



the RECORDER

EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

DECEMBER 2022

KISLEV - TEVET

VOLUME # 127



SHABBAT SERVICES

Services are currently being held in-person and on Zoom at the following times. To join the stream GO TO DROP DOWN MENU - LINKS TO SERVICES AND MINYANIM.

Friday Evenings

12/2 4:10 p.m.
12/9 4:10 p.m.
12/16 4:10 p.m.
12/23 4:15 p.m.
12/30 4:20 P.M.

Saturday Mornings
9:30 a.m.

DECEMBER 3
Vayetzei

DECEMBER 10
Vayishlach

DECEMBER 17
Vayeshev

DECEMBER 24
Miketz

DECEMBER 31
Vayigash

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UPCOMING DATES

FOR LINKS TO SERVICES, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS, PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBPAGE AT WWW.EBJC.ORG. THE DROPDOWN MENU FOR SERVICES, HAZAK, MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS WILL TAKE YOU TO ALL OF THE PAGES TO REGISTER.

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 Kesef, PO Box 418, Montvale, NJ 07645.
Sisterhood, Men's Club, Mitzvah Corps, all discretionary funds, 613 event, Pavilion donations all go to 511 Ryders Lane.
When sending any form with a payment, those should be mailed to 511 Ryders Lane as well.

FOR THE UPCOMING MONTH:

TROUBLE PAYING DUES

If you are experiencing difficulty paying your dues or if you'd like to pay on a specific schedule, please call Ellen at 732-257-7070 x5. We are always here for you and are happy to help in any way we can.

SHABBAT SERVICES

Shabbat services are in-person (also offered via Zoom). Friday evening service times can be found on the cover of the Recorder as well as on the EBJC website calendar, and Saturday morning services are at 9:30 a.m. The link to join can be found on our website at ebjc.org/online-events

OFFICE HOURS

The office is currently staffed Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and on Fridays from 9 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.

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

HAZAK

December 15th - noon luncheon
Hanukkah Gift Card Bingo - with a performance from our littlest members, the CEL students!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Ever on the search for interesting programming, please note the following events: On December 8 we will have - Shirei Corona - with Rabbi Dina Shargel. On December 10 we will have Dueling Pianos-*Shake Rattle and Roll Pianos*. On December 11 we will have Part 1 of our Travel Series - Jewish Japan and on December 16 we will have a Hanukkah family dinner with services to follow.

Most of our programs are free to our community. If you can, a donation in any amount is always appreciated so that we may continue to bring you these programs and events. Details and descriptions for all programs will be in Tidbits and on the EBJC website homepage.



THE CONGREGATION CONGRATULATES:

Laura & Joel Leizer on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Isabella
Joannie & Gerry Weinfeld on their daughter, Michelle's newly published book
Brenda & Steven Albert on the Bat Mitzvah on their granddaughter, Farrah
Rita Sason on the birth of a grandson, Hudson Theodore
Lynne & Richard Drachtman on the marriage of their son Craig, to Blaine

THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO:

Liz Midlarsky on the loss of her sister, Toby Saul
Susan & Jessica Mayer and the Mayer family on the loss of our member, Joy Mayer
Gary Bennett on the loss of his wife, Rochelle Bennett
Linda Levi on the loss of her husband, Roy Levi
Robin Friedeman on the loss of her father, Len Levene

Planning a Simcha? Need a Party Planner? Decorator?

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Moving Managing

Andrew Cerame
732-586-7525
Andrew@donothrowitaway.com
donothrowitaway.com

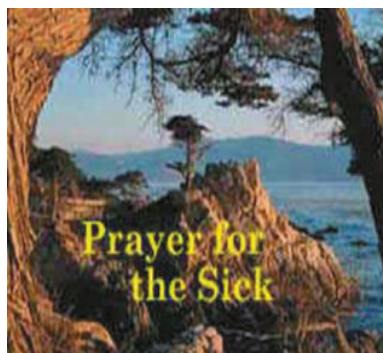


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HevraTehillim - a "Psalm Fellowship"

Join us for a healing prayer circle for EBJC members, as we recite from the Book of Psalms in English and Hebrew. We gather each week to chant psalms together to pray for the sick and ask for their healing. All are welcome to join the Zoom meeting on Tuesday evenings from 8:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Please send in the name of the person you will be praying for to: selectivemedia@comcast.net, where a list will be kept.

Emails are sent out each Monday with the Zoom meeting information.

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**



Links and information on all programs can be found on the ebjc.org homepage

December 8, 8:30 p.m. - Shirei Corona - with Rabbi Dina Shargel. Many popular songs of Israel composed and performed since March 2020 have been inspired by the Coronavirus pandemic. Along with material that was newly created, older songs suddenly took on new meaning at the beginning of this decade. They were replayed and some were remade, sometimes as pandemic-era parodies. Through the magic of Zoom, we will enjoy audio and video clips of the Hebrew songs and share insights about each one.

December 10, 8:00 p.m. - Dueling Pianos. *Shake Rattle and Roll Pianos* is a concert, comedy show and cabaret all rolled into one! Featuring 2 top-tier piano entertainers, lavish dairy charcuterie boards, spiked specialty coffees and catered pastries!

December 11, 7:30 p.m. - Jewish Japan - Travel guide, Jerry Rosenberg, takes us along on a tour of the little known sites and history of Japan's Jewish communities.

December 15, 8:30 p.m. - Jewish History from Biblical Times to the Present - An 8-Part Zoom Series - Part 4 - "An Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls"

December 16, 6:00 p.m. - Hanukkah family dinner with services to follow. Fried chicken, latkes, make your own salad, mashed butternut squash and desserts. \$20 adults, \$10 kids 5-12, free kids 4 and under.

HAZAK DATES FOR THE YEAR

Programs will be announced

December 15, Thursday, Noon Luncheon - Hanukkah Gift Card Bingo - with a performance from our littlest members, the CEL students!

January 12, Thursday, Noon Luncheon - Linda Kenyon returns as Eleanor Roosevelt!

February 12, Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Brunch - John Kenrick - Mel Brooks

March 16, Thursday, Noon Luncheon

April 20, Thursday - Noon Luncheon

May 18, Thursday - Noon Luncheon

June 15, Thursday, 6:00 p.m. Dinner - Larry Wolfert returns with his talk on Joan Rivers - Rude, Obnoxious and Funny!

Hazak is sponsored by Jewish Family Services of Middlesex, and Federation in the Heart of New Jersey. Speakers and entertainment is provided at no charge by East Brunswick Jewish Center

RABBINIC REFLECTIONS



It's December (or, more precisely, Kislev), so it must be time for Hanukkah! On Sunday 12/18 we light the first Hanukkah candle in celebration of miracles, divine and human. This corresponds to the 25th of Kislev, when our ancestors, the Maccabees, (also known as the Hasmoneans) reclaimed the Temple in Jerusalem from pagan worship and reconstituted Jewish rituals there. In memory of their victory, and of the miracle of a one-day supply of oil lasting eight days, we kindle lights every year at this time.

Here is the how-to: Each night, use the shamash (the 9th candle) to light the other candles, starting with one candle on that Sunday night and then two, three, and so on each night of the holiday. Candles are added from right to left, but lit from left to right, giving the honor of first lighting to that night's addition. They

are not required to be all at the same height, but must be in a single plane (remember your geometry?) Light the Hanukkiah just prior to sundown near a window, so that it will burn into the evening hours, and fulfill the primary mitzvah of Hanukkah: *pirsum haneis*, the publicizing of the miracle.

Before wax candles were common, oil lamps were used, to remind us of the miracle of the oil. But this is not the only oil-related custom. The foods we eat to mark this festival are also those cooked in oil. The European tradition is to serve latkes; the Israeli custom is to serve donuts fried in oil. These are good traditions, but there is no reason not to add in french fries, fried chicken, fried vegetables, or any other form of fried foods. Think of a county fair and the almost limitless number of fried things to be found there, and you can personalize your holiday observance.

Playing games of chance, such as dreidel, is another component of Hanukkah. Each side of the die represents a letter from the phrase *neis gadol hayah sham*/a great miracle happened there. Each player begins with a small pot of coins, beans, or candies, and spins the dreidel in turn. The outcome of

the spin depends on which letter faces up when the dreidel stops spinning: Nun=nothing; Gimel=take the whole pot; Hey=take half the pot; Shin=put one in.

Gift giving is also customary, but let me encourage you to make Hanukkah gift giving part of a yearly cycle: Whenever a Jewish holiday comes, give your children or grandchildren something special, even if it is small. By creating positive associations with the holidays, we teach them the joy of Jewish living.

Giving *tzedakah* is another custom of the holiday, as it is for most Jewish holidays. We want to be sure that no Jewish home lacks the ability to kindle the lights and to enjoy festive meals. Our Social Action group is currently collecting gift cards to enable anyone who needs it to get food and lights at this time of year.

A Hanukkah *same'ach* to all!

Rabbi Jeff Pivo



Hanukkah is one of the most celebrated of the Jewish holidays. Although it is considered a minor holiday, for most, it is a major celebration bringing families and fun together.

We are all familiar with the story of the one cruse of oil being poured into the Temple's Candelabra that was only supposed to burn for one day, but lasted for eight days.

However, there is another story told from our Rabbis of old, as to how we came to celebrate this eight days and nights holiday.

"The Syrian armies were beaten. They turned around and fled Jerusalem to their homes in the north. The Maccabees and their army had fought very hard, but were too happy to be tired. "To the Temple!" they cried. "To the Temple!" echoed the people as they sang and danced in the streets of Jerusalem. It was the story of the mighty Goliath

defeated by a small David all over again. The small Jewish country was able to fight against mighty Syria and win!

Now, they could return to their beautiful Temple to pray to Gd in their own language, Hebrew, and in their own way. First, they would have to clean out the Temple and throw out the Greek statues. Antiochus had stolen many golden candelabras and tables, the velvet curtain, and the priestly robes that had belonged to the Jews. But the people would make new ones to replace the old and dedicate their Temple to Gd once again.

As they approached the Temple, the soldiers and the people grew quiet. Suddenly, a young girl cried out: "Look, the Syrians were in such a hurry to leave, they forgot their spears! Shall we send them back?" Everyone laughed. There, in front of the Temple, were eight spears stuck in the ground. One of the Maccabees had found some candles lying in the rubble. He stuck one on each spear and with a ninth one, lit the candles. "Thus shall the light of Judaism shine forever." The people cheered.

And so, said the Rabbis, "We light eight candles on the holiday of Hanukkah so that we may, too,

see the light of Judaism from generation to generation."

So, find your special way to celebrate. One way is right here at EBJC. There is always learning, celebration and fun. Just look on your calendar or read your emails and flyers to find all the great activities happening here.

May the lights truly shine on you and your families this Hanukkah, bringing only wonderful celebrations of happiness and fun in the coming 2023 new year.

Cantor Larry I. Brandspiegel

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I've taken a particular interest in two shows recently. The first is East New York, primarily because that's where I grew up. When I was 7, we moved into the Louis H. Pink House projects off of Linden Boulevard. I lived there until I was 21, then we moved into Richmond Hill when my sister got married and we purchased a two family home.

The Second is a show on Peacock called The Calling, also filmed in Brooklyn. This one is about a former Orthodox Jewish detective who is not quite "conventional". He recites Mourner's Kaddish over every body, quotes the Talmud and has a special way in the interrogation room. The last episode I watched (there are only 8), had one of the detectives investigating something on St. John's Place...where I was born and lived until I was 7.

These shows, although dealing in current times, take me back to my childhood and there is something fascinating to me to see street names and places I was familiar with. It's very different now, of course, but my eyes are always peeled to the street signs and intersections of my youth. A more innocent time, for sure, but we left the projects because of how dangerous it became to live there. I would get off the train at Euclid and walk home with my keys between my fingers "just in case". When we first moved in, it was wonderful. Everyone kept their doors open for a nice breeze in the summer. Doors were unlocked, we'd sing in the stairwells because of the great sound, elevators were clean and it was

safe. Over time, things changed and the danger level increased. Doors were locked, instead of a nice breeze, people put fans and air conditioning units in their windows, the stairwells became dangerous to climb and the elevators smelled like urine. Pride in your home, your community, your building was lost.

That's important – pride. I take enormous pride in EBJC and I hope you do too. I don't want to hear what happened 10, 15, 20 years ago. That's in the past. No one has a time machine that I am aware of, to go back and change anything that happened. Like Elsa in the movie Frozen sang..."Let it Go!"

So much has changed and all for the better. For those that are willing to open their eyes and see all the good, it is absolutely amazing. I've mentioned before all of the great improvements and plans for the building and it is certainly worth restating:

- We'll be getting in a new boiler soon, through a PSEG Direct Install grant.
- We're building a new shared bathroom in the preschool which is paid through a grant.
- We put in a new cement walkway for the preschool so the parents and kids don't have to walk in mud – paid for by the grant.
- We put in steps and a walkway from the Rabbi's house to the parking lot entrance.
- We replaced the broken accordion wall with a beautiful retractable wall in the sanctuary.
- We replaced the roof over the rug wing.
- We replaced all of the windows in the preschool wing with windows that are laminated, higher security, and shatter proof through a government grant
- We painted the lobby a brighter, cleaner color.

In addition, we're working on:

- Two new HVAC units over the ballroom and sanctuary through the Direct Install program.
- Replacing the roof over the sanctuary and ballroom.
- ♦ Phase 2 of fixing up the ballroom – removing the defunct and no longer used piping along the bottom of the walls, sheet rocking the entire ballroom, new sconces and painting the walls. The ballroom is a source of pride. Once, beautiful, is now in need of tender loving care. Phase 3 will be replacing the floors, but is not in the "works" for now.

There is so much we have to be proud of that has nothing to do with the physical building. Our classes, our services, our programming, our events... all something to be proud of.

So here's the challenge I bring to you. Talk EBJC up. Stop talking it "down". Focus on all of the positive things we're doing and how we did extraordinary things during the pandemic to keep our community involved. Not only through the zoom services and programs...we handed out Shabbat candles and challah on a Friday so we could pray together. We created "grab n'go" meals to keep our kosher restaurants in business and make it easier for our members to get a great meal. We had outdoor havdallah and handed out candles for everyone. We kept our community going and involved. This is a source of pride. This is who we are and this is what you should be telling your friends!

May you all be well,

Ellen

FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



And the children of Israel wandered for.....90 minutes!!!!

A funny thing happened to me last week - I decided to take part in the shul sponsored hike at Thompson Park in Monroe - with kudos to Dave Libowsky and Sharlene Harris for putting the event together and leading it, I felt I could use the exercise, be outdoors and explore the park along with what I imagined would be a hand full of us. Much to my delight and surprise there were close to 30 members trekking through the woods, observing nature up close, and most importantly schmoozing with friends and enjoying old fashioned camaraderie. Not only did everyone seem to enjoy the outing, there was very little talk about EBJC - we all gathered as friends and went from group to group engaged in what some call 'fellowship'. When the hike ended, many of us hung around to continue conversations. We officially ended the hike by promising if anyone asked how

far we hiked we would agree on 'a little less than 21 miles'.

The reason I mention this outing is to demonstrate the activities that we offer on an ongoing basis - the variety, the range - from active to Zoom. There is something for everyone, as the expression goes, if one looks for it. My research for this article comes from the authoritative, scholarly work known as Tidbits - yes, Tidbits the weekly newsletter that arrives in your email letterbox either Thursday or Friday giving all of the important updates regarding our shul.

In the last edition I researched I counted 13 activities one could choose - the mix was a good one - we had the hike, a listing of zoom classes, a film series, a concert, Dueling Pianos event on December 12, a travel series, a Men's Club invite to a New Jersey Devils hockey game (co-sponsored with other men's clubs in the region), a Chanukah Family Dinner, and a Sisterhood Book Club lecture.....in addition, the ongoing lecture series by Judah Landa and Rabbi Pivo's three weekly classes. Yes, something for everyone - and please if anyone has any ideas that might be pertinent, let Ellen Botwin know.

In closing I would like to share what took place in our Ballroom this past Thursday afternoon....EBJC hosted our monthly Hazak program - I was informed the topic would be 'The Supreme Court - Past and Present' - I honestly did not believe this would get much of a turnout. Here is what I learned... you need to keep an open mind...over 30 people turned out. The lecture, which was supposed to be one hour went on for an additional 20 minutes, and at the end of the lecture many of us stayed around asking specific questions....from not thinking I wouldn't like it to a reversal where we will be enjoying the next part when the lecture continues in next year's series. Keep an open mind...try it, you just might like it.

Jack Goldberg
EBJC Co-President

SISTERHOOD



As the Hanukkah candles illuminate our homes and our spirits, we are reminded anew that miracles DO occur. One of those miracles is the blessing of community, and in December Sisterhood offers more opportunities to share the warmth of friendship and strengthen your ties to EBJC. We are now 80 members strong!

If you haven't yet joined Sisterhood for 2022-2023, it's not too late. Simply send your check for \$36, made out to EBJC Sisterhood, to the synagogue, attention Cindy Rabinowitz. In this holiday season, why not GIFT a Sisterhood membership to someone. They will be grateful for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

This Past Month—

On Wednesday, November 16 we hosted a unique program with a new perspective on World War II history. Stan Darer led a fascinating discussion about the Ritchie Boys, an elite group of Jewish intelligence operatives who used their native German language to infiltrate the Nazis.

And what's even more amazing is that our own beloved Inge Gross informed us that her late husband, Herbert Gross, was a Ritchie Boy himself!

Our quarterly Sisterhood Book Club took a spiritual journey by exploring the poignant book *Einstein and The Rabbi/Searching for the Soul* by Rabbi Naomi Levy. Part self-help guide, part detective story, this book touched us all. Popular author Levy researched the source of a short but powerful letter written by Albert Einstein in response to a missive he received from a grieving father. In the process, Levy studied the meaning of soul in our lives and how we can benefit from connecting to one another.

On the Horizon--

Our next Book Club selection is the first in the iconic Decker/Lazarus mystery series by Faye Kellerman. Join us in reading *The Ritual Bath* to learn how this popular series began. Next (Spring) meeting date to be announced.

Don't forget to email Sara Ullman at sarajull366@gmail.com if you have future books in mind, or if you'd like to lead one of our sessions.

Rabbi Pivo's popular Winter Education Miniseries returns with a new theme—Women of the Megilot. Hear the intriguing stories of Esther, Ruth, and others, and learn their distinct legacies. Join us Thursdays January 19, February 9, and March 23 at 7 pm.

Sunday, January 15, 2023—In-person bagels and shmears Book and Author Breakfast in partnership with Congregation Beth Ohr Sisterhood in Old Bridge. Hear from author Debra Green about her exciting new novel, *The Convention of Wives*, which scored the #1 position on Amazon's list of upcoming Jewish historical fiction. RSVP to Lisa Mason at Folfy4@gmail.com. Optional \$5 couvert, or sponsor the event for \$10



We proudly announce our 2022-2023 Torah Fund campaign—Chazak V'Ematz—Be Strong and Courageous. These were the instructions the Israelites and their new leader Joshua were given as they prepared to enter the Promised Land.

Torah Fund celebrates its triumphant 80th anniversary this year. Please support the education of our future Conservative Jewish leaders by donating generously. In recognition of its 80th anniversary, Torah Fund offers the opportunity to upgrade your usual contribution with a "Plus \$80" option to mark this milestone and maximize the benefit of your donation.

We are currently at 82 percent of our goal and are ahead of where we were at this time last year. Thank you for supporting this wonderful cause. Consider buying a

Torah fund pin as a unique and meaningful Hanukkah gift!

Please contact Torah Fund Chair Anne Kroll at selectivemedia@comcast.net to make a Torah Fund pledge and demonstrate your support. Please see the Torah Fund flyer in this issue.

PURCHASING SCRIP IS AN EASY WAY TO SUPPORT SISTERHOOD! We currently have gift cards on hand to Shoprite, Acme and Lox, Stock and Deli. We extend our sincere thanks to those congregants who regularly purchase these gift cards. Contact Cheryl Decker at 732-257-7070.

Check out our Sisterhood Judaica Shop for all your needs—tallisim, kiddush cups, mezuzot, religious jewelry, head coverings....the list goes on and on. The shop is the perfect source for housewarming, bar/bat mitzvah, and baby gifts. If you have something special in mind, we can probably order it for you. Contact Cindy Rollman at cinpepper1@aol.com.

The gift shop is presenting a special Hanukkah boutique on Wednesday, December 7 and Sunday, December 11. Come and enjoy the beautiful display of books, games, menorahs, and toys.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE CALENDAR DIARIES FOR 2022-2023 ARE STILL AVAILABLE! We thank those who have already purchased their diaries. Call Cheryl Decker in the EBJC office to pick up your copy and one for a friend—a great value at \$12 each.

Wishing all of our members and fellow congregants a joyous Hanukkah, filled with love and latkes.

Best regards,

Sara Ullman

Immediate Past Sisterhood Co-President



SISTERHOOD

THE PAID-UP SISTERHOOD DINNER

November 3rd, 2022

ALL who attended had a wonderful time! The food from Capri was delicious, and the background music by Peter Leiberman was perfect! It was so good for everyone to hang out and enjoy each other's company. Once we were all talked out, we danced!!! It was a lot of fun, despite the "threat" that tried to overshadow our enjoyment of the evening.

I want to thank Rabbi Pivo for his inspiring D'var Torah, and all the ladies who volunteered to help set up the ballroom, and clean up afterwards.

It's NEVER too late to join Sisterhood! Just \$36.00 payable to the EBJC - Sisterhood.

Cindy Rabinowitz, VP Membership



MEN'S CLUB

Shalom:

Men's Club has information on all of our upcoming activities at our web page at ebjc.org/mens-club. Please see this page anytime for information about all of our upcoming events.

November 6 Men's Club hosted an outing at Top Golf in Edison. The food provided by Giddy's was delicious and plentiful and everybody had fun hitting golf balls. Drinks were also plentiful, and the weather was fantastic. A good time was had by all.

November 13 we hosted a Thompson Park hike. Hikes are some of our most popular events. They are open to all regardless of gender or skill level. We will restart them in the spring.

November 16 Men's Club hosted a Zoom session on the Ritchie Boys, a little known story how German Jews helped the U.S. WW II war effort by using their German fluency. We hope you did not miss it. Some of those attending had personal connections to this story as they were related to members of the Ritchie Boys; Inge Gross's husband was one of them!

On Sunday, December 11 we host our Man and Youth of the Year dinner at B'nai Tikvah in North Brunswick. We are honoring David Libowsky as the Man of the Year for his outstanding contributions to Men's Club. We have two Youths of the Year: Jessica Miner and Macaria Pelofsky. All are invited to attend. For more information about the dinner and an Ad Journal honoring them, please go to ebjc.org/MOY.

On December 15 at 7 pm in conjunction with the Northern NJ Region of Federation of Men's Clubs, we will be hosting an evening of hockey and entertainment at Prudential Center on Hannukah. There will be extra kosher food available for purchase at the Rock and a Maccabeats concert after the game. The cost is \$52.84 per person. Please go to ebjc.org/hockey for additional information about this activity. Tickets can be purchased at <https://fevo.me/nnjrfjm>. The number of available tickets is limited so please purchase them as soon as possible.

Our annual Blood Drive is being held on Sunday, January 8 from 8 am to 2:30 pm in the Kroll Ballroom. Please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/EBJCblood2023>.

February 12 we will be hosting the World Wide Wrap on Superbowl Sunday. Please be on the lookout for information in coming weeks at ebjc.org/wrap.

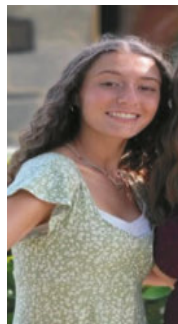
EBJC and Men's Club have partnered with FJMC on a Yad Shel Chai program, open to all EBJC Torah Readers who leyn 18 times to receive a beautiful silver personalized Yad. To find out more, please contact both Cantor Larry and/or David Julis.

Pickleball may be on hiatus during the winter. There are also several other Common Interest Activities (C.I.A.) co-sponsored by Men's Club: hiking, cooking, gardening and biking. Please contact Ken Gerson (kgerson7@gmail.com) for information on any of these CIA programs.

We are always interested in new ideas for activities for our membership. We are especially interested in sponsoring events of interest to members with children. Please let us know if you have any ideas for events such as wine or beer making, sporting events, bowling, movies, outings of all types, Jewish oriented activities and the like. We would very much like to hear your ideas and make them a reality.

Men's Club looks forward to seeing you at our upcoming activities. Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to get involved at mensclub@ebjc.org.

Marty Hoffman, Arthur Fliegelman, Howard Jacobs and Neil Kosher
mensclub@ebjc.org



Jessica
Miner



Macaria
Pelofsky



Dave
Libowsky

CENTER FOR EARLY LEARNING



CEL celebrated Thanksgiving with a wonderful feast and pin the feathers on the turkey!



We had a blast doing zumba with Danit! Check out our awesome moves!!!



Our Gozalim class loves the taste of learning and our Tziporim friends love demonstrating their right to vote!



KESHER AND YOUTH GROUPS



Dear Keshet and Youth Families,

We are nearing the end of 2022; however, 5783 is going strong. We continue to educate in the classrooms and encourage participation in and around the EBJC building for both our students and parents.

On December 11th, the regional Men's Club Man of the Year and Youth of the Year gala will take place at B'nai Tikvah in North Brunswick. We are proud to honor two of our outstanding youth, Jessica Miner and Macaria Pelofsky. We wish them Mazal Tov on receiving this wonderful recognition.

On December 14th, we will have our monthly Youth Night with a Hanukkah theme. That theme will continue through the end of the month. On Shabbat morning, December 17th, there will be a Shabbat B'yachad Family service at 9:30am. On Sunday, December 18th, we will have a Family Hanukkah celebration. Parents are invited to participate in some social fun and the making of Hanukkah goodies at 9am. Then at 10:15am the student and parents will have fun playing BINGO! We have been doing this with the kids for the past years, but we want to invite our parents to come on in and have some Hanukkah fun as well. You know what we always say, "Don't just drop off, also drop in."

On Wednesday, December 21st, we will continue the Hanukkah fun with an outdoor Hanukkah lighting with blessings, singing, and sweet treats.

And to end the year, we will take a small break from December 25th through January 1st, as we usher in 2023 and return to classes on January 4th.

We want to see you and your children at all of these wonderful events. Let's all have fun learning and celebrating together.

If you have any questions or to discuss any issues, please contact me via email, cantorlarry@ebjc.org.

Have a brightly filled Hanukkah.

~Cantor Larry

ADULT EDUCATION & ACTIVITIES

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

PARSHAT HASHAVUAH CLASS (ZOOM)

Fridays | 11 a.m.

Join us for Rabbi Pivo's Friday morning class at 11 a.m. where we study the weekly parshah prior to Shabbat. 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

Mondays | 8:30 p.m. via Zoom. 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.

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

Wednesdays | 8:30 p.m. Via Zoom

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. Currently we are studying tractate Kiddushin which concerns the laws of marriage.

COFFEE WITH RABBI PIVO (ZOOM)

Mondays | 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Join Rabbi for a freewheeling discussion of whatever is on your mind. What's doing with you, how are you holding up, etc. plus any Jewish questions that might come up

LUNCH AND LEARN (ZOOM)

Wednesdays | 12 p.m.

Join Rabbi Pivo weekly for these sessions that are always engaging and well attended.

MONROE LUNCH AND LEARN

Thursdays | 12 p.m.

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 howardjacobs@ebjc.org for details on upcoming dates, to get on our Monroe mailing list, with questions and to reserve your spot.

ISRAELI DANCE

Beginners:

Mondays | 7 p.m.

Intermediate/Advanced:

Mondays | 8 p.m.

Come and stay for as long as you can!

\$12.00 per session fee.

JAZZERCIZE

Mondays & Wednesdays | 5:45 - 6:45 p.m.

\$20 single class

\$160 for 10 classes

\$65/month for unlimited live and livestream classes each month (best value and most popular)

HAZAK

December 15th - noon luncheon

Hanukkah Gift Card Bingo - with a performance from our littlest members, the CEL students!

**HEBREW READING CLASS AND MAH JONG
ARE CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

Travel the Jewish World Virtually With Us



Sunday, December 11 @ 7:30 PM
The Jewish Community of Japan
with Jerry Rosenberg

Sunday, January 29 @ 1:00 PM
The Anne Frank House in Amsterdam
with Aaron Peterer

Sunday, March 12 @ 1:00 PM
The Old Jewish Quarter of London
with Stephen Burstin

Sunday, April 16 @ 12:00 PM
A Virtual Tour of Yad Vashem
with Yohai Cohen

Sunday, May 21 @ 12:30 PM
A Live Walking Tour of Jewish Berlin
with Yoav and Natalie Sapir

Sunday, June 11 @ 12:00 PM
A Live Walking Tour of Jewish Amsterdam
with Ian David Wagenhuis



Registration is required to attend.

www.ebjc.org/travel-series

This program is free and all are welcome to attend. Donations to EBJC are greatly appreciated and help us continue offering special programs like this one.

This program is co-sponsored by participating members of a national consortium of Jewish organizations.



EBJC Mitzvah Corps
YIEB Israel Advocacy Committee
7th Annual
Wine & Food Experience
An In Person Event

In Support of Yashar LaChayal Ari & Sari Horowitz z"l Fund



Sunday January 8, 2023 @6:00 PM

Young Israel of East Brunswick

Catering by Glatt Star Caterers

Live entertainment by comedian Ashley Blaker

"A skilled joke teller! He is proof that even the most reverent enjoy a little irreverence."—*The New York Times* "Imagine John Oliver in a yarmulke!"—*The New York Post* "A special vein of comic material.★★★★"—*Financial Times* "Warmth and wit!★★★★"—*Daily Mail* "Has audiences rolling on the floor!"—*The Jerusalem Post*

Show Reel:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=II89vW2xCAQ>

On keeping the Sabbath:https://youtu.be/KvdtRm_GcVA

On Yom Kippur:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JY6eQQTYIK0>



Participation Levels

Bronze Star Level — \$54 for (1) person

Silver Star Level — \$100 per person / \$200 for (2) people

Gold Star Level — \$136 per person / \$272 for (2) people

Entertainment Sponsor — \$1800 for (2) people

(includes a meet and greet with Ashley Blaker)

Go to <https://helpisraelnow.org/7th-annual-food-and-wine-experience/> to register online and pay with your credit card. You can register and pay by check by completing the attached registration form.

Registration Form

RSVP is Friday, December 30, 2022 @12 noon

Bronze Star Level \$54 for (1) person - includes zoom access to the program and entertainment. This option is limited to 40 people.

Silver Star Level \$100 per person - includes a sumptuous buffet dinner and a bottle of wine to take home.

Silver Star Level \$200 for (2) people - includes a sumptuous buffet dinner and a bottle of wine to take home.

Gold Star Level \$136 per person - includes a sumptuous buffet dinner and a bottle of wine plus a dessert wine to take home.

Gold Star Level \$272 for (2) people - includes a sumptuous buffet dinner and a bottle of wine plus a dessert wine to take home.

Entertainment Sponsor \$1800 for (2) people - includes a sumptuous buffet dinner and a bottle of wine plus a dessert wine to take home. Also included is a one half hour meet and greet with Ashley Blaker.

Your meal will be accompanied by wine from Royal Wines.

Name and Phone # _____

Email Address _____

Bronze Star Level \$54.00 for (1) person - Number of people _____	\$ _____
Silver Star Level \$100.00 per person - Number of people _____	\$ _____
Silver Star Level \$200.00 for (2) people - Number of people _____	\$ _____
Gold Star Level \$136.00 per person - Number of people _____	\$ _____
Gold Star Level \$272.00 for (2) people - Number of people _____	\$ _____
Entertainment Sponsor \$1800.00 for (2) people - Number of people _____	\$ _____

Total \$ _____

Donation Only: \$54 _____ \$118 _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ Other \$ _____

If you are making a donation only, please submit your donation no later than
Wednesday, January 4, 2023 by 12 noon.

Completed registration forms can be submitted via email to
ebjcmitzvahcorps@comcast.net
or postal mail to: Marty Genee, 39 Sullivan Way, East Brunswick, NJ 08816.
Make checks payable to EBJC Mitzvah Corps

"Shirei Corona"

with

Rabbi Dina Shargel

Many popular songs of Israel composed and performed since March 2020 have been inspired by the Coronavirus pandemic. Along with material that was newly created, older songs suddenly took on new meaning at the beginning of this decade. They were replayed and some were remade, sometimes as pandemic-era parodies.



Through the magic of Zoom, we will enjoy audio and video clips of the Hebrew songs and share insights. Knowledge of Hebrew is not required. Links and translations will be provided for the lyrics.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 8, 2022 @ 8:00PM

WWW.EBJC.ORG/SHIREI-CORONA

This program is free and all are welcome to attend. Donations to EBJC are greatly appreciated and help us continue offering special programs like this one. Registration is required to attend.

This program is co-sponsored by participating members of a national consortium of Jewish organizations.



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER



Join us as we host
Shake Rattle & Roll Dueling Pianos
**DUELING PIANOS IS A CONCERT,
COMEDY SHOW AND
CABARET ALL ROLLED INTO ONE!**

This is an all-request, rock-and-roll party where YOU pick the playlist! Two top piano entertainers, mixing music, comedy and audience interaction in a singalong, laugh-along, dance along show! It's everything from Billy Joel to Bon Jovi, Britney Spears to Bruno Mars!



Nothing is off limits from pop rock, country, hip-hop, Broadway, hairbands, punk rock, disco, standards - if you can hum it, we can play it!

Saturday, December 10 at 8:00 PM

\$60 pp. RSVP by December 12/6/22

**Featuring: Lavish dairy charcuterie boards with fruit, vegetables, cheese & crackers, nuts and more
Exquisite desserts & Speciality coffees...with a kick**



Register at: www.ebjc.org/dueling-pianos

Shake Rattle and Roll Dueling Pianos is NYC's premiere dueling pianos show!

EBJC Men's Club, in collaboration with NNJR, brings you

Hanukkah Night with the NEW JERSEY DEVILS



THU | DEC 15 | 7:00 PM



GROUP PACKAGE for \$52.84 INCLUDES:

- NJ Devils vs Philadelphia Flyers
- Doors open at 5:30 – puck drops at 7:00
- Complimentary Hanukkah Night T-Shirt
- Discounted group ticket and block seating
- Pre-game menorah lighting ceremony
- Post-game concert by the Maccabeats
- All kids under 18 will receive a Devils drawstring bag
- Prudential Center will have expanded Kosher food

TO PURCHASE TICKETS, PLEASE VISIT

<https://fevo.me/nnjrfjm>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ron Berger at

ronald_e_berger@hotmail.com or (732) 545-0793.

EBJC FAMILY HANUKKAH SHABBAT DINNER



Join us for an evening filled with Hanukkah
ruach, singing, story-telling, and dinner
followed by a family service

Friday, December 16, 2022 at 6pm

\$20.00 adult

\$10.00 ages 5-12

Free up to age 4

Fried Chicken, latkes, mashed butternut squash,
make your own salad and dessert

Register by December 13 @ 5pm:
www.ebjc.org/hanukkah-dinner



Hosted by the EBJC
Membership Committee



Join us for our 2nd 3-Part Series on Jewish Hollywood

www.ebjc.org/New-Series-Filmshul

Nov 29 @ 8:30pm Super Funny Jewish Men

Quick with one-liners! Precise with physical comedy! Able to tell hilarious stories in a single routine! Funny Jewish men have made us laugh for years, from vaudeville, radio, the Borscht Belt and nightclubs through TV, records, movies and more. Meet the pros, incl: Jack Benny, George Burns, Milton Berle, Henny Youngman, Don Rickles, Jack E. Leonard, Rodney Dangerfield, Lenny Bruce, Mel & Woody + contemporary voices Albert Brooks, Jerry Seinfeld, Gilbert Gottfried, Jon Stewart, Sacha Baron Cohen, & yes, Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelensky. All are pioneers, distinctive, and seriously funny.

Jan 12 @ 8:30pm From the Catskills with Love

The now mostly shuttered summer resorts of Southeastern New York's Catskill Mountains — Grossinger's, Kutsher's, the Raleigh, the Concord, the Pines and others — provided the formative years for many prominent Jewish comedy stars for a number of decades up through the 1970s. Discover the origins of the region that came to be known as the Borscht Belt and how such youngsters as Woody Allen, Shelley Berman, Totie Fields, Milton Berle, Jack E. Leonard, Joan Rivers, Jerry Lewis, Betty Garrett, Danny Kaye and Myron Cohen left their audiences in stitches. Plus, we take a look at the movies inspired by the "Jewish Alps."

Feb 2 @ 8:30pm WWII & Hollywood's Jewish Question

The Production Code in 1934, the Great Depression, the rise of the Nazi Party in Germany and a general growth in anti-Semitism didn't bode well for the Hollywood studio moguls, Jewish men like Louis B. Mayer, Harry Cohn, Jack Warner and others who virtually created Hollywood. The moguls tried to ignore the rise of Nazism, even as they continued distributing films in Germany up until the war broke out and not making an anti-Nazi film until 1940. With World War II & Hollywood's Jewish Question, we look at how the Jewish moguls reacted--and failed to react--to what was happening in Europe in the 1930s, and how they proceeded through the war and its subsequent years.

Meet your program hosts Irv & Lawrence...

Irv Slifkin has had a lifelong love for movies and popular culture. A native Philadelphian, Irv teaches film and journalism classes at Temple University and Rowan College. He is the author of the books *Filmadelphia: A Celebration of a City's Movies* and *Groovy Movies: Far-Out Films of the Psychedelic Era*. In addition to writing for such publications as the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, *Chicago Tribune* and *Los Angeles Times*, Irv has lectured on film and popular culture, in person and on Zoom, for libraries, organizations and Jewish institutions throughout NJ and PA.



Laurence Lerman saw Alfred Hitchcock's *North by Northwest* when he was 13 yrs old and that's all it took. He has worked with MGM, Sony, Music Box Films, Cohen Media, Sterling Productions and Kino International, where he helped launch the home entertainment division. He has been writing about film and video for 30+ years for such outlets as *Variety*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *The Morning Call* and *Video Business Magazine*, where he served as a Senior Editor for 15 yrs. He is the co-founder and editor-in-chief of *DiscDish.com*, a popular Blu-ray and DVD website offering reviews, news and interviews.



➡ ➡ ➡ To receive a Zoom link, register at: ebjc.org/New-Series-Filmshul

This program is free and all are welcome to attend. Donations to EBJC are greatly appreciated and help us continue offering special programs like this one. Registration is required to attend.

This program is co-sponsored by participating members of a national consortium of Jewish organizations.



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

"Jewish History from Biblical Times to the Present"

An Eight-Part Zoom Series

To receive Zoom links, please register through your local synagogue/organization.



Thursday, September 15 @ 8:30 PM

Gary Rendsburg, Distinguished Professor of Jewish Studies and History,
Blanche and Irving Laurie Chair in Jewish History, Rutgers University
"In Search of Ancient Israel: Historical Roots of the Biblical Narrative"



Thursday, October 6 @ 8:30 PM

Carol Meyers, Mary Grace Wilson Professor Emerita of Religious Studies,
Duke University
"Women as Ritual Experts in Ancient Israel"



Thursday, November 10 @ 8:30 PM

Jodi Magness, Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in
Early Judaism, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
"Masada: Last Stronghold of the Jewish Resistance against Rome"



Thursday, December 15 @ 8:30 PM

Steven Fraade, Director of Graduate Studies, Mark Taper Professor of
the History of Judaism, Yale University
"An Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls"



Thursday, January 26 @ 8:30 PM

Nina Caputo, Associate Professor and Associate Chair,
Department of History, University of Florida
"The Barcelona Disputation of 1263"



Thursday, February 16 @ 8:30 PM

Magda Teter, Professor of Jewish History and the Shvidler Chair of
Jewish Studies, Fordham University
"Blood Libel: On the Trail of an Anti-Semitic Myth"



Thursday, March 16 @ 8:30 PM

Sarah Abrevaya Stein, Professor of History, Viterbi Family Chair in
Mediterranean Jewish Studies, Sady and Ludwig Kahn Director,
Alan D. Leve Center for Jewish Studies, UCLA
"Sephardic Experiences of the Holocaust"



Thursday, April 27 @ 8:30 PM

Avinoam Patt, Doris and Simon Konover Chair of Judaic Studies and Director of the
Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life, University of Connecticut
"Awake My People: Antisemitism and the Jewish Encounter with Modernity"

These programs are free for all!

A donation to your synagogue's Adult Education program is always welcome.



Participating Organizations: Adath Shalom, Parsippany, NJ; Columbia Jewish Congregation, Columbia, MD; Congregation Beth Israel, West Hartford, CT; Congregation Torat-El, Oakhurst, NJ; East Brunswick Jewish Center, East Brunswick, NJ; Emanuel Synagogue, West Hartford, CT; Ezra-Habonim - The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, Skokie, IL; Highland Park Conservative Temple - Congregation Anshe Emeth, Highland Park, NJ; JCC of Long Beach Island, NJ; JCC of Paramus - Congregation Beth Tikvah, Paramus, NJ; Jewish Federation of Ventura County, CA; Temple Beth-El, Poughkeepsie, NY; Temple Israel, Albany, NY

DONATION LIST WAS MADE AS OF AND INCLUDING NOVEMBER 21. IF YOU MADE A DONATION AFTER THIS DATE, IT WILL BE IN NEXT MONTH'S RECORDER.

ALIYAH

Helene & Ken Gerson

Sara & Steven Ullman

Karen & David Blivaiss

Jacqueline Shagam

Sheila & Bernard Solomon

Lois & Ronald Bleich

Leslie & Mark Foladare

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Lynne & Rcihard Drachtman

Craig Drachtman

Elissa Smilowitz

Cindi & Howard Jacobs

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Elise and Ira Merkel In memory of Elise's mother, Sara Toubine z"l, in honor of the engagement of Josh Wohl, and in honor of Howard and Cindi Jacobs granddaughter's baby naming

Helene & Ken Gerson

Cindi & Howard Jacobs in honor of the baby naming of their granddaughter, Isabella

GENERAL DONATIONS

Karen & Ira Rosen wishing Mazel Tov to Rick and Cindy Rollman on the birth of their granddaughter, Nora Jade

Helene & Ken Gerson wishing Mazel Tov to Lynne and Richard Drachtman on the Auf Ruf of their son, Craig and his fiancée, Blaine

Helene & Ken Gerson wishing Mazel Tov to Margot and Dave Julis on the birth of their granddaughter, Charlotte Rose

William Eckstein & Toby Lubin in honor of Seraph Hillel Lipton

Linda Lidor in memory of Toby Saul

Shirley & Bruce Sommers in memory of Toby Saul

Linda Korman-Spiegel & Phil Spiegel in honor of Isabella Wasserman on becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Marla & Martin Genée in honor of Jerry Saferstein being selected as Chatan Bereshith

Bob Levine wishing Mazel Tov to Margot and David Julis on the birth of their granddaughter, Charlotte Rose

Sara & Steven Ullman in honor of the naming of Cindi and Howard Jacobs' granddaughter

Margot & David Julis wishing Mazel Tov to Jamie and Jason Wasserman on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Isabella

Barbara & Dov Pollak In honor David Libowsky for Men's Club Man of the Year, and Macaria Pelofsky & Jessica Miner for Co-Youths of the Year

Margot & David Julis wishing Mazel Tov to Laura and Joel Leizer on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Isabella

Dian Perkel in memory of Ida Rose

Cindi & Howard Jacobs in honor of Margot and David Julis on the birth of their granddaughter, Charlotte Rose

Cindy & Richard Rollman wishing Mazel Tov to Mindy and Les Listwa on the birth of their granddaughter, Ella Sophia

Barbara & Dov Pollak wishing Mazel tov to Steve and Brenda Albert on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Farrah

Cindy & Richard Rollman wishing Mazel Tov to Margot and Dave Julis on the birth of their granddaughter, Charlotte Rose

Maury & Steve Wohl in honor of Robert and Sharon Lipson on the marriage of their daughter, Shelby to Noah Levi

Barbara & Dov Pollak wishing Mazel Tov to the Wasserman Family and Isabella Wasserman on her Bat Mitzvah

Iris & Jon Wininger in memory of Ruth Richardson

Rita Sason in memory of Harriet Brosbe

Iris & Jon Wininger wishing Mazel Tov to Mindy and David Himelman on the birth of their grandson, Ethan Jesse Mond

Pearl & Robert Horn in memory of Gail Rosenzweig

Barbara & Dov Pollak In memory of Toby Saul.

Anita Shagam in memory of Fanny B Pick and Batya Moskowitz

Elizabeth & Manus Midlarsky in memory of Toby Saul

Yvette & Asher Yama in honor of Yvette reading Kohelet

Margot & David Julis wishing Mazel Tov to Lynne and Richard Drachtman on the marriage of their son, Craig, to Blaine

YAHREZEIT

Gloria & Robert Feldman
in memory of Joseph
Feldman

Sally Neadle in memory
of Anne Golembe

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Sherry Keller in memory
of Stanley Keller

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memory of Charlotte
Sultan

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memory of Marcus Julis

Fran Katz in memory of
Bella Kleinman

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in memory of Irina
Zaslavskaya and Boris
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memory of Albert Garbuz

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memory of Isidore
Feigenbaum

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of Hyman Entin

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memory of Shirley
Kosher

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Marlene Entin

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Silver and Philip Silver

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FOR ISRAEL AND
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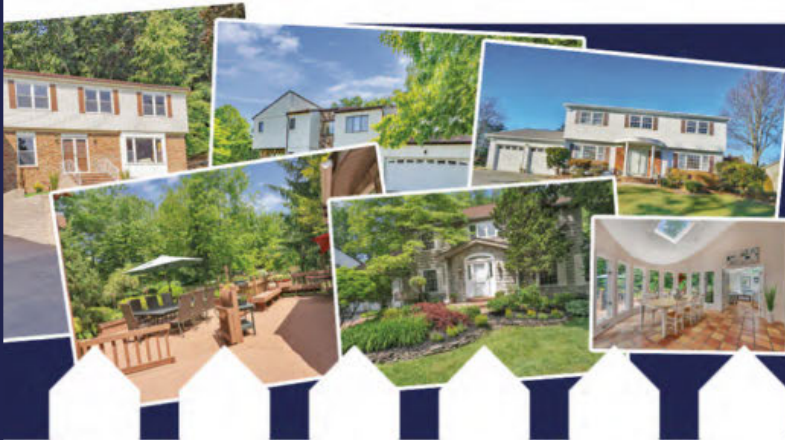
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