



# the RECORDER

## EAST BRUNSWICK JEWISH CENTER

SEPTEMBER 2022

ELUL - TISHREI

VOLUME # 124



### 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

9/2	6:00 p.m.
9/9	6:00 p.m.
9/16	6:00 p.m.
9/23	6:00 p.m.
9/30	6:00 p.m.

Saturday Mornings  
9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 3  
Shofetim

SEPTEMBER 10  
Ki Tetzay

SEPTEMBER 17  
Ki Tavo

SEPTEMBER 24  
Nitzavim

### PRIMARY CONTACTS

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Cantor Larry  
Brandspiegel  
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# STAFF & CONTACTS

## COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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**Men's Club Contact**  
Howard Jacobs

**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**  
Tarryn Webber

**Board of Education Chair**  
Jamie Wasserman

## RECORDER STAFF

Nicole Cavalli

## PROOFERS

Madeline Frances  
Sara Ullman

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## UPCOMING DATES

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 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](http://ebjc.org/online-events)

### OFFICE HOURS

The office is currently staffed Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and on Fridays from 9 a.m.- 2 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

Thursday, September 8, 5:45 p.m.

Dinner & entertainment - Carla Virola - Music and dancing! Carla has been our "opening" act for three years running. We love her music, her energy, her voice and her talent! Join us for dinner and fun!

### 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:

Thursday, September 8 we have the first Hazak program of the year. On Saturday, September 10 we will have Appreciation Shabbat. On Sunday, September 11 we have our Bew Member brunch and on Thursday, September 15 we will have Part 1 of an 8-part Zoom Series - *Jewish History from Biblical Times to the Present* - "In Search of Ancient Israel: Historical Roots of the Biblical Narrative".

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.

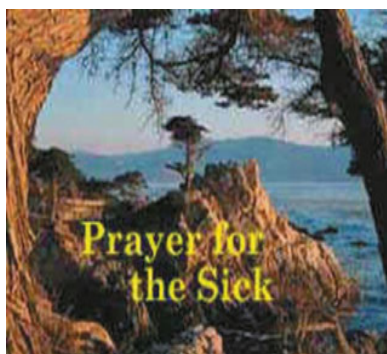


## THE CONGREGATION CONGRATULATES:

Ken & Helene Gerson on the engagement of their daughter, Jacqueline  
Ira & Karen Rosen on the marriage of their son, Brian

## THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO:

Russell Klotzkin on the loss of his father, Gerald Klotzkin  
Phil Bramson on the loss of his mother, Joan Bramson  
Nadine Greenspan in memory of her father, Gerald Tantleff



### 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](mailto:selectivemedia@comcast.net), where a list will be kept.

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







**The office staff would like to thank the volunteers  
who helped with the High Holiday mailing.**

**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?*

**TOTAL**  
party  
Call Dori  
732.723.3555  
Email: [Dori@Total-Party.com](mailto:Dori@Total-Party.com)  
[www.Total-Party.com](http://www.Total-Party.com)  
[www.facebook.com/TotalPartyLLC](https://www.facebook.com/TotalPartyLLC)

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



**Traditional services will take place in the Main Sanctuary and  
Egalitarian services will be in the Teicher Gym/Chernow Activity Center**

**High Holiday Dates and Times 2022/5783**

<b><u>Holiday</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Service Time</u></b>
Selihot	Saturday, September 17	8:00 pm program
Erev Rosh Hashanah I (Mincha/Maariv)	Sunday, September 25	6:15 pm
Rosh Hashanah I	Monday, September 26	8:30 am
RH I Family Service	Monday, September 26	10:00 am
Shofar Blowing (1st set)	Monday, September 26	11:00 am
Mincha/Tashlich, Including Special Outdoor Shofar Blowing		
	Monday, September 26	5:00 pm
Ma'ariv Rosh Hashanah II	Monday, September 26	7:30 pm
Rosh Hashanah II	Tuesday, September 27	8:30 am
RH II Family Service	Tuesday, September 27	10:00 am
Shofar Blowing (1st set)	Tuesday, September 27	11:00 am
Special Outdoor Shofar Blowing	Tuesday, September 27	5:00 pm
Mincha/Study/Maariv	Tuesday, September 27	6:15 pm
Havdalah	Tuesday, September 27	7:30 pm
Shabbat Shuva		
Mincha/Maariv	Friday, September 30	6:00 pm
Morning	Saturday, October 1	9:30 am
Havdalah on Zoom	Saturday, October 1	7:25 pm
Erev Yom Kippur		
Mincha	Tuesday, October 4	6:00 pm
Kol Nidrei	Tuesday, October 4	6:15 pm
Yom Kippur	Wednesday, October 5	9:00 am
YK Family Service	Wednesday, October 5	10:30 am
Yizkor	Wednesday, October 5	12 noon
Mincha/N'ilah/Ma'ariv	Wednesday, October 5	4:45 pm
Fast Ends	Wednesday, October 5	7:15 pm

**Traditional services will take place in the Main Sanctuary and  
Egalitarian services will be in the Teicher Gym/Chernow Activity Center**

**High Holiday Dates 2022/5783**

<u><b>Holiday</b></u>	<u><b>Date</b></u>	<u><b>Service Time</b></u>
Erev Sukkot I		
Mincha/Ma'ariv	Sunday, October 9	6:00 pm
Sukkot I	Monday, October 10	9:30 am
Erev Sukkot II		
Mincha/Study session/Ma'ariv	Monday, October 10	6:00 pm
Sukkot II	Tuesday, October 11	9:30 am
Mincha/Study session/Ma'ariv	Tuesday, October 11	6:00 pm
Havdalah	Tuesday, October 11	7:06 pm
Sukkot Shabbat Hol Hamoed		
Mincha/Ma'ariv	Friday, October 14	5:55 pm
Shabbat morning	Saturday, October 15	9:30 am
Megillat Kohelet (complete)	Saturday, October 15	after services
Mincha/S'udat Shlishit/Ma'ariv	Saturday, October 15	5:55 pm
Sukkot VII/Hoshanah Rabbah	Sunday, October 16	7:45 am
Erev Shemini Atzeret		
Mincha/Ma'ariv	Sunday, October 16	5:50 pm
Shemini Atzeret includes Yizkor	Monday, October 17	9:30 am
Erev Simchat Torah		
Mincha	Monday, October 17	5:50 pm
Quiz 'N' Candy	Monday, October 17	6:15 pm
Scrolla Rolla/Ma'ariv/Hakafot	Monday, October 17	7:00 pm
Simchat Torah	Tuesday, October 18	9:30 am
Mincha/Study Session/Ma'ariv	Tuesday, October 18	5:50 pm
Havdalah	Tuesday, October 18	6:55 pm

## LULAV AND ETROG ORDER FORM



The mitzvah of Lulav and Etrog is ancient and revered. It is incumbent upon every Jew to possess their own set in order to enjoy the full measure of joy of the holiday. In order to help in the fulfillment of the Mitzvah, the EBJC Mitzvah Corps will once again take orders for complete sets.

The cost will be \$60.00 per set.

To order:

Please email this form to [ebjcmitzvahcorps@comcast.net](mailto:ebjcmitzvahcorps@comcast.net) by Sunday,  
October 2nd, 2022

Make check payable to EBJC Mitzvah Corps

Send check to:

Marty Genee, 39 Sullivan Way, East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Pick up will be Sunday October 9th, 2022 at EBJC

From 9:30 am to 11:00 am

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE/EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

# OF SETS ORDERED \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$60.00 EACH = \_\_\_\_\_





*Links and information on all programs can be found on the [ebjc.org](http://ebjc.org) homepage*

**Saturday, September 10 @ 9:30 AM**

**Appreciation Shabbat. More details to follow.**

**Sunday, September 11 @ 8:30 AM**

**USY Car Wash**

Come and have your car washed by our USY'ers! Save some money while you support our kids!

**Sunday, September 11 @ 11:30 AM**

**Welcome New Member Brunch**

It's been almost 3 years but we're finally going to "officially" welcome our newest members!

**Thursday, September 15 @ 8:30 PM**

**Jewish History from Biblical Times to the Present - An Eight-Part Zoom Series**

Part 1 - "In Search of Ancient Israel: Historical Roots of the Biblical Narrative"

For more information and to register visit [ebjc.org](http://ebjc.org).

**Thursday, October 6 @ 8:30 PM**

**Jewish History from Biblical Times to the Present - An Eight-Part Zoom Series**

Part 2 - "Women as Ritual Experts in Ancient Israel"

## **HAZAK DATES FOR THE YEAR**

*Programs will be announced*

**September 8**, Thursday, 6:00 PM Dinner - Carla Virola - Music and dancing!

**October 20**, Thursday, Noon luncheon - Larry Wolfert - Jewish Women in Comedy

(warning, it may be a bit naughty!).

**November 17**, Thursday, Noon Luncheon

**December 15**, Thursday, Noon Luncheon

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

**February 12**, Sunday, 10:00 Brunch - John Kenrick - Mel Brooks

**March 16**, Thursday, Noon Luncheon

**April 20**, Thursday - Noon Luncheon

**May 18**, Thursday - Noon Luncheon

**June 15**, Thursday, 6:00 PM Dinner

## Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes

It has been two and a half years since the onset of the pandemic and many of you have not been in the building to see all of the work we've been doing and how much we are improving our spiritual home. It is a very exciting time at EBJC and while we take the time and carefully select a new Rabbi to become a part of our family, we are leaving no stone unturned when it comes to improving our building, our programs, and our services. This article will provide you with accurate information as to what we are accomplishing and have accomplished.

- We replaced the unsightly and broken accordion wall with a new, catering quality movable wall with a pass-through door. The money came from our operating account and was not taken from any restricted account.
- We replaced the roof over the rug wing. It was in dire need of replacement. The constant repairs was just wasting money. The money for the roof came from the restricted account funds from the sale that are not subject to reimbursement.
- We poured a new cement walkway and fixed the entrance at the Ryders Lane side to the preschool wing, and we are adding a shared bathroom between two classrooms. This money is through a special grant provided through the State. If there is money remaining, we will make continued improvements to the preschool wing and playground.
- We replaced all of the windows in the preschool wing and the youth lounge. The money came from a Department of Homeland Security Grant.
- We will be adding a new state of the art Public Address system throughout the building for added communication and security. The money is coming from a Department of Homeland Security Grant.
- We have begun getting quotes to fix the Kroll Ballroom – replace and paint the walls, replace the old sconces with newer more modern ones, replace the floor with either a new rug/dance floor or new flooring entirely, replace all of the ceiling tiles so that they match. The money for this is coming from dedicated donations, money in the restricted account that was dedicated to the ballroom, and operations. This project will hopefully be completed by late spring. We are at the mercy of contractors and supply chain issues.
- The addition of a new Audio Visual system in the sanctuary sponsored by Men's Club which has significantly improved the quality of remote participation in our services.
- The Lobby walls will be painted a bright new color.
- We will be replacing the antiquated boiler off of the meat kitchen with a new, much more efficient one. This boiler heats the entire building (not the Netivot wing). 80% of the funding is coming from a PSE&G grant. The balance will be paid over 5 years with no interest.
- The Rabbi's house has been repaired. Steps and a cement walkway were made so that the Rabbi can walk to the Synagogue without stepping in mud. The back porch was repaired, water-proofed and stained. Window blinds were added to all of the windows for privacy. Bookcases on either side of the fireplace and a mantle have been installed. All of this will go a long way as we show prospective rabbinic candidates their new home. The money for this has come from donations and operations.
- In terms of financial responsibility, any monies donated to the restricted account or any designated accounts go into those accounts and are spent ONLY for the purpose for which it was intended. We have safeguards in place to make sure this happens.

We haven't even broached on the programs and events we have offered to keep our families involved and engaged. Over 100 programs via Zoom have been presented, 95% for which there was no charge. Through the generous donations of our families and the extended community, these programs have been self-sustaining and extremely popular. As long as there is interest, we will continue to offer them! Our Hazak program for seniors 55+ is extremely popular. We meet in person from September through June! We have the Rabbi's classes, Family Services, Judah's classes, active youth groups, a strong Keshet, and so much more!

Our Preschool has grown to 30 children! Whereas 5 years ago, we were close to closing this important EBJC footprint due to a lack of registration, in a vote of confidence, we gave it one more year and we grew from 8 students to 15 that first year and we are now at 30! Thank you, Lynda, for your dedication. The families love you!

We have Israeli dancing, Jazzercise, and Freedom Gate Church that rent our premises regularly. The gym is fully rented thanks to the efforts and dedication of Lloyd Shepetin.

Our Long Range Planning Committee is actively working to find ways to sustain our shul and ensure a future of many years to come.

We have amazing staff of clergy, office workers and maintenance people who are very dedicated to EBJC and work very hard to provide the best service possible.

So there you have it. Now you know. Spread the word. We are here to stay, we are here to create a strong spiritual and social community and we want you to be a part of it.

# RABBINIC REFLECTIONS

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Change is the only constant in life. We grow up, grow older, and have families. We either change jobs and neighborhoods, or staying in the same place, watch as those places change around us. For Jews, change is not merely a passive process, something that happens to us, but rather a dynamic one to which we must respond. Jewish thought insists that we have an active role in maintaining tradition as well as improving tradition when called for. And in addition to the expected life changes, the last two years have added the dramatic effects of pandemic altering how we live in myriad ways.

Over the High Holidays, our obligation is to reflect on the past year and account for our mistakes, not only to cleanse ourselves of transgression against others or against God, but also to learn from those mistakes; which is to say, to change. These days are about judgment and are infused with the symbolism of life and death; the stakes could not be higher. When we engage actively in the process of teshuvah, of return, we are shedding the bad habits which we have adopted in the past and replacing them with loving and

constructive ones. Teshuvah requires effort, as all positive change does. A favorite saying of mine from Pirkei Avot: L'fumi tza'arah, agra - the reward is commensurate with the effort.

This year we should exert the greatest possible effort to return (that word again!) to synagogue life. That, in itself, represents change. Many of our members have been fearful of crowds in these years; it will be an effort for them to return to public events. The convenience of online services, classes, and meetings has become normalized; it will require effort to return to in-person experiences. In so many ways, a return to meaningful shul life will require effort, but the reward is commensurate with that effort.

The change in personal behaviors that we seek directly affects our communal experience. Over the past two years it has been difficult to maintain our daily minyan, morning and evening. Even Shabbat and Yom Tov services are sparsely attended as compared with three years ago. The learning, celebration, and camaraderie that was once so prevalent is not only a memory. With a bit of effort, it can also be a prescription for a life-affirming return to communal life. Let's make these High Holidays the starting point for a new and vigorous engagement with Jewish practice and with each other. Let's embrace this change in an effort to revitalize our relationships, our learning, and our love for our culture and one another.

Rabbi Jeff Pivo



"Shma Kolenu, Hashem Elohenu, Hoos V'rahem Alenu, V'kabel B'rahamim U'v'ratzon Et T'filatenu...Hear our voice, Eternal Gd, and be compassionate to us, and accept with compassion and favor our prayers."

This is one of the most powerful phrases that we recite each and every day during the Amida. During the High Holidays, we spend extra time and passion in reciting this line during the Yom Kippur service.

Rabbi Marc E. Berkson writes, "With our fears and our hopes, the words we turn to are the words in these books. It can be hard, I know. The language may be foreign; the concepts, at times, even more so. Trembling, we take words and cry out, "Shema Kolenu, Hashem Elohenu, Hear our voice, we say, O Eternal our Gd." To the Gd of which we are not fully sure, we implore, "Hear our voice, listen to us." Rabbi Janet Marder states, "Take words, use words, to connect with the Most High. Take these imperfect instruments of communication, and say them with all the passion you can muster. Take your

doubts and your hesitations and your profound embarrassment and put them into the words, as well. Bring it all to the synagogue. Bring it all to your prayers."

We find ourselves at this time of the year begging for Gd to listen to us. "Shma!" Hear us, O Gd! At times, it may feel as if Gd turns a deaf ear. At times, it may feel that we are hopeless and that nothing will help. At times, we may feel alone. Shma Kolenu, written in the plural, says Hear OUR prayers. This tells us that if we pray together, if we find the passion together, and if we join together in seeking refuge and homage to Gd, then Gd will listen, and we will know we are not alone.

In this season of repentance, let us come back together in prayer, in song, in family, and in friendship to be heard. May all our prayers be accepted for a year of health, happiness, and peace.

In addition, some rituals are more straightforward than others. Some are found as Mitzvot in the Torah and others are Mitzvot written by our Rabbis, which are interpreted from the Torah. One of the Mitzvot prior to the High Holidays is asking for forgiveness. Saying "I'm sorry" is not only the hardest thing to do when we do a wrong, but it is the first step in making things right. As we approach the High Holiday season, make a list of all the things that may have gone not so right this past year and think of all those who were involved. If someone was hurt because of something you may have done,

purposely or inadvertently, then have the courage to seek out that person and say "I'm sorry". Jewish law states that a person should ask forgiveness from another person, up to three times. If after the third time the recipient of the apology does not accept, then Gd forgives the requester and the recipient becomes the one at fault. Taking the first step is always the hardest, but in the end the Mitzvah of asking for forgiveness can be more fulfilling than actually being forgiven. Of course, having both the asking and the receiving, gives us the opportunity to ensure a truly happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

From my entire family to your families, Shana Tov...listen up and have a good year!

Larry I. Brandspiegel

Cantor / Director of Education



# FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Rob and I were very lucky to escape getting Covid for nearly two and a half years. Having been exposed multiple times, I was sure we'd get it, or I'd get it. It took going on a cruise with 14 family members to work its magic and Rob and I came home with it. Rob, showing symptoms, tested positive immediately upon our return and it took me another day. Rob went on Paxlovid due to his congestive heart failure and I did not (at the recommendation of my Dr.). We are now in day six and we are very grateful that the symptoms have been relatively mild and we are almost fully recovered. Very grateful. I am fairly convinced that at some point, unless you are living a very restricted social life or in a cocoon, most people will get it. Hopefully, the milder version and hopefully with no dire symptoms. I went on this cruise knowing full well what may happen and it turns out that one person in our group was the asymptomatic spreader. Five of us wound up with Covid of the 14. The other adults had Covid less

than two months ago so they were fairly immune. Hopefully the children will remain well. Oh well. Moving on.

So here we are neck deep in preparing for the High Holidays. The HH packages are almost ready to send out (we're waiting for a few crucial pieces to include in the packet). The service times from Erev Rosh Ha'Shanah through Simchat Torah are all set. Tickets are being printed. Check, Check and Check. I'm sure we're missing something.

The High Holidays require an inordinate amount of planning with at least 100 volunteers (if not more) in front of and behind the scenes to make everything run smoothly. I'd love to say it happens by "magic" but it really doesn't. Every arm of the synagogue is involved, from Men's Club to Sisterhood to Mitzvah Corps to the Religious Committee...everyone has their role and their responsibilities. The staff, ALL of the staff, work tirelessly to put all of the pieces together. My background is in theatre, so I equate it with putting on a show. The "performers" are very important, but nothing much is happening if there is no director, producer, set designers, lighting engineers, prop people, etc. You get the picture.

We are welcoming everyone into the building, and for those of you that are still uncomfortable going indoors, we are streaming all

services. This is not ideal and this is not what we wish to be permanent, but we recognize the needs of our members and will do the best we can to accommodate. We have worked hard to upgrade our streaming capabilities and recently repaired and upgraded the sound system. A lot of work has been going on around EBJC and we'd love for you to come and see!

For the fourth year, we have not raised our membership commitment (dues). For the fourth year, we are not charging our members for tickets to High Holiday services (there is a fee for non-members and adult children of members and their families). With an inflation rate closing in on double digits, this is a minor miracle.

So when you come to High Holiday services, give some thought to the over 100 people that worked so hard to make you comfortable and to assure that things run smoothly. Thank a volunteer. Thank the Clergy, Thank the Staff. Make a meaningful donation to sustain your shul. It will go a long way.

May you all have a Healthy, Happy and Sweet New Year!

Ellen

# FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



As we flip the page of the calendar to September, we realize that Autumn is almost upon us. That also means that the High Holy Days are just around the corner.

For me, the childhood memories of this time are seared into my mind. I remember arriving at my synagogue, which was packed to the gills. There I was, looking up at the Rabbi and Cantor, who normally wore black robes, but for these days, were dressed in white. The services were long but full of familiar tunes that we remembered from year to year. The strong sermons of the Rabbi, the pleading voice of the Cantor, everyone beating their chests for the "Al -Hets". Everyone praying for a Good Year.

Between the days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is a Shabbat that is called the Shabbat Shuvah, the Sabbath of Return. It is named so because the Haftarah that morning begins

"Return, O Israel!" meaning that we should use the Holidays as a springboard to return to our traditions, laws and, of course, return to the synagogue

As I write this article, I cannot think of anything more important than having people return to the synagogue. I know that the pandemic of the past few years has changed a great many things in our lives but some things cannot change. The synagogue is, and needs to be, the center of Jewish life in our community. Every one of us has a stake in future of the East Brunswick Jewish Center for us, for our families and for our friends and neighbors. We must not allow apathy to decide our future. It is up to all of us to create and sustain a vibrant community. Please join us, please return to us, please help us to become that vibrant community.

On behalf of myself and my wife Maury, and on behalf of Co-President Jack Goldberg and his wife, Carol, we wish you "L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu". May you all have a New Year of health and blessings.

Steve Wohl  
Co-President, EBJC

# SISTERHOOD



As fall approaches, we look forward to the Jewish New Year—5783—and the most glorious season on the calendar.

Why not start the New Year off right by reaffirming your commitment to Sisterhood. Now is the perfect time to renew your membership for 2022-2023. Dues remain at \$36, a terrific value for all that Sisterhood has to offer—connection, fellowship, friendship. Please send your checks, made out to EBJC Sisterhood, to the synagogue, attention Cindy Rabinowitz.

Our annual Paid-Up Membership event is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, after the fall holidays. Stay tuned for more details about this festive evening in which we will reacquaint with old friends and greet new ones.

Sisterhood has chosen CAROL LANDA to be our representative on the Rabbi Search Committee. We are confident that Carol has the wisdom and insight to be a true asset for this group. In the months to come, Carol will be soliciting opinions from Sisterhood members as to what qualities they most seek in a spiritual leader. Make your voice heard. Our synagogue's future depends on it!

## This Past Month—

On Thursday, August 11 our Sisterhood Book Club met to discuss a novel by popular author, Naomi Reagan: *An Unorthodox Match*. Our members shared some profound comments about this tale of a newly observant woman and the resistance she faced from the ultra-Orthodox community in Boro Park. For those interested, there is a sequel to *An Unorthodox Match* called *An Observant Wife*. We plan to tackle that novel at some point in the future.

Our next Book Club selection is a spiritual journey by renowned author Rabbi Naomi Levy—*Einstein and the Rabbi/Searching for the Soul*. This highly acclaimed poignant book challenges us to consider our place in the universe, while exploring the story of a touching letter written by Albert Einstein. The next meeting date remains to be scheduled, but it will be sometime in November.

Our Book Club is eager to include your selections. Don't forget to email Sara Ullman at [sarajull366@gmail.com](mailto:sarajull366@gmail.com) if you have future books in mind, or if you'd like to lead one of our sessions.

## On the Horizon--

Thursday, November 17--Stay tuned for a fascinating look into World War II history when we learn about the Ritchie Boys, an elite group of Jewish intelligence operatives who used their native German language to infiltrate the Nazis.

\*\*\*\*\*

**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.

"We started using Scrip for Lox Stock and Deli not that long ago. I don't know what took us so long to get on board; we were spending the money there anyway, so it was no big deal. The plus is that we are doing our share to help support Sisterhood and the synagogue." - Madeline Frances

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

---

On behalf of Sisterhood and our families, SHANA TOVAH! May the New Year bring good health, peace to our community and the world, renewed faith, and fulfillment in our personal, professional, and spiritual lives.

Warm regards,

Sara Ullman

Immediate Past Sisterhood  
Co-President

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



**2022- 2023**

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, 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, and Cultural Programming

\*Networking Opportunities

\*Community Outreach Opportunities

\*Fundraising

\*Personal Development Opportunities

\*Membership in Women's League

---

**Our Membership Drive for 2022-2023 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: \_\_\_\_\_



# MEN'S CLUB

Shalom:

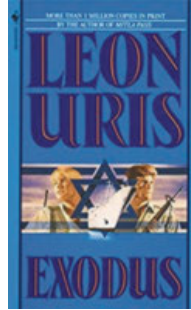
EBJC's Men Club is looking forward to an active 5783 as we start our new year with erev Rosh Hashanah occurring September 25, and with Yom Kippur and Sukkot shortly thereafter.

During the holiday season there is a long list of Men's Club activities, including helping Sisterhood polish the Torah silver adornments and ushering at services. Please help support our activities any way you can during this period.

One of our most important activities is our annual L'shana Tova basket program. If you have not yet responded, please do so immediately. The last day for receipt of paper orders is Sept. 8th, and the last day for online orders is Sept. 11th. MC can use help packing (Sept. 15 at 8:30 pm in the Kroll Ballroom) and delivering (Sept. 18). Please submit your order at <https://www.ebjc.org/lshanatova>. Please contact Howard Jacobs ([howard\\_jacobs@ebjc.net](mailto:howard_jacobs@ebjc.net)) with any questions. Your support for this program is much appreciated and is vitally important.



We have restarted a book club with Leon Uris' *Exodus*. You can register for the discussion to be held via Zoom at Sept. 7 at 8:30 pm at [ebjc.org/MCBookGroup1](https://ebjc.org/MCBookGroup1).



MC is planning a Sukkah dinner on Thursday, October 13. Please watch your emails for additional information about this event.

On Sunday, Oct. 16 at 10 am MC will be sponsoring a family Sukkah Hop jointly with Keshet. All are welcome to attend. We will begin and end at EBJC, but we are requesting volunteers to host at their sukkah for approximately 15 minutes during the event. All required of a host is letting the group visit your sukkah and offering your guests light refreshments. The hosts always enjoy sharing their sukkah with our young visitors. Please respond to [mensclub@ebjc.net](mailto:mensclub@ebjc.net) if you can host or have questions.



MC jointly sponsors a regular weekly open pickleball session at 350 Dunham's Corner Rd., Tuesdays at 11 am. There are also several other Common Interest Activities (C.I.A.) cosponsored by Men's Club: hiking, cooking, gardening and biking. Please contact Ken Gerson ([kgerson7@gmail.com](mailto:kgerson7@gmail.com)) for information on any of these CIA programs.

In November we are having a Top Golf outing. Please look for additional information as we get closer to the date.

In December we will have our Man of the Year and Youth of the Year dinner. We can't wait to see who will get these well-deserved honors this year. The dinner itself will be in December with more information coming soon.

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

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

Marty Hoffman, Arthur Fliegelman, Howard Jacobs and Neil Kosher

[mensclub@ebjc.net](mailto:mensclub@ebjc.net)



Bye bye summer, hello September! We are eager to start our 2022-23 school year. Our staff has been working hard on getting our rooms ready for an exciting year. This year Morah Lynda and Morah Tara will be teaching our Gozalim class (2-year old). Morah Stefani and Morah Margie will be in the Parparim class (3-year-old), and Morah Jodi and Morah Michele will be getting our Tziporim (4-year olds) ready for Kindergarten.

This will be Morah Stefani's first year teaching at The Center For Early Learning. Stefani Israel is an East Brunswick resident. She is happily married and has 2 beautiful children, Ben and Abbie. Ben actually attended our preschool 12 years ago! Stefani is jumping back into teaching and is filled with excitement to restart her career at The Center For Early Learning!

Last year, we applied for a grant, and we received some money to fix up our school. We started by paving the walkway where our students get dropped off in the morning. We are happy there will be no more muddy drop offs. Next, our classrooms are getting brand new windows. We are also in the process of finding a contractor to put a Jack-and-Jill bathroom in our 2- and 3-year-old classes. Great things are happening here at The CEL and I am sure there will be more to come!

# KESHER AND YOUTH GROUPS



*Dear Keshet and Youth Families,*

*This month we are BACK! We will have our first session on Sunday morning, September 11th. We will gather in the sanctuary to welcome everyone back, we will then say a special prayer in memory and in remembrance of the victims of "9/11," and then split into our individual classes. The Teaching Team will show our students their new classrooms.*

*Once again, please check your calendar for the dates of all the sessions and events. Please note that there will be a special Family service on Shabbat morning, September 10th at 10:30am. Following the service, we will join in the special Kiddush honoring our board and volunteers for Appreciation Shabbat. Please RSVP to the synagogue office.*

*Also, with the High Holidays almost here, join us for family services on Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. There will also be a younger children's (through 2nd grade) program, as well.*

*I look forward to see all of you back and for our new families, welcome to the EBJC Family.*

*If you have any questions or to discuss any issues, please contact me via email, [cantorlarry@ebjc.org](mailto:cantorlarry@ebjc.org).*

*Shana Tova and a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year to you and your families.*

*~Cantor Larry*



## DO YOU HAVE A COLLEGE STUDENT IN YOUR FAMILY?

Attention Parents and Grandparents of College Students:

This year, while your college kids/grandkids are away at school or studying from home, your EBJC family is thinking about them. The Youth Commission would love to send special packages around Rosh Hashana and Purim to the college students. This is **FREE** for undergraduate students of EBJC members and just \$36 per graduate students and \$36 per student for grandchildren who are in college or graduate school. Please fill in the information below and send it into the office or send Cantor Larry an email (with the same information requested on the form). Information and payments must be received to the EBJC office, payable to EBJC (memo line: college packages), 511 Ryders Lane, East Brunswick, NJ 08816 by Monday, September 12, 2022.

If you have any questions, please contact Cantor Larry at [cantorlarry@ebjc.org](mailto:cantorlarry@ebjc.org).

*Please write clearly.*

Student's Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Student's Primary Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Primary Email: \_\_\_\_\_

College Name: \_\_\_\_\_

College Address (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please tell us if student will be living at home or at college in the Fall and in the Spring:

Fall Semester: College \_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_ Spring Semester: College \_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_  
*If Spring Semester is unknown \_\_\_\_\_ (please provide an update by February 1, 2023)*

Please check (all the apply):

Freshman \_\_\_\_ Sophomore \_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_ Senior \_\_\_\_

Graduate Student \_\_\_\_\_ Grandchild \_\_\_\_\_



# 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](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 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, September 8, 5:45 PM

Dinner & entertainment - Carla Virola - Music and dancing! Carla has been our "opening" act for three years running. We love her music, her energy, her voice and her talent! Join us for dinner and fun!

# Appreciation Shabbat



10 Sept 2022



Help us honor our outgoing and incoming  
Board of Trustees and Executive Board

**SERVICES and SPECIAL KIDDUSH LUNCH**

**Come reconnect with EBJC  
friends and meet new people!**



**Reservations required for Kiddush Lunch (no charge)  
SIGN UP USING THE FORM BELOW BY SEPT 2**

CoChairs: Carol Goldberg, Sharlene Harris, and Maury Grabel Wohl

**THIS SHABBAT SERVICE WILL BE TRADITIONAL**

**East Brunswick Jewish Center  
invites you to join us as we  
welcome and meet our new  
members**

# *New Member* **BRUNCH**



**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11**

**11:30 - 1:00PM**

**KROLL BALLROOM**

**FREE for members who have joined EBJC  
since 7/1/2019**

**\$20/all other adults \$9/5-12yrs old and  
free for kids less than 5 yrs old**

**Catering by Capri**

**RSVP by September 6, 2022**

**[www.EBJC.org/NewMemberBrunch](http://www.EBJC.org/NewMemberBrunch)**



# "Jewish History from Biblical Times to the Present"

## An Eight-Part Zoom Series

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



Thursday, September 15 @8:30 PM

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



Thursday, October 6 @ 8:30 PM

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



Thursday, November 10 @ 8:30 PM

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



Thursday, December 15 @ 8:30 PM

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



Thursday, January 26 @ 8:30 PM

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



Thursday, February 16 @ 8:30 PM

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



Thursday, March 16 @ 8:30 PM

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



Thursday, April 27 @ 8:30 PM

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

**These programs are free for all!**

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



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



# New 5783

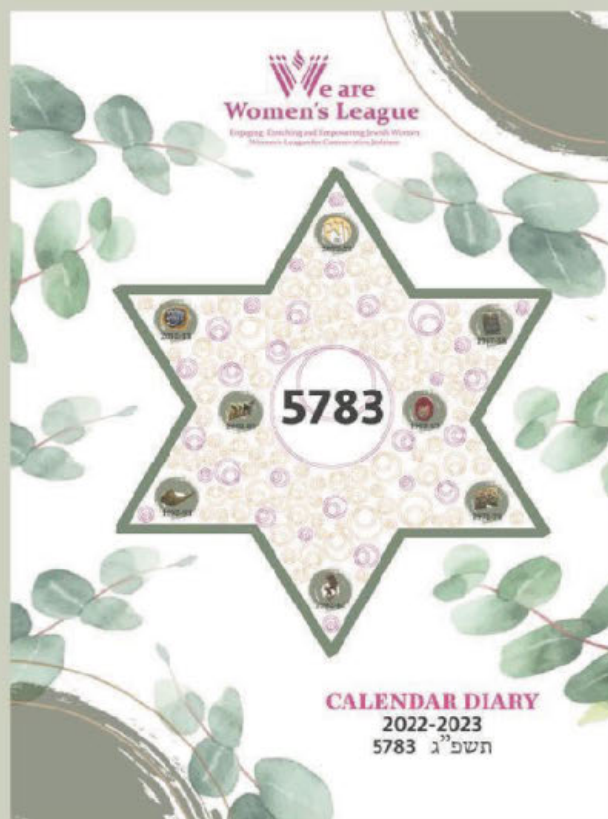
## Women's League Calendar Diary

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*This popular pocket-size calendar is full of bonus features, including:*

- \*Shabbat and holiday listings
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(U.S., Israel, and Canada)
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with both translation  
and transliteration

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**Copies available in EBJC Main Office. Stop by or call  
Cheryl Decker ((732) 257-7070) to reserve your calendar!  
(Make check payable to EBJC Sisterhood)**

DONATION LIST WAS MADE AS OF AND INCLUDING AUGUST 19. IF YOU MADE A DONATION AFTER THIS DATE, IT WILL BE IN NEXT MONTH'S RECORDER.

## ALIYAH

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Inge Gross in honor of Rabbi Pivo's daughter's and son's graduations

Myra Feldman in memory of Roxsene Plafker

### CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Barbara Kurlan in gratitude to Matt Kaufman for leading daily services

Michael Schneiderman in honor of our great office staff

### GENERAL DONATIONS

Inge Gross in memory of Joan Bramson

Dov & Barbara Pollajk in memory of Joan Bramson

Elliott & Lynda Perel in memory of Helen Greenbaum

David & Margot Julis in memory of Joan Bramson

Richard & Cindy Rollman wishing Mazel Tov to Ken and Helene Gerson on their daughter's engagement

Richard & Cindy Rollman in memory of Joan Bramson

Richard & Cindy Rollman in memory of Helen Greenbaum

David & Margot Julis wishing Mazel Tov to Ken and Helene Gerson on the engagement of their daughter, Jacqueline

Cheryl Decker in memory of Helen Greenbaum

Michael Schneiderman in memory of Helen Greenbaum

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Ora Rotblum in memory of Helen Greenbaum

Gary Busman in memory of Helen Greenbaum

David & Margot Julis wishing Mazel Tov to Ira and Karen Rosen on the marriage of their son, Brian

Robert & Liz Salston in memory of Helen Greenbaum

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Harvey Goldschmidt in memory of William Goldschmidt

Edward & Susan Pilcer in memory of Jack Koolik

Neil & Gail Kosher in memory of Eva Kosher

Sharon Fischer in memory of Stanley Jacob Smith

Dov & Barbara Pollak in memory of Rosa Pollak

Karen Krieger in memory of Bessie Krieger

Nicole Cavalli in memory of Isidore Nachimow

Dian Perkel in memory of David Rose

Jules Plafker in memory of Louis Plafker

Jeffrey & Hilde Zonis in memory of Helman Gurewitz

Steven & Gail Lustbader in memory of Molly Lustbader

Jeff & Sara Blivaiss in memory of Maxine Gray

Martin & Marla Genee in memory of Dara Ferman

Karen Krieger in memory of Estelle Krieger

Gene & Helena Brody in memory of Abraham Brody

Jill Rubin in memory of Sam Marchant

Stanley & Arlene Ferman in memory of Beatrice Adler Russ

Stanley & Arlene Ferman in memory of Jennie Lieberman

Inge Gross in memory of Gerda Goldman, Frances Gross and Lydia Meyer

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memory of Albert  
Schuldiner

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memory of Mildred  
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Sharlene Harris in  
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