

# NEWS & VIEWS

חדשות והשקפות

OCTOBER 2020 תשרי - חשון תשפ"א

FAIR LAWN JEWISH CENTER / CONG. BNAI ISRAEL  
VOLUME LXXI1 No.2 TISHREI - CHESHVAN 5781 - USPS 096-220



HONORING OUR MENSCH OF THE YEAR  
**NEIL GARFINKLE**  
OCTOBER 24

**FAIR LAWN JEWISH CENTER  
CONGREGATION BNAI ISRAEL**

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NEWS & VIEWS (USPS #096-220) IS PUBLISHED TEN TIMES A YEAR. \$1.00 OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES IS FOR YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION TO NEWS & VIEWS. THE FAIR LAWN JEWISH CENTER - CONG. BNAI ISRAEL, 10-10 NORMA AVENUE, FAIR LAWN, NJ 07410 PUBLISHES NEWS & VIEWS. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT FAIR LAWN, NJ. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO NEWS & VIEWS, 10-10 NORMA

**RELIGIOUS SERVICES VIA ZOOM**

**SUNDAY THROUGH THURSDAY – 7:30 PM**

MEETING ID : 992 9922 2789

PASSWORD: 609729

**KABBALAT SHABBAT– 6:30 PM**

SHMOOZE TIME AFTER SERVICES

**SHABBAT– 9:30 AM**

MEETING ID: 940 7714 6714

PASSWORD: 215407


BY PHONE: +1 929 205-6099 (US NEW YORK)  
SHMOOZE TIME 9:00 AM AND FOLLOWING SERVICES

**HAVDALAH – 2 MINUTES AFTER SHABBAT ENDS**

MEETING ID: 940 7714 6714

PASSWORD: 215407

**CANDLE LIGHTING**

OCTOBER 2		6:17 PM
OCTOBER 3		7:15 PM
OCTOBER 9		6:06 PM
OCTOBER 16		5:55 PM
OCTOBER 23		5:45 PM
OCTOBER 30		5:36 PM

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**IN OCTOBER**

Due to Governor Murphy's Covid 19 Executive Order regarding social distancing, the Center office is open only by appointment. To reach the office call 201 796-5040 or email [info@fljc.com](mailto:info@fljc.com)

October 2	Erev Sukkot
October 3 - 9	Sukkot
October 10	Sh'mini Atzeret
October 11	Simchat Torah
October 12	Columbus Day

**נחמו, נחמו עמי**

WE NOTE WITH SORROW THE PASSING OF

SUZANNE MOSKOWITZ

IRVING FLETCHER

BRONYA PRESAIZEN, MOTHER OF ELLA BERGER

DR. MORRIS P. SHAPIRO, FATHER OF SARIT HAND

RICHARD GLADSTEIN, FATHER OF EMILY ROSEN

MAY THE LORD CONSOLE AND SUSTAIN YOU,  
TOGETHER WITH ALL THE MOURNERS FOR ZION AND JERUSALEM.



## RABBINIC REFLECTIONS

### Rabbi Rachel Salston

Hag sameah! Spending the High Holidays over Zoom and outside in beautiful Fair Lawn has been such a joy for me! Thank you to everyone who helped make our programming on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur such a success.

We are now beginning one of the best (if not THE best) week of the entire Jewish year. It's time for Sukkot! Over this week we will have many opportunities to celebrate.

As I have shared with you over these past two months that FLJC/CBI has been my home, the spirit and joy of my holiday comes from the preparation that I put into it. Cooking beautiful holiday food, and preparing my needs for Shabbat and holiday services (even the seemingly-mundane act of printing out my service outlines and Divrei Torah, and putting them in a special folder on Friday afternoon, is an act which I perform with kavanah, spiritual intention) are rituals that are just as important to me as those that we perform in the physical or Zoom synagogue. And, second only to Pesach, Sukkot has the most preparation of the home of any Jewish holiday.

As with every other experience these past seven months, I have had to adapt my Jewish observances to the realities of COVID-19. Instead of sorting through boxes of etrogim to find the most beautiful one in my eyes (the mitzvah in the Torah is that we must take Pri Etz Hadar, understood by our Rabbis as the etrog, the citron fruit, but literally meaning "the fruit of the beautiful tree") I had to take what I was given. I built my brand-new sukkah on my small patio, but I know that it will only be inhabited by myself and my immediate family.

On Simchat Torah our celebrations will be greatly altered. I miss the experience of dancing with the Torah, grabbing the hand of the person next to me (as long as they consent to dance) without worrying about exposure to the virus. We've had to make a lot of adaptations this season. We have come to learn this year that every practice

and institution that we are accustomed to we have had to adapt. Nothing is certain, and nothing is permanent..

The primary lesson of Sukkot, on which we build and live in temporary and not-fully-sturdy rooms outside of our houses, is that our existence changes at a moment's notice. You all may remember that in the wind storms of last Sukkot our Sukkah at FLJC/CBI collapsed. At the same time, farther south in New Jersey, a tree fell on my family's home while my father was inside. The sukkah remained standing. No one was injured, and all of the repairs were made quickly, but my family was left with a feeling of uncertainty that caused gratitude for our fortune of safety.

A Mishnah in Tractate Sukkah teaches us the following basic precept of the holiday: "All seven days [of the festival] a person must make the sukkah her permanent residence, and her house her temporary residence. If rain fell, when may one be permitted to leave it? When the porridge becomes spoiled." On Sukkot we don't just go into our temporary Sukkot, we flip our consciousness for the week. Our Sukkah is our home for the week, and the (hopefully) solidly-built becomes a secondary residence. We stick it out in the rain until it destroys our enjoyment of the holiday, literally when the rain falls in the food and it can no longer be enjoyed.

So, I wish you all a very joyous holiday of impermanence. I know that many of our community will not have access to a Sukkah because we will not have one on site. I do encourage us all to meditate on how quickly things change and are impermanent, and how grateful we are and must be that we have backup plans for when the rain falls. This pandemic is the rain in the sukkah; we must continue to enjoy our holiday in adapted ways, at home. May you have a safe, healthy, impermanent, and joyous Sukkot.

Hag sameah!



## A Message from Abe Adler, Executive Director

Our community just went through an amazing experience! Were you there? I hope you didn't miss it!

I am referring to the beautiful and inspiring High Holiday Services we shared "virtually". Our community persevered through the challenges of Zoom and was spiritually uplifted. The virtual services brought the congregation closer together despite being physically apart. This feat required planning and coordination by many people and the faith of our membership that prayers conducted this way would be both meaningful and inspiring. A great many details were involved, many moving parts came together and many people gave of their time and talents towards this success.

Just as inspiring to myself and the Center leadership was the positive feedback we received from many members and participants. It was heartwarming and touching to hear from so many in the community how much they appreciated this year's services, despite being delivered online. All feedback is important for the community to give and for us to receive and internalize. The face to face (or mask to mask!) comments, phone calls and emails expressing appreciation for this year's services and telling us how well they went were welcome, encouraging and energizing for the leadership and for the office to hear. Thank you very much for letting us know!

The Succot festival, followed by Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah presents another invitation for us to spend time with the Master of the Universe. Following the more solemn days of Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur, Hashem desires to continue the relationship with us and spend time with the community. Furthermore, despite the ongoing pandemic, Hashem commands us to be joyous:

***"You shall make the festival of Sukkot for a seven-day period, when you gather in from your threshing floor and from your wine cellar. You shall rejoice on your festival...A seven-day period shall you celebrate to Hashem, your G-d...for Hashem will have blessed you in all your crop and in all your handiwork, and you will be completely [or, exclusively] joyous (ach sameach)." (Deuteronomy: 16, 13-15)***

It is a central Jewish concept that regardless of how dire events around us may be, despite whatever struggles G-d forbid we may personally be going through, G-d still expects and requires us to put on a happy face and look at everything in a positive light. We must be grateful that we wake up each day, and we should count our blessings and approach our lives with an attitude of satisfaction, contentment and cheer.

Particularly on Succot when we spend time in temporary shelters that give far less protection from the elements than our homes provide, we should reflect on those who are homeless – think of those displaced by California wildfires and gulf-state hurricanes and flooding – and both give thanks that we are relatively safe and make it a priority to donate in any way possible to help those who are struggling.

We – the families of FLJC/CBI – are a strong and vibrant community. We know how to come together, to pray together and to help one another. We know how to support each other in tough times and to celebrate happy occasions together. We should always be joyful together – Ach Sameach- for the many things we enjoy, for all Hashem provides us and for all that we have accomplished and will continue to accomplish together.

Stay strong. Stay safe. Stay in touch.

Chag Sameach!

## PRESIDENTIAL PONDERING

### Jeffrey Herrmann



Miranda: O brave new world  
That has such people in't!  
Prospero: 'Tis new to thee.  
The Tempest

October is a time of beginnings and endings. Following the age-old custom, on Simchat Torah (October 11<sup>th</sup>) we will complete our reading of the Torah and immediately return to the BEGINNING. However, as I shall explain below, I believe this year the parsha Noah is the better choice to reflect upon beginnings and endings.

Noah has always had a special personal meaning to me. Sometime after my father was liberated, he asked a Rabbi when he should observe the yahrzeit of his parents. Although my father knew that his parents had died in a concentration camp, he had no knowledge of the date of their death. The Rabbi explained that it would be appropriate to observe a yahrzeit when Noah was read, because it was a story of the destruction of a world of evil, and the rebirth of a new world.

The themes of destruction and rebirth certainly resonate with all of us today. While our old world may not have been destroyed, the plague of Covid-19 has altered it in fundamental ways. The restrictions on travel and attending shul (not to mention baseball games) creates a sort of claustrophobia no doubt felt by Noah within the ark. Like Noah, we have no sense of when this will all end, and when we can leave our arks. Further, while we recognize that things will be different, we can only guess what the post-plague world will look like.

The immediate task before us is to make the best of our circumstances to the extent possible.

Here at the Center, with the assistance of many, we have embarked on an ambitious schedule of activities. Now, without leaving the comfort of your home or getting dressed up, you can attend services, both the daily minyanim as well as the full Shabbat and holiday services.

Our Programming Committee is taking advantage of these unique circumstances to provide Zoom meetings that appeal to a wide range of interests, and the Sisterhood and MPC are following suit.

In time, we will be able to emerge from our arks. It will be a time when we will better appreciate so many things in life that we had heretofore taken for granted. It will also be a time that we renew our common bonds with each other, and simple handshakes and hugs will take on greater meaning. Of course the greater task is for all of us to be part of the building of a new and better world once the plague recedes.

Together with all of you, I look forward to seeing a rainbow, knowing that Hashem has given us another chance.

All the best,

*Jeffrey W. Herrmann*

**70th ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
FLJC/CBI  
Past, Present and Future**

**Though our dinner is delayed,  
we ask for your help now  
to share the names and contact  
information of friends and alumni of the  
FLJC by emailing us at [info@fljc.com](mailto:info@fljc.com)**

FLJC/CBI friends and alumni can include, but are not limited to, those married or who had an aufruf, celebrated their bar/bat mitzvahs at the FLJC/CBI, Nursery or Religious School graduates, sports team alumni, congregants who may have been or are no longer members, adult children who grew up in the congregation, past Board members, leadership installations, Menschen of the Year, photos/videos of past bbq's, carnivals, Israel parades, Yom HaShoah programs, dedications of building additions, expansions/renovations, and more.

For those on Facebook, please join and invite your friends to the FLJC/CBI Alumni Group by going to [https://www.facebook.com/groups/904718576632567/?ref=group\\_header](https://www.facebook.com/groups/904718576632567/?ref=group_header).

Feel free to share your memories, pictures and anecdotes on the group page, or reach out to the Alumni Committee members:

Ann Golick 201-475-5629  
[abgolick1@gmail.com](mailto:abgolick1@gmail.com)

Fran Kessler 201-848-6845  
[fkess@optonline.net](mailto:fkess@optonline.net)

**FAMILY MATTERS**

**WISHING A REFUAH SH'LEMAH TO:**

Marcella Kaplan, Ruth Kahn, Arie Greenbaum, Jack Miller, Esther Oster, Judith Shain-Alvaro, Rose Lieberman, Flora Frank, Larry Mandel, Gail Rottenstrich, Judith Levy, Michael Siegel, Michael Vorobyov

**BRUCHIM HA'BAIM**

We welcome our new members, **Jack & Sheila Granowitz** and **Deborah Kleinman**!

**MAZEL TOV**

Mazel Tov to **Neil Garfinkle**, our Mensch of the Year!

**MAY YOU BE COMFORTED**

We regret to advise you of the passing of our long-time member, **Suzanne Moskowitz**.

Our condolences to Daniel and Kenneth Fletcher on the passing of their father, our long-time member, **Irving Fletcher**.

Our condolences to **Ella Berger** on the loss of her mother, Bronya Presaizen.

Condolences to **Sarit and Austin Hand** on the passing of Sarit's father, Dr. Morris P. Shapiro.

Condolences to **Emily Rosen** on the passing of her father, Richard Gladstein

**JEWISH ETHICS NOW**

**Tuesdays 11:30 AM -12:30 PM  
Tuesdays 8:00 - 9:00 PM**

Rabbi Roth brings Jewish sources  
to illuminate these issues  
and to stimulate discussion.

Upcoming Schedule of Virtual Classes:

October 13, 20, 27

Zoom Meeting ID: 993 3007 5757  
Password: 077431  
Audio only: 929 436-2866



## **INTRODUCING OUR MENSCH OF THE YEAR NEIL GARFINKLE**

Neil's family moved to Fair Lawn, New Jersey from The Bronx, New York in 1976, when he was in first grade. He attended Radburn Elementary School, Memorial Middle School, and graduated from Fair Lawn High School in 1988, where he was voted "Most Talkative." Neil went on to earn a Bachelor's Degree from Ramapo College and a Master's Degree from The City College of New York.

He met his wife Christina on a blind date in 1998, proposed in 1999, married in 2000, and Maxwell came along in 2001. Today they have two beautiful children: Maxwell, a sophomore at The University of Maryland, and Benjamin, a junior at Fair Lawn High School.

Neil is in his 26<sup>th</sup> year of teaching freshman history at George Washington High School in Washington Heights, New York. During the summer of 1999, he participated in a life-changing teachers' trip to study the Holocaust in Poland and Israel. The trip was led by Holocaust survivor and Partisan Vladka Meed, who became a mentor and a lifetime inspiration as he continues to study the Holocaust today.

In 2014, Neil was selected to participate in The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Teacher Fellowship Program, and In 2015, sixteen years after he participated as a young teacher in the Holocaust and Jewish Resistance Teachers' Program, he was asked to lead the trip – a dream come true!

This year, Neil was selected to attend the Conference of Holocaust Education Centers (CHEC) at the United States Holocaust Museum. This conference pairs museum fellows with Holocaust museum directors from across the country to write new curriculum.

Neil is an active member of the community. Coaching Maxwell and Benjamin to back-to-back championship basketball games in 2015 and 2016, his teams won one, and lost one! He also recognizes the importance of bringing the lessons of the Holocaust to our community. Last October, he spoke at both of Fair Lawn's middle schools to raise awareness after swastikas were found in each school. For the last eight years, he has taught a Holocaust class to students in the Fair Lawn Jewish Center Religious School. In 2017 he was the Educational Director of a trip that led Fair Lawn Jewish Center teens and other teens from the community on a day trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

In December 2019 Neil was asked to become a member of the Fair Lawn Community Relations Advisory Committee, where he remains an active member of the group.

The Garfinkle family have been Center members since 2008. In 2009 Neil joined the Board of the Men's Progress Club as the recording secretary, and still serves on the board today. He also sits on the Center's Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, and on our recently-merged Hebrew school board. Last year, Neil served as Interim/Acting "Princi-Pal" of the Fair Lawn Jewish Center Religious School, and is currently serving as our Vice-President, and Secretary.

He thanks his fellow congregants for this honor, and is deeply honored.

## **RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE Steven Montag and Charles Cohen**

### **ZOOM SERVICES IN THE SUCCAH**

The High Holidays hosted over Zoom provided a new and most-different experience for all of us. Still, hopefully you all felt moved by the voices you heard from each of the many participants, especially our Rabbi Salston and High Holiday Cantor Yucht, along with the Shofar blown around the town.

Please remember to return the Mahzors you received back to the Center as soon as possible.

We persevere and move on to continue the holiday season with building a Succah at home, and spending time with our family under the stars. Our efforts will be to maintain our community connection by providing a Zoom Succah-hopping experience throughout Sukkot, October 2 - 9. Please let the Rabbi and me know if you will have a Succah, and would like to share an evening with your neighbors via Zoom.

Following Sukkot, we will have our Shabbat Shemini Atzeret Zoom Service and Yizkor on Saturday, October 10, and Simchat Torah on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Keep a lookout for emails with details for these holiday activities.

We will also be continuing our parking lot minyans as much as possible, to promote the in-person, yet socially distanced, experience. All volunteers are welcome for Zoom service and in-person participation and support.

We announce the new month of Heshvan on October 17. Heshvan is the only month without a Jewish holiday, yet some significant events did occur in this month. The start and end of the great flood in the days of Noah occurred this month, as well as the yahrzeit of the fourth Matriarch, Rachel. This is the time to take the inspiration and all that we gained in the month of Tishrei, and integrate it into our daily lives for the rest of the year.

A reminder that the Rabbinical Assembly has available for purchase via their web site bookstore, <https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/>, all of our currently-used Siddurim, including the daily Sim Shalom, Sim Shalom for Shabbat and Festivals, and the Etz Hayim Torah. If you desire to own copies of these, instead of using the pdfs provided in our Insider email each week, you may purchase them directly from this website. If you have any questions regarding the prayer books, please contact me at [srdcmon-tag@gmail.com](mailto:srdcmon-tag@gmail.com).

Stay safe, and be well.

### **ZOOM OPEN DISCUSSION**

**Hol Hamo'ed Sukkot, Monday, October 5  
11:00 AM - 12:00 Noon**

#### **Topic:**

#### **Torah " Responsibilities & Rights"**

We have 613 Mitzvot to observe:  
248 Positive, and 365 Negative

- "Don't" is one of the favorite words in the Jewish lexicon
- Are these MITZVOT responsibilities that MUST always be observed?
- Does the Torah guarantee us any RIGHTS?
- Like the TJ/DOI Right to "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness"?
- What about some of these perks?
  - \*Loan Forgiveness
  - \*Military Deferrals
  - \*Self-Serve Food Banks
  - \*Free Lunch
  - \*Interest-free Loans
  - \*Golden parachutes

Join us in the Zoom class for a free-wheeling discussion of selected Jewish obligations and possible entitlements . . . pros and cons.

Moderator: Charles Cohen  
Chag Sameach



## SUKKOT

Sukkot begins two weeks after Rosh Hashanah, from 15-22 Tishrei. Historically, Sukkot represents Israel's forty-year journey through the wilderness after the exodus from Egypt, during which the people lived in temporary booths (sukkot). Agriculturally, Sukkot celebrates the final gathering of the year's fruits and produce.

Sukkot is known as *Z'man Simchatenu*, the Season of our Joy, or simply *He-Chag*, The Holiday. It represents the completion of the period of introspection and penitence of the High Holy Days. Yizkor is recited, and we plead for rain.

Preparation for Sukkot begins immediately after Yom Kippur, with the building of the sukkah, a temporary dwelling, a *dirat ara'iy*. Its outstanding characteristic is its roof, which is covered with leaves and branches, called *s'chach*, sparsely laid, to allow the stars to shine through. Fruits and vegetables are hung from the roof, and decorations adorn the walls, to make the sukkah attractive. The family eats in the sukkah during the festival, and, if weather permits, may even sleep there. During Sukkot we are meant to dwell in the sukkah.

A basic mitzvah of Sukkot is the acquisition of a lulav and etrog. This consists of branches of palm trees (the lulav), two willow branches (aravot), and three myrtle branches (hadasim), plus the etrog (a citron) - the Four Species.

Special blessings are recited over the Four Species. Before the blessings the pitom of the etrog should point downward, and be reversed after the blessing. On each day (except Shabbat) Hoshanot, prayers of supplication, are recited while circling the synagogue (hakafot), waving the lulav and etrog, in commemoration of the procession around the altar in the Temple Court.

The seventh day of Sukkot is Hashanah Rabah -- the Great Hosanna. Seven circuits are made around the synagogue carrying a bunch of aravot (willows) as well as the lulav, reciting Hoshanot, special prayers beginning with Hoshana (help, we pray). On this day the gates of judgment finally close. After the last circuit the willows are beaten off their stems -- a final beating off of our sins, and a hope for rain.

The eighth day, Sh'mini Atzeret, is a holiday in itself. It is primarily marked by the recitation of Tefillat Geshem, the prayer for rain in Israel, and the reading of the Scroll of Ecclesiastes. Yizkor is recited for the departed.

Sukkot begins the evening of October 2, and lasts through October 10 this year.

The next day is Simchat Torah.



## SIMCHAT TORAH

Simchat Torah is the most joyous holiday of the year. It marks the annual completion and recommencement of the reading of the Torah.

Simchat Torah, the Rejoicing with the Torah, is associated with Sukkot, but is an independent holiday, falling the day after Sukkot.

The Maariv service is often done with humor and joy.

After the Amidah, various verses beginning with Atah Hareita are recited by honored members of the congregation, and are repeated by the whole congregation.

All the Torah scrolls are then taken out of the Ark, and are carried around the synagogue in a series of seven processions, *hakafot*, accompanied by singing, with children (and adults) carrying Simchat Torah flags with candles and apples.

All the Torahs but one are then returned to the Ark. The last section of Deuteronomy is read from the remaining Torah. This is the only time the Torah is read in the synagogue at night.

The following morning the hakafot are repeated. After the hakafot, three Torahs are left out of the Ark. The last portion of the Torah, Deuteronomy 33-34, is read from the first scroll. Everyone is called up for an aliyah. The fifth aliyah is reserved for all the children - Kol HaNearim. A large tallit is held over their heads as they recite the blessings over the Torah.

The person called for the last aliyah is called Chatan Torah, the Bridegroom of the Torah. The second Torah now replaces the first, and Genesis 1:1-2:3 is read by Chatan Braishit,

the Bridegroom of the Beginning. From the third scroll Numbers 29:35-30:4 is read.

Finally, Joshua is read as the Haftorah, to indicate the continuity of the people and the leadership following the death of Moses.

Simchat Torah, which falls on 23 Tishrei (October 11 this year), is the last holiday of the year until Chanukah.



## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

### Michael Baer and Mark Meisel

As we entered the New Year, and as we begin Sukkot, the Social Action Committee wants to thank you for your support of a number of programs we have run in the past few weeks, and want to highlight a few new programs coming up.

We deeply appreciate your support of the Fair Lawn Volunteer Ambulance Corps. Your donations provided meals from local food establishments for these first responders. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you also for your generous contributions to our **High Holiday Collection Fundraiser** for local charities helping those in need within our community. We will donate the monies raised to the Fair Lawn Food Pantry, Jewish Family and Children Services of Northern New Jersey, and the Center For Food Action.

These three local charities help the many people in our towns and communities in our area in need through several programs. Some of these programs include food pantries, Kosher Meals on Wheels, Snack Packs for food-insecure school children, programs for Holocaust survivors, mental health counseling, and homelessness prevention. They help families who are dealing with food insecurity, rent, utility bills, and mental health counseling. Thank you for your donations and support.

We also appreciate your support of Flowers by J-ADD, where your purchase of flowers helps provide a meaningful productive job to a person with a developmental disability, and you receive beautiful flowers at your holiday table.

The Center for Hope and Safety is an organization that shelters women and children from domestic abuse. Thank you for your ongoing contributions, Social Action periodically providing dinners and desserts to the shelter with your generous help.

In December, Sisterhood and Social Action will provide another dinner to people in need, and will reach out for your help. This program is organized by Family Promise, and every day of the year their network of congregations, businesses and civic organizations prepares and serves a nutritious

meal for approximately 130 people at the Bergen County Housing, Health and Human Services Center in Hackensack.

Social Action is also supporting the Community Relations Advisory Committee, a group established a number of months ago by the Fair Lawn Borough Council, and their recent racial equality program. They are encouraging all the residents of Fair Lawn and other towns in our area to read the book "**So You Want to Talk About Race**" by Ijeoma Oluo. They plan to announce the program over the coming weeks, and include discussion groups and a final community event with a distinguished speaker. Members of the Social Action committee will read the book and join them in their discussions. The Community Relations Advisory Committee is also discussing some concrete actions we all can take to combat racism in our communities.

We will have several additional Social Action programs coming up. Please watch for our announcements.

In late fall or early winter we will hold another Fundraiser for our local charities helping families in need, to help those in our community during these very difficult times. Please watch for these announcements also.

Thank you once again for your generous support of these programs.

*Michael Baer and Mark Meisel*

## **WE'RE CELEBRATING SIMCHAT TORAH IN TWO WAYS**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7th 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
***AN AMERICAN PICKLE***

A tale of a guy who falls in a pickle vat and gets brined for 100 years, and wakes up in modern-day New York. This new comedy-drama, available on HBO Max, stars comic actor Seth Rogen in a dual role as Hershel Greenbaum, a Jewish immigrant working in a pickle factory in Brooklyn in 1919, who falls into a pickle vat and is preserved in brine for 100 years. Hershel then comes back to life and encounters his great-grandson, Ben Greenbaum, also played by Seth Rogen, who is an aspiring App Inventor. The rest of the story involves their travails as they interact and embark on some adventures.

Rabbi Salston will review and offer commentary on the movie; Charlie Cohen will introduce and moderate the discussion. Please join us to discuss some of the many Jewish thought-provoking and generational Jewish themes in the movie

### **5781 SIMCHAT TORAH ZOOM SERVICES** **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11th 9:30 AM**

Please join us for Simchat Torah Services as we honor outstanding members for their great efforts in our behalf:

- Hatanim Torah: Our ZOOM Tech Coordinators
- Evan Marcus, Steven Montag, Seth Seigel-Laddy
- Hatanim / Kallot Bereshit: All Rabbinic Search Committee Members, Jeffrey Herrmann, Chair
- Hatanim / Kallah Maftir: Our ZOOM Ritual Leaders for Shabbat and Weekdays

We want to honor these members for their very skillful efforts, dedication and devotion to our synagogue in maintaining excellent ZOOM Services on Shabbat and weekday evenings during the Covid 19 shutdown.

All Search Committee members and Ritual Leaders will be acknowledged by name.

Please make every effort to attend and help us recognize these outstanding volunteers.

## **New Year's Greetings** **from Sisterhood**

Sima, Stuart, Miranda and Adam Alper

The Ayes Family

Shelly & Steve Baltin

Anne BenLisa

Ida Borer

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Lisa Urbanski

The Wallen Family

Freida & Bob Wallstein

Fran & Sig Westerman



## SISTERHOOD Jennifer Mendelsohn

On behalf of all of our amazing members of the Board of the Sisterhood, I would like to wish you and your loved ones a very healthy, happy, sweet and safe New Year! Thank you Rabbi Salston and all of the members of the Fair Lawn Jewish Center/CBI who participated in this year's Zoom High Holiday services. I know I speak for many when I say that your participation and beautiful ruach really made the High Holidays feel quite special and inclusive for all of us, even if we were a distance away from one another. In this new year, our Sisterhood wants to involve all the women of the FLJC/CBI in our programming. I urge you, if you have not already done so, to join this beautiful, vibrant, active group of women. The coming months, like the previous ones, offer a great variety of virtual events, filled with engaging, fun and innovative activities. I am certain there are loads of events, which YOU will find appealing! If you have not already done so, please send in your Sisterhood dues for 2020-2021. We look forward to "seeing" you soon!

**10/7 from 6:30-8pm: Join us over Zoom for Sushi in the Sukkah!** Indulge in a sushi meal, either from your own Sukkah or inside your home. Enjoy your meal together with your sisters while also engaging in some light socializing and learning some interesting Torah tidbits from Rabbi Salston and our Adult Education VP, Tzivya Kraus.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83757656068?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83757656068?pwd=a3dkMGtJRWI4bURwRU9NdjJlMnE4dz09)

[pwd=a3dkMGtJRWI4bURwRU9NdjJlMnE4dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83757656068?pwd=a3dkMGtJRWI4bURwRU9NdjJlMnE4dz09)

Meeting ID: 837 5765 6068

Passcode: Sukkah

One tap mobile

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+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

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Meeting ID: 837 5765 6068

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kbzFPqggX>

**10/15 from 8-9pm- Community Read Event-** Glen Rock, Fair Lawn, and Ridgewood communities are teaming up to address racial disparities in the three communities through literature. The communities have selected the book entitled, "So You Want To Talk About Race" by Ijeoma Oluo. Our Sisterhood, along with the Social Action Committee, is hosting a guided discussion led by Gail Rottenstreich and Tammy Smith, LCSW. Rabbi Roth and Rabbi Salston will also be participating in the discussion. Join us for what promises to be an interesting and very important conversation, especially during these current times.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81895915903?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81895915903?pwd=NDR0a1NBbTduS1pHME5KQkk2SzN5dz09)

[pwd=NDR0a1NBbTduS1pHME5KQkk2SzN5dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81895915903?pwd=NDR0a1NBbTduS1pHME5KQkk2SzN5dz09)

Meeting ID: 818 9591 5903

Passcode: Unity

One tap mobile

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+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 818 9591 5903

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kd3xZD4Rb8>

**10/17 at 9:30am -Pink Shabbat-** Please join the Sisterhood, in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month for our Pink Shabbat Zoom service. We are partnering with Sharsheret, an organization supporting Jewish woman and their families facing breast or ovarian cancer. We invite any synagogue member who is a survivor, or son or daughter of a survivor, of breast or ovarian cancer to participate in the service with a prayer or English reading. A speaker from our own community will represent Sharsheret. Please contact Ilene Laufer at [RFlanzman@aol.com](mailto:RFlanzman@aol.com) or 201-693-1477 if you want to be a part of this special service.

**10/18- B'reishit Hike-** Come join our Sisterhood for a socially distanced hike at a location TBA. More details to follow!

**10/25 at 10am-Book club #1 (virtual)- Join us for our first book club of the year. Sima Alper will be moderating a discussion on "The Book of V", by Anna Solomon.**

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81464061823?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81464061823?pwd=V1JRRUlyZjRRcW1JQ1lzcVdXZW81UT09)

[pwd=V1JRRUlyZjRRcW1JQ1lzcVdXZW81UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81464061823?pwd=V1JRRUlyZjRRcW1JQ1lzcVdXZW81UT09)

Meeting ID: 814 6406 1823

Passcode: ReadwithUs

One tap mobile

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+13017158592,,81464061823# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 814 6406 1823

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/k1LYtXeD>

We always welcome your feedback and any recommendations and ideas that you may have regarding our Sisterhood. Please reach out to us by emailing [FLJCCBISisterhood@gmail.com](mailto:FLJCCBISisterhood@gmail.com).

May the bounties of Sukkot bind you and your families in a warm nest of togetherness and love! Chag Sukkot Sameach!

B'shalom,

Jen

# Join the FLJC/CBI Sisterhood for Sushi in *your* Sukkah\*

**Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:30 pm**



Open to all FLJC/CBI and Sisterhood Members

- ❖ Come hear words of Torah and interesting tidbits from Rabbi Salston and Tzivya Kraus
- ❖ Shmooze with friends

**See you on Zoom!**  
**Meeting ID: 837 5765 6068**  
**Password: Sukkah**

**Order your Sushi**  
**from Mashu Mashu**  
**[www.MashuMashuSushi.com](http://www.MashuMashuSushi.com)**  
**201-254-9522**  
**22-22 Morlot Avenue Fair Lawn**



**Mention FLJC/CBI when ordering**  
**Our Sisterhood will receive**  
**a 10% donation on \$25+ orders!**

\*Neither Sushi nor a Sukkah is required for this at-your-own-home event.



# Join the Sisterhood for Pink Shabbat



in honor of Breast Cancer  
Awareness Month



Saturday October 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 AM

Zoom Service

We are partnering with Sharsheret, an organization supporting young Jewish woman and their families facing breast cancer by creating a connection with networks of peers, health professionals and related resources



Our **Pink Shabbat** is designed to educate woman and men about the increased risk of hereditary breast and ovarian cancer among Jewish families.

**We invite any synagogue member who is a survivor or son/daughter of a survivor of breast or ovarian cancer to have an honor during the service.**

Please contact Ilene Laufer at [RFlanzman@aol.com](mailto:RFlanzman@aol.com) if you would like to participate in the service.





## MEN'S PROGRESS CLUB

Hello MPC Members and prospective members,

Welcome to the beginning of a great program year!! We hope you had a great summer, and welcome you back with open arms. As a member of the Men's Progress Club (MPC), you represent the shoulders of the Fair Lawn Jewish Center Congregation Bnai Israel. The MPC has been an active club for more than 75 years at the FLJC/CBI.

On Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM we will be hosting the Paid Up Membership Breakfast with Dan Rosen, NHL Senior Sports Writer. You will enjoy an interactive discussion about everything related to hockey! You will have an opportunity to ask questions about players, teams, arenas, and the Stanley Cup, among other topics! Dan has been a writer for the NHL for a number of years, and you have probably seen his columns on NHL.com.

As a member of the Men's Progress Club you will enjoy the mitzvah of helping the Fair Lawn Jewish Center and the wider community through your dues and donations. Last year we contributed thousands of dollars to our synagogue and other Jewish charities.

Please take a moment to send the membership application on the adjoining column with the appropriate dues payment. Whether you are a new member or a returning one, we appreciate your support and participation.

If you have any questions about the Men's Progress Club, please call:  
Bob Sokol, President at 201-927-8304 or  
David Gotlib, Vice President - Membership at 551-795-2710

Thank you very much.

**Please complete this form  
Return with your dues payment to:  
MPC  
10-10 Norma Ave.  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410**

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_:

**By providing your email address you help us reduce costs, and make it easier for us to correspond with you.**

Please select your Membership Level.  
New FLJC/CBI members since 1/1/2020 get free basic membership.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Malach (Angel):** Big Macher benefits, plus name listed on a special plaque: \$75 or more

\_\_\_\_\_ **Big Macher:** Macher benefits plus a free guest at most MPC-run events during the year: \$55

\_\_\_\_\_ **Macher:** Member benefits plus your name added to the MPC letterhead: \$40

\_\_\_\_\_ **Member:** Access to every MPC event, and free entry into most MPC programs: \$30

**Men's Progress Club**  
**Sunday Morning Breakfast Series Presents**

**Sunday, November 1st, 2020 10:00 A.M.**



**Daniel Rosen, Senior Writer**  
**for the National Hockey League (NHL)**

Dan Rosen works at the National Hockey League and is the senior writer for NHL.com, the League's official website. Dan has been working at the NHL since October 2007. He recently completed covering his 13th Stanley Cup Playoffs with the NHL, but first one done all at home because, well, it's a pandemic. Prior to working at the NHL, Dan spent more than six years covering high school sports and the NHL for The Record (Bergen County, N.J.).

**RSVP preferred by October 31st**

**Contact David Gotlib 201-796-3670**

**Zoom connection information for the MPC Breakfast  
will be shared when you RSVP!**

The Fair Lawn Jewish Center/Congregation B'nai Israel  
presents *New York Times* best-selling  
author Kristin Harmel to highlight her latest work,  
***The Book of Lost Names.***

Sunday morning, November 15, 2020 at 11:00 am via Zoom.



Kristin Harmel is the *New York Times* best-selling author of a dozen novels including *The Book of Lost Names*, *The Winemaker's Wife*, *The Room on Rue Amélie*, and *The Sweetness of Forgetting*. Her work has been featured in *People*, *Woman's Day*, *Men's Health*, and *Ladies' Home Journal*, among many other media outlets. She lives in Orlando, Florida.



Books are available to purchase on  
Amazon.com

Secure the Zoom link and for  
questions: [programming@fljc.com](mailto:programming@fljc.com)  
Donations would be greatly  
appreciated:  
FLJC/CBI Programming Committee  
10-10 Norma Avenue  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

fair lawn jewish center  
CONGREGATION BNAI ISRAEL



Shalom Friends,

After a tremendous amount of work by the two sponsoring congregations, the Fair Lawn Jewish Center and the Jewish Community Center of Paramus, the school has opened its doors, virtually!

Opening Day was celebrated by a drive-through Meet and Greet, complete with a seasonal shofar blowing! The kids and parents got to see the teachers, the Rabbis and members of the CHSBC Board of Education, and what a wonderful reception it was. Each family received a bag of treats for the holiday, and some educational materials too. Tuesday classes have begun on ZOOM, and so far the kids and teachers tell me it is going just fine! Coming up next on the calendar is a SUKKOT event. Families are invited to sign up for a family dinner in the JCCP/CBT Sukkah, socially distanced and masked when not actually eating! This will be the first time for families to meet each other in person, at a safe distance! The families will each enjoy dinner at their own tables (outside restaurant dining rules adhered to). Each family will have its own lulav and etrog to shake. The families will participate in the two main mitzvot of Sukkot, eating in a sukkah and shaking the lulav, and will be able to say a shehecheyanu too! So excited for this event.

Our regular classes will continue after the holidays on Sundays and Tuesdays, via zoom for all grades. We will watch what happens in the public schools to determine when we can open in person. Interesting times, but our goal is to offer a wonderful Jewish education while remaining safe.

Wishing you all a Chag Sameach!

## CHESHVAN - A Bitter Month



In the Torah the month of Cheshvan is known as Bul. The name Cheshvan comes from ancient Akkadian, where it was pronounced *Varach Shamnu*, meaning Eighth Month. The name *Cheshvan* came to Israel with the returnees from Babylonian exile. However, the ancient Akkadian *Varach Shamnu* is closer to Mar-Cheshvan, another name by which we call this month. "Mar" in Hebrew means "bitter," and several bitter happenings occurred during this month.

God sought retribution on Noah's generation, and sent the Flood to destroy the world during Cheshvan. (The Flood also ended in Cheshvan – on 27 Cheshvan - with the exit from the Ark.) Our Matriarch Rachel died on 11 Cheshvan, on the road near Bethlehem, where she is buried.

On 5 Cheshvan the Chaldeans slaughtered the sons of King Tzidkiyahu in his presence, blinding him and putting him in chains before bringing him to Babylonia.

And on 15 Cheshvan, Yeravam declared a new festival, and aroused Divine wrath against Israel. Mar-Cheshvan is the only month that has no holiday except for Rosh Chodesh, which used to be celebrated as a minor festival. But there really should have been a full festival in Cheshvan. Tradition holds that, from the time of the Flood until the Temple was dedicated by King Solomon, the people lived in fear from the seventeenth Mar-Cheshvan until the twenty-seventh of Kislev, the forty days of the Flood. King Solomon completed the seven-year construction of the Temple in Cheshvan, and awaited God's command to dedicate it. The Temple stood locked for 12 months, until Solomon was finally commanded to celebrate the dedication during the month of Tishrei. And once the Temple was completed, the people's fear of another Flood abated.

There is also a less bitter reason for calling the month Mar-Cheshvan. The word "mar" also refers to a drop of water, and there are usually bountiful rains during Cheshvan, following the prayer for rain (*Geshem*) which we recite on *Sh'mini Atzeret*. Cheshvan sometimes has 29 days, and sometimes 30. In order that neither Rosh Hashanah nor Yom Kippur should begin on Friday or Sunday, an extra day is added to the month, so that Rosh Chodesh is two days, and the month is known as *sh'lemah* (perfect).



## THE GENEROUS HEART WILL BE FULFILLED

### September 2020 Donations

#### GENERAL FUND

##### Ed Greenberg

In memory on the loss of your mother Bernice  
Irma and Steve Newdorf

##### The Fair Lawn Jewish Center

In appreciation for your online Shabbat services.  
Gladys and Herb Laden

##### The Fair Lawn Jewish Center

Just a small token of appreciation for providing us with a wonderful Saturday morning Zoom Service  
Janice & Jerry Rosen

##### Ken Fletcher

In memory of your father Irving Fletcher, from his family at Quarterhouse  
Joshua Simon

##### Sheryl Lauchheimer

In memory of the loss of your brother Bruce Sklar  
Stacey & Ritch Rosen

##### Sheryl Lauchheimer

In memory of the loss of your brother Bruce Sklar  
Bena Weil

##### Phyllis Mirchin

Mazel tov on your new great-grandson and great-granddaughter  
Fran and Sig Westerman

##### The Moskowitz Family

In memory of Suzanne Moskowitz  
Naomi Jacoby Cohn

##### The Moskowitz Family

In memory of the loss of your mother, Suzanne  
Phyllis Mirchin

##### Don Moskowitz & Rabbi Hannah Orden

In memory of Suzanne Moskowitz  
Joan Glass Morgan

##### Don Moskowitz

In memory of the loss of Suzanne Moskowitz  
Freida and Bob Wallstein

##### Don Moskowitz

In loving memory of your mother and our long-time friendship with Suzanne  
Fran and Sig Westerman

##### Roger Moskowitz

In memory of the loss of Suzanne Moskowitz  
Freida and Bob Wallstein

##### Joel Newman

Mazel tov on your birthday.  
Be well  
Tamar and Jack Joffe

##### Rabbi and Rhonda Roth

Mazel tov on Gabe's marriage to Marina  
Ellen and David Teitelbaum

##### Rabbi Rachel Salston

Welcome to the Fair Lawn Jewish Center and wishing you a Shanah Tova  
Shelley and Steve Baltin

##### Mary Smart

In memory of Irving Fletcher  
Jeanne Bodin

##### Mary Smart

In memory of Irving Fletcher  
Barbara Kazdan

##### Bena Weil

In memory of Steven Weil  
Anthony Picheca

##### Bena Weil

In memory of Steve Weil  
Fran & Howard Weizman & Family

##### Fran and Sig Westerman

Mazel tov on your grandson's marriage  
Phyllis Mirchin

#### BUD KESSLER FUND

##### Sheryl Lauchheimer

In memory of your brother  
Bruce Sklar  
Fran Kessler

##### Rabbi Ronald and Rhonda Roth

Mazel tov on the marriage of Gabe and Marina  
Fran Kessler

##### Gail Rottenstrich

Being honored at the Outside Women's Day Celebration. A most deserved recognition  
Fran Kessler

#### RABBI'S TZEDAKAH FUND

##### Dr. and Mrs. Abe Elson

Mazel tov on the birth of your granddaughter Sasha  
Ann and Herb Lefkowitz

##### Ed Greenberg

On the loss of your mother  
Bena Weil

##### Don Moskowitz

In memory of Suzanne Moskowitz  
Ann Golick and Robert Sokol

##### Rabbi Rachel Salston

In honor of becoming a new Rabbi at the FLJC  
Roger O. Goldman and Fern Portnoy

##### Bena Weil

In memory of the loss of your beloved husband Steven  
Ann and Herb Lefkowitz

#### ROBERT LAZEROWITZ FUND (Youth Activities)

##### Ed Greenberg

In memory on the loss of your mother Bernice  
Linda and Jeff Ayes

##### Ed Greenberg

In memory on the loss of your mother Bernice  
Adrienne and Don Peloso

#### THALER FUND

##### (Camp Ramah Scholarship)

##### Carol Lazerowitz

Grateful thanks for all your years of being my *News & Views* advertising maven  
Norma Pollack

##### Carol Lazerowitz

My deepest gratitude for your invaluable work on the *News & Views* advertising  
Norma Pollack

##### Lou and Lisa Mansdorf

In memory of your friend Walter  
Norma and Irv Pollack

##### Steve Montag

Grateful thanks for all your technical knowledge and especially for your patience  
Norma Pollack

#### ELLIE WEINER FUND

##### In honor of David Weiner

Rabbi Ronald Roth

#### YAHREZEIT

##### Naomi Alperstein

Alperstein Family

##### Naomi Alperstein

Alperstein Family

##### Evelyn Baltin

Rochelle & Steve Baltin

##### Norman Berger

Loren Rosenthal

##### Jennie Bern

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Rose Sirota

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<b>Diane Blumberg</b> Randi Blumberg	<b>Rose Frisch</b> <b>Florence Birnbaum</b>	<b>David Karpen</b> Elaine Paris	<b>David Rochman</b> Saul Rochman
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<b>Minnie Campus</b> Susan Moskowitz	<b>The Goldman Family</b> Arlene Goldman	<b>Manny Kessler</b> Saul Rochman	<b>Alexander Schoenberger</b> Olivia Schoenberger and family
<b>Abe Citrin</b> Barry Citrin	<b>Murray Goldstein</b> Louis Weissman	<b>Alex Kirschenbaum</b> Ruth & Harold Kirschenbaum	<b>Larry Schusterman</b> Diane Schusterman Bank
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<b>Eva Crausman</b> Judith Shain-Alvaro	<b>Louis Gootman</b> Susan Baumstein	<b>Max Lazerwitz</b> Miles Lazerwitz	<b>Ida Shefkowitz</b> Gwendolyn Goldenberg
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<b>Rochel Lea Friedlin</b> Ninel Berger Ann and Brian Frisch	<b>Harry Hirsh</b> Carol M. Hirsh	<b>Paul Newdorf</b> Steven and Irma Newdorf	<b>Henry Waldman</b> Michael Waldman
	<b>Karen Hirsh Steitz</b> Carol M. Hirsh	<b>Heinz Pasternak</b> Donna Pasternak & Family	<b>Henry Weiner</b> Jerry Weiner

**Samuel Weiner**

Jerry Weiner

**Bonnie Weingard**

Debbie Honigstock

**Rachel Weiss**

Randi Blumberg

**Louis M. Westerman**

Sigmund Westerman

**Donald Young**

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**YIZKOR**

**Kara Everett**

Judith Schlesinger

**Dawn F. Pronovost**

Judith Schlesinger

**Edna Westerman**

Fran & Sig Westerman

*May their memories be for  
a blessing*

