



the RECORDER

EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

MARCH 2022

ADAR I - ADAR II 5782

VOLUME # 119



SHABBAT SERVICES

Services are currently being held in-person and on Zoom at the following times. To join the stream, visit ebjc.org/online-events

Friday Evenings

3/4 5:30 p.m.
3/11 5:40 p.m.
3/18 6:00 p.m.
3/25 6:00 p.m.

Saturday Mornings 9:30 a.m.

MARCH 5
Pekudei

MARCH 12
Vayikra

MARCH 19
Tzav

MARCH 26
Shemini

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Howard Jacobs & Steve Harkavy

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Ken Gerson & Taryn Webber

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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 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 currently 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 can be found on our website at 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.

HAZAK

Thursday, March 3rd. Luncheon at Noon - "Julia Child" her life, her loves, her influence on modern cooking - a great, fun impersonation by actress/voice over artist Linda Kenyon WE'RE NOT CANCELLING THIS ONE!! SIGN UP! Next Hazak is April 7th at noon.

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 March 9th we have Jewish British Columbia, on March 13th we have our virtual Hamantashen baking class and on March 20th we have both the Jewish South Africa program and Gary the Great returning for what is sure to be an entertaining program. Rounding out the month, on March 31st we have part 2 of the American Judaism: Past, Present & Future series. 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 and descriptions for all programs will be in Tidbits and on the EBJC website homepage.

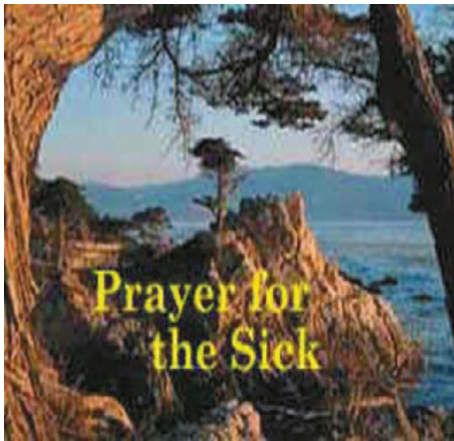


THE CONGREGATION CONGRATULATES:

Josh & Dori Saypol on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Dylan
David & Margot Julis on the marriage of their daughter, Sarah
Gary & June Miller on the engagement of their daughter, Claire
Jeff & Hildy Zonis on the engagement of their son, Raphael

THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO:

Mark Perlman on the loss of his brother, Stanley Perlman
Claire Rosenthal on the loss of her mother, Edith Poliszuk
Scott Alter on the loss of his mother, Sally Alter



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 -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.



BAR MITZVAH



My name is Dylan Saypol and I am in 7th grade at Hammaraskjold Middle School. My favorite subjects are Math and Science. I enjoy playing video games, movies, and hanging out with friends. I also enjoy working for my mother in her balloon business. My Bar Mitzvah is on March 19, 2022, Parshat T'zav. I am a big fan of the Lorax, so for my Bar Mitzvah project I chose to help save the trees. I am partnering with the Jewish National Fund to promote forestry projects in Israel. If you would like to make a donation, please go to <https://bit.ly/3B4owax>. Thank you for your support.

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
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And even More!



SAVE THESE DATES!

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

Wednesday, March 9 @ 8:00 PM

Jewish British Columbia

Explore the history and community of British Columbia, Canada.

Sunday, March 13 @ 10:00 AM

Hamantashen Hacks for the Chef on the Go!

A virtual class where you will be walked through the steps of making delicious Hamantashen to enjoy for the holiday! Registration is required. Visit ebjc.org for details.

Wednesday, March 16 @ 6:30 PM

The Bible Players - Esther to the Rescue! A Purim Zoom comedy show for ages 5+

Join this one of a kind Zoom adventure! Esther overcame the wicked Haman as well as her own fears to save Mordecai. We will learn about inclusion and community and laugh using virtual backgrounds, costumes and special effects.

Thursday, March 17 @ 7:15 PM

Sisterhood is presenting a special Zoom event from the Jewish Museum of Florida, featuring their current exhibit: "Hello Gorgeous," a celebration of the life and work of iconic singer, actress, director, and producer Barbra Streisand. Take a virtual tour of the costumes, photos, videos, and record album covers that made Streisand a legend.

Sunday, March 20 @ 11:00 AM

Gary the Great - Acclaimed Magician and Mentalist

Join this Zoom program that is guaranteed to be captivating and engaging. Registration is required so please visit ebjc.org for details.

Sunday, March 20 @ 1:00 PM

Jewish South Africa - Cape Town

The Jewish community started in South Africa in 1841. Learn about the origins and history.

Thursday March 31 @ 8:30 PM

American Judaism: Past, Present & Future

Lila Corwin Berman - "American Jews & White Supremacy: The Present Dilemmas of an Unstable History"

Sunday, April 3 @ 12:00 PM

Live Virtual Tour Of Jewish Venice

Join us as we experience a live walking virtual tour of Virtual Venice. Rain date is April 10th as this is a live tour!

Welcome to Holsten Service!

We are conveniently located on South Main Street in Milltown and are proud to have served the Middlesex County area for over 45 years. We provide a variety of automotive repair work, towing and flatbed services, and opportunities to purchase classic and antique used cars. For more information, please call us at (732)-246-2250 or visit <https://holstenservice.com>

DANCAR
HOLSTEN SERVICE LLC.

**Save
the
Date!**

RABBINIC REFLECTIONS



It's Adar! Purim time! It was two years ago at Purim that we were forced to suddenly shift into an online community. This year at the holiday, we are cautiously, hopefully, re-emerging from the terrible suffering of the pandemic. As I write this, Ukraine is under assault as well, with war on Europe's eastern front. The Jewish history of Ukraine has been one of both tears and triumph over the centuries, with terrible pogroms alternating with surges of intellectual and artistic achievement. Having lived in Ukraine for a thousand years, Jews have been a constant presence there; in the 20th century it was another place where both traditional Judaism and assimilated Jews were a significant part of the society.

Like the Jews of ancient Persia, whom we remember in Adar, Ukraine's Jews are able to "pass" as Ukrainian if they wish. One's public Jewish identity in the post-Communist era has been a matter of choice. Unlike the threats Jews faced in Persia during the time of Haman, the current hostilities are not primarily

aimed at Jews, yet this too can be a time for Jews to stand up and fight for freedom, for democracy, for the right to be either Mordecai or Esther in Ukraine.

The lesson of Purim is to assert our Judaism when it is needed most, to publicly embrace our identity and heritage, despite the dangers to which that may expose us. Nearly the entire world is focused on the defense against aggression, which should give us the courage to support those Jews who are refugees in Ukraine at this time. We are not alone and, as in the case of ancient Persian Jewry, we are in a position to defend the innocent and support a struggling democracy. This war is no Adar joke; as we emerge into the free air of a post-COVID world, let us also come out in force of justice in a place where it was sometimes hard to come by for Jews, but where we are now part of the democratic majority, fighting for freedom.

Rabbi Jeff Pivo

FROM CANTOR LARRY



It is always at this time of the year that I am reminded that history always has a way of repeating itself. More so, during this crucial period of world uncertainty, I can closely compare the tyrants of yesterday with our terrorists today, whether it be humanistic terrorism or biological terrorism.

With the holiday of Purim upon us, we will read Megillat Esther, the Book of Esther, one of the most cherished books in Jewish literature. The book is from the last of the five Megillot (scrolls) that are part of the third division of the Bible, known as Kittuvim (Sacred Writings). Megillat Esther tells the story of a Jewish woman who used her influence as queen of Persia to save her people from a general massacre which Haman had plotted against them. Philip Birnbaum writes simply, "It is a tale of plot and counterplot, showing the downfall of the arrogant and the vindication of the innocent."

Queen Esther is depicted as dutiful toward Mordecai, her cousin and guardian, and faithful to her people. Haman's fate

reminds us that pride goes before a fall. King Ahashverosh, who agrees to Haman's plot without thought, is described as a pompous and feeble-minded monarch.

Additionally, on the Shabbat preceding Purim and on Purim morning, special Torah portions are read about the evil Amalek, who also wanted to destroy the Jewish people. Through Israel's faith, the Jewish people persevered and were triumphant.

Whether we are reading the Megillah of Esther with Haman as the enemy of the Jewish people, or reading the Torah portion known as Parashat Zakhor, which deals with the battle against the terror of Amalek, or engrossed in the reading of the daily newspaper detailing the sinister ways of dictators and hatemongers...we are reliving and living our past for it has become our present. What we pray for is that it will not be our future.

In Megillat Esther, the name of Gd is not mentioned, but the author clearly implies that Gd used Mordecai and Esther as Instruments for the deliverance of a persecuted people.

As we approach this holiday, we examine our faith. It must be strong! Through Gd's help and through our own positive actions, we too will write history. We too will once again cause those who rise up against us to fall. The "Amaleks" and the "Hamans" of

yesterday are here with us today. Through our faith, we will once again be reading a book. A book containing the stories of today that will help us to overcome our boundaries of tomorrow.

On behalf of my wife, Laura, our children, Samantha, Avi, Heather and Jeremy, I wish everyone Mishenichnas Adar Marbim B'simcha, a month (of Adar-both I and II) filled with much happiness.

~Cantor Larry I. Brandspiegel

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Although I am writing this mid-February, I am taking a leap of faith and assuming that come March, things will slowly get back to normal. I mean the new normal, or the new Covid normal.

I think we need to have a healthy respect for an ever-mutating virus, but at some point, we have to get out from under the covers! Far be it from me to tell anyone how to live their lives. I have a couple of dear friends who have barely left their home in two years for fear of being infected. I hope to see them if not in March or April, maybe in May or June when the weather improves and they'll eat outside or visit me if they can sit on my patio (I'm not sure they'll come in my home although I moved in August and they haven't seen it yet). Does this mean they're only fair weather friends??

In-person services are returning this weekend (February 18th) and the feedback I received is most interesting and proves the old adage that you can't please all of the people all of the time. I've received calls from members expressing gratitude that we're opening our doors again. I've received calls from members that are happy we're open, but are

upset that we are no longer mandating proof of vaccination (although quite honestly, at this point, probably 100% of those that regularly attend services are indeed vaccinated). I've received calls from those complaining about double masking, or KN95 masks or...well, you get the picture. There is just no way we can possibly make everyone happy. No matter what we do, someone will be displeased.

I am really happy to report that Hazak, our group for those 55+ is back! March 3rd we'll have a luncheon with Linda Kenyon, stage/screen and voice-over actress, impersonating the one and only Julia Child! It should be loads of fun.

Do you know that Vera's Israeli dancing is back on Monday nights? We also have Jazzercise on Monday and Wednesdays in the ballroom! We're not yet in full swing, but we're getting there!

We're planning to get together for dinner in March for Shabbat Across America! We also are in the process of making plans for our Grandparents Shabbat, our welcome new member brunch (long overdue), our Pesach Seder, our gala and so much more! Whoo Hoo! Here's to hoping for no more shut downs and closings. We couldn't handle it, the community couldn't handle it and the economy certainly can't.

Speaking of the economy...I don't know about you, but the ever increasing prices for gas, food and necessities are skyrocketing and impacting my

spending habits. I did a regular food shopping yesterday and I nearly fainted from sticker shock! \$264.00!! Yes, I did get some kosher meat, but you know things are bad when chopped meat is \$12.99 a lb. I'm going to have to become a vegetarian, although the price of eggs and cheese has gone up as well. Gas, electric, housing costs, are all going up. Unless everyone is averaging a 10% raise each year, we just can't keep up.

For those of you that are finding it hard to make ends meet, please don't forget that we are here for you. First and foremost, we will always help you if you can't meet your dues obligations. More importantly, we are a source and resource for you. We can help you if you're willing to accept it. Our Synagogue, our community, comes together to help. This is what we do. Never be afraid or ashamed to ask for help. We are here.

Families stick together and we are a family.

May you all be well,

Ellen

FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



At the time of the writing of this article (mid-February), the Omicron variant surge has decreased significantly in Middlesex County and New Jersey as well. We have reopened for daily services, and, Baruch Hashem, in-person Shabbat services will have resumed on February 18th. As I have often noted, the ability to stream services on the Zoom platform has enabled our community to stay connected during the worst days of the pandemic. We have also come to realize that the ability for our members who would otherwise be unable to attend services in person to connect with our services and participate in the post-service Zoom sessions has great value, and we are committed to continuing the streaming of our services going forward.

We have come to the realization that streaming our services has, however, had a negative effect. The convenience of viewing our streamed services has made it very convenient for anyone to eschew attending services in person. On Shabbat mornings, members can sleep-in, avoid having to dress in Shabbat clothes, and enjoy a cup of coffee and breakfast while praying. We have noticed a significant decrease in attendance at all our

in-person services. We understand that there are many who continue to avoid crowds due to the pandemic, but there is also a sense that we have made it too easy for those who go shopping, attend theater, and dine out to remain at home rather than come to shul.

At EBJC, with mask wearing and social distancing the rule, we have so far avoided a super spreader event. And, although we cannot predict whether there will be future variants or shutdowns, we also can anticipate that at some time, the Covid-19 virus will become endemic, and we can then resume a more normal life. When this occurs, I am urging all our members to come home to EBJC. Purim this year falls on Wednesday evening March 16th and Thursday March 17th. Won't it be nice to dress up in a costume, bring a gragger, and hear the Megillah read in person? Won't it be wonderful to interact with fellow congregants without using a screen? Let's all come together and celebrate the miracle of Purim with friends and neighbors, and then follow that up with attending daily and Shabbat services.

I'll be looking for you!

Bob Salston
Co-President, EBJC

SISTERHOOD



The Jews had light and gladness and joy and honor. And in every province and in every city, wherever the King's command and his edict reached, there was gladness and joy among the Jews, a feast and a holiday.—Esther: 8:16-17

So described the celebrations around the jubilant holiday of Purim in ancient times. Today, we maintain that spirit by bestowing Shalach Manot upon our family, friends, neighbors, and fellow congregants. We thank all who participated in Sisterhood's Shalach Manot campaign this year. You have helped us fulfill an important mitzvah, while contributing to Sisterhood's biggest fundraising project of the year. The dollars generated through the Purim campaign allow us to support EBJC in its vital work.

We further look forward to delivering the Shalach Manot later this month, and we extend our deepest appreciation to those congregants who have volunteered to bring the joy of Purim directly to your door.

This Past Month—

On February 9, we held the second session in our 3-part Winter Education series. Rabbi Pivo led a discussion about "Keeping the Peace with Our Family," exploring the concept of Shalom Bayit. The final installment, on March 23, features an "Ask the Rabbi" format,

or as Rabbi refers to it, "Stump the Rabbi!" Don't miss this chance to address all the questions about Judaism that have been burning on your brain.

Our quarterly Sisterhood Book Club met on February 17, discussing the memoir of renowned actress Tovah Feldshuh—*Lilyville: Mother, Daughter, and Other Roles I've Played*. The book, which was carefully constructed like a performance in three acts, revealed many interesting details about Feldshuh's life. In particular, it focused on the complex relationship between Feldshuh and her mother Lillian, who lived to be 103 years old! Remember: if you have a book suggestion, please email Sara Ullman at sarajull366@gmail.com. All genres are considered, but we ask that the book contain some connection to Jewish life.

On the Horizon—

Later this month, on Thursday, March 17, Sisterhood offers the entire congregation a unique program. We are presenting a special Zoom event from the Jewish Museum of Florida, featuring their current exhibit: "Hello Gorgeous," a celebration of the life and work of iconic singer, actress, director, and producer Barbra Streisand. Take a virtual tour of the costumes, photos, videos, and record album covers that made Streisand a legend.



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 80 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.

SAVE THE DATE: Please see the flyer in this issue and plan on joining us! Your presence will enhance the occasion for us all!

We are proud to announce our spring Torah Fund event—join us for this annual celebration of our dedication to the Conservative Movement of Judaism. We are sincerely hoping that this will be an in-person festive brunch on Sunday, June 12. Our keynote speak is Cantor Mira Davis, a Jewish Theological Seminary graduate who is currently serving as Cantorial Fellow at Park Avenue Synagogue in NYC. Who will be named our 2022 Torah Fund honoree? Stay tuned for the upcoming details.

SISTERHOOD

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. We especially hope that our new members will get involved by including themselves in this important event. Your participation will reap benefits for both you and the congregation. Contact Ritual

VP Gloria Jaslow at 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.

Wishing a festive Purim to all and looking forward to our spring events together.

Chag Sameach,

Cindi Jacobs/Sara Ullman

Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Save The Date

EBJC Sisterhood's Torah Fund Champagne Brunch

SUNDAY JUNE 12, 2022

11:00AM

EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

Please save the date 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



Cantor Mira Davis

We will also honor a sisterhood member for her tireless hours of volunteer work (our unsung hero)

To Be Announced.

The theme for this year's campaign is B'Yachad Together.

Our 2021-2022 Torah Fund B'Yachad Campaign supports scholarships and programming at The Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies in Los Angeles, Schechter Institutes of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano in Buenos Aires, and Zacharias Frankel College in Potsdam. Help strengthen Jewish education and ensure the vibrancy of the Jewish people for decades to come, together with your gift to Torah Fund, B'Yachad.



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

MEN'S CLUB



Shalom!

Life continues to race by. At this point, Punxsutawney Phil, the ground hog, is a distant memory. Before we know it, we will be celebrating Purim. One of the things to note at Purim is that Passover will soon follow. While I have memories of big snow storms for the first seder, Passover means that spring is close at hand. So it will soon be spring, and hopefully we can put this winter and our Covid-induced isolation behind us!

Last month, on February 13, which was Super Bowl Sunday, we participated in our annual World Wide Wrap. We had an in-person service, with instruction for anyone who needed help putting on tefillin, followed by a class on tefillin for our 6th and 7th graders taught by, Rabbi and Cantor. Both sessions were also Zoomed. Our sincere thanks to all who attended, to Matt Kaufman who led the in-person service, and to our clergy for teaching this mitzvah to our next generation.



We are working a number of future programs, some of which don't yet have precise dates. Please see Tidbits for more information as we get closer to the events.

- In the past several years we have put on presentations to help us host interesting and exciting Passover seders. We are working to put on another in this series in March that promises to be inspiring and engaging.
- Along with the Mishloach manot gift bags that you will receive before Purim from Sisterhood, Men's Club will be distributing Yellow Candles to commemorate Yom Hashoah, which this year falls on April 27/28. (We are doing a combined distribution effort with Sisterhood as this is significantly less work for all of us.) Please save the candle and light it on April 27 to mark this tragic event in our history.
- On April 2 we are hosting Men's Club Shabbat, where members of our club are leading the various parts of the service. Please contact Ken Gerson if you would like to participate.
- We are working with NJ Blood Services to reschedule our blood drive, which was postponed during the Covid spike in January.

We are also working to schedule a breakfast for our Unsung Heroes, who have been waiting patiently to be honored. And, after our well-attended hike in

the fall, we are looking forward to another hike in a local park this spring.

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. While we encourage membership in Men's Club, being a member will not be a prerequisite to your participation in any of our activities.

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



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee has been quite busy over the past 3 months.

In November, we presented a Veterans Shabbat program where we honored our Jewish War and America Veterans. The program featured Ira Roth, who introduced us to our local community Jewish War Veterans group and shared all that they do locally, as well as, what they and the organization do for the country. We acknowledged and recognized 40 local Jewish military men who had lost their lives in battle and recited a beautiful prayer in memory of them. In addition, Anne Kroll eloquently read a poem to commemorate Kristallnacht, and the program closed with Ira leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Then we all sang the first several verses of *My Country 'Tis of Thee* and *Hatikvah*. It was a very special and meaningful program.

We recently had our first Grab and Go event since the summer. The Grab and Go offerings were from the Bridge Restaurant in Highland Park, and 34 meals were distributed. The owner of the Bridge expressed much appreciation for this order and for supporting his business.

We continued to offer online educational and entertaining programs, thanks to the consortium we are part of and Ellen Botwin. These included, but

were not limited to, *Jews in the American Theatre*, *Superman is Jewish*, and *Virtual Tour of Rome*, to name a few. These programs remain very popular; many of our members have registered and enjoyed them. Thank you to all who have sponsored and supported these efforts!

In closing, stay tuned to additional programs/ Shabbat-themed events coming over the next few months like, *Grandparents Shabbat*, *New Member Sunday brunch* (more details will be forthcoming), *Grab and Go's* among others. So keep on the lookout for what may come next!

We are happy to welcome back Anita Shagam to the EBJC family and wish you and your family only good things. Please let us know how we can help you, need be.

If you know anyone who might be interested in getting involved in the Membership Committee, please reach out to us. Stay safe and stay well!

Taryn Webber and Ken Gerson





CENTER FOR EARLY LEARNING

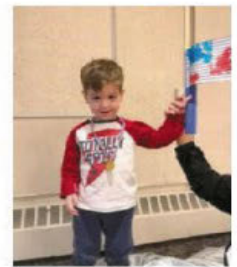


CEL participated in their very own Winter Olympics, with sleigh ride relays, ice pop relays, snowball throwing and more. We have also been busy taking care of the baby chicks that we got to watch hatch out of their eggs. The eggs came from Quiver Farm in Pennsylvania.

Sleigh ride relays



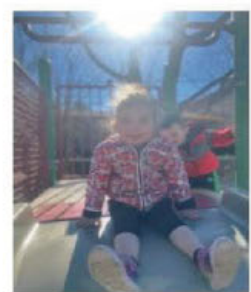
Our medal ceremony



CEL with the baby chicks



Playground fun





HAMANTASCHEN HACKS FOR THE CHEF ON THE GO

HAMENTASHEN MAKING CLASS WITH SARA BLIVAISS

**SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH AT 10:00 AM
VIRTUAL CLASS ON ZOOM**

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.

Sara will provide the list of ingredients to all registrants.
Each recipe makes approximately 24 hamentaschen.

Registration is required to attend.
Must RSVP by Friday, March 11th.
Register at:

WWW.EBJC.ORG/HAMENTASCHEN



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

KESHER AND YOUTH GROUPS



Dear Keshet and Youth Families,

We continue to move forward through pandemic times with the hopes to return to some “normalcy.” Through our perseverance and diligence, we are seeing some light towards the end of the tunnel. We will continue to learn, program, and stay connected Jewishly.

This month’s schedule is as follows: We will have Chaverim, Kadima, and USY Youth night on Wednesday, March 2 following Keshet. For Keshet, there will be regular classes on March 2, 6, 9, 13, 23, 27, and 30. Purim will be on Wednesday, March 16. There are no Keshet classes that day. There will be a Zoom presentation before Megillah reading from 6:30pm – 7:15pm by the Bible Players. They are a talented group and well worth seeing, particularly before the reading of the Megillah. Purim services in person and on Zoom will be at 7:30pm.

In addition, on Sunday, March 20, in lieu of a carnival this year, we will have Keshet classes from 9am-10:30am and then have dismissal. Gary The Great will be performing on Zoom at 11am. This is another great presentation in honor of the Purim celebration.

On Shabbat morning, March 26, we will be having Youth Shabbat (rescheduled from January). Come support our USY teens and other youth participants that Shabbat morning.

Finally, although we have not had a lot of Keshet High School opportunities this year, we will continue to program, so please keep an eye out for more information. We have had some wonderful Kosher cooking demonstrations and participation from our youth being taught by Chef Dean Feldman.

There is always more to come. Pesach is around the corner and a lot to prepare for that as well.

Please keep a look out for emails and Remind messages for more information, and as always feel free to email Cantor Larry at cantorlarry@ebjc.org with any questions.

~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, March 3 - Luncheon at Noon - "Julia Child" her life, her loves, her influence on modern cooking - a great, fun impersonation by actress/voice over artist Linda Kenyon.



**THE EAST BRUNSWICK
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PRESENTS ITS ANNUAL
PASSEOVER WINE
TASTING**

Sunday, March 13th

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: EBJC Ballroom

**MORE THAN 100 WINES WILL
BE AVAILABLE FOR TASTING
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Five (5) 45 minute tasting sessions available.

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<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10coe4da8ac22a6fbce9-passover>

Esther to the Rescue:

A Purim Zoom Comedy Show for ages 5+



Bible Players programs feature interactive activities to keep EVERYONE engaged and excited.

Join this one of kind Zoom adventure starring the world famous Bible Players! Esther overcome the wicked Haman as well as her own fears to save Mordechi and ensure everyone in Shushan gets respect /כבוד/kavod. We will learn about inclusion and community/קהילה/kehilla and laugh till the *hamentaschen* is coming out of our noses.

Using virtual backgrounds, costumes, and special effects, the Zoom experience will be exciting for everyone.

Wednesday, March 16th at 6:30 PM
Register at:
www.ebjc.org/bible-players

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



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

American Judaism: Past, Present and Future

A Three-Part Series

To receive your Zoom link register at: 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.
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Register at:
EBJC.org/American-Judaism

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GARY^{THE} GREAT



ACCLAIMED MAGICIAN & MENTALIST

SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH, 2022 AT 11:00AM

ZOOM PROGRAM

FREE PURIM EVENT

- GARY THE GREAT (A.K.A. GARY FERRAR) HAS HEADLINED FOR MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR COMPANIES (BURBERRY, MORGAN STANLEY, RALPH LAUREN) AND HAS PERFORMED FOR CASUAL ROOFTOP EVENTS. UP NEXT, HE WILL CAPTIVATE US!



A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS, GARY HAS PERFORMED ON FOX NEWS CHANNEL AND AMERICA'S GOT TALENT, AND SERVES AS A MAGIC CONSULTANT FOR NATIONAL TELEVISION COMMERCIALS AND THEATER PRODUCTIONS.

YOUR ENTIRE FAMILY WILL ENJOY THIS SHOW!

REGISTER BY 3/16 AT WWW.EBJC.ORG/PURIMGARY

A donation of any amount to our Membership-Programming committee will help us continue offering entertaining, stimulating and informative programs to our community.

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





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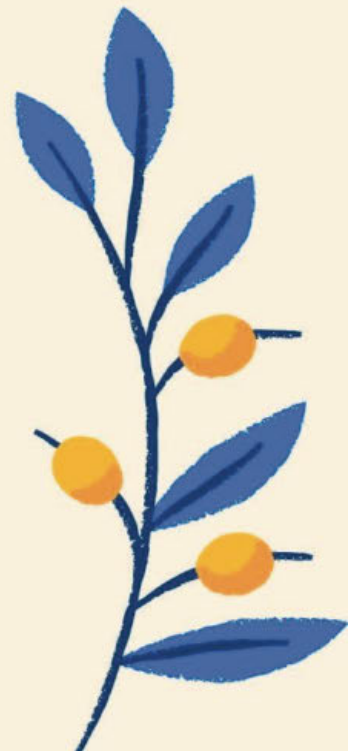
Rabbi Pivo's Winter Education Mini-Series

All classes will be taught by Rabbi Pivo

- Session 1: **Jewish Imagination**
January 12, 2022 at 7:00pm
- Session 2: **Keeping the Peace with our Family**
February 9, 2022 at 7:00pm
- Session 3: **Ask the Rabbi**
March 23, 2022 at 7:00pm

All are invited.

Zoom Link will be posted on
EBJC.org



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

East Brunswick Jewish Center's Sisterhood
invites the entire synagogue
to a fabulous exhibit on the life
and career of Barbra Streisand

Hello Gorgeous

Thursday March 17, 2022
7:20PM on ZOOM
\$12/family

Hello Gorgeous is an eclectic exhibition of costumes, photos, videos, record album covers and other objects, celebrating the life and work of Barbra Streisand. The Jewish Museum of Florida- FIU, the exclusive Southeast presenter, is proud to pay tribute to the iconic singer, actress, director, and producer, in this original exhibition. Exhibit organized by Bernard Museum, Temple Emanu-El, with a special thanks to Lou Papalas of Palm Springs, CA.

Please send \$12.00 check made out to EBJC Sisterhood to:

Cindi Jacobs

127 Crescent Way

Monroe Township, NJ 08831

To receive the Zoom link, checks must be received BY Thursday, March 10



EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER



A Virtual Jewish Walking Tour of Venice

The ancient Jewish ghetto in Venice is in the Cannaregio district, one of the most authentic Venetian areas in the city, and yet quite unknown to tourists. In a multicultural and multiethnic city, as Venice was, in an area far away from the centre of power, the Jewish ghetto was born in 1516. We will try to understand what distinguished this area from all other Jewish quarters in Europe at that time as well as learn the history of the Venetian Jewish community till nowadays.

Sunday, April 3, 2022 @ 12pm EST



Luisella Romeo lives and works in Venice, where her family has lived since the mid 1700's. She has been a registered tourist guide since 2000. She finds the history as well as the present time of her city very fascinating and loves narrating stories of Venice with some sense of humor too! After graduating in North American Literature and Language, she received a scholarship from UC Berkeley and travel grants from the Fulbright program to continue her studies there. While there, the first man she met became her (Italian) husband! She loves traveling, but in the end, always wanted to come back to Venice and is very happy to be able to show Venice to visitors.

Program Co-Sponsors:

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EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

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/JewishVenice

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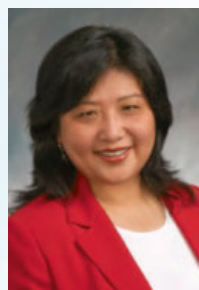
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