



December 2023 | Kislev / Tevet 5784 Bulletin

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER  
NEWS / COMMUNITY / CONNECTION

# Chanukah 2023



# Sisterhood News

by Evelyn Abraham



## MEMBERSHIP DUES:

If you forgot to pay your Sisterhood Dues, it is not too late. We would like to have all dues paid by 12/15/2023. Please rejoin and Support the Sisterhood of HJC. Your Membership dues support our wonderful HJC Community and Women's League for Conservative Judaism. You can pay dues online on the HJC Website <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/payment.php> or send a check to HJC Attention Sisterhood Dues payable to HJC Sisterhood. Dues are the following: \$45 or \$30 if you are 62 years or older. If you are new to HJC, your first year membership dues are free. If you are a Non HJC Member, please add \$15.

## 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.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Canasta is returning in January on Tuesday evenings. We are also planning on sponsoring Introductory Mah Jong lessons in February. Please look for flyers for both events. For Purim, Hamantashen Baking will be starting in early January on Monday and Wednesday mornings in the Dairy Kitchen. Please contact Donna Fleiss if you would like to help with the baking. Last year, we baked 146 dozen Raspberry, Apricot and Chocolate Chip Hamantashen for the Purim Bags, Collegian Packages and Congregational Kiddushes, Events and Meetings. Sisterhood will again be coordinating the distribution of Mishloach Manot.

## WOMEN'S LEAGUE TORAH FUND CAMPAIGN

The new Torah Fund campaign—the dedicated philanthropy of Women's League for Conservative Judaism is **Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh** *All of Israel are responsible for one another.*



I'm excited to share that this next pin will be made of **sterling silver and 14K goldplate**, and is being **manufactured in Israel**. If you make a donation of \$180 or more, you will be given the pin as a gift to thank you for your generosity.

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> Please indicate Huntington Jewish Center when you make an online donation.

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 **Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh** *All of Israel are responsible for one another.* US supporters, please make your selection today at [torahfundecards.jtsa.edu](https://torahfundecards.jtsa.edu).

**JUDAICA SHOP OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND  
FOR YOUR HOLIDAY AND SIMCHA NEEDS**

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**Rabbi Eric Rosin**  
Rabbi  
631-423-5355

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**Ilene Brown**  
Director, Early Childhood Center  
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**Rachel Gritz**  
Executive Director  
631-427-1089 ext. 23

**Neil Kurshan**  
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# From Rabbi Eric Rosin



## *Is History Repeating Itself?*

Early in December, the war in Gaza will enter its third month. Like so many of us, I am living the words of the medieval poet, Yehuda HaLevi: My heart is in the east, even though I dwell here in the west. I am constantly reading, watching and listening to the news and vacillating between the pride of last month's rally in Washington and concern for the

way that so much of the world is disputing Israel's right and obligation to defend itself. Relief washes over me at the release of each hostage and it quickly gives way to concern for those still captive. While the routines of my everyday life have largely returned, they are now steeped in concern for the Israeli soldiers and the ultimate outcome of these hostilities.

Our history is replete with difficult and threatening times, and yet I continue to search our tradition for a satisfying or comforting response to the events on and since October 7th.

As Hanukkah approaches, the famous equation: humor = tragedy + time feels wholly inadequate and inappropriate. How many times have I used that famous nine-word narrative to explain each of the historical holidays on the Jewish calendar, Hanukkah, Purim, and Passover: They tried to kill us. They failed. Let's eat. Usually, I toss off the line for a quick laugh. This year, the current shock and the suffering of the State of Israel and the Jewish People remind me that each of these moments in our history was deeply painful. It's hard to imagine ever seeing this moment through even our characteristically dark and sardonic brand of gallows humor (although, in Israel, the satirical sketch humor program Eretz Nehederet

is already venturing there).

Another way our tradition has enabled us to assimilate the tragedies of our past into our awareness of the present is to reframe them as metaphors for philosophical questions about suffering and evil. The events of the Shoah inspired Viktor Frankl's *Man's Search for Meaning*. Personal tragedies are addressed in Rabbi Harold Kushner's *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*. Even in ancient times, the horror that we read about in the Book of Eicha, or Lamentations on Tisha B'Av has given rise to beautiful midrashim about the Shechinah, the most accessible manifestation of God's presence in the world, crying as she shares our pain with us and accompanies us into exile.

Finally, every year, during the Passover Seder, we read the passage in the Haggadah that tells us that in every generation a new foe will arise to destroy us. Once again, this year, we cannot read this as a metaphor.

These musings are helping me to better understand why I find this moment so overwhelming. We are now as distant in time from the Shoah as the Shoah was from the American Civil War. Even though I have spent so much time reading texts about and ritually commemorating the catalog of catastrophes in our tradition, in my lifetime, I have never experienced the scale of the evil and savagery of October 7th nor have I experienced this level of threat to the State of Israel.

And yet our tradition does provide comfort, even in this moment. It reminds us that we have been here before. We have survived atrocities before and we have emerged from those trials stronger, wiser and more unified than we were before them. May we learn the lessons of faith, strength and wisdom to see happier days soon, and may our children see an era in which evil like this can once and for all be relegated to the realm of metaphor.





## *Joy at a Jewish Wedding*

The Talmud teaches us the following in Masechet Ketubot: "If a funeral procession and a wedding procession meet at an intersection, the wedding procession goes first". Life must continue and joy must be recognized and not delayed.

We had the privilege of attending two Jewish weddings during October and I spoke to a fellow congregant and good friend about his son's wedding that also took place in October. The first wedding was that of Melissa Zimmerman who married Yotam, the son of Israelis, on October 9. Many of our HJC friends attended this beautiful wedding. Of course, then, we were all still in shock and had not fully processed the horrific events of October 7 and the families of the bride and groom understood the conflict everyone was facing about attending a joyous event. But, in the midst of our sadness and concern for our Israeli brothers and sisters, we fulfilled the mitzvah of honoring the bride and groom and celebrated with them and their parents with heartfelt joy. After all, a Jewish wedding represents the future of the Jewish people.

Later that month, Jay and I attended a Jewish wedding in Paris. There, too, worry and sadness remained under the surface, but, once again, we all celebrated with abandon. The synagogue was magnificent and they had a vocalist with an amazing voice. One of the songs that he sang, while the wedding party walked down the aisle was Vehi Sheamda which is a most unusual wedding song. "In each generation, there will be an enemy who will rise up against us to destroy us. And

the holy one, blessed be he rescues us from their hands." Celebrating at a wedding helps us rescue ourselves. At the wedding the father of the groom (our good friend) quoted the previously mentioned section from the Talmud, and again talked about the importance of being joyful even in our sadness. And he did this in both English and French!

When we returned, I finally had a chance to catch up with Billy Wertheim and hear about the wedding of his son, Ariel. Billy told me that he spoke at the wedding and offered three reasons why the wedding should not be postponed. First, the bride's grandmother insisted that they get married. Second, Rosalind's Israeli cousin told them that a wedding was the best counter to terrorism. And third, Billy's cousin, who is a Holocaust survivor and veteran of the Israeli War of Independence said: "Life is for the living".

Jewish marriage creates a link between all the past generations and all the future generations and thus is an historic and momentous event for the entire community at large.

We have survived as a people by continuing our traditions, celebrating holidays, weddings and other joyful life cycle events even as our enemies seek to destroy us. As we begin the celebration of Hanukkah, we are once again reminded that this is a reality. But the story of Hanukkah is a joyous one for we overcame our enemies. I wish all of you a Happy Hanukkah and I hope that we can spread the light of hope and affirm life and that there will be a time when everyone can safely sit under their own vine and fig tree. (Micah 4:4)

Please join us for our HJC Hanukkah celebrations. Our Hanukkah Happening is Sunday December 3 from 11:30 am-1:30 pm and our Community Candle Lighting is December 12 at 5:45 pm followed by treats.







## *From Darkness to Light*

Each day during the month of December, I try as best as I can to get outside before it gets dark, so I can still catch a glimpse of light at the end of my day. December can be a tough month, the weather gets significantly colder, the days are shorter, and the weather can turn grey and dreary. This year, the grey and dreary feeling

is much worse as it also coincides with all our feelings with what has been happening in Israel for almost two months. It has been a challenging time for all of us to carry on and operate in our everyday lives given the present situation of the hostages in Israel and the increased antisemitism across the nation among our college students.

Yet, among all these obstacles we are facing currently as Jews, we must find a way to embrace the joy and see the good in the world around us. There is no better way to celebrate and see the positive, than take part in the magical holiday of Hanukkah. This year, when I light the menorah each night with my family, I will be lighting a candle for all of those

who cannot. I will be lighting one for the hostages, and those who have passed and cannot light a candle. I am going to set up a seat at my Hanukkah dinner that I am having with my family in honor of the hostages. I feel fortunate that I am alive and able to be with my family to take part in this special holiday of being together and appreciating miracles.

This month at HJC, there are many ways for us to gather together and celebrate together as one community. Our Annual Hanukkah Happening is once again here, which brings together every arm of the synagogue at one event under one roof. Our community Hanukkah Menorah lighting will take place this month. If being together to watch the beautiful Menorah being lit outside on Park Avenue is not enough for you then please stay for some donuts & hot cocoa, sponsored by our Sisterhood! We will be having a Community Shabbat Dinner, which is bringing back a beloved HJC tradition! What a great way to embrace our community than being at a Shabbat dinner with the entire community, from our youngest ECC families to our veteran members. It is more important than ever that we all come together as one community and support each other. I hope all of you have a wonderful Hanukkah and you find joy and happiness in this special holiday.



## HIHI Volunteers Needed

We will need volunteers to bring 24 individual hot meals to Rodeway Inn, located at 270 West Jericho Turnpike in Huntington Station each of the remaining dates:

**January 3, 2024**

**February 21, 2024**

**March 13, 2024**

**Donations are also needed!**

Contact **HIHI Chair Karen Flanzenbaum** to volunteer & help by email at [kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com](mailto:kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com), or by phone at **631-793-9536**.

We are also looking for a Co-Chair for this committee. If interested in being a Co-Chair please let Karen know!





***"Thank you is the best prayer that anyone can say. I say that one a lot. Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding."***

**Alice Walker**

This quote speaks to me not only as an educator, but as a person. One of our numerous goals is to establish a sense of gratitude in the children. Gratitude is not just thanking someone for a gift. It is the feeling of being grateful for all that we have. Material possessions are not the only thing to be thankful for. It is the people in our lives, our health, shelter, the beauty of nature, all the people that serve our community and help others, and now, especially, peace and our freedom. November brings us several events that remind us to be grateful. It is so important to talk to children about gratitude at an early age. Our sense of gratitude extends far beyond the four walls of school and our homes. The children learn about the many components of our community and country and the people that care for us and our community.

We kicked off November with Election Day. This was one of the most exciting days for the children as they knew they would have the opportunity to cast a vote. Terms such as candidate, vote, debate, democracy, ballots, and citizen were discussed. The teachers set up voting booths, private booths, for the children to cast their votes. In one of our classrooms, they had to choose between the blue

dog or the red dog. They listened to these "candidates" talk about their platforms, promises and goals. Following the debate, the children took turns in the voting booth and cast their votes. They were so proud when they received their "I Voted" button to wear. It is never too early to teach the children about their country, democracy, and leaders.

We then immersed ourselves in Veteran's Day. They learned about the various branches of the Armed Forces. We learned about the importance of Veterans and why we should be grateful to them. We made beautiful cards for those that serve our country to express our gratitude. The children sang their hearts out to "God Bless America."

We wrapped up our month with Thanksgiving. Once again this is a time to feel grateful and to express our gratitude. When talking to the children about Thanksgiving and the meaning of gratitude, we pose the questions, "Who and what are you thankful for?" We want children to understand that it is the people in their lives that are important instead of material possessions. To put our words into action, we welcomed our parents to school for a special performance by the children. The children sang so beautifully, and it was truly touching. They gave their parents heartfelt cards expressing their gratitude for their family. Gratitude is always a part of our education. It is in our mind and in our hearts.







## *Embracing the Power of a Musical “Hello”*

Ever notice if your friends or family enter your home with a melodic version of “hello?” Or perhaps, you do it without even realizing? Growing up I was fortunate to visit my aunts’ homes and spend a lot of time with my cousins on a regular basis. Decades later, when we were all a bit older, my cousin asked, “Ever notice how we always enter each other’s homes and literally sing the word ‘hello?’” After a moment of silence, we considered what she said, tested ourselves and laughed so hard because we knew it was true. Was it exclusive to my family? I don’t think so.

In the warmth of our gatherings, whether in celebration or in times of challenges, there is a unique tradition that goes unnoticed, yet it holds profound significance – the melodic singsong greeting of “hello.” This simple act with a tuneful inflection is not just a greeting; it is a symphony of human connection, a testament to our innate need to be together now more than ever. Within the Jewish community, where the bonds of fellowship are strengthened in the face of adversity and anti-Semitism, these musical greetings are more than just

words; they are declarations of unity and joy that embody the very essence of community. The Talmud says, “Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh” meaning “All of Israel are responsible for one another.” This powerful statement captures the essence of our community’s spirit especially in the last 60 days. Just as a chorus needs each member to create harmony, every family and community relies on each individual’s presence and voice.

I am so incredibly grateful for the wonderful attendance at Mitzvah Day last month. Students, parents and grandparents joined together and assembled blankets for Carillon Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, donated 40 bags of brownie mix to Island Harvest, baked hundreds of cat treats for Posh Pets Rescue, created Chanukah cards for the Jewish Soldiers Project, made a luminaires craft for Hospice medical staff and St. Joseph Hospital nurses, and finally collected tzedakah totaling \$1500 for Magen David Adom for Israel.

May this Chanukah season be an opportunity to reinforce our bonds, celebrate togetherness and support each other. May your tuneful salutation of “hello” act as a symphony of unity, tradition, played out in a simple, yet profound, act of greeting one another with a song in your heart. Chag Haorim Sameach (Happy Festival of Lights).



# Donations

## CAMP RAMAH FUND

**Vicki & Arthur Perler** in honor of the anniversary of Lester Fox's Bar Mitzvah

**Judy & Lester Fox** in honor of Walter & Elaine Kleinmann receiving Community Leadership Award

## DAILY MINYAN FUND

**Janet & Mark Zimmerman** in honor of Gale & Paul Greenstein on the birth of their granddaughter Emma Kathryn Smith

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in honor of Gale & Paul Greenstein's granddaughter Emma Kathryn Smith

## DONALD L. GORDON ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**Ira & Marsha Kalina** in memory of Dvora Rachel bat Moshe v'Serka at Yahrzeit

**Ira & Marsha Kalina** in memory of Meir ben Yaacov v'Dvora at yahrzeit

## ETHEL SACHS ENGAGEMENT FUND

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in honor of Elaine & Walter Kleinmann on the Suffolk Signature Community Leadership Award

## GARDEN FUND

**Alice & Bruce Rosen** in memory of Anne & Barry Specht on the passing of Richard Snyder

**Alice & Bruce Rosen** in honor of Scott & Jennifer Ingber and the engagement of their son Zach to Emmie Herbstman

## GENERAL FUND

**Jeff & Lesley Stark** in honor of Arthur Perler being named a Simchat Torah honoree

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in honor of Dr. Marjorie Matlin on her 80th birthday

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in honor of Gale and Paul Greenstein becoming grandparents to Emma Kathryn

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in honor of Ken & Nancy Bob on the birth of their grandson, Alon

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in honor of Janet & Mark Zimmerman on the marriage of Melissa and Yotam

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in honor of Jessica & Arthur Frischman on Jack's becoming Bar Mitzvah.

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in honor of Rhonda & Hillel Kahane on the birth of their granddaughter Lilah Rose Berson

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in honor of Rhonda & Hillel Kahane on the marriage of their daughter Maya to Elliot

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in honor of Judy & Lester Fox on the engagement of their granddaughter Molly Grossman to Alex Neumann

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in honor of Gale & Paul Greenstein on the birth of their granddaughter Emma Kathryn Smith

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in honor of Elaine & Walter Kleinmann for the Community Leadership Award from UJA

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in honor of Patricia & Dan Schoeffler on the marriage of their son Nathan to Christie Crawford

**Gail & Jim Lodge** in honor of Elaine & Walter Kleinmann being honored by UJA Federation

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in honor of the marriage of Ariel Wertheim, son of Billy & Rosalind Wertheim to Deborah Thompson

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in honor of the marriage of Nathan Schoeffler, son of Patricia and Dan Schoeffler to Christie Crawford

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in honor of the birth of Emma Kathryn, granddaughter of Gale & Paul Greenstein

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in honor of the engagement of Molly Grossman granddaughter of Judy & Lester Fox

**Gloria Safran** in memory of Murray Safran at Yahrzeit

**Gloria Safran** in memory of Louis Stecker at Yahrzeit

**Meira Katz Lyons** in memory of Michael Sanatar beloved partner of Tara Kopman

**Renda Rosenblatt** in memory of Henry Lederman at Yahrzeit

## HJC SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND

**Susan & Roy Glaser** in memory of Irene & Murray Feuerstein

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in honor of Lester Fox's milestone event

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in honor of Jack Frischman's Bar Mitzvah

**Paul & Joan Cohen** in honor of Gale & Paul Greenstein on the birth of their granddaughter Emma Kathryn Smith

**Paul & Joan Cohen** in memory of Ruth Cohen at Yahrzeit

**Paul & Joan Cohen** in memory of Ethel Wyatt at Yahrzeit

## INCLUSION FUND

**Jeff & Lesley Stark** in honor of Debbie Cadel being named Simchat Torah Nominee

**Jeff & Lesley Stark** in honor of Walter & Elaine Kleinmann being honored by UJA

## ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT

**Ira & Marsha Kalina** in honor of Arthur Perler being named Simchat Torah Honoree

**Ira & Marsha Kalina** in honor of Walter & Elaine Kleinmann receiving the UJA Community Leadership Award

**Jennifer & Scott Ingber** in honor of Elaine & Walter Kleinmann receiving the UJA Community Leadership Award

**Jennifer & Scott Ingber** in memory of Richard Snyder, father of Anne Specht

**Jennifer & Scott Ingber** in honor of Debbie Cadel and the engagement of her son, Dan to Michelle Graff

**Helga Kramer** in memory of Albert Kramer at Yahrzeit

## JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

**Jill & Arne Sherman** in memory of Fae Cohen at Yahrzeit

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in memory of Irving Epstein at Yahrzeit

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in honor of Paul & Gale Greenstein and the birth of their granddaughter Emma Kathryn Smith

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in honor of Janet & Howard Goldstein and the birth of their grandson

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in honor of Lori Sklar on the birth of her granddaughter Ava Mildred Kantro

**Sarah & Jerry Saunders** in honor of Eileen & Harvey Berger on the birth of their grandson Elijah

**Lori Sklar** in memory of her father Norman Sklar at yahrzeit

**Suzanne Susskind** in memory of Herbert Susskind at Yahrzeit



### **NURSERY SCHOOL TEACHER'S DEVELOPMENT FUND**

**Ira & Marsha Kalina** in honor of Debbie Cadel being named Simchat Torah Honoree

### **RABBI'S TZEDAKAH FUND**

**Bernie & Adrienne Rosof** in honor of the birth of their great grandson Julain Golombek  
**Ken Bram** in honor of HJC

### **SCHECHTER FUND**

**Vicki & Arthur Perler** with gratitude to HJC for Honoring Arthur at Simchat Torah

### **SISTERHOOD EVENTS**

**Vicki & Arthur Perler** with gratitude to Sisterhood for preparing the lovely Simchat Torah Kiddush is Arthur's honor

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**Paul & Joan Cohen** in memory of Ethel Wyatt at Yahrzeit  
**Paul & Joan Cohen** in memory of Ruth Cohen at Yahrzeit  
**Paul & Joan Cohen** in honor of Gale & Paul Greenstein on the birth of their granddaughter Emma Kathryn Smith

### **MAZEL TOV:**

**Lori Sklar** on the birth of her granddaughter Ava Mildred Kantro  
**Harvey & Eileen Berger** on the birth of their grandson Elijah Berger  
**Janet & Howard Goldstein** on the birth of their grandson Oliver Goldstein  
**Bernie & Adrienne Rosof** on the birth of their great grandson Julain Golombek  
**Patricia & Dan Schoeffler** on the marriage of their son Nathan to Christie Crawford

### **CONDOLENCE:**

Richard Snyder, father of our member, **Anne Specht**, and father-in-law to **Barry Specht**  
Bruce Feinberg, husband of **Sheila Feinberg**  
Marjorie Silverberg, mother of **Roger Silverberg**

Every member of HJC is entitled to a free grave in HJC's cemetery. Contact the office for information.

## **HJC's Annual Blood Drive In Memory of Ethel Tasman Fleiss Is Back!**

**Sunday, December 17th 9 AM - 1:30 PM**



To schedule an appointment please contact:  
Donna Fleiss- [Donna.Fleiss@gmail.com](mailto:Donna.Fleiss@gmail.com)  
Or Janet Goldstein- [dhsjh@aol.com](mailto:dhsjh@aol.com)

### **A PINT FOR A PINT!**

**Each donor will receive a certificate from Ben's for a FREE pint of chicken soup.**

### **HJC members are among 3,000 Long Islanders who Stand With Israel at Eisenhower Park**



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Sara & Harold Lustbader  
Sue & Robert Margolies  
Emily May  
Dale & Phil Mintz  
Lewis & Denise Novick  
Alan Orloff & Judy Leopold  
Bea Pedowicz  
Benjamin & Melanie Perlson

Allison & Mitchell Reiver  
Michael & Melissa Richter  
Rabbi Eric Rosin & Dr. Jennifer Blum  
Stuart & Marjorie Rothenberg  
Joyce & Albert Sacknoff  
Sarah & Jerry Saunders  
Roger Silverberg & Evelyn Abraham  
Andrea Marcus Smoller  
Ann & Barry Specht  
Marcia & Myron Stein  
Sheryl & Ian Winkler  
Richard and Deborah Wertheim  
Bill Yelen  
Michael & Kimberly Zinger  
Rosalinde Ziskroit

### CONTRIBUTOR

Eileen & Harvey Berger  
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Nathan Board  
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Jordan & Andrea Cohen  
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Pamela & Michael Geller  
Miriam Himmel  
Gary Kelman & Alson Mishkit  
Harriet Kerns  
Richard & Cecel Klein  
Caroline Kramer  
Glenda Kupersmith  
Morris & Jill Lagnado  
Jared & Rachel Parrotta  
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Murray & Rosalie Safier  
Aaron Schuman &  
Beth Chase Schuman  
Jill & Arne Sherman  
Martin & Rosalind Spielman  
Arlene Steinberg  
Myrna Tils  
Bob & Lee Wieser  
David & Robin Yanes

### THE CHILDREN'S HONOR ROLL

The Children of Bruce & Holly Aronow: Alexander & Nicholas  
The Children of the Baltus & Davis Families: Andrew & Rachel, Kiana &  
Alex , Brianna, Haley, and Adina & Amy  
The children of Michael & Michelle Behr: Ezra, Rebecca & Asher  
Jordana Boxer, Jacob Boxer, Nina Boxer  
Joseph & Alex Brill  
Emily, Warren & Nora Buchholtz  
The Children of Ferne & Barry Chase Beth, Brian, Aaron, Erin  
Benjamin Harmon  
Eliana Herskovitz & Maxwell Herskovitz  
Eli & Talia Kleinmann  
Zoe & Josh Krief

The Children of Ora & Alan Kriegstein: Brittany, Caroline, Spencer  
The children Maxwell & Rosalie Malkiel: Susan, Larry, Edwin,  
Felicia, Michelle  
Ben, Ilan, and Gabriella Messing  
Andrew & Emily Reiver, Lee Reiver, Daniel Reiver  
Eva Richter, Ruby Richter  
Sam, Nathan & Hannah Schoeffler  
Benjamin Chase Schuman, Eden Melody Schuman  
The Children of Elliott & Leila Waldman: Caryn & Lee Rubenstein,  
Marci & Mitchell Reiter, Amy & Scott Jaffee & Carly Weinstein  
The Children of Rosalinde Ziskroit: Harris, Serena, Seraphina,  
Lucas & Arabella Ziskroit Talia, Jonathan, Lake & Liam Butwin

### GRANDCHILDREN HONOR ROLL

The grandchildren of Ferne & Barry Chase: Benjamin, Eden, Isaac  
The grandchildren Karen Hermann-Fishelson & Michael Fishelson:  
Leo Kaufman, Sarah Kaufman, Rory Fishelson  
The grandchildren of Rob & Maxine Fisher: Rayna Pollack &  
Benjamin Bedwinek  
The grandchildren of Stuart & Janet Herskovitz : Eliana & Max Herskovitz  
& Leo & Emma Sternschein  
The grandchildren of Richard & Cecel Klein: Sarah, Matthew, Samara  
Eli & Talia Kleinmann  
The grandchildren of Sara & Harold Lustbader: Ayelet & Leah Rudich and

Ember & Roman Lustbader  
The grandchildren of Maxwell & Rosalie Malkiel: Yosef, Matthew,  
Benjamin, Ilan, Gabby, Ava, Sirelle, Ezra, Becca, Asher  
The grandchildren of Marjorie & Lawrence Maltin: Avi & Oliver Bender,  
Miles & Ella Saltiel  
Grandchildren: Shira Perler, Orli Perler, Lev Perler, Rina Perler,  
Valeria Perler, Mia Perler, Victor Perler, Sasha Perler  
The Grandchildren of Elliott & Leila Waldman: Aaron Jaffee, Zachary  
Reiter, David Reiter  
Russell Steinberg & Winston Steinberg



**HJC Adult Education Presents:**

# **Reading of a Short Story of Current Israeli Fiction**

**followed by a discussion  
with Joni Brenner**

**Saturday, Dec 2, 2023  
at 1:00pm after kiddish**



Questions? Nancy Cooper: [Nancyberlow@gmail.com](mailto:Nancyberlow@gmail.com) / Phone 516-356-7109

**Come Celebrate with Family and Friends At  
Huntington Jewish Center's Bigger and Better Annual**

# **HANUKKAH HAPPENING**

**Huntington Jewish Center  
Sunday, December 3rd, 11:30 - 1:30**

**Join us for a songfest with Stacy Kelly,  
raffle baskets, silent auction, gift fair,  
fun children's crafts, face painting, balloon animals  
and special appearance by Mr. Dreidel**

**Hot Dogs, Latkes, Donuts, and Drinks Available for Purchase**



**Sponsored by:  
Sisterhood, Early Childhood Center, Religious School, Men's Club, Social Action Committee  
and the Herskovitz Family Fund**

**Thank you to all of our HJC volunteers!**

If you require any accommodations to be able to join us and fully participate in this event, please notify the office so we can assist you.



**HJC Adult Education Presents:**

# **Grappling with War from a Jewish Perspective**

**You are invited to join in a class with Rabbi Rosin  
as he tackles this current, difficult topic**

**12/5, 12/19, 1/2 - 7:30pm**

**In person and hybrid**



*(AP Photo/Tsafrir Abayov)*

**Dec 5th : Session #1**

**The obligation of self defense.**

**Dec 19th: Session #2**

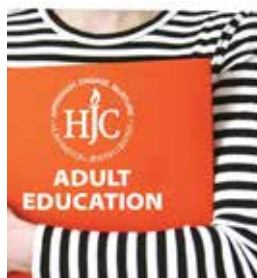
**Just War in Jewish Texts.**

**Jan 2nd: Session #3**

**A comparison between Jewish tradition and international law.**

*It is not required that you attend all three sessions.*

**RSVP:** <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/rabbi-rosin-adult-ed-teaching.html>



**Questions? Nancy Cooper:** [Nancyberlow@gmail.com](mailto:Nancyberlow@gmail.com) / Phone **516-356-7109**



HANUKKAH 5784/2023

# **HJC Community Hanukkah Menorah Lighting**

**Tues. Dec. 12th  
5:45 pm  
Outside of HJC  
On Park Ave.**

**Donuts & Hot Cocoa will  
be served & sponsored  
by HJC Sisterhood**





# Community Shabbat Dinners are back!

**Come join us to  
welcome Shabbat and  
our newest members**

**December 15, 2023**  
**Services begin at 6,  
dinner at 7**

**Please RSVP by Dec 10:**  
[https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/  
congregational-shabbat-dinner.html](https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/congregational-shabbat-dinner.html)

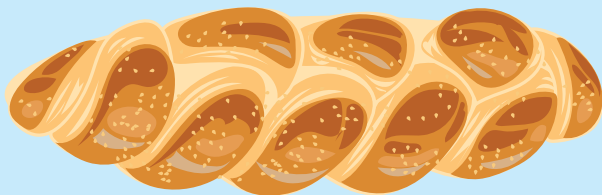
**Shabbat  
SHALOM**

**Meat meal with  
vegetarian options**

**Children's tables with  
babysitting/supervision**

**\$20.00 per adult  
\$12.00 per child ages 3-13  
(Children under 3 free)  
\$50.00 total per family**

**Free for members who  
joined in the last  
two years**



# HJC Kitchens Get An Upgrade

Though many congregants may not be aware of this, we now have shiny, new appliances and equipment in the HJC kitchens. This was made possible from a most generous donation to HJC made posthumously by Norma and Alfred Levy z”l, giving our synagogue the opportunity and good fortune to have been able to upgrade both the meat and dairy kitchens.

Norma and Al became members of Huntington Jewish Center around 1959 and maintained their membership for 41 years. They were very involved in synagogue life and Al served as a two term (three years) HJC President from 1965-1968. Norma and Al’s son and daughter in-law, Andy and Phyllis Levy, are also long-time members, and have been very involved with HJC as well. Andy served on the Board of Trustees and also held the positions of Vice President and Secretary on the Executive Committee, and Phyllis was a three term Sisterhood president. Phyllis and Andy moved to California three years ago and continue to support our beloved community.

Phyllis and Andy requested their family’s donation be used to upgrade the kitchens as they specifically wanted to make life easier for the women of Sisterhood who volunteer their time, and who work tirelessly to prepare the many delicious kiddushes provided to HJC during the year. The Levys also wanted these dedicated volunteers to have the advantage of modern appliances to make their work easier.

A Kitchen Committee was formed to manage the task. Members of the committee include Shari Feibel (Chair), Evelyn Abraham, Maxine Fisher, Donna Fleiss, and Sarah Saunders. Together, the committee arranged to replace outdated, inoperable equipment and had the dairy oven kashered so it could be relocated and used in the meat kitchen. They also replaced the old “gym locker” storage cabinets with modern new ones, and purchased new double convection ovens for each kitchen, a new range for the dairy kitchen, an icemaker, and a new workstation. The committee also plans to purchase additional, smaller appliances. All of these improvements will not only enhance the food preparation and cooking experience for Sisterhood, but for all arms of the synagogue and other groups who will also benefit from the use of the upgraded facilities.

As is the case with many major projects, “it takes a village” to get things done. The Kitchen Committee would like to acknowledge assistance from the following people: HJC office staff Rachel Gritz, Diane Hoppe, and Irma Mile and HJC custodians Victor Salinas and Alex Salinas, and HJC congregants Michael Fishelson, Ed Fleiss, and Jerry Saunders.

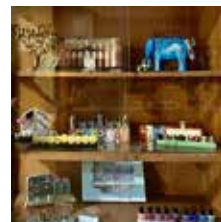
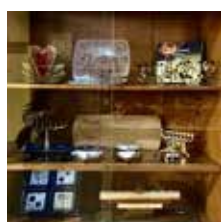
Our heartfelt thanks, sincere appreciation, and deepest gratitude to the Levy family for their generous donation. Todah Rabah.

*Shari Feibel*





**The Sisterhood Membership Dinner on 10/26  
was a wonderful evening of fun, food, and friends old and new.  
Thanks to all who attended in strength, solidarity and Sisterhood!**



## **OH HANUKKAH, OH HANUKKAH...**

**MENORAHS, DEREIDELS and OTHER ITEMS**

**TO ENHANCE THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS TO SHINE BRIGHTLY IN YOUR HOME**

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

**"Our Culinary Legacy" Cookbook makes a perfect Hanukkah gift**

**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](mailto:berger4u@optonline.net)/631-261-2164**

**Maxine Fisher: [maxinefisher117@gmail.com](mailto:maxinefisher117@gmail.com)/631-757-7455**

**Pam Fleiss: [pamfleiss@gmail.com](mailto:pamfleiss@gmail.com)/631-549-9629**

**Shari Klaire: [cranky20@aol.com](mailto:cranky20@aol.com)/631-271-0258**

**Andrea Forman Morris: [joligran@gmail.com](mailto:joligran@gmail.com)/631-513-3631**



# HJC's New Interfaith Cemetery

The HJC Cemetery, located at 500 Old Country Road in Huntington Station, dates back to 1907 and resulted from the vision of the eight men who created the congregation they first named the Brotherhood of Jewish Men in Huntington. It is a peaceful, intimate, comforting, and bucolically landscaped final resting place for HJC members and nonmembers. Since its establishment, HJC's bylaws have guaranteed a free gravesite in HJC's cemetery to every member of our congregation. In its 116 years of existence, less than a third of the forested land has been cleared and utilized to bury our members.

For many decades, providing the benefit of a free grave was straightforward. In recent times, interfaith families have joined HJC, and our clergy and leadership recognized the potentially hurtful conflict between this guaranteed benefit and the strong traditional Jewish prohibition of burying non-Jews in a Jewish Cemetery. In 2013, HJC's Ritual Committee began exploring how HJC members could be buried with their loved ones who are not of the Jewish faith. With the inspiration and guidance of Vicki Perler, Andrea Smoller, Rabbi Neil Kurshan, and Rabbi Ari Saks, the newly reinvigorated Cemetery Committee worked to create an Interfaith section of the HJC Cemetery in accordance with the Rabbinical Assembly's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards (CJLS, Conservative Judaism's interpretation of traditional Halacha). Meetings were held with the administrator of the adjacent Mt. Golda Cemetery, which oversees the HJC Cemetery, to plan the creation and development of the Interfaith cemetery, exploring options for the specific location, layout, construction, and costs.

In 2018, the congregation revised HJC's bylaws to provide all the benefits of membership, including entitlement to burial in our cemetery and a free gravesite, to non-Jewish members of interfaith member families. At about the same time, the Board of Trustees revised the cemetery bylaws to reflect the updated entitlement. Although the Cemetery Committee's planning meetings, site visits, discussions with our cemetery operator and with our legal advisor slowed during

the pandemic, by early 2022 we secured a current land survey and completed draft drawings and plans for the work.

In the spring of 2023, the new interfaith burial area was cleared and leveled, and we are on the verge of marking out the exact layout of graves, final landscaping and signage. HJC's Interfaith Cemetery is about 0.15 acres and can accommodate up to 70 graves, with further expansion possible if or when needed. The CJLS' requirement of significant separation is being honored by leaving over 20 feet of virgin forest and 10 feet of landscaped plantings between the interfaith and Jewish areas. The new area is especially beautiful as it is entirely surrounded by forest.

Things to know about the cemetery that apply to the Interfaith section as well:

Members in good standing are entitled to a gravesite, in either the Jewish or interfaith burial areas, free of charge at the time of burial. Companion graves can be purchased to reserve a specific site, for example next to a spouse and/or other loved ones in either the Jewish or interfaith areas.

Families can purchase a block of gravesites.

Certain one-time fees are mandatory, including perpetual care, the cost of burial, and administration.

Nonmembers of HJC may purchase graves at a higher price.

This valuable free benefit and the associated costs are very reasonable when compared with gravesites on the commercial market. Additionally, while there are nonsectarian cemeteries on Long Island, we are unaware of any other interfaith cemetery inside a Jewish cemetery and so are pleased to offer a limited number of graves in the Interfaith section to members of other synagogues as well. This will be a source of additional revenue for HJC and the Cemetery Fund.

The current Cemetery Committee consists of Chairman Louis Walsdorf, Arthur Perler, Danny Klein, Marsha P. Kalina, and Carol Solomon. For more information, please contact the HJC office.





**R**ather than write about an assortment of books, as I usually do here, I'd like to share the story of one book....many copies of one book. **THE CHUMASH**, the Hertz Chumash, to be precise. Some of you may recall it was the one we used here at HJC, before we got the 'new' red, Etz Chayim.

The old Hertz copies still had a lot of life in them and the synagogue at Kibbutz Keturah (where my daughter & family live) was expanding and could put new chumashim to good use. Arthur Perler graciously said if I packed up some in cartons he would get them shipped to Israel so I sorted out the best copies, making sure that each had a name plate of a donor.....for years as I visited I would use these books on Shabbat and have the delight of seeing 'old friends' even as I was davening amid new ones. Aliza said she, too, found the pleasure of reconnecting with HJC families where she had grown up, as she used these books all year round.

Recently the kibbutz got a gift of new Etz Chayim chumashim but the old volumes were still very useable.... what to do??? As it happens, Josef, who had made aliyah from Uganda, lives on Keturah (attending services regularly) knew that his old community was in need of chumashim and the Hertz copies were shipped/mailed yet again. And again, gratefully received. I was so pleased when Aliza told me about this, knowing that yet another Jewish community would be using these same, timeless and lovingly used volumes....although, I personally, will miss using them whenever my next visit will be.

The story doesn't end here- as one of the coordinators of our Genizah I still come across a lot of books and Judaica articles for proper disposal (burial). Many of the books are in very good condition so I asked Aliza if they needed any more in the Ugandan community. She checked with Yosef and found that they really had enough texts for now, but they could really use Talitot!

Still coordinating the material in the Genizah, I went through several cartons and bags left for disposal and found about a dozen talitot that were clean and in good condition...definitely useable. I put them in a package and on September 7th mailed them to the Ugandan address that Yosef had provided. Unfortunately U.S. mail to Uganda cannot be tracked so I had to wait to find out about the receipt. On November 7th I got an email from Aliza that the Ugandan community had happily received it and on the right is a photo of them "hanging out".



# HJC Bulletin

December 2023

Huntington Jewish Center  
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Huntington, NY 11743

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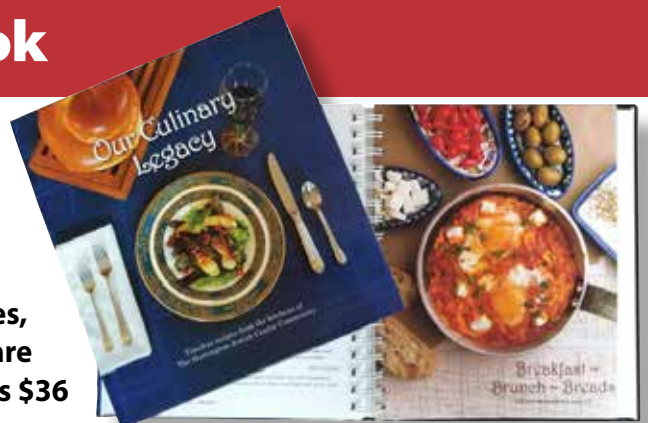
Editor: Marty Spielman  
spielman67@gmail.com

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## Our Culinary Legacy Cookbook

### OUR CULINARY LEGACY COOKBOOK MAKES A GREAT 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](mailto: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](mailto:hjcadmin@hjcny.org).*