

NEWS & VIEWS

חדשנות והשקפות

JANUARY 2022 5782 TEVET-SHEVAT

FAIR LAWN JEWISH CENTER / CONG. BNAI ISRAEL
USPS 096-220



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FROM THE EDITOR: WE ARE SEEKING A VOLUNTEER TO BE THE NEWS & VIEWS' ADVERTISING MAVEN. IF THIS IS YOUR FIELD, CONTACT THE FLJC OFFICE AT 201-796-5040.

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ID: 991 2258 1312 CODE: 731712

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SHMOOZE TIME- 9:00 AM
SHABBAT SERVICES – 9:30 AM
IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM
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CANDLELIGHTING

JAN 7TH	4:26 PM
JAN 14TH	4:34 PM
JAN 21ST	4:42 PM
JAN 28TH	4:50 PM

SHABBAT ENDS

	5:31 PM
	5:38 PM
	5:46 PM
	5:54 PM

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RABBI SALSTON'S CLASSES ON ZOOM

Coffee & Commentary for January will be held on WEDNESDAYS
At 11:00 am. Next class will be January 5th

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Next Class is January 4th

Zoom Meeting ID: 993 3007 5757

Password: 077431

נַחֲמוּ נַחֲמוּ עֲמִי

ELAINE SCHKOLNICK, MOTHER OF OUR MEMBER
JOE SCHKOLNICK

TRACI ANN SCHLESINGER, DAUGHTER OF OUR MEMBER
JUDITH SCHLESINGER

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



RABBINIC REFLECTIONS

Rabbi Rachel Salston

I am obsessed with tefillin. It is not entirely appropriate to have a favorite mitzvah. So many are central to my life, but there is something about tefillin that I love. They are a symbol of the journey that I have taken in my Jewish life and they are a constant reminder of my Jewishness. Tefillin are the mitzvah that tie me (I really did not intend that pun) to every other obligation that God has given us (and me in particular). I guess these images: symbol, reminder, and tying are no coincidence; that is exactly what they are supposed to be.

We first receive the mitzvah of Tefillin not as you might guess, in Devarim, in the paragraph we call The Ve'ahavta, but in Shemot, at the very end of Parshat Bo, which we read this year on January 8th. After Paroh finally agrees to let the Hebrews go, we receive the mitzvah of eating matzah, having a Passover Seder, and putting on tefillin, "And so it shall be as a sign upon your hand and as a symbol on your forehead that with a mighty hand Hashem freed us from Egypt." (Shemot 13:16)

It is codified in the Talmud Bavli Menahot that the *batim* ("houses", that is black leather boxes) of the tefillin should contain selections from the Torah that reference the mitzvah. This text is included in the second of four texts, which are Shemot 13:1-10 and 11-16 and Devarim 6:4-9 (The Shema and Ve'ahavta) and 11:13-21 ("the second paragraph of The Shema" as we have it in the siddur). We tie the actual verses onto our arms and heads that tell us to tie verses onto our arms and heads! And why? To remind us on our hands that God took us out of Egypt with a strong hand and an outstretched arm.

Come into my office (really, give me a call, come visit!) on most days (unless I have a big meeting planned and I've done some tidying up) and you will see the center table covered with materials for checking and repairing tefillin. Tefillin batim, *klafim* (parchments), glossy black paint, matte black paint, glue, *gid* (sewing sinew thread), needles, clamps, scalpels, calf tail hairs, ceramic scissors, paint brushes, pliers. When I have a free moment in the office, I go from my computer desk to my mini tefillin factory and check and repair another pair from our shul's collection to make them fit for use. And every time I do this, I think about my own tefillin (which I just touched up the paint on this morning) and my journey to wearing them.

I grew up in a non-egalitarian Conservative synagogue. I knew that tefillin existed in theory and I knew that my father and brother each owned a pair, but I don't ever remember seeing someone wear them. That's probably because I seldom attended weekday services until the year of my Bat Mitzvah, which coincided with my father saying kaddish for two of my grandparents. I was mesmerized by this strange Jewish contraption, but no one suggested that it could be mine. I'd seen women wear tallitot on Shabbat, but I only once saw one young woman wear tefillin at a friend's weekday Bat Mitzvah celebration service (I keep forgetting to investigate who that might have been and if my path later crossed with such a brave 13-year-old). I didn't have any female role models who laid tefillin.

When I was about 16 years old, I became invested in and researching the implications of egalitarian Judaism. I figured out that tefillin were a really big mitzvah. I started following the blog of Soferet Jen Taylor Friedman (<https://www.hasoferet.com/>) who later became my scribal mentor (that is a strongly related story for another day). Then when I started at Brandeis, I saw multiple women wearing tefillin in the weekday egalitarian minyan I had joined. By the spring semester of my sophomore year, I ran out of excuses for why I wasn't wearing tefillin. My father bought me a nice set over Pesach break (a beautiful coincidence given Pesach's connection to tefillin, despite the fact that in my family our custom is to not wear tefillin on *Hol haMoed*, the intermediate days of the holidays). Tefillin tied me to my family.

Then, I had the opportunity to become a soferet. Long story short, to be eligible to write *Sifrei Torah*, *mezuzot*, and tefillin, one must be obligated and diligent in the mitzvah of tefillin. My ability to write kosher (here kosher means, as it always does, "fit for use") scrolls for other people is dependent on my putting on tefillin myself. Tefillin tie me to the Jewish people.

I started repairing tefillin rather than *Sifrei Torah* out of a matter of convenience. I spent several years operating a Torah repair business while I was in Rabbinical School in Los Angeles. Apartments in Los Angeles are nicely sized. New York apartments, not so much. I took a break from scribing as I adjusted to my new rabbinic job. Then I met a congregant at morning minyan who was saying kaddish for his mother. He came every day and did not have a pair of tefillin with him. I lent him a pair from the synagogue closet and he then told me that he had his grandfather's tefillin in a closet at home. Excited, I told him that I wanted to see them and see if they were kosher. The boxes were broken but the scrolls were intact.

Continued on p. 4

I formulated a plan. I would take people's "Grandpa Tefillin" scrolls, which are often kosher (but not always) and place them in new kosher batim. I've done this for a few clients and even upgraded my own batim to sturdier models (there are two main types of tefillin: *batim tefillin pshutim dakot* (simple thin tefillin) which are made of multiple pieces of leather glued together and *tefillin gasot* ("coarse" thick tefillin) which are made of single pieces of leather that are pressed into an exact shape). In my experience, tefillin dakot are far more common if less durable. Tefillin tie together the generations.

Tefillin tie us to God. We are obligated to wear them every weekday morning and remind us of all of this and be the actual string around our finger to remember the mitzvot and why we do Judaism. Those who consider themselves obligated in the mitzvot of adult Jewish life are obligated in tefillin. They are not a mitzvah for men. In an egalitarian community such as ours, they are a mitzvah for all adult Jews of ALL genders.

Please join us on Sunday morning and borrow one of the pairs of FLJC/CBI's tefillin (the exact collection I am in the process of fully repairing and certifying the kashrut of). If you have not tried it before, please don't be afraid – I too only learned to perform this mitzvah years after I became a Bat Mitzvah. It's fun! And I will happily show you the insides of tefillin and everything involved with building them.

In addition to every single Sunday morning (together) and every other weekday (on your own), please join the MPC, myself, and the Community Hebrew School of Bergen County for the World Wide Wrap on Sunday, February 13th. To highlight the egalitarian nature of the program, WWW is a joint effort between FJMC (the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, of which our MPC is a member club) and WLJC (the Women's League of Conservative Judaism, of which our Sisterhood is a member club). Tefillin tie us all together.

The tefillin table including batim getting a fresh coat of paint



Rabbi Rachel Salston

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Social Action is seeking volunteers to drive congregants to shul and back home for Shabbat services. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the office at info@fljc.com or call 201-796-5040. As we get requests, we will contact you a couple of days prior to Shabbat to confirm if we need your help and which congregant needs driving to the shul. Thank you in advance for your help.





EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Abe Adler

I hope everyone is feeling well and everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and Chanukah. If you were fortunate to have vacation around year's end, I hope it was an enjoyable one. While there is still so much uncertainty about the course of the virus, it feels like we are past the worst parts and closer to a new normal that will be both manageable and safe for us. Get your shots – you and your children - and, if you are eligible, get your booster . It's the best way to protect you and those around you.

As some of you already know, my wife and I have decided to move to Chicago to be close to our daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren. I wish they lived on the east coast so I could continue to work with you at FLJC in a job that has been a joy to do, and a privilege to hold. However, we usually don't get everything we want so we had to make a choice. I want you all to know how much I will miss working with this community. This is a very special place with many special, talented and dedicated people. I will have more to say about this in my next, and last, 2 columns.

It is heartening to see the Hebrew School back in person and more people coming to services in person. It is wonderful that our children are celebrating their Bnai Mitzvah in person with family, friends and our community. It is easy to focus on the challenges that the pandemic brings. Let's focus on the progress that's been made, on the reopening steps taken so far and how our community members continue to support one another.

It is a longstanding foundation of Jewish faith that G-d has a plan and we do not always understand the plan. Our commentators write extensively about the 10 plagues that precede the Exodus: some of the plagues come with warnings, the warnings are worded in different ways, sometimes Moshe uses his staff (but not always), and there is the glaring apparent contradiction between hardening Pharaoh's heart vs. the concept of human free will. Volumes have been written about these questions and this short column will not attempt to delve into them.

Rabbi Yitzchak Etshalom has a nice thought I would like to share. In response to the final plague (12:32), Pharaoh added these key words: **uVeirakhtem Gam-Oti** (And bring a blessing on me too!). The early commentators generally understand these words to mean that Pharaoh was asking the B'nei Yisra'el to either pray or to present an offering on his behalf (when they reach their worship site in the desert).

In other words, the understanding that Pharaoh achieved via the final plague was that our G-d – the G-d of our forefathers – who the B'nei Yisra'el worship, was a G-d whose blessing even the Pharaoh needed. He also recognized one other facet – this Supreme Ruler had a special relationship with the B'nei Yisra'el, such that their intercession on his behalf would be more effective than his own prayer.

This turnabout was necessary not only for Pharaoh's spiritual welfare and theological enlightenment – but, most significantly, for the benefit of B'nei Yisra'el. For these people, steeped in Egyptian culture and self-subjugated to Egyptian icons, to have their own king make this sort of declaration and express this awareness would do more to bring the B'nei Yisra'el back into their own proper place in their relationship with God (and awareness of their own greatness) than any miracle. Pharaoh's declaration of **uVeirakhtem Gam-Oti** for the world to hear was a key outcome of the plagues.

The vaccines help. The boosters help. Masks and social distancing help. We always have to do our **hishtadlus** – our best efforts – to improve our lives; G-d requires us to take action and not solely rely on miracles to solve challenges. But we also have to maintain **bitachon** – our faith – in Hashem. Our prayers for G-d's continued help during the pandemic are equally or even more important because His plan is the ONLY plan. The progress mankind has made during this pandemic came about only because it's part of HIS plan. Pharaoh found this out the hard way; we've known this lesson for 5782 years.

Stay strong. Stay safe. Stay in touch.

Abe

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERING

As I write this month's article, I've been the President of the FLJC/CBI for nearly 7 months. One of the most interesting things I have found as I've muddled my way through this first half-a-year is the variety of different opinions about the way our shul should operate, and the way certain things should be done.

It's interesting, though I must admit, not a very big surprise.

To be fair, a healthy portion of the congregants who I speak to as president are happy and complimentary, and they genuinely like the things that we do at the Center, and they have nice things to say about the shul and the people I work with to try and deliver the various services and activities. And they are grateful for the time and energy of the volunteers.

But a significant number of congregants reach out via phone or email with lots to say that isn't quite as positive. Some people will call and talk for a half an hour about everything that bothers them about the synagogue. Some of it very detailed, and other general and vague. Often, and most frustrating of all, one congregant will complain about something that another congregant specifically loves.

In the modern COVID world, for example, I often hear disagreements between older folks who only want to be with those who are vaccinated, and younger folks with children who cannot be vaccinated and, in some cases, cannot even wear a mask. When we try to please one group, the other group is specifically displeased.

My leadership style is to try and find as much common ground as possible to try and keep people happy when I feel it makes sense to do so. It's especially hard to do that when there are so many issues that people disagree about. COVID has introduced so many points about which people argue that finding a middle ground that pleases people is particularly hard.

Another major challenge that the synagogue faces is our membership – the sheer number of member families. When Carol and I joined in 1992, we said that there were about 900 member families. (There may have been closer to 750 or 800, but that's the number we used to throw around...) Today, even after two mergers, there are fewer than 250 member families. That's a decline of about more than 65%. What does that mean? It means that we have a lot fewer volunteers. It means that we have a lot less money. As a result, it's a lot more difficult to do the important stuff, and the "unimportant" stuff often gets set aside. Not because we don't want to do it, but because we are forced to ration what gets done among our limited resources.

When a congregant takes the time to reach out to me, I do my best to take the time to listen and to see how we can help. But when the congregant complains without offering either a suggestion to improve the situation, or their help in working toward a solution, that isn't always going to bring the desired result.

It's worth pointing out that what you see as a problem may not be seen in the same way by others. Maybe they like it. Maybe it's been part of the shul for so long that they just accept it without giving it much thought. Or maybe it's seen as unsolvable.

So here is my advice to the people who have concerns. Pick a couple of issues that are important to you and that are potentially solvable. Think about how you'd like to see them resolved, and maybe even who might be good at getting us to the resolution. Keep in mind that the best person just might be you. And bring that to your leadership.

Complaining just for the sake of complaining is not generally a helpful approach, whether at the FLJC/CBI or in general. Working to develop solutions is a much more helpful approach. It's the difference between being part of the problem and part of the solution.

The Fair Lawn Jewish Center/Congregation B'nai Israel has been around for nearly 75 years. We all share the same love for this wonderful historic institution, and we all want what we think is best for it. It's important that we remember that one of our greatest strengths has always been our people, and their differing viewpoints and opinions.

Please don't forget that. And thank you.

Evan

MEN'S PROGRESS CLUB Joseph Schkolnick

As most of you are aware, my mother, Elaine Schkolnick passed away last month. Although this was a very difficult time for me and my family, the support of many people from the FLJC/CBI community was very heartwarming. My family and I are deeply grateful for the show of sympathy that has helped us get through this challenging time.

On December 19th Harold "Hal" Fine was honored as our Man of the Year at the 2021 Northern New Jersey Region of the FJMC Dinner. The event was held at Temple Beth Ahm Yisrael in Springfield. We are thankful to Hal for all the work he has done for our MPC over the years. Congratulations Hal!

The MPC will be having our Annual Membership Meeting on January 9th. Unfortunately, we will be doing this on Zoom due to the resurgence of COVID-19. We will, however, be delivering a "Bagel with a Schmere" to all those who wish to attend. Thanks in advance to Howard Kessel for coordinating this event. Details to follow.

The MPC has been encouraging its members to attend in person Sunday morning minyanim. We are grateful to all who have sacrificed some sleep, in order to help make a minyan. Thank you as well to Rabbi Salston and Steve Montag for their spiritual and technical support!

On February 13 we will be organizing our annual World-Wide Wrap. This important program takes place every year on the morning of Super Bowl Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Thank you to Larry Bach for organizing this event. We encourage all who are able to attend.

We are looking forward to more programs for our members in 2022 including joint events with other local synagogues.

Joe Schkolnick

Dear Fellow Congregants,

I want to thank you all for your generous donations to the Chanukah Toy Drive this year. The Bergen County Chanukah Toy Drive is an umbrella organization coordinating the collection of toys and gifts from more than 50 schools and synagogues and distributes to more than 18 charities. You helped to put on smile on a child's face.

Thank you!!!

Sincerely,
Beth Perlman



RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE IT'S A NEW YEAR - JANUARY 2022



The New Year always is a time of reflection and a time to consider what the next year will bring. Last year I wrote about the challenges of 2020 and the huge impact we experienced due to Covid. January 2021 brought us the first vaccinations for our front-line workers and since then over 483 million doses have been administered in the US, 14.2 million in New Jersey. Covid is certainly not over yet and will still affect millions of people, however we must look forward and be optimistic that we are closer to the endemic phase where we can live with this virus and proceed to a new normal life hopefully similar to how we live with the flu each year. My personality is such that I am an optimist at heart and focus on the hope and positive outcome of our actions versus the negative. Vaccinations, masks and cleanliness will allow us to not just survive but thrive in this new post-Covid environment.

Specific to our synagogue, we have all the reason for such a positive expectation in 2022. We are successfully returning to safe Shabbat services, Sunday morning services and as of Dec 24, Kabbalat Shabbat services in person. We continue to provide Zoom and Streaming visibility options to those who cannot or choose not to attend in person. We are providing a wealth of continuing education activities over zoom, and we hosted our first live Hanukkah concert this past December. Our exuberant, Rabbi Salston and part time cantor, Yoni Stokar, add ruach and enjoyment to our Shabbat and holiday services.

January 2-3 begins the month of Shevat which contains Shabbat Shira on Jan 15, the 13th of Shevat. Thank you to Sisterhood for leading us on this day with Sisterhood Shabbat. Shabbat Shira is the day that Parashah Beshalach is read and contains the song sung by Israel after the famous splitting of the Red Sea, in Chapter 15, Shirat HaYam. Exodus Chapter 15 verses 11 and 18 were also chosen to be included in our daily prayers:

מַי־כָּמָכָה בָּאָלָם יְהֹוָה,
מַיְּכָמָכָה נָאֶדֶר בְּקָדְשׁוֹ;
נוֹרָא תְּהִלָּתְךָ, עֲשָׂה פָּلָא.
יְהֹוָה יְמִלֵּךְ לְעוֹלָם וְעַד!

Who is like you Lord among the mighty? Who is like you glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders. May Adonai rule forever.

On January 16-17 we also celebrate the holiday of Tu B'Shevat. We plant trees and eat fruit and spices from the land of Israel. Please consider donations to the Jewish National fund, inf.org/trees, to help the land and people of Israel.

I wish you all a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season and New Year.

Steven Montag

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Michael Baer and Mark Meisel

The Social Action Committee thanks you for your very generous support of our most recent projects which we ran in late November and December.

Thank you for your support of the Bergen County Chanukah Toy Drive. We received and delivered many wonderful toys for boys and girls from you and truly appreciate your support.

We also thank you for your support of the Winter Emergency Supply Packages (ESP) that are delivered to recipients of Kosher Meals on Wheels, run by Jewish Family Services. Your food donations and sponsorship help us create these emergency packages in case, due to the weather, Meals on Wheels can't get to the recipients' homes.

Lastly your support of the Hackensack Shelter Dinner on December 26th helped us feed 150 people in our community who are struggling with finding enough food on a daily basis. With your generosity we helped serve a wonderful dinner to our neighbors in need.

If you know of any congregant returning from a hospital or rehab and who would appreciate a Friday night dinner, please let one of us or the office know and the Social Action Committee would be glad to bring one to you

Thank you for all your help and generosity!!!

Michael Baer and Mark Meisel, Co-Chairs



SISTERHOOD

Wish you all a happy and healthy 2022!!

Since the last *News & Views*, Sisterhood held the following events:

On December 2nd, we hosted our annual (except last year) social event Vodka & Latke's event where we socialized, ate a variety of latke's and drank some fancy vodka drinks. Gail Rottenstrich was once again so gracious to offer her home to this in-person gathering. This is one of our most enjoyable social events of the year.

On December 12, we held our 2nd Book Club over Zoom where we discussed *Concealed* by author Esther Amini. Thank you Leslie for facilitating.

Upcoming events:

January 9th is a Zoom Yoga Class that is co-sponsored by the Program Committee and Sisterhood. We will be able to do yoga from our own homes and Jamie Ressler will lead us. (See flyer below).

January 15th is Sisterhood Shabbat, where Sisterhood members will lead almost the entire Shabbat morning services followed by a lovely Kiddush-To-Go bag. At the time of this publication, there may still be a few parts available, so please contact Andrea Pass at andreaspr@gmail.com or 201-873-6087. Please attend this lovely service either in person or on Zoom. Thank you Andrea for your efforts in organizing this service (especially because it is now just a week before your family's simcha – mazel tov!)

January 16th is our Zoom Tu BiShvat Seder. This is a fun evening where we learn about Tu BiShvat drink our 4 cups of wine and celebrate. Look for the flyers for more details.

February 6th will be our 3rd Book Club meeting where we will discuss *The Choice* by Dr. Edith Eger. Tammy Smith will be moderating.

We always welcome your feedback and any recommendations and ideas that you may have regarding our Sisterhood. If you would like to dip your toe in and get a bit more involved in Sisterhood, please reach out by emailing or calling me at abgolick1@gmail.com or [201-927-0232](tel:201-927-0232).

Hope you are all staying warm. All the best -

Ann Golick

FLJC/CBI Sisterhood Book Club
Sunday, February 6th at 10:00 AM
via Zoom
Moderator: Tammy Smith
RSVP to: Leslie Frucht at lesfrucht@gmail.com

THE CHOICE
Embrace the Possible
A Memoir by Dr. Edith Eva Eger
Foreword by Dr. Ruth Messinger
Introduction by Dr. Michael Sparer
With a new afterword by Dr. Michael Sparer

Fair Lawn Jewish Center
Congregation B'nai Israel

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

We continue our American Judaism series on Sunday, January 23, at 1:00 PM, with a Zoom presentation on the third chapter in Sarna's American Judaism, entitled "Union and Disunion" presented by our esteemed member, Craig Mont. This follows Carol Hirsh's excellent presentation on the "Revolutionary War Period" in December.

On Monday evening, January 17th at 8:00 PM, Rabbi Salston will review the British movie "The Infidel" about a secularized Muslim taxi driver named Mahud, who suddenly discovers by chance that he was adopted at birth by a Muslim family, and that he was actually born to Jewish parents with the birth name of "Solly" Shimshilewitz. This discovery leads to a series of hilarious and serious turns of events for Mahmud and family, as the movie plot unfolds in unexpected ways. The movie is available free on the Tubi website.

Rabbi Emeritus Ronald Roth continues his Tuesday Nosh & Knowledge Zoom class with discussions of current ethical and social issues, many of which have no easy answers. But Rabbi Roth probes the Talmudic and contemporary Jewish thinking on these topics for a possible Jewish approach to today's many ethical challenges.

Rabbi Salston continues her very insightful Wednesday class on the Parsha of the Week. There is much to learn and discuss about Torah each week, and we urge everyone to attend the weekly Zoom class, if possible.

We hope to see you on Zoom.

Happy learning.

Charlie Cohen

Sharing Recipes...

Cranberry-Apple Torte, by Gilda Winters

Crust:

2 cups all-purpose flour, sifted
2 cups dark brown sugar
1 ¼ cups oatmeal (quick-cooking or 1 minute type)
1 cup (2 sticks) margarine, melted
2 tsps cinnamon

Filling:

4 Cortland apples, peeled and cut into small chunks
1 (16 oz) can whole berry cranberry sauce
2 Tbs all-purpose flour, sifted



Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Heavily coat a 9-in springform pan with non-stick spray; set aside. In a large bowl, mix the 2 cups of flour, brown sugar, oats, margarine and cinnamon. Reserve 1 ½ cups of this mixture. Press the remainder into the prepared pan and halfway up the sides with the palm of your hand.

In a medium bowl, combine the apples, cranberry sauce and 2 tablespoons of flour. Mix with a spoon. Pour the apple mixture into the crust. Sprinkle the reserved oat mixture over the top. Use the back of a spoon to gently press the oats so that they evenly coat the top and meet the crust that is coming up the sides; this is what will enclose the filling. Bake for 40 minutes. Yield: 10-12 servings

**From Ronald Roth, Rabbi Emeritus, FLJC/CBI
An Update from Karen Koblitz, Co Chair:
“Tikkun Pacov - Our Holocaust Memorial Torah is From
That Town In The Czech Republic.”**

I am pleased to share with you the progress Tikkun Pacov has made on the restoration of the Pacov Synagogue. The synagogue has a new roof [see the photos] and we are continuing to work on plans for the renovation of the interior and are submitting grant applications to fund the complete restoration of the building.

Last summer Tikkun Pacov participated in Czech Jewish Heritage Day, on Sunday, August 8, 2021. The opening and ceremonial launch of the event took place on Saturday evening with the unveiling of the lighting installation *Restlicht*(The Rest of the Light) by the German sculptor of Czech origin Werner Mally. *Restlicht* commemorates the victims of the Holocaust. The Tikkun Pacov photos and more information on Czech Jewish Heritage Day, 2021 can be found at this website:

[<http://tikkun.cz/?m=202108&lang=en>](http://tikkun.cz/?m=202108&lang=en)

Sunday's program included a tour of the synagogue and nearby former Rabbi's Home, which is now owned by Tikkun Pacov. On the evening of August 8th the Schimmerle Klezmer Cabaret entertained guests inside the synagogue, bringing music and gaiety to the synagogue for the first time since 1942.

I and the board of Tikkun Pacov want to extend an invitation to visit Pacov in 2022.

Tikkun Pacov will be participating in Czech Jewish Heritage Day in 2022. The program will begin on Saturday evening, August 13th and throughout the following day Sunday August 14th, 2022. We are beginning to plan an engaging program for this event, similar to that of last year. We will have both the Pacov synagogue and the rabbi's home open to the public, with tours of the Pacov Jewish Cemetery, that of nearby Černovice with its powerful Holocaust Memorial and cemetery.

The second event will take place November 11th through the 14th...as we commemorate the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the transport of the Pacov Jewish Community from Pacov and the entire Czech-Moravian Highland region to Tábor and then onto Terezin and other concentration camps. 1942 also marks the end of several centuries of rather peaceful neighborhood coexistence between Czechs, Jews and Germans in the Highlands, as sadly today there are few Jews nor Germans living there.

For the November event, there will be among other things, an exhibition on the deportations to Tábor and Terezin, a concert that will feature composers who perished in the concentration camps, lectures by historians about the Jewish community of Pacov and the Southern Highlands, a presentation of projects that the children of the Pacov High School have done in researching the former Jewish community...Our desire is to have a reunion of the seven Pacov Torah scrolls: five from congregations in the USA and two from the UK.

We are working on the logistics of housing for our guests from abroad in Pacov and nearby Tábor, which can be reached by public transport from the airports of Prague and Vienna. We will also organize transport to and from Pacov and to the nearby locations that are part of our program.

Please visit the Tikkun Pacov website for updates on upcoming programming and progress on the restoration of the synagogue. <www.tikkun.cz>

Best regards,
Karen Koblitz
Co-chair, Tikkun Pacov Board

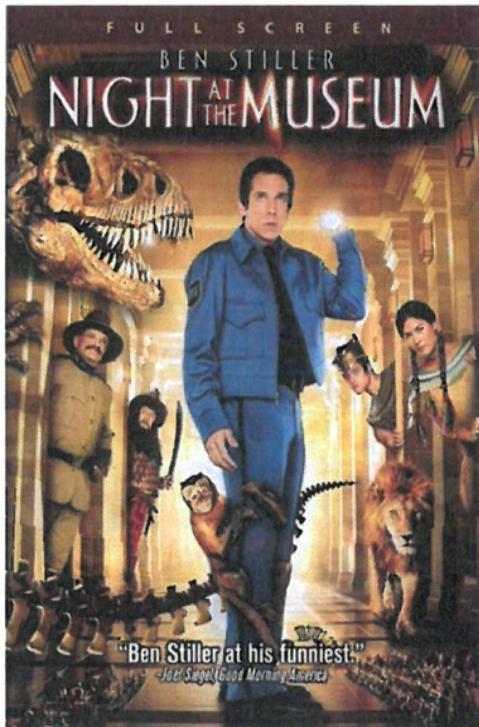


FLIPPER USY – Youth Program sponsored by Fair Lawn Jewish Center/Congregation B'nai Israel, Temple Israel & JCC of Ridgewood, and JCCParamus/Congregation Beth Tikvah.

FLIPPER USY for 8th-12th GRADES

MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday January 8th 2022 @ 7 p.m.
At the JCC of Paramus, 304 East Midland Avenue.
We will provide the snacks. All are welcome
\$5 per person. FLIPPER members come free!
You can bring pillows and blankets if you wish.
Also pjs would be fun!
Board game fun too for those who wish!



COVID PRECAUTIONS:

Masks must be worn at all times. Snacks to be eaten outside.
Movie inside. If you are sick please stay home....



Fair Lawn Jewish Center/Congregation B'nai Israel



Sisterhood & Programming Sponsored Event

YOGA with Jaime Ressler All Levels Welcome!

**January 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM
(on Zoom)**





Fair Lawn Jewish Center/Congregation B'nai Israel

Tot Shabbat with Morah Vivian Moves Indoors

Saturday mornings 9:00 AM

**January 15th, 29th • February 12th, 26th
March 12th, 19th**

Vivian Gibilisco is a Jewish educator and song leader who has been teaching, leading song, and family worship for many years all over Greater Metro West, New Jersey. She loves teaching Jewish values and creating community and connection to our people through song.



**Open to the
Community!
Masks Required!**



**Pulka Room
10-10 Norma Avenue Fair Lawn, NJ**

Security on Premises



Fair Lawn Jewish Center/Congregation B'nai Israel



ANNUAL ELJC/CBI SISTERHOOD SHABBAT

Saturday morning
January 15, 2022 9:30 AM



Full services to be
conducted by the women
of our Sisterhood.

You must be vaccinated to participate & attend.
Masks are required.

THE INFIDEL

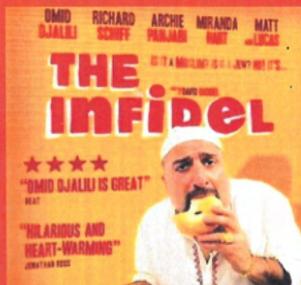
Monday January 17th 8:00 PM

"Mahmud" is a Muslim Family Man & Taxi Driver in London who discovers by chance he is actually Jewish born "Solomon" who was adopted by a Muslim Family. What ensues after that is both a funny & serious spoof of his identity crisis & how it all plays out.

*Join us on Zoom for a Movie Review & Discussion
Available Free on "TUBI" Website*

Commentator: Rabbi Rachel Salston

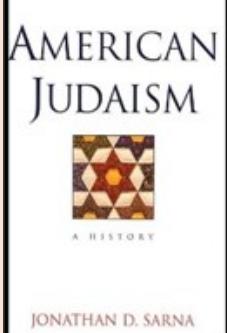
Moderator: Charles Cohen



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84866563762?pwd=bzITUENEUHp5dURTendOaXVsTmVDdz09>

Meeting ID: 848 6656 3762 Passcode: 482557



FLJC/CBI Jewish Experience in America From Colonial Times to American Judaism Today

Join us on Sunday January 23rd at 1:00pm
for a ZOOM presentation reviewing a chapter from
American Judaism: A History
by Jonathan D. Sarna

Sessions continue on the following dates:
Feb. 20th; March 20th; April 24th; & May 22nd
FLJC members/guests are welcome to any session.

*Go to Zoom US and enter:
Meeting ID 862 9352 4594
Password 793321*



Fair Lawn Jewish Center/Congregation B'nai Israel

Holiday Tot Time with Rabbi Salston and Cantor Stokar **Sunday, January 23, 2022**

10:00 AM on Zoom

Calling all tots and their grownups!

Join Rabbi Salston and Cantor Stokar for an
interactive Tu Bishvat song and storytime!



Open to the Community!



The first in a series of Jewish Holiday Tot Programs!



JOIN US FOR FAMILY SHABBAT

**Saturday January 29, 2022
9:30 AM Sanctuary**

Participatory Service

Led by Rabbi Salston & Cantor Stokar

Do you want to lead a prayer?

Email rabbi@fljc.com



**Join us for kid-friendly snacks and games
in the Youth Lounge after services!**



Masks are Required

We highly recommend that all eligible be vaccinated.

Socially Distanced Seating will be available.

COMMUNITY HEBREW SCHOOL OF BERGEN COUNTY

Shalom,

It has been a crazy, few weeks. We started the month of December with Chanukah which was celebrated by the CHSBC kids in many ways: a roof top lighting at Paramus; a Chanukah Torah service with Rabbi Salston at Fair Lawn; a concert at Fair Lawn with plenty of celebrations on-line and in-person with the teachers; kids who enjoyed using their hand-made Chanukiyot and others who had a hand-made dreidel. All had a great week!

We also had a FLIPPER Kadima event at Fair Lawn on a Saturday night. It was great working with Neil Garfinkle and his son Benjamin, as well as Rabbi Salston. The kids had a great time playing basketball in the gym; participating in an outside Havdallah service with Rabbi Salston; then, eating fresh, hot, delicious pizza from the pizza store. Afterwards, the kids enjoyed playing many fun and exacting games available in the Youth Lounge. We are planning another event in the next few weeks which will be announced soon.

Our 6th grade participated in the KEHILLAH program, sponsored by 10 congregational schools and the Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey. The kids had a special time with The Bible Players and enjoyed getting to meet new friends. They also prepared skits and posters based on their study of some Jewish texts about Tu Bishvat. It was quite fantastic!

As I write this article, I pray that everyone stays healthy and come January, we can be back in school and continue our in-person education. Time will tell but, as always, the CHSBC Board will confer with the COVID committees of both synagogues to make an informed decision towards moving forward.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2022!

Marcia



THE GENEROUS HEART WILL BE FULFILLED

FAMILY MATTERS

Refuah Shlema to:

Tzipporah Rivkah bat Sima v'Aryeh Leib; Chaim ben Natan; Liat bat Chava; Judy Kaye (Gitl Raizel bat Malka Shlimah v'Dov Baer); Chana bat Rivka; Sharona bat Edel Fredel; Nechama bat Chasha v'Leib (Natalie Klein); Laili Golda bat Reuvat v'David; David Wertheim (Binyamin ben Eta Shifra); Judi Margolis (Zisa Ita bat Rachel v David); Irv Pollack (Yehezkel ben Sarah v'Yaakov); Chaya Baila bat Gitel; Tova Raza bat Yitzhak v'Malka Esther; Ahava bat Hadassah; Nava Deena bat Sterna; Leo Henner (Eliezer ben Shoshanah v'Yosef Meir); Kenny Schmier (Kalman Ben Rivka); Yosef Chaim ben Huddle v' Moshe; Jesse Rosenzweig (Yehuda Laib ben Rachel); Avraham ben Chaya Sarah v'Yisrael; David Hayim ben Batya u'Refu'el; Malka Aviva bat Chana Golda; Neal Lipshitz (Nahum ben Haya Perel v'Yaakov); Annette Wallen (Yehudit bat Malkah);
Layah Shoshanah bat Avihayil Yocheved v'Shlomo Hayim; Roni Zerowin (Rachel Chana bat Tamar); Yosef ben Devorah and Moshe; Michael Vorobyov (Moishe ben Fanya v'Aaron);
Esther Oster (Esther bat Sarah and Chaim); Judith Shain-Alvaro (Yehudit Chasida bat Perel);
Pincus ben Mina Sora; Flora Frank (Faiga Rivka bat Shifra v'Yossel); Larry Mandel (Leibel ben Chaya)

Special Mazel Tov to:

Charles and Sara Cohen, who are celebrating their 55th Wedding Anniversary
Scott Pass, who is celebrating the 50th anniversary of his bar-mitzvah!

Mazel Tov to our January Birthdays

Arlene Albalah, Stewart Bard, Ella Berger, Helaine Berl, Lynne Cantor, Lilly Chedzhemova, Marvin Diner, Flora Frank, Nina Gold, Marlaine Gruber, Barry Hauptman, Jack Joffe, Rita Kahn, Karen Krane, Sylvia Krauss, Phyllis Lichenstein, Judith Margolis, Esther Mullin, Loren Rosenthal, Jesse L. Rosenzweig, Theresa Stahl, Douglas Stolar, Ronelle Zerowin

Mazel tov to our January Anniversaries

Carol & Edward Aig; Linda & Harvey Ginsberg; Natalie & Marvin Klein; Deborah & Armando Mantilla; Irene & Lawrence Mandel; Judith & Jerome Pitkowsky; Barbara & Philip Steinberg; Annette & Allen Wallen; Ellen & Bert Wertheim; Beth & Richard Wyler

THE GENEROUS HEART WILL BE FULFILLED

ELLIE WEINER FUND

Joseph Schkolnick and Family

Deepest condolences on the loss of your beloved mother
Jerry Weiner

Judith Schlesinger

Sincere condolences on the loss of your beloved daughter
Jerry Weiner

Carolyn and Saul Shenberg

Mazel tov on Noam becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Jerry Weiner

In Memory of Ruth Weiner

Jerry Weiner

Sig Westerman

In memory of Fran Westerman, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, friend and mentor
Roni and Jeff Zerowin

GENERAL FUND

Ella Berger

Mazel tov to you and your family on the Bar Mitzvah of Levi Berger
Ellen and David Teitelbaum

In honor of my grandson Levi Berger

becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Ella Berger

Hal Fine

Mazel tov on being named MPC Man of the Year
Carol and Evan Marcus

In honor of the Sacred Hoops team:

Neil Garfinkle, Marcia Kagedan,

David Ressler and Rabbi Salston

Thank you for allowing us to join you
Dan, Ruth, Jonah and Raffi Dovdavany

Joe Schkolnick and Ruth Cohen

In memory of your beloved mother
Elaine Schkolnick
Ann Golick and Bob Sokol

Judy Schlesinger

In memory of Traci Schlesinger
Carol and Evan Marcus

Sig Westerman

In memory of your old college buddy,
Fran Westerman
Mimi Synes Bookstaver

Sig Westerman

In memory of Fran Westerman,
my dear friend
Janet Finke

Sig Westerman

In memory of Frances Westerman
Robert J. Halprin

Sig Westerman

Our deepest condolences on the loss of Fran
Tamar and Jack Joffe

Sig Westerman

In memory of Fran Westerman
Freida and Bob Wallstein

Sig Westerman and Laura Brody
In memory of Fran Westerman
Ruth Grossberg

Sig Westerman and Family
In loving memory of a wonderful woman, wife, mother and grandmother
Susan Cohen

In memory of Fran Westerman
Hilda Levine

In memory of Fran Westerman
Jane Levine

In memory of Frances Westerman
Josephine Sparano

The Westerman Family
In loving memory of my dear friend Franny. You are with me every day
Diane Krakower

HOWARD R. HERMAN FUND
In Memory of Gilbert Fine
Ina Fine

Arline Herman
In honor of your special birthday
Roberta Bekerman

MAX FINDLING ZMIGROD SOCIETY
(RS Holocaust Museum Trips)

Michael Findling
In memory of Helen Findling
Rachel A. Bennett

Michael Findling
In memory of Helen Findling
Ann and Benjamin Israeli

Richard Findling
In memory of Helen Findling
Rachel A. Bennett

Richard Findling
In memory of Helen Findling
Ann and Benjamin Israeli

RABBI'S TZEDAKAH FUND
Arline Herman
Mazel tov on your grandson's marriage
Phyllis Mirchin

Sig Westerman
In memory of Fran Westerman
Phyllis Mirchin

Sig Westerman
In memory of Fran Westerman
Phyllis Mirchin

YAHRZEIT
Melvin Alperstein
Miriam Alperstein and Family

Elisabeth Barnes
Phyllis Markowitz

Gerald Berk
Sharon and Michael Berk

Clara Brandes
Cheryl Brandes Pine

Marilyn Breitkopf
Stuart Breitkopf

Tessie Carsman
Debra Yudkovita Bennett

Abraham Larry Charish
Rosalyn Goodman

Beatrice Cohen
Susan Cohen

Bella Cohen
Harriet Goldberg

Daniel Cohen
Susan Cohen

Jack Cohen
Harriet Goldberg

Marilyn Cohen
Harriet Goldberg

Myra Cohen
Susan Cohen

Samuel Cohen
Susan Cohen

Joseph Benjamin Cooper
Norman Cooper

Daniel Cohen
Susan Cohen

Jack Cohen
Harriet Goldberg

Marilyn Cohen
Harriet Goldberg

Myra Cohen
Susan Cohen

Samuel Cohen
Susan Cohen

Joseph Benjamin Cooper
Norman Cooper

Jeanne Causman Goldstein
Judith Shain-Alvaro

Beatrice Dell
Marsha and Robert Thaler

Herb Dell
Marsha and Robert Thaler

David Diner
Leslie, Marvin and Jeffrey Diner

Ella Dorbian
Joan Dorbian

Anna Epstein
Susan Cohen

Dorothy Epstein
Edie and Gordon Zimmerman

Harry Epstein
Edie and Gordon Zimmerman

Jack Feldman
Debbie Honigstock

Norman Feldman
Sheila and Myron Linderman

Barry Friedman
Debra Friedman

Sidney Frisch
Florence Birnbaum

Max Goldenberg
Gwendolyn Goldenberg

Bella Gootman
Susan Baumstein

Anne Gootman Mouldovan
Susan and Sy Baumstein

Clare Green
Donna Pasternak and Family

Bella Gootman
Susan Baumstein

Anne Gootman Mouldovan Susan and Sy Baumstein	Eugenia I. Marcus Linda Susan Marcus	Rudolph Stone H. Lewis Stone
Clare Green Donna Pasternak and Family	Adella Mirchin Phyllis Mirchin	Nachum Toskar Lucille and Herby Tarant
Elise Grumbacher Gerda Kassner	Samuel Nadel Adele Jacobs	Yevgenira Turchaninova Olga and Aleksandr Godin
Anne Gutter Marion Radeen	Simon Neuwirth Arieh Neuwirth	Esfir Volenberg Shinkar Family
Isidor Gutter Marion Radeen	Henrietta Peters Elaine Paris	David Barry Walsh Sharon and Michael Berk
Judith Halpern Howard Halpern	Dorothy Press Theodore Press	Milton Wasserstrom William Wasserstrom
Sara Heskins Randi and Daniel Paul-Heskins	Samuel Riback Bernice Yegelwel	Ruth Weil Debbie and Mark Oppenheimer
Charles H. Hirsh Carol M. Hirsh	Anna Rochman Saul Rochman	Ruth Weil Bena Weil
David Howard Jacobs Elaine Paris	Harriett Rosenthal Rena Zdanowitz	Anne Weisfeld Elaine and Joe Weisfeld
Sarah Kalisky Susan and Sy Baumstein	George Rubinoff Craig Rubinoff	Dora Weisfeld Elaine and Joe Weisfeld
Isadore Kaufman Laura and Joshua Pintel and family	Rebecca Rubinoff Craig Rubinoff	Rose Weiss Susan Baumstein
Robert Kronemer Delores Kronemer	Steven David Schultz Marcia Schultz	Gavriel Yehodiov Susan and Ben Aminoff
Khaya Kustanovich Gesya Leybson	David Schwartz Sheldon O. Schwartz	Jules Yudkovitz Debra Yudkovitz Bennett
Millie Lagana Annette Wallen	Minnie Seeman Sara Falk	Leah Yudkovitz Debra Yudkovitz Bennett
Morton Lakin Patti and Bryan Lakin	Barry Seiden Shari Toron	Samuel Zisblatt Phyllis Mirchin
Anita Loeb Stacy and NJ Brody	Blanche Shatz Anne and Bill Benlisa	<i>May their memories be for a blessing</i>
Harry Lowenstein	Rebecca Smoliansky Aida Melamed	
Jack Lubin Cheryl and Terry Lubin	Chaim Spring Rosa Sirota	
Terrie Malovany Eddie Cohen	Charles Stollar Mitchell Stollar	





10-10 Norma Avenue
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

Save the Date! Lunch with Rabbi Salston in Boca Raton!

 Fair Lawn Jewish Center/Congregation B'nai Israel
Congregation B'nai Israel

Calling all South Florida Residents!



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2022 AT 12:00 PM

Catch up with Rabbi Salston and all your friends from FLJC/CBI for lunch on Rabbi Salston at Ben's Kosher Deli!

Please RSVP to the office by Tuesday, February 1st
201-796-5040 or email fljc.com

Ben's Kosher Deli
9942 Clint Moore Road
Boca Raton, FL 33496
Meet at the restaurant!