



the RECORDER

EAST BRUNSWICK  JEWISH CENTER

JUNE 2022

SIVAN - TAMMUZ 5782

VOLUME # 122



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

6/3	6:00 p.m.
6/10	6:00 p.m.
6/17	6:00 p.m.
6/24	6:00 p.m.

Saturday Mornings 9:30 a.m.

JUNE 4
Bamidbar

JUNE 11
Nasso

JUNE 18
Beha'alotcha

JUNE 25
Sh'lach

PRIMARY CONTACTS

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Men's Club President

Howard Jacobs & Steve Harkavy

Youth Commission

Rhonda Gold

Membership Committee

Ken Gerson & Taryn Webber

Chairperson, Special Circumstances

Marilyn Friedes

Social Action

Hollie Cerame

Director of The Center for Early Learning

Lynda Perel

Calendar

Taryn Webber

Board of Education Chair

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UPCOMING DATES

AS OF THIS WRITING, WE HAVE MOVED ALL SERVICES BACK TO IN-PERSON (AND THEY WILL CONTINUE TO BE STREAMED AS WELL). WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU BACK. PLEASE CONTINUE TO READ TIDBITS AND THE RECORDER, AND GO TO WWW.EBJC.ORG FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

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 services are at 6:00 p.m. 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 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

HAZAK

Thursday, June 2 - DINNER - 6:00 p.m.

Eric Lipper - Keyboard, Guitarist, Singer, Comedy - all in one entertainment - sing along, laugh and enjoy!

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 June 2nd we have Namaste And Shalom - A Virtual Tour Of Jewish India Where Rahael Muslea, a 7th generation of a Calcutta family introduces audiences to the unique heritage of Jews in Iraq and India. On June 3rd we have Tiki Shabbat & Chinese Dinner, a tropical and tiki-themed dinner and a family-friendly Shabbat service, and on June 23rd we have the last of the 3-part FilmShul series: Steven Spielberg - the life and career with a focus on his upbringing as an Orthodox Jew which inspired his creation of the Shoah Foundation. 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:

Jeffrey & Brooke Rudolph on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jordan
Evan & Jodi Leventhal on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Benjamin
Joel & Madeline Frances on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Morgan Sternthal
Deena Oren on being named this year's EBJC Gala honoree

THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO:

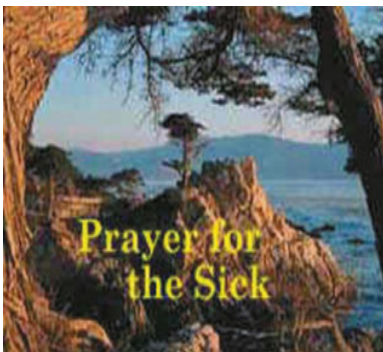
Fran Shafer on the loss of her brother, Michael Proscia
Family and friends of Miriam Cohen
Marna Erlich on the loss of her father, Aisik Gelman
Bob Salston on the loss of his stepfather, Jack Rivlin
Larry Kofsky on the loss of his father, Herbert Kofsky
David Anca on the loss of his father, Alexander Anca

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.





Cantor Larry and Dr. Laura Brandspiegel & Family want to thank all those who made generous contributions to EBJC in honor of the birth of Orli Malka Sinoff, daughter of Samantha (Brandspiegel) and Avi Sinoff. We are excited to be celebrating this wonderful Simha with our EBJC Family and look forward to celebrating even more joyous occasions together.

The EBJC Gala Committee would like to thank the following businesses for contributing gifts and/or gift certificates for this year's Gala

Total Party - East Brunswick

Sushiana Restaurant - Highland Park

Giddy's Pizzeria - East Brunswick

Bridge Turkish and Mediterranean Grill - Highland Park

Fred and Murry's Kosher Delicatessen - Freehold

China Lee Kosher Chinese Restaurant - Highland Park

Jerusalem Pizza - Highland Park

Nail Touch - East Brunswick

Tangles Hair Salon - Manalapan

Glatt 27 - Highland Park



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

Thursday, June 2 - 8:30 PM

Namaste and Shalom: A Virtual Tour Of Jewish India

Rahel Musleah, the seventh generation of a Calcutta family, presents a rare and intimate view into the distinct heritage of the Jews of India and Iraq.

Friday, June 3 - 6:30 PM

Tiki Shabbat & Chinese Dinner

Join us for a tropical and tiki-themed dinner and a family-friendly Shabbat service.

Sunday, June 12 @ 11:00 AM

Sisterhood's Torah Fund Champagne Brunch

Thursday, June 23 @ 8:30 PM

FilmShul - Part 3 of a 3 Part Series

Steven Spielberg - the life and career with a focus on his upbringing as an Orthodox Jew which inspired his creation of the Shoah Foundation.

**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

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www.Total-Party.com
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Favors & Candle Lighting Ceremonies
And even More!

RABBINIC REFLECTIONS



Given how often Jews flout the mitzvot, even the 10 Commandments, yet how devoted they remain to Jewish traditions, the old joke has it that God would have had much more success in shaping their behavior if those mitzvot had been called “the 10 Traditions.”

For a long time now, I’ve thought that a better translation of “mitzvah” than “command” would be “demand.” A command cannot be refused, which runs counter to Jewish belief in free will. Demands, however, are made of us every day, in all spheres of our lives, and each of us decides how to respond to them: Demands of work, of family, of friends, push us each day to make decisions, and to balance the needs of each against the other.

Demands from God are no different. A commanding God cannot be disobeyed without severe consequences; a demanding God allows us the space to weigh our actions and make choices, even if those

choices sometimes run counter to Jewish tradition.

Each year on Shavuot (June 5th-6th this year), we recall the giving of Torah at Sinai. That moment of revelation shaped Jewish belief and behavior for the rest of time. Imposing sacred demands upon us, as a community, the revelation forces us to recognize God’s authority and to constantly grapple with those demands. Some are easy: Do not murder, do not steal, honor your parents and Shabbat. Others are challenging: Love your neighbor as yourself, do not covet. Yet others are unfathomable, to the point of seeming arbitrary: Do not eat certain things, do not mix wool and linen.

God demands all of these things, whether we like them or not, whether we understand them or not. Our part of the relationship is the response. To the degree that we can live up to these demands, we conform to classical Jewish expectations. And sometimes, as far back as the early rabbinic period, we push back against them, making demands of our own to God. That dialectic is the relationship between us and God: we respond positively to as much of our tradition as we are able; when we cannot, we reassess the terms of the relationship.

We come together on Shavuot to recall, to celebrate, and to reaffirm our commitment to God’s demands. We do so as a

community; just as our ancestors stood at Sinai and freely accepted God’s demands, so do we. For too many of us, though, that communal affirmation is relegated to the synagogue building, during services. We would do well to acknowledge that the same demands apply to us at home and on the road, when we lie down and when we arise. My prayer for this Shavuot is that we have the wisdom to admit that God’s demands require a response every day, and with every decision. Let’s make this festival an opportunity to recommit ourselves to lives filled with the joys, and the challenges, of responding well to God’s demands.

Rabbi Jeff Pivo

CANTOR'S CORNER



Unfortunately, at some point in our lives, we all get ill. Hopefully, for many of us, it is just a cold or a minor pain. However, for some, it can be something more serious. Each week during services, we have the opportunity to say the names of our loved ones and friends who may be battling a health issue. For those in services, a name can be added while the Mi Sheberakh for the Holim or sick is being recited. There is also an ongoing list of names recited by the Rabbi and me, and anyone can add the name of someone who needs this prayer recited for them on an ongoing basis by calling the office. Usually, we request the Hebrew name of the person and their mother's Hebrew name. If the Hebrew names are unknown, then the person's English name can be used. I believe Gd knows who we are asking for healing.

In addition, we thank God in many ways and we thank God for many things. When we are

sick and in the hospital, when we have escaped disaster, such as a bad car accident, when we return from a long trip (particularly overseas), or for women, after giving birth to a child, it is customary to receive an Aliyah to the Torah and recite the "Birkat Hagomel", the special blessing after any of these occasions.

Following the conclusion of the Aliyah to the Torah, one will recite, Barukh Attah Adonai, Elohenu Melekh Haolam, Hagomel L'hayavim Tovot She'g'malani Kol Tov - Praised are You, Adon-ai our Gd, Who rules the universe, showing goodness to us beyond merits, for bestowing favor upon me. The congregation will respond, Mi She'g'malkha/She'g'malekh Kol Tov Hu Yi'g'malkha/Yi'g'malekh Kol Tov Selah - May God Who has been gracious to you continue to favor you with all that is good.

Please remember to inform the Rabbi, me, or a Gabbai (ritual usher) of the congregation that you are in need of saying this blessing. Even if you are not able to receive an Aliyah that day, you may still approach the Torah and recite the prayer. For those unable to do that, they can recite the prayer from their seat.

My hope and prayer is that we all should be healthy and well.

As we approach the summer months, take some time to relax, enjoy time with family and friends, and be free from all illness and harm.

From my family to your family, wishing only sunshine and goodness always.

Larry I. Brandspiegel

Cantor/Director of Education

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Have any of you been affected by the staffing shortages? I truly feel sorry for small businesses that cannot get anyone to work! Just this past week, I wanted to take my grandchildren (and their parents) to Dairy Queen as a treat. The drive thru line was about 12 cars long, and we weren't picking up anyway, so we parked and attempted to go in. Doors were locked, couldn't get in. The sign said...Due to Staffing Shortages, the dining area is closed. What? So I thought, okay, I'll do the drive through, pick up the ice cream and we'll sit outside in their outdoor seating area. Nope. Their outdoor seating area had the tables and chairs stacked and chain locked. Bye, Bye DQ!

The same week, I was going to go with some friends to dinner when I received a text stating that we were going to a different restaurant because the original restaurant was short staffed and didn't have servers. Really?

We're all being asked to stretch our dollar to the breaking point. Think about the old Stretch Armstrong doll.... It can only stretch so far! Gas is up, food is up, building materials, clothing, dining out...all more costly. Are

your salaries going up as quickly as everything else? Social Security? Pensions? Probably not. So we're tightening our belts. Maybe not eating out as much. Maybe not traveling as much. Maybe not shopping as much. It's a choice. We all have to make choices.

It's a choice to join a Synagogue. In a way, we are blessed that in East Brunswick alone there are at least 5 synagogues from which to choose. Within the five options, there are still choices to be made. Do you prefer Reform, Conservative, Modern Orthodox, Orthodox Judaism? Do you want to sit with your spouse? Do you prefer not to pay dues but just make lots of donations? Do you like the people? Do you like the Rabbi or Cantor? Do you need a Hebrew School or Preschool? Does the sanctuary have comfortable pews? Enough bathrooms? So many choices.

When a family or individual chooses EBJC, it is an honor and we truly appreciate the choice that was made. Now that Synagogues are zooming or streaming not only services, but programs and classes, people can "shop online." It's a whole new world and we're all trying to navigate.

For those of you that choose to stay with EBJC and continue to support the Synagogue, we thank you. We understand this is a choice. If you joined because you wanted your children to become a bar/bat mitzvah and then continued to remain a member, we thank you. This is a choice. For those of you

that really only attend services three times a year, but pay dues so that we may remain open the rest of the year, we thank you. This is a choice. For those of you who not only pay dues, but volunteer their time and energy, we thank you. This is a choice. For those of you that pay dues, volunteer and give what they can for high holiday pledges as well as support various events and functions, we thank you. This is a choice.

EBJC is blessed to have a thriving congregation, preschool, and Hebrew school. We have an active and award winning USY. It is unfortunate that the synagogues in our area and surrounding areas have had to close their Hebrew schools and preschools for lack of families with young children. We celebrate that our preschool, which was close to shutting down 4-5 years ago, now has 30 children and next year we're on target for 35! We recently received a grant for preschool improvements and are hoping to add a bathroom to the classroom and if there are funds left over, possibly some playground equipment. We are the only Jewish preschool in the area. That's saying quite a bit.

We have a lot to be proud of. I certainly hope you feel the same way.

May you be well,

Ellen

FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



After three years, this will be the final Recorder article I will be writing as president of the congregation, and I would like to reflect on our accomplishments over the past three years as well as my hopes for the future. I have reread the first article I wrote, and I began that by stating that then co-president Steve Zeidweg and I had two major goals for our presidencies: securing the financial stability of EBJC and easing the tensions between those who prefer traditional services and those who prefer egalitarian services.

When I first decided to accept the position, several former presidents gave me the same very foreboding advice. They told me that I did not want to be the last president of EBJC. The message was clear. We were a synagogue with deep financial problems, laden with debt, and struggling to make payments in the last quarter of each year. I am very proud that this situation no longer applies. We endeavored to keep a close eye on our budget and imposed fiscal restraints on unnecessary expenditures. We were also lucky that during the Covid-19 pandemic we applied for and received two Paycheck Protection loans from the Small Business Association. And when the anticipated closing of the sale of part of our building to Netivot occurs, we will be free from debt for the first time in years. As Steve Wohl assumes the co-presidency with Jack Goldberg, I feel confident that they will definitely not be the last presidents of EBJC.

We have made some progress towards easing the tensions between the worshipers of our two minyanim, but we still have work to do in that

area. On the positive side, during the pandemic when we did not have the necessary in-person attendance to support two separate services, we alternated services between egalitarian and traditional styles.

Thankfully, there have been few complaints about this accommodation. I am disappointed, however, why so few people will attend services each week, wishing to attend only their preferred style of service. I am also disappointed that there are members who still believe that my ultimate goal is to turn the congregation completely egalitarian. At my first address to the congregation at the Congregational Meeting at which I was elected, I promised I would not do that. I am proud that I have kept my promise. One of the strengths of our congregation is that we can support both types of service, and still come together for Musaf and Kiddush.

When the pandemic hit, we were prepared. Before the world shut down, we had already formed a Covid-19 advisory committee consisting of several physicians and an attorney from our congregation. Thanks to Laura Brandspiegel, Rich Drachtman, Lou Friedman, David Libowsky, Jules Plafker, and Phil Schiffman for guiding us through these past two years. We have made some mistakes, but we have also avoided any super-spreader events at EBJC. I have mentioned, ad nauseum, how we had our services streaming online on the same day we closed our doors for in-person services, keeping our community connected during those dark days. Let's pray that we have seen the worst of this plague.

I would like to convey thank you to many people. I am indebted to both of my co-presidents, Steve Zeidweg and Jack Goldberg. They were great teammates, and I will miss the many late night phone calls we shared. I have been blessed to work with very conscientious Executive Committees

and Boards of Directors who were civil in their deliberations and discussions. Thank you to our Executive Director, Ellen Botwin. It would have been impossible for me to fulfill my duties without her support. And it was my great honor to work with our clergy, Rabbi Pivo and Cantor Larry, who helped me focus on moving our Kahal forward.

When George Washington gave his farewell address, he warned our country against foreign entanglements. Likewise, President Dwight Eisenhower warned to beware of the Military Industrial Complex in his farewell address. My parting advice to our congregation is to remember what really matters; we are a community who cares about each other. Don't let our petty disagreements blind us from the beauty of this wonderful fellowship we have.

People have often commented about how thankless a job being a synagogue president is. I have found this to be far from the truth. I am grateful from the bottom of my heart at how many people have expressed their gratitude and encouragement to me during these past three years. I now look forward to sitting with the love of my life, my wife Liz, in the pews during services. I wish Steve Wohl and Jack Goldberg continued good luck in their roles as the new leadership tandem. And in the words of Psalm 84, may this holy congregation continue to go from strength to strength.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Salston

Co-President (and soon to be ex-president) of EBJC

SISTERHOOD



June is the month of Dads and Grads. We salute the men who have enhanced our lives with their dedication, hard work, love, and loyalty. Happy Father's Day to all the fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers in our community. May they continue to enjoy the rewards of their devotion to their families. It has not gone unnoticed.

Mazel tov to all the graduates this year! We sincerely hope that your time spent at EBJC will contribute to a fulfilling and successful future.

This Past Month—

Sisterhood Book Club on Wednesday, May 25 featured the romance novel *The Matzah Ball* by debut author Jean Meltzer. This was a light-hearted yet touching book about two fate-crossed summer camp friends who finally came together romantically as adults under some madcap circumstances. We had a fun discussion and introduced our next book by popular author Naomi Reagan: *An Unorthodox Match*. This novel follows modern California girl Lola, who abandons her hipster lifestyle to join the Hasidim of Boro Park, Brooklyn. Her presence has profound effects on the family of newly-widowed Jacob and his children. Our Book Club is eager to include your selections. 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.

Our Torah Fund Champagne Brunch on Sunday, June 12, is sure to be spectacular—festive, heart-warming,

and informative! We will be graced with the talent of Cantor Mira Davis, a Jewish Theological Seminary graduate who is currently serving as Cantorial Fellow at Park Avenue Synagogue in NYC. We can't thank Mira enough for joining our celebration.

The funds collected from our Torah Fund campaign will protect the long-term continuity of Conservative Judaism by supporting the education of the leaders in our community, including Rabbis, Cantors, Teachers, Administrators, and Social Workers. Torah Fund dollars go directly to the educational institutions of Conservative Judaism in the U.S. and around the world.

EVE PERLMAN, beloved long-time Sisterhood Board member and current Sisterhood Recording Secretary (since 2016), is our cherished honoree for 2022—our unsung hero. Eve is one of the kindest, most caring, and hardest-working members of our Board. In addition to taking the minutes each month, she is our Sunshine Coordinator, who sends appropriate wishes to Sisterhood members celebrating a simcha or suffering a loss.

Eve grew up in Washington Heights, New York, and she and her husband Mark have been members of EBJC for 37 years. In addition to her volunteer work with EBJC Sisterhood, Eve also served as EB Hadassah co-president. The mother of two and grandmother of four has worked as a paralegal for an attorney in East Brunswick for the past 35 years. Eve is a tremendous asset to EBJC Sisterhood.

If you have not yet made your Torah Fund contribution, there's still time.

Please contact Anne Kroll at selectivemedia@comcast.net.

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.

"I can't understand why anyone would NOT buy scrip. It doesn't cost you any extra at the store, but helps Sisterhood raise funds. I've been purchasing scrip for as long as I can remember. It's so easy to do and helps so many in so many ways!" – Barbara Pollak

Sisterhood is at a crossroads. As of this writing, we are still working on the leadership structure for next year (2022-2023). In addition, we have the following positions available on the Sisterhood Board: Board of Ed Liaison, Membership Retention, Technical Director, and Social Action Chair.

The future of Sisterhood depends on you! If you have any interest in making a difference by serving on the Sisterhood Board, please contact one of us. We will give you more details and answer your questions honestly.

Wishing everyone a terrific summer,

Cindi Jacobs/Sara Ullman
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

EBJC Sisterhood's Torah Fund Champagne Brunch

SUNDAY JUNE 12, 2022
11:00AM

EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

Please join us for Sisterhood's Annual Torah Fund Event
when we continue to raise critical funds for JTS.



Featuring our guest speaker
"Memories and Music"

JTS Graduate Mira Davis
Cantorial fellow at Park Avenue Synagogue



Pay Tribute to Our 2022 Sisterhood Honoree
Eve Perlman
for her tireless hours of volunteer work to
support EBJC Sisterhood...our unsung hero

The theme for this year's campaign is B'Yachad Together.
Catering by Deli King of Clark.

Please RSVP to Anne Kroll by June 1 for the Torah Fund Champagne Brunch. \$36.00 per person,
Make check payable to EBJC Sisterhood & mail to EBJC, 511 Ryders Lane, EB, NJ 08816.

A minimum donation of \$18 to Torah Fund is also required to attend. If you have not made a donation
this year, please include a check, made out to 'Torah Fund' and mail it with your brunch check.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

of Attendees: _____ x \$36 = Amount enclosed \$ _____

_____ I am unable to attend, but would like to make a contribution in honor of Eve Perlman

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____ Please make check payable to Torah Fund.

Torah Fund Sponsorship Levels

___ Keter Kavod \$5,000

___ Guardian \$300

___ Scholarship Patron \$2,500

___ Benefactor \$180

___ Patron \$1,200

___ Other, \$ _____

___ Associate Patron \$600

Questions? Contact Anne Kroll at selectivemedia@comcast.net or 732-735-1616.



MEN'S CLUB



Shalom!

This is the last Recorder for this fiscal year. As is EBJC, Men's Club is now going through the process of going through the process of transitioning from last year's leadership to this year's leadership, thanking the outgoing guys and welcoming the incoming team. Alas, while Men's Club has a large membership, with many willing to help out when there are projects that need to be done, getting someone who is willing to lead the club as president has been a problem. So, for next year, we have partitioned the job in several ways. We have assigned some of the presidential duties to different people, reducing the load of being president. And, we are rotating the chair of the president, so that it is only a 3-month commitment, rather than a 12-month commitment. Those who have stepped up are Howard Jacobs (July – September), Marty Hoffman (October – December), Arthur Fliegelman (January – March), and Neil Kosher (April – June). Hopefully this will all work, and we will make even better contributions to our community in the future than we have in the past.

One of the traditions of Men's Club for as long as people can remember has been softball. It was the gateway through which many of our members became active in Men's Club. We had 3 or 4 teams each year play in the Federation league in which about 30 teams participated. Unfortunately, softball as well has a leadership problem – there are not

sufficient people willing to step up to the role of being commissioner, and so the league is no longer in operation. While we are sad as this tradition comes to an end, we are looking forward to replacing it with another sport that has recently come on the scene - pickleball! Men's Club is working with the Membership Committee to organize a pickleball league. Stay tuned for more information shortly.

During May you should have received two raffle tickets in the mail from Men's Club. This raffle was put together by Men's Club's regional organization (NJJR of FJMC). This is an easy and fun way for us to raise funds targeted at developing new programming. While a ticket costs \$20 and two cost \$36, the first prize is an \$1800 Visa gift card! The drawing to select the winners will be held on 6/22 – we will notify those who win! So please return your tickets by 6/15, with a check made out to EBJC Men's Club.

In May we had several events planned. On May 1 we hosted a program on Israeli Music that was co-sponsored by two other local Men's Clubs. It was a great program – go to Josh Shron's website MyIsraeliMusic.com to hear more of the music we listened to and learned about. Our thanks go to Dov Pollak, who had the inspiration for what was a memorable evening.

Also in May, Ron Berger worked with NJ Blood Services to reschedule our blood drive. We are happy to report that on May 15 we collected 44 units of blood, almost 20% over our goal of 37, and 10% more than last year's successful drive. Our thanks to Ron for pulling this together, to those who made phone calls and publicized the drive, and to all those who performed the mitzvah of donating blood!

After our well-attended hike in the fall, we are looking forward to another hike led by Dave Libowsky in a local park on June 26. More details on this event will be made available on Tidbits and via email.



We are always open to new ideas for programs that would be compelling to people at EBJC, which will engage us in Jewish life, and which build relationships with each other. Please feel free to let us know your suggestions, and please plan to join us at 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



We had the BEST time celebrating PASSOVER!

Our Seder Tables are going to be gorgeous



Frogs were jumping everywhere!



Our CEL Seder



Registration for 2022-23 school year is now open
For more information, contact Lynda Perel @ Lperel@ebjc.org

KESHER AND YOUTH GROUPS



Dear Keshet and Youth Families,

Now that the school year has come to a close, we look towards more learning ventures in the Fall. However, true learning never ends. Try to make some time to review some Hebrew with the kids and sing prayers. Talk regularly about holidays, rituals, and of course, Gd and Israel. And when you can, come to a Shabbat or even a weekday service. Remember to be a part of the community, not apart from the community.

A link for Keshet and youth registration will come out soon. We are updating our system, so we want to make sure it is working well before sending out the link. Please remember that you need to send in a registration for each child.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Teaching Team for all their hard work. I also want to thank our Madrichim/Teacher Helpers for their time and commitment to helping to educate their younger peers. I thank Jamie Wasserman, the chairperson of the Board of Education, and the entire Education Committee for their input and ongoing help. I thank our youth advisor, Erin Kaplan, and our youth chairperson, Rhonda Gold, and the entire youth commission for their hard work.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for entrusting your children with the Keshet and Youth Programs. Truly, partnering with you is a blessing that, Gd willing, will create a Jewish future for our community and strong Jewish leadership as well.

Have a great summer and I hope to see you soon.

~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.

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 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 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

Thursday, June 2 - DINNER - 6:00 p.m.

Eric Lipper - Keyboard, Guitarist, Singer,

Comedy - all in one entertainment - sing along, laugh and enjoy!

We want you to join the

C.I.A.

(Common Interest Activities)

Open to EBJC congregants and members of our community. We'll connect through shared interests and get together for activities on Zoom, in-person, or a combination of Zoom and in-person.

This program is being launched by EBJC's Membership Committee and Men's Club.



HISTORY HIKERS... Join us as we scout out different locations to explore. Members of this CIA are invited to give an informal tour at a destination worth sharing. The walks last about an hour and cover gentle to moderate terrain.



COOKS CONNECT... Join other foodies to explore everything there is to love about cooking, including useful kitchen gadgets, food hacks, favorite cookbooks and hopefully some new recipes!



GROW GETTERS... Join us to share your love for gardening. We'll discuss garden plans, share our wins and misses, ask questions, make suggestions, and tour each other's gardens and gardens in the local area.



PEDAL POWER... Connect with other members of the community and head out for a bike ride! Most of our riders are leisure riders. You might enjoy a stop mid-way for a nosh and a chat! Similar to the History Hikers, Rides last 2-3 hours.



PICKLEBALL... Want to learn about one of the newest sports in East Brunswick? Growing in popularity across the country, pickleball is a combination of tennis, badminton and ping-pong. This CIA will meet at the courts on Dunhams Corner's Rd.

C.I.A. @ EBJC is new for all of us, and it is FREE to sign up. If you would like to lead an activity, or have an idea for a different one, let us know!

Which C.I.A. would you like to try first?





Namaste and Shalom: A Virtual Tour of Jewish India

Through the vivid prism of her family's story, Rahel Musleah introduces audiences to the distinctive heritage of the Jews of India and Iraq. The seventh generation of a Calcutta family, she traces her roots to 17th-century Baghdad. Her multi-faceted visual, song and story presentations offer a rare and intimate view of a rich culture little-known to most. Explore each of India's Jewish communities as we visit sites and synagogues in Bombay, Calcutta and Cochin.

Thursday, June 2, 2022 @ 8:30PM on Zoom



Rahel Musleah was born in Calcutta, the seventh-generation of a Calcutta Jewish family that traces its roots to 17th-century Baghdad. Today, Rahel is a New York-based award-winning journalist, author, singer, speaker and educator. Her articles have appeared in The New York Times, Hadassah magazine, and numerous other publications. Her publications include Apples and Pomegranates: A Family Seder for Rosh Hashanah; and a CD of Shabbat and holiday melodies, Hodu: Jewish Rhythms from Baghdad to India.



Register at:
EBJC.org/JewishIndia

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.

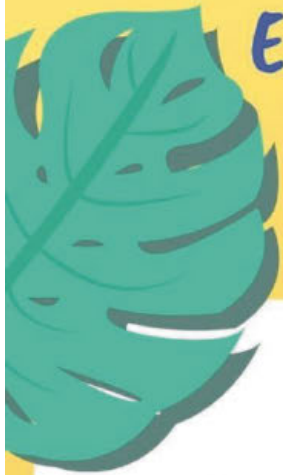
Registration is required to attend.

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



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER





East Brunswick Jewish Center's
Membership Committee
invites you to join us for

Tiki Shabbat & Chinese Dinner



Friday June 3, 2022
6:30PM dinner followed by
family-friendly Shabbat Service



- Chinese Dinner - Vegetarian options will be available
- Tiki Bar with tropical drinks for adults and kid-friendly drinks too!
- Tropical print shirts welcome...and encouraged!

\$25/adult \$10/ages 7-18 Free/ages 6 and under

RSVP by 12 noon on May 31
Register online at: EBJC.org/TikiShabbat
or call the office at 732.257.7070



511 Ryders Lane, East Brunswick



Join us for a 3-part series on Jewish Hollywood www.ebjc.org/filmshul



May 9 at 8:30pm: Hollywood Blacklist

The late 1940s-50s marked a dark time in history. Fueled by the efforts of Sen. Joseph McCarthy, the Blacklist impacted the major film studios and the lives of entertainment industry professionals, from devout members of the Communist party to those with little interest in the party's beliefs. Many of those caught in the middle of this powerful political storm were Jewish, including John Garfield, Ruth Gordon, Arthur Miller and Zero Mostel. This program looks at how the Blacklist came about, how it divided the country and how a few brave Jewish movie patriots' actions led to its downfall



May 26 at 8:30pm: Funny Girls

Beginning with Jewish mother caricatures in the silent era through their evolution to becoming an indispensable segment of the Hollywood storytelling machine, Jewish women have captured the big screen with their attitudes, intelligence, appearance, style and, most of all, Jewish wit. From such character actresses as Judy Holliday, Madeline Kahn, Sandra Bernhard, Sylvia Miles and Doris Roberts to superstars like Fanny Brice, Gertrude Berg, Bette Midler, Barbra Streisand and Julia Louis-Dreyfus, we're giving it up for the ladies and all the laughs they've provided over the decades. And we won't forget about Shelley Winters!



June 23 at 8:30pm: Spielberg!

Steven Spielberg is an artist whose work is so ubiquitous and instantly identifiable that his name has inspired its very own adjective — "Spielbergian." One of the most commercially successful directors of all time, Spielberg's modern classics include Jaws, Close Encounters of the Third Kind, E.T. and the Indiana Jones and Jurassic Park series. We examine the life and career of the grand storyteller, with a particular focus on his upbringing as an Orthodox Jew and his later Jewish re-awakening, which yielded such vital works as Schindler's List and Munich. His interests have also inspired the creation of the Shoah Foundation and Righteous Persons Foundation, which make Jewish history and tradition more accessible to all.

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/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.



DONATION LIST WAS MADE AS OF AND INCLUDING MAY 23. IF YOU MADE A DONATION AFTER THIS DATE, IT WILL BE IN NEXT MONTH'S RECORDER.

ALIYAH

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Doug & Karen Slater in memory of Larry Roth

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Sara and Scott Alter & Family, Caryn and Marshall Alter & Family and Susan and Eric Alter & Family in thanks for the support and in memory of Scott's mother, Sally z"l

Jeff and Sara Blivaiss & Family in thanks for guiding and preparing Jonathan for his Bar Mitzvah

Carl and Hillary Cresci on the birth of your granddaughter

Mark and Leslie Foladare on the birth of your new grandchild

David and Margot Julis on the birth of Orli Malka Sinoff

Barbara Kurlan on memory of Judy Klotzkin

Cindy and Eric Rabinowitz on the birth of Orli Malka Sinoff

David & Karen Blivaiss with gratitude and appreciation

Seth & Taryn Webber in honor of the birth of Orli Malka Sinoff

GENERAL DONATIONS

Joel & Madeline Frances wishing Mazel Tov to David and Karen Blivaiss on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Jonathan

Joel and Madeline Frances in memory of Michael Proscia

Joel and Madeline Frances in memory of Jack Rivlin

Reina Schuldiner in memory of Roxsene Plafker

Kenneth & Judith Streisand in memory of Jack Rivlin

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Cheryl Decker in memory of Miriam Cohen

Doug & Karen Slater in memory of Michael Proscia

Dov & Barbara Pollak in memory of Larry Roth

Dov & Barbara Pollak n honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Jonathan Blivaiss. Mazal Tov to Jeff & Sara Blivaiss. Also, to David & Karen Blivaiss

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Yigal & Deena Oren in memory of Michael Proscia

Inge Gross in memory of Miriam Cohen

Judah & Carol Landa in memory of Miriam Cohen

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Doug & Karen Slater in memory of Joan Busman

Martin & Marla Genee Mazel Tov to Karen and David Bliviass on the occasion of the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Jonathan Blivaiss

Martin & Marla Genee wishing Mazel Tov to Sara and Jeff Blivaiss on the occasion of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jonathan Blivaiss

Seth & Taryn Webber in memory of Roxsene Plafker

Joel & Fran Shafer wishing Mazel Tov to Howard & Cindi Jacobs in honor of the marriage of their daughter

Joel & Fran Shafer wishing Mazel Tov to Cindy & Eric Rabinowitz on the birth of their grandchild

Carl & Hillary Cresci wishing Mazel Tov to Eric and Cindy Rabinowitz on the birth of their granddaughter

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memory of Miriam
Cohen

Dov & Barbara Pollak in
memory of Miriam
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Dov & Barbara Pollak in
memory of Jack Rivlin

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Jonathan Blivaiss on his
Bar Mitzvah

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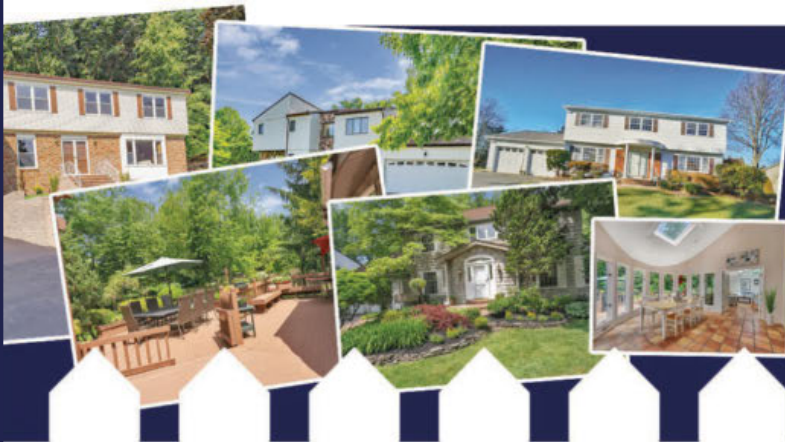
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