Perhaps instead they should be read more in tandem with one another than opposing one another. Perhaps life is not about taking a leap of faith but rather taking a leap of belief that can turn into a flight of faith.

To return to the tandem skydiving metaphor, my instructor Dakota told me that when he'd tap my hands I could let go from clinging to my harness and spread my hands out so I could feel like I was flying. If I clung to my harness throughout the jump, I would be safe, but I would never have been able to fly. However, if I put my hands out when I first jumped, we would not be stable enough to fly together. Sometimes clinging onto a core belief is the first step to eventually being able to have the faith to let go and experience the thrill of living.

There is a beautiful Hasidic story from the Holocaust about a different kind of tandem skydiving. Once there was a group of Nazi concentration camp guards who forced a rebbe and

his followers to dig a massive hole for a mass grave. In their sick and twisted sense of humor, the Nazis said to the rebbe and his followers, "If you can jump across this massive hole, we will let you live. But if you jump and fall in, we will kill you. And if you don't jump at all, we will kill you." There was no way the rebbe and his followers could physically jump to the other side of the massive hole, but what choice did they have? So they jumped, and miraculously everyone made it to the other side. When they got to the other side, the rebbe's followers were so astonished they asked the rebbe, "How did you fly across?" The rebbe answered, "As I jumped I saw an angel come down and I reached up to cling to their coattails." Then with a similar



feeling of astonishment the rebbe turned to his followers and asked, "My friends, how did you fly across?" They looked at each other and smiled, "Rebbe, as you were holding onto the angel's coattails, we were clinging onto yours." May we all cling to beliefs that securely get us in the air, yet may we have the courage to let go and fill our hearts with the faith we need to fly.

From Hazzan Israel Gordan



August Greetings

Happy Summer! It may sound strange for some people to say that now, but it is only August, and we are definitely in the midst of summer. There will be plenty of time to look forward to the fall and the beginning of a new Jewish and academic year. There will also be plenty of time to look back on the year that has passed in preparation for the high holy days. But

now, at the beginning of August, it seems like a great time to just be in the present and enjoy the moment.

At its essence, Judaism is about mindfulness. Instead of simply eating food, we take a moment before beginning to eat and say a b'rakhah to call attention to the gifts from God we are about to enjoy. We do the same thing after the meal with the birkat hamazon. The same is true with all forms of Jewish prayer, life cycle events, and holiday celebrations.

Friday might be just another day that eventually turns into Saturday, but by lighting candles and saying the b'rakhah on Friday evening, we mark the sacred transition into Shabbat. We do that again through Kiddush. What was a regular weekday evening prayer service on Thursday night is changed by adding Kabbalat Shabbat before it as well as changing other elements of the service to mark the sacred time of the week. Births, coming of age, weddings,

and deaths, are life cycle events enhanced and elevated by Jewish ritual and tradition. By using ritual that stretches back thousands of years, we are able to bring mindfulness and intention to our actions in order to connect thousands of years of history and tradition with the excitement and newness of the moment.

We can use Jewish tradition to help us enjoy the summer moment we are in now. As each day passes, the sun sets a little earlier and rises a little later. Eventually, the intense heat and humidity will give way. The green trees and colorful flowers will fade as we transition to autumn, but that is not where we are yet. We are blessed to be in the summer of 2022. Each day may provide us with the opportunity to spend time alone, or with a family-member or friend. We may be able to walk outside, take a trip, hang out at the beach. These simple pleasures are not necessarily in service of something greater; they simply are and it benefits us greatly to recognize them as such.

I also realize that not everyone may be in the position to enjoy a summer's day. Many of us have lost loved-ones or are suffering ourselves physically and/or emotionally. We may have someone in our lives who is in trouble and we are called upon to shoulder much of the burden. There may be difficulties at home or work that cause stress. Again, religion and tradition can be a way to focus our attention on the present and

perhaps ease some of the worries about the future.

There will be time to reflect, to prepare, and to plan. For now, enjoy August and the rest of summer.





Summertime

Summer. The word can be synonymous with relaxation. Sunny skies, bright sandy beaches and lazy days. As the daughter of a NYC teacher, I remember my excitement, and my mother's relief, as we approached the end of the long school year. We eagerly anticipated the whole summer stretching ahead, full of possibilities. What have you been doing to

relax and replenish as the weather turns warmer and the days are longer? And before we gear up for the hustle and bustle of the new school year, with the High Holidays soon to follow?

Growing up, my summers were spent upstate in Monroe, NY at the foothills of the Catskills, at Rosmarins bungalow colony with my family. In the 60's and 70's many Jewish families left the suburbs of the city for the summer, looking for the greener pastures of the Catskills in upstate NY, affectionately known as the Borscht Belt. Perhaps they were

looking to recreate the cozy familiarity of the shtetls, left behind by their parents in Europe. All I knew was that my family would pack up our clothes, kitchenware and bedding, leaving our house in Queens on the Fourth of July weekend, and return Labor Day weekend. We spent the summer in a tiny 3 room cottage, and it was glorious. My father would leave Sunday night and return Friday night, as was common for the men. My sister and I spent our days with friends,

in camp, swimming at the pool and lake, forging enduring friendships that have endured until this day. Those free-spirited and carefree summers were some of the best. Most of the bungalow colonies in the Catskills have been sold, some becoming summer camps, but the one I went to, Rosmarins Cottages, is still thriving, owned by the third generation of Rosmarins. In fact, it experienced a resurgence as the pandemic hit in 2020 and families were looking to get out of the

confinement of their homes. I am happy to admit I am looking forward to returning there for our yearly reunion, reuniting with old friends, nostalgically taking a walk around, rekindling fond memories.

After a long challenging winter, we all need some downtime this summer. While we can, we should all find ways to take advantage of this summer's warmer weather, beautiful landscapes, and endless activities. There's somewhere beautiful to hike no matter where we live. Whether we tackle a famous mountain or a beginner's trail, walking in nature can be a refreshing way to relieve stress. Try exploring somewhere you've never been before, or take a stroll around the familiar neighborhood. Whether it be a new country or a hidden gem, or even right outside your door, relish in the beautiful

landscapes all around us. Even in our own backyards, it's a nice feeling to be able to turn off our phones and maybe even take a nap in the breeze of a shady tree. Or, try a drive through the mountains, resplendent with some refreshing air and take a few hours to refresh.

And, of course, don't forget the fresh produce! The summertime not only provides some fun outdoor activities, it can fill your fridge up with fresh, seasonal produce. Search for local farmer's markets, and bring home a basket filled with nourishing fresh farm fruits and veggies.

And, while we are feeding our minds and our stomachs, let's not forget to feed our soul.

Judaism emphasizes our need to preserve our natural resources and generate new ones for future generations. We are encouraged

l'vadah ul'shamrah, "to till and to tend," to become the Earth's stewards. In Isaiah 41:17-18, God promises, "I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them. I will open rivers in high places and fountains in the midst of valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water and the dry land springs of water." We were given our planet as a loan from God, and as we relax and enjoy its splendor, let us also remember to work to preserve these natural wonders and beauty.





The passage of time

It is truly hard to believe that the month of August is already upon us. The sunny, warm and carefree days of summer are truly slipping away and the fall season will be here before we can blink an eye. As I sit and think how fast this summer has flown by, I also realize how fleeting the passage of time is for all of us.

This summer, two of my three children are attending sleep-away camp. At the end of June, when my two children got on the camp bus, I was not very sad at that moment that I would not see them for 7 weeks. I was so preoccupied with the packing, bunk placement and making sure they had every item – that no stone was left unturned. However, more importantly, I still had my seven-year-old little girl at home to dote on and that would keep me so busy I would not have time to miss my other two children who were not at home. I had every intention of making this special time with my youngest as her summer- the summer where she can be an only child and get a summer that is filled with only girl events and interests that are unique just for her. This is a far cry from her typical year, that is more focused on her two older brothers.

I planned weekly get togethers with her friends from day camp and school. We took her to amusement parks, the beach, even took her to her first concert- Kids Bop! However, no matter how many extras I did and tried to make it a summer just for her, alone with her parents, my daughter kept saying the same statement to me over the course of this summer. "It is no fun being the only kid. I want to be with my brothers. I want to go to sleepaway camp". I was dumbfounded that this little girl who just finished first grade was saying she wants to go away to camp. It truly feels like yesterday she was 3 years old in preschool. Where did the time go? I for sure thought we had at least a few more summers with her home as the "only child" and now here sitting before me is this confident, articulate little girl adamantly expressing her emotions. It is very difficult as parents to watch your last child grow up and want to spread their wings in the world.

The passage of time is truly a blessing and a curse. We think we have all the time in the world to spend with our kids, or friends and family. The truth is we do not. We also have

a limited amount of weeks in the summer. It can be easy to put off that meet up with a friend, or reschedule that dinner, or go to the beach. Unfortunately, since summer is so fleeting with only a handful of weeks, it's so important to seize the moment and savor every last bit of summer before the cooler weather and hectic schedules set in for the fall.

This month, here at HJC, we are having a special Shabbat By The Sound at Scudder Park on August 12th, I hope many of you will join me in savoring the last bit of summer, together as a community at a meaningful Kabbalat Shabbat service & a Celebration of Newborns ceremony – and don't forget to bring your own kosher dairy dinner! I wish all of you a wonderful end of the summer, and hope you all spend it with loved ones, or taking part in memorable activities. I know I will be holding on tight to summer.

Shabbat By The Sound with a **Celebration of Newborns** and **Bim-Bam Shabbat Experience** for Young Families

Scudder Park, 99 Ketchum Pl., Northport
Friday, August 12th

Bring your own Kosher Dairy Dinner

5:15 pm: Bim Bam Shabbat Experience

5:45 pm: Early Dinner

6:15 pm: Celebration of Newborns & Kabbalat Shabbat Service

7:00 pm: Late Dinner

RSVP to Shabbat By The Sound



***And at the end of the day, your feet should be dirty,
your hair messy and your eyes sparkling. Shanti***

The above quote embodies our Summer program perfectly. The children leave here messy, eyes sparkling, and exhausted from all they experience at camp daily. Children should not have a care in the world during the summer. They need to feel carefree, relaxed, and excited. Their worlds, even at this very young age, are often scheduled and regimented down to the minute. They are picked up from school only to rush to dance, karate, soccer, and more. This age group craves and needs unstructured time to breathe, to create, to imagine, to play, and to rest! Their worlds are crammed and over scheduled

from the time they wake up to the time they go to sleep. Even the larger camps can create stress by rushing young children from structured activity to structured activity. I often refer to our school as an incredibly well-balanced program and the same is true for our Summer Adventure. While we have added more structured programming such as Super Soccer Stars and a Dance Specialists, children still have some unstructured time to socialize, imagine, create, and to be a child! They are scientists, artists, mud makers, treasure hunters, game players, climbers, creators, and so much more. They develop confidence, social emotional skills, and the learning is limitless. Most importantly, they are living their carefree lives in a loving, engaging environment as every child should.





Does Jewish Education Take a Summer Vacation?

Many years ago I took my children on a summer vacation to see the Grand Canyon. As we approached the edge to appreciate the full “breath” of the view, we decided to sit on the rim and allow our legs to dangle into the canyon. The air was dry and crisp with a cool breeze on the tip of our noses as the sun baked our faces. The sky was so blue against the greens and browns

of the landscape and every now and then we would hear a bird cry. No one said a word. For a few seconds of our busy lives we were all present in the moment together. My eldest daughter broke the silence. “I feel like we should say a ‘she-hecheyanu’” she suggested. As we recited the blessing for experiencing something new for the first time a tear streamed down my cheek. Everyone laughed at how emotional mom is over everything. I did not expect them to understand just how powerful the moment was for me as person and as a parent.

Education comes in a variety of forms and if we think it can only be accomplished in schools with books in a formal setting between September and June, we are missing golden opportunities. Your personal level of Judaic or Hebrew knowledge is inconsequential in teaching Jewish values. The possibilities are endless. What have you been doing this summer? If you are

going to the beach, challenge them to write a few Hebrew letters in the sand, maybe they can spell their name or a Hebrew word? Flowers are in full bloom now, ask them to assemble a bouquet to adorn your Friday night dinner table. Summer is a perfect time to visit grandparents and collecting tzedakah is never out of style. Read and discuss a Jewish story together, or watch a Jewish themed movie on a rainy day. After a summer storm, do you witness a rainbow? Even if you do not know the specific blessing you can remind them of the Noah’s Ark story and how the rainbow is G-d’s promise not to destroy the world. What is our responsibility to protect our planet and how are we accomplishing that? Tu b’Av (the 15th of the month of Av) corresponds to Aug. 12th this year. Some refer to the day as the “Jewish Valentines Day.” The Talmud tells us of a Biblical festival when young women would dance in the vineyards of Jerusalem and hopefully attract love and marriage. How many ways can we express our love for each other when it is not February 14th? If you are taking a trip to the mountains, a desert, a witnessing waterfall, going for a dip in the ocean or visiting any natural place of grandeur be sure to point out the magnitude of the location, even if it seems

obvious. It is perfectly OK if you do not know the formal Hebrew blessing. Acknowledge the majesty and give thanks your way. Lucky for all of us, G-d speaks all languages and understands all words when they come from the heart.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and look for the “she-hecheyanus.”



HJC Religious School Presents:

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

At

Main St. Board Game Café

307 Main Street, Huntington

Complimentary entrance fee made possible by HJC

Thursday, August 18th, 7:00-9:00 pm

All ages welcomed



Over 500 games to choose from!

Kosher snacks available for purchase



RSVP www.hjcnny.org/event-rsvp

Summer Shabbaby Care

(formerly Babysitting)

and **Nitzanim**

For kids 3 years old
to rising 1st graders



We are pleased to announce that for the months of July and August we will have "Shabbaby Care" (formerly known as Babysitting) from 10 am to 12 pm with an experienced babysitter and an amazing HJC teen.

During 6 Shabbatot over the summer, Shabbaby Care will be enhanced with a 45-minute educational Nitzanim program led by an experienced teacher and assisted by an amazing HJC Teen. Please see the dates below for the schedule of this exciting program!

August 6th	Shabbaby Care + Nitzanim
August 13th	Shabbaby Care ONLY
August 20th	Shabbaby Care + Nitzanim
August 27th	Shabbaby Care + Nitzanim

Donations

GENERAL FUND

Shelley Weinberg in memory of Elaine Harris, mother of Gail Ellstein
Amira, David & Joseph Garbus in memory of Vered Cole
Martin and Judi Rosenblatt in memory of Marshal Rosenblatt at Yahrzeit

Martin and Judi Rosenblatt in memory of Paul Hopmayer at Yahrzeit
Andrea Marcus Smoller in memory of Joel Sobin, husband of Amy Sobin

Mr. & Mrs. Les Rothenberg in memory of Bernard Rothenberg at Yahrzeit.

Kenneth and Nancy Bob in Memory of Frederick Bob at Yahrzeit

Dr. & Mrs. Burton Epstein in memory of Molly Gleicher at Yahrzeit

Dr & Mrs. Burton Epstein in memory of Joel Gleicher at Yahrzeit

The Satin Family in memory of Ruth Thall at Yahrzeit

Bruce and Alice Rosen in memory of Anny Lowenstein at Yahrzeit

Sandy and Joe Rabinowitz in memory of vered Cole

Alon and Amal Kapen in honor of Dan Schoeffler

Alon and Amal Kapen in honor of Nicole Feibel

Robert Falkowitz in memory of Bill Cadel, you will be sorely missed

Alon and Amal Kapen in memeory of Vered Cole

Alon and Amal Kapen in memory of Barbara Bring, mother of Jennifer Bring

Les and Debbie Rothenberg in memory of Bernard Rothenberg at Yahrzeit

Michael and Melissa Richter in memory of Edward Richter

COLLEGIATE FUND

Ronald and Gwen Goldstein in memory of Bill Cadel

INCLUSION FUND

The inclusion Committee in memory of Bill Cadel

Dr. Alan and Randi Schuller in memory of Bill Cadel

Dr. Joel and Barbara Koppersmith in memory of Bill Cadel

ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT FUND

Miriam Eckstein-Koas in memory of Vered Cole

PROGRAMMING FUND

Amy Sobin in honor of Rabbi Saks officiating at the funeral of Joel Sobin

RABBI'S TZEDAKAH FUND

Carillon Nursing and Rehab Center

Bernard Rosof In loving memory of Anne and David Rosof at Yahrzeit

Sandy and Joe Rabinowitz in honor of Rabbi's sister's engagement

Richard Galant and Aileen Jacobsen in memory of Vered Cole

Richard Galant and Aileen Jacobsen in honor of Rabbi Saks for his leadership and guidance on the Congregational trip to Israel

DAVID S. ROSENMAN CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Judy and Lester Fox in memory of Bill Cadel

SOCIAL ACTION FUND/ JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Roger Silverberg and Evelyn Abraham in memory of Betty Abraham at yahrzeit

Robin Baker in honor of Amira Garbus's 80th Birthday

Roger Silverberg & Evelyn Abraham in memory of Joel Sobin

Roger Silverberg & Evelyn Abraham in memory of Bill Cadel

Andrea Marcus Smoller in memory of Bill Cadel

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Kleinmann in memory of Vered Cole

Adam Cramer in memory of Vered Cole

Marilyn and David Klein in memory of Joel Sobin

Marilyn and David Klein in memory if Irving Gingold at Yahrzeit

Richard and Janet Ganes in memory of Fanny Lust at Yahrzeit

Richard and Janet Ganes in memory of Bill Cadel

Walter and Elaine Kleinmann in memory of Vered Cole

Jill Sherman in memory of Joel Sobin

Jill Sherman in memory of Bill Cadel

Jill Sherman in memory of Jennifer Ingber's mother Barbara Bring

Jill Sherman in honor of Dan Schoeffler being named

Man of the Year

Dr. Joel and Barbara Koppersmith in memory of Bill Cadel

Jay and Jill Shapiro in memory of Bill Cadel

Phyllis and Andy Levy in honor of Tom Rosen's 80th Birthday

YVONNE COHEN DEDICATION FUND

Susan Jouard in memory of Bernard Berman at Yahrzeit

Condolence:

Joel Sobin, husband of Amy Sobin

Bill Cadel, husband of Debbie Cadel

Mazal tov:

Tom and Vicki Rosen announce the engagement of their Grandson Evan Samuel Safrin to Emily Jerris.

Mitchell and Allison Reiver celebrate the June marriage of their son Andrew to Emily Rodkin.

**HJC's Social Justice Committee
presents a Film Night:**

"Little White Lie"

**What defines our identity, our family of origin
or the family that raises us?**

When:

**Wed., August 24th
7:30 PM**

Where:

Family Life Center

**After the film we will participate in
a discussion while enjoying refreshments.**

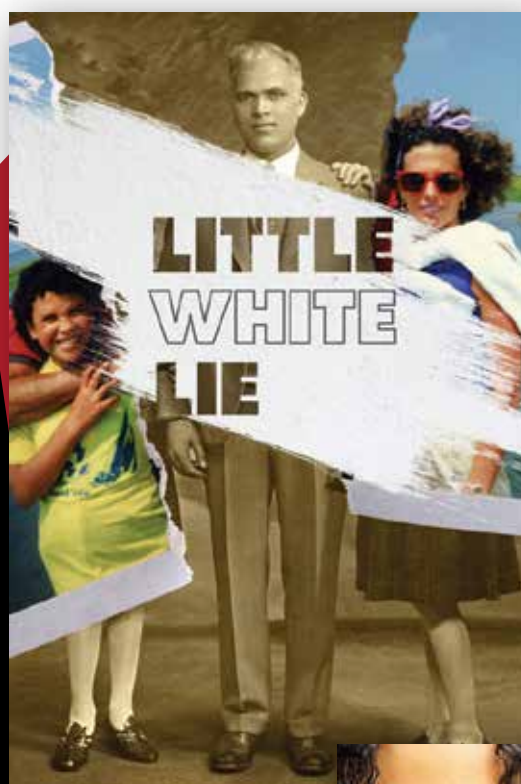
Little White Lie tells Lacey Schwartz's story of growing up in a typical upper-middle-class Jewish household in Woodstock, NY, with loving parents and a strong sense of her Jewish identity — despite the open questions from those around her about how a white girl could have such dark skin. She believes her family's explanation that her looks were inherited from her dark-skinned Sicilian grandfather. But when her parents abruptly split, her gut starts to tell her something different.

The Wall Street Journal: Filmmaker Lacey Schwartz was raised as a white Jewish child and only later learned the whole truth.

The New York Times Critics' Picks: "The documentary *Little White Lie* would be provocative simply for what it says about race and identity...The film is a searing portrait of collective denial - a diagnosis from which Ms. Schwartz doesn't exempt herself." - Ben Kenigsberg / The New York Times

Vanity Fair: "Little White Lie is a true story and unique in that Schwartz's belief in her whiteness was affirmed by her entire community despite her visibly mixed appearance... [The film] focuses on the nature of family secrets and how the white lie on which hers is predicated remained intact for so long." - Chase Quinn / Vanity Fair

MSNBC: "One of the most profound meditations on race I've ever actually experienced. It's great" - Chris Hayes / MSNBC



A film by
Lacey Schwartz
about
family secrets,
denial and
the power of
telling the truth





SAVE THE DATE!

הנח סעליחות PROGRAM

**Knowing Right from Wrong:
Jewish Views on Ethical Behavior
(A Crash Course) with Rabbi Saks**

**MEMORIAL PLAQUE DEDICATION
SERVICES WITH CANTOR GORDAN**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022
8:00 PM**

HJC Youth Group* Presents:



ROSH HODESH: it's a girl thing!

Open to girls in Grades 5-12

CRAFTS MUSIC COOKING
CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY SPORTS
SUPPORT GROUP SOCIAL ACTION AND MORE!



Tuesday, Sept. 20	6:30-8:00
Tuesday, Oct. 25	6:30-8:00
Tuesday, Nov. 22	6:30-8:00
Tuesday, Dec. 20	6:30-8:00
Sunday, Jan. 22	12:00-1:30
Tuesday, Feb. 14	6:30-8:00
Tuesday, Mar. 21	6:30-8:00
Tuesday, April 18	6:30-8:00
Tuesday, May 16	6:30-8:00

**All meetings are
after school
& include a meal**

EACH session is \$20

RSVP www.hjcny.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

HJC's CEMETERY SERVICE

**Sunday, September 25, 11 AM
at
HJC Cemetery**

**May the memories of all our departed
be for a blessing.**



HJC Religious School Proudly Announces:

Pre-K Religious School With Morah Barbara of the ECC

One Sunday a Month From September 2022 – May 2023
9:30-11:00 a.m.

Crafts, Music, Holidays, Bible Stories, Jewish Community



Contact Gina at HJCRSDirector@HJCNY.org for details

Register at: <https://hjcny.org/learning/religious-school/religious-school-registration/>



Have you heard the Buzz???

**In-Person Family and
Children's Programming
is BACK for ALL 3 DAYS
of the 2022
High Holidays!**



**Sept. 26, 27
& Oct. 5**

10AM - Family services led by Religious School Director Gina Giuffre

**11AM - 12 Noon - Fun activities for kids ages 3+ run by experienced
teachers/counselors**

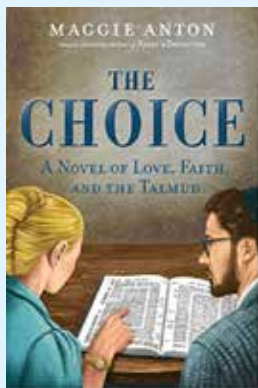
Check out the High Holiday Hub (www.hjcn.org/hh-hub) for more UPDATED information
including details of activities, registration, logistics, and health & safety information!

FICTION:



Last Summer at the Golden Hotel by Elyssa Friedland

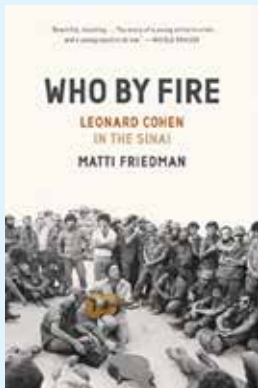
Each month I look forward to the Book Listings in the Hadassah Magazine, among other publications, and am hardly ever disappointed. The featured title this month is one mentioned here just a year ago in the August 2021 issue. The reason it is reviewed again is that Hadassah Magazine Exec. Editor will be interviewing the author Elyssa Friedland On August 15 at 7 p.m. Event is free and open to all. To register go to hadassahmagazine.org/books (I just did and it's fairly straightforward.)



The Choice by Maggie Anton (Author of 50 Shades of Talmud)

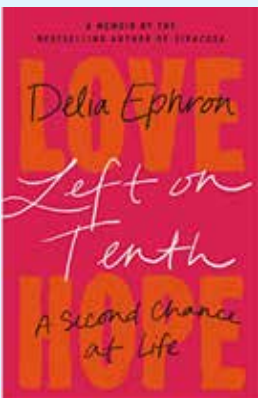
"....about the choices Jews make and the rules we break for reasons of consideration, conscience, logic, and love"-Letty Cottin Pogrebin

NON-FICTION:



Who By Fire: Leonard Cohen in the Sinai by Matti Friedman

A little known story of his tour of the Sinai during the Yom Kippur war, meeting the men and women at the worst time of their lives. An insight into his relationship with the Jewish community and Israel.



Left on Tenth: A Second Chance at Life by Delia Ephron

A memoir that is at once humorous, upsetting, joyful, disturbing and uplifting....all in one section. Truly a roller coaster of a read as she tells the events leading from the death of her adored sister, followed by that of her beloved husband, to the serendipitous meeting of a new love, down the chasm of a medical diagnosis similar to what took the life of her sister....but it's some years later and new drugs and methods are available. There is hope, understanding and acceptance.



Remembering Vered Cole

This article was originally published in April, 2012:

This open letter of gratitude to the HJC community must be anonymous. In fact it was submitted to the HJC bulletin in a plain brown envelope and I snuck into the office to drop it off so no one would see me. Why so covert? Because for the first time in my life, my family is the recipient of an HJC 'special arrangement'. I am writing to say thank you and share with you what this gift means to me, for without the congregants in 'good standing', I would not be able to continue my membership in our precious community.

For the first decade of our HJC membership, my family was affluent, generous and involved in leadership and fundraising for the synagogue and early childhood center. Each year, we were listed within the top three Kol Nidre Appeal categories. Last year, I didn't appear on the board at all. Last August, I met with Vered Cole, one of two HJC board of trustee members whose difficult task it is to assess 'special arrangements.' I shared that I was facing bankruptcy and could not pay my child's religious school tuition or my membership dues. I hoped and prayed that I had to some degree, paid it forward by raising funds for HJC, volunteering when I could and attracting my share of new members. She was discreet, gracious, kind and helped me accept the gift of membership that was bestowed upon me. Vered was very clear, "Tell no one. They don't need or want to know. You sit in the pew like everyone else." "I'll pay it back, this is temporary," I pled unnecessarily. "It won't be the first time that someone granted special arrangement turned out to be an investment in HJC's future," Vered replied.

Let me tell you, the drastic changes in my financial situation did not affect my faith, self-esteem, ability to be happy, love my children or make me self-conscious. Instead, it reinforced what it means to be a Jew. In the past two years, I have lost three friends to untimely deaths, pray as a dear friend's daughter recovers from a catastrophic injury, and thank God daily that I am middle-aged and still able to visit my parents every week.

My child is flourishing in our revived religious school under the outstanding leadership of Tehilah Eisenstadt. He is a real investment in a Jewish future.

As I sat in costume on Purim, the irony was not lost on me that I was indeed masquerading as a full paying member. I was very grateful for Vered's instruction not to share my 'special arrangement' with others. I thanked God for belonging to a community that was there for me when I needed it to be. "Special arrangements", interesting terminology indeed.

Synagogue membership has always been important to me but when I was a full paying member I felt 'entitled' to some degree. Being the recipient of 'special arrangements' has rearranged all that. I no longer feel entitled. I feel blessed, more so than ever. I am more present when I am in synagogue. I try to make it to minyan more often. I cry more at services, simchas, and try to make it to shiva minyans. I try to pay it back as often as possible though I will never be able to give back what HJC has bestowed upon me.

When I met with Vered back in August 2009, I came prepared with documents and heartache. When I left, I was in tears, not from shame, but from being the recipient of love and being treated like a Jew by a Jew in accordance with our shared values and investiture in HJC.

So, to all my fellow congregants, those on 'special arrangements' and those who make those arrangements possible, and the entire HJC community, thank you. My love and thanks to Vered, who handled a very difficult situation with *rachmones* and allowed me to keep my dignity and place in the pew. I am eternally grateful. Thank you all and may the days ahead be filled with health, happiness and prosperity for each member of the HJC community.

Anonymous

No longer anonymous, I pray and hope I was able to bring peace, ease, and comfort to Vered z"l in the end. While I knew Vered was Israeli, she will forever be part of my love affair with the country. We loved and lost a precious part of who and what made HJC home. Todah rabah Vered for all you were.

Gwynne Wicks

HJC Bulletin

August 2022

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Our Culinary Legacy Cookbook

SISTERHOOD COOKBOOK FUND

David and Susan Lefkowitz in memory of Joel Sobin, husband of Amy

David and Susan Lefkowitz in memory of Faye Goldstein at Yahrzeit

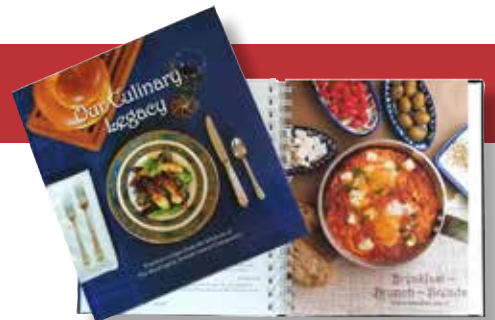
David and Susan Lefkowitz in honor of Tom Rosen wishing him a "Special" Happy Birthday

David and Susan Lefkowitz in honor of Vicki Rosen wishing her a "Special" Happy Birthday

Phyllis and Andy Levy in honor of Nicole Feibel, Men's Club Youth of the Year and Sisterhood's Little Sister.

Phyllis and Andy Levy in memory of Joel Sobin, husband of Amy Sobin

Arlene Steinberg



OUR CULINARY LEGACY COOKBOOK MAKES A GREAT GIFT

If you are looking to add some new Recipes, the Culinary Legacy Cookbook should be your source. There are interesting stories as well from our HJC Community. 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.