



November 2024 | Tishrei / Cheshvan 5785 Bulletin

HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER  
NEWS / COMMUNITY / CONNECTION

# Thanksgiving 2024



Huntington Jewish Center, 510 Park Avenue, Huntington, NY 11743 / Tel: 631-427-1089 / Fax: 631-427-8118  
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# Sisterhood News

by Evelyn Abraham



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### Membership

Please remember to pay your Sisterhood Annual Membership Dues. Your dues are used to support HJC, Women's League for Conservative Judaism and fund programming. You can pay by check payable to HJC Sisterhood or pay on the HJC Website:

<https://hjc.shulcloud.com/form/Sisterhood%20Dues.html>.

Dues are \$45 or \$30 for seniors, if you are not an HJC Member, please add \$15.

### BQLI Region of Women's League for Conservative Judaism - Torah Fund Kickoff

Torah Fund Kickoff Program and Luncheon - Monday November 11th doors open at 9:30 am. What I did Last Summer: The Jewish Summer Camp Experience, Catered Lunch and Raffles Huntington Jewish Center Sisterhood is hosting. Please look for information on how to register.

Please contact Evelyn Abraham if you would like to learn more about the upcoming programs and become more involved with Sisterhood.

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## WOMEN'S LEAGUE TORAH FUND CAMPAIGN

Our new Torah Fund general campaign theme for 2024-2025 is **Am Yisrael Chai - The People of Israel Live**.

Like our pin last year, this new pin will be made of sterling silver and 14K goldplate, is proudly being manufactured in Israel, and can also be worn as a pendant.



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. If you would like to pay by check, make checks payable to **Torah Fund** and mail to **HJC attention Sisterhood Torah Fund**.

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 2024-2025/5785 Torah Fund general campaign theme, **Am Yisrael Chai - The People of Israel Live** through the end of June 2025.

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**Neil Kurshan**  
Rabbi Emeritus

## HJC Board of Trustees / 2024-2025

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## HJC Committee Chairpersons

Adult Education..... Nancy Cooper  
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High Holiday Honors..... Ofer Rind  
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Theatre Development..... Maxine Fisher  
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# From Rabbi Eric Rosin



## *Mar Heshvan*

My colleagues who prepare for the Jewish holidays gracefully and well in advance insist that Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur are never early or late. Every year they report that the holidays have taken place precisely when they are supposed to. Because I don't prepare quite as gracefully, even in years like this one in which the holiday

season didn't begin until after we had entered the Month of October on the secular calendar, it still felt like they snuck up on me and I still could have used a couple more days to read over my sermons and contemplate the liturgy.

As a result of our living our lives based on two disparate calendars, the Hebrew calendar which is lunar and the secular calendar which is solar, we are stuck with this restless ritual schedule. Jewish holidays fall on the same date on the Hebrew calendar every year but they will never fall on the same day in our secular calendar two years in a row. Sometimes they don't even show up in the same month as they did the year before.

This year, November on the Gregorian calendar coincides almost exactly with the month of Heshvan, or Mar Heshvan on the Hebrew calendar. There are a number of explanations about how the month of Heshvan has acquired the sobriquet of "Mar Heshvan" or "Bitter Heshvan." Some say it is because we commemorate the flood which destroyed almost every living thing on earth during this month. The most popular explanation is that we call this month "Bitter Heshvan" because after a Hebrew month of Tishrei which was chock full of celebrations and observances, there are no holidays during the entire month.

Last month, we celebrated Rosh HaShanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Sh'mini Atzeret and Simchat Torah. This month – nada, nothing. If we're lucky we have a friend with a significant birthday.

On the other hand, last month was exhausting. Every time we turned around there was another holiday. Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur involved so many hours of contemplation and prayer. Even Sukkot, which is also called zman simchateinu, the time of our rejoicing required a great deal of stamina, from the building of the sukkah, to waving the lulav and the etrog, the services and the shared meals. Simchat Torah

has the word for celebration, simchah, included in the title of the holiday, but it doesn't make reference to any sort of rest or relaxation.

Usually, when we announce the beginning of the month of Bitter Heshvan in the sanctuary on the Shabbat morning preceding the first of Heshvan, it is with a sigh of relief and touch of irony, because we're ready for a few weeks without a holiday after the frenetic pace that we've been maintaining.

This year feels different. Each of the holidays this year took place in the complicated context of the war in Israel, the hostages who have not yet been returned, the suffering that has engulfed the entire region, and the traumas which have not yet ended either in the Middle East or here where antisemitism has increased so disturbingly. As I write this there is a great deal of uncertainty about the outcome of the American elections. By the time you read this, that uncertainty will likely have been replaced by concern about the implications of the elections' results. This year, instead of leaning into a respite from the work of the holidays, we retain a palpable heaviness as we move into the month of Heshvan.

As we enter back into the routine rhythms of the year, instead of relaxing and leaving the work and the lessons of the holidays behind, this year we are called to carry them with us. Over the course of the Hebrew month of Tishrei, we contemplated how our tradition and our community have given us the tools we need to acknowledge our vulnerability, and to cultivate our resilience, to honor our obligations to face what is broken in the world and our responsibility to respond in the ways that will facilitate their repair.

As we move forward into the rest of the year, the joyful times when we gather for community dinners, Shabbat services, programs in the religious school and ECC, Men's Club and Sisterhood functions and all of the other events that take place will have more of a sense of purpose. My Mussar Practice Group and all of the other Adult Education offerings will be about more than intellectual edification, and the important work of our leadership will be to steward the resources of HJC so that it will be able to thoughtfully rise to the needs of our community during these difficult times and during the better times that we know will come.

The rabbis may have deemed this month a momentary lull on the Jewish calendar, but this year, it continues to be a call for us to come together as a community and to engage the world around us.

## **High Holiday Update**

Did you know that the HJC Sisterhood sponsors the following during the High Holidays and Sukkot? \* • **Bima Flowers** – Rosh Hashanah and Sukkot • **Kiddushes** – Sukkot and Shemini Atzeret • **Coordinates the readings during the Yom Kippur Martyrology Service.** Thank you to Marilyn Klein, Sandy Rabinowitz and Amy Sobin for volunteering to be readers this year. • **Polishing of the Silver Torah Mantles and ornaments** - Thank you to Felicia and Keith Messing for leading. Thank you to Lori Sklar for reattaching some of the bells. Sisterhood is investigating how to replat the Silver Mantles and Bell Ornaments.



## *The Season for Thanksgiving*

Now that October has ended and the cycle of our fall holidays is complete, November is the perfect time for being thankful. I began the process of thanking people towards the end of Yom Kippur and I promised a more complete list in my upcoming bulletin article. I would like to start with a recap of those I mentioned on Yom Kippur since they are all so important to

HJC and they deserve mention in print.

First, I want to thank Rabbi Rosin for his inspirational words and for leading such meaningful services. We look forward to continuing to learn and grow with you over the coming years. It was wonderful to have the beautiful voice of Rabbi Cantor Gordan fill our sanctuary once again.

I am sure that everyone noticed our amazing superwoman Executive Director, Rachel Gritz running around during our High Holidays ensuring that everything ran perfectly and putting out fires along the way. It makes me dizzy to think about all the many details she attended to in preparation for these days. And, most important, she does it all out of love for HJC. I cannot truly express my gratitude for all that she does for us. Of course, she could not have done this without the assistance of our Administrative Assistant, Diane Hoppe who always has a welcoming smile; our bookkeeper, Irma Mile who manages to keep track of all the dollars and cents and our custodians Alex and Steve Salinas. Even Victor made a guest appearance to help. Thanks to Ilene Brown for creating such an outstanding ECC.

The rave reviews for our Family Services and Children's programs have been overwhelming. Thanks to Gina Giuffre, our Religious School Director, for leading such meaningful and age-appropriate services and for overseeing all the many details that go into making everything a success. We practically had standing room only at our Family Services. It was so fabulous to have all the children come into the sanctuary for the Shofar service on the first day of RH and I hope this will be a regular event in the coming years. I loved all the balagan! Thanks also to Tara Kopman and Stacey Moss for organizing and executing our amazing Buzz program. And thanks also to all the amazing teachers and babysitters for providing a wonderful experience for our children.

I am most appreciative of my Executive Committee: Leigh Murphy, Andrea Smoller, Ofer Rind, Dave Schoenfarber, Rick Davis and Donna Fleiss and the BOT for their ongoing support. Many of our BOT members and Past Presidents welcomed you on the holidays at the entrances or at the book table and some sat on the bima. This is a responsibility and a privilege of being part of the leadership of HJC.

Thanks to our secretary Donna for making the complicated schedules and to Leigh for her assistance with the children's programming. I also want to thank Donna Fleiss, Andrea Smoller, Dave Schoenfarber, Keith Messing and Ari Perler who served as the "captains" for the various services. They helped to ensure that everything ran smoothly. Thanks so much to our shofar blowers, Matt Raskin and David Stein.

Ofer, of course, deserves special mention serving in his capacity as HH Honors Chairperson. Actually, he is the only one on the committee, and I really do not know how he does it each year. Ofer and I have discussed this further and we have agreed that coordinating the HH honors is more complicated than doing physics!

Thanks again to our Kol Nidre chairs, Scott and Hui Herskovitz, Saul and Sari Sternschein and Stuart and Janis Herskovitz. From generation to generation. You all mean so much to our community and I know you will continue to support and do your part for HJC for many years to come. Thank you to Eva Grubler and Marty Spielman for agreeing to be our Simchat Torah honorees this year. You have both contributed so much to HJC over the years and it will be wonderful to be able to acknowledge you in this way even though I had to do some arm twisting to get you to accept the honor!

I am grateful for Mike Caponi and his team of security guards for the tremendous job they do all year long ensuring that we all feel safe at HJC every time we walk into the building. Even more important, many of them really know us and our children and have become part of our HJC community.

Special thanks to Maxine Fisher for everything she continues to do for HJC especially on the High Holidays. Each year, Maxine organizes the greeters and sits in her usual spot with a keen eye and ear to all the comings and goings into and out of the sanctuary. Maxine also makes sure that the children have their own shofars to blow at the end of Yom Kippur and flags for Simchat Torah and she and Rob ensure that we have an orderly procession as we each approach the ark with our individual prayers during the Neilah service. General thanks to Evelyn Abraham and Paul Greenstein for their everyday "can do" spirit.

Thanks to all our greeters: Mary Uricchio, Todd Houslanger, Bill Yelen, Amy Sobin, Stuart Rothenberg, Allison Reiver, Ed Fleiss, Eva Grubler, Michael Fishelson, Eric Gemunder, Patricia Schoeffler, Bruce Fleiss, Lori Sklar, Shari Feibel, Peter Cohn, and Nancy Cooper

Other noteworthy high holiday contributions include:

- Sisterhood, for polishing the silver that adorns our Torah scrolls, for the bima flowers on Sukkot and for providing delicious lunches in our Sukkah during the chagim.
- Felicia and Keith Messing for changing the Torah covers and parochet. Don't worry, I do not hold you responsible

**Continued on next page**





## The Art of Gratitude

**"Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude."**

- by Ralph Waldo Emerson

Although the holiday of Thanksgiving is not typically designated

as a Jewish holiday, it is celebrated in all our homes as Jews living in America. It is a time that we can come together with our family and friends each year and be present and celebrate just the simple act of being together. Thanksgiving does invoke Jewish values of saying thank you, for the delicious food that is on the table, before you eat and after, like the blessings we say before and after we eat.

This has been an incredibly trying year for the world, and at times it seems daunting to dig deep and truly be thankful. However, there is so much to be grateful for in all our lives on

the regular day to day that we may take it all for granted. I am grateful for my family and for having good health. I am also very thankful for my friends, who I can share laughs with, and help me with my kids and their growing schedules, when I do not even know that I need help!

I am also grateful that I am fortunate to be able to come into work at HJC each day and carry out meaningful work that I feel is fulfilling for myself and those around me. I enjoy being part of your community and have enjoyed getting to know all of you throughout the year. I enjoy working with and creating a sacred community all year with my fellow peers; Rabbi Rosin, Ilene Brown and Gina Giuffre, and also with our Synagogue President, Ellen Steinberg and the rest of the Board of Trustees. I also have immense gratitude for my team of Diane Hoppe and Irma Mile who work with me every day in the main office, of which we also share stressors of the year and laughs to go along as well! I also want to express how very thankful I am for our wonderful custodians, Alex Salinas and Steve Salinas, who play an integral role in our operations at HJC and do so with a smile. I wish all of you and your families a very happy Thanksgiving!

### The Season for Thanksgiving continued

for the broken cord!! And Rachel and I are working to create a simpler, unbreakable mechanism.

- Men's Club for erecting our Sukkah.
- Judy Leopold and Alan Orloff for the beautiful Yom Kippur bima flowers.
- Everyone who participated in services, including but not limited to our Torah readers, Haftorah readers, gabbais and those who led services.
- Marty Spielman for creating all the professional flyers displayed for the holidays and throughout the year.

I am grateful for my family and for my HJC community. Your trust and support have made the job of being president a rewarding experience. I look forward to continuing to serve you throughout the remainder of this year. While we live in an imperfect world, we all have much to be thankful for. So, let's do our part to make the world a better place and, at the same time, count our blessings and focus on the positives. Happy Thanksgiving!



## CALLING ALL "GRANDPALS"

The Grand Pal program is a heartwarming new initiative that brings our senior community members and our ECC students together each week for meaningful interactions. Grand Pals will visit and spend quality time playing games, sharing stories, and connecting with the children, fostering a sense of multigenerational friendship. It's a wonderful opportunity for both groups to learn from each other, build bonds, and create lasting memories.



If you are interested in volunteering as a Grand Pal and receiving a lot of love and joy please contact Ilene Brown, [ibrown@hjcny.org](mailto:ibrown@hjcny.org).

### Attention all parents and grandparents!

HJC is now more baby/toddler friendly. We have purchased high chairs, booster seats, step stools and toilet seats which will always be available for all events.

Thanks to Janis Herskovitz for the new silk flowers on the bima.



## ***Constructive problem-solving. It's how children wrestle with life to make it meaningful.*** *Susan Linn Contemporary American psychiatrist*

Early Childhood Education is one of the most underestimated, undervalued and misunderstood professions. Many people see early childhood education as “babysitting” or think that it is about playing and having fun with children. While the latter is accurate, there is so much more to early childhood education. We, as Early Childhood Educators lay the foundation for everything. And I mean everything. It is often the child's first experience in a group and classroom setting with other children. It is also generally the child's first time separating from their parent or caregiver. Those two statements alone are daunting enough. Imagine trying to engage and comfort a child who is struggling to separate from their parents, while trying to attend and keep all the other children in the classroom engaged and safe. Early childhood educators must nurture each child and allow them to begin to trust and bond with them. Then comes the socialization aspect of learn-

ing to cohabitate with up to sixteen other children depending on their age group. Many children have never had to share a toy, take turns, follow directions, or play and sit with a group, and a million other socialization skills. We are also responsible for social emotional development, which is to help children self-regulate and manage emotions, develop meaningful relationships with others, develop a self-concept, and more. We teach children life skills and foster self-esteem that encourage intrinsic reward through responsibility, while letting them know how competent and capable they are. This is all part of raising children who can handle adversity and problem solve, so that they are not helpless. We also focus on the development of fine and gross motor skills. Not to mention the unrealistic academic expectations that have been thrust upon 2-, 3-, and 4-year-olds. And of course, the absolutely daunting and heavy weight we carry on each of us in early childhood to keep the children safe. Now, if you add a thousand more responsibilities and expectations, you may fully understand and value the role of an early childhood educator.





# Religious School *Gina Giuffre, Director*



## ***Mitzvah Goreret Mitzvah (One mitzvah leads to another mitzvah)***

***Pirkei Avot***

As November approaches, the Religious School looks forward to planning our annual Mitzvah Day on Nov. 24th. It is a special time for the HJC community to come together and focus on giving back. The word “mitzvah,” often translated as a “good deed,” represents more than just a kind action; it reflects a sacred

obligation to make the world a better place through acts of kindness and charity.

The wisdom of teaching the concept of “Mitzvah goreret mitzvah” to our children, demonstrates that performing a single act of kindness often sparks a chain reaction, inspiring further acts of generosity and compassion. On Mitzvah Day, we embody this spirit of continuous giving, knowing that each small effort can lead to something greater, both in ourselves and in the world around us. This year we will be engaging our students and their families with a range of activities: JNN (Jewish Nutritional Network) under the supervision of HJC’s Rob Fisher, Terri’s Angels, providing the IDF with necessary supplies, creating Thanksgiving centerpieces for Carillon

Nursing Home in Huntington, assisting Mission Belly Full with blessing bags for the homeless and labeling food boxes, and finally, creating Hannukah cards for the Jewish Soldiers Project. We aim to instill in our children the importance of giving back and understanding the impact of their contributions. No act of kindness is too small, and through them, we see the continuation of a vital Jewish tradition. Acts of tzedakah, which they contribute to weekly, is a fundamental responsibility that comes with being part of a Jewish community. Mitzvah Day is just one example of our collective contribution to Tik-kun Olam, the Jewish concept of “repairing the world.”

The Mishnah reminds us that although we may not be able to solve all the world’s problems, we do have the responsibility of doing what we can. Each small step we take brings us one step closer to a better world. It sounds idealistic because it is. Each family and individual bring their own unique contribution, creating a rippling effect of good deeds that extends far beyond our immediate actions. We take a break of the daily updates on war, election rhetoric, and hate, and focus on teaching our children the habits of kindness and generosity. In this way, we ensure that we leave the world a little better than we found it, not only for ourselves but for future generations.



# Donations

## GENERAL FUND

**Alan & Meira Lyons** in honor of the Holidays  
**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in honor of Philip Mintz on his 75th birthday  
**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in honor of Daniel Koas on his engagement  
**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in memory of Mark Zimmerman's mother  
**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in honor of Brittany Kriegstein on her engagement  
**Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz, Dr. Jonathan Boxer, Jordana, Jacob & Nina** in honor of Aaron Cohn on his marriage  
**Ellen & Jay Steinberg** in memory of Dorothy Stopsky at Yahrzeit  
**Saul & Sari Sternschein** in memory of Rachel Sternschein at Yahrzeit  
**Suzanne Susskind** in memory of Lore Lieberman at Yahrzeit  
**Suzanne Susskind** in memory of Eric Lieberman at Yahrzeit  
**Suzanne Susskind** in memory of Hedy Rosenthal at Yahrzeit  
**Suzanne Susskind** in memory of Elsa Laemmler at Yahrzeit  
**Suzanne Susskind** in memory of Isaac Laemmler at Yahrzeit  
**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in memory of Dena Grenell, mother of Mark Zimmerman  
**Jina Eckstein** in honor of HJC

## COLLEGIATE FUND

**Liz & Steve Holbreich** in honor of Ofer Rind for his hard work and devotion to HJC  
**Liz & Steve Holbreich** in honor of Marty Spielman for being the HJC Simchat Torah Honoree

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FUND

**Alan & Ora Kriegstein** in honor of the marriage of Sam Solomon, son of Carol & Eric Solomon

## ENVIRONMENTAL FUND

**Emily May** in memory of Jerome Schwartz at Yahrzeit  
**Emily May** in memory of Joan Spanier at Yahrzeit

## GARDEN FUND

**Anne & Barry Specht** in memory of Myra Snyder, mother of Anne Specht

## INCLUSION FUND

**Jeff & Lesley Stark** in honor of Jack & Leslie Rubin on becoming grandparents to their new granddaughter Aylah  
**Alan & Randi Schuller** in memory of Martin Bodian at Yahrzeit  
**William & Rosalind Wertheim** in memory of Mark Carter at Yahrzeit

## RITUAL ENHANCEMENTS FUND

**Joel & Miriam Wirchin** in memory of Dena Grenell, mother of Mark Zimmerman

## SELICHOT FUND

**Gloria Safran** in memory of Anita Gelberg  
**Gloria Safran** with gratitude to Paul Greenstein  
**Gloria Safran** with gratitude to Joan Cohen  
**Brad & Suzanne Lustig** in honor of Gloria Safran  
**Barbara Safran** in honor of Gloria Safran  
**Erika Safran** in honor of Gloria Safran  
**Barbara Schweller** in honor of Gloria Safran  
**Frances Aptakin** in honor of Gloria Safran  
**Marcia Needelman** in honor of Gloria Safran  
**Barbara Schwartz** in honor of Gloria Safran

## SHABBAT KIDDUSH FUND

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in honor of Phil Mintz on his milestone birthday

## SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND

**Andrea Marcus Smoller** in memory of Dena Grenell, beloved mother of Mark Zimmerman  
**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in memory of Richard Berlow on the 20th yahrzeit

## JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK FUND

**Jerry & Sarah Saunders** in honor of Leslie & Jack Rubin on the birth of their granddaughter Aylah Orani born to parents Miriam Rubin and Farez Hernandez  
**Jerry & Sarah Saunders** in honor of Carol & Eric Solomon on the marriage of their son Sam Haskel Solomon to Madison Paige  
**Jerry & Sarah Saunders** in memory of Dena Grenell, mother of Mark Zimmerman  
**Lori Sklar** in honor of the birth of Jacob Ryder, grandson of Maxine & Rob Fisher  
**Lori Sklar** in honor of Amy Sobin on the birth of her granddaughter, Joanna Grace Sobin  
**Michael & Michelle Behr** in memory of Sheila Behr at Yahrzeit

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

**Gayle Squires** with gratitude to Meira and Alan Lyons, and the whole HJC community

## HIGH HOLIDAY HONORS

<b>Ethan Auslander</b>	<b>Todd Houslanger</b>	<b>Sarah Saunders</b>
<b>Paul Cohen</b>	<b>Linda Jonas</b>	<b>Debra Silverman</b>
<b>Andrew Cohen</b>	<b>Hana Keshet</b>	<b>Eric &amp; Carol Solomon</b>
<b>Joanne Cohn</b>	<b>Eve Krief</b>	<b>Debbie Stein</b>
<b>Jerry Ellstein</b>	<b>Ora Kriegstein</b>	<b>Ellen &amp; Jay Steinberg</b>
<b>Sheila Feinberg</b>	<b>Meira Lyons</b>	<b>Shelley Weinberg</b>
<b>Maxine &amp; Rob Fisher</b>	<b>Vicki Perler</b>	<b>Jay Weiss</b>
<b>Judith Fox</b>	<b>Arthur Perler</b>	<b>Jacques Winter</b>
<b>Lester Fox</b>	<b>Dalia Rosenthal</b>	<b>Miriam &amp; Joel Wirchin</b>
<b>Wendy Glassman</b>	<b>Stuart Rothenberg</b>	<b>Janet &amp; Mark Zimmerman</b>
<b>Eva Grubler</b>	<b>Bela Schoenfeld</b>	

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

<b>Josh Axelrod &amp; Sarah Stevens</b>	<b>Jordan &amp; Lindsey Krumholz</b>
<b>Arthur &amp; Arlene Boshnack</b>	<b>Marc &amp; Karen Lieberstein</b>
<b>Adam &amp; Ariel Cohn</b>	<b>Lewis &amp; Natalie Meierowitz</b>
<b>Yoni &amp; Clara Dolgin</b>	<b>David Menkov &amp; Gellena Lukats</b>
<b>Or Shaked &amp; Maya Dolgin</b>	<b>James &amp; Heather Romano</b>
<b>Stuart Dorsky</b>	<b>Martin &amp; Judi Rosenblatt</b>
<b>Michael Fuchs</b>	<b>Justin &amp; Elysa Rubin</b>
<b>Sam &amp; Emily Kaplan</b>	<b>Daniel &amp; Alissa Selling</b>
<b>Scott &amp; Elise Kaufman</b>	<b>Noelia &amp; Miguel Teplitsky</b>
<b>Adam Korkus &amp; Corin Pascual</b>	<b>Justin &amp; Stacey Yozawitz</b>
<b>Jerry &amp; Rose Kramer</b>	

## MAZEL TOV:

**Roger Silverberg & Evelyn Abraham** on the November wedding of their daughter Jillian Silverberg to André Belanger

## CONDOLENCE:

Vivian San Antonio, daughter of **Ellen Kahn**

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



# COURAGE AND RESILIENCE: IRA KOHLER, LONE SOLDIER

In commemoration of the one year anniversary of the October 7 massacres, we had the honor of hosting a special presentation from Ira Kohler, a Lone Soldier who shared his powerful story of service in the Israeli Army during a time of war. When Ira, as a Long Island native, volunteered to serve in the IDF after college, he could not have imagined that he would find himself in the midst of the most brutal war in Israel's history. And yet, as his unit went to sleep on the night of October 6th in preparation for a simulated "war drill" which was to begin the next day, the soldiers were awakened and summoned to respond as the most barbaric acts of terrorism that country has ever seen were being carried out before their eyes.

As Ira told his story, those of us in the room sat breathless. Over that last year, we've heard many of the details. We've seen pictures. Some of us have traveled to Israel and visited the sites. Yet to hear first-hand from this tremendously articulate, young Long Islander was an overwhelming experience. To hear the details of what he and those in his unit endured, what they saw and heard, the close call of watching their helicopter explode as soon as the last of the 50 soldiers who were inside finished evacuating, the strategy of taking terrified people from their homes into safer places after convincing them that they were indeed the IDF and not terrorists who were knocking on their doors....

Ira finished his IDF service in March and has since devoted much of his time and energy to speaking engagements in the hopes that the facts of what happened in Israel will be heard and understood. Ira made it clear that in his speaking, he is not political and has no such agenda. He is merely telling HIS story, what he saw and experienced. One would hope that particularly as he speaks on some college campuses, that students will hear him and be inspired by him and his dedication, strength, and unwavering sense of duty to protect and defend our homeland Israel, even in the face of great adversity. One additional important note: as Ira spoke, his parents and grandmother sat in the audience and listened to him right along with us. One could not help but wonder how they withstood those days, weeks and months while Ira's peacetime volunteer IDF service evolved into wartime service. As such, how does a parent of any soldier or any of the hostages survive the anguish of fearing and of not knowing when and if their loved ones will return??

Ira dedicates his speech to a fellow Lone Soldier who was injured, a fellow soldier who was killed, and to Omer Neutra, also a fellow Long Islander, who is still being held hostage.

We are grateful to Ira for his service to Israel and for sharing his time, thoughts, and heart with us.

May the New Year begin with an immediate return of all the remaining hostages to their loved ones and to peace in Israel and in the world.

*Ora Kriegstein*



## **The Huntington Jewish Center Men's Club held its annual "Meet the Candidates" event on the morning of Sunday, October 20th.**

This annual event, organized by Men's Club members Eric Gemunder and Todd Houslanger brings to the Huntington Jewish Center local candidates for offices such as County Legislature, Town Board, Town Supervisor, and the US Congress. This year the Men's Club arranged for Congressmen Tom Suozzi (D-Glen Cove) and Nick LaLota (R-Amityville) from the third and first Congressional Districts, respectively, as well as their challengers, Mike LiPetri (R-Farmingdale) and John Avlon (D-Sag Harbor) to appear at HJC. Each candidate was given 30 minutes with the congregation to introduce themselves and answer questions. The well-attended event saw questions on topics ranging from Israel, Gaza, and the Middle East, to the economy, border security, immigration, abortion, and taxes. This was the 9th annual candidate event sponsored by the Men's Club, which included a bagel breakfast. The Men's Club thanks the candidates for their presence, and the congregation for their participation in our event. We are already looking forward to next year, and our 10th annual event.



**HJC Religious School Presents:**

# SHABBAT WITH A TWIST

**Nov. 2 - Noah's Ark Shabbat**

**Jan. 25 - Winter Shabbat**

**Mar. 1 - Bible Player's Shabbat**

**Apr. 26 - Grade 3 & 5 Kabbalat Siddur/Chumash**

**In order to maintain the sanctity of Shabbat:**

**No tzedakah is collected on Shabbat**

**No snacks are available for sale**

**Challah, juice and lunch provided**

**No phone or computers are used on Shabbat**

**No backpacks are needed**

**Proper Shabbat attire is appreciated**



*Shabbat*  
**SHALOM**





**Commemoration of October 7th continues...  
the Adult Ed and Israel Committee are co-sponsoring**

## **EMBRACE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR A PERSONAL ISRAEL STORY FROM THE NOVA FESTIVAL**

Join a presentation by licensed Israeli Tour Guide

**Amit Musaei**

survivor of the October 7th Hamas terror attack on the Nova Music Festival.

**Meet on Sunday November 3, 11:45 AM**

**at Huntington Jewish Center (refreshments will be served).**

**Amit will join us via Zoom from Israel.**

**L**isten as Amit shares his love of music and dancing. Hear about his amazing escape in his Subaru to his wife and two daughters. Although he survived saving four others, Amit lost three close friends, all parents, like himself. He will share their stories as well.

Amit is an accomplished storyteller. Sharing his story with others, again and again, has contributed greatly to his healing.



The presentation includes detailed maps, personal iphone videos from the festive dance celebration, to the minutes the artillery attack began. (There is no graphic content that will be shared)

**There will be Q and A at the end**

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



# HJC Community Shabbat Dinner

Come join us to  
welcome Shabbat with your  
HJC community!

**November 15, 2024**  
**Services begin at 6pm**  
**Dinner at 7pm**

**RSVP by November 11th**  
<https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/hjc-community-shabbat-dinner-.html>

Or simply scan the QR code:



Meat meal with  
vegetarian options

Children's tables with  
babysitting/supervision  
(ages 3 and over)

\$23.00 per adult (13 and up)  
\$10.00 per child ages 3-12  
(Children under 3 free)  
\$60.00 total per family

Shabbat  
SHALOM





**HJC Youth Group Presents:**

# **SOCCER CLINICS\***

**Grades K – Grade 2 only**  
**12-1:30 pm Nov. 17, Feb. 9, Mar. 16, May 4**

**\$23/pp (includes pizza lunch)**  
**Register for as many as you like or one at a time!**



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

**<https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/youth-program-soccer-grades-k-2.html>**

# HJC Youth Group Presents:



## After school activities (Includes pizza)



Tues., Nov. 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:30-8:00 pm	<b>Krav Maga</b>
Tues., Dec. 17 <sup>th</sup>	6:30-8:00 pm	<b>Community Canvas Painting</b>
Sun., Jan. 12 <sup>th</sup>	12:00-1:30 pm	<b>MLK Tikun Olam Tzedakah Project</b>
Sun., Feb. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	12:00-1:30 pm	<b>Sports Program</b>
Tues., Mar. 18 <sup>th</sup>	6:30-8:00 pm	<b>Sports Program</b>
Sun., Apr. 6 <sup>th</sup>	12:00-1:30 pm	<b>Cooking/Baking</b>
Tues., May 6 <sup>th</sup>	6:30-8:00 pm	<b>Game Night</b>

**Grades 3-7 only**  
**\$23/per activity/student**

No refunds are issued. Feel free to register one month at a time.

If you need any accommodations 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.

**To register - <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/youth-program-grades-3-7.html>**





**Thanks to all who attended the Sisterhood Membership Dinner on 9/19 - it was a successful, wonderful evening of fun, food, and friends old and new.**



**Todah Rabah to our HJC Sisterhood women for polishing our HJC Torah silver... and making the high holidays shine!**



Pictured left to right:  
 Judy Leopold, Marjorie Maltin, Shari Feibel, Donna Fleiss,  
 Leslie DeLia Stark, Tyna Strenger, Felicia Messing,  
 Barbara Koppersmith, Eileen Berger.

Not shown: Evelyn Abraham, Karen Fishelson,  
 Glenda Kupersmith, Dalia Rosenthal, Lori Sklar

## Raising our Sukkah

This past Sunday the Men's Club rose bright and early for the annual sukkah raising at HJC. A caravan of trucks headed by David Samouhi led multiple trips around town to pick up bamboo for the schach, while seasoned veterans Bruce Fleiss and Ofer Rind organized the construction of the sukkah. Thanks to all who assisted in this effort, including Rabbi Rosin, and to Sisterhood for the lovely decorations. If there is an opportunity to do Mitzvot, or grunt work needed in the community, count on the HJC Men's Club to get the job done!





UJA-FEDERATION OF NEW YORK

# 2025 SUFFOLK SIGNATURE EVENT

Thursday, November 21, 2024 • 6:30 pm

Temple Beth Torah, 35 Bagatelle Road • Melville, New York

**Join us for the Suffolk Signature Event.** As UJA continues to respond to the ongoing needs in Israel in the aftermath of October 7 and to rising antisemitism here in New York, **we know coming together has never been more important.**

## HONORING



**BETH & ALEX FINGER**



Community Leadership Award

**RENNI & CRAIG SCHIOPPO**



Community Leadership Award

**EMILY & ALAN GORDON**



Community Leadership Award

**RANDI & ALAN SCHULLER**



Community Leadership Award

Register online at  
[ujafedny.org/suffolk-signature](https://ujafedny.org/suffolk-signature)

SIGNATURE EVENT COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Joel Wirchin**

For more information, please contact **Laurie Birzon** at [birzonl@ujafedny.org](mailto:birzonl@ujafedny.org) or **516.762.5819**.

The Signature Event is our only Suffolk fundraising event. We will be featuring a roll of honor that pays tribute to our honorees. The suggested minimum donation is \$500 or more to UJA's 2025 Annual Campaign.

*Dietary Laws Observed*

# WE DO NOT FORGET OUR HEROES

## PROJECT THANKS4GIVING NOV. 10-16, 2024

BRINGING ISRAEL'S OCTOBER 7TH FIRST RESPONDERS AND  
THEIR FAMILIES FROM **KIBBUTZ SUFA & NAHAL OZ** TO LONG  
ISLAND FOR LOVE, SUPPORT AND LEARNING

*Sign Up to Get Involved!*

11/11 - VISIT ELLIS ISLAND WITH MAKOM\*

11/12 - GALA IN NYC \*

11/13 - CHILDREN'S MUSEUM (AM)

11/13 - PIZZA & GAME NIGHT AT NORTH SHORE SYNAGOGUE

11/13 - LADIES NIGHT OUT (SEAFORD)\*

11/14 - TEEN BOWLING WITH THE JSU\* (AGES 10 -18)

11/14 - TEMPLE CHAVERIM HOSTS SPEAKER FROM NAHAL OZ

11/15 - SHABBAT DINNER AT WOODBURY JEWISH CENTER\*

11/16 - FAREWELL DINNER AT MERRICK JEWISH CENTRE\*

PLEASE RSVP FOR THE EVENT(S) YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING  
USING THE QR CODE BELOW AND YOU WILL RECEIVE A LINK TO  
REGISTER FOR THE EVENT WITH THE LOCATION AND THE COST.

\*\*FEES APPLY



JOIN HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER  
IN PARTNERSHIP AND COORDINATION WITH  
[WWW.PROJECT24ISRAEL.ORG](http://WWW.PROJECT24ISRAEL.ORG)  
AND LOCAL SYNAGOGUES ON LONG ISLAND





# Huntington Jewish Center Terri's Angels Donations for Israeli Soldiers



November 24, 2024  
10:30am - 12:00pm



**Pack care bags for soldiers:**

Help us create care bags filled with useful items and encouraging messages to remind Israeli soldiers they are valued and supported.



**Write letters to soldiers:**

Write a heartfelt letter to an Israeli soldier, sharing words of gratitude and encouragement to uplift their spirits and show our solidarity.



**Pack duffel bags of donations for soldiers:**

Join us in packing duffel bags with essential supplies and meaningful gifts for Israeli soldiers, showing our appreciation and support.

**[Click here for Amazon Gift Registry.](#)**



For more info, please contact Gina at (631) 427-1157

Huntington Jewish Center - 510 Park Ave, Huntington, NY 11743





# 2025 JCC MACCABI GAMES

## EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC!



**University of Pittsburgh**  
**August 3-8, 2025**

### About Our Event

Join 3,000 Jewish teen athletes from around the globe at the world's largest Jewish youth sporting event. The JCC Maccabi Games offers Olympic-style sports competitions, including opening and closing ceremonies; travel; community service; social and cultural events; and opportunities to make friends and memories to last a lifetime.



**JOIN TEAM MID ISLAND/  
SUFFOLK NEW YORK**

### Event Highlights

**Ages 13 through 17**

Athletes must be 13 by July 27, 2025 and cannot be 18 before August 8, 2025

### Athletic Recruitment

Looking to recruit for the following sports: basketball, ice hockey, soccer, swimming and tennis

### Olympic Experience

Olympic-style sports competition and medal scoring platform including both opening and closing ceremonies

### Community and Character

JCC Cares community service projects accompanied by HangTime programming with Israeli shlichim and scheduled evening social events

**CONTACT ALAN BIREN**  
516-205-3237

[Maccabi@miyjcc.org](mailto:Maccabi@miyjcc.org)  
[Maccabi@syjcc.org](mailto:Maccabi@syjcc.org)

# HJC Bulletin

November 2024

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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.

### BAGS WITH CULINARY LEGACY COOKBOOK

If you are looking for a gift to give family or friends, in addition to the cookbook, buy a 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)



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*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).*