



December 2024 | Cheshvan / Kislev 5785 Bulletin

# HUNTINGTON JEWISH CENTER

NEWS / COMMUNITY / CONNECTION



5785 HANUKKAH 2024

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# Sisterhood News

by Evelyn Abraham



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### Sisterhood Book Discussion

Thursday December 19th at 7:30 PM on Zoom. Please RSVP to Evelyn Abraham if you are interested in attending. evelyn\_abraham@optonline.net

Leaving Eastern Parkway by *Matthew Daub*

### Hanukah Happening

Sunday December 15th at 11:45 AM. Sisterhood is again co-sponsoring this fun event with crafts and gift items from the Judaica Shop. All are welcome to attend.

### Women's Tallit

Sisterhood has purchased for our female congregants and guests 15 Tallit made by our congregant, Julie Luks. A new Tallit Stand has been designed and built by Michael Fishelson which will display these beautiful Tallit. We ask if you wear a Tallit at Services, please return to the Stand.

### Donations to Sisterhood

If you would like to make a donation to Sisterhood to wish a speedy recovery, in honor of, in memory of or in gratitude to, please make a check payable to HJC Sisterhood and mail to HJC attention Sisterhood.

## 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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631-427-1089 ext. 15

**Neil Kurshan**  
Rabbi Emeritus

## HJC Board of Trustees / 2024-2025

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## HJC Committee Chairpersons

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# From Rabbi Eric Rosin



## *Bringing Light into the World*

Have you ever wondered why there is no standardized test required to apply to rabbinic school? When I applied to college, I took the PSAT's, the SAT's, and the ACT's. As I was finishing college, I took the LSAT's to apply to law school as my friends were studying for the MCAT's to apply to medical school, GMAT's for business school and the GRE's for graduate school. So why isn't there a RAT for admission to Rabbinic School?

I've given this matter a good deal of thought. . . much more than it warrants. . . and I've come to a conclusion: a standardized test for rabbinic aptitude would be worthless because the answer to every multiple choice question would have to be "all of the above."

As one example, how could an aspiring rabbinic student ever choose a single response to the question: What is the miracle of Hanukah?

The primary ritual obligation of Hanukah is to "publicize the miracle." That is why we kindle the lights of our menorahs (or, as Sam would correct me, our hanukiot) in a place where they can be seen from the street. The letters on the sides of a dreidel stand for "Nes Gadol Hayah Sham," or "A Great Miracle Happened There."

But what is the miracle?

The answer in our liturgy is that the miracle was that the ragtag band of Maccabees was able to defeat the overwhelming forces of the Greek Empire. Every day during the holiday, we thank God for "delivering the strong into the hands of the weak, the many into the hands of the few, impure into the hands of the pure, the evildoers into the hands of the righteous and the arrogant into the hands of those who engaged in the study of Torah." And, indeed, it is nothing short of miraculous that the weaker, poorer and smaller force was able to overcome the oppression of the Greeks. (Although, according

to modern scholarship, it is clear that the story is more complicated than that.)

Another option is the story that is told in the Talmud about how, after the Maccabean victory, the heroes began the process of re-sanctifying the Temple in Jerusalem and they found that there was only enough oil there to burn for one night and yet, somehow, it lasted for eight nights, enabling the Israelites to produce more oil before the lamps went out and to finish the act of re-dedication. (Hanukah means dedication.)

In the Hasidic world, Rabbi Yehuda Leib Alter of Ger, known as the Sefat Emet, teaches that the miracle is that we are still lighting the candles so many centuries later. He teaches that God provides us with one miracle at a time, and since the miracle of Hanukah was the last divine act of salvation that we experienced as a people, when we light the candles on our hanukiot, the light that they project into the world is not a new light, it is the same light that the Macabees kindled in the first century of the common era.

Finally, I would like to offer one more intuitive response. It cannot be a coincidence that Hanukah comes during the darkest time of the year. When we light the candles, we demonstrate our God-given ability to bring light into a world so desperately in need of it.

And this is why the Educational Testing Service has not yet produced a Rabbinic Aptitude Test to be used for rabbinic school admissions. (Well, this and the fact that the market would be very small.) How can we choose one option when asked to define the Miracle of Hanukah?

It is nothing less than a miracle that our tradition and our people still survive. We express our gratitude each day for the customs, wisdom and practices that have supported and enriched us until this day. And each year we dedicate ourselves to the mission of bringing more light into the world. As we enter into what promises to be another challenging year on the secular calendar, may we all commit ourselves to fostering our awareness of these miracles each day and dedicate ourselves to projecting them into the future.

## **HHI urgently needs a volunteer for Dec. 25th.**

Please contact Scott Kaufman: [Scott.kaufman629@gmail.com](mailto:Scott.kaufman629@gmail.com) or Karen Flanzenbaum: [kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com](mailto:kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com)

### **Sisterhood 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.

**יְהוּדַיָּא שְׂחֻפָּא OPEN ALL YEAR ROUND FOR YOUR HOLIDAY AND SIMCHA NEEDS**





## The Extra Soul on Shabbat

Near the beginning of our Lev Shalem Siddur as supplemental readings for the Kabbalat Shabbat service, there are several pages devoted to Shabbat study texts. I found this one particularly beautiful and meaningful.

In the Babylonian Talmud, Rabbi Shimon Ben Lakish said: "The Holy One places in us an additional soulfulness at the beginning

of Shabbat and takes it away at the conclusion of Shabbat." Zvi Elimelekh of Dynow, an early 19th century Hasidic master, comments on this idea and tells us that this additional soul brings new insights into the Torah each week. These insights are specific for a particular person in a particular time in a particular place in accordance with the needs of that particular generation.

This idea is further elaborated by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel (often our own Rabbi's source of inspiration). Rabbi Heschel tells us that this *n'shamah y'teirah* is usually translated as "additional soul." But, what is the purpose of this additional soul? Some sages suggest it provides increased spirituality on Shabbat and others view this as "supernal souls" that leave the heavenly sphere each Shabbat and settle on each individual according to his or her capabilities.

Now, here is the beautiful part. According to Rabbi Heschel "At the conclusion of Shabbat, when the supernal souls return to their sphere, they all assemble before the presence of the Holy King. The Holy One than asks all the souls: What new insights into the wisdom of the Torah have you attained while present in the lower world? Happy is the soul that can relate in the presence of God an insight attained by a human being during the seventh day. Indeed, how embarrassed must be the soul which appearing before the presence of God remains mute, having nothing to relate."

How does this pertain to our everyday lives and to the life of our synagogue? I am most certainly not a Torah scholar, but I enjoy having the opportunity to deliver a D'var Torah over

the summer as do several of our congregants. Furthermore, I usually read 3 or 4 different D'vei Torah each week written by various scholars and, of course, listen to our Rabbi each Shabbat. I am amazed at the many different insights that can be obtained from each parasha, and how these words of Torah can guide us in our contemporary lives. In fact, I try to incorporate many of the lessons on leadership and life changing ideas I have learned from Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks into my own personal life and into the management of the synagogue. We start all our Board of Trustees meetings with a D'var Torah often delivered by our Rabbi (some board members have taken the leap and signed up to do this at future meetings). The Rabbi often relates these words of Torah to the important role the board plays in the holy work of governing the synagogue. On Shabbat, he often weaves into his discussions the importance of being part of a Jewish community and the need for us to listen to each other and consider other points of view. The Torah delves into the complicated and imperfect lives and relationships of our patriarchs and matriarchs, teaches us the values of caring for the needy and downtrodden and sets down the many laws required to establish a just and fair society. We live in the imperfect "real" world, and we must do our part to inch our way closer to the ideal. This will mean different things to different people.

Perhaps each Shabbat a different person will attain a new insight into the Torah. He or she may be the designated messenger for that Shabbat. These insights do not need to disappear once our supernal souls return to the heavenly sphere. If they are shared with other members of our congregation, they can be the starting point for developing new ideas, for improving the way we do things and for encouraging participation in the life of the synagogue. This is one way that our HJC community can help bring about the perfection of the world.

Best wishes for a very Happy Hannukah and Happy New Year. Since the last Jewish year was a leap year, we will still be celebrating Hannukah in 2025! Please join us at HJC for our annual Hannukah Happening on December 15 and our Menorah Lighting on December 26.

I continue to pray for the safe return of all the hostages.

## BEER AND BIBLE!



**Join the HJC Men's Club on Tuesday, December 3rd at 7pm  
at Six Harbors Brewery in Huntington for Beer and Bible!**



We'll welcome our very own Rabbi Rosin to share words of Torah, and there will be plenty of time to schmooze with your fellow Jewish brethren and munch on snacks provided by the Men's Club. (Beer not included.)



## December has arrived!

Along with the cold and hopefully some rain as well! December is such a great month to connect with friends, family, and community. Once Thanksgiving is over, I cannot wait to decorate my house with Hanukkah decorations and every possible menorah by children have made since nursery school on the mantle, sound familiar? This Hanukkah, I plan to

have a party with friends and family to celebrate the holiday. I am also extremely glad that Hanukkah fell this year over the winter school break, so my family and I can all light candles, open some gifts and not have to rush out the door from activity to activity. I am excited to celebrate old family traditions of making latkes, games, as well as creating new traditions. This year, I bought a new menorah that is in the shape of sushi from our very own HJC Sisterhood!

Speaking of new traditions, this month

will be the start of our early Shabbat dinners. Perfect for families, and who needs to cook? Sign up for the Shabbat dinner on December 6th with your HJC family and stay for Friday night services. A perfect way to usher in the exciting month of Hanukkah.

Hanukkah is also so much about building community and togetherness, that I cannot think of a better event than the annual Hanukkah Happening on December 15th. So many arms of HJC come together to make this event special such as the early childhood center, religious school, sisterhood and men's club. There is truly something for everyone of all ages. From Rabbi Rosin on a fire truck, to bounce houses, crafts, games, sisterhood gift shop, raffles and a silent auction and food for all! It embodies the true spirit of Hanukkah and I hope to see many of you there! In addition, we will also be having our annual HJC Menorah lighting outside using our very own beautiful large menorah on Park Avenue on December 26th. Please stay after the lighting for hot cocoa and donuts provided by our Sisterhood.

I wish all of you a wonderful Hanukkah and holiday season!



## News From the Environmentalism Committee: *HJC is getting a composting bin!*

Did you know...Food waste makes up 30 to 50 percent of typical weekly household waste. Disposing of food in trash is costly and unwanted food scraps are a valuable resource that can provide great benefit when composted instead. Disposing of food with trash is a terrible solution. Garbage disposal is charged by weight, not volume, and food is heavy so it is expensive to dispose of with garbage. Food waste mixed with garbage adds a considerable and unnecessary expense to disposal costs.

Throwing food out with trash is also a huge waste of natural resources. Food production and distribution consumes so many resources (water, fertilizer, fuel/carbon pollution, labor, transportation, packaging). When we throw food scraps in the garbage we are wasting all of the resources that were invested in its production.

Food waste does not burn well in commercial incinerators making it a poor material to send to our public trash incinerators- as we do on Long Island. Moreover, it adds to the growing waste problem. The remaining ash and waste, left after incineration, is buried (at Brookhaven Landfill) but as this landfill is running out of room, it will be closing soon and waste will need to be trucked off of the

Island, or removed by rail. Food waste in landfills also releases methane, a greenhouse gas with 300 times the global warming effect as atmospheric carbon.

Topsoil is a vital and threatened resource. Yes, we may run out of top soil! According to the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization "[i]f we continue to degrade the soil at the rate we are now, the world could run out of topsoil in about 60 years. Without topsoil, the ability to filter water, absorb carbon, and feed people plunges." The world needs topsoil to grow 95 percent of its food-- but it is rapidly disappearing.

Composting locally is the most environmentally sound practice. Properly composted food scraps eliminates methane and is great for feeding the garden, flower beds or lawn. Compost used in landscapes sequesters carbon and creates a water reservoir in the soil--holding 20 times its weight in water, reducing how much water your landscape will require. A year's worth of composted food reduces down to very little and can easily be spread on lawns or thrown anywhere in your yard.

The HJC Environmentalism Committee thanks the HJC Board for purchasing a new (BPA-free, 100% post-consumer recycled polypropylene) compost bin and setting up an onsite compost corner in our yard. We are also hoping to provide an opportunity for members and religious school children to participate in our kitchen composting efforts, to see how simple it is to do.







***“Be present in all things and thankful for all things.” - Maya Angelou***

Thanksgiving gives us a very special time to pause and think about all the wonderful things and people that we are thankful for. Hopefully, we will feel and express our gratitude more than one day a year. Of course, gratitude is an important element in Judaism. We begin our day (or should begin our day) with Modeh Ani, which literally translates to Thankful am I. In the ECC we model and take daily breaks to convey our gratitude. Before the children have their snack and lunch, they say a little poem or chant about being thankful for all of the blessings in our lives. When we go outside, we thank G-d for a beautiful day. During our ECC Shabbats, we close our eyes to light the candles and make a special Shabbat wish or simply feel the gratitude of all of the wonderful blessings. Even taking those few moments during the day increases feelings of happiness and the reduction of stress. The concept of gratitude has become part of our curriculum as well. Not only do we want to raise happier, more content children but we also want to raise children who are appreciative of others in the community and their surroundings. Each month we convert

the dramatic play centers in the classrooms. For example, one month it is a fire station, another month a hospital, another month, a post office and so on. This not only offers children new social, literacy, math, and language experiences, it also gives us the opportunity to express gratitude to our community members. When we convert our dramatic play centers to a fire station, each class creates a book or poster for our local fire fighters thanking them for their help in keeping us safe. When we set up post offices, each child draws a picture and thanks the postal carriers for their work. Each picture is placed in the child’s home mailbox for their own postal carrier as a gesture of appreciation.

Gratitude is so important for all of us, including children of a young age. Studies show that an individual’s mental health and well-being are affected by feeling and expressing gratitude. Practicing gratitude can help you feel happier in life and can boost your self-esteem. In the book *The Gratitude Project: How the Science of Thankfulness Can Rewire Our Brains for Resilience, Optimism, and the Greater Good*, Robert Emmons writes that “practicing gratitude magnifies positive feelings more than it reduces negative feelings.” Gratitude helps you see the bigger picture and become more resilient in the face of adversity.







## *What do Miracles Look Like Today?*

In my office hangs a poster my husband gave me. It is a photo of Albert Einstein with one of his famous quotes, “There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.” Though it was given to me for personal reasons, ironically, it can be applied to much of Jewish history.

In the story of Hanukkah, celebrating the oil lasting eight days instead of one is just one of the miracles we acknowledge. For me, it is a story of resilience, faith and the possibility of the extraordinary in the most unexpected moments. But what do miracles look like today? Do they have to be grand and supernatural to be meaningful, or can they be found in the everyday moments that hold our community together?

Living on Long Island, especially in times when divisions seem to deepen among neighbors and society at large, the very existence of our synagogue as a thriving, connected community feels like a modern miracle. How does that Shabbat kiddish magically appear every week? Who is erecting and dismantling the sukkah every year? How do engaging speakers and programs find their way into our building? Who is schmearing the cream

cheese on the Religious School bagels? The list is endless. The leadership and volunteers who pour their hearts into creating spaces for us to pray, gather, and celebrate – all of these are miracles we often overlook. The volunteers in our synagogue work tirelessly to keep HJC culture alive. They manage to balance the needs of a diverse community with Jewish values. Their work brings light into our building much like the candles on the chanukiah.

The concept of miracles in Judaism is not confined to parting seas or burning bushes. Rabbi Jonathan Sacks z”l once said, “A miracle is not the suspension of natural law but the collision of natural law and divine will.” Miracles can be the product of human effort combined with a higher purpose – much like the work of our volunteers and leaders. As we light our chanukiyot this holiday, let us look beyond the story of ancient miracles and reflect on the modern ones around us. Let each of us strive to be the shamash – the helper candle – who brings light into the lives of others. Chag Chanukat Sameach, Happy Hanukkah!



# Donations

## GENERAL FUND

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in honor of Evelyn Abraham & Roger Silverberg on the occasion of Jillian's marriage

**Jay & Ellen Steinberg** in honor of the birth of Theadora Regina, granddaughter of Leslie & Jed Hantverk

**Jay & Ellen Steinberg** in honor of the birth of Jason Daniel, grandson of Amy Kulchinsky

**Keith & Felicia Messing** in honor of the Wedding of Jillian Silverberg to Andre Belanger

**HJC Inclusion Committee** in honor of Randi & Alan Schuller for being honored by UJA at their Signature Event

**Roger Silverberg & Evelyn Abraham** in honor of the birth of Aylah Orani, granddaughter of Leslie & Jack Rubin

**Andrea Marcus Smoller** in memory of Frances Marcus at Yahrzeit

**Andrea Marcus Smoller** in memory of Harvey Marcus at Yahrzeit

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in memory of Vivian San Antonio, daughter of Ellen Kahn

**Rhonda & Hillel Kahane** in memory of Lois Marcus, mother of Gwen Goldstein

**Marty and Roz Spielman** with gratitude to HJC for Marty's Simchat Torah honor

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in memory of Zelig Herman, father of Josh Herman

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in memory of Vivian San Antonio, daughter of Ellen Kahn

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in honor of Evelyn & Roger Silverberg on the wedding of their daughter Jillian to Andre

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in honor of Leslie & Jed Hantverk on the birth of their granddaughter, Theadora Regina

**Leslie & Jack Rubin** in memory of Lois Marcus, mother of Gwen Goldstein

**Jerry & Sarah Saunders** in honor of the wedding of Jillian Silverberg to Andre Belanger

**Jerry & Sarah Saunders** in honor of the engagement of Daniel Koas, son of Miriam Eckstein Koas to Talua Rudee

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

**Jerry & Sarah Saunders** in memory of Lois Marcus mother of Gwen Goldstein

**Jerry & Sarah Saunders** in memory of Vivian San Antonio, daughter of Ellen Kahn

**Laurie Birzon** in memory of Lois Marcus, mother of Gwen Goldstein

**Sarah Wigodsky** in honor of Elaine Kleinmann's birthday

## ADULT EDUCATION FUND

**Arthur & Vicki Perler** in honor of Elaine Kleinmann on her special birthday

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in honor of Marty Spielman on being a Simchat Torah honoree

## CAMP RAMAH (DAVID S. ROSEMAN) FUND

**BQLI Women's League** in honor of Rabbi Cantor Marcey Wagner for her participation in the BQLI Region of WLCJ Torah Fund Kick-Off at Huntington Jewish Center on November 11. Thank you for being the moderator of the panel for the representatives from Jewish summer camps.

**Scott & Jennifer Ingber** in honor of the marriage of Zach Ingber & Emmie Herbstman

**Scott & Jennifer Ingber** in honor of Elaine Kleinmann's 80th birthday

**Scott & Jennifer Ingber** in honor of Rabbi Tracy Kaplowitz

**Scott & Jennifer Ingber** in honor of Todd Houslanger's 50th Bar Mitzvah anniversary

**Scott & Jennifer Ingber** in honor of the engagement of Brittany Kriegstein

**Lester & Judith Fox** in honor of Simchat Torah honoree Marty Spielman

**Lester & Judith Fox** in honor of Jennifer & Scott Ingber in honor of the Aufruf of their son Zach to Emmy

**Lester & Judith Fox** in honor of Todd Houslanger of the anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah

**Lester & Judith Fox** in honor of Simchat Torah nominee Eva Grubler

**Lester & Judith Fox** in memory of Lois Marcus, mother of Gwen Goldstein

**Scott & Jennifer Ingber** in memory of Vivian San Antonio, daughter of Ellen Kahn

**Robert Schpount** with gratitude to Lester Fox for his scholarship, and his love and dedication to teaching Torah

## COLLEGIATE FUND

**Stephen & Liz Holbreich** in honor of Ofer Rind for his hard work and devotion to HJC

**Stephen & Liz Holbreich** in honor of Marty Spielman for being honored at the HJC Simchat Torah Luncheon

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (ETHEL SACHS) FUND

**Andrew & Phyllis Levy** in honor of Evelyn Abraham & Roger Silverberg's daughter Jillian's marriage to Andre Belanger

**Bela Schoenfeld** in honor of Elaine Kleinmann's Birthday

**Roz & Marty Spielman** in memory of Vivian San Antonio, daughter of Ellen Kahn

**Arlene Steinberg** in honor of the collegiate fund

**Arlene Steinberg** in memory of Fred Steinberg at Yahrzeit

## GARDEN FUND

**Bruce & Alice Rosen** in honor of Alan & Randi Schuller receiving The Community Leadership Award

**Bruce & Alice Rosen** in honor of Jed & Leslie Hantverk on the birth of their granddaughter Theadora Regina

**Ronald & Gwen Goldstein** in honor of the birth of Theadora Regina, granddaughter of Leslie & Jed Hantverk

**Sisterhood of HJC**

**Bruce & Alice Rosen** in memory of Betty Goldgeier at Yahrzeit

**Bruce & Alice Rosen** in memory of Sondra B. Rosen at Yahrzeit

**Bruce & Alice Rosen** in memory of Lois Marcus, mother of Gwen Goldstein

## INCLUSION FUND

**Alan & Randi Schuller** in memory of Gary Schuller at Yahrzeit

**Alan & Randi Schuller** in memory of Lois Marcus, mother of Gwen Goldstein

## ISRAEL ENGAGEMENT FUND

**Ora & Alan Kriegstein** in honor of Elaine Kleinmann's 80th birthday

**Ora & Alan Kriegstein** in honor of Randi & Alan Schuller being UJA honorees

## JEWISH NUTRITION NETWORK FUND

**Gail & Jim Lodge** in memory of Lillian Grunberger at Yahrzeit

**Gail & Jim Lodge** in memory of Jack Grunberger at Yahrzeit

**Gail & Jim Lodge** in memory of Gwen Goldstein's mother

**Gail & Jim Lodge** in honor of Elaine Kleinmann's 80th birthday

**Gail & Jim Lodge** in memory of Josh Herman's father

**Anne & Barry Specht** in memory of Richard Snyder, father of Anne Specht

**HJC Sisterhood** in honor of JNN

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

## LIBRARY FUND

**Tyna Strenger** in memory of Gordon Strenger at Yahrzeit



#### **MINYAN FUND**

**Arlene Rubenstein** on the marriage of her son Ari to Zaily  
**Marsha & Ira Kalina** in memory of Martin Perlmutter at Yahrzeit

#### **RABBI PROGRAMING FUND**

**Jed & Leslie Hantverk** in memory of Toby & David Gerber

#### **RABBI TZEDAKAH FUND**

**BQLI Women's League** in honor of Rabbi Rosin for his participation in the BQLI Region Torah Fund Kick-Off program at Huntington Jewish Center on November 11. Thank you for giving a meaningful D'var Torah  
**Janet & Mark Zimmerman** in honor Elaine Kleinmann on the occasion of her 80th birthday  
**Janet & Mark Zimmerman** in memory of Lois Marcus, mother of Gwen Goldstein

#### **SELICHOT FUND**

**Gloria Safran** in memory of Vivian San Antonio, daughter of Ellen Kahn  
**Paul & Joan Cohen** in memory of Vivian SanAntonio, daughter of Ellen Kahn

#### **SHABBAT KIDDUSH FUND**

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in honor of Eva Grubler on being Simchat Torah honoree  
**Keith & Felicia Messing** in honor of Eva Grubler & Marty Spielman as Simchat Torah Honorees  
**Robert Schpoont** in memory of Seymour & Beverly Schpoont, Hirsh Schpoont, and Edward Diamond at yahrzeit

#### **SOCIAL ACTION FUND**

**HJC Sisterhood** in honor of Social Action Fund

#### **SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND**

**Brian & Nancy Cooper** in memory of Josh Herman's father, Zelig Herman  
**Social Justice Committee** in memory of Zelig Herman, father of Josh Herman  
**Mark & Janet Zimmerman** in memory Zelig Herman, father of Josh Herman  
**Marsha & Ira Kalina** in memory of Dora Perlmutter at Yahrzeit

#### **YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND**

**Sisterhood Of HJC** in honor of the Youth Activities Fund

#### **HIGH HOLIDAY HONORS**

**Bruce Fleiss**  
**Marsha Perlmutter Kalina**

#### **MAZEL TOV:**

**Miriam Eckstein-Koas** on the engagement of her son Daniel Koas to Talua Rudee  
**Arlene Rubenstein** on the marriage of her son Ari to Zaily  
**The Kassimir family** on the birth of Juliette Blake  
**Rachel and Jared Parrotta** on the birth of their son John

#### **CONDOLENCE:**

**Zelig Herman**, father of Josh Herman  
**Lois Marcus**, mother of Gwen Goldstein  
**Ron Kraham**

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

**To My HJC Community, Thank you for lifting me up at a difficult time.  
With gratitude, Gwen Goldstein**



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

**MENORAHS, DREIDELS and OTHER ITEMS**

**TO ENHANCE THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS TO SHINE MORE 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 hostess 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: [mirifish@aol.com](mailto:mirifish@aol.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**

Dear Congregants,

This winter, HJC will again participate in the **HIHI** program.

**HIHI** stands for **Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative** which is a Family Service League program. This program helps safely house and feed homeless individuals in the Huntington area.



We are looking for volunteers to prepare meals on the below dates:  
December 25th, January 1st & 15th, February 5th & 19th, March 19th.

If you are available those dates and interested please email  
Scott Kaufman at [scott.kaufman629@gmail.com](mailto:scott.kaufman629@gmail.com)  
and Karen Flanzenbaum at [kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com](mailto:kflanzenbaumlaw@gmail.com)



**Leave the dinner prep to us and join us for:**

# **HJC Community EARLY SHABBAT DINNER**

**Friday, December 6, 2024 | 6 Kislev 5785**

**5:00 – 6:00 PM Dinner**

**6:00 – 6:45 PM Shabbat Service in the Lief Chapel**

**All ages (whoever wants Shabbat dinner at 5:00 PM!) are welcome!**



**Welcome Shabbat with traditional Shabbat table blessings, good food and wine, and a relaxing, intimate prayer service in the Lief Chapel. Dinner will include a wide selection of meat and veggie wraps and salads, chicken nuggets, fries, and dessert.**

**\$18 per adult; \$10 per child ages 3-12 (under 3 are free)**

Babysitters available to supervise children's dinner tables and for supervising free play for the little ones in the gym until after services.

Booster seats and high chairs available.

***Invite your family (including grand-relatives) and friends!***



**RSVP HERE:**

**<https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/early-shabbat-dinner-.html>  
or scan the QR code**



If you have a disability and anticipate needing accommodations or have questions about physical access, please call 631-427-1089 ext. 23 in advance of the program

**In Memory of Kristallnacht Adult Ed Presents:**

# **My Artistic Journey**

**Inspired by my Mother's Survival of the Holocaust**

**Tuesday December 10 at 7:30**



In memory of Kristallnacht and the martyrs who did not live to tell about it, Janet Ganes will share stories of resistance from her mother's Holocaust experience. Fanny Bienenfeld Lust, Janet's mother, escaped from Nazi Germany in 1939. She traveled through Europe and North Africa before emigrating to the USA in January 1941.

Janet will read from her mother's memoir, *Remembering Regina My Journey to Freedom*, published by Yad Vashem when Fanny was 90 years old. Janet's presentation will include slides of her artwork that were inspired by her mother's experience.

*Janet Lust Ganes, an HJC member for many years, is an artist and teaches art at Lawrence High School where she has implemented a program on learning about the Holocaust through art.*



**RSVP AT: <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/adult-ed-program-artistic-journey/kristallnacht-program-.html>**



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

# **HANUKKAH HAPPENING**

**Sunday, December 15th, 11:45AM - 1:45PM**

**FUN FOR ALL AGES!**

**Kick off starts at 11:45 AM sharp  
on the playground, with candy and toys  
and our very own Rabbi Rosin on a fire truck !**

**Join us for Food, games, a bounce house, tattoo station,  
cookie decorating, crafts, Ugly Hanukkah Sweater Contest, DIY Menorah  
Contest (must build your menorah at home!), Raffles & Silent Auction**

This Hannukah, please consider giving a gift for the planet - bring your old, unwanted sneakers and athletic shoes to the Hannukah Happening and look for the Environmentalism Committee collection table for reusing & recycling.



**Sign up here:**

<https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/hanukkah-happening-.html>

**or use the QR code**



Sponsored by: Religious School, Early Childhood Center, Sisterhood, and Men's Club.  
Thank you to all of our HJC volunteers!

# HJC Youth Group Presents:



## After school activities (Includes pizza)



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>**





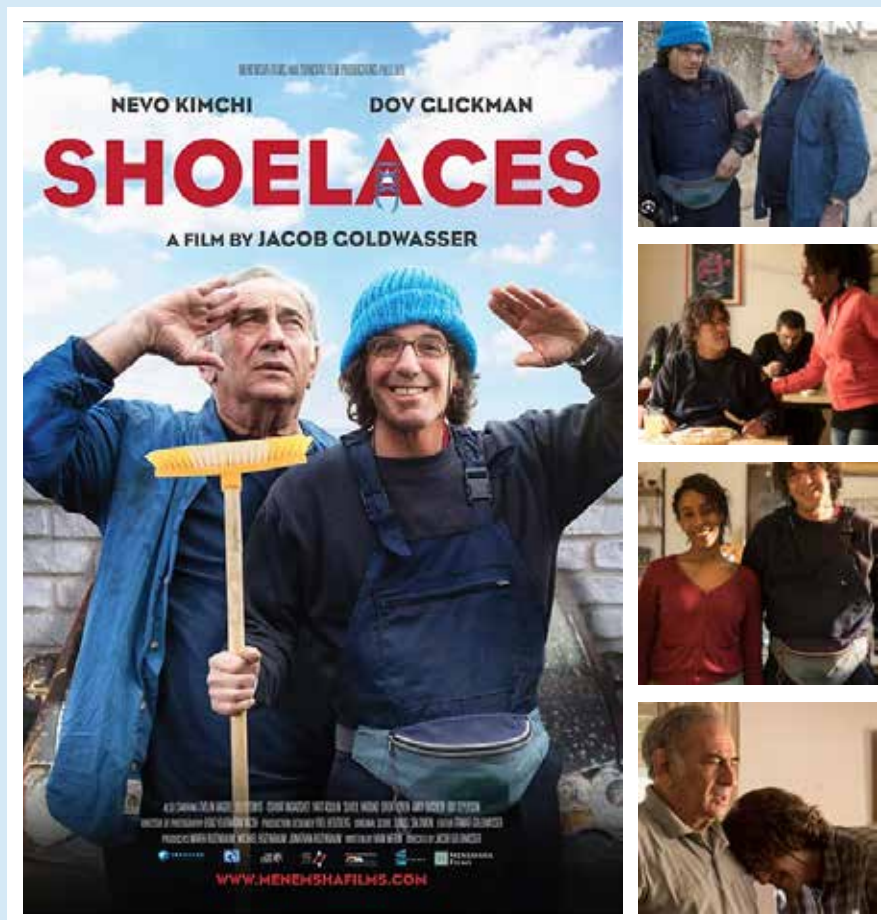
# HJC Inclusion Committee Presents “SHOELACES”

**Film Night in the Family Life Room, Saturday, February 1st at 7:00 PM**

**Shoelaces** is an engaging dramedy about the complex relationship between a charming, optimistic developmentally disabled young man and his irascible father who abandoned him when he was young.

**Join us for a discussion after the film  
Dessert will be served**

**Cash wine & beer bar (proceeds will go to support future projects of the Inclusion Committee)**



**Nominated for 8 Israeli Academy Awards including BEST PICTURE  
Winner of 11 American Jewish film festival awards**

**Kindly RSVP by Jan. 27, 2025: <https://hjc.shulcloud.com/event/inclusion-program-shoelaces-.html>**

**or scan the QR code**



**This program will not be hybrid but a copy of the DVD will be made available in the HJC library after the film night.**  
If you have a disability and anticipate needing accommodations or have questions about physical access, please call 631-427-1089 ext. 23 in advance of the program



# *Save the Date*



*The Installation of  
Rabbi Eric Rosin*

*February 8th at 7:00 pm  
at Huntington Jewish Center*

*I'm writing what is probably the final article of the secular year and I'm going to try to include all of the odd bits & pieces about books that have come to my desk. This will include some titles that were mentioned to me but never made it to print. (my apologies if I erred here) If you have sent any suggestions that haven't shown up, please remind me again.*

## FICTION

### **Kantika** - by Elizabeth Graver.

The title means 'song' in Ladino and is a multi-generational saga, moving from Istanbul –Barcelona-Havana-New York covering the joys and losses of Rebecca Cohen, feisty daughter of Sephardic elite in early 20th Century Istanbul. An inspiring depiction on the tenacity of women and grabbing hold of one's one and only life.

### **Girl from the Channel Islands** - by Jenny Lecoat.

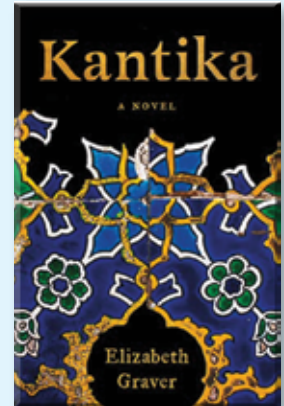
A Jewish woman fleeing Vienna, WWII Summer 1940, settles on Jersey in the Channel Islands. Hiding in plain sight she acts as a translator for the German occupiers. She has to rely on her own strength and courage, the local community, a German soldier she befriends, to maintain her safety.

### **Beyond Summerland** - by Jenny Lecoat.

Set on Jersey of the Channel Islands, in post-WWII. The occupation is over since the liberation by the Allies. A nineteen year old discovers that a teacher who lives above her father's shop might be responsible for her father's wartime arrest. This leads to an interesting depiction of post-war community and search and treatment of those who may have collaborated with the Germans.

### **On Her Own** - by Lihi Lapid

Released in its original Hebrew in 2022 is the 1<sup>st</sup> of Lapid's novels published here. A teen age runaway from a development town, an abusive adult male, a widow with dementia. And a couple of other family members as well. Taking place between Pesach and Israel Independence Day presenting a murder mystery, while narrating a distinctly Israeli story.







HANUKKAH 5785/2024

# **HJC Community Hanukkah Menorah Lighting**

**Thursday Dec. 26th  
4:00 PM  
Outside of HJC  
on Park Ave.**

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





# 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

December 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).*