



February 2024 | Shevat / Adar I 5784 Bulletin

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER  
NEWS / COMMUNITY / CONNECTION

# WINTER 2024



Photo by Jody Confer on Unsplash

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[huntingtonjewishcenter.com](http://huntingtonjewishcenter.com) / [hjcny.org](http://hjcny.org)

# Sisterhood News

by Evelyn Abraham

## MEMBERSHIP DUES:

If you forgot to pay your Sisterhood Dues for 2023 -2024, it is not too late. Please 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/form/Sisterhood%20Dues.html> 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.

## 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**

**Ba'Zeh**

*All of Israel are responsible for one another.*

The pin is made of **sterling silver and 14K goldplate**, and was **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).



**Rabbi Eric Rosin**

Rabbi  
631-423-5355

**Gina Giuffre**

Religious School Director  
631-427-1089 ext. 14

**Ilene Brown**

Director, Early Childhood Center  
631-427-1089 ext. 15

**Ellen Steinberg**

President  
516-971-4983

**Rachel Gritz**

Executive Director  
631-427-1089 ext. 23

**Neil Kurshan**

Rabbi Emeritus

## HJC Board of Trustees / 2023-2024

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## HJC Committee Chairpersons

Adult Education.....	Nancy Cooper
Bereavement & Chesed Connections..	Debbie Stein & Joni Brenner
Bulletin.....	Marty Spielman
Calendar .....	Gwen Goldstein
Cemetery .....	Louis Walsdorf
Early Childhood Center Board.....	Jessica Kalmar & Elena Hryb
Environmentalism .....	Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz
Finance and Budget.....	Jack Rubin
Greeters.....	Maxine Fisher
HIHI.....	Karen Flazenbaum
High Holiday Honors.....	Ofer Rind
House .....	Rachel Brill & Paul Greenstein
Inclusion .....	Miriam Eckstein-Koas & Lesley Stark
Israel .....	Scott Ingber
Israel/Ramah Scholarships.....	Judy Fox
JNN.....	Rob Fisher
Library.....	Tyna Strenger
Membership .....	Leigh Murphy & Andrea Smoller
Men's Club .....	Scott Herskovitz
Religious School .....	Debbie Cadel
Ritual.....	Cindy Dolgin
Security .....	Alan Kriegstein
Sisterhood.....	Evelyn Abraham
Social Action .....	Janet Kushnick & Marilyn Klein
Social Justice.....	Susan Jouard & Dori Schwartz
Special Arrangements .....	Shelley Weinberg & Patricia Schoeffler
Strategic Planning.....	Michael Richter
Theatre Development.....	Maxine Fisher
Technology .....	Jeff Stark
The Village Project.....	Elaine Kleinmann, Shelley Weinberg, Lori Sklar

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

**Sisterhood Contact:** Evelyn Abraham  
[evelyn\\_abraham@optonline.net](mailto:evelyn_abraham@optonline.net)



# From Rabbi Eric Rosin



## *Purim Bringing Joy in Complicated Times*

As the month of Adar approaches on the Hebrew calendar, we once again summon up the Talmudic aphorism: *Mi sh'niknas Adar marbim b'simchah*, The person who enters the month of Adar becomes happier. Each year, winter wanes and the month of Adar heralds the coming of Spring. On the fourteenth of Adar we celebrate Purim, one of the happiest days of the Jewish year.

Most years, Purim is marked by tomfoolery during the reading of the Megilah, a seudah (or feast), costume parades, spiels and I have wonderful memories of the Purim carnivals that I attended and later helped to staff at my childhood synagogue.

This year, it's harder to summon the Purim spirit as our hearts turn towards the losses of October 7th, the ongoing war in Israel, the worldwide rise in antisemitism and the disorienting experience of worrying about our safety and the safety of those whom we love in this country where we have felt so safe for so long. This year, revelry seems incongruous. . . . if you fail to recognize the nuance and complexity of the texts and practices that comprise the observance of Purim.

The Book of Esther, which contains the story of Purim, is an intricate narrative that resonates strongly with the challenges of the present moment. The Jewish community in ancient Persia is integrated fully enough into the fabric of society that a young Jewish woman is able to find her place in the highest social and political echelons of society and yet

the community as a whole is still threatened by powerful and antagonistic elements of the aristocracy and presumably the population at large.

When the rabbis of the Talmud ask where references to the story of Queen Esther can be found in the Torah, they answer that the name Esther is a reference to the experience of Hester Panim, the Hebrew phrase for those times when God's presence (in Hebrew, God's face) is hidden from us and we lose our awareness of the divine presence in the world around us. They remark upon the fact that God's name is not mentioned anywhere in the entire biblical book.

It's hard not to read these rabbinic observations from well over a thousand years ago and not think about how the events of the past months have thrown us back to the post-holocaust questions about where we might find God's presence during times of unspeakable tragedy.

Our tradition does not shy away from these questions. When the Jews of ancient Persia, encounter Haman's cruelty, they join together for the only Jewish communal practice in the entire story, the fast which is commemorated in modern times by the Fast of Esther which begins the morning before Purim and ends with the beginning of the holiday.

Once the people join together, Esther heeds the exhortation of her uncle that the needs of that moment demand her courage and her intercession with the king. Bolstered by the solidarity of her co-religionists and the counsel of her uncle, she shares her identity with her husband and petitions for the protection of her people.

The lesson that Purim holds for us today is the recognition that difficult periods of time are part of the progression of our history. Even feelings of divine abandonment are not new.

### UPCOMING SISTERHOOD PROGRAMS

Join us for **Introduction to Mah Jong** on Thursday evenings in February at 7 PM. Please contact Evelyn Abraham for more information. Sisterhood will be sponsoring **Hamantaschen Baking Classes for Families** on Sunday afternoon February 4<sup>th</sup> and an evening class on Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup> for Adults. Please see flyers and contact Donna Fleiss to sign up. **Book Discussion on Zoom** planned for Wednesday February 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM – **The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store** by James McBride.

On Monday and Wednesday mornings in February, come join us for **Hamantaschen Baking** in the HJC Dairy Kitchen. Please contact Donna Fleiss if you would like to help.

Sisterhood will be coordinating the purchase and delivery of Mishloach Manot for Purim. Please watch for emails with instructions on how to order on the Happy Purim website. Also, the Sisterhood will be reaching out to the congregation for help with delivery to HJC Congregants who live locally. Please contact Evelyn Abraham with all questions on ordering and delivery. Paper order forms will be available.

**Jewish tradition teaches us that showing up for mourners is a great kindness. You don't have to know them personally. Just being present during the announced times, and during minyan time, shows them that HJC community members are there for them. They will not go through this experience alone. If you are unsure how to act when entering a house of mourning, you can drop a note to either Debbie Stein at schnopsie1@aol.com or Joni Brenner at Joniaviv1@icloud.com of the Chesed Committee and they will arrange a partner for you to meet up with and go to the home together.**

*"When I joined HJC, I hardly knew anyone. I started attending Shiva Minyans to ensure there were enough people there for the mourners to recite the Kaddish. By showing up for them, I got to know our HJC community in these intimate settings. I now know, if I were in need, my community would show up for me."*

– Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz



## ***Our Community is Stronger if We are all Connected and Involved***

Your HJC leadership has been working hard to engage the community by providing a wide variety of programming and creating opportunities for members to develop more personal connections. We have been thinking in and out of the box. The Executive Committee and the Rabbi spent a considerable amount of time reviewing the information obtained via

the Meet and Greets and some of the comments surprised me because they made me realize that there seems to be a gap between what we think we are offering to our community and what you, our community, perceive is being offered. And it made me wonder if we are doing a good job of promoting the diversity of our programs. Are we meeting your needs?

Here are some of the main priorities/suggestions/areas to cultivate that were expressed at the Meet and Greets and through personal conversations:

- **More social and interactive programming/cultural events that allow for people to talk to each other:**

Here is a sampling of January/February programming and upcoming events that fit this description:

Adult Krav Maga, Sisterhood Canasta Series, Learn to Play Mahjong, Mostly True Things, Moving for Life, Dharma Yoga, Adult Tu B'Shevat Seder, Men's Club Beer and Bible, World Wide Wrap, Sisterhood Hamantashen Baking for Adults Looking ahead: Pop music concert with Rhonda Kahane and her band, Movie night (second installation), Congregational dinner (bringing back Congregational dinners was a top request). One of the best ways to socialize and talk to each other and to meet old friends and make some new ones in a relaxed manner is at Shabbat kiddushes. Our Shabbat regulars already know this but we are not an exclusive club!

- **Focus on spirituality, mindfulness and consciousness raising:**

Hebrew Poetry of Resilience, Virtual Listening Circle, Meditation (and Yoga)

- **Programming to engage families and children:**

Children Krav Maga, Baking and Cooking for grades 2-5, Make your Own Graffiti Hoodie, Shabbat Religious School, ECC Family Bingo Night, Sisterhood Hamantashen Baking with families, Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing

- **Adult Ed and beyond:**

Discussion about LI Water Standards (outside speaker), Voicing Suffering and Sorrow in the Jewish Tradition with Rabbi Dan Danson, Jewish Public Affairs Forum with Ken Bob, Virtual Lunch and Learn with a member of a moshav near the Gaza Border, weekly discussion of the parsha with Lester Fox, Learn Torah Trope with Rabbi Cantor Marcey Wagner, Connect and Reflect: Exploring Jewish Prayer with Cindy Dolgin, Jewish Disability Awareness Month Scholar-in-Residence, Walking With God with Rabbi Rosin

- **Helping those in need:**

JNN, HIHI, collection of clothing for displaced Israelis

There is so much happening that the Shabbat announcements are now often three pages long and we cannot possibly read the entire list! This does not include many other behind the scene planning and improvements such as making it easier to sign up for Shiva minyans, a more welcoming explanation in our shiva announcements and language promoting inclusion on our weekly and Shabbat announcements. In addition, our Technology Committee is working on hiring a web design company to modernize our website and is investigating ways to improve our hybrid technology. The House Committee is close to finalizing the company who will repave our parking lot. I don't think anyone who enters the parking lot can deny this is a much-needed improvement!

The newly formed Committee Chairs group has amazed me with their level of collaboration. The formation of this group will help us to focus on breaking down the silos that have always existed in our congregation. At our most recent January BOT meeting, we broke into four groups to begin the process of evaluating our programming to determine if the programming aligns with the priorities and values of our congregation. It was a very productive meeting and, in combination with our Committee Chairs work group, will help set the stage for more thoughtful discussions about how we go about planning programs going forward. We are working on a short survey to be completed by both attendees and presenters at our programs to better understand whether the programs we offer meet their expectations.

As I have said before, **YOU** are the **WE** who can make things happen! One of the best ways to accomplish this is to join a committee. The Executive Committee, the BOT, the Committee Chairs and our professional staff are always open to ideas and suggestions. So, let your voices be heard.

## **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: **February 21, 2024 and 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!





## *Being On the Other Side*

This is an exciting month for my family. This month I will celebrate my first child's Bar Mitzvah. I have spent the last few months planning for this special occasion. I have helped countless families over the years prepare for their children's B'nei Mitzvahs and yet I now find myself on the other side in the shoes of a bar

mitzvah parent. I now have experienced all of the stress, worry and anticipation like every other B'nei Mitzvah family that I have met with thus far such as the Aliyah list, pictures at the synagogue, ordering kippas, arranging flowers for the bima, and not to mention the actual reception. The list of details in planning a Bar Mitzvah is certainly endless!

As we get closer to our upcoming date, I try and ask myself what type of advice should I give my son after his Bar Mitzvah? We all know up until this point, going to religious school is mandatory by us as parents. However, what happens next? What will his role be in the Jewish community and how can he continue to be a part of it, in a way that works for him and his comfort level. I believe it is important to practice giving to the Jewish community. Yes, it is important to give tzedakah of course to causes and to the less fortunate, which has

been emulated during the year leading up to his Bar Mitzvah. However, perhaps it is even more important to give of yourself and your time to the local Jewish community as a volunteer. Without the giving of oneself and time, our community cannot be successful and grow.

We have so many meaningful, fulfilling committees here at HJC that always need support. What better way to support the continued growth of our HJC community than to volunteer your time and join one of our many committees? With so many talented congregants at HJC, we can use your expertise in a variety of areas, while fulfilling Tikun Olam.

One program to note this month, which most certainly goes with the theme of giving back, is Jewish Disability Awareness Shabbat, which is on February 23rd and 24th organized by our exceptionally talented Inclusion Committee. The speaker for Disability Awareness Shabbat is Howard Blass, who works to include and support campers with disabilities. I hope all of you will attend this wonderful program.



## **HJC SUMMER 2024 SCHOLARSHIPS**

Applications for the Donald L. Gordon Israel Scholarship and the David S. Rosenman Camp Ramah Scholarship for the 2024 summer are available.

These Scholarships allow the recipients to experience Judaism, and its values all day, everyday as a way of life, not just Shabbat and Holidays.

### **Donald L. Gordon Israel Scholarship**

This scholarship is awarded to High School Juniors and Seniors. They spend six weeks in Israel touring, learning and living the Israeli way of life in a Conservative Educational Program.

### **David S. Rosenman Camp Ramah Scholarship**

This scholarship is awarded to children in grades 4 through 12, who spend either 4 or 8 weeks at Camp Ramah. This camp is under the auspices of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

**Applications for both scholarships are available in the HJC Main office.**





## ***Helicopter parenting is often referred to as over-parenting***

As the name implies, parents hover over their child to ensure that they are fine and to assist them with any complicated situations. It involves excessive levels of involvement and control by parents in their children's lives. Parents helicopter because they don't want their children to experience any adversity. They want to help them

solve any problems they may encounter and think that solving all their problems will help them be more successful. Helicopter parents may not even be aware that they are doing this, after all doesn't everyone want the best for their child?

Snowplow or Lawnmower parents take it one step further. These parents will mow or plow down any obstacle in their child's way before the child even encounters it. In this scenario the child is spared from any problem, discomfort or challenge. Whereas helicopter parents will hover over their child and rescue them once a problem arises, lawnmower or snowplow parents remove all obstacles or issues the child may face before they are aware of them. Whether you are a helicopter, lawnmower, or snowplow parent, you are doing your child a great disservice.

With almost 25 years of experience in Early Childhood I have encountered the above type of parenting. I have witnessed how debilitating it can be for a child. If we constantly remove obstacles from children, make their lives perfect, or

do everything for them, we are only telling them that they are helpless and cannot function without us. While parents tell me, it is just easier for me to do everything for them, it teaches the child that they are incapable of doing it for themselves thus impacting their self-esteem. Of course, it is easier to do everything for a child, especially in our society, where we are always stressed and rushed. Who has the time and patience to teach a child to do for themselves? Just think about that! Like it or not, the message to the child is you can't do it and/or someone will always do everything for you. Not a good message either way. In addition, to affecting their self-esteem and learned helplessness, the children will never experience failure and learn the invaluable lesson of perseverance. At some point, the helicopter or lawn mower parent will not be able to solve every problem or remove the problem before the child encounters it, what will the child do then? They won't have the self-esteem, experience, resolve, skills, or courage necessary to handle a challenging situation. After all, we learn from mistakes. It makes us better, stronger, and provides us the ability and character to success.

In the ECC, we pride ourselves on giving the children the tools, confidence, independence and ability to help them succeed in the classroom, social situations, and hopefully life. We know that children are capable and competent. We just need to provide them with a safe environment to both fail and succeed. Through this work they will also develop an intrinsic feeling of reward, creating a greater sense of self and confidence.







## ***On This Special Day, Remember the Milestones Reached, the Challenges Overcome, and the Love Shared***

This month I approach a milestone birthday, an age that was once upon a time reserved to describe my parents and their friends, and yet, here I am. My thoughts naturally turn to the significance of milestones in our lives. Milestones are not just markers of time but are profound opportunities

for reflection, growth, and celebration, especially for the young minds embarking on their path of Jewish learning.

Every year we present Grades 3 & 5 with their Siddur (prayerbook) or Chumash (Book of Torah) and Grades 6 & 7 design their own personalized yad for their Bar/Bat Mitzvah. These events symbolize the beginning of a lifelong journey into understanding and living our Jewish values and traditions. Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, z"l once said "...education is about learning how to become a human being capable of seeing the image of G-d in the face of a stranger." This profound thought captures the spirit of what we are celebrating in these ceremonies and perhaps encompasses one of the core values

of Jewish education. We are not simply imparting knowledge; we are nurturing souls to recognize and respect the divine in everyone with wisdom and compassion.

In Jewish tradition, milestones are moments of introspection and gratitude. The ceremony of the Kabbalat Siddur and Chumash (receiving of the books) and B'nai Mitzvah are not only academic milestones, but also serve as spiritual markers for our children. They remind us of the continuous journey of learning and growing each one of us travels. In these celebrations, we see the beginnings of young minds who will carry forward our rich traditions and hopefully will create a world filled with understanding and respect.

I hope you reserve Saturday, March 9th and join us to embrace this achievement with the joy and reverence it deserves as we commit ourselves to nurturing another generation that sees the image of G-d in every face. Whether you take your personal inventory on the Jewish new year, the secular new year or your birthday, may each journey around the sun bring you growth, understanding and contentment.



# Donations

## CAMP RAMAH FUND

**Judy & Lester Fox** in honor of the Anniversary of the Bar Mitzvah of Scott Ingber

## COLLEGIATE FUND

**Arlene Steinberg** in memory of Polly Kurzer at Yahrzeit

## DAILY MINYAN FUND

**Donna & Ed Fleiss** in memory of Ethel Tasman Fleiss at Yahrzeit

**Susan Goldmeer** in memory of Sam Goldmeer at Yahrzeit

## EMERGENCY SECURITY FUND

**Mikey & Randi Berlin**

**Kenneth & Nancy Bob**

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

**Dan Danson & Julie Luks**

**Michael Fishelson & Karen Herrmann-Fishelson**

**Robert & Maxine Fisher**

**Edward & Donna Fleiss**

**Stuart & Janis Herskovitz**

**Walter & Elaine Kleinmann**

**Helga Kramer**

**Philip & Dale Mintz**

**Dan & Patricia Schoeffler**

**Tyna Strenger**

**Keith & Denise Tamayo**

**William & Rosalind Wertheim**

## ETHEL SACHS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FUND

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in honor of Ava Mildred Kantro, granddaughter of Lori Sklar

## GARDEN FUND

**Bruce & Alice Rosen** in memory of Robert E. Gordon, father of Howard Gordon

## GENERAL FUND

**Aileen Jacobson & Richard Galant**

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in honor of the birth of Sophie Rae, granddaughter of Gale & Paul Greenstein

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in memory of Bruce Feinberg, member, friend, and husband of Shelia Feinberg

**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in memory of Marjorie Silverberg, mother of Roger Silverberg

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz & Dr. Jonathan Boxer** in memory of Marjorie Silverberg, mother of Roger Silverberg

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz & Dr. Jonathan Boxer** in memory of Bruce Feinberg, husband of Shelia Feinberg

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz & Dr. Jonathan Boxer** in honor of Dan & Patricia Schoeffler on the marriage of Nathan & Christie

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz & Dr. Jonathan Boxer** on the birth of Ellen & Jay's first granddaughter, Michelle Daphne

**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz & Dr. Jonathan Boxer** on the birth of Sophie Rae, granddaughter of Gale & Paul Greenstein

**Arlene Rubenstein** in memory of Ed Rubenstein at Yahrzeit

**Arlene Rubenstein** in memory of Martha Besen at Yahrzeit

**The Fleiss Family** in memory of Michele Fleiss at Yahrzeit

**The Fleiss Family** in memory of Harry Sindell at Yahrzeit

**The Fleiss Family** in memory of Anna Tasman at Yahrzeit

**Rachel Gritz** in honor of the birth of Ellen & Jay Steinberg's granddaughter Michelle Daphne

**Roger Silverberg & Evelyn Abraham** in honor of the birth of Ellen & Jay Steinberg's granddaughter Michelle Daphne

**Roger Silverberg & Evelyn Abraham** in memory of Ralph Abraham at Yahrzeit

## ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT

**Bill Yelen** in memory of George Yelen at Yahrzeit

**Ora & Alan Kriegstein** in honor of Dan & Patricia Schoeffler on the marriage of Nathan & Christie

**Ora & Alan Kriegstein** in honor of Ellen & Jay Steinberg on the birth of their granddaughter Michelle Daphne

## JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK

**Bruce & Alice Rosen** in honor of JNN and the Work of Rob Fisher

**David & Sue Lefkowitz** in honor of Eileen & Harvey Berger on the birth of their grandson, Elijah Berger

**Amira Garbus** in memory of Van Dewald at Yahrzeit

**Avi & Hana Keshet** in memory of my dearest mother, Miriam Weisbrot at Yahrzeit

**Joseph & Wendy Glassman** in memory of Clinton Glassman at Yahrzeit

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in honor of Ellen & Jay Steinberg on the birth of their granddaughter, Michelle Daphne

## MORNING MINYAN FUND

**The Fleiss Family** in memory of Ethel Tasman Fleiss at Yahrzeit

## RABBI'S TZEDAKAH FUND

**Arnold Schwartz** in memory of Rosalyn H. Schwartz at Yahrzeit

**Kenneth Bram & Family**

**Janet & Mark Zimmerman** in memory of Andrea Smoller's aunt, Ellen Charno.

**Howard & Andrea Dubow** in memory of Blanche Dubowsky at Yahrzeit

**Howard & Andrea Dubow** in memory of Dave Dubowsky at Yahrzeit

**Donna & Ed Fleiss** in memory of Loretta Nadler at Yahrzeit

**Andrea Marcus Smoller** in honor of the marriage of Nathan Schoeffler to Christie Crawford

**Andrea Marcus Smoller** in honor of the birth of Gale & Paul

Greenstein's granddaughter Sophie Rae

**Andrea Marcus Smoller** in honor of the birth of Ellen & Jay Steinberg's granddaughter Michelle Daphne

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

**Gina Giuffre** in honor of the birth of Ellen & Jay Steinberg's granddaughter Michelle Daphne

**Gina Giuffre** in honor of the birth of Gale & Paul Greenstein's granddaughter Sophie Rae

**Vivian Rothschild** in memory of Bill Cadel

## RITUAL ENHANCEMENTS

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in honor of the birth of Gale & Paul Greenstein's granddaughter Sophie Rae

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

**Alexander Steinberg & Niaomi Eisenstadt** and their son **Winston Steinberg**

## MAZEL TOV:

**Debbie Cadel** on the Engagement of her son, Dan Cadel to Michelle Graff

**Andrea Smoller** on the birth of her grandson, Jonah Reed

**Shari & Scott Klaire** on the marriage of their son Logan to Megan Balduzzi

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



**HJC Youth Group\* Presents...**

# Make your own... Graffiti Hoodie

**Graff Lab Studio, 1600 N. Ocean Avenue, Suite 9, Holtsville**

**Sunday, Feb. 4th 1:30-3:30**

**\$40 (includes hoodie and snacks)**

**Grades 4 and up**



**RSVP by Feb. 1st:**

**<https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/youth-program-trip-to-the-graffiti-lab-.html>**

\*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

If you need any accommodation to be able to fully participate in this event, please notify Rachel in the front office.  
Do not let the cost of the program deter your participation....reach out to Rabbi Rosin.

**The Israel Engagement Committee presents:**

## **Virtual Brunch and Learn**

**Sunday February 4, 2024 at 10 am**

**Grab your coffee and join us as we hear from  
Omer Gil, a lifelong moshav member**



**ISRAEL TODAY**



**T**he eyes of American media are focused on the war in Gaza and the tragedy of the hostages. But what do we know about ordinary Israelis, struggling to cope and rebuild lives shattered by the barbaric assaults of October 7? They are doing so even as Israel is under bombardment from Hamas, Hezbollah and even Yemen.

We are pleased to offer you an opportunity to hear what is happening on Moshav Ge'a, a community near Ashkelon, about 5 miles from the Gaza border.

Our speaker is Omer Gil, a 38-year-old lifelong member of the moshav. After October 7, Gil and his fellow residents recognized "We had to act fast and form a group...to keep our home safe: The First Response Team."

Omer will describe life in the aftermath of October 7 and the crucial decision to create this Team.



**Join ZOOM meeting:**

**<https://zoom.us/j/93460711376?pwd=eml2MUhQRytTR1U3VmVVamlPTjREdz09>**

**Meeting ID: 934 6071 1376    Passcode: 263234**

**Registration is mandatory**

**RSVP at: <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/israel-engagement-virtual-program-.html>**

**Contributions to the HJC Israel Engagement Fund would be much appreciated**



**HJC Adult Education Presents:**

# **Learn to Chant Torah**

*Have you ever wanted to read Torah during services?*

*Would you like to improve your chanting?*

*Have you always wanted to understand the trope (chanting) system better?*

*If you answered yes to any or all of these questions- we have the perfect class for you!*

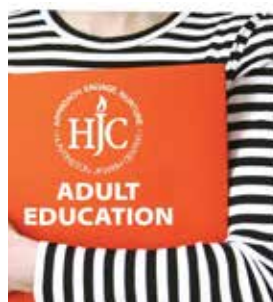


## **Join Rabbi/Cantor Marcey Wagner**

as she teaches the melody of chanting as well as the structure behind the trope system. She will also share tricks and strategies for mastering a reading. All materials and recordings provided as well as private coaching if needed.



**Dates: Feb 8, 15, 22, 7:30pm - In-person only**



Please direct questions to Marcey Wagner: [marceywag@gmail.com](mailto:marceywag@gmail.com) or Nancy Cooper: [nancyberlow@gmail.com](mailto:nancyberlow@gmail.com)

**Rabbi Rosin would love to meet you  
and, if you've already met,  
he would like to get to know you better.**



**P**lease join Rabbi Rosin for a group discussion about your experiences at HJC, about the role that the synagogue has played in your life and about what you would like to see here in the future.

**Each meeting is open to 20 people.**

Dates are:

- |                            |         |
|----------------------------|---------|
| 1. Wednesday, February 7th | 7:30 PM |
| 2. Thursday, March 14th    | 7:30 PM |
| 3. Wednesday, March 27th   | 7:30 PM |

**RSVP: <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/rabbi-rosin-meet--greet-.html>**



# Men's Club Presents WORLD WIDE WRAP

- Who:** All genders, all of B'nei Mitzvah age and beyond are welcome  
**Where:** HJC Main Sanctuary  
**When:** 9:00 AM Morning Minyan, Sunday February 11, 2024  
**Afterparty:** Kiddush Lounge... Bagel and Lox Breakfast sponsored by Men's Club  
**Why:** It's a Mitzvah!

Wrapping tefillin emphasizes the deeply personal and meaningful way to experience "first thoughts" of the day and reflect on our connection to G-d via prayer. Tefillin can be a powerful source of comfort and for coping with family illness, loss of a loved one and the infinite challenges of everyday life.

Don't have tefillin? We do and we'll help you put it on. It's a meaningful experience, we promise. If you only do it once per year, this is the day to do it!

Please RSVP if you plan to join the breakfast so we know how much food to bring.

**RSVP:** <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/world-wide-wrap-.html>



**HJC Religious School Presents**

# **KRAV MAGA**

**FOR ADULTS ONLY**

**(ISRAELI SELF DEFENSE)**

**Class series with Master Instructor Dr. Michael Blitz**

**\$180 for 8 classes (\$200 for non-members)**

**The following Tuesdays 7:45-8:45 pm**

**Feb. 13, & 27**

**Mar. 12, 19 & 26**



Program subsidized by Herskovitz Family Engagement Fund

**RSVP: <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/adult-krav-maga-2024-series-.html>**

If you need any accommodation to be able to fully participate in this event, please notify Rachel in the front office.  
Do not let the cost of the program deter your participation....reach out to Rabbi Rosin.





# Join us for our 2024 **INCLUSION SHABBAT**

**Come learn from advocate/journalist/scholar  
HOWARD BLAS, MSW, MA Sp. Ed.**



Howard Blas currently serves as Director of the National Ramah Tikvah Network of the National Ramah Commission. In this capacity, he works with Ramah camps as they include and support campers with disabilities.



He also writes regularly for many Jewish publications, including The Jerusalem Post, The Times of Israel, Chabad.Org, Sight Line (Covenant Foundation), PJ Library and the JNS (Jewish News Syndicate).

## **Friday night February 23, 2024 at 7:00PM**

Services will be followed by a dessert oneg during which Mr. Blas will speak about the purpose and activities of the Jewish Inclusion Awareness movement.

## **Shabbat morning February 24, 2024**

Join us after services for a "Lunch and Learn" in the Kiddush Lounge with Rabbi Rosin and Howard Blas to study the Jewish texts that inform the Inclusion Awareness movement. Babysitting will be available.

### **Dairy lunch will be provided.**

Sponsored by the Inclusion Committee with the support of Sisterhood and Men's Club

RSVP by February 14th:

<https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/inclusion-committee-scholar-in-residence-jewish-disability-month.html>

**Anyone requiring an accomodation to be able to fully participate in this program please notify  
Lesley Stark (ldelia@optonline.net) or Miriam Eckstein -Koas (miribiri18@gmail.com)**



## **Facilities at the Huntington Jewish Center are available to rent for your special event.**

### **KIDDISH LOUNGE, FAMILY LIFE ROOM, LIBRARY**

**Do you need a room for an organizational meeting or a family get-together?  
The Huntington Jewish Center can provide a facility to meet your needs.**

**FACILITY RENTAL:**

When HJC building is already open..... \$300

Special opening of the HJC building ..... \$500

**SECURITY FEE:**

We require the use of a security guard at our facility.

Cost to pay the security guard for the hours used:.....\$43.75/hour, minimum 3 hours

**SET UP & CLEAN UP FEE:**

Cleaning of the facilities before and after the event..... \$100

There is a 3 hour minimum and 8 hour maximum for use of the facility

### **SOCIAL HALL**

**For large meetings, B'Nei Mitzvah parties, wedding receptions,  
or other significant events where a larger facility is required.**

**FACILITY RENTAL:**

When HJC building is already open..... \$1150

Special opening of the HJC building.....\$1270

**SECURITY FEE:**

We require the use of a security guard at our facility.

Cost to pay the security guard for the hours used:.....\$43.75/hour, minimum 3 hours

**SET UP & CLEAN UP FEE:**

Cleaning of the facilities before and after the event.....\$150

There is a 3 hour minimum and 8 hour maximum for use of the facility

**To use any facility and for detailed information contact Rachel Gritz:**

**[rgritz@hjcny.org](mailto:rgritz@hjcny.org) • 631-427-1089**

**Only open to Members of HJC**





# HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

510 PARK AVENUE, HUNTINGTON, NEW YORK 11743

## TRIBUTE FUNDS - DONATION FORM



### GENERAL & BUILDING FUNDS

**GENERAL FUND** - supports HJC services and operations.

**EMERGENCY SECURITY FUND** - maintains the safety of congregants, schools, and staff.

**RITUAL ENHANCEMENTS (SIDDUR, HUMASH, TORAH, DAILY MINYAN) FUND** - supports materials, books, and spaces for prayer.

**KOL NIDRE APPEAL** - annual invitation to contribute to HJC.

**GARDEN FUND** - beautifies HJC grounds.

**LIBRARY (BEN TASMAN) FUND** - maintains and supports library books and materials.

**TREE OF LIFE** - (\$360 minimum contribution). purchases a leaf to commemorate a life cycle event.

### EDUCATION & YOUTH FUNDS

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER FUND** - supports ECC activities, projects, and teacher development.

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND** - supports Religious School activities, projects, and teacher development.

**CAMP RAMAH (DAVID S. ROSENMAN) FUND** - provides scholarships for children to attend Camp Ramah.

**ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP (DONALD L. GORDON) FUND** - provides scholarships for children to travel to Israel.

**SCHECHTER FUND** - provides scholarships for children to attend the Schechter School of Long Island.

**SCHOOL SPECIAL PROJECTS (ARNIE KERNS MEMORIAL) FUND** - supports special projects in the ECC and Religious Schools.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION (EDWARD SPEVACK KOCHAVIM) FUND** - supports Special Education programs and needs.

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND** - supports extracurricular youth activities, organizations, and programming.

### COMMUNITY & CONGREGATION FUNDS

**ADULT EDUCATION FUND** - pays for speakers and programs.

**SHABBAT KIDDUSH FUND** - pays for food and supplies.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (ETHEL SACHS) FUND** - provides financial support that engages the congregation and community.

**COLLEGIATE FUND** - pays for holiday packages and mailings to college students.

**ENVIRONMENTAL FUND** - *Shemirat Ha'Adamah* - preserving the Environment.

**INCLUSION FUND** - helps ensure that ALL people can access prayer and communal experiences.

**ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT FUND** - supports Israel related education and quality programming.

**JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK** - provides food for the needy in the community.

**SOCIAL ACTION FUND** - supports programs and activities to ensure equity, honor, and dignity for all human beings.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND** - promotes congregational understanding about race, ethnicity, diversity, and inclusion.

### CLERGY FUNDS

**RABBI HOSPITALITY FUND** - provides food and materials for the Rabbi to host and connect with congregants.

**RABBI PROGRAMMING FUND** - allows the Rabbi to offer and promote discretionary programs and activities.

**RABBI TZEDAKAH FUND** - provides funds for the Rabbi to contribute to and support charitable causes.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Please direct my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ Fund.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Speedy recovery to: \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT INFORMATION:** I have enclosed a check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to the Huntington Jewish Center.

Please bill my Visa / Master Card / AmEx Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Security Code (3 digits on back of Visa / Master Card or 4 digits on front of AmEx) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Enjoy an evening of music with your friends**



and



**Temple Beth El**  
*of Huntington*

**present**



**\$36pp. Includes the concert, 2 glasses of wine and dessert.  
Bring a friend or two.**

**Saturday March 2nd at 730PM**

**TO REGISTER, RSVP:** <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/benefit-concert-.htm>

Support the HJC and Temple Beth El communities

If you need any accommodation to be able to fully participate in this event, please notify Rachel in the front office.  
Do not let the cost of the program deter your participation....reach out to Rabbi Rosin.

## HISTORICAL FICTION:

**Bessie** by Linda Kass. A fictional portrait of Bess Meyerson, daughter of Russian Jewish immigrants living in The Bronx, 1940's. As a college educated and competent young woman, Bess enters a Miss New York City pageant, which leads to the Miss America pageant contest. Two things are notable in her young adulthood. She is tall at 5'10" (at age 12) and a gifted piano player. She is also determined and the road to success is not an easy one for her to follow but very interesting to read a generation later.

**5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Glamour Girl** by Renee Rosen. It's 1938 and a young woman is selling face cream out of a New York City beauty parlor. So begins the tale of the founder of Estee Lauder Cosmetics – a story of friendship, glitz and glamour and an enterprise known world wide. While the author explains the 'license' taken to invent some characters, the basics of the story are as they occurred. The story of a remarkable Jewish woman.

## FICTION:

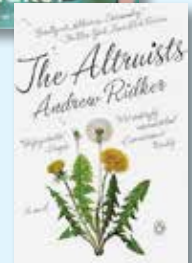
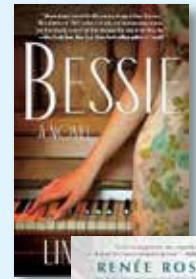
**Wolf Hunt** by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen. A dark experience in one of the 'safest' cities in America; Israeli immigrants; beautiful home & successful, stable family, tragic death from drug overdose, many questions....sounds like a page-turner, by well known author of **The Liar** and **Waking Lions**. Herself a clinical psychologist and activist in Israeli civil rights movement.

**Kunstlers in Paradise** by Cathleen Schine. During the 2020 Pandemic, while sheltering in place with his 93 year old grandmother in Southern California, twenty something year old Julian learns from her the early stories of his family and the multi-generational connections in music, medicine and commerce. Each of these stories engaging to the reader, and of course to Julian as well. (previous novels: **Love Letter**; **Three Weissmans of Westport**; **The Gramarians**.)

**Hope** by Andrew Ridker. Forget dark and convoluted. These are the adjectives used to describe this novel: Hilarious; Astute; highly Entertaining; Vibrant; Perceptive. It follows the scandals that appear to tear apart a seemingly perfect family in an upscale Boston suburb, and how it struggles. (can't wait for the funny parts.)

**The Altruists** also by Andrew Ridker is the story of a family on the brink of losing its home; estrangement between father & children; family wealth & making mistakes. A novel that grows more complex and more uproarious by the page, culminating in an unforgettable climax.

*Please let me know if it's really so hilarious!!*



## Save The Date For The Celebrate Israel Parade!

The Celebrate Israel Day Parade is Sunday, June 2, 2024, and will take place from 11AM - 4PM on Fifth Avenue between 57th Street – 74th Street.

This year's theme is Am Echad, Lev Echad - One People, One Heart  
Stay tuned for registration & busing information in the upcoming weeks!



# HJC Bulletin

February 2024

Huntington Jewish Center  
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Huntington, NY 11743

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Huntington, N.Y.  
Permit No. 227

## Introduction to Mah Jongg



Thursdays @ 7:30 PM at HJC  
February 1, 8, 15, 22 and March 7

Mah Jongg is played in groups of 4 and is a game of skill, strategy and calculation. It can increase your cognitive and memory abilities.

Please RSVP by January 25<sup>th</sup> to Evelyn Abraham at  
631-424-6922 or [evelyn\\_abraham@optonline.net](mailto:evelyn_abraham@optonline.net)  
(No Walk-ins)

Mah Jongg cards will be provided for participants

Cost: \$18 per person\*

Please make checks payable to HJC Sisterhood

\*You must be a Sisterhood or HJC member to participate

## HJC Sisterhood presents Hamantashen Making (For Adults Only)\*



What: Hamantashen Making  
When: Tuesday, 2/13 @ 7:00 pm  
Where: HJC Family Life Center

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

Please RSVP by Monday, 2/5 as enrollment is limited  
All ingredients and materials will be provided

Please RSVP to Donna Fleiss  
Email [donna.fleiss@gmail.com](mailto:donna.fleiss@gmail.com) or text (516) 635-7829

\*This event is for adults only  
If you have children who would like to participate, please join us at Sisterhood's  
Purim family event on 2/4 @ 12:00 pm (See separate flyer)

\*You must be an HJC or Sisterhood member to participate\*  
This event is sponsored by HJC Sisterhood

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).