



May 2023 | Iyar / Sivan 5783 Bulletin

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER
NEWS / COMMUNITY / CONNECTION

CELEBRATE SHAVUOT 5783

Sisterhood News

by Evelyn Abraham



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE UPDATE

Thank you to all who paid your Membership Dues. Dues support our wonderful HJC Community with donations, sponsoring of programs and the Women's League for Conservative Judaism. Watch for Emails with Information on Membership Events.

BQLI REGION WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT AND LITTLE SISTER AWARD HONOREES

HJC Sisterhood honorees, Shari Feibel and Gabriella Messing will be recognized and honored at this year's annual BQLI Region Woman of Achievement Gala on Thursday evening June 8 at Temple Beth Sholom, Roslyn Heights. Watch for information on how to attend the Gala and recognize our honorees.

SISTERHOOD EXTENDED KIDDUSHES

If you are planning a B'nai Mitzvah, Aufruf, Birthday or Anniversary Celebration, please consider Sisterhood to cater your luncheon at HJC. Sisterhood has recently updated the Kiddush Luncheon Menus. Please contact Sarah Saunders if you would like more information on the menu options that are available.

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

אנחנו פתוחים כל שנה בשביל צרכי חגים ושמחה OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND FOR YOUR HOLIDAY AND SIMCHA NEEDS

Sisterhood Contact: Evelyn Abraham
evelyn_abraham@optonline.net

Rabbi Ari Saks

Rabbi

631-423-5355

Cantor Israel Gordan

Cantor

631-427-1089 ext. 26

Gina Giuffre

Religious School Director

631-427-1089 ext. 14

Andrea Marcus Smoller

President

516-901-7179

Rachel Gritz

Executive Director

631-427-1089 ext. 23

Ilene Brown

Director, Early Childhood Center

631-427-1089 ext. 15

Neil Kurshan

Rabbi Emeritus

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Inclusion Miriam Eckstein-Koas & Lesley Stark

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Israel/Ramah Scholarships Judy Fox

JNN..... Rob Fisher

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Men's Club Scott Herskovitz

Religious School Leigh Murphy

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Social Justice..... Susan Jouard

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Theatre Development..... Arthur Perler

Technology Jeff Stark

Tree of Life..... Tom Rosen

The Village Project..... Elaine Kleinmann, Shelley Weinberg, Lori Sklar

From Rabbi Ari Saks



The Miracle of the Modern State of Israel

A few years ago, I mentioned in a High Holiday sermon that we need to publicly state the feeling deep within our bones that the creation of the modern state of Israel is a miracle. What is the miracle of Israel? First, by its sheer existence on the world stage for 75 years, the state of Israel declares our promise that never again will Jews be without

a home to protect us when antisemitism rears its ugly head. It is hard for the vast majority of us who do not know life without a state of Israel to understand the existential fear of many generations of Jews who were subjected to the whims and desires of governments, nobles, kings, and popes. As Moshe Dayan once said, “I felt in my bones the victory of Judaism, which for two thousand years of exile from the Land of Israel had withstood persecutions, the Spanish Inquisition, pogroms, anti-Jewish decrees, restrictions and the mass slaughter by the Nazis in our own generation, and had reached the fulfillment of its age-old yearning — the return to a free and independent Zion.”

Second, the miracle of the state of Israel, is that it came about as the result of a longing within the Jewish soul that persisted even when it seemed impossible. As Yossi Klein Halevi states, “Israel exists because it never stopped existing, even if only in prayer. Israel was restored by the cumulative power of Jewish longing.” The miracle isn’t just that Zionism fulfilled that longing, but that it succeeded when many Jewish communities thought that longing should

strictly remain in our prayers. Take for example an (albeit fictional) scene from the popular AMC series “Mad Men” set in the 1950s before Israel celebrated its 10th anniversary. The main character, Donald Draper, is asked by the Israeli government to come up with an ad campaign to encourage tourism to the fledgling Jewish State. So he asks Rachel, a Jewish-American woman, why she does not live in Israel. She replies, “My life is here...for me, [Israel] is more of an idea than a place.” Fictional or not, watching this scene now strikes me by how much American Jews changed their views of Israel from its 10th to its 75th birthday. That change over time strikes me as a miracle.

On Tuesday May 2nd, we will be joined by members of Temple Beth El and Kehillath Shalom to joyously celebrate Israel with a comedy show entitled “Living in the Land of Milk and Funny,” from acclaimed American-Israeli comedian Joel Chasnoff. Then on June 4th we will be joining other Jewish communities around the metro New York area to display our connection to Israel with the annual Day of Israel Parade in Manhattan. Both of these opportunities are designed to encourage us to celebrate the amazing miracle of Israel’s 75 years. Despite the real political, social, and economic challenges the modern state of Israel faces, let us never forget that this beautiful country living in a tough neighborhood continues to act as a safe haven for Jews around the world. Let us never take for granted that without the sacrifices made by so many, Israel may only have existed as an idea and never a place. So let us pray that the State of Israel will continue to persevere, will continue to be a beacon of light for all nations, and will continue to be a modern miracle for the next 75 years.



From Hazzan Israel Gordan



Bar/Bat Mitzvah Season

If I am counting correctly, I have done about 99 bar and bat mitzvah celebrations in my twelve years here at the Huntington Jewish Center. I am amazed at how nervous I still get each time a young person ascends the bimah to read from the Torah and/or chant their haftarah. While this is certainly their big day, I feel that after approximate-

ly eleven months of meeting together on a weekly basis, this is just as much a reflection of my abilities as a teacher as it is of their abilities as a student. I am deeply invested in the process and am almost always thrilled by the outcome.

This month, however, I will be acting not just as the cantor and tutor of the celebrant, but the father as well. This past December we held a celebration for Noa on the occasion of her becoming a Bat Mitzvah in Jerusalem. It was Rosh Chodesh and Hanukkah so she led birkot hashachar, p'sukei d'zimrah, (she let me lead shaharit), hallel, torah service, musaf, read all four aliyot, and gave a d'var Torah. It was a beautiful and meaningful morning for all of us and we were so thrilled to share it with the friends and family who were able to be there with us.

But Noa came to Huntington when she was only nine months old. She has grown up here and it was very impor-

tant to us that she also be able to celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah at HJC. On May 13th, we're looking forward to welcoming as many people as possible to the sanctuary to celebrate with us as Noa reads from the Torah and chants her haftarah. It's hard to believe that the nine month old baby from 2011 is now a twelve and a half year old young woman with two younger siblings.

It has been such a joy to me as her father and her cantor to teach her and prepare her for this occasion. I love sharing my passions of nusach and trop and she has been a great student who has soaked up all of the information, displaying great fluency in the prayers. But I can't imagine how nervous I will be that morning. In December, Noa was incredibly calm, cool, and collected throughout her big day and I have no doubt she will be here as well.

And such are the joys of parenting. No matter how much we try to teach, shape, and mold our children, so much of their personalities are intrinsic to who they are. As many parents will tell you, they are who they are from the time they were born, which explains how siblings from the same parents can be so different from each other. While nurture certainly plays a role in a child's growth and development, nature plays a huge and mysterious role as well.

I know that not all of us are parents, but I do hope that we can all enjoy the love (and frustrations) of family. Not just on Mother's Day and Father's Day, but each and every day.



By all accounts Mostly True Things was a successful evening. It could not have happened without the help of many people. I would like to extend my appreciation to Evelyn Abraham, Nancy Cooper, Bruce Fleiss, Donna Fleiss, Rachel Gritz, Ira Kalina, Gail Lodge, Marty Spielman, Alex, and Victor for your contributions. And none of this could have happened without Jude Treder-Wolff's great guidance and, of course, the Storytellers, Ed Fleiss, Mike Richter, Emily Schwartz, and Marcey Wagner.

Thank you all. **Marsha Perlmutter Kalina**





A Fond Farewell

All of us in our HJC community have been very fortunate to have enjoyed Rabbi Saks' spiritual leadership over these past six years, but as we know, the Rabbi is moving on and relocating to Philadelphia at the end of his contract in June. The Rabbi and his family are looking forward to exploring new opportunities in Philly and are especially looking

forward to living closer to their family.

We have all benefited from the Rabbi's many wonderful strengths and qualities; Rabbi Saks will be truly missed. Under Rabbi Saks' leadership our community has grown and we have accomplished a great deal. Indeed, with the combination of the Rabbi's technical wizardry and his warm demeanor, and through the use of creative endeavors and programming, we will always be grateful to the Rabbi for helping us get through the pandemic, one of the most challenging times we have faced in our lifetimes.

We will especially miss Rabbi Saks during the many life cycle events he has shared with us. Whether it be at a wedding, bar or bat mitzvah, baby naming or even a funeral, Rabbi Saks always approached these life cycle events with much warmth and caring. Especially at times of bereavement and in our time of greatest sadness, the Rabbi is always comforting and deeply compassionate. He has a talent for making everyone in the family feel included and valuable, and infuses his pastoral counseling with genuine personal concern. Rabbi Saks makes people feel that their needs are important, whether for an old time congregant,

or a first time visitor. The Rabbi's deep devotion to Judaism and sense of spirituality in prayer are often clearly evident and his enthusiasm and passion for Judaism infuses us all with joy.

The Rabbi has brought much to our community. One of the Rabbi's most beloved innovations has been his Wednesday morning Coffee Talk. These weekly Zoom meetings provided a space for people to share common experiences and to which the Rabbi brought a wealth of Jewish knowledge to a wide variety of topics, creating a vibrant community of learners. We know that Rabbi Saks has been a gifted teacher, both with our children in the ECC and Religious School, and with adults, bringing many innovative and interesting Adult Ed programs to us. He also has a real talent to connect with young people, encouraging them on their Jewish journeys, mentoring many and staying connected with some of our college students. As we know, this is a time when our children often distance themselves, and it is no small feat to keep our youngsters engaged. Through the Rabbi's passion for inspiring others on their Jewish journey, he has successfully done just that for many.

We will truly miss the Rabbi's warmth, congenial enthusiasm and energy, and we wish him nothing but the best in all of his future endeavors. I hope you will be able to join us on June 17 at the Rabbi's Farewell Shabbat where we will all be able to express our gratitude to the Rabbi for all he has meant to us over his time at HJC. I would like to take this opportunity to wish Rabbi Saks, Rachel, Jonah and Lilah, who have all been so much a part of our HJC family, a fond farewell, much happiness and fulfillment as they take their next steps forward on their journey.

Support the new ShopRite in town!

An important addition to our community.

**It's exciting to see the wonderful kosher products
and amazing selection of Passover products available.**





Celebrating Shavuot

I find May a good reminder to us all to reflect on the passing of and marking of time. Shavuot signifies the receiving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai to our ancestors. Prior to the receiving of the Torah, there was a very laborious seven-week journey through the desert to reach Mt. Sinai. Imagine our ancestors, wandering around and waiting; unaware and not know-

ing the destination, or the reason they are wandering? Most of us cannot even sit in silence for a few minutes without our iPhones! The period that our ancestors spent in sadness in the desert would soon then be followed with jubilation of the alignment between G-d and Israel.

A great deal of Israel Independence Day/Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations also occur in May. Much like Shavuot, Yom Ha'atzmaut also signifies the end of the wandering for a Jewish homeland. Israel Independence Day is an extremely per-

sonal deep meaning holiday for me. My own mother's parents, who luckily managed to escape from Poland in the 1930's moved to Israel, before my mother was born. Much like our ancestors on Shavuot, her parents were also wandering. My grandparents ended up working on different kibbutzim and fought against the British to help establish the state of Israel. My mother was born the year that Israel became an official state in Israel- after years of torment a homeland for my mom and her parents finally existed.

Here at HJC, a great deal of wonderful programs are happening. We have a Shavuot Ceremony for children who are under age 3. Rabbi will be having Shavuot & Tikkun Liel Shavuot programming during the holiday as well. We also will be hosting Joel Chasnoff, a comedian, in honor of Israel turning 75. HJC will also be attending the JCRC Celebrate Israel Parade in NYC, which has not been done since before the pandemic, so don't forget to order your t-shirts! I wish all of you a lovely Shavuot and hope everyone will find meaning in the holidays this May.

SAVE THE DATES HJC SISTERHOOD

MOTHER'S DAY EVENT



Thursday, May 11th @ 7:00pm

ROSH CHODESH SIVAN

Welcoming the New Moon



Monday, May 22nd @ 7:30 pm

Hope you can join us!

SAVE THE DATE!

Rabbi Saks's Farewell Kiddush
June 17 at HJC



PHOTO BY MOTI DOLGIN

Join us as we celebrate Rabbi Saks's rabbinate
at the Huntington Jewish Center,
and wish him and his family farewell.

- Rabbi Farewell
Kiddush Committee





"See to it that you do not spoil and destroy My world; for if you do, there will be no one else to repair it." – Midrash Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:13

The nation has celebrated Earth Day since 1979; however, we as Jews have always been taught through the Torah to care for the Earth. In fact, in every Jewish holiday, there is some form of reference to caring for the Earth. In Passover, the beginning of Spring, we plant and are reminded to care for the Earth so that the ground is always healthy to receive seeds. In Shavuot and most notably in Sukkot, we focus on the cleanliness of water, air, and the Earth so that we may continue to enjoy the harvest. In Rosh Hashanah we are grateful to G-d for the Earth which was entrusted to us. Most remarkably during the holiday of Tu B'Shvat, we celebrate and honor the trees which provide us with endless gifts.

We as a school and hopefully as a people, recognize the importance of caring for the Earth. Many have taken the Earth for granted and expect it to sustain itself, while harming and depleting the most natural of resources. When we celebrate Earth Day in the ECC, we teach and

model lessons that will hopefully generalize to our families' homes, and beyond. We need to start caring for the Earth at a very young age and make it important every day, year round. In fact, people don't recognize the importance of so many valuable lessons that should be taught in early childhood. Our teachers make preserving the Earth important by placing some of the responsibility on their students. The children of course learn best when it is experiential! The children have specific jobs that foster their responsibility for caring for our planet. For example, we have light monitors in all classrooms to ensure bathroom and classroom lights are turned off when not in use. We have a water helper who ensures that water is being conserved by turning it off after wetting hands. The children then soap their hands and wash them prior to turning water back on. We have a litter police person who inspects the playgrounds for litter. Even the youngest of children are taught to use both sides of the paper when drawing or writing. Through science lessons, children can observe and learn how paper can be recycled. If we can prioritize the care of the Earth every day, instead of solely on holidays, the Earth can be a healthier place.



Religious School

Gina Giuffre, Director



Israel: 1948 and Forever!

On my desk in my office sits a black and white framed photo of my grandparents walking in Jerusalem in the late 1960's. Israel was approximately only 20 years young then. My grandfather is sporting a suit, tie and shoes and carries a small camera in his right hand. My grandmother is clearly wearing a dress, coat, shoes, the latest in "cat eye" eyeglasses, gloves and a purse adorns her left arm. Their vacation attire is foreign to me, but it does remind me of a time when people actually dressed up to fly on an airplane or vacation. Their stride clearly indicates they were en route to their next adventure and their smiles are identical. They stretch from ear to ear with an obvious sense of pride, joy and sheer happiness to be in a Jewish State. This has become one of my favorite photographs of them.

As a Jewish nation, Israel holds a deep and profound place in the hearts of Jews worldwide. Visiting Israel is more than just a rite of passage or vacation; it is an opportunity to connect with our heritage, explore our roots of Jewish history and experience the modern marvels of a thriving diverse nation. The first time I went to Israel I was fortunate to chaperone a group of 21 con-

firmed students during the Passover holiday. I remember visiting sites I had only read about and was astonished how evidence and remnants of Biblical stories were actually there. Before my visit they were only words on a page that I accepted with blind faith. I immediately felt a sense of belonging. Here I was the majority and there were signs of it everywhere. It was a strangeness I could easily get used to. I was equally impressed with the country's advanced modern innovations in cutting-edge technology, agriculture, medicine and renewable energy. The phrase "Israel is where they made the desert bloom" was running nonstop in my head like a song. My father never hesitated to remind me of Israel's ingenuity and tenacity and the respect he had for the country. Diversity in Israel contributes to a vibrant and dynamic society that is both ancient and contemporary. I remember asking the guide how all the people get along on a daily basis and he replied: "We do, because we have to." A simple yet powerful answer.

Visiting Israel offers an unparalleled opportunity to explore the rich history and culture of the Jewish people, as well as experience the modern, diverse nation it has become. Whether one is reconnecting with the stories of the Torah, seeking a sense of belonging, or exploring the innovative spirit of the country, a trip to Israel is a life-changing experience everyone should consider. Yom Huledet Sameach Eretz Yisrael! (Happy 75th Birthday Israel!)



Men's Club Presents:

A Presentation and talk with Roy Schwartz

Sunday June 11 at 10am in the Kiddush lounge.

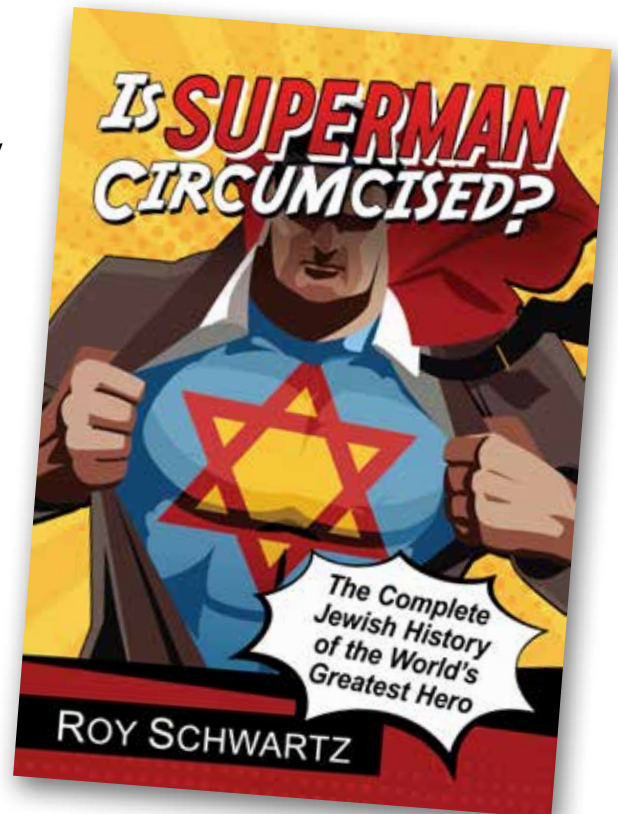
Light breakfast included.

The topic is:

Secret Identities: The Jewish Origins of the Marvel Universe!

The Marvel Cinematic Universe is the biggest thing in showbiz, with 31 films earning over \$28 billion worldwide. But before all the glitz and glamor, comics were a disreputable, Jewish industry. Almost all of Marvel's superheroes were created or co-created by Jews, including Captain America, Fantastic Four, Hulk, Thor, Ant-Man, Iron Man, Avengers, X-Men, Silver Surfer, Black Panther, Eternals and many others. And they were more than just playful fantasies—they were wish-fulfillment avatars of their creators, drawing on Jewish culture and folklore to fight Nazis, bigotry and intolerance.

Join author, journalist and pop culture historian Roy Schwartz for a fascinating journey through comic book lore and Jewish-American history that'll make you see your favorite superheroes in a whole new light!



*Roy Schwartz is a pop culture historian and critic. He writes for CNN.com and [The Forward](http://TheForward.com). His work has also appeared in New York Daily News, IGN, Paper Brigade, and Philosophy Now, among others. His latest book is the Diagram Prize-winning **Is Superman Circumcised? The Complete Jewish History of the World's Greatest Hero.***

Donations

COLLEGIATE FUND

Helga Kramer in memory of Judy Schwager

Helga Kramer in memory of Loron Simon

The Holbreich Family in memory of Belma Holbreich at Yahrzeit

CAMP RAMAH FUND

Judith & Lester Fox in memory of Anne Stein, mother of David Stein

Judith & Lester Fox dedicated to Pam Goldstein & family in memory of Jeffrey Goldstein

Barry & Ferne Chase in memory of Rona Chase Robbins at Yahrzeit

Barry & Ferne Chase in the memory of Tevye (Teddy) Chaikin

DAILY MINYAN FUND

Adrienne & Bernie Rosof in memory of Marc Weinberg

ETHEL SACHS ENGAGEMENT FUND

Brian & Nancy Cooper for the speedy recovery of Matthew Wertheim

Brian & Nancy Cooper in memory of Anne Stein, mother of David Stein

GARDEN FUND

Ronald & Gwen Goldstein In memory of Phillip Marcus at Yahrzeit

GENERAL FUND

Sarah & Jerry Saunders in honor of Andrea Smoller's grandson, Avery Cole

Sarah & Jerry Saunders in memory of Barbara Ingber, mother of Scott Ingber

Sarah & Jerry Saunders in honor of Janet & Richard Ganes and the engagement of their son, Jesse to Emma Court

Sarah & Jerry Saunders for the continued recovery of Dan Schoeffler

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of Paul & Gale Greenstein on the marriage of their son Jason to Jenna Halpern

Jay & Ellen Steinberg in memory of Anne Stein, mother of David Stein

Andrew Cohen in memory of Thelma Cohen at Yahrzeit

Susan Rubin in memory of Selma Greenstein

Jack & Leslie Rubin in memory of Anne Stein, mother of David Stein

Ed & Donna Fleiss In honor of Evelyn Abraham & Roger Silverberg on the engagement of their daughter Jillian Silverberg to Andrea Belanger

Dan & Patricia Schoeffler in memory of Matthew Schoeffler at Yahrzeit

HJC SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND

Bernie & Adrienne Rosof in memory of Nate Newman, husband of Joan Newman

Arnold Stillman & Debra Silverman in memory of Herbert Silverman at Yahrzeit

Marsha Perlmutter Kalina in memory of Jan Perlmutter at Yahrzeit

Susan & Roy Glaser in memory of Renee Diamond at Yahrzeit

HJC COOKBOOK

Bill Yelen In memory of Helen Yelen at Yahrzeit.

INCLUSION FUND

Sue Lefkowitz in honor of Tom Rosen for the Mishabarah for our cousin Stuart Weiss

Sue Lefkowitz in memory of Milfred Goldstein at Yahrzeit

JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

Shelly Weinberg in memory of Mia Freilich at Yahrzeit

Shelly Weinberg in memory of Milton Weinberg at Yahrzeit

Brian & Nancy Cooper in honor of the wedding of Susan & Farel Jouard's daughter, Annabel Simone Jouard to Brian Altman

Jill & Arne Sherman in memory of Ike Cohen at Yahrzeit

Rosann Russo in memory of Barbara Ingber

David & Sue Lefkowitz in memory of Milfred Goldstein at Yahrzeit

Gail & Jim Lodge in memory of Barbara Ingber

Rosalind & Marty Spielman in memory of Eli & Dora Reingold at Yahrzeit

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

Marsha Perlmutter Kalina in memory of Doris Perlmutter at Yahrzeit

MATZAH FUND

Robert Schpoont in honor of Joni Brenner, for her extraordinary community service.

Miriam Ecstein Koas for speedy recovery of Shmuel ben Leah Bat Sheva

Miriam Himmel in memory of Daniel Himmel

Randi & Steven Morris in memory of Sydney & Helene Schultz

RABBI'S TZEDAKAH FUND

Shelly Weinberg for the selling of Chametz

Ian & Sheryl Winkler for the selling of Chametz

Suzanne Susskind for the selling of Chametz

William & Rene Saperstein for the selling of Chametz

Bernie & Adrienne Rosof in memory of Ira Rosof

Bernie & Adrienne Rosof in honor of Rabbi Ari Saks for his dedication to the HJC Community and beyond

Mira & Paul Brodsky for the selling of Chametz

Saul & Sari Sternschein with gratitude to Rabbi Saks for leading a Minyan for our friends during a difficult time

Carillon Nursing Home in honor of Rabbi Saks

SISTERHOOD

Janet & Mark Zimmerman in honor of Evelyn Abraham & Roger Silverberg on the engagement of their daughter Jillian Silverberg to Andre Belanger

MAZEL TOV:

The Bar Mitzvah of Leo Sternschein, son of Saul & Sari Sternschein

The Bat Mitzvah of Lillian Katz, daughter of Brian & Susan Katz

The Bat Mitzvah of Daniela Rosenbloom daughter of Mikhail & Ella Rosenbloom

The Bat Mitzvah of Noa A. Gordan-Uhrman daughter of Cantor Israel Gordan & Dr. Abigail Uhrman

CONDOLENCE:

Anne Stein, mother of **David Stein**

MAY BAR/BAT MITZVAH CELEBRATIONS

LEO STERNSCHEIN

Leo has spent the last 6 years attending HJC's Religious School and is thrilled to become a Bar Mitzvah. In 2019, Leo's spiritual journey was heightened when his family visited Israel for the first time. He feels a deep connection to his faith and the HJC community, which makes this day so special. Leo is on the President's Honor Roll in the 7th grade at Oldfield Middle School in Harborfields and is also on the school's soccer and track teams. In Leo's free time, he enjoys snow skiing, water skiing, playing on his travel soccer team and cheering on the New York Rangers.



LILLIAN KATZ

Lillian is excited to share how far her Hebrew reading skills have come with everyone and to become more deeply ingrained in the Jewish Community. She would like to thank her Hebrew school teachers, especially Morah Sharone Gabay, Rabbi Saks, and Cantor Gordon for their guidance along the way.



NOA A. GORDAN-UHRMAN

Noa was born in Manhattan and moved to Huntington when she was nine months old. A graduate of the HJC ECC, Noa grew up at shul and is very excited to be celebrating becoming a Bat Mitzvah on the same bimah that she has seen countless other kids do the same. Noa attended the Schechter School of Long Island for first through fourth grades before moving to Israel last year. Noa loves swimming, pottery, and eating shawarma. Noa is very excited to be in Huntington to celebrate her second Bat Mitzvah with all of her friends and family!



DANIELA ROSENBLOOM

Daniela was born on April 29th 2010 in the Bronx. As the house was filled with baby paraphernalia Daniela ventured through her babyhood with a sense of purpose and resilience trying her hand at various musical instruments and sports activities. These days her interests vary from mathematics, reading, and theater, to tennis and snowboarding. Now, as hard as it is for her parents to imagine, Daniela is becoming a Bat Mitzvah. While preparing for the big day, Daniela feels that she has found a connection to Judaism. She is thankful to all of those who helped her and is feeling proud of her accomplishment. Daniela is excited to enter this new phase of life and share this day with the congregation, her friends and relatives.



Celebrate Israel at 75 Israel Day Parade

Sunday, June 4, 2023, 11am - 4pm
Fifth Avenue between 57th Street & 74th Street

Bus will be provided, leaving from HJC at 9:30am and returning at 2:30pm.
(Bus times are an estimate and subject to change.)

Price is \$36 per adult, \$18 per child.
Includes: a special parade T-shirt in your size (required for marching),
plus round-trip coach bus ride.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information contact Keith Messing at kmessingk@gmail.com

Must register by May 4th

LINK to Register: <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/celebrateisraelparade2023.html>
To snap pictures while at the parade use hashtag **#HJConFifth**



HJC'S Annual Minyan in the Park



Sunday, May 28th
7:30 AM

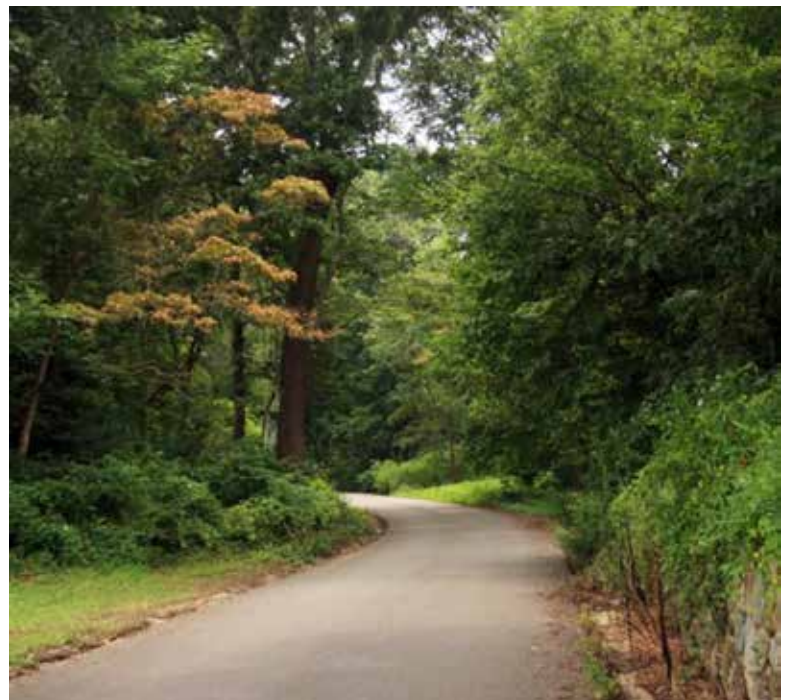
Caumsett Park (25 Lloyd Harbor Rd, Lloyd Harbor NY)

Join members of HJC's Morning Minyan for this special "service with a view" in beautiful Caumsett Park.
Meet in the parking lot at 7:30.

The morning will include:

- mile and a half walk to a beautiful vista
- traditional morning service (bring your tallit, tefillin, and prayer book)
- delicious breakfast sponsored by the Minyan

Don't miss out on this wonderful
Memorial Day weekend tradition!





It's Israel's 75th Birthday! Is it yours?

**To all HJC congregants celebrating your 75th birthday this year:
Come celebrate with Israel and march with the HJC contingent.**

Sunday, June 4, 2023, 11am - 4pm / Fifth Ave. between 57th Street & 74th Street
Bus will be provided, leaving from HJC at 9:30am and returning at 2:30pm.
(Bus times are an estimate and subject to change.)

Price is \$36 per adult, \$18 per child.
**Includes: a special parade T-shirt in your size (required for marching),
plus round-trip coach bus ride.**
Children must be accompanied by an adult.



For more information contact Keith Messing at kmessingk@gmail.com

Must register by May 4th

LINK to Register: <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/celebrateisraelparade2023.html>

To snap pictures while at the parade use hashtag **#HJConFifth**

Todah Rabah to all those who assisted with coordinating and delivering Mishloach Manot to HJC congregants and fulfilling this mitzvah!



A Taste of Passover took place on March 28 to the delight of all those who attended. The event, sponsored by HJC Sisterhood and Men’s Club was, once again, a delicious success! And, Mazel Tov to Shari Feibel and Gabriella Messing, who were named HJC’s BQLI Woman of Achievement and L’Dor V’Dor Little Sister- both well-deserved honors!



MEDICAL SUPPLIES COLLECTION

ONE DAY ONLY!

Monday, May 8, 2023

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

The following items will be collected in the MIYJCC lobby:
45 Manetto Hill Rd, Plainview, NY

- Shower & Bath Chairs
- Nebulizer
- Glucometers, Lancets, Test Strips
- Wheelchairs
- Knee, Arm or Shoulder Braces
- Transport Chairs
- Canes, Walkers, Crutches
- Reachers/Grabbers
- Gauze / Band Aids
- Slings
- First Aid Kits
- Cold Paks
- Medical Supplies that are not expired AND opened cases/bags are accepted (wound care, IV supplies, dressings, adult diapers, underpads, etc.)

AFYA will send your medical supply donations to under-served, under-resourced health systems across the globe

As a non-for-profit organization, AFYA strengthens health systems by delivering customized shipments of medical and humanitarian supplies.

HJC's Annual Tikkun Leil Shavuot Night of Learning

Co-sponsored by the Adult Education Committee

Thursday, May 25th at 8:00 pm

Learning sessions will be interspersed with breaks for cheesecake, coffee, and schmoozing



SESSION #1

Experience the Shavuot Story of our receiving the Ten Commandments through Debbie Cadel's Torah Godly Play program.

Torah Godly Play is a quiet moment of engagement that allows participants to hear the presence of God in a story. It is not about knowing a story, but about finding its spiritual meaning. We will sit together quietly and listen as the story unfolds; allowing participants to engage individually and together, in study and sanctity.

SESSION #2

"May the Force be with You" - Does Star Wars have a Jewish theology? with Rabbi Ari Saks

Star Wars has been a worldwide cultural phenomenon since the first movie appeared on the silver screen in 1977 to take us "a long time-ago" to "a galaxy far, far away." At the core of the Star Wars story is theological idea that there is an unseen but ever-present force that "binds all things together" which certain individuals can wield in good or bad ways. On a night devoted to reliving the revelation of God at Mt. Sinai that also occurred "a long time-ago," I wonder: is the Force a Jewish idea? We will investigate this question by comparing biblical, medieval, mystical, and contemporary ideas in Jewish theology with some of the myths and legends of the Force in Star Wars lore. So pack your light-saber and get ready for a learning experience that will take you to a galaxy far, far away!

SESSION #3

Late Night (and All-Night) Learning with Rabbi Saks

Take part of this unique Shavuot tradition to stay up late and learn Torah with Rabbi Saks. Let's see how close we can get to sunrise!

To all our HJC friends and family

We would like to create a touching memory book for Rabbi Saks filled with photos and written tributes to give to him when he steps down from his rabbinate at HJC this June. We hope to be able to present it to him at his Farewell Kiddush on June 17. You will be receiving more details about that kiddush in the near future.

Please email any photos you may have of him at HJC events and/or a few paragraphs about a special memory you may have of him or how he has touched your Jewish life.

Please send the photos and tributes to rabbi.saks.photos@gmail.com
NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2023.

Thank you all for helping us create this lasting memory for him.

*- Rabbi Farewell
Kiddush Committee*

PHOTO BY MOTI DOLGIN

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

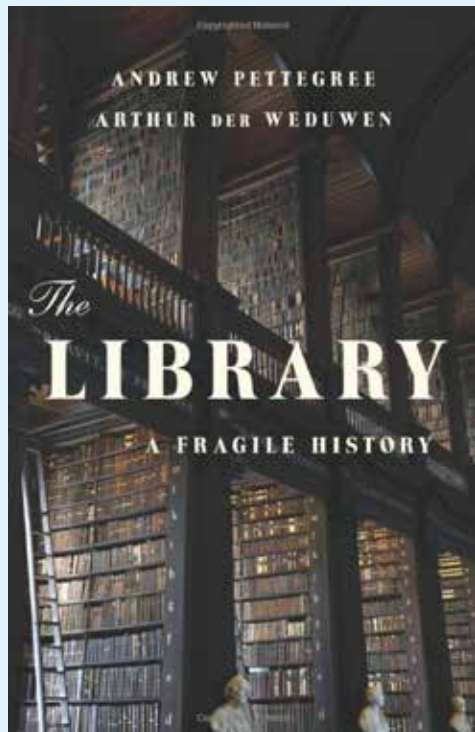
This month I was planning to write about the origins of our library, or actually the rebirth of our library. It went from being one of (if not the) best Judaica libraries on Long Island, to become an all purpose storage room/cum classroom, as needed. Then the roof leaked. Water poured over the stacks. Then the mold developed. Then it was unusable.

At some point I mentioned to Rabbi Kurshan that if we were ever going to do something to rehabilitate the library to keep me in mind. Fortunately Syd Schlesinger led Sisterhood into the fray, and rebirth began. A committee was formed, volunteers stepped up, a budget was established, donations came in and with a lot of hard work and dedication our library reached it's goal.

Just the other day as I was visiting our public library I saw a display of books and couldn't resist.....

NON FICTION

"The Library, A Fragile History" by *Andrew Pettegree & Arthur Der Weduwen*



Originally printed in November 2021 in Great Britain. The following is a quote from page one of the Prologue, describing the scene in 1575 of the great library in Vienna: "How neglected and desolate everything looked....There was mould and rot everywhere, the debris of moths and bookworms, and a thick covering of cobwebs..... the unfortunate books, which were slowly pining away: and when they were opened, what a cloud of noxious air streamed out!"

Truly, that was how our library was before the mold remediation, tossing of totally unusable books, carpet removal, cleaning & painting, new furniture, and did I mention major roof repair? It is now a comfortable and welcoming place to read, browse or have a small meeting. If you haven't had an opportunity to use it, I'm hopeful we'll be able to have a 'reopening' soon. If you have had the pleasure any time in the last few years please be sure to say thank you to anyone on the Library Committee: Donna Fleiss, Ellen Kahn, Marilyn Klein, Janet Kushnick, Miriam Wirchin. *To be continued....*



HJC Bulletin

May 2023

Huntington Jewish Center
510 Park Avenue
Huntington, NY 11743

Tel 631.427.1089 / Fax 631.427.8118

shalom@hjcny.org
www.HuntingtonJewishCenter.com
www.hjcny.org

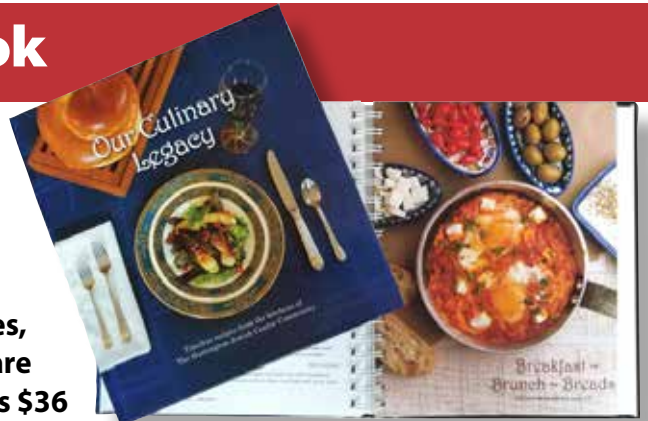
Editor: Marty Spielman
spielman67@gmail.com

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Our Culinary Legacy Cookbook

OUR CULINARY LEGACY COOKBOOK MAKES A GREAT MOTHER'S DAY OR BIRTHDAY GIFT

If you are looking to add some new holiday or everyday 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 or \$44 if you would like it shipped. 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.