



the RECORDER

EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER



APRIL 2020

NISAN—ADAR 5780

VOLUME # 99

We are working tirelessly to keep the lines of communication open. We are always available if you wish to talk, just chat or need assistance. All phone calls to the office and separate extensions can be obtained remotely. We are here for you.



SHABBAT SERVICES

Shortened services are being held online at the following times. To join the stream, visit ebjc.org/online-events

Tsav
April 3 | 6:00 pm
April 4 | 10:00 am

Pesach
April 10 | 6:00 pm
April 11 | 10:00 am

Shmini
April 17 | 6:00 pm
April 18 | 10:00 am

Tazria-Metzora
April 27 | 6:00 pm
April 28 | 10:00 am

Achrei Mot—Kedoshim
May 1 | 6:00 pm
May 2 | 10:00 am

PRIMARY CONTACTS

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Men's Club President

David Julis

Youth Commission

Rhonda Gold

Membership Committee

Ken Gerson

Chairperson, Special

Circumstances

Marilyn Friedes

Community Outreach

Eric Rabinowitz

Director of The Center for Early

Learning

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APRIL DATES

AS OF THIS WRITING, MOST PROGRAMS, EVENTS AND CLASSES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED, POSTPONED, OR ARE BEING LIVE STREAMED. PLEASE READ TIDBITS AND EMAILS TO BE UPDATED AS THINGS CHANGE AND EVOLVE.

ONLINE SERVICES AND EVENTS—EBJC.ORG/ONLINE-EVENTS

UPDATES FROM THE RABBI, CANTOR, 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

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. We are committed to helping our families remain a part of the EBJC community when the need arises.

SHABBAT SERVICES

Shabbat services will be hosted online Friday evenings at 6:00 pm and Saturday mornings at 10:00 am. The link to join will be found 15 minutes before services begin on our website at 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, 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.



APRIL 2020

Board of Directors 4/27 -
Possibly by Virtual Meeting

Congregational Meeting 4/23—
Postponed

Executive Board 4/6 Virtual
Meeting

Genesis Science 4/6, 13, 27 Live
Stream

Lunch and Learn 4/1, 15, 22, 29
(Live Stream)

Talmud Class 4/1, 15, 22, 29
(Live Stream)

Youth Commission

THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS

CONDOLENCES TO:

Brad Cohen on the loss of his mother, Audrey Cohen

MAZEL TOV TO:

Tiffany and Adam Benaroya and Karen Shuster on the baby naming of their son and Karen's grandson, Maddox

Sharlene Harris and Dave Libowsky on the engagement of Sharlene's daughter, Jennifer Margulis to Dan Dozark

Deborah and Craig Berger, and to Ron Berger, on the Bar Mitzvah of their son and grandson, Alex .

Linda and Roy Levi on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Sam Levi.

Carol and David Weisfelner on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Mitchell Bloom.

Meredith and Marc Pearl on the birth of their granddaughter, Isla Mia Pearl.

Terri and Jack Silverman on the birth of their granddaughter, Hailey Emerson Weiss, to Laura and Eli Weiss.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Dan, Alexis, and Jordan Scheiman

A Letter from a Congregant During COVID 19

March 21, 2020

My Dear Congregants:

As we all learn social distancing and the other advice to slow down the spread of the Coronavirus, I had some thoughts I wanted to share. First, I appreciate the electronic connect-edness Steve Zeidweg, Eric Rabinowitz and others devised to allow Rabbi Pivo and Cantor Larry to lead us in our novel services. I loved how we switched to Bob Salston's home this morning for the announcements. Very impressive.

Sherryl and I have been members of EBJC for 40 years and I know all the Congregation's presidents during the time. While we have had lawyers, businessmen, engineers and others, I don't believe we ever had a medical doctor serving as president, until now. And, a security expert. Many Jews either hold by "there's no such thing as a coincidence" or at least heard the phrase. So, I thought it was interesting to note, that just now when we are in the midst of an altogether different threat to our community – a silent and invisible one – we are fortunate to have at the helm Bob and Steve, who bring us these unique skills, just when we need them. I'm sure neither expected that their experience and expertise would become so significant and so needed when they signed up (or permitted to be drafted) to be our lay leaders.

On the ritual side, I have never seen, certainly not at EBJC, such a wonderful collaboration on the clergy side as between Rabbi Jeff and Cantor Larry, doing their utmost to lead us and allow us some respite from life's current challenges. What we are more used to is the childish jealousies between these professions, but here in EBJC in 2020, we have the most wonderful clerical cooperation from which we can benefit daily.

So, while we go on with our daily challenges of avoiding social interaction, which people crave, and worry for our loved ones, we have these wonderful lay and professional leaders giving the best of themselves to aid and lead us while we navigate uncharted territory. Our appreciation goes out to them.

To my fellow congregants, I hope and pray that we all come out of this unscathed and we can return to a normal life; even one where we vigorously debate and challenge each other on our political and ritual views. I'm certain that tradition will survive. I just hope to have a nice, loud, safe kiddush to celebrate with all of you sooner rather than later.

On behalf of my family, the best wishes to each of you. Stay safe,

Mickey Kaufman

THANK YOU

I'd like to thank everyone for their congratulations and best wishes for my being named the EBJC Men's Club Man of the Year. In addition a special thank you to those who supported me by attending the dinner, posting journal ads, and making other donations in recognition of the honor.

This great outpouring is one of the many reasons I'm proud to be a member of the East Brunswick Jewish Center.

Marc Pearl

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your expressions of comfort and sympathy on the loss of my mother, Annabelle Block Temkin. The loving support of friends at this difficult time made it easier and means a lot.

Sheila Davidoff and Family

Dear EBJC Family,

We would like to thank Rabbi Pivo, Cantor Larry, Sisterhood, Mitzvah Corp and out EBJC family for the overwhelming love and support in memory of our Mother and Grandmother, Arline Shore. We are also grateful for all the food, cards, tributes and donations. Your kindness at this difficult time of our lives is greatly appreciated.

With love,

Phil & Jody Bramson

Kelsey & John Casey

EVENT SPOTLIGHT

SAVE THE DATE



Check your email and visit our website for up-to-date information about online events and future events.

ebjc.org/online-events

RABBINIC REFLECTIONS



It has been said that one who fails to prepare, prepares to fail. Pesakh, particularly the seder, requires more advance preparation than any other holiday, but good planning can make it a wonderful family experience. This year we should all devote ourselves to these preparations to truly feel that we are telling the story of our deliverance as well as re-experiencing it. If there ever was a time to be mindful of our redemption from slavery after a plague, this is the year.

Because of the worldwide crisis we are living through, EBJC has shifted to online

services, classes, and other resources. As we all prepare for seder, please consult the Rabbi and Cantor pages of the shul website for information about seder preparation, melodies that Cantor has recorded, and other Pesakh materials.

Pesach is usually a time of inclusion. We welcome family and friends into our homes and share the seder's rituals, a festive meal, and share memories of seders past. Many Jews open their homes to their non-Jewish friends to share the experience. This year is different, because we are congregating in much smaller numbers now, I expect many of our sederim will be smaller affairs than usual, but we can still feel connected to each other knowing that Jewish houses around the world are engaged in seder.

Just as our ancestors survived the plagues in Egypt, we too will survive this plague as a people, and when our scientists and

doctors find ways to treat and even prevent this illness, we will truly come out of Mitzrayim again.

Chag same'ach,
Rabbi Jeff Pivo



With Pesach on its way this month, we concern ourselves with cooking, cleaning, and all the preparations. The Seder always seems to be the focal point of this holiday, and why not? Great food, wonderful singing, and a hope that will bring us all closer to redemption and Israel.

Two important aspects of the Seder are inviting all those who are hungry to come in and be part of the festivities, and opening the door in hopes that Elijah will visit and bring us word of our future.

Elijah, the mysterious prophet, the one who was scooped up in a chariot and taken off into the heavens. The fifth cup of wine that we fill is for Elijah. The stories of Elijah center on acts of doing good and just, and helping the poor and those in trouble. Elijah will announce the future of peace for all people. However, before this can happen, we need to do our part. We need to show that we are ready. Here is a story that can

explain how:

"It happened a long time ago when Elijah the Prophet wandered unknown through the Land of Israel. There lived a poor farmer and his wife who worked hard, but were unable to earn enough to feed or clothe their children.

One day an old beggar appeared. 'Have you anything to eat?' the beggar asked the farmer. 'We have little enough for ourselves,' sadly explained the farmer. 'But come, share the bread that we have.'

As the meal ended, the beggar turned to the couple. 'In thanks for your kindness, you will have seven good years, with plenty to eat and clothes to wear. Do you want those years now or at the end of your life?'

At first the couple did not believe the old man, for what could a beggar give them. But when he insisted, they decided to take the seven years right away so they would be able to feed their children.

Within a few months, the farm started to do well, and the money began to pour in. The farmer wanted to build a fancy house, and hire servants, but his wife thought better of it. 'Let us build up this farm, so that when our seven years of good fortune end, we will still be able to support ourselves and the children.' Her husband agreed. So they enriched the soil,

planted new crops, and saved whatever they could.

When the seven years were up, the beggar, who was really Elijah, returned and saw all the couple had done. 'You no longer need my blessing,' he explained, 'for you will live well all the days of your life, thanks to your hard work and good judgment. Know too, that these seven years of goodness were yours because of the kindness you showed to a poor beggar. May God be with you.' And with that, Elijah disappeared.

The farmer and his wife continued to live well all the years of their lives. And never was a beggar ever turned away from their home."

May your Pesach and your lives be enriched with only goodness, and may your good judgment and hard work make you caring and compassionate this year.

On behalf of my wife, Laura, my children, Samantha, Avi, Heather, and Jeremy, I wish you and your families a filling, enjoyable, and enriched holiday.

Larry I. Brandspiegel

Cantor/ Director of Education

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



As of this writing, the world seems to be in a panic regarding the Corona Virus. Not that we shouldn't be diligent or aware, but people are actually panicking and hoarding.

A couple of days ago, I went to Shoprite to do my regular shopping and it was as if a swarm of locusts passed by and devoured everything on the shelves (how appropriate since Passover is right around the corner). I hadn't really given a ton of thought regarding how the outbreak would have an effect on paper goods or canned goods, and forget about trying to find anything that could mildly be considered a disinfectant! Purell is now worth as much as an ounce of gold! Granted I exaggerate, but really? An 8 oz. pump bottle of Purell is being price gauged at anywhere from \$8.00 - \$15.00. I'll live without it or make my own. I'm pretty crafty and there are tutorials as to how to do this. Then there's

the toilet paper. What's with that? I understand having an extra 6 or 12 rolls in the house, but what are people doing? Preparing for months of isolation with the possible chance of getting the "runs"? How much toilet paper does one need? And yet, the shelves were pretty empty. Good thing my husband subscribes to several newspapers and periodicals (just kidding... well, maybe not since time will tell).

In the several weeks between this writing and you receiving the Recorder, things might change unfortunately and most likely for the worse. We cancelled Hazak for March, we cancelled lunch and learn on Wednesdays until further notice and we postponed the Broadway Revue to Sunday, May 31st. Hopefully by then, things will have improved as the weather gets warmer.

Since it is suggested that 60% alcohol is recommended in any solution to make sure it effectively disinfects, I may consider taking up drinking. I figure if my blood contains 60% alcohol, I'm pretty safe!

Meanwhile, let's try to keep our sense of humor and stay calm. I doubt I'll start wearing a mask mostly because you can't get them, because only certain types are effective, and because I really hate the feeling of things covering my nose and mouth. I'm not cancelling Passover at my house yet and I'm not going to go

crazy unless told to do so! I will continue to wash my hands and I will probably increase my use of hand sanitizer (of which I already had before the price gauging). I'll fist bump or elbow bump or hip bump or do whatever the latest "bump" that's recommended.

I am still going into the office as well as working from home. If you leave a message on my extension, I will get it.

I hope you are all staying well,

Ellen

FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



Bob Salston and Steve Zeidweg
Co-Presidents,
East Brunswick Jewish Center
presidents@ebjc.net.

March 24, 2020
28 Adar, 5780

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."--Coretta Scott King

The *Recorder* went to press late this month due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 (Corona) virus and its effects on EBJC. After nearly 2 weeks of sheltering in place, we are taking a collective breath and reflecting on how our community has responded to this unique challenge. And although this is still a work in progress, the response of EBJC from its clergy, staff, lay leadership, and membership has been phenomenal.

On Wednesday, March 11th, with the advice of a committee of physician members (Dr. Laura Brandspeigel, Dr. Richard Drachtman, Dr. Louis Friedman, Dr. Philip Schiffman, and Dr. Robert Salston) EBJC decided to close for 2 days to thoroughly clean and sanitize our building. The following night, our religious Committee met off premises and, after a long discussion, recommended that we no longer hold Shabbat or other services communally. The

administration and clergy met late into that evening and decided to accept the recommendation and close our building to all activity. In less than 24 hours, thanks to the technical help of Eric Rabinowitz and Co-President Steve Zeidweg, we were able to implement virtual services led by Rabbi Pivo and Cantor Larry. To date, over 50 families have viewed all or some of these services. It was heartwarming to still feel part of a greater *kehilah* while being socially isolated, especially when, at the conclusion of services, members unmuted their microphones to wish everyone else a Shabbat Shalom.

Our usual schedule of classes (Judah Landa's *Science and the Bible* and Talmud classes, Rabbi Salston's *Hands on Judaism* class, and Rabbi Pivo's *Lunch and Learn*) are already or soon to be viewable online. Our preschool and Kesher teachers have been reaching out to their students via the internet, and Rabbi Pivo continues to play his guitar and sing Shabbat songs to our preschoolers via the web.

From the moment that the decision to close was made, Rabbi Pivo's concern has been how to reach our senior citizens who would be most vulnerable to social isolation. Our

Membership Committee under the able leadership of Ken Gerson and Taryn Webber has been calling all members over 70 to say hello, see how they are doing, and asking if they required any help in obtaining groceries or any other needs. *Yasher Koach* to them. And Rabbi Pivo and Cantor Larry will be reaching out to all our members over the next several weeks as well.

We would be remiss if we didn't thank our maintenance staff, Jose and Leo who worked tirelessly to clean our building. And thank you to Ellen Botwin, our Executive Director, who has overseen all the efforts necessary to close our physical plant as well as continue to keep the EBJC family connected.

As we approach Pesach, also known as Z'man Cheirutenu, the season of our freedom, we should all pray that we will be delivered from this current plague to the freedom of good health for ourselves and our families. We should also be thankful that we have an amazing community that we can rely on, even when we must stay apart. Chag Sameach.

Bob Salston
Co-President, EBJC

CENTER FOR EARLY LEARNING



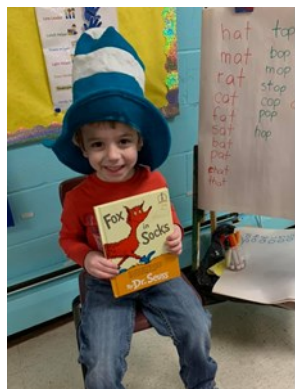
LYNDA PEREL
EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR



The Center for Early Learning @ EBJC



We had a blast celebrating PURIM, Read Across America, and the 100th day of school!



Registration is now open for our 2020-21 school year! Go to EBJC.org to register. For more information contact Lynda Perel at Lperel@ebjc.org.

KESHER AND YOUTH GROUPS



Hello Keshet Families and Youth,

It is hard to believe that we are already in the month of April. This year is flying by. We have some exciting and interesting events ahead. First, normal Keshet classes will be held on Wednesday, April 1st (no foolin'), Sunday, April 19th, Wednesday, April 22nd, Sunday, April 26th, and Wednesday, April 29th. Youth Night for USY, Kadima, and Chaverim will be on Wednesday, April 1st. We will have Shabbat School, Shabbat B'yachad, and Shabbat Y'ladam on Shabbat, April 4th. We will not have sessions during Passover from Wednesday, April 8th through Thursday, April 16th. Keshet High School will meet on Wednesdays, April 22nd and 29th. For our families, there will be a Yom Hashoah commemoration service on Monday evening, April 20th and there will be a Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration on Tuesday, April 28th at 6pm. For our Heh (5th grade) class there will be a special pre-Bar Mitzvah meeting on Sunday, April 26th from 10:15am-11:15am.

The May calendar will be sent out in the next Recorder. Please mark your calendars that the last day of Keshet for our Gan, Aleph and Bet will be on Sunday, May 17th and the last day for our older grades will be on Wednesday, May 20th.

Registration for next year will be coming out soon, so please check your emails, so that you can register early for Keshet and our Youth Groups.

Of course, please look out for emails and other announcements regarding any changes to our dates and programs.

Finally, a little tidbit for your Passover celebration...

At the beginning of the Passover Seder we are instructed to take the middle matzah, break it in half, and put half aside (hide it) and use it for the Afikoman, the dessert, nearing the conclusion of the Seder.

Some people allow the children to hide it, while the adults search for it, hence, a reward is given to the children for its return. Some households will have the adult hide the Afikoman and the children will search for it, hence a reward is given to the children for it being found. Somehow, the kids always seem to make out pretty well.

Alas, the Afikoman must be eaten by midnight, so that the Seder will go on and everyone can go to sleep, which is usually pretty easy after eating all the food and drinking the wine.

Afikoman is a Greek word and we think it means dessert. However, some say that the word has an Aramaic meaning and that it was "afiko man", meaning "take away the food." Obviously, we had enough. Others said it was "afiko neima", meaning "go to sleep". I think most of us will vote for the latter.

Youth Group Dates

USY 9th-12th grades/ Kadima 6th-8th grades/
Chaverim 4th-5th grades

Apr	1	Chaverim/Kadima/USY
	19	USY 3-5 pm
May	1-3	Kadima Regional Spring Convention
	6	Chaverim/Kadima Year End BBQ
	6	USY
	15-17	USY Regional Spring Convention
	31	USY Chapter Elections and Installation 2-6 pm

Cantor Larry is our Youth Director. For information about any of these Youth Groups, please call him at 732-257-7070, x.3 or send an email to CantorLarry@ebjc.org

Kadima & USY: For more information, please contact Erin Kaplan, Kadima and USY Advisor: ErinKaplan3190@gmail.com

Wednesday Youth Nights: Chaverim meets from 6:15-7:15; Kadima meets from 6:15-7:30; USY meets from 7:30-9:00, unless otherwise noted

SISTERHOOD



There's something about Passover that warms our hearts. Sure, everyone complains about all the work—the extra cleaning, washing the curtains, clearing the pantry. But once the drudgery is behind us, and everything has been emptied, restocked, and polished to a gleaming shine, there is no denying the special joy that this particular Holiday brings.

Maybe it's the powerful message of freedom that resonates with each of us; maybe it's the way Passover underscores the concepts of redemption and unwavering faith in God; maybe it's the inspiring leadership of Moses, or the fact that Passover coincides with Spring and its promise of renewal.

Whatever it is that touches you and makes Passover especially meaningful, we wish you the most joyous of Holidays. May you bask in the warmth of family, friends, and community.

We welcome new Sisterhood member Alexis Scheiman, who recently joined EBJC with husband, Dan and son, Jordan.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST MONTH

* Our Shalach Manot campaign, resulting in over 100 orders, was a huge success, exceeding last year's numbers. We thank all those who supported this effort, which is Sisterhood's most significant fundraiser. We extend heartfelt gratitude to Cindy

Rabinowitz, who chairs this project, for her tireless devotion to Sisterhood. Thank you, too, to Marla Genee for ordering the delicious hamantaschen, to Gail Kosher for organizing the routes, and to all those who helped to pack and deliver the Purim bags throughout our community.



Here is our awesome energy-filled group who packed 400 bags!

- Our annual Torah Fund event has been rescheduled to a future date. Stay tuned for updated information on the Torah Fund event and on who we will pay tribute to as the special Torah Fund honoree at the Brunch.

This year, EBJC Sisterhood raised over \$4,000 for this noble cause, thanks to the supreme efforts of Jody Bramson, our Torah Fund Chair. Thank you, Jody, for continuing to do such an exceptional job in this role.

ON THE HORIZON

Spring will usher in these highly-anticipated programs—

- Sisterhood Book Club—reviewing *How to Stop Anti-Semitism* by New York Times writer/editor Bari Weiss. Next meeting Saturday, April 25, following Kiddush.
- Book and author event headlined by our own Ilana Levitt discussing her book—*What's Mom Still Got to Do with It?*—Thursday, May 7
- Annual Sisterhood Shabbat on Saturday, May 9—This Egalitarian Shabbat morning service is a beautiful opportunity to expand your ritual

participation in a meaningful way. There are English and Hebrew parts available—Prayers, Torah reading, Aliyot. Instructional assistance will be provided. Contact Gloria Jaslow—glorichi@aol.com--to get involved. You will surely be enriched through the experience.

- Shavuot educational forum profiling Great Jewish Women of the Arts on Saturday, May 30. Following the success of last year's program, we now turn to a special segment of celebrated Jewish women—those who have made memorable contributions in art, music, writing, poetry, drama, and comedy. Is there a renowned female Jewish artist who has a special place in your heart? Share her story so we can all learn and kvell together!

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE WEEKLY TIDBITS EMAIL BLAST FOR NOTICE OF ALL UPCOMING EVENTS!

Please check out our Sisterhood Judaica Shop for the ultimate selection of all your needs—everything from religious articles to books to children's toys and holiday giftware. And if it's not there, we will special order it for you! This is the ideal way of supporting Sisterhood with exquisite results.

Rebirth is one of the prevailing themes of our cherished Passover tradition. Why not proclaim your own rebirth by trying something new. Take a second look at the upcoming programs Sisterhood has planned this spring. We look forward to "meeting and greeting" with both old and new friends.

Best regards,

Margot Julis

magooj1211@comcast.net
732-672-8089

Sara Ullman

tranquil77@aol.com
732-261-0591

The annual Torah Fund campaign is underway with the theme of this year's pin, CHESED (Kindness), one of the three pillars of Jewish life, according to rabbinic tradition. Show your Chesed by purchasing the pin for \$180 or donate ANY AMOUNT. All contributions support the future Conservative Jewish education of our cherished community leaders—rabbis, cantors, educators, administrators, and lay leaders—who are all so vital to the knowledge and practice of our faith. Our highly anticipated annual Torah Fund event is a BRUNCH this year—on Sunday, April 22nd. We proudly welcome Dr. Laura Brandspiegel, wife of our esteemed Cantor, to share her experiences as a student of Conservative Judaism.

SISTERHOOD AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

The Sisterhood Judaica Shop, is your source for beautiful giftware, books, candles, head coverings, children's items and more.

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

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 (aka SCRIP) is an easy way to help the Sisterhood raise funds by purchasing gift cards for ShopRite, ACME, Lox, Stock & Deli or Giddy's. What could be easier? You are going to spend the money there ANYWAY!!!

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

Bimah Baskets – for any Simcha...A 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

SISTERHOOD NEEDS YOU!!

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

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 10:00AM 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! 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 for more information.

MEN'S CLUB



As usual, I procrastinated in writing my monthly article, (I usually send it in the day after it's due), and with all that has been going on with the CoronaVirus and the virtual working, virtual meetings, virtual services – virtual everything, it was not high on my list of tasks. So today, March 25th, when I received an email from Ellen asking if it would be possible for me to get her my article for The Recorder, I figured I should write something. Who would think that anything would even be something going out in print - if at all?

I'm sitting in my home office trying to work and realize that life goes on – no matter what. It may seem that while the world seems to be upside down and even though every Synagogue event has been cancelled, we are still forging ahead.

Just prior to the shutdown, Men's Club once again did

their usual “behind the scenes” activity. We have received many requests for a water fountain. There used to be one (and at one time also a soda vending machine) at the end of the Art Gallery hallway where there is a cut-out before you go to the Synagogue office.

Well, next time you're in the Shul, you will see this beautiful, shiny new water fountain.



You spoke.

We listened.

We got it done.

That is what Men's Club does.

On another note, we are still moving forward with our Yellow Candle Program. We are trying to figure out the logistics to get them packaged and delivered prior to Yom

HaShoah, which falls on April 20th.

Our ongoing programs include the Yad Shel Chai program. Please reach out to me or Cantor Larry if you would like to learn to leyn Torah. If you read 18 times, Men's Club will present you with a personalized Yad to recognize your achievement.

If you have any ideas for an event or activity or just about anything, please let me know. We are always open to new ideas and “thinking outside of the box”.

If you haven't joined Men's Club – Why not? Dues are only \$36.

Remember, this is OUR community. And, this is YOUR Men's Club.

Together, we can “Do the Right Thing”

Wishing you and your families a Chag Pesach Kasher v'Sameach (be it virtual or in person).

David Julis

doovey920@gmail.com

or (732) 672-7759



EBJC proudly presents...

Broadway Revue

Sunday May 31, 2020

**New date
and time!**

7:00 pm

**Main Sanctuary
East Brunswick Jewish Center
511 Ryders Lane**

Come enjoy solos, duets and ensemble pieces from some of
Broadway's top shows - old and new!
Featuring Rabbi Pivo and Cantor Larry as well as performances
from Temple board members, general members and employees!

**Musical Director: David Schlossberg
Director: Bobbi Blumenthal
Stage Manager: Jill Rubin**

Invite your friends!

**Adults \$15.00 Children 5-12 \$10.00
Kids 4 and under Free**

**Sponsors at \$36.00 per person will get
preferential/reserved seating within the first three rows**

**To purchase tickets, visit ebjc.org/broadway
or call Ellen Botwin, Event Chairperson,
in the EBJC Box Office at 732.257.7070 x5**



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER



Hazak

CALENDAR FOR 2019-2020

(Dates Subject to Change. Advance Notice Will Be Given)

Future Dates:

Thursday, April 23 12:00 pm Lunch—Most Likely Cancelled

Thursday, May 21 6:00 pm Dinner—Let's hope it's not cancelled

Sunday, June 7 10:00 am Brunch—Let's assume it's on!

Hazak is a program open to all senior citizens 55 and over. Sponsored by EBJC, Federation and Jewish Family Services, we offer interesting and entertaining programming along with a delicious lunch. The suggested donation of \$5.00 for lunch helps to offset the cost of the lunch which often exceeds \$9.00 per person. Hazak is open to people of all faiths, all backgrounds and you need not be a member of EBJC to attend. We do ask that you rsvp to ensure an adequate amount of food (or we will run short). For more information, please contact Ellen Botwin - ebotwin@ebjc.org or Liz Salston - lsalston@comcast.net. Or you can call Ellen at 732-257-7070 x5

ATTENTION All EBJC Torah Readers!!!



EBJC and Men's Club are proud to partner on the
Yad Shel Chai Program

Leyn 18 times and receive a beautiful personalized Yad
(*Rabbi Pivo is tracking each date and Aliyah that you chant*)

Join your fellow congregants who have received their Yad –

Scott Alter, Gloria Jaslow, Deena Oren, Judah Landa, Bob Levine, Bob Salston and PJ Smith

**Sign up NOW with Cantor Larry to learn to leyn Torah for your
opportunity to reach CHAI**

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 (STREAM)

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 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 or 732-390-0314.

ISRAELI DANCE (CANCELLED)

Beginners:

Mondays | 7:00 p.m.

Intermediate/Advanced:

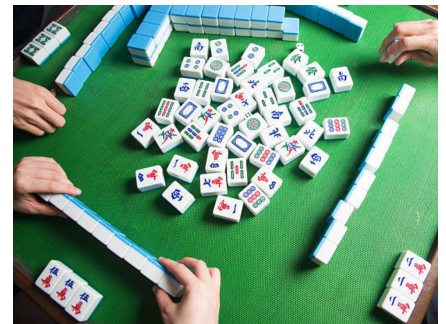
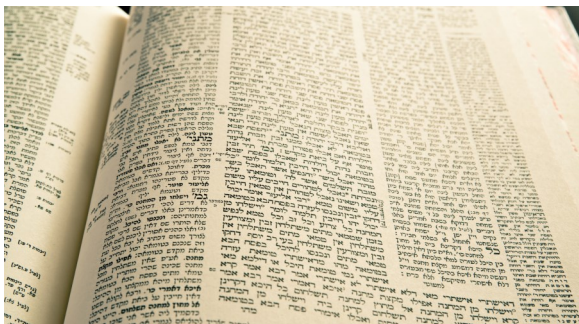
Mondays | 8:00 p.m.

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.



Calling all Grandparents and Parents
whose Children/Grandchildren will celebrate their
Bar or Bat Mitzvah in 2020 and 2021.....

Become a Dream Weaver

EBJC Sisterhood has partnered with Neve Shalom Sisterhood "Loom Room"

If you would like to attend a mini workshop on "Making Your Child or Grandchild's Simcha more meaningful through Weaving Together"
contact Margot Julis

Our own Madeline Frances wove a tallit for her grandson, Brandon,
for his Bar Mitzvah on November 9th



After tying the tzitzit, Madeline and her grandson, Brandon proudly showed the completed tallit.



Madeline's beautiful family - Brandon, wearing his tallit, daughter Erin, son-in-law Matthew and granddaughter Morgan.

Have your own "priceless" experience by weaving a tallit,
tallit gadol, tallit bag, challah cover, matzoh cover,
afikomen bag or even a chuppah!

Make an heirloom for yourself, with or for someone special.

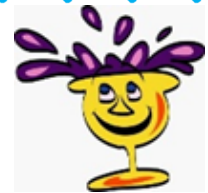
Give it a try!! You can do it!!

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



DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

Sisterhood is looking for YOU to step up to the helm of the Kiddush Team!

Can you answer yes to these questions?

- 1.Are you organized?**
- 2.Are you free for 1 hour on Friday mornings?**
- 3.Can you work well with a wonderful group of volunteers?**
- 4.Can you oversee simple plattering preparations?**

Then we have the position for you. As you know, Sisterhood is seeking someone just like YOU to fill the position of Kiddush Co-Coordinator.

This is your opportunity to enhance the quality of our cherished time together as a community and to give back to the Synagogue in such an important and easy way. Please consider making a difference.

Contact Margot Julis – magooj1211@comcast.net or 732-390-1245. (Sisterhood is an EEOE).

NEW Date!

East Brunswick Jewish Center
is proud to host a

Heartfelt High-5 Celebration a.k.a Volunteer Recognition Brunch

Honoring

Hollie Cerame

and

Carol & Judah Landa

May 31, 2020

10am - 1pm

More details to follow





Come Join in the FUN!

**EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER (EBJC) — ONE DAY
MAH JONG TOURNAMENT!
SUNDAY, MAY 17TH 2020**

\$50.00—TWO 4 ROUND TOURNAMENTS (16 games each)

We will play by Nat'l MJ League Rules. 212-246-3052 for more info.

Join us for some Spring time fun! EBJC in East Brunswick, NJ will host a One Day Tournament on Sunday the 17th of May 2020.

Tournament will be run by Joanne from Four Seasons MJT!

8:30 AM—Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM—Start of play—4 rounds

12:15 PM—Lunch—Return to Chinese Food!

1:00 PM—Play resumes—4 rounds

4:15 PM—Award Ceremony & Cash Prizes

**DOOR
PRIZES!**

Registration: Checks payable to EBJC. Send tear-off below with \$50.00 tournament fee to: EBJC, 511 Ryders Lane, East Brunswick, NJ 08816. Deadline is Thursday, May 14th. (No Refunds after the 14th)

For Further information call Ellen at 732-257-7070 x5 or ebotwin@ebjc.org
www.ebjc.org

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

I prefer to be East and will bring a set _____ Only if Desperate _____



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

DO YOU HAVE A COLLEGE STUDENT IN YOUR FAMILY?

Attention College Students (and Parents/Grandparents):



Even while you or your kids/grandkids are away at school, your EBJC family is thinking about you and them. The Youth Commission would love to send special packages around Hanukkah and Purim to the college students. This is **FREE** for undergraduate students of EBJC members and just \$36 for graduate students and \$36 for grandchildren who are in college or graduate school. Just fill out the form found in the lobby and give/mail it to the Synagogue office or email your student's college mailing information and year of school to cantorlarry@ebjc.org.

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
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And even More!



DONATIONS

Donation list was made as of and including March 20. If you made a donation after this date, it will be in next month's recorder.

ALIYAH

Ronald Berger
Sara & Jeff Blivaiss
Kenneth & Helene Gerson
Marty & Vickie Nathanson
Deena & Yigal Oren
Steven & Amy Schonfeld
Bruce & Shirley Sommers

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Sheila Davidoff in memory of her mother, Annabelle Joy Block Temkin z"l.
Zelig Herman in thanks

Cindy and Eric Rabinowitz in thanks

GENERAL DONATIONS

Joseph & Sheila Behrman in memory of Robert Bramson

Gary & Joan Busman in honor of Raymond & Adela Sasson and Fred & Norma Teicher on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Jack Ezra Teicher

Sylvia Cohen in memory of Robert Bramson

Rachel Plafker Esrig in memory of Robert Bramson

Melvin & Linda Hamelsky in honor of the Religious Committee - Thank you for the reminder
David & Margot Julis in memory of Bob Bramson

David & Margot Julis in honor of Sharlene

Harris and David Libowsky on the engagement of Sharlene's daughter, Jennifer Margulis to Dan Dozark

Michael Reed & Barbara Kessler in honor of Regina Kessler

Neal & Joyce Leavitt for a speedy recovery to Annie Eisner

Marc & Meredith Pearl in honor of Jerry Saferstein and Rick Rollman being named EBJC's Unsung Heroes

Marc & Meredith Pearl in honor of Elaine and Gerald Silver on the birth of their grandson, Meir Hillel

Marc & Meredith Pearl in honor of Sharlene Harris and David Libowsky on the engagement of Sharlene's daughter Jennifer to Dan Dozark

Raymond & Adela Sasson in memory of Robert Bramson

Irving & Barbara Scott in memory of Robert Bramson

Joel & Fran Shafer in memory of Bob Bramson

Gerald & Elaine Silver in honor of the birth of their Grandson, Mein Hillel Silver

Bruce & Shirley Sommers In memory of Bob Bramson

Kenneth & Judith Streisand in memory of Bob Bramson

George & Pearl Sultan in honor of Phoebe Wofchuck

Steven & Sara Ullman in memory of Robert Bramson

KIDDUSH CONTRIBUTORS

Roxsene & Jules Plafker

YAHREZEIT

Steven & Brenda
Albert in memory of
Florence Albert,
Rueben Albert and
Karl Buchweitz

Joseph & Sheila
Behrman in memory
of Hiram Behrman

Steven & Bernice
Bellows in memory
of Karl Speier

Beverly Bilder in
memory of Seymour
Bilder

David & Karen
Blivaiss in memory of
Helen F. Blivaiss

Carl & Hillary Cresci
in memory of Aaron
Cresci

Larry & Donna
Danzig in memory of
Muriel Trager

William Eckstein In
memory of Farkas
Eckstein

William Eckstein In
memory of Miriam
Eckstein

Robert & Gloria
Feldman in memory
of Renya Sieger

Martin & Marla
Genee in memory of
Hyman Genee, Rose
Goldman, Ian Bruce
Goldman, and
Samuel Greenblatt

Rosalyn P. Goldstein
in memory of Jeffrey
Goldstein & Thelma
Goldstein

Edward & Carol
Kantner in memory
of Edward Kantner,
Rose Alford &
Harriet Mack

Raoul Koss in
memory of Solomon
Roxenberg

Judah & Carol Landa
in memory of
Deborah Summers

Ronald & Valerie
Levenberg in
memory of Solomon
Scharf

Bernice Manheim in
memory of Helen
Kreiman

Robert & Marlene
Miller in memory of
Siebeth Egna & Jerry
Miller

David & Claire
Rosenthal in memory

of Pearl Sloan
Rosenthal

Stephen & Carole
Schneider

Steven & Amy
Schonfeld in memory
of Harriet Rothman,
Jerry Rothman and
Beatrice Primes

Reina Schuldiner in
memory of Ida Goren

Eric & Risa Shabo in
memory of David
Tiplitsky

Joel & Fran Shafer in
memory of Florence
Harris, Michael
Monas, Anna Mitnick
& Isadore Shafer

Martin & Suzanne
Silver in memory of
Esther Silver

Elissa Smilowitz in
memory of Hector
Smilowitz

Bernard & Sheila
Solomon in memory
of Nettie Cohen

Bernard & Sheila
Solomon in memory
of Dora Solomon

Adele Urowsky in
memory of Herman

Urowsky

Paul & Renee
Weissman in
memory of Mrs.
Yoninah Fractor



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

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