



# the RECORDER

EAST BRUNSWICK



JEWISH CENTER

JANUARY 2022

TEVET - SHEVAT 5782

VOLUME # 117



## SHABBAT SERVICES

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

### Friday Evenings

1/7 4:25 p.m.  
1/14 4:35 p.m.  
1/21 4:40 p.m.  
1/28 4:50 p.m.

Saturday Mornings  
9:30am

JANUARY 1  
Vaera

JANUARY 8  
Bo

JANUARY 15  
Beshalach

JANUARY 22  
Yitro

JANUARY 29  
Mishpatim

## PRIMARY CONTACTS

Rabbi  
Rabbi Jeff Pivo  
[Rabbipivo@ebjc.org](mailto:Rabbipivo@ebjc.org)

Education Director  
Cantor Larry  
Brandspiegel  
[Cantorlarry@ebjc.org](mailto:Cantorlarry@ebjc.org)

Co-Presidents  
Robert Salston &  
Jack Goldberg  
[Presidents@ebjc.net](mailto:Presidents@ebjc.net)

Executive Director  
Ellen Botwin  
[ebotwin@ebjc.org](mailto:ebotwin@ebjc.org)

Director of the Center for  
Early Learning  
Lynda Perel  
[lperel@ebjc.org](mailto:lperel@ebjc.org)

Accounts Administrator  
Cheryl Decker  
[C.decker@ebjc.org](mailto:C.decker@ebjc.org)

Office Administrator  
Nicole Cavalli  
[nicolec@ebjc.org](mailto:nicolec@ebjc.org)

# STAFF & CONTACTS

## COMMITTEE CONTACTS

**Sisterhood Co-Presidents**  
Sara Ullman & Cindi Jacobs

**Men's Club President**  
Howard Jacobs & Steve Harkavy

**Youth Commission**  
Rhonda Gold

**Membership Committee**  
Ken Gerson & Taryn Webber

**Chairperson, Special Circumstances**  
Marilyn Friedes

**Community Outreach**  
Eric Rabinowitz

**Director of The Center for Early Learning**  
Lynda Perel

**Calendar**  
Joannie Weinfeld

**Board of Education Chair**  
Jamie Wasserman

## RECORDER STAFF

Nicole Cavalli

## PROOFERS

Madeline Frances  
Sara Ullman

## WHAT'S INSIDE

03 Announcements

06 Save the Dates

07 Rabbinic Reflections

08 From Cantor Larry

09 Executive Director

10 From our Presidents

11 Sisterhood

13 Men's Club

14 Center for Early Learning

15 Kesher

16 Adult Education & Activities

26 Donations

## UPCOMING DATES

AS OF THIS WRITING, ALL THOSE ENTERING THE BUILDING FOR SERVICES AND OTHER EBJC FUNCTIONS (UNLESS 12 AND UNDER), MUST BE VACCINATED AND ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR MASKS. WE ARE STARTING TO INVITE THOSE WHO ATTEND SATURDAY MORNING SERVICES TO ENJOY KIDDUSH IN THE KIDDUSH ROOM.

FOR LINKS TO SERVICES, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS, PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBPAGE AT [WWW.EBJC.ORG](http://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 Montvale. 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 have been negatively impacted by COVID and are having trouble paying your dues, please let us know! It gives us no pleasure having to call a member to find out why they are in arrears only to find out that they've been out of work and are struggling. First, we are a source to come to. We have resources and methods to help you. Secondly, we will work with you to either work out a payment plan, reduce your dues to make sure that paying your EBJC membership dues does not become a burden when you are having trouble supporting your family!

### SHABBAT SERVICES

Shabbat services are back to being in-person, and are also offered via Zoom. Please check the cover of the Recorder or the weekly Tidbits for Friday evening service times. Saturday mornings at 9:30 a.m. The link to join will be found 15 minutes before services begin on our website at [ebjc.org/services](http://ebjc.org/services).

### OFFICE HOURS

The office is staffed Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m.— 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 8:30 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](mailto:madelinef18@gmail.com).

### HAZAK

We have begun meeting in person! Our next Hazak program is Thursday, January 6 at noon. This month, we have a luncheon and Bingo - with Target gift cards as prizes!. Registration is required for all Hazak events.

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

We are diligently working to continue engaging and entertaining our community! Ever on the search for interesting programming, please note the following events: On January 9 we have a virtual tour of Jewish Rome, on January 30 we will have Lainie Kazan, and on February 6th we will take a look with Mike Hollander at Sephardic Spain. Most of these 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 for all programs will be in Tidbits and on the EBJC website.



## THE CONGREGATIONS EXTENDS MAZEL TOV TO:

William Eckstein on his engagement to Toby Lubin

Phil & Jody Bramson on the birth of their grandson, Milo William

Joan Bramson on the birth of her great-grandson, Milo William

Jacob & Larisa Waxelbaum (and big brothers Mason and Matan) on the birth of their daughter, Maia Cora

Jerry & Michelle Cheslow on the engagement of their daughter, Lara Cheslow, to Dr. Dante Merlino

## THE CONGREGATION WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome Anita Shagam back to EBJC

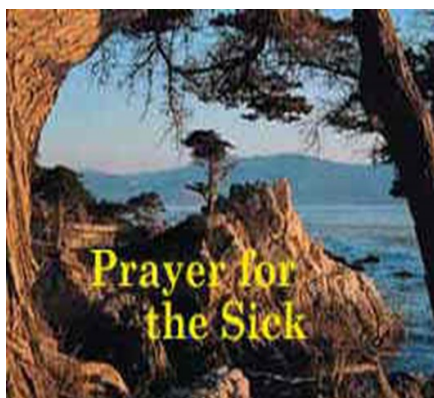
Dear EBJC family,

Thank you all so much for your calls, emails, cards and support during this challenging time faced by Bruce and myself. We are so grateful to have such a caring community to support us during difficult times - as well as happy times. Being an EBJC member has been a blanket of support throughout our lives.

We are blessed.

Thank you!

Shirley & Bruce Sommers



We have begun a "Psalm Fellowship," which gathers each week to chant psalms together to pray for the sick and ask for their healing.

Join us for a healing prayer circle for EBJC members as we recite from the Book of Psalms in English and Hebrew. 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](mailto:selectivemedia@comcast.net), where a list will be kept.

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





## BAR MITZVAH



My name is Jacob Matthews. My Bar Mitzvah is January 29, 2022.

I love watching live sports and playing sports. I play soccer, basketball and tennis. For my Bar Mitzvah project I am raising money for Children's Specialized Hospital. I decided to raise money for Children's Specialized Hospital because I was a patient there when I was 2 1/2 and had a stroke. At Children's Specialized Hospital I learned how to sit, stand, crawl and walk all over again. I want to give back and help other children like me. Please join me so that we can make wishes come true for other children. Together we can help make sure other kids live their best life like me.

If you would like to donate please go to: <https://bit.ly/Jacob4CSH>

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

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

100 Perrine Road  
Old Bridge, NJ 08857

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

*Planning a Simcha? Need a Party Planner? Decorator?*



Event & Balloon Décor  
Balloon Sculptures & Centerpieces  
Invitations & Custom Stationery  
Custom Seating Cards & Sign-in Boards  
Favors & Candle Lighting Ceremonies  
And even More!



# SAVE THESE DATES!

**Sunday, January 9 @ 1:00 PM**

**"A Virtual Tour of Jewish Rome" with Sara Pavoncello**

Participants will learn about the history of the Jewish Community of Rome, the oldest in Europe, from its beginning in 161 BCE to modern times. Using pictures, maps and videos, Sara will speak about the bond between Jerusalem and the Colosseum, about the Ghetto that started in 1555 and ended just in 1870. She will explain how this terrible experience affected life and traditions of the Jews of Rome in both good and bad ways. A special focus will be about the Shoah, the Nazi occupation, and how her family and other community members survived. We will learn about typical Jewish Roman traditions such as delicious Kosher recipes, the Giudaico Romanesco (their unique language) and the origin of some of the typical Jewish Roman last names.

**Wednesday, January 12 @ 8:00 PM**

**The Vigil - Jewish Film Series**

Watch the movie, then join us for the discussion - an interesting take on Jewish demonology!

**Sunday, January 30 @ 8:00 PM**

**Lainie Kazan - Up Close and Personal**

You know Lainie from My Big Fat Greek Wedding 1 & 2, appearances on The Nanny, King of Queens, Veronica's Closet, Touched By An Angel, Will & Grace, The Kominsky Method, Boston Legal, Grey's Anatomy, and too many more to mention! We will share a movie clip and a video of Lainie singing and she will talk about her life, her career and answer questions through the chat.

**Saturday, February 1 @ 8:30 PM**

**Jews in the American Theater**

Learn how Jews reshaped American Theater for the past 150 years!

**Sunday, February 6 @ 1:00 PM**

**"The Golden Age of Jewish Life in Sepharad/Spain – Guide for the Perplexed" – A Virtual Historical Tour with Mike Hollander**

For centuries, the Jewish community of Spain was one the world's most significant. It's creative achievements in the arts, sciences, literature, medicine, diplomacy, etc. were unprecedented for a Diaspora community, largely because of the interaction and integration of the Jewish community in Muslim Spain. All this ended during the same year that Columbus set sail to discover America. What is the legacy of this important community? We will visit some of the more important Jewish centers, including Córdoba, birthplace of Maimonides, Granada, home of the beautiful AlHambra Palace, where Ferdinand and Isabel issued their expulsion order, as well as the beautiful synagogues of Toledo. The presentation will also touch upon the complexity of minority/majority relations, the tension between integration and assimilation, and celebrating the rich legacy of Sephardic Jewry.

**Thursday, February 10 @ 8:30 PM**

**"THE TRIANGLE SHIRTWAIST FACTORY FIRE: Out of Tragedy Comes Social Justice"**

On the first day of Spring in 1911, a terrible fire broke out in Manhattan's garment district. When it ended, half an hour later, 146 workers, mostly young immigrant Jewish women, were dead. This horror capping years of worker protests against intolerable conditions propelled a powerful coalition to enact factory safety legislation that would become a model for the Nation.

# RABBINIC REFLECTIONS

---



While the holiday of Tu B'Shevat has not yet penetrated the American greeting card cycle ("Thinking of you on Tu B'Shevat"?), most Jews know that this minor holiday is connected to the natural world, that it is deemed the New Year for trees, and that in our time much effort is exerted to emphasize our connection to nature generally and our connection to the land of Israel specifically. One of my favorite Israel facts: It was the only country to have more trees at the end of the 20th century than at its beginning!

The early sages designated the fifteenth of the month of Shevat ("Tu" is simply the pronunciation of the letters tet and vav, 9 and 6 respectively,) as the official measure of the age of fruit trees. The fruit of trees under three years of age by that date was not used; the fruit of trees older than three years by that date could be enjoyed, and was also subject to tithes. These practices date to the time of the Mishnah (c. 200 C.E.), when the Temple in Jerusalem had been in ruins for a hundred and thirty years; as a practical matter, the tithing rules have never been observed.

But what was important to the early rabbis was not the fact of the Temple's then-current state; rather, imagining the world as it should be, as God intended, was their concern. They were looking far beyond the circumstances of their particular moment, to an idealized world that was set in its daily and yearly patterns, where the people, the land, and God all interacted with one another. The

great miracle of their mental world-building exercise was that to a very great extent, they imagined that world into reality. The course of the last two thousand years of Jewish history, down to the details of the fiscal years for trees, was set by those early masters, and we are the inhabitants of their dreams.

We should therefore let Tu B'Shevat remind us that current circumstances are no bar to imagining a perfected world, where our appreciation for, and use of, fruit trees, no less the way we respond to one another, transcends the particulars of our moment. We must never cease to strive toward the improvement of ourselves and our world, with the goal of the ultimate redemption of humanity always before us.

Thinking of you at Tu B'Shevat,  
Rabbi Jeff Pivo

# FROM CANTOR LARRY



The Talmud in Mishna Sanhedrin states "...Whoever saves a life, it is considered as if he saved an entire world." This is a very powerful statement. The first part of the quote is actually, "Whoever destroys a soul, it is considered as if he destroyed an entire world."

We tend to focus on the second part more as its impact is more positive, and it shows that the rabbis of old and today want us to improve on our lives and focus on how to make a positive difference.

How does one save a life? How can one save a life? Does it mean jumping in front of a bullet to save another person's life or performing CPR on someone who has gone into cardiac arrest? Can it mean giving Tzedakah to help a person purchase food for themselves and their family? Perhaps it is the simple gesture of a kind word inspiring someone who suffers from a depressed state.

We have multiple opportunities to help one another. In the Book of Leviticus, it states the Mitzvah of "V'a-hav-ta L're-a-kha Ka-mo-kha" or "You should love your neighbor as you love

yourself". According to some Rabbis in the Talmud, this Mitzvah is perhaps the greatest Mitzvah of all the Mitzvot.

What we learn from this is that we have a responsibility to care for one another. In the paragraph that follows the Alenu prayer, we find the words, "L'taken Olam" or "To repair the world." As a Jewish people we have a great responsibility to set the example by following this creed. The idea is that if we as a small group of people can perpetuate this task, then imagine if the rest of the world would do the same.

From a personal level, I see what a simple phone call, text or email can do for another person. I see the impact of a short prayer of healing for someone. I see the greatness of a small donation in honor of someone's need or celebration. We all can make a difference in even the smallest of ways.

This past month, I became one of the one's to fall victim to the terrible pandemic we have been facing over the past two years. Although I was not stricken with such severe symptoms that I was required to be hospitalized, I still had some days of "suffering". I know that there have been others in our EBJC family that have endured the same kind of pain and turmoil in their lives.

What made me feel better, along with Gd's hands, was the outpouring of emails, texts, and calls from all of you. A gesture of "How are you?" made the pain fade away, even for a few moments, but those moments got better and better as more emails and sentiments of good tidings

were sent my way. I can say that I am thankful for the prayers and outreach that I received which made me strive to be better.

If at any moment one could ask themselves, did my call or text make a difference, the answer is "yes." Prayers, a good word, or a nice gesture do make a difference. They can save lives. Knowing that someone cares makes all the difference in the world.

So, "Whoever saves a life, it is considered as if he saved an entire world." Always consider doing what is right and doing good for someone else. By doing so, it will come back to you. You can make a difference and you can save a life, knowingly and unknowingly.

-Cantor Larry I. Brandspiegel



# FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Have you ever met people or had friends or acquaintances who like to talk...about themselves? People who rarely ask how you are doing and really don't want to hear an answer or response if they do ask, because they really only want to talk about...themselves.

One example prompted me to write this. There is someone I've known for years.- not a friend but certainly an acquaintance. I don't see him very often any more but on the rare occurrence that I do see him (usually in Shoprite of East Windsor), his first act is to take out his phone and show me pictures of his grandchildren. I don't ask to see them. I don't know his grandchildren and I've never met them, but there he is, hand on phone, searching for every picture he can of his twin grandchildren. He doesn't ask how I am. He doesn't ask "what's going on" and he NEVER asks about my four grandchildren. What's with that?

Then there are the people who never let you finish a thought and interrupt you assuming they know what you're going to say. They wait eagerly until you take a breath and pounce! I know several people that do this. Look, I know we all interrupt, but I'm talking about the major interrupters...the ones that for lack of a better explanation...only want to hear their own voice and opinion. I've actually taken to

saying, "let me finish my thought." Amazingly, this actually works (for the most part). Although I have a strong feeling that they let me finish my thought while not listening to a word I'm saying so that they can get their thought in. Oh well.

Why am I bringing this up? Well, I've noticed the world has gotten a lot ruder. In the last 6 – 9 months I've been cut off on the road more often than in the past 6 – 9 years! A few days ago, I witnessed an argument between a customer and cashier. The customer loaded all of their items into a canvas bag (this was Dollar Tree) and expected the cashier to empty the bag for her (without exaggeration there were at least 30+ things in that bag). Could each one have been a bit nicer or patient with each other? Absolutely! But apparently this did not cross their minds. If I wasn't 4th in line and didn't have to push my way through, I would have emptied the bag for the customer who, for whatever reason, didn't want to do it (ultimately she did).

It takes a little more effort to be nice and not to yell and complain when something goes wrong or someone annoys you. It takes some thought. On a rare occasion, you can certainly be justified in an angry response, but for the most part we jump the gun and start yelling. We're all guilty of this.

Let's bring this back to EBJC. There are only three of us that handle the day to day operations and business of the Synagogue. There are times we are understaffed and depend upon volunteers to help. Have we made mistakes or errors? Sure have. Do we always try our best to rectify the issues and make everything right? Absolutely. Do we get yelled at? Unfortunately, yes. Especially when there is an error in the billing or accounting. More often than not,

it's a mistake on the part of Kesef that we have to fix.

I'm grateful that it is not often (and actually rare) that we are treated unkindly. As Executive Director, I can handle it. However, it's not cool to yell at Cheryl and Nicole. They work hard and only want to help EBJC and do the work that is asked of them.

So, here's my suggestion. If you are going to call because you are annoyed, frustrated or angry with something, please call me. Vent with me. Yell at me. Don't yell at the staff. They don't deserve it.

So now I'll end on a positive note. It is a pleasure to work here. We laugh and we joke and we've become friendly with so many. We love visits from members who stop in to say hello. We chat on the phone and care about our members who are struggling. We call members when we know they are not feeling well or in the hospital (if given permission). All of the staff members that are here every day, office staff, maintenance workers and preschool teachers get along. We're a great team and enjoy being here every day.

We're waiting for the day when our doors are wide open and EBJC is a hoppin' and a boppin' as it was before the pandemic. There wasn't a day that went by that something wasn't happening in this building.

Let's hope 2022 brings us there! Wishing you all a happy, healthy and fun 2022!

May you be well,

Ellen

# FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



As many are aware, the latest Pew Research Poll contained a very startling statistic for Conservative Jewish communities: seventy-two percent of non-Orthodox Jewish marriages are intermarriages. Our movement has struggled to come up with solutions to this trend but has not succeeded in adjusting to this reality. Clearly, with such a large incidence of intermarriage in our movement, this issue has affected many of our members.

Our Long-Range Planning Committee has been studying ways to publicize EBJC as a welcoming community to all. This includes not only welcoming intermarried couples, but also Jews of color, Jews with disabilities, and Jews of the LGBTQ community. In addition to revising our website by highlighting EBJC as a welcoming community, they have also recommended that we revisit our policy of not announcing the engagements, marriages, and the births of grandchildren to intermarried couples. This policy has angered some of our members who, although often disappointed by their children's choice of a marriage partner, are nevertheless happy for them and wish to share their joy with our community. Likewise for grandparents of a grandchild born to a mother who is not Jewish. Some congregants have even resigned from EBJC because of our current policy.

In the past, we have felt restrained by a T'shuvah, (responsa) of the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly which discouraged

Conservative congregations from making such announcements and did not allow those congregations even to accept donations in honor of those events. It is important to note that the Law Committee states on their website: "Rabbis have the authority, though, as *marei d'atra* [masters of the house for all halachic matters], to consider the Committee's positions but make their own decisions as conditions warrant." This T'shuvah was discussed at a recent Zoom meeting of synagogue presidents in our region moderated by staff of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. They promised to check with Rabbi Blumenthal, the CEO of both the Rabbinical Assembly and of United Synagogue for the current opinion of our movement. His response follows:

While there is an opinion from the 1980's that discouraged a congregation from expressing congratulations to an intermarrying couple, in recent years many if not most congregations have adopted welcoming practices for intermarrying couples, including public announcements and private and public rituals outside of the wedding ceremony to welcome and celebrate with the couple and their family. This also includes congratulations to grandparents of grandchildren born to intermarried couples. Congregational leaders should partner with their rabbi to

determine appropriate practices for their congregation.

After consultation with and approval of Cantor Larry, our Long-Range Planning Committee, Jack Goldberg and me, Rabbi Pivo has decided to allow the announcing of congratulations to acknowledge life cycle events of the family members of all of our congregants. Non-Jews still will not be allowed to participate in rituals reserved for members of the Jewish faith such as aliyot or ark openings. By making these announcements and welcoming intermarried couples into our community we continue to foster the Jewish value of *hachnasat orchim*, welcoming the stranger.

We realize that change is often difficult. At an earlier meeting, Rabbi Blumenthal suggested that when someone is uncomfortable with change, they should visit Rochester, New York. Why Rochester? Rochester is the home of Kodak. When many of us were young, a camera wasn't called a camera, it was called a Kodak. They also made film (I'm not sure millennials know what that is!), flashbulbs, and developing chemicals. They dominated photography. But they were late to the digital camera revolution and are now a shell of their former selves. They were once the leading employer in Rochester. Not so anymore. We at EBJC do not wish to be known as the Kodak of the Conservative Movement.

B'shalom,

Bob Salston  
Co-President, EBJC

# SISTERHOOD



Happy New Year! We wish our EBJC clergy and leadership, Sisterhood members, fellow congregants, and all our family, neighbors, and friends the very best of good health, peace, and fulfillment in 2022. May it be a year in which we relish in our “togetherness” as never before. The pandemic has taught us the supreme value of relationships to our well-being.

NEW YEAR/NEW YOU, as the saying goes. If one of your resolutions is to meet new people, have more fun, or deepen your connection to the community, Sisterhood is the perfect place to start. Our variety of programs can help you achieve these goals.

On the Horizon—

You can beat the winter doldrums with our 3-part education series, led by Rabbi Pivo. Those who have not participated in a class taught by Rabbi Pivo are in for a treat. He is a dynamic teacher who excels at making ancient texts come alive with current relevance. Join us as we explore topics of interest. The final installment of our series, in March, features an “Ask the Rabbi” format in which Rabbi Pivo will address all the burning questions you have been harboring.

Next month’s Sisterhood Book Club, scheduled for Thursday, February 17 is the memoir of a renowned actress, Tovah Feldshuh. The book is entitled, *Lilyville: Mother, Daughter, and Other Roles I’ve Played*. Feldshuh is perhaps most famous for her one-woman show portraying Israeli Prime Minister Gold Meir in “Golda’s Balcony.” Yet, she has also starred in dozens of plays and television series, including a recurring role on “Law and Order.” Last month

Feldshuh starred in another solo performance, this time as Dr. Ruth Westheimer in “Becoming Dr. Ruth” at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in lower Manhattan. Join us as we discuss Feldshuh’s stellar career and how her difficult relationship with her mother shaped her future. If you have a book you’d like to share as a group for a future meeting, please send your suggestion to Sara Ullman at [sarajull366@gmail.com](mailto:sarajull366@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

Those who are not familiar with Women’s League’s Torah Fund campaign—take note: It is one of the most worthy causes for those who wish to protect the long-term continuity of Conservative Judaism. It is an investment in our future! Torah Fund supports the education of the leaders in our community—Rabbis, Cantors, Teachers, Administrators, Social Workers—the very fabric of Jewish life. The current B’YACHAD campaign is underway, and we are already at more than 60 percent of our goal! Your meaningful donation can take us all the way.

If you did not purchase a pin last year, please consider doing so now with a donation of \$180. If you already have last year’s pin, you can purchase one as a gift for an important woman in your life. OR you can choose from an inventory of beautiful prior pins instead. Please contact our awesome Torah Fund Chair Anne Kroll at [selectivemedia@comcast.net](mailto:selectivemedia@comcast.net).

And watch for upcoming details about our annual spring Torah Fund event.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our always highly anticipated Sisterhood Shabbat is scheduled for Saturday, May 7. We encourage everyone to participate by accepting a part—either English or Hebrew—in the service. This involvement will reap benefits for both you and the congregation. Contact Ritual VP Gloria Jaslow at [glorichi@aol.com](mailto:glorichi@aol.com) for more details.

PURCHASING SCRIP IS AN EASY WAY TO SUPPORT SISTERHOOD! We have replenished our supply of gift cards, so they are ready for pickup. Cards are available to Shoprite, Acme, and Lox, Stock and Deli. Most of us are still patronizing these stores, so why not help out Sisterhood in the process. Contact Cheryl Decker at 732-257-7070.

2022 is full of possibilities, and we look forward to enhancing our intellectual, spiritual, and social lives by spending time with you, our beloved Sisterhood members. And what better way to start the New Year than by embracing new families; we extend a warm welcome to Rachel Green, who recently joined EBJC with her husband Brian and her children.

Hope to see everyone at future programs.

May it be an engaging and gratifying year,

Cindi Jacobs/Sara Ullman  
Sisterhood Co-Presidents





## **SISTERHOOD AT YOUR FINGERTIPS EVEN VIRTUALLY!!**

- **Sisterhood Kiddush**—join a fun loving group to prepare for weekly kiddush – contact Margot Julis 732-672-8089 [magooj1211@comcast.net](mailto:magooj1211@comcast.net) for more information
- **The Sisterhood Judaica Shop** is your source for beautiful giftware, books, candles, head coverings, children's items and more. **Since shopping in person is not an option right now, if you see an item online, contact our Judaica Shop managers and they will assist you in your purchase.**

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

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

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

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

Contact the EBJC Office 732-257-7070

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

Contact Cindy Rollman 908-812-6713

- **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 Anne Kroll – 732-735-1616 [selectivemedia@comcast.net](mailto:selectivemedia@comcast.net)



# MEN'S CLUB



Shalom!

Its January, and welcome to 2022! As we look forward to several more months of cold, the days are already starting to get longer. The cycle of the years continues to turn, and Passover and springtime will be sooner than we realize. We pray that the next 12 months will be better than the last 12, and that we can return to something resembling our pre-pandemic normal. But it's likely that the new year will bring with it its own new set of challenges. Its up to us to rise to those challenges!

As we're sure you recall, during the summer EBJC invested in a new streaming system. Men's Club put up \$5000 in matching funds towards this project. Over the months we raised about \$4725 in donations from members of the congregation. There were many very generous contributions that will be acknowledged in a plaque in the next several months. We are happy to report that Sisterhood contributed the final \$275 to bring us to our goal! At this point the drive is closed, having raised the funds for this effort. Thanks to all who made this happen.

In December, we were proud to name Marty Hoffman as our Man of the Year, and Jack Zeidwerg as our Youth of the Year. Kol hakavod for all that they have done to make EBJC a special community! They were celebrated at a well-attended dinner held on December 19 that was enjoyed by those who

participated. We appreciate all who sponsored the ad journal in their honor. While this dinner is run by the regional Men's Club (NNJR), I will point out that our own Dave Mandell was instrumental in making it all happen, and Steve Harkavy put in countless hours to interview all the honorees. Thanks Dave and Steve for all you do!

We have a number of events planned over the next several months, including our annual Blood Drive on January 9, which we are co-sponsoring with the Social Action Committee. Despite the pandemic, we had a very successful drive last year and look to repeat that performance this year. This year the drive returns to EBJC after its "exile" last year at Brunswick Square Mall! Please plan to give blood at our event – giving blood literally saves lives, and there is no higher mitzvah than to save a life. Our thanks go to Ron Berger for organizing this – please contact him if you are interested in helping or donating.



Speaking of unsung heroes, just like everyone who donates blood is an unsung hero, at East Brunswick Jewish Center we have many unsung heroes. This year the Men's Club will be honoring 3 unsung heroes who are the lifeline of EBJC. The honorees are Ellen Botwin, Executive Director of EBJC, Cheryl Decker, Accounts Administrator at EBJC, and Nicole Cavalli, Office Administrator at EBJC. The event honoring them will be in February and more details will be made available shortly. Congratulations to Nicole, Cheryl, and Ellen!

Many in our community know Alan Brodman, who taught for many years at East Brunswick High

School. We asked Alan to give a talk on "How to Create Better Citizens" in the fall of 2020, but he wasn't able to do the talk due to illness. I am happy to report that Alan is better, and he is now scheduled to give the talk Sunday morning, January 16. While at this point, we are planning a breakfast, the talk will also be made available on Zoom so that former students who now live in other communities can participate. Please check with Tidbits for more information on the final logistics.



And, on February 13, which is Super Bowl Sunday, we are planning our annual World Wide Wrap. Again, more logistical details will be made available as we get closer to the event.

We are always open to new ideas for activities, events or programs that would be compelling to people at EBJC. Please feel free to let us know your suggestions, and please plan to join us at our events. All these programs are open to the general EBJC community. While we encourage membership in Men's Club, being a member will not be a prerequisite to your participation in any of our events.

Thank you for your interest in Men's Club and thanks for being part of the EBJC community!

Steve Harkavy

Howard Jacobs

Co-Presidents, EBJC Men's Club



# CENTER FOR EARLY LEARNING



**HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM CEL!**



ZUMBA WITH DANIT



WINTER PROJECTS



MUSIC WITH ELLEN

# KESHER AND YOUTH GROUPS



*Hello Keshet Families,*

*I hope that everyone enjoyed a pleasant winter break and had a wonderful New Year's celebration.*

*During this month of January, we will have our annual Youth Shabbat on Shabbat morning, January 8th, for USYers, as well as, all of our youth. Our kids will be helping to lead services that morning.*

*Our Wednesdays are filled with Keshet classes; however, there are two Sundays when there will be no Keshet classes, January 2nd and January 16th.*

*On Wednesday, January 19th, we will have Youth Night for our Chaverim, Kadima, and USY groups.*

*On Shabbat morning, January 22nd, we will have Shabbat school and our Shabbatsters and Shabbat B'yachad services. We will have Keshet classes on Sunday, January 23rd, since we already have two Sundays off this month.*

*We have two Keshet High School sessions scheduled for Wednesdays, January 5th and 26th. Please watch for information about those sessions.*

*I will be attending the Jewish Educators Assembly conference from January 30th through February 3rd in Florida. I look forward to studying with my colleagues from around the nation. I receive a lot of valuable information from these conferences. During the first day of the conference, Sunday, January 30th, we will be having a Gala both in person and on Zoom. At the Gala a select number of teachers will be honored. It is my pleasure to announce that one of the teachers being honored will be our own, Moreh Ira Sperling, for his many years of teaching in our school and for his commitment to Jewish education and Yiddishkeit. Information will be made available to log into this event, as well as the opportunity to sponsor ads in honor of Moreh Ira.*

*There is always something great happening with our kids in Keshet.*

*If you have any questions about our programs, please reach out by emailing me at [cantorlarry@ebjc.org](mailto:cantorlarry@ebjc.org).*

*-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 (STREAMING)**

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

### **TALMUD CLASS (STREAMING)**

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

### **LUNCH AND LEARN (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 [howard\\_jacobs@ebjc.net](mailto:howard_jacobs@ebjc.net) for details on upcoming dates, to get on our Monroe mailing list, with questions and to reserve your spot.

### **ISRAELI DANCE**

Beginners:

Mondays | 7:00 p.m.

Intermediate/Advanced:

Mondays | 8:00 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**

February 6 | BRUNCH 10 a.m.

February 6th we will have Antiques Roadshow - National Estate Jewelers. Bring one item for evaluation - Sell your gold! Registration is mandatory (go to [www.ebjc.org](http://www.ebjc.org) and click on the Hazak tab). There is a suggested charge of \$8.00 for the luncheons/brunches and the programs are always offered at no charge. Hazak is open to all in the community regardless of nationality, race or religion.



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



**2021-2022**

**RE\*TURN TO SISTERHOOD**



\*\*\*\*\*

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

WE KNOW SISTERHOOD NEEDS TO BE RELEVANT TO YOUR LIFE:  
IT IS! THROUGH ZOOM, AND POSSIBLY IN PERSON, WE WILL  
HAVE PROGRAMMING!

\*Education, Social, & Cultural Programming

\*Networking Opportunities

\*Community Outreach Opportunities

\*Fundraising

\*Personal Development Opportunities

\*Membership in Women's League

---

Our Membership Drive for 2021-2022 is underway.  
Dues did not go up! It's just \$36 to join!

Need more info?

Contact Cindy Rabinowitz, VP of Membership.

[Cindy.Rabinowitz@comcast.net](mailto:Cindy.Rabinowitz@comcast.net) or 908-307-5768

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

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE # (IF DIFFERENT) \_\_\_\_\_  
BEST TIME OF THE DAY TO CONTACT YOU. \_\_\_\_\_

## **TORAH FUND CAMPAIGN 2021-2022**

### **LET'S KEEP IT GOING**

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

***This Year's Theme - B'Yachad (Together) ... PART II***



Wearing this pin signifies the triumph of Sisterhood members working *together* year-round to make important contributions to the Jewish community through their volunteer efforts at synagogues across the United States and Canada. Each of us is one small nugget of gold, but *together* our unique gifts reflect the light inside us and help each other shine.

*Together* we celebrate our shared *yerushah* (heritage) as proud Jewish women affiliated with the Conservative/Masorti Movement. Join us!

As Women's League for Conservative Judaism enters its second century, and the State of Israel approaches its 74th anniversary, Torah Fund embarks on its 80th year. We look forward with joy to our future *together* with you, our Torah Fund supporters.

**Any contribution is greatly appreciated!** With a donation of \$180 you become a benefactor and acquire this beautiful pin. (Payment plan through May 1, 2022 is available.) Your workplace is also eligible to make a matching contribution.

Due to pandemic delays, the B'Yachad campaign, along with its signature pin, is extended for another year. If you didn't purchase a pin last year, here's your chance! If you did, why not order *another* as a meaningful gift? Or, choose from a selection of past pins you might have missed. And remember to wear your favorite Torah Fund pin to stand proudly as a sponsor and supporter of Conservative Judaism.

Please make checks payable to Torah Fund, and either mail them to, or drop them off at, 20 Buckingham Drive, East Brunswick, NJ 08816.

Questions? Contact Anne Kroll at [selectivemedia@comcast.net](mailto:selectivemedia@comcast.net) or 732-735-1616

# Wiesenthal Government Advocacy Internship

be **INSPIRED** to assume  
**RESPONSIBILITY**  
for the future



Applications are now open for the Simon Wiesenthal Center's 2022 Summer Government Advocacy Internship. Students selected for this highly competitive program will be introduced to the mechanics of the state and municipal government, politics, grassroots activism and advocacy. The program is based in New York City and open to all college and graduate-level students.



## Wiesenthal Government Advocacy interns will:

- ▶ Receive hands-on experience through internship placements in the offices of local & state legislators and governmental agencies.
- ▶ Participate in weekly intensive workshops with elected officials, top lobbyists, coalition builders, and high-level Jewish communal leaders to develop the skills necessary to become effective activists.
- ▶ Be partnered with mentors who shape front-line policy decisions to gain insight and guidance from an insider perspective.
- ▶ Receive a stipend of \$1,500 upon completion of the program.

## DEADLINE TO APPLY: MARCH 15, 2022

The 2022 program will take all necessary COVID precautions and will run virtually if determined necessary

To apply please go to:  
[wiesenthal.com/internship](https://wiesenthal.com/internship)

For more information or to have an application forwarded to you, please contact the Eastern Director, Michael Cohen at [mcohen@wiesenthal.com](mailto:mcohen@wiesenthal.com) or call 212-697-1180







## A Virtual Tour of Jewish Rome

Participants will learn about the history of the Jewish Community of Rome, the oldest in Europe, from its beginning in 161 BCE to modern times. Using pictures, maps and videos, Sara will speak about the bond between Jerusalem and the Colosseum, about the Ghetto that started in 1555 and ended just in 1870. She will explain how this terrible experience affected life and traditions of the Jews of Rome in both good and bad way. A special focus will be about the Shoah, the Nazi occupation, and how her family and other community members survived. We will learn about typical Jewish Roman traditions such as delicious Kosher recipes, the Giudaico Romanesco (their unique language) and the origin of some of the typical Jewish Roman last names.

**Sunday January 9, 2022 @ 1pm, EST Zoom**



Sara Pavoncello studied in the Jewish schools of Rome and earned degrees In Political Science and International Relations. From 2010 until 2018 she collaborated with the Jewish Museum of Rome and fell in love with Jewish history. She became licensed as a tour guide in 2017 and started her own company, Roma Kosher Tours, specializing in tours of Rome from a Jewish perspective. She has been an educator for the Youth Departments of the Italian Jewish Communities for three years.

### Program Co-Sponsors:

Congregation Beth Israel, West Hartford, CT  
 East Brunswick Jewish Center, East Brunswick, NJ  
 Emanuel Synagogue, West Hartford, CT  
 JCC of Paramus-Congregation Beth Tikvah, Paramus, NJ  
 Temple Beth Shalom, Manalapan, NJ

This program is free and all are welcome to attend.

Donations to EBJC are greatly appreciated and help us to continue offering special programs like this one.

Registration is required to attend.

Register at:

**[EBJC.org/JewishRome](https://EBJC.org/JewishRome)**



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER





East Brunswick Jewish Center  
is pleased to present

# Lainie Kazan

*Up Close and Personal*

Sunday, January 30  
2022

8:00pm EST Zoom



## MEET LAINIE

**Spend an hour with Lainie Kazan as she talks about her career on Broadway, in the movies, on TV, headlining at nightclubs and more.**

Lainie Kazan is the embodiment of the word entertainer - an artist who has reached the pinnacle in virtually every area of performance. She has come a long way since she was Barbra Streisand's Broadway understudy in "Funny Girl."

She was nominated for an Emmy Award, a Tony Award, and a Golden Globe Award but may be most recognized for her role as the mother (Maria Portokalos) in My Big Fat Greek Wedding 1 and 2. A third MBFGW movie is in the works!

Kazan guested on Dean Martin's variety series 26 times. Her TV work includes a recurring role as Aunt Frieda on the Fran Drescher sitcom The Nanny and as Kirstie Alley's mother on Veronica's Closet (Emmy nomination).

## PLEASE JOIN US ON JANUARY 30TH AT 8:00PM

**We will share a movie clip and a video of Lainie singing and she will talk about her life, her career, and answer questions through the chat.**

**\$25 / Link to Zoom program**

**\$54 / Sponsorship, includes:**

- Link to Zoom program
- A bottle of wine or champagne
- Sponsors will be honored and recognized in a separate email, in tidbits and in the Recorder

**Register at [www.ebjc.org/Lainie-Kazan](http://www.ebjc.org/Lainie-Kazan)**

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

*Thank you for supporting this program!*

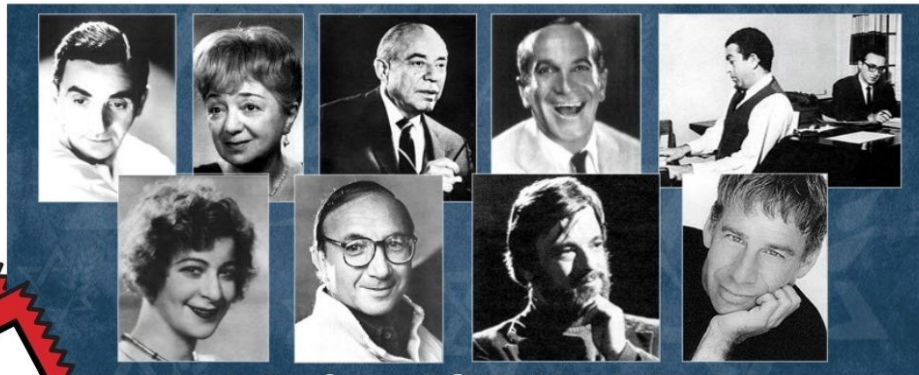
PARTNERING SPONSORS: East Brunswick Jewish Center, Beth El Synagogue, Congregation B'nai Tikvah, Temple Beth Shalom, Columbia Jewish Congregation, Temple Israel of Albany, Ezra Habonim - The Niles Twp. Jewish Congregation, Congregation Torat-El, Merrimack Valley Jewish Federation, B'nai Jeshurun, JCC of LBI





# Jews in the American Theater

Believe it or not, there was a time when there were no Jews in the American theater. What changed? How did Jews come to play such a vital role in every aspect of the business, reshaping it over the last 150 years?



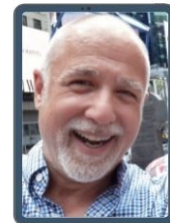
REGISTER AT:  
[EBJC.org/Jewish-Theater](http://EBJC.org/Jewish-Theater)

## A Legacy Like No Other

FEBRUARY 1ST, 2022  
8:30 PM ZOOM

Entertainment historian John Kenrick has worked in the theatre at every level from amateur to Broadway, eventually serving as personal assistant to six Tony Award winning producers, including the team behind the original production of *Rent*.

He has taught musical theatre history courses at NYU's Steinhardt School, The New School, and Philadelphia's University of the Arts. John's books include *Musical Theatre: A History*. He is the creator of the educational website [Musicals101.com](http://Musicals101.com).



**Program Co-Sponsors:**  
East Brunswick Jewish Center  
Congregation Beth Israel  
Houston Congregation for Reform Judaism  
Congregation Torat-El  
Temple Beth Shalom  
Merrimack Valley Jewish Federation  
The Emanuel Synagogue



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.

Register at:  
[EBJC.org/Jewish-Theater](http://EBJC.org/Jewish-Theater)





## **"The Golden Age of Jewish Life in Sepharad/Spain - Guide for the Perplexed"**

For centuries, the Jewish community of Spain was one the world's most significant. Its creative achievements in the arts, sciences, literature, medicine, diplomacy, etc. were unprecedented for a Diaspora community, largely because of the interaction and integration of the Jewish community in Muslim Spain. All this ended during the same year that Columbus set sail to discover America. What is the legacy of this important community? We will visit some of the more important Jewish centers, including Córdoba, birthplace of Maimonides, Granada, home of the beautiful AlHambra Palace, where Ferdinand and Isabel issued their expulsion order, as well as the beautiful synagogues of Toledo. The presentation will also touch upon the complexity of minority/majority relations, the tension between integration and assimilation, and celebrating the rich legacy of Sephardic Jewry.

### **Sunday, February 6, 2022 @ 1pm EST, Zoom**

**Mike Hollander was born in Canada and made Aliyah in 1988. He has an MA in Jewish-Christian Relations and is a registered tour guide. He has led groups from Federations, Birthright, Interfaith groups, political groups, congregational trips, families, adults and even the rich and famous like Bono. His areas of expertise include history, politics, Middle Eastern and interfaith studies.**



#### **Program Co-Sponsors:**

**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  
HPCT - CAE, Highland Park, NJ  
Houston Congregation for Reform Judaism, Houston, TX  
JCC of Paramus-Congregation Beth Tikvah, Paramus, NJ**

**This program is free and all are welcome to attend.**

**Donations to EBJC are greatly appreciated and help us to continue offering special programs like this one.  
Registration is required to attend.**

**Register at:**

**[EBJC.org/Spain](https://www.ebjc.org/spain)**







## "The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire: Out of Tragedy Comes Social Justice"

On the first day of spring in 1911, a terrible fire broke out in Manhattan's Garment District. When it ended, half an hour later, 146 workers, mostly young immigrant Jewish women, were dead. This horror capping years of worker protests against intolerable conditions propelled a powerful coalition New Yorkers to enact factory safety legislation that would become a model for the nation.

**Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 8:30PM EST**



Professor Pamela Nadell holds the Patrick Clendenen Chair in Women's and Gender History at American University where she directs the Jewish Studies Program and received the university's highest award, Scholar/Teacher of the Year. Her books include "Women Who Would Be Rabbis: A History of Women's Ordination, 1889-1985". A past president of the Association for Jewish Studies and the recipient of the American Jewish Historical Society's Lee Max Friedman Award for distinguished service, her consulting work for museums includes the National Museum of American Jewish History and the Library of Congress.

### Program Co-Sponsors:

Columbia Jewish Congregation, Columbia, MD  
 Congregation Beth Israel, West Hartford, CT  
 Congregation Torat-El, Oakhurst, NJ  
 East Brunswick Jewish Center, East Brunswick, NJ  
 Ezra-Habonim, The Niles Township Jewish Congregation, Skokie, IL  
 Houston Congregation for Reform Judaism, Houston, TX  
 Jewish Federation of Ventura County, Ventura, CA  
 Temple Beth Shalom, Manalapan, NJ  
 Temple Israel, Albany, NY



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.

Register at:  
[EBJC.org/Triangle](https://www.ebjc.org/Triangle)

# *Ladino Music from Yesterday to Today:*

## *A Virtual Presentation by Sarah Aroeste*



Come along on a virtual journey as we learn about Ladino culture and history with this talented singer, songwriter, educator and storyteller, Sarah Aroeste.

Inspired by her family's Sephardic roots in Macedonia and Greece, Sarah has spent the last two decades bringing her contemporary style of original and traditional Ladino music to audiences around the world.

She works tirelessly to Ladino music alive for a new generation. Her musical style combines traditional Mediterranean Sephardic sounds with contemporary influences such as rock, pop, and jazz. To date, she has released seven recordings, more recently an all-Ladino Hanukkah CD ([Hanuká! 2021](#)).

Through her artful performance on music, Sarah will show you how Ladino culture has existed and transformed from the 15th century until today. It is sure to be a meaningful and joyful way to spend your late afternoon.

---

*Sunday, February 27, 2022 at 5:00pm*

---

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.

Register at:

**EBJC.org/Ladino**

---

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





# American Judaism: Past, Present and Future

## A Three-Part Series

To receive your Zoom link register at: [EBJC.org/American-Judaism](https://EBJC.org/American-Judaism)

**Thursday, March 3 @ 8:30 PM ET**

**Jonathan Sarna, Brandeis University,**

**"An Old faith in the New World: The History of American Judaism"**

A lively presentation on American Judaism from 1654 to the present by the acclaimed scholar who wrote the bestselling book on the subject, *American Judaism: A History*. Beginning in the colonial era, Sarna recounts the dynamic story of people struggling to be Americans and Jews. He shows how each generation of American Jews has had to wrestle anew with the question of whether its own children and grandchildren will remain Jewish. Bringing the story down to the present, he illustrates how the past can both inform and inspire.

**Thursday, March 31 @ 8:30 PM ET**

**Lila Corwin Berman, Temple University,**

**"American Jews & White Supremacy: The Present Dilemmas of an Unstable History"**

Over the last five years, Americans have reckoned anew with the history of this country's racism and what that history requires from the present. In this talk, Professor Lila Corwin Berman asks how American Jews fit—or do not fit—in these often painful and polarizing conversations. She argues that older debates about whether Jews were "white," should be supplanted by newer efforts to ask how whiteness organizes power and when and how Jews have been included in or excluded from that racialized system of American power.

**Sunday, May 22 @ 1:00 PM ET**

**Samuel Heilman, Emeritus**

**CUNY Graduate Center, Queens College,**

**"The American Jewish Present and What it Indicates About the Future: A Sociologist's View"**

Professor Heilman will offer a perspective on American Jewry, its numbers, its politics, its family dynamics, its religiosity, and its attachments (or lack thereof) to Israel and speculate about where each of these is likely to go in the years ahead.



Participating Organizations: B'nai Shalom, West Orange NJ; Columbia Jewish Congregation, Columbia MD; Congregation Best Israel, West Hartford, CT; 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 Paramus - Congregation Beth Tikvah, Paramus, NJ; Temple Israel, Albany, NY



**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.

Register at:

[EBJC.org/American-Judaism](https://EBJC.org/American-Judaism)

# DONATIONS

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

## ALIYAH

Martin & Marla Genee

Jeff & Sara Blivaiss

Ken & Helene Gerson

Ronald & Lois Bleich

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Michael Sleppin

Judith Koplik

Scott & Carole  
Yablonowitz

## CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Robert & Sharon Lipson  
and Family in memory of  
Sol Lipson z"l

Jeff & Sara Blivaiss for  
Keshet from the donut  
sale

Larry & Helen-Ann  
Epstein

Sonia Kobrin sending get  
well wishes to Cantor  
Larry

## GENERAL DONATIONS

Howard & Amy Cohen in  
memory of Fred  
Feldman

Joel & Fran Shafer in  
memory of Fred  
Feldman

Joel & Fran Shafer in  
memory of Sol Lipson

Seymour & Debby  
Feldman in memory of  
Fred Feldman

William & Amy Schafer  
in memory of Sol Lipson

Barbara & David  
Blumenthal wishing  
Mazel Tov to Jody and  
Phil Bramson on the  
birth of their grandson

Steven & Sara Ullman in  
memory of Fred  
Feldman

Robert & Liz Salston  
wishing Mazel Tov to  
Jody and Phil Bramson  
on the birth of their  
grandson

Martin & Marla Genee in  
support of the various  
programs offered at  
EBJC

Steven & Sara Ullman in  
honor of Jody and Phil  
Bramson becoming new  
grandparents

David & Barbara  
Blumenthal in memory of  
Marc Fertik

Jules & Roxsene Plafker  
in memory of Paul  
Weissman

Ora Rotblum &  
Shoshana and Jon Rivlin  
wishing a Refuah  
Shelema to Bruce  
Sommers

Stanley & Arlene Ferman  
in memory of Fred  
Feldman

Sheldon & Diana  
Horowitz in honor of  
Jack Ezra Horowitz

Joseph & Mindy Shapiro  
in honor of Matt  
Kaufman

Fred & Caroline  
Steinberg in memory of  
Fred Feldman

Richard & Cindy Rollman  
wishing Mazel Tov to  
Jody and Phil Bramson  
on the birth of their  
grandson

Adela Sasson in memory  
of Sol Lipson

David & Margot Julis  
wishing Mazel Tov to  
Karen & Ira Rosen on  
the birth of their  
granddaughter,  
Samantha Frances

Michael & Sherry  
Kaufman in memory of  
Fred Feldman

Jerry & Michelle  
Cheslow wishing a  
Refuah Shelema to  
Bruce Sommers

Dian Perkel in memory  
of Eugene Rose

Edward & Susan Pilcer  
in support of EBJC  
programming

Dov & Barbara Pollak in  
support of EBJC  
programming

Robert & Liz Salston in  
support of EBJC  
programming

Stanley & Gail Rubin  
sending get well wishes  
to Cantor Larry

Jon & Iris Wininger in  
memory of Fred  
Feldman

Alan & Gloria Nadler  
wishing Mazel Tov to  
Karen and Ira Rosen on  
the birth of their newest  
granddaughter,  
Samantha Frances

Bruce & Shirley  
Sommers wishing Mazel  
Tov to Michelle and Jerry  
Cheslow on the  
engagement of their  
daughter, to Dante  
Merlino

Robert & Pearl Horn  
wishing a speedy  
recovery to Rabbi Pivo

Fred & Norma Teicher in  
memory of Sol Lipson

## Yahrzeit/Yizkor

Sheila Davidoff in  
memory of Annabelle  
Joy Block Temkin

Martin & Marla Genee in  
memory of Fannie  
Genee, Lillie Genee,  
Israel Goldman and  
Anna Greenblatt

Mark & Leslie Foladare  
in memory of Leo  
Sulzbacher and Mollie  
Foladare

Howard & Amy Cohen in  
memory of Martin Landis

Sorin & Rochelle  
Weissman in memory of  
Iancu Weissman



# DONATIONS

Rosanne Kleinman in memory of Rabbi Irving Kleinman and Pearl Efros

Howard & Barbara Sorkin in memory of Jack Zeidwerger

Karen Krieger in memory of Sidney Krieger

Charles & Ilene Flug in memory of Joseph Pardo

Neil & Gail Kosher in memory of Rose Kosher and David Friedman

Eric & Cindy Rabinowitz in memory of Lillian Leska, Sarah Celia Holodetz and Anne Rabinowitz

Edna Sharff in memory of Golde Aronowitz

Barry & Gloria Jaslow in memory of Ruth Jaslow

Kenneth & Shelly Hirsch in memory of Morris Bernett

Adam & Carrie Rakvica in memory of Barry Spurr

Paul & Roberta Solomon in memory of Joseph Einhorn

Ken & Helene Gerson in memory of Walter Lessheim

Joseph & Mindy Shapiro in memory of Frieda Safdia

Charles & Rebecca Breverman in memory of David Abraham Dragiff and Harry Braverman

Jill Rubin in memory of Mildred Marchant

Richard & Cindy Rollman in memory of Eric Rollman

Adela Sasson in memory of Leizer Bach

Stanley & Gail Rubin in memory of Mildred Marchant

Roy & Linda Levi in memory of Else Levi

Bracha Rosenberg in memory of Matt Rosenberg

Marc Mellinger & Ellen Stein in memory of Martin Mellinger

Bernard & Sheila Solomon in memory of Henry Cohen

Martin Hecht in memory of Michael Hecht and Arthur Herberg

Myra Lee Cohen in memory of Max Louis Cohen

Audrey Botnick in memory of Elliott Botnick

Robert & Pearl Horn in memory of Samuel Horenstein

William Eckstein in memory of Bella Zeidner

Allen Bachenheimer in memory of William Shapiro

Lloyd & Mindy Shepetin in memory of Ruth Shepetin

Arnold & Lori Wallis in memory of Joseph Wallis

Barry & Gloria Jaslow in memory of Max Wolk

Gary & Gail Appelbaum in memory of Abraham Mandelkorn and Cary Krell

Kenneth & Judith Streisand in memory of Irwin Rothman

Naomi Weiss in memory of Hilde Levi Reinhold

## YOUTH PROGRAMS





EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

511 Ryders Lane  
East Brunswick, New Jersey  
08816-2769

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ  
PERMIT NO. 16020