



# the RECORDER

EAST BRUNSWICK



JEWISH CENTER

OCTOBER 2020

TISHREI – CHESHVAN 5781

VOLUME # 103



## SHABBAT SERVICES

Services being held  
online at the  
following times. To  
join the stream, visit  
[ebjc.org/online-  
events](http://ebjc.org/online-events)

Friday Evenings  
6:00 PM

Saturday Mornings  
9:30 AM

October 3  
Sukkot

October 10  
Shemini Atzeret

October 17  
Bereshit

October 24  
No-Ach

October 31  
Lech-Lecha

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# STAFF & CONTACTS

## COMMITTEE CONTACTS

### Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Sara Ullman

Cynthia Jacobs

### Men's Club President

Howard Jacobs

### Youth Commission

Rhonda Gold

### Membership Committee

Ken Gerson

### Chairperson, Special

Circumstances

Marilyn Friedes

### Community Outreach

Eric Rabinowitz

### Director of The Center for

Early Learning

Lynda Perel, Director

### Calendar

Joannie Weinfeld

### Board of Education Chair

Jamie Wasserman

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Nicole Cavalli

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Margot Julis

Barbara Pollak

Sara Ullman

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## UPCOMING DATES

WE HAVE BEGUN OUTDOOR SERVICES ON FRIDAY NIGHT, SHABBAT. NOTICES GO OUT EVERY WEEK FOR REGISTRATION/SIGN-UP AS WE ARE ONLY ACCEPTING UP TO 20 PEOPLE. PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO THOSE WHO HAVE A YAHRZEIT OR NEED TO SAY MOURNERS KADDISH. WE ALWAYS NEED TO ASSURE A MINYAN, SO IF YOU ARE COMFORTABLE ATTENDING IN THE VERY SAFE ENVIRONMENT WE HAVE CREATED, PLEASE LET US KNOW!

ONLINE SERVICES AND EVENTS—EBJC.ORG/ONLINE-EVENTS  
UPDATES FROM THE RABBI, CANTOR, ELLEN BOTWIN, AND CO-PRESIDENTS:

RABBI PIVO—EBJC.ORG/UPDATES-FROM-RABBI-PIVO

CANTOR LARRY—EBJC.ORG/UPDATES-FROM-CANTOR-LARRY

CO-PRESIDENTS

ROBERT SALSTON—EBJC.ORG/UPDATES-FROM-ROBERT-SALSTON

STEVE ZEIDWERG—EBJC.ORG/UPDATES-FROM-STEVE-ZEIDWERG

ELLEN BOTWIN - EBJC.ORG/UPDATES-FROM-ELLEN-BOTWIN

If you have problems at EBJC that are not getting adequately resolved, please call Ellen Botwin at (732) 257-7070

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PLEASE NOTE:

ONLY checks made out to EBJC go to Montvale. Sisterhood, Men's Club, Mitzvah Corps, all discretionary funds, 613 event, Pavilion donations all go to 511 Ryders Lane.

## FOR THE UPCOMING MONTH:

### TROUBLE PAYING DUES

If you are having trouble paying dues, please reach out to Marilyn Friedes at [marilynfriedes@mac.com](mailto:marilynfriedes@mac.com). We are committed to helping our families remain a part of the EBJC community when the need arises.

### SHABBAT SERVICES

Shabbat services will continue to be outdoors on Friday evenings at 6:00 p.m. and will be available on Zoom as well. Saturday mornings at 9:30 a.m. The link to join will be found 15 minutes before services begin on our website at [ebjc.org/services](http://ebjc.org/services).

### ONLINE EVENTS AND UPDATES

Go to the Online Events page under the Events tab on our website, or go to [ebjc.org/online-events](http://ebjc.org/online-events), to stay up to date on events being held online during the quarantine. Also look for updates from the Rabbi, Cantor, and co-presidents under the Clergy and Lay Leaders tab.

### OFFICE HOURS

The office is staffed Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.; however, the office is currently closed to visitors.

### ZOOM HELP

For those of you who are having difficulty using Zoom or the Zoom update, please let us know. We will be happy to give you a call and walk you through it. Just call: 732-257-7070 x1 and leave a message. Someone will get back to you.

### BIKUR CHOLIM

Bikur Cholim would like to reach out to our congregation during this difficult time. If you would like a friendly call or know someone who might need a friendly call from a member of the Bikur Cholim committee, please contact Madeline Frances at (732) 254-2783 or email [madelinef18@gmail.com](mailto:madelinef18@gmail.com).

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

The Fundraising, Membership and Programming Committees have been working diligently researching and finding programs that will be of interest to our diverse group! Aside from Tovah Feldshuh, we are booking a Comedian and Mentalist to entertain for another "Saturday Night Date Night". We have not forgotten about our Hazak group. We are in the process of "booking" some interesting speakers and programs, not only for Hazak but for everyone! All of these will be offered on the Zoom platform, as legally and for your safety and well



## OCTOBER 2020

**Board of Directors** 10/19  
(Zoom)

**Executive Board** 10/5  
(Zoom)

**Genesis Science** 10/5, 12,  
19, 26(Zoom)

**Parshat Hashavuah with  
Rabbi Pivo** 10/2, 9, 16, 23,  
30(Zoom)

**Lunch and Learn** 10/7, 14,  
21, 28(Zoom)

**Talmud Class** 10/7, 14, 21,  
28(Zoom)

**Youth Commission**

—— THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS ——  
CONDOLENCES TO:

Naomi Weiss on the loss of her husband, Paul Weiss

Judi Salant on the loss of her mother, Ann Breitman

MAZEL TOV TO:

Judi and David Oshinsky on the birth of their grandson, Sam Hillel Oshinsky Abramson,  
to Mimi Oshinsky and Zach Abramson

Elissa and PJ Smith on the birth of their new grandson, Henry Theodore Smith

Gladys and Howard Sommers on the birth of their granddaughter, Wynn Mila Sommers,  
to Blair and Craig Sommers

Ellen and Robert Botwin on the birth of their granddaughter, Aubree Shea Nock

**Death Be Not Proud**

In the midst of the coronavirus, EBJC lost one of its best,

Ninety-nine-year old Les Deutsch was laid to rest.

A giant of a man gentle, gracious and always smiling,

For us he made coming to shul joyous and inspiring.

When I came to Shabbat services, I always looked,

To see if Les was there for I was hooked.

A more pleasant person you will never meet,

Such a wonderful soul, gentle and sweet.

Les was taken from us all too soon,

With no warning at a time so inopportune.

I am sitting here with a heavy heart and a great big void,

I feel like a part of me was just destroyed.

Les was what was best about EBJC,

Standing tall, a regular fixture for us all to see.

He was only ninety-nine, but independent and true

I was hoping we could celebrate his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, too.

Les was taken from us much too early,

He's headed up to the gates that are pearly.

Death be not proud, no, death be not proud,

I say to heaven talking out loud.

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## BAT MITZVAH



Hello! My name is Ana Bornstein. I'm 13 years old. My Bat Mitzvah was this past spring on May 16, 2020 and I had it from my home through zoom, due to the pandemic. Even though, I didn't expect to have it in that way, I was very excited to see family and friends from overseas ( Argentina, Israel, Mexico, and Paris) as well as from different parts of the United States ( Ohio, Florida, Arizona, and New Jersey) that were all able to watch in this way. This was an unexpected benefit, which made it all the more meaningful on my special day. My Bat Mitzvah project is to collect new toys for Sharsheret, a non profit organization dedicated to improve lives of Jewish Women and families with a high genetic risk for breast or ovarian cancer, as well as related cancers such as pancreatic, male breast, and prostate cancer. The toys collected are presented to the young children of mothers undergoing cancer treatments, in order to divert them a little from the situation. If you're interested to help me with my project, you can go to the website <https://sharsheret.org/cms/assets/uploads/2020/03/Ana-Bornstein.pdf> and donate through Amazon . I would really appreciate your kind gesture.

Thank you!

Ana Bornstein

### **Pediatric and Adolescent Associates of Central New Jersey, L.L.C.**

Dr. Robert S. Salston  
Dr. Jeffrey P. Herman  
Dr. Henry T. Shih  
Dr. Maheswari Arumugam  
Pamela J. Donner, P.A.

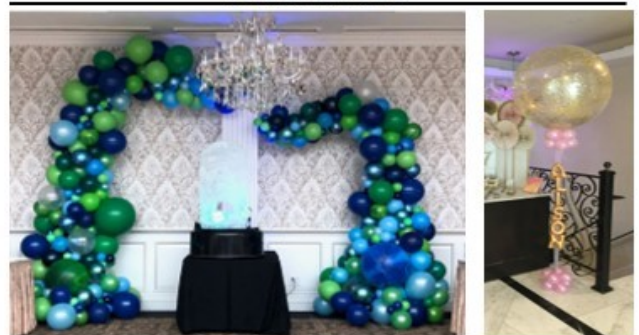
100 Perrine Road  
Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Tel: (732) 316-0900  
[www.paacnj.com](http://www.paacnj.com)

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# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By the time this Recorder is sent, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur will be behind us, and we will be in the Jewish Year of 5781. Hopefully with Hashem's help, this year will see a vaccine for COVID 19, everyone getting back to some sort of normalcy, whatever that may be, and a thriving EBJC. May everyone have a sweet and healthy New Year.

As this is our first article, we wanted to begin by explaining the objective of the Membership Committee and introducing the committee members. The committee was formed many years ago and has gone through several different iterations. We are tasked with ensuring that our congregants are happy with all that the Shul offers and to promote a sense of belonging and connection. We encourage those who have suggestions, complaints, etc., to feel free to contact anyone from our committee and share your thoughts and ideas for programs or voice your dissatisfaction and concerns.

Now for the introductions. Taryn Webber and Ken Gerson are presently the co-chairs of the committee and joining us are our other committee members- Ellen Botwin, Hollie Cerame, Rick Rollman, Karen Rosen and Bruce Sommers. Our Executive Board liaison is Rhoda Cohen. Each member of our committee will have a turn writing an article for the Recorder each month. This will allow everyone on the committee to express their own thoughts and provide their unique perspective and views as it relates to the Membership Committee.

In the past years, we have spearheaded numerous Shabbat themed services, such as Cancer and Heart month, Veterans, Volunteer and Grandparents Shabbats, just to mention a few. We also have had Friday night dinner/services – Tiki Bar, Blue Jeans Shabbat and a Sephardic weekend Shabbat. During these past several months since the COVID19 outbreak, we have contacted all the high-risk congregants, several times, to ensure they are doing well and to offer assistance in shopping for food or pharmaceutical products they may need and are unable to get. We will continue to do this going forward. So, if you or you know someone of need, please feel free to reach out to anyone on the Membership Committee, and we will coordinate shopping with you.

This past month we ordered dinners from Bridge in Highland Park, which a number of our members took advantage of and picked-up their meals at EBJC. We will also be offering a Zoom experience by Cantor Robyn Helzner who will educate, entertain and captivate everyone with her storytelling, songs and personal experiences in Jewish China where she “officiated at the first bar mitzvah held in Beijing.”

Our committee is small, but we would like to expand and have more voices involved in planning events for our Shul members. If you would like to join the committee or just offer some assistance in one of our many programs, please email Taryn Webber or Ken Gerson at [kgerson7@gmail.com](mailto:kgerson7@gmail.com) or [tkwebber4@gmail.com](mailto:tkwebber4@gmail.com). Every bit of help is so appreciated!

L'shana Tova,

Ken Gerson and Taryn Webber

# CENTER FOR EARLY LEARNING



## The Center for Early Learning @ EBJC

We love having our little friends back in the building. We are so excited to announce that the Center for Early Learning has expanded to 3 classes. Our school would like to welcome Jodi Aronowitz to our staff. Morah Jodi is a mother of 2 and a longtime resident of East Brunswick. She has 19-year experience in preschool and we are lucky to have her.



We made shofars, apple and honey plates, round challah covers, and Mini books about the Chags.



Our 3 classes do Zoom Shabbat Sing-A-Longs with the Rabbi every Friday.

If you know anyone interested in our school please have them contact Lynda Perel @ [Lperel@ebjc.org](mailto:Lperel@ebjc.org) or call 732 257 7070



# RABBINIC REFLECTIONS

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After Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we turn immediately to Sukkot and Simhat Torah. Having expunged our transgressions before God during the ten days of repentance, we then focus on the themes of home, sustenance, and the joy of surviving into this year. Sukkot, an eight day festival, leads into Simhat Torah, a one day celebration. For eight days we recall the dwellings of our ancestors and the years spent wandering in the wilderness, then conclude the entire festival cycle with the joy of Torah, of beginning a year of study again.

In the pre-modern Jewish world, there were two ways to get yichus (literally connections, to

be seen as “high class”). One was to be wealthy; marrying into a wealthy family was a hope for many Jewish families. The other way was to be learned, or to marry into a learned family. Being learned did mean having expertise in medicine or business; it meant knowing Torah, Talmud and their associated commentaries. These two paths, money and knowledge, were paths to the top of Jewish society. The contrast is striking: Those with wealth did not need Jewish knowledge; those with Jewish knowledge did not need wealth. The two were seen as being equivalent in terms of social prestige.

Jewish Americans, as a group, tend to belong to the middle and upper economic classes. But how many of us, regardless of economic standing, would be considered to be knowledgeable Jews? Over the last hundred years, many Jews chose to focus on building economic capital at the expense of Jewish capital. As I mentioned during the High Holidays, this year of quarantine is an

opportunity to catch up on the other path to Jewish respect and admiration.

Our adult education will formally commence after Simhat Torah. Check out our website for the full schedule, and get involved in one or more of the wonderful classes that we will be offering. We are emphasizing Jewish skills, text study and discussion this year, as we build up our Jewish souls by engaging in the study that Simhat Torah celebrates. Now is the time to learn Hebrew reading, to master Torah and haftarah chanting, to understand the what, why, and how of Jewish living. Let’s make this year one where we make the most of the chance to build up the yichus of Jewish knowledge!

Rabbi Jeff Pivo





## Cantor's Corner:

With the High Holidays just a little behind us, we are in the midst of the holiday of Sukkot, or as the Torah calls it "Hehag," The Holiday. I was reading about some of the Psalms that we recite daily from the book, "My Prayer", by Nissan Mindel. On any of the pilgrimage festivals of which Sukkot is one, we recite Hallel, a series of Psalms, praising God through song. While this special section of selected psalms is recited exclusively on the holidays, there are a group of psalms recited everyday in the morning service that begin with Psalm 145, known as the Ashre. The beautiful psalm, Ashre, introduces a series of Psalms which have been inserted into the daily morning service at the suggestion of Rabbi Jose, who said: "May my share be with those who complete Hallel every day."

Our Sages tell us: "Whoever says this Psalm (145) three times daily, will have a share in the future world."

This Psalm contains letters of the entire Aleph-Bet (except the letter nun) in correct order at the beginning of each sentence. It also includes the passage: "You open Your hand and feed each creature willingly,"

which is a statement of the Divine Providence caring for every form of life. The specific importance of Ashre is therefore expressed in the two thoughts that God's praise is sung in all letters, which means in all possible forms of human expression, and that God takes care of all creatures.

Psalm 145 proper really begins with the words "Tehilah L'David." Our Sages supply the reason why the Psalm is introduced with the verse Ashre ("Happy are they that dwell in Your house; they will be ever praising You.") The Mincha service begins with Psalm 145, and the verse of Ashre was put before it as an introduction and fitting beginning. This introductory verse stuck to Psalm 145 even though, in the morning, this Psalm figures in the middle of the service.

There is also a very good reason why this Psalm was framed by two other passages, namely, in the beginning, "Happy is the people whose fate is such, happy is the people whose God is the Lord," which is the last verse of the immediately preceding Psalm 144, and "But we will bless God from this time forth and for evermore; praise You God," at the end. For these two sentences throw the proper light upon the contents of Psalm 145.

The Jewish view of God differs essentially from that of other peoples in the conception of God's Providence and mercy. "Don't be like others," calls Rabbi Akiba to the Jewish people, "who honor their gods when they fare well and curse them when they suffer bad luck. . . . You are Jews; when God brings you happiness praise God, and when God causes you suffering, praise God too." This recognition of the all-merciful love of God, which is

always good to us, regardless whether it appears to us to be good or bad is expressed in the various sentences of Psalm 145. The sentences alternately praise God's greatness, mercy, justice, providence, and omnipotence, to show that everything that happens does so because it fits into the Divine scheme of the universe and, therefore, is bound to be good.

The letter "Nun" is missing in the Aleph-Beth of Ashre because, as our Sages explain, it is the initial letter of the word n'filah, meaning downfall. However, King David did not leave it out completely. The next sentence that begins with "Samekh," expresses the thought that God supports and raises the falling.

Psalm 145 is brought to a conclusion in the last sentences which praise God as the One to Whom all the living have to look for their support; as the One Who is "Chasid," merciful beyond the strict demands of justice, to those who call upon God in true devotion. The very final passage of Psalm 145 sums up with the statement that Israel will never stop praising God's glory until "all flesh bless God's holy Name for ever and ever."

On behalf of my wife, Laura, my children, Samantha, Avi, Heather, and Jeremy, I wish you and your families a Hag Sameah and a wonderful Sukkot holiday.

Larry I. Brandspiegel

Cantor/ Director of Education

# FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



What a challenge it has been trying to organize and coordinate High Holiday services this year. I don't know what I was thinking. I thought it would be easier, but coordinating indoor, outdoor, zoom and an additional Torah reading service was enough to make anyone go a bit crazy. I can tell you that the Rabbi, Cantor, Bob, Steve and I started zoom meetings way back in early May when we realized that this pandemic wasn't going anywhere, anytime soon. We met every week on Monday at 11:00 a.m. On top of that we formed a medical committee to advise us and the religious committee got involved as well! It was all hands on deck!

I'm sure we can all agree that this holiday was like none other. On the first day of Rosh Ha'Shannah, after services, we go to my friend Linda's house for dinner. We've been doing this for well over 20 years. That didn't happen this year, so I started a new tradition with my 3-year old

granddaughter, Sayona...we made challah! She was so excited and couldn't wait to eat it when it came out of the oven. I made dinner for a small group; my daughter, son-in-law, and his parents, people we've been seeing regularly. Small, but still nice and whether this becomes a new tradition or not, it was very special.

It's also interesting to hear members talk about the Zoom services as well. Will this be a new tradition? Will we continue to zoom when the pandemic has been officially cleared? No one knows, but it is heartwarming to hear how much our members appreciate the service and feel that if they cannot attend in person, it's the next best thing possible! Meanwhile, we'll continue to create new traditions and find new meaning in family get-togethers, eating out, backyard barbecues and holiday celebrations.

I'm pleased to say that although we cannot have Kiddush together as we had in the past, Sisterhood will be offering individually wrapped "snacks to go" for those that come to indoor services. Every arm of the synagogue; Sisterhood, Men's Club, New Era Club, Membership Committee, and Fundraising Committee are working hard to offer interesting and engaging programs, most through zoom.

In a couple of weeks, my new

granddaughter, Aubree Shae will be named at Beth El Synagogue. It won't be like Julia and Sayona's where we had a large family gathering at my house. This time it will be with the same group that came to my home for the holiday. Different, but special.

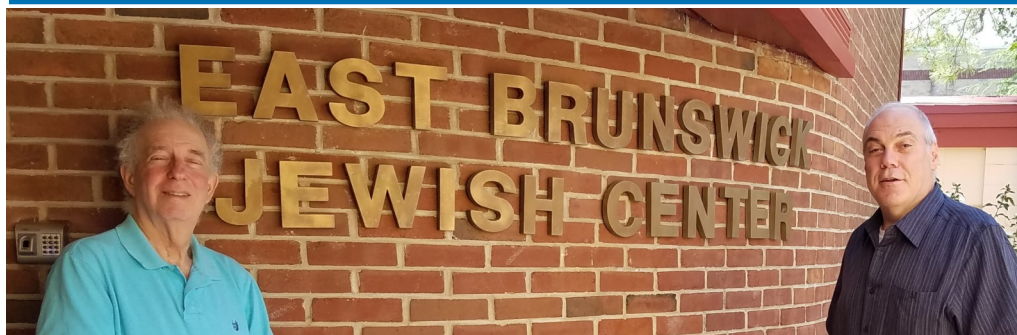
So, as we all embrace new traditions and live within the "new normal", I hope that you all had a good holiday as well as an easy and meaningful fast. I look forward to seeing you all either virtually or in person (at least much of you since most of your face will be covered). Let's see what new traditions Thanksgiving will bring!

May you be well,  
Ellen





# FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



Below is a transcript of my Yom Kippur Appeal speech given in shul on the afternoon of Yom Kippur.

This is the first time since I became a member of EBJC in 1983 that a current president of the synagogue has given the Yom Kippur (formerly known as the Kol Nidre) appeal. They say that extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures, but my reasoning was more simple. Since I was going to speak today anyway, I've just spared you one extra speech.

When I was an undergraduate at NYU, a blood drive was being held. All around campus there were posters advertising the drive. Since this was in the early 1970s you could expect some graffiti on some of the signs. One in particular caught my eye. It read, "They've gotten all our money, now they want our blood." Well, you have already given us your blood. This community should be very proud of the fact that we have held an annual blood drive for the past 30 years, and we have always had excellent participation. Yasher Koach. But today, I am asking you for some of your money.

People often say that all we ever do is ask for money, and truth be told, we do this frequently. If you get an aliyah, we ask for a donation. For a Simcha Cake greeting, we ask for a donation. For a yahrzeit, another donation. I sometimes feel like the Master of the House in Les Mis (charge 'em for the lice, extra for the mice, two percent for looking in the mirror twice). But the truth is that our dues only account for 47% of our total expenses. We can't print money, so the shortfall has to come from somewhere. Those expenses include mortgage service, utilities, insurance, and payroll expenses. Those four big ticket items amount to over \$900,000. Additionally, last year we raised over \$50,000 from the sale of pews and High Holiday tickets. As you know, this year there was no charge for attending our services either in person or on Zoom, and, clearly, there was no defensible reason to charge for pews..

Our administration has worked with our executive director and clergy to cut expenses as much as possible. From March 13th when we closed the shul until very recently when we reopened, we turned off the heat and air conditioning. We put much of our staff on furlough, which was a very painful thing to do. We applied for and received a Paycheck Protection Program loan from the Small Business Administration. We spoke with TDA

bank which holds our mortgage and deferred payments until the end of the year. The extra payments were tacked onto the end of the loan increasing the term, but not affecting our monthly payments. And, we deferred all discretionary spending. We did not want to waste your money.

With the understanding that the COVID-19 pandemic affected many of you economically, we realized that some of our members would not be able to pay their dues obligations this year. We, therefore, formulated an austerity budget. The bottom line of that budget was a shortfall of \$139,000. That is why we took the painful step of instituting a one time COVID-19 assessment on our membership. Although many of you understood why we did this, there were a significant number of people who did not think this was needed, and quite a few of them called me to tell me this. We reluctantly did what we felt we had to do to assure the continued success of our synagogue, we went to our membership, to you for support.

Think about what EBJC does for us? Yes, we have daily services 365 days a year, and on Shabbat we give you a choice of egalitarian or traditional minyanim with a full Torah reading in each service. We are here to support you when you are in need. If you are hospitalized, you can expect a visit from our Bikkur Cholim committee (of course, COVID-19 temporarily put the kibosh on that). When you suffer a loss, our Mitzvah Corps will provide a shiva minyan in your home (again, either egalitarian or traditional). During the pandemic, many of you volunteered to do the grocery shopping for those members who did not feel safe going to the store. What fantastic acts of chesed you performed. We are also here to celebrate with you. A Bar or Bat Mitzvah, an auf ruf, or just a special birthday or anniversary is more special because there is a community here who sincerely shares in your happiness. We have a very successful Keshet program, our Hebrew School. Our preschool was oversubscribed this year so we had to add an additional class. We have Kadima and USY groups for our tweens and teens. Hazak programs for our seniors. And we offer numerous adult education classes.

But a synagogue is much more than the physical building, the clergy, the staff, the classes and programs, and even the lay leadership. We are a kahal, a holy congregation. The founders of this synagogue realized this in 1959 when they formed EBJC and left us this wonderful legacy. Community

is what binds us. The best evidence of this has been the attendance at our Zoom services. More people have attended our weekly Erev Shabbat services on Zoom than had usually come in person before the pandemic. This brings to mind the night of Thursday, March 12th. Our Religious Committee met in my dining room that night and recommended that our synagogue close. Rabbi Pivo, Cantor Larry, Steve Zeidweg, and I met by telephone conference call (I hadn't heard about Zoom at the time) and decided to accept that decision. In retrospect, it was a self evident conclusion, but at the time, it was not clear what the correct decision should be. We then decided that we should stream our services, a decision that Rabbi Pivo ruled we could do because of the extraordinary times we were entering. I didn't get to bed until 2:00 that Friday morning. But by the next evening we were streaming Shabbat services; thanks to Eric Rabinowitz for providing us with our first platform, Microsoft Teams, before the world discovered Zoom, and to Steve Zeidweg for purchasing and connecting the hardware.. What is so special about these streamed services is not only that so many lay people have participated in Torah and Haftarah readings from home, or the B'nai Mitzvot we celebrated virtually, but also the chance to schmooze with other community members before and after services. Think about it. We stayed connected during the height of the lockdown. And if 7-year-old Marley Robbins is watching, I want to thank you for bringing a smile to my face every time you wished us a Shabbat shalom or laila tov.

I'm not asking for your support today because I need an ego boost, or because my own personal livelihood depends on this shul. I'm asking for your support because this community means a lot to me, and I know it means a lot to you. We all want to see it thrive. We are blessed with a Rabbi and Cantor who work together and complement each other. I love praying with this community. I love the support I receive when I need it. And I even love the passion that people display when they complain to me, which, believe it or not, occasionally happens. I love this because it proves that people really care about EBJC. So think about how we would feel if we lost all of this. Where would you be today, right now, if EBJC weren't here for you? We need this kahal. When I spoke to you on Yom Kippur last year, I shared with you the teaching of Hillel in Pirkei Avot, Al Tifrosh min ha tzibur; Do not cut yourself off from your community. I'll add to that today: don't allow our community to falter.

On Yom Kippur we hear the stirring u'netneh tokef prayer, who shall live and who shall die? Who by fire, who by water, who by pandemic? It ends with the refrain, u'teshuvah, u'tefilah, u'tzedakah ma'arvin et roah hgezera; repentance, prayer, and charity can annul the severity of the decree. You've been praying today, and I truly believe everyone has been repenting. So now here's your chance to make a gift of tzedakah to EBJC. I know some of you have already made a pledge. Todah Rabbah. I'm asking everyone else to be as generous as you are able. If you gave a contribution last year,

thank you. Would you consider increasing your contribution this year? If you haven't made a contribution before, how about donating what you would have paid for tickets this year if we charged for tickets (that's \$36 dollars per person), or maybe even more? If you are a guest tuning in on Zoom, we would appreciate your support as well. You can donate right on

our website, ebjc.org. If you found our services inspiring, you might even consider joining EBJC!

Your shul needs your support so that it will always be here to support all of us. I'm not asking you to give until it hurts. I'm asking you to give until it feels good.

You all know by now that I end my announcements each week by reciting the first verse of Psalm 133 as a reminder of how important and beautiful this community is. It should never get trite, so let's sing it together. Hinei ma tov uma na'im shevet achim gam yachad. How good it is that friends and family gather together. May Hashem continue to bless this holy community.

G'mar Hatima Tovah. On behalf of my wife Liz, my children, Michael, Jennifer, and Rabbi Rachel Salston, may you and all whom you love be sealed in the book of life for a happy, healthy, safe year. May this sacred community go from strength to strength.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Salston

L'Shannah Tovah,

This has been quite a year. I can say that both Bob Salston and I continue to give our full efforts. When I became Co-President, I was told that it is a thankless job, but I learned that people do actually acknowledge and appreciate our efforts, especially during this pandemic. I want everyone to know that it is my honor, my privilege, and my pleasure to serve this Shul.

As we focus on continuing a climate of religious, financial, and structural stability, I have become very close to Rabbi Pivo, Cantor Larry, and Bob. More than ever before, and during this pandemic, these relationships allow us to guide this Synagogue. Ellen Botwin, along with Cheryl Decker and Nicole Cavalli, in the office, have been instrumental in assisting us.

So, looking back to yesterday's world, we all knew what the problems were at EBJC. All you had to do was go to a Kiddush after services and listen to the conversations. In retrospect, the problems from the past take a back seat to the obstacles we face each day from this pandemic. As we overcome these obstacles, we become stronger, smarter, more empathetic, and more resilient. When we look back, we will say and be proud of the fact that EBJC survived and is better than ever.

At present, we are focusing on providing secure and safe in-person services and events along with continuing virtual services for Traditional and Egalitarian observance, while continuing to run the business at EBJC and maintaining our financial stability. We are encouraging efforts by our clergy and administration to continue to reach out in so many different ways to touch our congregation.

This year, we are working with a strong group of people on both the Executive Board and Board of Directors. The Men's Club, Sisterhood, and the

Membership, New Era, and Long-Range Planning committees continue their efforts in bringing new and innovative ideas that keep our members connected and actively involved, as well as trying to appeal to prospective members. These are crazy and trying times, and our Shul will continue to be there for you.

I want everyone to know that it took a great deal of planning to responsibly open for in-person services. Just as in a school, a restaurant or an office, there will always be the risk of possible exposure. We have taken all precautions to minimize this risk. Granted, the in-person attendance has been underwhelming at best, and I understand the reluctance to come to services as people are afraid, and rightfully so. And for these people, we will continue to Zoom indefinitely. However, just like anything else at EBJC, there are people who take the opposite view, and to them in-person services are important.

For those of you who come to services, it may seem that we are taking a hardline approach in following the guidelines from the CDC, and frankly, I feel like a grade school teacher when I have to tell people to "watch your social distance" and "keep your masks on". But, I do this because everyone's continued good health is of major concern to us, and we will continue to promulgate and enforce all means necessary to conduct in-person services in a safe manner. We will continue to adhere to the concepts of social distancing, mask wearing, and hand washing. As we have witnessed, we were able to mitigate a possible exposure by following Health Department guidelines.

I also want to talk about supporting our Shul as we continue to move forward. Trust me when I say that no organization is guaranteed to live without good management and the financial support from the group that it serves. We are continuing with our business model within EBJC that promotes transparency, financial integrity, and accountability, including the use of actual data to control and report our financial position. We developed realistic budgets and were right on budget until the middle of March when Covid struck. Financially, we are currently stable, and we continue with proactive measures that will protect our financial position during these times. The Shul is still running and we incur operating as well as fixed costs. We lost a good part of our rental income, gala income, along with the income generated from our High Holiday Services. We did plan and appropriate for this in our current budget; however, we still need your continued support.

People say "the Shul is only virtual" or "I don't even go there". They use it as an excuse for not donating or not wanting to pay their dues. Please remember that without your dues and your contributions, this Shul will not be able to sustain itself. When you have a life cycle event, whether happy or sad, and you need the Shul, it is here for you, virtually and in-person. That should be justification enough to donate and feel good about it.

We will continue to explore different opportunities in keeping our congregants involved and bringing in other revenue, and I know this congregation will survive, and it will flourish. But, again, keep in mind that we will always need your help and continued support, knowing that without all of you, we would have no Shul. Please never forget that.

Let me conclude with a couple of thoughts. EBJC is resilient and will survive during these trying times. We have a dedicated staff and great

volunteers who will make it work. There can be no doubt. We come to EBJC in good times and in bad because this is where we are grounded. In this crazy world, we unite here and feel at peace with the clergy and seeing the friendly faces on Zoom services and events, and now at the in-person services as well. This brings me to the most important point: that all our EBJC congregants are extended family to us, and we have to remain close. And, as we get through this together, we will get closer yet. When all of us, and I mean all of us, physically get back together, we should and we will appreciate each other more than ever.

On behalf of my family, Marci, Rachel, Jack, and myself, we wish all of you a Happy and a Healthy New Year.

Shana Tova.

Steve Zeidweg



# SISTERHOOD



)Autumn...the year's last, loveliest smile."-William Cullen Bryant

For those of us who embrace Autumn, October is a welcome transition. The heat is finally behind us, cool winds start to blow, and there are visible changes all around—leaves turning colors, pumpkins appearing on front porches.

We celebrate the festivals of Sukkot and Simchat Torah with joy and promise in our hearts, and look forward with anticipation to what's ahead. Sisterhood will not disappoint in that area. We have so much planned and offer a distinct opportunity for the women of our synagogue to learn, discuss, worship, and party together.

**\*\*Our Sisterhood Membership Campaign for 2020-2021 is in full swing. We thank those who have already demonstrated their loyalty and commitment by renewing their membership, still for only \$36. We're off to a great start, but there's still plenty of time to join. Since Sisterhood contributes annually to EBJC, a strong Sisterhood ensures a strong shul! Please send your check to Membership VP Cindy Rabinowitz today.**

**\*\*Torah Fund 2020-2021 Campaign has begun. This year's theme--B'YACHAD (Together)—recognizes the joint efforts of Sisterhood volunteers across the U.S. and Canada. Each of us is strengthened by the unique gifts our Sisters offer on behalf of Conservative/Masorti Judaism. The Torah Fund supports the Conservative education of clergy, administrators, and lay leaders within our Movement. Donations of any amount are welcome! Contact Jody Bramson at JLBrams@aol.com or 732-991-8410 to do your part. Although the pins are delayed this year due to the pandemic, our commitment to Torah Fund remains strong.**

These past months we have bonded over the following programs/events—

Thursday, September 3—Sisterhood member Liz Salston led a lively Zoom discussion: Creativity in the Midst of Covid-19. As a retired social worker, Liz emphasized the importance of remaining

active and engaged during this trying period. She shared her beautiful artwork and projects, including a family tree, a New Year's card, and exquisite paintings. Kudos to Liz on a job well-done.

Thursday, September 10—Our Virtual Paid-Up Membership Event was a one-of-a-kind experience, thanks to both Classical Caterers and the Jewish Museum of Florida. The evening began with a choice of scrumptious pick-up meals, then onto a sensational program. We were guided through an online tour of the Judith Leiber, Master Craftsman exhibit at the museum. This display of the coveted purses from the late talented Holocaust survivor was a visual treat. Many thanks to the museum staff, to Liz Salston, who connected us to her longtime friend at the museum, to Cindi Jacobs, who did an outstanding job coordinating this popular event, and to Margot Julis, Amy Schonfeld, Frances Maier, and Claire Rosenthal for "sharing" the personal Judith Leiber purses in their lives.

Sunday, September 13—ROAD RALLY—Sharlene Harris Libowsky led a unique adventure through East Brunswick. Participants were presented with a set of clues that evolved into a scavenger-hunt-style race. Final destination—the Amazing Savings parking lot, where everyone enjoyed a delicious dinner from Giddy's! Congratulations to the top three couples: Theresa Seidler and Joe Rutch, Marla and Marty Genée, and Carol and Jack Goldberg. All the rest of the participants were "Honorable Menschen." Road Rally was so popular that many members are requesting it become an annual event! THANK YOU SHARLENE!!

On the Horizon

Thursday, October 15 --Book and Author Event-- The Yiddish Gangster's Daughter by Joan Lipinsky Cochran—"meet" the author of this intriguing saga of a family secret that challenges many relationships.

Wednesday, October 28--Great Jewish Women of the Arts--Pay tribute to ten of the most accomplished Jewish women in comedy, acting, writing, sculpture. Hear their fascinating stories and learn how Judaism impacted their body of work.

Thursday, November 12—Sisterhood Book Discussion—our next quarterly group features Saving Sophie by Ronald H. Balson. Available in print and digital formats. You are welcome to attend whether or not you have read the book.

Thursday, December 3—How Do You Define Yourself—Jew, American, or Humanist? Prepare yourself spiritually for Chanukah by engaging in this compelling debate.

Plus—stay tuned for information on a winter education series led by Rabbi Pivo!

**PURCHASING SCRIP IS AN EASY WAY TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SISTERHOOD THROUGH THESE TRYING TIMES!** We have gift cards available to Shoprite, Acme, and Lox, Stock and Deli. Most of us are

still patronizing these stores, so why not help out Sisterhood in the process. Contact Cheryl Decker at 732-257-7070.

We also have a limited supply of new Women's League for Conservative Judaism (WLCJ) calendar diaries for 2020-2021. This calendar, priced at \$12, is the perfect size for your handbag, and it is chock-full of extras, including prayers, special dates, and WLCJ contact information. If you'd like one, please write to Sara at [tranquill7@aol.com](mailto:tranquill7@aol.com). There are only a few left, and we can arrange for "contactless pick-up."

Although the health crisis has limited our physical "togetherness," we cannot allow it to dampen our spirit. We faithfully remain united in our common affection toward the values of Judaism and the beauty of women's fellowship.

This fall, join us for one or more of these events. Your participation enhances and enriches our bond as a Sisterhood. Let's treasure this unique time.

Happy Autumn,

Sara Ullman      [tranquil77@aol.com](mailto:tranquil77@aol.com)  
732-261-0591

Cindi Jacobs  
[cindi\\_jacobs17@yahoo.com](mailto:cindi_jacobs17@yahoo.com)  
732-690-2743

After weeks of planning the EBJC Road Rally, the big day finally arrived, and we had sixty participants divided into 25 cars, lined up and ready to unravel the clues. Some teams began by heading straight to “Sky High Acorns” “With the Fringe on Top” and took their team photo with the bamboo. Others were told not to strike out and to score a home run – and to head to the complex where kids have fun. They had to give a cheer when they discovered when it opened - the month and the year. And thus, our Road Rally participants were off on an afternoon of adventure. Some of the comments were:

“This is just what we needed!”

“We had no idea that East Brunswick had so much to offer!”

“We had such a great time and so many laughs!”

“Let’s make this an annual event!”

“And where was the cute little dog on the bike?”

We all met up in front of Giddy’s for a delicious boxed dinner at the end! We recognized three teams of perfect or near-perfect scores, but undoubtedly there were 25 teams of winners. All who participated were Honorable Menschen! Thanks to everyone who supported this event, and thank you to Meri Pearl, Gloria Jaslow and Sara Ullman who were unable to attend but who sent in donations. Here are a few photos for you to enjoy!



## **SISTERHOOD AT YOUR FINGERTIPS**

**The Sisterhood Judaica Shop** is your source for beautiful giftware, books, candles, head coverings, children's items and more. **Since shopping in person is not an option right now, if you see an item online, contact our Judaica Shop managers and they will assist you in your purchase.**

Browse the beautiful collection of gifts, home furnishings and Judaica for all occasions online.

If you don't see what you are looking for, our Managers will get it for you.

Contact Cindy Rollman 908-812-6713 or Caroline Steinberg 732-735-6641

**Gift cards** is an easy way to help the Sisterhood raise funds by purchasing gifts for ShopRite, ACME, Lox, Stock & Deli or Giddy's. **We all have to grocery shop during the Pandemic, and you are going to spend the money there ANYWAY!!! What could be easier?**

Contact Judy Klotzkin 732-390-6140 or scrip@ebjc.net

**Bimah Baskets** – for any Simcha...A “**virtual**” beautiful basket with food items will be placed on the Bimah prior to Shabbat. A card will let your guests know that a donation has been made in honor of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah child. You can also order a Bimah Basket for ANY occasion you'd like!

Contact Lory Pelofsky 732-254-6851 or Sheila Behrman 732-238-1476

**JNF Trees** – to purchase trees-Contact: Diana Horowitz 732-390-9058

**Cards, Tributes & Tree of Life** - Contact: Bernice Bellows-732-254-4103; Beth Belzer 732-238-7925

**Torah Fund** – Contact Jody Bramson – 732-390-5166 jlbrams@aol.com

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## **SISTERHOOD ALWAYS NEEDS YOU.**

### **ESPECIALLY WHEN WE ARE ALL VIRTUAL!!**

**EGALITARIAN SHIVA MINYAN**—Stand up and be counted—literally! Bereaved families now have the choice to welcome either a Traditional or Egalitarian Shiva minyan into their home to join in the reciting of Kaddish. Being a member of the Egalitarian Shiva minyan is a deeply rewarding opportunity for women to demonstrate their compassion toward fellow congregants. You will leave feeling that you have truly performed a worthy mitzvah and made a difference.

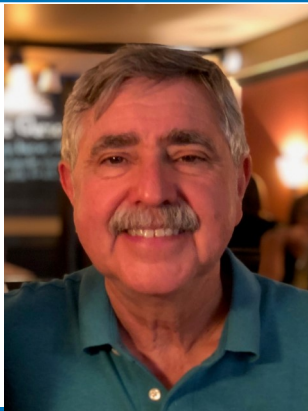
**BIMAH SITTING FOR SHABBAT AND HOLIDAYS**—Enjoy the services from a different vantage point! A Sisterhood member who started sitting regularly says ***“I’ve gained an entirely different perspective of the service and I find it even more spiritual”***. Volunteer to sit on the Bimah, to represent Sisterhood, during Shabbat or Holiday Services. Contact Gloria Jaslow for more information at 732-247-4869 or [glorichi@aol.com](mailto:glorichi@aol.com)

**KIDDUSH COMMITTEE IS CALLING YOU!!!**—We have an amazing group of volunteers who make the Shabbat Kiddush happen each week, but we still need YOUR HELP to keep the Shabbat Kiddush experience going. We need plattering assistance Friday mornings at 10:00 AM in the dairy kitchen. We need shoppers to Costco and ShopRite AND we need your financial support of Kiddush. Without your participation, the old-time Kiddush of cake and wine will be making a return appearance! Call or text Margot Julis 732-672-8089. Thank you!

**KIDDUSH COORDINATOR POSITION AVAILABLE!** We are looking for one or two dedicated people to take over the Kiddush Coordinator position that Sylvia Halpern has held for many years. Please contact Margot Julis 732-672-8089 or [magooj1211@comcast.net](mailto:magooj1211@comcast.net) for more information and to find out how you and your besties can share this rewarding experience.



# MEN'S CLUB



Shalom!

While I am writing this just before Rosh Hashanah, when you read this, I suspect the holidays will be over and we will be reading from the beginning of the Torah one again. One more time, let me hope that the new year will be a better one than the last one!

One of the good things about last year was that EBJC Men's Club again won the FJMC Quality Club award. This award is granted after a thorough review carried out by the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs. We are proud to say that EBJC has won the award every year since it has been instituted. Yasher Koach to our last president, David Julis, for keeping things together as things got difficult – FJMC agrees you did a great job!

The big project that Men's Club does each year before Rosh Hashanah is to share L'Shana Tova greetings among members of the EBJC community. This year we defied the virus and proceeded to deliver to everyone a Zadies challah, honey, cookies, and candles. It seems to have been well received. As one delivery person said, "Everyone was all smiles!" The support we received from the EBJC community was very enthusiastic this year, more than even last year, which was the record until that point. While I don't claim to know why for sure, it seems that given the social distancing imposed by our COVID situation, we had a need to reach out and greet each other. In any event, this was a big

project - what you see in these pictures is about 90% of the bags that needed to be delivered this Rosh Hashanah. I truly have never seen more than 350 challahs in one place at one time! My sincere thanks go out to all those who participated both in sending greetings, and those who worked so hard to put them together and deliver them.



In September we held one of our "Hearing Men's Voices" programs, on the topic of Work and Worth. It was a good opportunity for us to share with each other our views on how we identify with our jobs, how for some men their work IS their hobby, how some men are threatened by retirement, in that they are afraid that they will lose their identity, and so on. Judaism has important lessons to teach us on this subject, and we pulled in several ideas such as our need to work as part of our punishment for eating the forbidden fruit in Eden, and God's commandment to periodically cease from work. Our thanks to our moderator, Jordan Feldman, who did a great job facilitating the meeting in spite of our need to use Zoom, which was not the perfect forum for this discussion.

We have plans for several interesting

programs in the next several months. On October 22, we will be hearing from our own Alan Brodman, who for many years taught at East Brunswick High School. Alan is a fascinating and inspiring person, who worked with our children for many years to make them better citizens. His topic is "The Importance of Creating Good Citizens in a Democratic Republic," which will be a great program to hear just before Election Day!

And on November 15 we will have an exciting program put together by Mark Foladare and Deena Oren, in which we will hear from several people in the Israeli startup scene about their experiences. More information on both of these programs will follow via email and Tidbits as we get closer to them.

As always, we welcome your participation in these programs. And let me know if you have suggestions and ideas for programs and activities that are of interest to you. Reach out to me any time at [howard\\_jacobs20@yahoo.com](mailto:howard_jacobs20@yahoo.com).

As we do every year, this fall we will honor a Man of the Year and a Youth of the Year for service to the EBJC community. However, given our current virus situation, the award ceremony, usually a nice dinner in a catering venue, will likely be different this year. Stay tuned for information on this year's honorees!

Thank you for your interest in Men's Club!

Howard Jacobs  
Men's Club President



# KESHER AND YOUTH GROUPS



*Hello Keshet and Youth Families,*

*We are definitely off to an interesting start this year. However, I am happy to see how many students are in-person learning, those taking in the Zoom sessions so respectfully, and the passion of our youth to be together no matter what.*

*We have a great team working together to provide the best for our children. We welcome new teachers, Debbie Gerber, Justin Hirsch, and Heather Brandspiegel, while we continue to applaud our veteran teachers, Michal Shmuel, Ira Sperling, and Lauren Kreisberg. Of course, a special thanks to our Youth Advisor, Erin Kaplan, for keeping our youth programs going so strong.*

*With this great team in place, and through partnering with all of our families, I know that even with the ongoing daily situation we are encountering, we will make this a wonderful year of learning and fun. We already had a Hallah Bake with the New Era group and thank Marna Erlich and Sara Blivaiss for making that such a great event.*

*There is so much happening between the holidays and getting used to the “changed” style of meetings, so please see your calendar for information about special events and look for emails regarding any special changes or updates.*

*It is never too late to register, so please feel free to reach out to friends with children who may be interested in joining in the learning at Keshet or in the fun with Chaverim, Kadima and USY.*

*As always, if you have any questions, please email me at [cantorlarry@ebjc.org](mailto:cantorlarry@ebjc.org)*

*Larry I. Brandspiegel*

*Cantor/Director of Education*

# TORAH FUND CAMPAIGN 2020-2021

## LET'S KEEP IT GOING...

The Torah Fund Campaign invites dedicated women to ensure the future Conservative Jewish education of our cherished community leaders—rabbis, cantors, educators, administrators, and lay leaders

### *This Year's Theme - B'Yachad (Together)*



*Wearing this pin signifies the triumph of Sisterhood members working together year-round to make important contributions to the Jewish community through their volunteer efforts at synagogues across the United States and Canada.*

*Each of us is one small nugget of gold, but together our unique gifts reflect the light inside us and help each other shine. Together we celebrate our shared yerushah (heritage) as proud Jewish women affiliated with the Conservative/Masorti Movement. Join us!*

*As Women's League for Conservative Judaism enters its second century, and the State of Israel approaches its 73rd anniversary, Torah Fund embarks on its 79th year. We look forward with joy to our future together with you, our Torah Fund supporters.*

*Any contribution is greatly appreciated!* With a donation of \$180 you become a benefactor and acquire this beautiful pin. (Payment plan through May 1, 2021 is available.) Your workplace is also eligible to make a matching contribution.

*Order your pin today and receive it in time to usher in the New Year.*



#### **An Official Statement From:**

*Barbara Ezring, International Torah Fund Chair, Women's League for Conservative Judaism*

*Lisa Paule, Torah Fund Director, Jewish Theological Seminary*

*At this time, the Torah Fund office and JTS remain closed. We cannot send printed materials or pins yet. We will keep you informed about changes and as soon as it is safe for our staff to return to the Torah Fund office, we will begin the process of distributing the B'Yachad pins and greeting cards. Please, continue to wear the beautiful Chesed pin.*

# ADULT EDUCATION

EBJC offers a full range of adult courses designed for all interests and at various days and times. If you want to learn something that is not currently offered, let us know!

## AVAILABLE CLASSES

### SHABBAT MORNING CLASS

Saturdays | 9 a.m.

Join us for Rabbi Pivo's Saturday morning class at 9 am, where we study the weekly parshah prior to Shabbat services. Reflecting on the Chumash and ancient and modern commentaries, we discuss the roots of our ancient culture and the timeless values of the Jewish people.

### GENESIS SCIENCE CLASS (STREAMING)

Mondays | 8:30 p.m. in the library

This class combines a rigorous textual analysis of the biblical verses with knowledge from external sources, including history, science, linguistics and archeology. We meet every Monday evening at 8:30 pm for about one hour in the library at EBJC. After more than 12 years, having started from the beginning of Genesis, we are currently in the middle of Deuteronomy. The plan is to proceed in order through the other books of the Hebrew Bible.

### TALMUD CLASS (STREAMING)

Wednesdays | 8:30 p.m. in the library

This class brings to life the voices, discussions and debates of our sages as they formulated Jewish Law based on the traditions and foundational texts received from ancient times. We meet every Wednesday evening at 8:30 pm for about one hour in the EBJC library. Currently we are studying tractate Kiddushin which concerns the laws of marriage.

### LUNCH AND LEARN (STREAMING)

Wednesdays | 12 p.m. | Room 8

Monroe Lunch and Learn

Once a month we meet with Rabbi Pivo in the homes of various congregants. These sessions have been very interesting and well attended. Please call Howard Jacobs at 732-402-2273 or at [howard\\_jacobs@ebjc.net](mailto:howard_jacobs@ebjc.net) for details on upcoming dates, to get on our Monroe mailing list, with questions and to reserve your spot.

### HEBREW READING CLASS (CANCELLED)

Thursdays | 7 p.m.

Focus is on parsha and biblical understanding. A small donation of \$10.00 for four sessions is requested. For additional information about the class, please contact Ora Rotblum at [orarotblum@yahoo.com](mailto:orarotblum@yahoo.com) or 732-390-0314.

### ISRAELI DANCE (CANCELLED)

Beginners:

Mondays | 7:00 p.m.

Intermediate/Advanced:

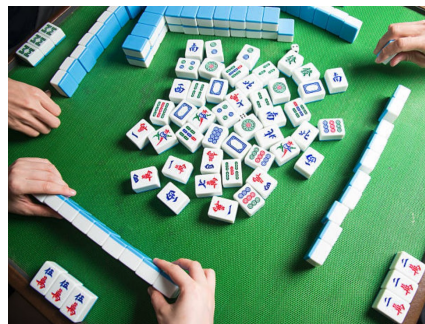
Mondays | 8:00 p.m.

Come and stay for as long as you can! \$10.00 per session fee.

### MAH JONG GAMES (CANCELLED)

Mondays | 7 p.m. | Room 9

Come and join us for friendly Mah Jong games! All levels, including experienced as well as beginners, who will be eagerly taught, are welcome.



RE\*NEW~~~ RE\*FRESH~~~ RE\*JUVENATE~~~ RE\*ENERGIZE



\*\*\*\*\* RETURN TO SISTERHOOD \*\*\*\*\*

## A STRONG SYNAGOGUE DEPENDS ON A STRONG SISTERHOOD-WHY???

Even through this PANDEMIC, Sisterhood is STILL responsible for contributing approximately \$15,000 annually to the Synagogue. This includes the operating expenses, Kiddush (when we are back together again), Scholarships, USY, and Kadima.

\*\*\*\*\*

**WE KNOW SISTERHOOD NEEDS TO BE RELEVANT TO YOUR LIFE:  
IT IS! THROUGH ZOOM, WE WILL HAVE PROGRAMMING!**

\*Education, Social & Cultural Programming

\*Networking Opportunities

\*Community Outreach Opportunities

\*Fundraising

\*Personal Development Opportunities

\*Membership in Women's League

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**Our Membership Drive for 2020-21 is under way.**

**Dues did not go up! It's just \$36.00 to join!**

**Need more info?**

**Contact Cindy Rabinowitz, VP of Membership. [cindy.rabinowitz@comcast.net](mailto:cindy.rabinowitz@comcast.net) or 908-307-5768.**

**Please make your \$36.00 check payable to EBJC Sisterhood  
and mail it to Cindy. 17 Starr Rd., East Brunswick, NJ 08816**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE # (IF DIFFERENT) \_\_\_\_\_

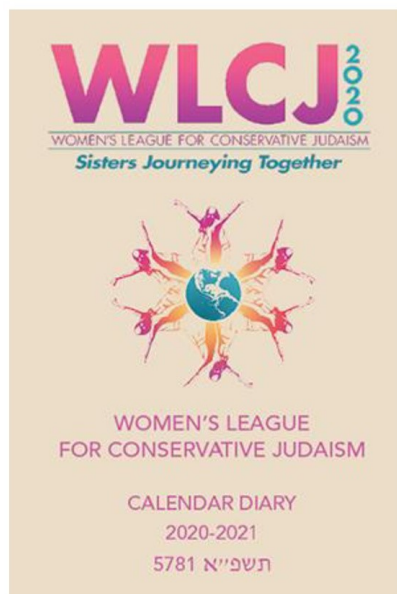
BEST TIME OF DAY TO CONTACT YOU. \_\_\_\_\_





## EBJC SISTERHOOD WOMEN'S LEAGUE CALENDAR DIARIES ARE HERE

Get Organized in the New Year with this lovely Women's League calendar diary. It's the perfect size for your handbag and is full of extras like Shabbat and holiday listings; Candle lighting times around the world; ample room for notes; Prayers and berakhot; Mourner's Kaddish, translated and transliterated as well as informative essays to introduce each month.



Makes a great gift! Show your support for  
"Sisters Journeying Together."

**Email Sara Ullman at [tranquil77@ aol.com](mailto:tranquil77@aol.com)  
to reserve your diary for the low price of \$12.00 each**

# Robyn Helzner presents

## *Kreplach & Dim Sum* *Yes, There Are Jews in China!*

Sunday, October 18th at 5:00 pm  
LIVE via Zoom 



**Celebrate the extraordinary presence of Jews in China LIVE via Zoom!**

Through lively stories, photos, video and music, Robyn Helzner shares an irresistible enthusiasm for both the ancient and modern Jewish communities of Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Kaifeng. Robyn served as the Cantor for the United Jewish Congregation of Hong Kong and officiated at the first Bar Mitzvah ever held in Beijing. Enlightening and entertaining, *Kreplach & Dim Sum* has been wildly popular, nationwide.



*Absolutely fascinating! The perfect blend of music, education and entertainment.*

Executive Director, Jewish Educators Assembly,  
Cedarhurst NY

*My community was thrilled to listen and learn from Robyn's delightful presentation.*

Cantor, Temple Emanuel, Kensington MD

**A donation to EBJC of any amount, to offset the cost of this program, would be greatly appreciated. To register for your Zoom link, visit [EBJC.org/events](https://www.ebjc.org/events) or call Ellen at 732-257-7070**



**Participating Organizations:**

East Brunswick Jewish Center - Congregation Torat El - Highland Park Conservative Temple/Congregation Anshe Emeth - Jewish Community Center of Paramus/Congregation Beth Tikvah, Paramus NJ - Jewish Federation of Ventura County - Congregation Beth Israel





East Brunswick Jewish Center  
is pleased to present

# Tovah Feldshuh

*Up Close and Personal*

November 7, 2020

8:00pm Zoom



## MEET TOVAH

Spend an hour with this Broadway treasure as she talks about her 45-year career on The Great White Way.

Best known for her stunning portrayal of Golda Meir in Golda's Balcony on Broadway and her role as Rebecca's mother in Crazy Ex-Girlfriend, Tovah Feldshuh's career runs from Cyrano to Pippin, from Yentl to Irena's Vow, and includes Lend Me A Tenor, and more. Her performances have garnered her 6 Tony and Emmy nominations.

## BEHIND THE SCENES

Be party to the inside scoop, the backstage stories, and the audition process -- the victories and defeats, all of which were turning points in her career. Be party to Tovah's long-standing commitment to the Jewish People!

## PLEASE JOIN US ON NOVEMBER 7TH AT 8:00PM

\$180 Sponsorship includes:

- Four zoom tickets (one zoom view of four or two zoom views of two)
- Pre-show zoom "Chat with Tovah" before the program begins
- Sponsors will be honored and recognized in a Separate email, in tidbits and on the EBJC website

\$18 tickets/ person (one zoom view for one)

Register at [www.ebjc.org](http://www.ebjc.org) under 'events'

Questions? Please email Ellen at [ebotwin@ebjc.org](mailto:ebotwin@ebjc.org)



HIGHLAND PARK  
CONSERVATIVE TEMPLE  
*Congregation Anshe Emeth*





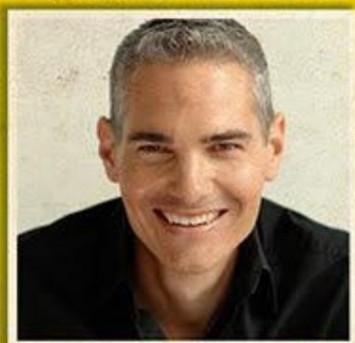
# EBJC **Comedy, Anyone?** **YOU READ MY MIND!**

Support EBJC  
this season by  
supporting  
programs like  
this--No joke!



Comedian Joel Chasnoff  
and  
Mentalist-Magician Jason Suran  
team up for an all-star hour of virtual entertainment!

**JOKES, MIND READING, LAUGHTER, MAGIC...  
THIS HILARIOUS AND  
RIVETING SESSION  
HAS IT ALL.**



**Joel Chasnoff**

Is a stand-up comedian who's performed at more than 1,000 Jewish events worldwide, and author of the memoir "The 188th Crybaby Brigade." More at [www.joelchasnoff.com](http://www.joelchasnoff.com)



**Jason Suran**

Is a world renowned mentalist and magician who's appeared on NBC, performed for the Philadelphia 76ers basketball team, and played Carnegie Hall. More at [www.jasonsuran.com](http://www.jasonsuran.com)

**Tuesday,  
December 15  
7:30 pm Zoom**

**Register for \$18/pp (\$54/family max)  
[www.EBJC.org](http://www.EBJC.org) and click on 'events'  
or call 732-257-7070**

Partnering Organizations:  
Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple  
Congregation Torat El  
Highland Park Conservative Temple/ Congregation Anshe Emeth  
Jewish Community Center of Paramus/ Congregation Beth Tikvah





## Become a Dream Weaver

**Take advantage of the partnership EBJC Sisterhood has with the Neve Shalom Sisterhood “Loom Room” in a safe and sanitized environment\***

### What's Your Favorite Color???

No two are the same! Each of the over 250 items woven in the Loom Room are all different and reflect the personality, preferences, and style of the weaver and those for who the item is woven. The colors, the striping patterns, the size, the embroidery... it is all customized, personalized, and unique! Volunteers from the Loom Room work with you every step of the way including help with the design.

Customize your design! Use your favorite colors. Let the design reflect the portion chanted for a bar or bat mitzvah (the colors of each of the 12 tribes on the left). Add custom machine embroidery (Cherry blossoms? Trees of life? Pomegranates? Or?) Use your name or a favorite Hebrew quote on the neckband (atarah).

It is a fascinating, meaningful, and rewarding experience – plus it's easy! Let us help you design and weave a Judaic heirloom.

Have your own “priceless” experience by weaving a tallit, challah cover, tallit bag, matzoh cover, afikomen bag or even a chuppah! Make an heirloom for yourself, with or for someone special.

**Give it a try!! YOU can do it!!**



For

more information and to schedule your time on the loom, contact:

Margot Julis (EBJC contact) 732-390-1245; magooj1211@comcast.net

Cory Schneider phone: 717-574-1807; corstan65@gmail.com or

Jennifer Bullock phone: 732-906-8565; rnjbullock@aol.com

**\*The Loom Room is located in an area of the synagogue that is only used by weavers. Social distancing can be observed.**

DONATION LIST WAS MADE AS OF AND INCLUDING SEPTEMBER 30 -IF YOU MADE A DONATION AFTER THIS DATE, IT WILL BE IN NEXT MONTH'S RECORDER.

## ALIYAH

Sara & Jeff Blivaiss

Sara & Jeff Blivaiss

George & Susan Karp

Deena & Yigal Oren

Jacqueline Shagam

## CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

David & Karen Blivaiss in appreciation for demonstrating leadership and compassion

Neil and Carol Tendler & Family in thanks for the inspiring services

## GENERAL DONATIONS

Craig & Deborah Berger in honor of Andie Wasserman's Bat Mitzvah

David & Karen Blivaiss in honor of Ellen & Robert Botwin on the birth of their granddaughter, Aubree Shae Nock

David & Karen Blivaiss in memory of Paul Weiss

Audrey Botnick in honor of Andie Wasserman's Bat Mitzvah

Ellen Botwin in memory of Ann Breitman

Howard & Amy Cohen in honor of Sherryl & Mickey Kaufman for their special friendship

Howard & Amy Cohen in memory of Lester Deutsch

Howard & Amy Cohen in memory of Howard and Norman Sorkin's sister, Sheila

Howard & Amy Cohen in memory of Raymond Sasson

Martin & Marla Genee in memory of Dora Ferman, Morris Genee, Harry Goldman, Ida Goldman & Jennie Landua

Inge Gross in appreciation of all the Services streamed on ZOOM, and the extra effort that it entails by Rabbi Pivo and Cantor Larry Brandspiegel.

Ariel & Laura Haskel in honor of Andie Wasserman's Bat Mitzvah

Warren & Susan Leber for making online holiday services available to non-congregants.

Bernice Manheim in memory of Paul Weiss

Adam Miner in memory of father , Lawrence Miner. ....( I have been able to observe Shabbat Services and High Holidays with EBJC thanks to my brother Ethan Miner providing a link to your online services.

Deena & Yigal Oren in honor of Andie Wasserman's Bat Mitzvah

Renee Pfefferbaum in honor of Andie Wasserman's Bat Mitzvah

Edward & Susan Pilcer in memory of Stephen Pilcer

Dov & Barbara Pollak in memory of Paul Weiss

Christopher Robbins L'shanah Tovah U'metukah.

Stanley & Gail Rubin in memory of Abraham Rubin

Alexander & Rita Ryslik

Robert & Liz Salston in honor of Andie Wasserman's Bat Mitzvah

Scott Schwartz in recognition of all that EBJC has been doing before the pandemic, but especially after.

Jacqueline Shagam in memory of Daddy (Melech ben Yaakov and Dora)

Kenneth & Judith Streisand in memory of Les Deutsch

Ronald & Laura Sucher

Steven & Sara Ullman in honor of Cindi Jacobs' Special Birthday

Martin & Rita Bornstein in honor of our daughter Ana's Bat Mitzvah—we are very proud of you

## YAHARZEIT

Gary & Gail Appelbaum in memory of Dorothy Appelbaum

Michael & Janet Bellish in memory of Robert Bellish

Gary & Joan Busman in memory of

Pete Dloss in memory of Louis Dloss

William Eckstein in memory of Renee Eckstein

William Eckstein in memory of Charles Zeidner

Gary & Roslyn Frank in memory of Meyer Frank

William & Janet Fromkin in memory of Belle Stein

# DONATIONS

## YAHREZEIT (CONT.)

Rosalyn P. Goldstein  
in memory of Helen  
Fichtenbaum

Inge Gross in memory  
of Fanny Beer

Martin Hecht in  
memory of Margo  
Hecht

David & Mindy  
Himelman in memory  
of Rita Jacobowitz

Neil & Gail Kosher in  
memory of Eva Kosher  
and Morris Kosher

Neil & Gail Kosher in  
memory of Nathan  
Kosher

Roy & Linda Levi in  
memory of Henry Levi

Ira & Elise Merkel in  
memory of Julius  
Toubine

Sally Needle in  
memory of Sydney  
Golembe

Deena & Yigal Oren

Elliott & Lynda Perel in  
memory of Dora Perel

Arnold & Diane Riback  
in memory of Paul  
Riback

Richard & Cincy  
Rollman in memory of  
George Schisler

Stanley & Gail Rubin  
in memory of Abraham  
Rubin

Jill Rubin in memory of  
Abraham Rubin

Rita Sason in memory  
of Sarah Sason,  
Hayim Sason and  
Isadore Brosbe

Paul & Leslie Schoen

Reina Schuldiner in  
memory of Albert  
Schuldiner

Edward & Ellen  
Seckler in memory of  
Irene Seckler

Theresa Seidler in  
memory of David  
Michael Seidler

Nelson & Arlene Silver  
in memory of Jeanette  
Schenker

Michael & Sefi  
Silverstein in memory  
of Shamai Safier

Paul & Roberta  
Solomon in memory of  
Erna Einhorn

Howard & Barbara  
Sorkin in memory of  
Marshall Sorkin

Lewis & Janice Stolar  
in memory of Miriam  
Stolar

Steven & Sara Ullman  
in memory of Erika  
Ettner

Arnold & Lori Wallis in  
memory of Paulette  
Wallis

Sidney & Ruth Ellen  
Weiss in memory of  
Ratzi Nussbaum

Neil & Amy Weiss

Paul & Renee  
Weissman in memory  
of Sarah Roditti

Jerry & Helen Wexler  
in memory of Rose  
Krawczyk

Thelma Zalewicz in  
memory of Charles  
Zalewicz

Steve & Marci  
Zeidweg in memory of  
Marilyn Lerner

Rosalyn Zell in  
memory of Paul Zell

Anita & Herman Price  
in memory of Minnie  
Fuchs and Norma  
Mahler















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