

The Chronicle

February 2021

Issue III

Adar 5781



Rabbi's Message

Rabbi Eliezer Zwickler
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We have experienced quite a journey since last Purim. So much has happened, so many lives have been lost, so much has changed. Where has Hashem been through all of this time? We are told that there are moments of Hester Panim, where Hashem "turns away" from us, often as a result of us turning away from Him in some way. The story of Purim carries a related message that is important for us to internalize. "I felt Hashem with me the whole time".

Chances are we have heard these words from someone speaking about a particularly challenging period that he had to face at some point. One of the foundations of our faith is the belief that Hashem is with us, and that he performs miracles on a regular basis. One need look no further than the Tefilla of Modim which we recite thrice daily.

We thank Hashem for the wonders and miracles he performs on a regular basis. Yet, many of us go through life and do not feel that we have experienced these miracles. Purim

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President's Message

Andrew Yolin
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Happy Purim!!

Purim is one of the most fun and joyful times on the entire Jewish calendar, so it's the perfect time for us to announce our back to Shul plans! With the vaccine rollout going smoothly and quickly here in Essex County and throughout the country, we'll all be ready to be back in the building in a couple weeks, so here are some important things to be aware of:

- Since our Rabbis missed everyone so much during Covid, they will be at the main entrance of Shul before every Shabbat and weekday minyan to give out hugs to all male members. A female member of the Executive Committee will be available for all women that come to daven and also want a hug.

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Purim Edition

Available on

www.aabjd.org

Web Dvar
by Rabbi Eliezer Zwickler

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Rabbi's Message *cont'd*

reminds us that there are two types of miracles which Hashem engages in. The first is the clear and obvious miracle, often involving nature, such as the splitting of the Yam Suf, or the miracle of the manna.

The story of Purim contains within it a different type of miracle, one which is hidden and more common to the average person. One can look at the story of the Megillah and analyze it as chance, parts of the story falling into place. One who wishes to see the hand of Hashem has a completely different experience when reading the Megilla story.

We celebrate Purim to remind us that nothing in life happens by chance. When seeking Hashem's presence in the Megilla, His engagement is evident everywhere. The same is true with the story of our people as well as the story of our individual lives. It is our duty to look at our own lives with Purim glasses, so that we can strengthen our faith, with the realization that Hashem is present at our side more often than we think, on a regular basis.

Purim Sameach!

President's Message *cont'd*

- Davening will return to normal except for anyone who davened outside in under 30 degree weather for the last few months. For all of us, there will be a special minyan every Shabbat starting at Nishmat. We will also be davening Mincha and Maariv right after kiddush. Totally worth the frozen fingers!
- Speaking of kiddush, we are revamping our Shul kiddush to maximize the chance of spreading germs! We will have only 3 food stations for the entire Shul - a 40lb. bowl of cholent, a 25lb. bowl of herring, and in recognition of everyone's desire to get back to the way things used to be, a bobbing for apples station! Any member that gets an apple on one of their first three tries goes to the front of the cholent line.
- For those of you that don't have little kids, you may not know how hard the nursery staff has worked to keep the kids in school and safe. It's been truly remarkable. In honor of their effort, they are getting paid vacation for the rest of the school year! To cover their classroom responsibilities through June, all Shul members that happen to be grandparents will be assigned a two week shift as a nursery school teacher. The schedule will be sent to all grandparents later this week.
- As an important step in bringing us all back together physically after a long year apart, we are working on one minyan for the entire Shul for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur this coming fall. Young & old, Sephardic & Ashkenazi, women & men, and (gasp!) even Main Shul and Bet Midrash! Without the need for social distancing, we will all fit comfortably in the Shul parking lot!! Seating requests (meaning, indicate your preference between the pink chairs, red chairs or bring your own) will go out shortly.
- And last but definitely not least, please mark your calendars for next spring, 2022. We decided that we will be closing the Shul again from Pesach to Shavuot. It was a difficult decision but, for those of you that have been to Shul meetings know, sometimes it's just hard to argue against the ol' *"we have to do it because we did it that way before"* argument.

If you have any questions or concerns about this plan, I will be at the bobbing for apples station during Kiddush in a few weeks. See you then!

Chag Purim Sameach!



V'nahafoch Our Masks!

Yosef Sharbat
Associate Rabbi/Sephardic Rav
ysharbat@gmail.com

Purim, Purim, a great holiday for the Jews!
Masks, rattles, songs and dances!

For so many of us, Purim is only complete with costume attire. From a young age, children anticipate the festive day of Purim excited for mishloach manot and seeing their friends dressed in wacky and original costumes, sometime having to guess the person behind the mask. This year, many adults will also be wearing masks, but sadly for health concerns and not as part of their costume. One of the reasons for wearing masks on Purim is mentioned by the Bnei Yissaschar in the name of R. Moshe Chagiz. Rabbi Chagiz mentions the Gemara in Megillah 12b, that really the Jewish people didn't want to bow to idols but were forced to by their enemies. Their worship of idols was superficial and "fake" and in their hearts were still loyal to Hashem. So too, Hashem's punishment was superficial, it seemed like they were going to be destroyed but He really didn't intend to do so. Rabbi Chagiz suggests that we commemorate this by wearing a mask, that no matter what it seems like on the outside, deep down in the inside we remain committed to Hashem.

Unfortunately, we tend to judge people based on the way they look and the way they act. We are distracted by external appearances and gestures making it difficult to connect to someone. We focus on their external appearance rather than focusing on who they truly are, missing the opportunity to have a real and true heart to heart connection. It has been a year since we have been masked. The corona virus masks have been a barrier for us to connect to other people. We continue to

minimize physical contact and can't see someone's facial expressions. Friendships have weakened and people feel isolated. Perhaps this Purim, let us reconnect with each other safely in deep and meaningful ways and not allow our masks to be a catalyst for building barriers from our friends and community members. We pray to Hashem "v'nahafoch hu" that soon we can wear our masks as costumes and not for medical concerns.

Wishing you and your family a Purim Sa'me'ach!

Congregation AABJ&D Executive Committee

President	Andrew Yolin
First VP	Jeffrey Lichtman
VP	Chaim Goldman
VP	Stephen Isler
VP	Doron Zeif
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Financial Secretary	Jay Hartman
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.....	Chanie Gottlieb & Sorahleah Mandelbaum
Men's Club Co-Presidents	
.....	Saul Maslansky & Ilan Rosenrauch

Laws of Purim



SHABBAT ZACHOR - PARSHAT TERUMA Shabbat, February 20, 2021

It is a biblical obligation for everyone to hear Parshat Zachor read on Shabbat Morning. Parshat Zachor is a part of the Torah in which we remember the nation of Amalek and its attempt to destroy the Jewish people. It is read on this Shabbat, the Shabbat before Purim, since Haman was from the nation of Amalek.

In order to accommodate the community and those who will not be able to attend a morning minyan, we will have an additional reading in the main shul and in the parking lot before Mincha at 5:10pm. No registration is required, however, seating will be limited.

If one misses the reading, one should hear the Torah reading on Purim morning. If one cannot do so, one can hear Parshat Zachor read as part of Parshat Ki Teitzei in August. Nevertheless, if one is quarantined over the week of Purim, one should read Parshat Zachor from a Chumash at home.

TAANIT ESTHER Thursday February 25, 2021- 13 Adar

Fast begins: 5:15AM

If one wishes to wake before the beginning of the fast and eat, one must have this intent in

mind before going to sleep the night before.

Mincha: 1:45 & 5:10 PM

Fast ends: 6:13 PM - It is most appropriate to wait until after hearing the Megillah before breaking one's fast.

MACHTZIT HASHEKEL

It is customary to donate three half-dollars in commemoration of the half shekels that were donated this time of year in the days of the Beit Hamikdash. This year due to Covid guidelines, we will not be placing the silver dollars out in the shul. Instead, one should donate \$1.50 to Tzedaka per person, while keeping in mind the custom of Machtzit Hashekel, in lieu of actually lifting the silver dollars. **You can easily donate online at www.aabjd.org/payment and select Matanot L'veyonim**, or send a check to the shul office. If one has three silver dollars at home, one can lift them and donate the money at their discretion.



PURIM

**Thursday night February 25 - Friday
February 26, 2021 - 14 Adar**

KRIAT HAMEGILLAH –READING THE MEGILLAH

There will be a number of Megillah readings taking place both indoors and outdoors throughout the Shul community. Please register for readings at the Shul using the Purim Sign Up Form. Due to limited capacity, please be sure to attend the specific minyan you selected in this sign-up form. If you need to make a change to your registration, please contact the shul office at office@aabjd.org. For backyard Minyanim, please sign up as you normally would with

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Laws of Purim, cont'd

(Continued from page 4)

your backyard Minyan Gabbai or email minyan@aabjd.org for assistance.

The Megillah must be read from a scroll written in accordance with Halacha. The Baal K'riah (reader) and the listeners must have intent to fulfill the mitzvah of reading and to fulfill the obligation of the blessings before and after.

It is forbidden to speak from the time of the brachot before the reading until the end of the brachot after the reading.

Ideally, the Megillah should be read in the presence of a minyan.

If a person is having the Megillah read to them and the reader has already fulfilled his obligation, one of those in attendance should recite the brachot on behalf of those listening. If this is not possible, the reader may recite the brachot himself.

If one is at high risk or is quarantined one can listen to the Zoom reading live from the Shul and follow along in their own Megillah or Chumash. This option is only acceptable for those individuals in the above situation.

When reciting the Bracha of וְשִׁמְחָה during the day, one should have in mind the other mitzvot of the day: Mishloach Manot, Matanot L'evyonim, and the Purim meal. (see below)

MATANOT L'EYONIM

One is obligated to give a gift of money, sufficient for one meal, to at least two poor people. The more the better. Funds must be available on the day of Purim. (No post-dated checks.)

The gift may be given to a third party in order to distribute on the day of Purim. Checks can

be made out to the AABJ&D Mitzvah Fund for this purpose. Or **donate online** at www.aabjd.org/payment and select **Matanot L'evyonim**. Funds will be distributed on Purim day itself. Please make your donation before Purim so that the funds can be distributed on Purim day.

MISHLOACH MANOT

One is obligated to give at least one gift to one fellow Jew on Purim day. The gift must consist of at least two items of food, ready to eat. It is preferable to send the gift via a third party.

More should be spent on Matanot L'evyonim (gifts to the poor) than on Mishloach Manot (gifts to friends) unless they are also poor.

As a reminder, the vibrant and fun manner in which many of us deliver Mishloach Manot each year has the potential to create situations where several people are gathering or visiting one another at once. If delivering, please respect the comfort level of our fellow community members by being sure to do so within the guidelines for masking and social distancing.

SEUDAT PURIM

It is obligatory to partake of a festive meal on the day of Purim. Since Purim is Friday this year, one should begin the meal prior to chatzot which is at 12:10pm. Since Purim falls out on Erev Shabbat the meal should be completed by 2:56pm, so that we can eat the Shabbos meal with an appetite. While it is considered a mitzvah to eat a meat meal, one may still fulfill the obligation for the meal even if they do not eat meat.

On Purim, the prayer אֵל הַיְסִים hanissim is added in the Shmoneh Esrei and in Bircat Hamazon (Grace after Meals).

If one forgot אֵל הַיְסִים one does not repeat the tefillah (prayer).

Chag Purim Sameach!



Lauren Elise Bier
Nursery School

at Congregation AABJ&D

Aliza Maslansky
Early Childhood Director
alizam@aabjd.org

The Lauren Elise Bier Nursery School has been continuing full steam ahead this winter. It is hard to believe that we are already more than halfway done with our school year. Each class has been deeply engaged in their winter units. The Tiny Tots class has been exploring their senses. They brought snow into their classroom and used shaving cream to make fluffy clouds. The children loved using their hands to feel the different textures and temperatures. The 2's class had each child bring in their own teddy bear and they practiced taking care of the bear while it "hibernates"



for winter. They also created their own special winter counting book. The 3's classes read many different winter books and used winter to practice their counting and patterning skills. One book they focused on was, I'm Going on A Bear Hunt and created their own sensory bags for each part of the story. The Pre-K class has been working on their winter journals and their year long, All About Me binders where they are learning about different aspects of themselves and their bodies.

This year Tu B'Shvat came during our winter break but this did not stop us from learning about the holiday and celebrating it in our own special way. The 2's, 3's and Pre-K classes all planted their own seeds to watch grow. Through the growing process the children can learn so much. They eagerly come in each day to water their plant and see if it has grown.

Before winter break, the classes worked collaboratively on a communal bulletin board-"The Lauren Elise Bier Kindness Tree" which is hanging on our big bulletin board upstairs. As the children

learned about Tu B'Shvat and how important it is to be kind to one another and to the trees each child decorated their own leaf to add to the tree. The 3's and Pre-K classes added words to their leaves sharing different kind things that they can do to help other people. We also added pictures of children doing kind things around school to our tree. We hope to continue to add to this tree throughout the year.

When we returned from winter break we enjoyed a few of the shivat haminim from Israel in our classrooms. Thank you to the Moradi family of Westco Fruits and Nuts for donating all of the delicious, dried fruits we tasted. It was so special to be able to try all of these new foods. They enjoyed different dried fruits such as figs, dates, apricots and raisins.

In honor of Tu B'Shvat the Pre-K class, for the second year in a row, led the school in a Tu B'Shvat fundraiser to plant trees in Israel. The children brought in Tzedakah money which was used for this endeavor. The children learned all about the monetary value of each coin and counted all the money that was collected. This was an incredible learning experience for the children. Not only doing the act of a mitzvah but also learning the value of money. This experience also taught the children the satisfaction of successfully completing a project.



February is Children's Dental Health Month and the children learned about proper oral hygiene and how to better take care of their mouths and teeth when Dr. Joe Rozehzadah had a virtual visit with us. The Pre-K class took this lesson one step further as they worked on the oral hygiene part of their All About Me binder.

Camp Shemesh

Sura Rozenberg
Camp Director

aabjdsummercamp@gmail.com

For Rosh Chodesh Adar we focused on the sentiments of mishenichnas Adar marbim bsimcha and had silly dress up days for the whole week leading up to Rosh Chodesh. During this week we also had our 100th day of school where the children all dressed like they are 100 years old. It was so much fun!



The story of Purim is coming alive in all the classrooms. The 4's class has enjoyed making their own puppet theater and acting out the story while the Tiny Tots class has been focusing on making raashanim and experimenting with different containers and fillers to see the different sounds that can be made. On Sushan Purim the whole school gathered together for a costume parade and a magic show.

Sushan Purim is something we are really looking forward to. Because this year it is on Shabbat, we will celebrate together in school on Monday. The entire school will gather virtually for a special animal show by Eyes of the Wild, where the children can see and learn about special animals. Each child also enjoyed a yummy hamantaschen treat for snack.

While we have had a great winter here in school we are looking forward to all that the spring has in store for us.

Chag Purim Sameach,

We are looking forward to another exciting summer at Camp Shemesh. As you get ready to celebrate Purim, just think of camp as a long two month Purim. We always have themed dress up days, we sing and dance at the end of every day, we have yummy treats (usually ice pops) and our days are filled with laughter and joy. While camp will be all the fun your children look forward to we will be providing that fun in a warm, safe and healthy atmosphere. Applications are now available, go to <https://www.aabjd.org/camp-shemesh> to access our application. If you have any questions about camp, please be in touch with camp director Sura Rozenberg at aabjdsummercamp@gmail.com.

Lauren Elise Bier Nursery School Presents....

CAMP SHEMESH 2021

June 21- August 13

Looking forward to Camp Shemesh 2021!

- fantastic Programing
- Amazing Staff
- Safe, Healthy and fun environment

If you have any questions reach out to Camp Director Sura Rozenberg at aabjdsummercamp@gmail.com

Youth

Shifra Caruso
youth@aabjd.org

Since our last chronicle the youth department has been busier than ever! We continue to have our weekly Mishmash, Motzei Shabbat parent child learning over Zoom. Children learn over Shabbat and login to Zoom for a chance to share Divrei Torah and win prizes, donated by members of the community. We have also continued our outdoor oneigs for different ages while the weather was still nice and our amazing Bat Mitzvah program run by our Rebbetzins.

We ran our first online Zumba class which was very successful! Two of our leaders Laila Klugman and Danielle Felderman taught the children (and adults!) new dance moves as well as some cool dancing games. We had so much fun! We've had an emoji life size matching game for our younger children as well as multiple Jr. Teens events including an online escape room, book club, and cupcake wars!

We are so excited for Purim and have been planning all month long with our Purim events. We recently hosted a Hamentaschen baking with amazing baker Shira Waldtreicher who did a fantastic job leading us. We hope the Hamentaschen came out good! We are excited to be hosting a virtual escape room, a mentalism beyond belief show, costume contest, and children's megillah reading with Etan Hindin!

We want to thank our generous donors for helping us run these amazing Purim events!

Wishing everyone a Chag Sameach!!!



AABJ&D Youth Department

COSTUME CONTEST



FEB 21ST- 25TH

-Dress up

-Send us a picture of your costume to
youth@aabjd.org

-Rabbi Zwickler & Rabbi Sharbat judge

-Winners will be announced and receive
their Amazon gift card



DAUGHTERS OF ISRAEL & AABJ&D YOUTH DEPT.
PRESENT:
INTERGENERATIONAL SH
MEGILLAH READING
WITH ETAN HINDIN
FRIDAY FEB 26TH
11:30 AM

All young children are invited to join us on Zoom to hear a couple of Prakim of Megillah, scream and make noise to Haman! Come in costume and share your costume with the residents of Daughters of Israel at the end of the reading!



<https://zoom.us/j/97783860934?pwd=MXM0ZFdMT0lrSGQ2SE5yL0hZQ1U2QT09>
Meeting ID: 977 8386 0934
Passcode: 155118

Made with PosterMyWall.com



David Jaison
MENTALISM BEYOND BELIEF

Motzei Shabbat
Feb 27th | 7:00 pm

Please register in advance here:
<https://forms.gle/Pot1kUXtcwX9qRZc7>
 After registration you will receive the Zoom link

David Jaison has been performing his unique brand of Mentalism for over 10 years. Mentalism Beyond Belief takes you on a journey where the impossible is possible and no thoughts are safe. As one of the pioneers in virtual performing his online experience will give you a front row seat and connect in a way you never thought possible. Enjoy the ride as David will read your minds, influence your decisions, and give you an experience you won't soon forget.

A FREE FAMILY SHOW FOR PURIM!

Made with PosterMyWagon

AABJ&D YOUTH DEPARTMENT



  

Daughters of Israel Invites You

Purim Costume Party
Outside DOI Entrance

MASKS REQUIRED COSTUMES ENCOURAGED
EVENT TO BE STREAMED TO RESIDENTS' TV'S
28 FEBRUARY 2021 • 1-3 PM

BALLOON SCULPTURE ARTIST
HOT DRINKS, COTTON CANDY
FAMILY PORTRAITS

EVENT IS FREE, SIGN UP IS REQUIRED HERE TO
ENSURE MINIMAL WAIT TIMES AS ONE FAMILY
ALLOWED AT OUTDOOR ENTRANCE AT A TIME

Who's Who & What's New

AABJ&D recently launched a unique and exciting new series. Join Rabbis Eliezer Zwicker and Yosef Sharbat for "Who's Who & What's New" where they engage in a lively "schmooze" as they discuss a variety of timely topics. Each episode also features a special guest from our community, as we get a behind the scenes look at our friends and neighbors.

Did you know one of our shul members is an Assistant Director on the CBS show "FBI" Most Wanted?" On the first program, we met Yadeed Mellman, who recently moved to West Orange with his wife Betsy. During a lively discussion with the Rabbis, we found out how he broke into the entertainment industry, the challenges he faces being observant, and heard some wonderful anecdotes about his career.

The second episode spotlighted Eta Levenson, a pillar of West Orange, and Chairperson of our Inclusion Committee. Eta helped bring Jewish Disability Awareness Inclusion Month into focus as she shared her familial experiences coping with mental illness and they continue to cope with the loss of their son. Everyone who attended walked away inspired.

Keep an eye out for the next episode, which will take place on February 25th at 8:45pm. You won't want to miss the fun, as Rabbi Zwicker and Rabbi Sharbat celebrate Purim!

If you missed the last 2 episodes, be sure to check out the replays at www.aabjd.org/publications-videos.

Please join us!



Dedicate a Mezuzah

We invite you to dedicate a mezuzah in the shul, customized and designed by an artist, in a location of your choice. Mezuzot may be dedicated in honor or in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion. Various levels of giving are available.

For further information or to discuss which location you wish to dedicate and availability, please contact the shul office at office@aabjd.org.



אחבת אחים
בני יעקב ודוד
AABJ&D
SISTERHOOD

Mezuzah Campaign

וכתבתם על
 מזוזות ביתך
 ובשערך

Dedication OPPORTUNITIES

FIRST FLOOR DEDICATIONS

2 Outside Main Doors	\$10,000 each
2 Inside Main Doors	\$10,000 each
2 Sephardic Wing Main Doors	\$10,000 each
1 Sephardic Wing Inner Door	\$10,000
1 Sephardic Men's Section	\$7,500
1 Sephardic Women's Section	\$7,500
1 Alcove to Nursery School	\$7,500
1 Alcove to Social Hall	\$7,500
1 Rabbi Zwickler's Office	\$5,000
1 Rabbi Marcus's Office	\$5,000
1 Rabbi Sharbat's Office	\$5,000
1 Shul Office	\$3,600
2 Cloak Room	\$3,600 each
1 Social Hall to Sephardic Wing	\$3,600
1 Social Hall to Playground	\$3,600
1 Nursery Room 1 Door to Outside	\$3,600
1 Sephardic Wing Door to Outside	\$3,600
1 Kitchen Hallway to Playground	\$3,600
1 Outside Kitchen to Playground	\$3,600
1 Door on right side of Shul	\$3,600
1 Women's Section Left Side Book Closet to Outside Door	\$3,600
1 Women's Section Right Side Book Closet to Outside Door	\$3,600
2 Nursery School Rooms	\$3,600 each
2 Kitchen	\$2,500 each
4 Social Hall Doors	\$2,500 each
1 Women's Section Left Side to Book Closet	\$2,500
1 Women's Section Left Side Book Closet by President's Chair	\$2,500
1 Women's Section Right Side to Book Closet	\$2,500
1 Women's Section Right Side Book Closet by Rabbi's Chair	\$2,500
1 Lobby Door to Upstairs	\$1,800

SECOND FLOOR DEDICATIONS

1 Outside Door to Pleasant Valley Way	\$10,000
3 Beit Midrash Doors	\$7,500 each
1 Library	\$5,000
1 Inside Door to Hallway	\$5,000
2 Youth Lounge Doors	\$3,600 each
1 Beit Midrash Door to Outside	\$3,600
1 Nursery Room 4 Door to Outside	\$3,600
3 Nursery School Rooms	\$3,600 each
1 Entrance to Nursery Near Library	\$2,500
1 Nursery School Director's Office	\$2,500
1 Toddler Room	\$2,500
1 Entrance to Downstairs	\$1,800
2 Nursery School Door to Downstairs	\$1,800
1 Storage Room	\$1,000
1 Youth Lounge Closet	\$1,000

TO DEDICATE YOUR MEZUZAH PLEASE CONTACT:

Larry Rein: reinlawrence@gmail.com / 973.714.2951
Dorene Richman: dorene.richman@gmail.com / 973.736.7931
Sharon Zughaft: zughaft@comcast.net / 917.375.6605



Sisterhood News

Sorahleah Yudkowitz Mandelbaum
Chanie Goldstein
Co-Presidents

Sisterhood Purim News 2021

Happy 2021!! The Sisterhood started off the new year with renewed energy and a positive outlook! Oh, and lots of snow!! Once again we've been hard at work bringing the community together in the safest and most creative ways possible.

Our **Tu B'Shvat dried fruit platters** prepared by **Rivkie Moradi** (Westco Fruit & Nut Products) were so colorful and beautifully presented, not to mention delicious! We all enjoyed doing our personal Tu B'Shvat seders using the informative seder brochures that were included in the gift bag. Thank you to **Alisha Blugrind** and **Rivkie Moradi** for working so hard to bring these sweet treats to our community!



Planning our annual **Café Night**, the primary Sisterhood fundraiser of the year, was definitely more interesting this year given the Covid-related challenges that we needed to overcome! But no hurdle was too great for the dedicated and determined Sisterhood team led by our incomparable Co-Chairs, **Dorene Richman** and **Robin Amster**. The lead-up to the evening began with magnificent gift bags filled with gourmet teas, whisky infused coffee, Godiva chocolates, artisanal biscotti, delicious

flavored honey spoons and a beautifully branded Sisterhood travel mug, all packaged in what can only be described as a work of art. Thank you to **Loraine Langer** for working tirelessly to provide the unrivaled gift bags. The hilarious **Talia Reese** had us all in stitches with her comedic act during the main event of Café Night. It was so wonderful to be able to laugh "together" as a community even if that laughter was viewed in tiny zoom images! Of course we could not have had Café Night without the opportunity to win awesome gifts! This year we pivoted a bit and had an online Sweepstakes - different name but still the same incredible prizes! Congratulations to all of the winners!! Thank you to **Anna Chosak** for designing the gorgeous graphics for the online prize packages. And thank you to the vendors and providers for their generous donations of time, services, and products. We also thank all of the members of the Sisterhood, and others!, who worked so hard to procure the donated prizes. The Zoom event went off without a hitch and that can be attributed to the skilled and professional **Mitch Cohen**, thank you Mitch! Last, but certainly not least, we must thank the generous sponsors of Café Night, without whom this elegant and fun-filled event could not have happened. We are grateful for your contributions and your dedication to this shul and its community.



As always, our beautiful **Shabbat Bouquets** are made available to the community via our local Midtown Florist (Barry Geiger)! Thank you to those who continue to grace Shabbat tables with the lovely and abundant bouquets throughout the year. Weekly order deadline for Shabbat delivery is Wednesdays at 8:00PM. See the daily emails to put a smile on someone's face any time of the year! Bonus: you can also donate any amount (on the bottom of the form) towards bouquets to be delivered to our local nursing homes.



Our **#HowdoyouScrip** campaign has been in full force and our recent raffle asking the community to buy Scrip during the month of January was met with a huge response! Congratulations to the winner of the \$100 gift card to Aron's! We also published and have been marketing short videos featuring members of our community who are sharing their experiences about the ease of participating in the Scrip program. If you haven't already seen them, check them out on the Sisterhood Facebook page and look out for more videos and campaign events in the near future! Many thanks to **Hannah Kestenbaum** for all her work in running the

campaign! We're all already shopping at local stores like Shoprite and Aron's, placing orders on Amazon for contactless deliveries, and filling our tanks up with gas, so why not support your shul as you shop? If you sign up for monthly scrip delivery, signing up is a one-time process and the cards or e-cards will automatically be delivered to you on a monthly basis... it's literally as simple as that! Many thanks to all of you who continue to support the Shul through Scrip and to the rest of you that will join!! Many thanks as well to **Yosef Birnboim**, who puts in countless hours to keep the Scrip program running, ordering and delivering cards, and answering all requests and questions at scrip@aabjd.org. Ordering Scrip is easy! Simply go to <https://www.aabjd.org/scrip>.



A special thank you to Esther Schultz who works tirelessly every day supporting all of our events!

We're looking forward to so many more exciting events and fundraisers in 2021... stay tuned!!

Marketing Update

Esti Buskin

Happy Purim! This year is off to an exciting start for AABJ&D, with the launch of a new website, new families moving to West Orange (and more on the way!), and new programs. Be sure to continue reading the AABJ&D Daily emails to stay informed on the latest happenings!

AABJ&D Has a New Website!

We hope you have taken the time to check out the new AABJ&D website at www.AABJD.org. The modernized design includes new features and pages, such as an online learning library, which includes replays of our classes and events, so they can be conveniently viewed on-demand. In addition, lots of new content and information for prospective families who are seeking information about West Orange and our Shul. You will also continue to find minyan times, zmanim, shabbat announcements, and much more.

We hope the new website serves as an ongoing resource for you. Please take some time to check it out, bookmark it, and visit regularly to view the latest updates.

Now is a great time to log in and check your profile page under "My Accounts" and click on "My Profile". Update your personal information such as contact information, family details, and yahrzeits so we can provide you with communications and reminders that are most relevant to you.

AABJ&D Welcomes New Families!

AABJ&D held a virtual "getting to know you" Welcome Melaveh Malkah hosted by the Zwicklers and the Sharbats for all new families who moved in since August 2019. Approximately 15 families participated in the pizza-making event, which included an interactive game and networking. In addition, all participants received a personal delivery consisting of pizza kits, and AABJ&D swag.

Since the event, we welcomed The Levitt Family (Suburban Drive) and The Glatt Family (Woodland Ave), with more coming soon!

Please join us in welcoming all of our new families to our community.



(Continued from page 16)

All new families are invited to join our active Welcome WhatsApp group, where new families have an opportunity to network with each other and ask questions related to the neighborhood. If you moved to West Orange within the last year, and you would like to join the WhatsApp group, please email welcome@aabjd.org or contact Stephanie Hartman & Alanna Ben David.

Coming Soon!

Discover West Orange Drive By

In lieu of our annual Discover West Orange Shabbaton, the Marketing Committee is planning to welcome prospective families to West Orange on a Sunday this April. Attendees will have an opportunity to experience various locations in our community from the comfort and safety of their cars. Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.

Stay Informed! Don't forget to...

- Read the **AABJ&D Weekly** and **AABJ&D Daily** emails to stay informed of the schedule and all of the great programs that are happening at AABJ&D. Everything you need to know is in one location, delivered right to your inbox each morning.
- Join **AABJ&D WhatsApp Group** to stay informed of shul news, updates and events <https://chat.whatsapp.com/los1BLEp5qM307yaAUzS7e>.
- Follow AABJ&D on **Facebook** at www.facebook.com/aabjd. Like and share our posts with your family and friends to help us amplify all of the great things that are happening in our community.



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 Kosher food options
 New family incentives of \$50,000+
 And so much more!

Please join us for a virtual information session.
 Meet members of our community and participate in a Q&A session.

Email: discoverwestorange@gmail.com

Learn more about what makes West Orange so special.
 Visit: www.discoverwestorange.com

Men's Club

Saul Maslansky
sjm1583@gmail.com

Ilan Rosenrauch
ilanrosenrauch@gmail.com

Co-Presidents

The AABJ&D Men's Club holds special outings and events throughout the year and provides members with the unique opportunity to serve the Synagogue and Community by working on various special fundraising projects and social events. The Men's Club commits to \$10,000 of the Shul budget every year, making each and every fundraiser and event an important and beneficial one for the entire community.

We would like to thank everyone in the West Orange community for their ongoing support of the AABJ&D Men's Club and look forward to providing many more activities and programs for you throughout the year.

Men's club meetings are held monthly and we are always looking for individuals to take an interest in what we do and join us as we proceed with our programming of future events. If you have any questions about the Men's Club or would like to help plan any activities, please contact our presidents Saul Maslansky or Ilan Rosenrauch.

Men's Club Wine Sale Pesach Sale: Happening Now!

The **Pesach Wine Sale** is taking place NOW through March 7.

Read our new Wine Sale Blog: Learn about different wineries and wines so you can start planning! Read the Wine Sale Blog at [https: // www.aabjd.org/wine-sale-blog](https://www.aabjd.org/wine-sale-blog).



AABJ&D MEN'S CLUB

ANNUAL WINE SALE

**FEBRUARY 5
To
MARCH 7**

**READ THE WINE SALE BLOG AT
WWW.AABJD.ORG/WINE-SALE-BLOG**

SUBMIT YOUR ORDER TODAY!

Go to aabjd.org/mens-club

Fill out the Wine Sale Order Form

Send to aabjd.wine.sale@gmail.com

Deadline: Sunday, March 7, 2021

**MORE INFORMATION: CONTACT JAICKY TAMMAM AT
jaickytammam@gmail.com**



Inclusion

Eta Levenson

In the last decade, or more, February has been known as **Jewish Disabilities Awareness (Acceptance) and Inclusion month (JDAIM)**.

AABJ&D was the first synagogue in West Orange to appoint an official Inclusion chair as part of its committee structure, and from those humble beginnings, it has grown to be the **West Orange Inclusion** Committee, with representatives from AABJD, Ohr Torah, Chabad, and Bnai Shalom.

Each year, the Inclusion committee identifies a theme, and then speakers, and programming, to promote the concepts of Acceptance and Inclusion, in our West Orange community, and in the broader Jewish community.

But before we can **Accept** and hopefully, **Include**, we need to be **Aware**. In this time of COVID, with people stuck behind their closed doors, it behooves us to remember the people for whom this period of time must be exceptionally challenging for them, with many schools and after school programs closed, with respite programs shut down, with senior programs closed down, and parks with limited availability for safe social distancing.

What we learned from our first speaker this month, Rabbi Kalman Samuels, founder and director of Shalva, the pre-eminent program for Individuals and families with special needs in Jerusalem, is that what is most important is to reach out and ask how we can help. Not to assume we know what the answer is, or to make unprompted suggestions, but to ask, "how are you doing?" and "how can I/we help?" Many times, just the Outreach is enough, and so very appreciated, when these months have been so isolating and lonely.

Another program we (co) sponsored this

month with Greater MetroWest ABLE and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) is the presentation of **Talk Saves Lives** - a 45-minute introduction to the phenomenon of suicide, the signs and some ideas for prevention. Presented by AFSP Field Advocate (and AABJD Inclusion committee chair) Eta Levenson, the presentation of TSL was followed by a question and answer period with JFS MetroWest NJ staff.

Lastly, the Inclusion Committee chose the book Wonder by author R J Palacio for a book discussion on disabilities and inclusion. Recently made into a hit movie with Owen Wilson and Julia Roberts, Wonder tells the story of a young boy who conquered multiple challenges, both medically and socially, to be able to succeed in a typical school and community environment, and in the process, also changed the way a community thinks.

The Inclusion committee continues to seek out ways to identify and help those in our Shul who feel or actually are excluded, but we rely on neighbors and friends to let us know who needs help and how we can help them. We encourage you all to think about those shul members who you haven't seen or heard from in a while, or who you know are struggling, and let us know.

Purim Sameach.

Purim 5781

By: Guess Who

10 Exciting New Developments at Congregation AABJ&D

1. 19 outdoor minyanairs who attend the outdoor minyan under the overhang at the main entrance have graciously volunteered to serve as guards for the indoor minyanim for one full year. They will be saving the shul thousands of dollars a year on paid guards! They are calling themselves the "Covert 19".
2. All those socially distant are requested to do your part by volunteering your time as security guards in two hour shifts. A Whats App Group will be used to ensure we have full coverage. Anyone can volunteer.
3. The shul is looking for a generous group of donors to fund fixed pews outside by the main entrance. Anyone donating \$5000 or more can have their makom kavuah established for the next 10 years. The amount we are trying to raise is \$50,000, so please hurry.
4. Men's Club is working on a new fun event – virtual kiddush club (VKC). It only costs \$52 a year (a dollar a week) and each week you can virtually drink whatever you want and whenever you want, and no one will know. Sponsorship levels of this growing event are welcome at \$180 or \$360 a year. Sponsorships help defray the high cost of virtually everything!
5. Our AABJ&D Youth Softball Team is challenging our Covid Task Force to a game of softball on Friday afternoon, February 26th. This is being done in response to leaving the youth out of indoor programming, The Youth Softball Team is inviting all members of the Covid Task Force to play the position of "Left Out".
6. For those who daven inside the shul in the main sanctuary, just as you were "learning the ropes" of where to sit, the Ritual Committee is working on a plan to switch the rows that are roped off, from time to time, and thereby keeping everyone guessing (an inside joke).
7. Sisterhood is working on an event to "bring us together". On Friday night, February 26th, at exactly midnight, husbands and wives are requested to go outside, with men wearing tuxedos, and women wearing ball room gowns to mekadesh the levana with a glass of white wine and singing and dancing to "Mishe Nichnas Adar" under the full moonlight. Enjoy the simcha!
8. The security committee is enacting a pilot program of individual personalized door entry codes that will change weekly. The program will be starting February 26th at 5 am, your new code will be the square root of the last four digits of your social security number. Each week the code will increase by double less your body weight in grams. You are encouraged to tip the scale on you way out!
9. Our Executive Committee is working on a plan to utilize the snow on shul property to surround the shul building with snow people. The snow people will act as "unarmed guards" for the shul. If you have any expertise in making snow people, please contact anyone on the EC.
10. Finally, the Lauren Elise Bier Nursery School is proud to introduce a day when the Pre K class will be the teachers for the day and the teachers will be the students for that same day. This will take place on Friday, February 26th.

Mazel Tov

- Mazel Tov to Julia Lyons on her Bat Mitzvah. Mazel Tov to parents Allison & Seth and sisters Jamie, Layla, and Dani. Mazel Tov to the extended Jakabovics and Lyons families.
- Mazel Tov to Nanci & Elie Hiller on the birth and bris of a new grandson, Mordechai Lior / Brady Lawrence. Mazel Tov to parents Yedida Hiller & Uri Carni and big brother Jackson. Mazel Tov to Brady's Aunts and Uncles; Talia and Marc (and cousin Sharon), Jonah, and Noah, and to Great Grandparents Dani Hiller and Natalie Silverman.
- Mazel Tov to Mark & Eta Levenson on the birth of a grandson. Mazel Tov to parents Jessica & David Mirsky and big brother Elliot. Mazel Tov to Aunt Hadassa and Uncle Manny Korn and cousin Elisha. Mazel Tov to grandparents Moshe & Janice Mirsky of White Plains, to great grandfather Dr. Irwin Krasna, and the entire Levenson, Mirsky and Krasna families.
- Mazel Tov to Susan & Dave Scher on the birth of a granddaughter, Julia Elizabeth (Yonina Ariella) Mazel Tov to parents Aliza & Eli Scher & big sisters, Emma & Audrey. Mazel Tov to Uncle Eitan, and Aunt Sarah & Uncle Avi & Great Grandmother Bernice Scher. Mazel Tov to grandparents Zahava & Marv Sher & the entire Sher family.
- Mazel Tov to Gail & Bruce Bukiet on the birth of a granddaughter. Mazel Tov to parents Elisheva & Nathan Ziiegler in Israel. Mazel Tov to the siblings and the entire family.
- Mazel Tov to Chana Tokayer on the birth of a great grandson, Shmuel Dov Perton (named partly for her husband Rabbi Shmuel, z"l). Mazel Tov to parents Malca (Tokayer) and Rabbi Chaim Jachter.
- Mazel Tov to Phyllis Novick on the engagement of her granddaughter, Tamar Novick to Meir Weiss of Waterbury, Ct. Mazel Tov to Aunt and Uncle, Robin and Dan Amster.
- Mazel Tov to Lauren & Akiva Gordon on the birth of a baby boy.
- Mazel Tov to Judy & Doni Israeli on the birth of granddaughter, Tehila Sara. Mazel Tov to parents Amanda & Alex Israeli and to big sister Kiki. Mazek Tov to great grandmothers Bella Dolinsky and Tova Israeli.
- Mazel Tov to Debbie & Ed Berliner on the birth of a grandson, Mordechai Nadav/ Andrew Bear. Mazel Tov to parents Ariella & Josh Berliner and to siblings Jillian and Violet. Mazel Tov to grandparents Yaakov and Beverly Perel, and great grandmothers Vivian Schneider and Ruth Kantrowitz.
- Mazel Tov to Debbie & Jack Becker on the birth of a grandson. Mazel Tov to parents Uri & Esti Becker. Mazel Tov to great grandmother Mimi Cohen and the entire Becker, Cohen, and Welcher families.
- Mazel Tov to Jill & Barry Geiger on the birth of a grandson. Mazel Tov to parents Deborah & Rafi Silverman and big brother Koby.
- Mazel Tov to Susan & Abbi Warshaw on the birth of a grandson. Mazel Tov to parents Rachel and Yitzzy Mittel and to the entire Mittel and Warshaw families.
- Mazel Tov to Shifra & Jon Caruso on the birth of a baby boy. Mazel Tov to big brother Israel. Mazel Tov to the Engel/ Hollander and Caruso families.
- Mazel Tov to Sandy & David Small on the birth of a grandson, Liam Judah, Yisroel Yehudah. Mazel Tov to parents Ryan & Talia Small. Mazel Tov to grandparents Ron & Donna Bender, great grandparents, aunts, uncles & cousins and the entire family.
- Mazel Tov to Phyllis and Chaim Lauer on the marriage of their grandson Dani Rotter of Chashmonaim to Tamar Gelbard of Petach Tikvah. Dani is the son of their children Dvora and David Rotter. Mazel Tov to the Lauer, Rotter and Gelbard families.

Condolences

We extend our condolences on the passing of...

- Dr. Edward Klibanoff, beloved father of Ben Klibanoff.
- Alice Barrow, beloved mother of Karen Barrow Thumim.
- Renee Hoch, beloved mother of Miriam Stone. S
- R' Yechiel Lagami (Rav Yechiel Zecharya ben Yihya) beloved father of Ester Needle.
- Earl S. Quint, beloved father of Daveda Lipman.

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You shop. Amazon gives.

AABJ&D is pleased to offer you a way to make your regular purchases benefit our Shul. For personal purchases (i.e. from "home") the benefits are approximately 0.5%. Please follow the applicable link, sign in using your regular account details and purchase as normal. At this point it is our understanding that you need to follow the link for each basket of purchases you make so your efforts in this regard are appreciated. AABJ&D will have no visibility of the items you purchased or your expenditure.

Dedication Opportunities

Siddur Dedication \$36

Chumash Dedication \$50

Interested in dedicating a Siddur or Chumash in honor of a special occasion or in memory of a loved one? Contact the Shul office:
office@aabjd.org.



Tree of Life

Options to participate:

Leaf - \$180

Branch - \$3,600

Canopy - \$5,000

Tree - \$25,000

office: office@aabjd.org

Jewish War Veterans

Irwin Novick

Help us continue to keep our 180 year tradition of Jewish War Veterans place in United States history. Sanford L. Kahn Post 538 located in West Orange was started in 1946. It has continuously supported our Veterans-In-Need as well as social causes.

Some of these activities include:

- 1-Monthly visits to the Paramus Veterans Home sponsoring a Bingo Game for more than 100 Veteran residents; men and women who served. Gifts and snacks are also furnished
- 2 - Sponsoring annually a \$500 Olympiad Award to an outstanding high-school graduating student in memory of Israeli Olympians murdered in Munich.
- 3 – Providing funds for youth in scouting.
- 4 – Donating to the National Museum of American Jewish History in Washington, D.C.; where worldwide visitors are informed about the Jewish Veterans' role in our Country's Military History.

OUR MEMBERSHIP HAS SEVERELY DECREASED due to age, poor health, relocation and death. To continue our long tradition of helping our Veterans, we NEED YOUR HELP. The SANFORD L. KAHN POST 538 meets monthly in West Orange. We offer free membership for one year to all new members.

If interested, please contact IRWIN W. NOVICK @ 973-736-2988 for additional information and meeting dates.



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There are so many things happening and ways to get involved. Below you will find a list of some of our Shul committees and chairpersons.

Please feel free to contact them to either volunteer or inquire about their activities. If you have a special skill or talent that you would like to share or an idea that you would like to discuss, contact us at office@aabjd.org.

- **Adult Education:** Gregory Zuckerman (Gregory.zuckerman@wsj.com). Plans and coordinates all classes, lectures, and scholar-in-residence programs.
- **Cemetery Committee:** Judy Israeli (idadesq@aol.com), Chaim Silverman (Chaim@silverlaining.com), Anna Chosak (chosakhouse@comcast.net)
- **Chevra Kadisha:** Avi Laub (avilaub@yahoo.com)
- **Early Childhood:** Judy Birnboim (judybirnboim@gmail.com). Oversees the Nursery School and Summer Camp programs.
- **Fundraising:** Bryan Bier (bryanbier@comcast.net) and Larry Rein (reinlawrence@gmail.com)
- **Hi-Tech:** Seth Lyons (seth.lyons@gmail.com) and Yosef Birnboim (yosef@birnboim.com). Maintains website and all hi-tech equipment.
- **House:** Rob Wagner (email4rob@aol.com). Maintains our buildings and properties.
- **Inclusion:** Eta Levenson (jeserichad@aol.com)
- **Israel Action & Advocacy**
- **Kiddush Society:** Larry Liebman (liebmancpa@gmail.com). Helps provide the weekly kiddush and Seudah Shlishit.
- **Legal:** David Cherna (davidchern@gmail.com)
- **Marketing:** Esti Buskin (estibuskin@gmail.com). Responsible for recruiting, hospitality, welcoming new members, and shul communications.
- **Men's Club:** Ilan Rosenrauch (ilanrosenrauch@gmail.com) and Saul Maslansky (sjm1583@gmail.com).
- **Outreach:** Moshe Glick (mglickus@gmail.com) and Ira Bloom (IBloom@kushnercompanies.com). Coordinates programs of interest to the non affiliated.
- **Ritual:** Mitch Cohen (mitch@cohens98.com). Oversees the conduct of religious services.
- **Security:** Robert Ivker (tnsnyc@aol.com)
- **Seniors -Together on Tuesday:** Debbie Druce (deborahdruce@gmail.com)
- **Seudah Shlishit:** Mayer Popack (popack1@verizon.net)
- **Shiva:** Jaicky Tammam (jaickytammam@gmail.com) Coordinates shiva house needs and minyanim. Pnina Popack - coordinates shiva meals.
- **Sisterhood:** Chanie Gottlieb (chaniegottlieb@gmail.com) and Sorahleah Mandelbaum (sorahleah@gmail.com).
- **Tehillim:** Ora Bloom (obloom06@gmail.com) and Debbie Druce (deborahdruce@gmail.com)
- **Welcome** (marketing sub-committee): Stephanie Hartman and Alanna Ben David (welcoming@aabjd.org). Welcomes and facilitates integration of new members into the community.
- **Youth:** Shira Waldstreicher, Pam Greenwood, Jennifer Minsky (youth@aabjd.org)

Please note that all of our Board meetings are open to the membership.



A Guide to Help Find the Assistance You May Need with:
Food • Income • Job Search • Mental Health
Health Insurance • Household Expenses • Legal Matters
and more....

Published by the West Orange/Livingston Chesed Group (June 2020)

All government resources included in this booklet are specific to residents of Essex County, NJ.



GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Program Contact Information	Notes
Jewish Family Services https://www.jfsmetrowest.org	<p>For individuals seeking mental health counseling or information on resources offered throughout the community, call 973-765-9050 to speak with an intake worker.</p> <p>In addition to completing all mental health counseling intakes, the intake worker is able to offer limited phone-based case management to callers. This includes reviewing the caller's financial concerns, directing callers to resources, completing basic research for callers, providing support, answering callers' questions about the applications when possible, etc. This often involves more than one phone call.</p> <p>https://www.jfsmetrowest.org/covid-19-resources/</p>
Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest www.jfedgmw.org	<p>This is a generalized resource line for anyone in need of Jewish communal resources and support from local Jewish social service providers:</p> <p>https://www.jfedgmw.org/jewish-resource-line</p> <p>jewishinfo@jfedgmw.org</p> <p>973-929-3100</p> <p>For those with COVID-specific needs like deliveries, medicine, technology, use:</p> <p>https://www.jfedgmw.org/need-help</p>



FOOD ASSISTANCE

Program Contact Information	Notes
<p>NJ SNAP (Food Stamps) www.njsnap.org or https://www.njhelps.org/ Phone: 973-733-3000 Fax: 973-622-2527/ 973-643-3980 SNAP Hotline 1-800-687-9512</p> <p>(NJHelps.org website can also be used to apply for NJFamilyCare (Medicaid) health insurance and CASH Assistance programs -- see Income Assistance and Healthcare Sections below for details.)</p>	<p>Food Assistance has enhanced benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic. SNAP information & applications can be found at www.njsnap.org or www.njhelps.org.</p> <p>To be eligible for assistance, applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be income eligible • Live in New Jersey • Be a US citizen or qualified immigrant whose documents allow them to remain in this country permanently. <p>Before you begin to fill out the application, you will need the following information for yourself and the people for whom you want to apply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Names and birth dates • Social Security Numbers • Information about income, both work income and any other income
<p>WIC (Women, Infants & Children) Program: Assistance for pregnant women and young children City of East Orange 185 Central Avenue, Fifth Floor East Orange, NJ 07018 Phone: 973-395-8960 or 973-754-4575 https://www.state.nj.us/health/fhs/wic/</p>	<p>Prescreening tool to see if eligible for WIC: https://wic.nj.gov/ParticipantPortal/</p> <p>Satellite office in Bloomfield on Fridays (not currently open due to COVID 19)</p>
<p>Jewish Relief Agency Food delivery program</p> <p>Contact moishe@jewishrelief.org</p>	<p>Residents will get a monthly delivery of about 12 items (potatoes, rice , cereal, canned goods etc)</p>
<p>The Bobrow Kosher Food Pantry</p> <p>Oheb Shalom Congregation 170 Scotland Road South Orange, NJ, 07079 973-762-7067</p>	<p>The Bobrow Kosher Food Pantry of Oheb Shalom Congregation serves kosher food to over 200 needy families in Essex County each month. Distribution Hours - One Sunday Morning a Month* 9:00am - 11:00am *Schedule may be affected by COVID. Please call for details</p>
<p>Greater MetroWest Free Kosher Meals for Children Ages 1-18</p> <p>Renee Klyman at klymanr@teachcoalition.org</p>	<p>Through a collaborative effort of Teach NJ, Jewish Educational Center in Elizabeth, Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest and the Greater MetroWest NJ day schools, kosher meals will be available to the entire Greater Food will be available at JEC/Bruria High School for Girls, 35 North Avenue, Elizabeth. This location is an area eligible</p>



INCOME ASSISTANCE

Program Contact Information	Notes
<p>UNEMPLOYMENT</p> <p>North New Jersey: 201-601-4100 To file claim or recertify https://myunemployment.nj.gov/</p> <p>The NJ DOL has a new tool you can use to email the Unemployment Division with inquiries or unresolved tickets: https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/help/contact-us/index.shtml#email</p>	<p>You can check the status of your claim online and reset your PIN online with NJ DOL here: https://lwdwebpt.dol.state.nj.us/ClaimStatus/claimStatus.htm</p> <p>https://myunemployment.nj.gov/assets/pdfs/tli_process_selfemployed.pdf</p>
<p>Essex County Department of Labor 973-733-8500</p>	<p>Callers can expect a return call within 72 hours.</p>
<p>SMALL BUSINESS LOANS</p> <p>There are several loans a small business may qualify for, including COVID-19 tax relief and economic stimulus payments. https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus-tax-relief-and-economic-impact-payments-for-individuals-and-families</p>	<p>You may also visit www.SBA.gov for small business loans.</p>
<p>COVID STIMULUS RELIEF CHECKS</p> <p>The federal government is sending relief payments to individuals and families based on their income.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals who earned an income below \$75,000 should receive \$1,200 • Couples who earned an income below \$150,000 and filed a joint return should receive \$2,400. • Dependent children under 17 should receive \$500 as long as they are claimed on their parents' tax return. If you did not file a tax return, you may file a short form or you may be eligible to file a non-filers form. For more information, please visit: www.irs.gov/coronavirus • Those who earned higher than \$75,000 per individual and \$150,000 per couple should have their payments phased out based on their income. • Individuals who earned more than \$99,000, and couples who earned more than \$198,000 should not be 	<p>If you have not yet received this payment, you do not need to take action. If the IRS already has your bank account information from your 2019 or 2018 return, it should transfer the money to you via direct deposit based on the recent income-tax figures it already has. The payments should also be automatic for people who receive Social Security retirement, survivor or disability benefits, and Supplemental Security Income. If you received your tax refund via check in 2019 or 2018, you will have to wait longer because the federal government is producing checks and mailing them in batches. If you prefer to receive the payment via direct deposit, you can update your information here: https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-mypayment</p> <p>More information on this program and other resources can be found in this comprehensive guide: https://www.irscenter.org/public/user/pages/files/brochures/covid19/COVID-19%20Government%20Help.pdf</p>

<p>eligible at all. Many families have already received these payments.</p>	
<p><u>ADDITIONAL COVID-19 SPECIFIC RESOURCES</u></p> <p><i>Eligibility for Key Benefits</i> Below you will find links to a NJ DOL graphic and website outlining eligibility for unemployment, family leave, earned sick leave and temporary disability under different COVID-19 related scenarios. https://www.nj.gov/labor/assets/PDFs/COVID-19%20SCENARIOS.pdf https://www.nj.gov/labor/worker-protections/earned/sick/covid.shtml</p> <p><i>New Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program</i> The State of New Jersey is reaching out to claimants individually regarding their Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claims. PUA is the program for those who are self-employed, gig economy workers, those who do not have sufficient work history for a normal unemployment claim, clergy and those working for religious organizations, and others who may not normally be entitled to traditional unemployment insurance, subject to certain eligibility criteria. If you have been contacted by the NJ DOL to begin certifying for PUA benefits, please see the detailed instructions below: https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/puainstructions.shtml</p> <p><i>If You Are Self-employed And Have Not Filed A Claim</i> You can file a claim now. Please review the two documents found at the link below prior to applying; one document answers most common questions and another walks you through the application step by step, with guidance on how to answer the questions as a self-employed individual. Please note that there is not a separate application for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance at this time; all filers must start with the application for normal unemployment.</p>	<p>The NJ DOL website has the following instructions on how to answer the questions when certifying for weekly benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic: https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/covidinstructions.shtml</p> <p>Below is a link to the NJ DOL schedule for when you can certify for benefits during the week, depending on the last four digits of your social security number (please check for daily changes) https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/schedule.shtml</p> <p><i>FAQs for Unemployment Insurance & PUA</i> Below are links to a Frequently Asked Questions page from NJ DOL that answers common questions about Unemployment Insurance (UI) and the newly created Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) programs (this is updated often, so check regularly): https://www.nj.gov/labor/worker-protections/earned/sick/covidFAQ.shtml https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/assets/pdfs/NJWorkersFAQs.pdf</p> <p><i>NJ Commitment To Back Pay</i> NJ DOL has stated in the following document, under question #11: "We're committed to ensuring that everyone receives their benefits during this crisis. You will not lose a day's benefits as all claims will be backdated to your first day of employment loss." https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/assets/pdfs/NJWorkersFAQs.pdf</p> <p><i>If You Get the Error "Your Claim Is Not Payable At This Time" When Certifying</i> There are a number of reasons that you may get this error message, but one of the more common reasons is because of the way one or more of the seven weekly certification questions was answered. The NJ DOL has provided this guide on how to certify for benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure you get your benefits in the fastest way possible: https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/covidinstructions.shtml</p> <p>If you believe the reason you have received this error is due to your answers to the weekly certification - your application is likely flagged for review by an</p>

https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/independentcontractors.shtml	<p>unemployment technician. You may want to email the Unemployment Division here: https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/help/contact-us/index.shtml#email</p> <p><i>If Your Unemployment Claim Is Pending</i> Your initial application is awaiting review by a member of the Unemployment Division's staff. Continue to check the website each day to see if the claim status has changed to FILED. You should also continue to check your postal mail and e-mail and watch your phone for calls in case someone from NJ DOL reaches out for additional information. Don't forget to check your e-mail "spam" or "junk" folder.</p> <p><i>Information on the 13-Week Extension</i> Are you currently receiving or have applied for unemployment benefits? If yes, no action is required for the 13-week extension. It will be automatically available to you after your current balance is exhausted. Otherwise, read the NJ DOL FAQ below: https://myunemployment.nj.gov/labor/myunemployment/covidFAQ.shtml#600</p>
<p>Cash Assistance: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families & General Assistance (TANF & GA) Phone: 973-733-3000 Fax: 973-643-3985 Apply online: https://www.njhelps.org/NJHelpsHomePage Email: https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dfd/staff/email/index.html</p>	<p>To be eligible for assistance, an applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live in New Jersey • Be a US citizen or qualified immigrant whose documents allow them to remain in this country permanently. <p>Before you begin to fill out the application, you will need the following information for yourself and the people for whom you want to apply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Names and birth dates • Social Security Numbers • Information about income, both work income and any other income
<p>If you have tried everything from Social Security and cannot get help, email constituent.relations@nj.gov</p>	<p>Include with name, claim number, last 4 digits of social, phone number, and email</p>

More information can be found on the following New Jersey websites:

<https://myunemployment.nj.gov/>

<https://www.nj.gov/labor/>

<https://covid19.nj.gov/>

The attached comprehensive resource guide prepared by the Lakewood Resource & Referral Center may also prove useful to many Essex County residents.

Updated 5/25/2020:

<https://www.lrrcenter.org/public/user/pages/files/brochures/covid19/COVID-19%20Government%20Help.pdf>



JOB SEARCH ASSISTANCE

Program Contact Information	Notes
<p>Jewish Vocational Services (JVS) Jewish Vocational Service of MetroWest New Jersey helps people help themselves through innovative programs in vocational training, education, and career counseling that create pathways to hope, independence, and employment. Inspired by Jewish values, we proudly serve clients from any and all backgrounds.</p> <p>973-674-6330</p> <p>https://jvsnj.org Email: info@jvsnj.org</p>	<p>Offers career counseling services including seminars on relevant topics. Will also help people navigate unemployment.</p> <p>7 Glenwood Avenue, Lower Level East Orange, NJ 07017</p> <p>354 Eisenhower Parkway, Plaza 1 Suite 2150, Livingston, NJ 07039</p> <p>83 Walnut Street, Montclair, NJ 07042</p>
<p>Jewish Job Network Informal volunteer organization serving the West Orange & Livingston Jewish Communities to provide guidance in resume writing, interviewing, career counseling, networking (including LinkedIn), starting a new business, learning how to consult & job retraining.</p> <p>http://jewishjobnetwork.com</p>	<p>The Livingston and West Orange communities have revived the Jewish Job Network (JJN) to provide support to community members in need of job search support during this downturn.</p> <p>The JJN brings together volunteer professionals with background in recruiting & executive search, and contacts in a range of fields who can connect job seekers for industry or position-specific advice and potential placement.</p>
<p>Other recommended resources for job searches:</p> <p>https://www.nj.gov/labor/ https://jobs.covid19.nj.gov/?Facets.filterbox.filter0=%5B%5D&Facets.filterbox.filter1=%5B%5D https://www.upwork.com/</p>	



HEALTH INSURANCE

Program Contact Information	Notes
<p>NJ Family Care 1-800-701-0710 973-733-3000 Wednesday # 973-733-2001 www.njhelps.org</p> <p>Low income households can apply for Medicaid/ NJFamilyCare Information and application can be found at either www.NJFamilyCare.org or www.njhelps.org (Community members can self-screen for benefits they may qualify for)</p> <p>Or over the phone at 1-800-701-0710</p> <p>Essex County SHIP Helpline 973-637-1717</p>	<p>Local office (currently closed due to COVID-19) Division of Family Assistance and Benefits 18 Rector Street, 9th Floor Newark, NJ 07102</p> <p>Income eligibility chart: http://www.nifamilycare.org/income.aspx</p> <p>(NJHelps.org website can also be used to apply for SNAP Food Assistance and CASH Assistance programs -- see Food Assistance and Income Assistance sections above for details.)</p> <p>Call with Medicare Questions</p>
<p>Medicare Savings Programs: Programs may pay partial or full Medicare Part B premiums for eligible participants. www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dcas/services/51mb Or www.NJSAVES.org</p>	<p>Must be a NJ resident. Participants must not exceed income or asset eligibility limits. See website for details.</p>
<p>The Health Insurance Marketplace Discounted health insurance for those below certain income levels and not eligible for NJFamilyCare are eligible for a Special Enrollment Period.</p> <p>Register online at https://www.healthcare.gov/ Or call 1-800-318-2596</p>	<p>If someone has had a life change they may be eligible for a special enrollment period through the Marketplace (aka Obamacare), such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of health coverage • Changes in household • Changes in residence • Other qualifying events (<i>Changes in your income that affect the coverage you qualify for, Becoming a U.S. citizen, Leaving Incarceration</i>)
<p>Partnership for Prescription Assistance 888-477-2669 https://medicineassistancepool.org/</p>	<p>RX Outreach 1-800-769-3880</p>
<p>Prescription Assistance for Aged Blind & Disabled (PAAD) 1-800-792-9745</p>	<p>Helps with cost of prescriptions, including payment of certain Medicare part D premiums and prescriptions.</p>

<p>www.NJSAVES.org or</p> <p>https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/doas/services/paad/index.html</p>	<p>Senior Gold can be applied for using this application and is for those who do not qualify for PAAD.</p> <p>You can also screen for the Property Tax freeze. Residents can call the municipal tax department for applications and can also ask about programs for eligible seniors, veterans, or disabled that reduce property taxes by \$500 annually.</p>
<p>American Veterans Care Connection (AVCC) Veterans homecare for veterans and their families. https://avcchomecare.com/ 1-855-601-4770</p>	<p>This service can provide up to \$25,000 in home health aide services for veterans, including families with parents, spouse or child who served.</p> <p>Some programs require active duty and some do not, so ask accordingly.</p>
<p>Patient Access Network Foundation Helps underinsured patients get the medication they need. 1-866-316-7263 https://www.panfoundation.org/</p>	



UTILITIES & HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES

Program Contact Information	Notes
<p>Lifeline Telephone Assistance Telephone assistance for low-income families. Within the Lifeline program there are three programs:</p> <p>1. Safelink Wireless https://www.safelinkwireless.com/Enrollment/Safelink/en/Web/www/default/index.html#!/newHome Phone: 1-800-723-3546</p> <p>2. Assurance Wireless https://www.assurancewireless.com/ Email: ourteamassurancewireless@sprint.com Phone: 1-888-321-5880</p> <p>3. Verizon Lifeline https://www.verizon.com/solutions-and-services/lifeline</p>	<p>Free phone for residents who are low-income or who receive food stamps and/or Medicaid</p> <p>For the 65+ population and the disabled, there is also www.NJSaves.org. Here individuals/seniors can check and apply, if they qualify for government assistance including pharmaceutical assistance, SNAP, & NJFamilyHealthcare and more.</p>
<p>Energy Assistance https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/hea.html</p> <p>NJ Shares http://www.njshares.org/aboutNJShares/energy-assistance.asp http://www.njshares.org/whereToApply/index.asp Phone: 609-883-1626 Fax: 609-883-6364 Email info@njshares.org</p>	<p>Residents may not qualify for Federal and State assistance programs due to the household's income.</p> <p>There is also the Lifeline utility assistance program: https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/doas/home/lifeline/detail.html That is a \$225 benefit towards utilities for 65+ and the disabled population.</p>
<p>Payment Assistance for Gas and Electric Program (PAGE)</p> <p>Website: https://njpoweron.org/page/page-application/</p>	<p>For residents who are not currently receiving USF or HEA, have documented notice of overdue payment for gas and/or electric service and have a history of making regular payments towards their utility bills.</p>



MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Program Contact Information	Notes
Jewish Family Services www.jfsmetrowest.org	Supports the emotional well-being of children, teens, and parents. Their resources and ongoing programs related to the pandemic are updated regularly: https://www.jfsmetrowest.org/covid-19-resources/ https://www.jfsmetrowest.org/allnewsandevents/



RENTAL/MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE

Program Contact Information	Notes
<p>NJ COVID-19 Short-Term Rental Assistance Program</p> <p>Program to provide rental assistance to low- and moderate-income households that have a substantial reduction in income as a result of the pandemic, including those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.</p> <p>Visit DCA's website (www.nj.gov/dca) on June 15 for the launch of the program website*, with additional information, Frequently Asked Questions, as well as dates that DCA will be accepting applications for the lottery. Further information on how to apply and Frequently Asked Questions, will be available on June 15, and applications will be taken in July.</p> <p><i>* This document will be updated once that information is available.</i></p>	<p>The program will offer an initial three months of temporary rental assistance, with the ability for the household to renew for an additional three months if needed.</p> <p>To submit an application, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a resident of New Jersey • Have a current income that is at or below 80% of Area Median Income for your county • Have been current in your rent payments as of March 1, 2020 • Show that your income was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic beginning on March 9 when the public emergency was declared. You can show this by documenting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ A layoff ◦ Reduced work hours ◦ Unpaid leave to take care of children due to school and daycare closures ◦ Need to self-quarantine for 14 days resulted in a loss of income
<p>HomeCorp 973-744-4141 www.homecorp.org</p> <p>To learn more about affordable rentals, call Jessica Almonte, Property Manager 973-860-7205</p> <p>To learn more about housing counseling, call Masanna Johnson, Housing Counselor at 973-860-7106</p>	<p>HOME Corp has developed nearly 200 units of affordable rental and owned housing in Montclair. HOME Corp's housing counseling department assists nearly 200 households annually with achieving housing goals.</p> <p>This application also has Property Tax freeze. Residents can call the municipal tax department for applications and can also ask about program for eligible seniors, veterans, or disabled that reduced property taxes by \$500 yearly.</p>



LEGAL SERVICES

Program Contact Information	Notes
<p>Legal Services of New Jersey P.O. Box 1357 Edison, NJ 08818 Tel: Legal Aid Hotline: 888-576-5529 or 888-LSNJ-LAW</p> <p>This is New Jersey's statewide legal hotline that provides brief service, advice and referrals over the telephone to low-income NJ residents with civil legal problems. Criminal cases are referred elsewhere. English and Spanish available. The service is free, but income limits apply.</p>	<p><i>Areas of Law:</i> Civil, Criminal Record Expungement, Consumer, Disability, Domestic Violence, Education, Family Law, Health Care Access, Housing, Immigration, Name Changes, Public Benefits, Senior Issues Small Claims, and more.</p>
<p>American Civil Liberties Union of NJ PO Box 32159 Newark, NJ 07102 973-642-2084</p>	<p><i>Areas of Law:</i> Criminal Justice, Cyber Liberties, Discrimination, Election and Voting, Free Speech, LGBT Rights, Immigrant Rights, National Security, Police Practices, Poverty Rights, Prisons, Privacy, Reproductive Freedom and Youth Rights.</p> <p>The ACLU does <i>not</i> generally assist in the following types of cases: Criminal defense or post-conviction appeals, divorce or child custody disputes, property disputes, tax problems, consumer complaints, landlord-tenant disputes, building code issues, or complaints about lawyers or judges.</p>
<p>American Friends Services Committee 89 Market Street, 6th Floor Newark, NJ 07102 Tel: 973-643-1924</p> <p>Immigration Law</p>	<p>The Newark office is home to the Immigrant Rights program, helping individuals facing deportation; for survivors of domestic violence and other crimes; for unaccompanied minors; and to assist in family reunification through naturalization and other immigration applications. May charge a small fee.</p>
<p>Community Health Law Project 650 Bloomfield Ave, Suite 210 Bloomfield, NJ 07003 973-680-5599</p> <p>This office provides legal services to New Jersey residents with disabilities such as mental health-related, people with physical disabilities, HIV/AIDS, developmental disabilities, and visual impairments. Although they do not have an office in Newark, they serve all New Jersey residents.</p>	<p><i>Areas of Law:</i> Civil Rights, Child Support, Consumer Debt Collection, Healthcare Law, Fair Housing, and Landlord-Tenant.</p>

<p>Essex County Legal Aid Association 465 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd Hall of Records Room 118 Newark, NJ 07102 973-622-0063</p> <p>Clients receive immediate emergency legal advice, legal paperwork preparation, and counseling from attorneys. These free legal services are available to qualified people based on income.</p>	<p><i>Areas of Law:</i> Civil law including Consumer, Family, Housing, Employment and Probate.</p> <p>They do not provide full legal representation such as court appearances or arbitration, but can provide referrals to other full-service organizations.</p>
<p>Essex-Newark Legal Services 5 Commerce Street, 2nd Floor Newark, NJ 07102 973-624-4500</p> <p>This office provides direct civil legal services to income-eligible clients.</p>	<p><i>Areas of Law:</i> Civil, Criminal Record Expungement, Consumer, Disability, Domestic Violence, Education, Family Law, Health Care Access, Housing, Immigration, Name Changes, Public Benefits, Senior Issues, Small Claims, and more. Walk-ins only. First come, first served.</p>
<p>Legal Services of New Jersey Kiosks 465 Dr. MLK Blvd, Room 201 Newark, NJ 07102</p> <p>Provides access to information, publications, benefits calculators & court forms only.</p>	<p><i>Areas of Law:</i> Housing, employment, landlord-tenant, immigration and family law.</p>
<p>Partners for Women and Justice 60 South Fullerton Ave., #106 Montclair, NJ 07042 973-233-0111</p> <p>Free legal assistance to income-eligible victims of domestic violence and those needing assistance with family law-related matters. If you need immediate assistance, please call your local police department or call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).</p>	<p><i>Areas of Law:</i> Domestic violence, family law including restraining orders, child and spousal support, visitation, custody and divorce.</p>
<p><u>Law School Clinics</u> These offices do not take walk-ins. Call for an appointment.</p> <p>Seton Hall University School of Law Center for Social Justice 833 McCarter Highway, Newark, NJ 07102 973-642-8700</p> <p>Rutgers University School of Law -- Newark 123 Washington Street Newark, NJ 07102 973-353-5576</p>	<p>Civil Litigation, Civil Rights and Constitutional Law, Family Law, Equal Justice, Immigration and Immigrant Workers' Rights, Impact Litigation, Juvenile Justice.</p> <p>Areas of Law: Child Advocacy, Community Law, Federal Tax Law, Special Education Law, Urban Legal Clinic</p>

The Chronicle

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As soon as the system greets you, enter the extension # of the person you wish to reach.

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Rabbi Alvin Marcus	211
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