

NEWS & VIEWS

חדשות והשקפות

JANUARY 2023 / TEVET-SHEVAT 5784



Announcing Congregation B'nai Sholom/ Fair Lawn Jewish Center

Welcome CBS/FLJC Members

Congregation B'nai Sholom / Fair Lawn Jewish Center
10-10 Norma Ave., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
 201-796-5040 * www.fljc.com * info@fljc.com
 Community Hebrew School of Bergen County
 201-815-8136 * edudirector@chsbc.org

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Rabbi	David Bockman
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newsandviews@fljc.com

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Sunday through Thursday—7:30 PM on Zoom
 Go to Zoom.us or dial 1-929-205-6099
 Meeting ID: 992 9922 2789
 Password: 609729

Friday Evening
Kabbalat Shabbat at 6:00 PM

Shabbat Morning Services 9:00/9:30 AM
In Person and via Livestream
www.fljc.com/worship

Havdalah at the conclusion of Shabbat on Zoom
 Go to Zoom.us or dial 1-929-205-6099
 Meeting ID: 940 7714 6714
 Password: 215407

Sunday morning services 9:00 AM
In the Chapel and on Zoom
 Go to Zoom.us or dial 1-929-205-6099
 Meeting ID: 991 2258 1312
 Password: 731712

CANDLELIGHTING TIMES

Lighting Date	Havdalah Time	(next day)
Jan. 5	4:24 PM	5:29 PM
Jan. 12	4:31 PM	5:36 PM
Jan. 19	4:39 PM	5:33 PM
Jan. 26	4:47 PM	5:51 PM

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RABBI SALSTON'S CLASS Coffee and Commentary

Classes will be held on Wednesdays at 11:00am
in the Sanctuary and on Zoom
January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
 Go to Zoom.us or dial+1 929 436 2866
 Meeting ID: 943 0394 9434 Password 226478

RABBI ROTH'S Nosh and Knowledge

Classes will be held on Tuesdays:
January 2, 9, 23 30 (No Class on January 16)
 Class times are 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM.
 The class is repeated the same evenings from
 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM via Zoom
 Topic of Study: *Judaism and Gun Control*

SYNAGOGUE SKILLS LEARNING INSTITUTE

Have you ever wanted to learn to read Torah or read Hebrew?
 To enrich your experience at the Fair Lawn Jewish Center,
 instruction is available for:

**Torah reading lessons*
**Haftarah chanting*
**How to Daven various services*
 Free and open to all members

To register email Ellen Wertheim at
ellenwer@hotmail.com.

נחמו, נחמו עמי

VLADIMIR BASIS, FATHER OF YANA GARGER

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

RABBINIC REFLECTIONS

Rabbi Rachel Salston



My dear Fair Lawn Jewish Center/
Congregation B'nai Israel,

I'm proud to announce that this is the last time that I will be writing to you as FLJC/CBI. On Wednesday, December 27, 2023, Temple Beth Sholom voted, as we did the week before, to merge our

two synagogues as of Monday, January 1, 2024. By the time you read this, we will be one congregation.

Above all, we need to act like we are one congregation. The spiritual transition period of this new congregation, Congregation B'nai Sholom/Fair Lawn Jewish Center will be long. Like any major change to a family and community, like a marriage of two households, there is the day that we solemnize the covenant between the two parties and there are all the days after the wedding. When you realize that you're actually married.

Two days after my parents' wedding, my mom called my dad's hospital to speak to him. The receptionist or secretary called him and told him, "Mrs. Salston is on the phone." Immediately, my dad said, "What? There is no Mrs. Salston, my mother's last name is Tepper." And then he realized and told everyone that he had gotten married that Sunday.

I'm sure that many of you have a similar story that you can laugh about. While my mother might have intended to simply do something cute, she was and was forcing my dad to do something really profound: incorporate the gigantic thing they did into every moment of their lives. And that is what we have to do, that is what we need to be deliberate about.

Our people have had our names changed since the first two of us. A woman named Sarai and a man named Avram became Sarah and Avraham. And according to our tradition, it is a pretty big deal that we call them only Avraham and Sarah, because it was GOD who told them what their new names were! In the Babylonian Talmud Berakhot 13a, we are taught:

Bar Kappara taught: Anyone who calls Abraham Abram transgresses a positive mitzva, as it is stated: "And your name will be Abraham" (Genesis 17:5). This is a positive mitzva to refer to him as Abraham. Rabbi Eliezer says: One who calls Abraham Abram transgresses a negative mitzva, as it is stated: "And your name shall no longer be called Abram, and your name will be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations" (Genesis 17:5).

A similar textual proof is given for the vital importance of calling Sarah "Sarah". Meaning, if you do not call them by the names God gave them, you are actually committing two sins. In regard to our new shul, we're not going to hold you liable for a sin, of course, but we all must actively use our new name, the name our community has chosen for itself.

It sounds silly, but I encourage each and every one of you to practice saying CBS/FLJC out loud. C-B-S-F-L-J-C. It'll take some time to get it to roll off your tongue the way FLJC/CBI did. Just like when someone changes their legal name, the more you say it, the more customary it will become. Furthermore, the more you say it, the more it will become your reality. We are one synagogue. Everyone is a member of one synagogue, there are no "TBS people" or "Center people". Of course we can speak of members of the legacy synagogues, I may actually be having a meet and greet-Q & A with the former members of TBS so that they can get to know me and I can answer some of their questions. But outside of those transitional informational programs, everything we do is together. Of course we will make gaffes and mistakes, but they must be that, not deliberate polarization.

Yes, this Shabbat we will have two minyanim for Shaharit and Seder Kriyat haTorah. These are both minyanim of our new synagogue. While we expect that there will be a higher concentration of former FLJC/CBI members in the sanctuary service and of former TBS members in the chapel service, there is no "FLJC minyan" or "TBS minyan". I am honored and overjoyed that Rabbi David Bockman and I are both fully the rabbis of this CBS/FLJC. I am fully their (the former members of TBS) rabbi and I am fully your (the former members of FLJC/CBI) rabbi. He is fully your rabbi and fully their rabbi. I hope I have not made grammatical errors in my deliberate use of language here; I know that it is awkward. Because transitions are always awkward. But we must try our hardest to not welcome our friends coming from the other side of town as guests, we must try our hardest to welcome them as our new family that are moving in with us.

I cannot stress enough how this is going to be a challenge and we are likely going to make mistakes, even simple ones like misnaming the name of the shul in conversation. I will probably do it myself. We need to come together. It's not going to happen passively. I am asking you, yes you, individually, to show up for services and programs and introduce yourself to friends and family you haven't met or gotten to know well yet.

Continued on next page...

In order for us to be the welcoming and inclusive community we all want us to be, we need to individually be welcoming and inclusive. So, allow me to introduce myself, like my mother did 45 years ago (this January 21st!, well I suppose the phone call happened on January 23rd of that year). This article is written by Rabbi Rachel Iris Salston, rabbi of Congregation B'nai Sholom/Fair Lawn Jewish Center. It's nice to meet you.

For the sake of inclusion and uniformity, I will conclude my final piece in this final edition of the Fair Lawn Jewish Center/Congregation B'nai Israel *News and Views* with the same announcement and invitation with which I concluded my first and final piece in the final edition of the Temple Beth Sholom Bulletin:

One of the first things I am planning for our learning together as a unified shul is a five session series of classes on the siddur and the Shabbat morning service. We're going to explore the poetry, structure, and choreography of the five sections of the service with a lot of opportunity for questions, comparisons between our differing traditions, and hands-on practice. We'll meet on Wednesday, January 24 and continue every Wednesday night (save February 21 when we have a board meeting), beginning with in-person ma'ariv in the chapel at 7:30 and continuing with our learning from 8:00-9:30. The five sessions will be divided into Birkot haShahar (Blessings of the Dawn), Pesukei d'Zimra (Verses of Song), Shaharit ((the Service of) Dawn), Seder Kriyat haTorah (the Torah Reading Service), and Musaf (the Additional (Service)).

In future adult education programs this year, I would like to continue the practice of hands-on learning. In addition to more opportunities to learn davening and Torah reading, spearheaded by our teacher Ellen Wertheim, I'd like to start a cookie and challah baking Torah discussion class and a Judaica crafting program. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you. I'll reach out to you and I hope you reach out to me. Please think of this as your invitation to a one-on-one conversation at a coffee shop or a walk around the neighborhood. We are one family and I'm so glad that we finally get to be together under one roof! I hope we can all get to know each other formally and informally. I'm so excited for our future together! Shalom!

Rabbi Rachel I. Salston



The Siddur and The Shabbat Morning Service
A Five-Session Class Taught by Rabbi Salston
Available In-Person and on Zoom

Explore the poetry, structure, and choreography of the five sections of the Shabbat morning service with lots of opportunity for questions, discussion, comparisons between differing traditions, and hands-on practice.

On Wednesdays from 8:00 - 9:30 PM

- Wed., January 24 - Birkot haShahar (Blessings of the Dawn),
- Wed., January 31 - Pesukei d'Zimra (Verses of Song)
- Wed., February 7 - Shaharit (The Service of Dawn)
- Wed., February 14 - Seder Kriyat haTorah (The Torah Service)
- Wed., February 28 - Musaf (The Additional Service)

Email Info@fljc.com for Registration Link

*The online registration includes the opportunity to purchase your own copy of *Siddur Lev Shalem* at a discounted rate. All siddur orders needed by January 17

Sponsored by the Adult Education Committee of Congregation B'nai Sholom/Fair Lawn Jewish Center



The Illustrated Rabbi

Rabbi David Bockman, Temple Beth Sholom



When I was 10 years old, our family moved to Los Angeles, to a neighborhood known as Cheviot Hills. Long favored by people in the movie business, being located midway between two major studios (Fox and Sony, currently), even our very street was home to celebrities. Three doors down from us on the corner lived Ray Bradbury, whose name I didn't know when we moved there. Due to my father's enthusiasm, I quickly became enchanted with his works: short stories, novellas and more. The Illustrated Man! The Martian Chronicles! Fahrenheit 451! Something Wicked This Way Comes! Here, walking by our house twice a day (he never learned to drive) was the author of science fiction, horror, fantasy and wistful realism, sometimes made into episodes of my favorite TV show, "The Twilight Zone."

One enduring image from his book *Dandelion Wine* that reflected his childhood in Waukegan, Illinois, demonstrates just why I loved his writing so much. Shocking and startling ideas written with a craftsman's love of language elevate this, and other, Bradbury writings.

"There are five billion trees in the world. I looked it up. Under every tree is a shadow, right? So, then, what makes night? I'll tell you: shadows crawling out from under five billion trees! Think of it!"

I love not only the quote, but the idea - night time comes not from somewhere "out there," but is there all the time without our even noticing it. Indigenous, if you will, to our world. Something powerful and a bit mysterious that has been right there under our noses, waiting to arrive, with an agency all its own. When we but think of it, everything can change!

That is how I understand my role as a rabbi. I am part of our shared world, making us feel comfortable together. But I look for clues and hints that when pointed out with just the right amount of enthusiasm, make our world different, somehow mysterious and powerful. My lifelong quest is not merely to be able to quote words from our shared Biblical and Rabbinic traditions, but to curate them and cultivate them, encouraging them to sprout at those exact moments we most need to hear what they are straining to tell us. As we see fairly often in classical commentaries, the words of the Torah call out "darsheni - explicate me," not content with being regifted, unopened and unheeded, like a fruitcake of the literary world.

Each rabbi in every generation has something unique to pass on, depending on his or her unique capabilities. Some see themselves as CEOs, executives in an organizational flow chart where the buck stops. Others understand themselves as the gateway teachers of tradition and text, librarians of vital information (shhh!). Some rabbis understand themselves to be social justice warriors, fighting on behalf of those who are unable themselves to fight. Some rabbis demand - and maybe even deserve - huge salaries for their stances on important issues of the day. Some even use their gifts of charisma to lead others to their own promised land!

Too many of us, however, fail to give our traditions and our world the dignity of attentive scrutiny. Torah, prayer and Jewish community are living entities, crying out for someone to enable and activate them. These shadows wait under every tree, itching to crawl out and transform the world into something better, more alive, something holier. Being the kid who figures out where night comes from will never win me awards or a lucrative salary. At best, though, somebody may listen and notice and think - and the gee-whiz of Jewishness will unfurl as a beautiful velvety darkness revealing millions of stars that draw our gaze up in wonder. Just when we might have thought antisemitism or limited resources or scarcity of Jews might condemn us to hang our heads and see only the limiting strip of the horizon, we may yet notice that the horizon is actually the place where the infinite begins.

Rabbi David Bockman

Congregation B'nai Sholom / Fair Lawn Jewish Center
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, Steve Montag



Dear fellow congregants,
Happy New Year!!

Our year long effort to merge Fair Lawn Jewish Center/Congregation B'nai Israel with Temple Beth Sholom of Fair Lawn has come to a successful conclusion, and we are now one congregation under the name of Congregation B'nai Sholom/Fair Lawn Jewish Center. So begins the work of combining the culture and methodologies of each individual synagogue into one cohesive, unified, and newly integrated entity. We welcome all the new members, employees, and visitors to our building at 10-10 Norma Avenue and look forward to getting to know everyone and becoming one family.

We are committed to offering a fully egalitarian Shabbat service in our sanctuary along with an alternate traditional Shabbat service in the chapel. Rabbi Salston and Rabbi Bockman will alternate leading our services in each location during their tenure while Cantor Yoni Stokar will read Torah in the Sanctuary on a triennial cycle and Eli Spivak will read the Torah in the chapel on an annual cycle.

The services will merge back together into the main Sanctuary after the Torah service for the sermon and Musaf. Our first joint service will start on Friday, January 5 for Kabbalat Shabbat, and our two Shabbat services will begin on Saturday, January 6. A combined kiddish will follow each week.

You will see physical changes in the building as we begin to move Judaica, stained glass windows and

Torah Scrolls over from the TBS building. Our newly formed Board will begin the difficult work of normalizing our policies and processes including membership levels, dues structures, B'nai Mitzvah policies, programs and events, cemetery management and nursery and Hebrew school interaction and engagement. We will also have significant behind-the-scenes work in the office, IT and financial integration. Work in these areas has already begun.

I would like to thank all of those members and staff integral to our success to date and I thank all those who participate in working on the next phases of our unification. The Helen Troum Nursery School and Kindergarten, led by Director Deborah Propper Lesnoy, will continue at the 40-25 Fair Lawn Avenue location through June 2024. Further information to follow as it becomes available.

Please watch for more information and details via email and the weekly *Insider* newsletter, in the coming days and weeks, on our progress and on how you can help and participate in our efforts to expand and broaden our awareness in the community. May we all go from strength to strength developing the next generation synagogue for Conservative Judaism in Fair Lawn and the neighboring communities.

Steven Montag

Help us Provide a More Delicious Kiddush

What makes your mouth water?

Lox - Whitefish - Mandel Bread - Rugalach - Muffins

Please consider making a donation to the Kiddush Fund
Through our Website or by Contacting Gilda

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Thorin Tritter



Happy 2024 and welcome to all the Temple Beth Shalom members! I am looking forward to an exciting year of programs and events that can help bring our congregation together and strengthen the Conservative Jewish Community of Fair Lawn.

The beginning of the new calendar year always makes me think back about the previous 12 months to consider what events, in hindsight, were particularly notable, and to consider any lessons that I should take for the future.

For me, 2023 started as a very challenging year, with the passing of Evan Marcus, the synagogue president. Thinking about Evan continues to bring both a smile to my face and a tear to my eye. He was a joy to work with. I miss his humor, his patience, and his wisdom. He was also, as many of you know, always thinking about the larger Conservative community in Northern Bergen County and sought out ways that the various synagogues in our area could work together. One result was the formation of the Community Hebrew School of Bergen County (CHSBC), which has flourished over the past two years. And, of course, one of Evan's other interests was the merger of FLJC/CBI with TBS. While he did not live to see the culmination of that merger, I'm sure he would be very happy to see how things worked out.

Let me add that while Evan may have inspired the initial merger discussions, the credit for the successful merger should certainly go to the dedicated efforts put forth over the past year by the presidents of the two synagogues, Mitch Friedman and Steven Montag, as well as the committee members from both synagogues who gathered at what must have seemed like endless meetings, and

the congregations as a whole who made the final decision with their votes to approve the merger. I congratulate you all on the successful bringing together of the Conservative synagogues of Fair Lawn.

I realize, however, that in some ways the hardest part of the merger is what lies ahead. It is what we do now, and here I know a significant burden is on my shoulders, to bring the two congregations together as one that will show the success of the merger. I look forward to getting to know the TBS members and to working with our new Board of Directors and Committee Chairs to develop programs and activities that can serve to bind our new congregation together.

I also look forward to rethinking the way we do things to inspire the interests of the wider Conservative Jewish community around us. As you will recall, one of the suggested names for the new congregation was Or Chadash, a New Light. While that name was not in the end chosen, the idea behind that name resonates with me as the larger objective of the merger. We would like to be a beacon for the Conservative movement in Northern Bergen County. To do that, we must challenge ourselves to think "outside the box" and come up with new approaches and new tactics. I look forward to implementing those new ideas and helping to steer our synagogue into the future.

I am, of course, getting ahead of myself. I will start with hoping to meet you all and being a welcome face when you reach out to me, which I encourage you to do.

Congratulations again on the unification of the Conservative Jewish community of Fair Lawn!

Thorin Tritter

Have news to share? Want to thank or recognize a congregant for a job well done? Wish someone a Mazel Tov?

Announce it in the News & Views!

**Births, Engagements, Weddings, School Engagements,
School Awards, Community Achievements & Recognitions**

Email info@fljc.com

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Charles Cohen



Shalom Chaverim,

Rabbi Salston's Coffee & Commentary class on the Torah is held in person each Wednesday. There is much to learn and discuss that is still relevant today. Please join us for coffee and conversation as we study together and learn.

Rabbi Emeritus Ronald Roth continues his Nosh & Knowledge Zoom class each Tuesday. His class explores Jewish Morality & Ethics as it affects all aspects of contemporary Jewish life which is both relevant and timely. Some topics have included the ethics of warfare in our scripture as well as ethical issues affecting Artificial Intelligence. We study both Rabbinic and Scholarly commentary on these issues and welcome your input as well.

On Monday, January 22, at 8:00pm, Adult Ed and the Program and Events Committee will co-sponsor Rabbi Roth's update on his important work on the Jews of Pacov. Please make every effort to attend and support Rabbi Roth's efforts to perpetuate the memory of the Jews of Pacov.

We appreciate the work of Andrea Pass and Lois Meisel in organizing the Abe Foxman presentation

on Anti-Semitism. Kudos also to Neil Garfinkle for moderating that important and timely discussion.

On Thursday, January 18, Adult Ed will present an in-person and Zoom movie discussion on the classic 1974 movie "The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz" starring a young Richard Dreyfuss. Based on the novel of the same name, written by Jewish Canadian Mordecai Richler, this film depicts a poor but very ambitious young man [Duddy] raised in Montreal, Quebec, whose burgeoning obsession with money and power are instilled from his grandfather's belief that "a man without land is nobody."

This philosophy drives Duddy to believe that land ownership is life's ultimate goal and by achieving this goal a man can become a "somebody". The issues depicted in this film are just as relevant today as they were back then such as family dynamics, success, failure, love, and loss. Moderated by Charlie Cohen, please join us for this interesting presentation. (Movie can be seen for free on YouTube.)

Happy Learning.

Charlie Cohen

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE PRESENTS A DISCUSSION IN-PERSON & [ON ZOOM](#) ABOUT

The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz

Thursday, January 18 at 8:00 pm at FLJC/CBI

This classic from 1974 focuses on a poor kid growing up in a Jewish enclave in post WWII Montreal. Starring Richard Dreyfuss as Duddy, a "nobody" desperate to become a "somebody." Duddy is a dreamer, a doer, a winner, a loser, and an unforgettable character. The film, with great characters and an engaging plot, is based on the acclaimed book by Jewish-Canadian writer Mordecai Richler. Its themes remain relevant today.

Moderator: Charles Cohen

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Whether you call them "Scrip" or "Gift Cards,"
purchase them from the synagogue office!

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synagogue gets free money

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Famous
The Kosher Nosh
Serving The Kosher Way Since 1976



BINGO Continues at TBS Building

Every Monday Afternoon

12:00 PM to 2:15 PM

10 Exciting Games and Chances to Win Big
Sandwiches, Snacks, and Hot & Cold Beverages Available

CASH PRIZES

MEN'S PROGRESS CLUB
Hal Fine, President



Hi Everyone,

It was a small but robust crowd that gathered Sunday night, December 10, the 4th night of Chanukah 5784, for our first **4P Game Night** in the youth lounge. Joel Ringer dominated the pool table, while Hal Fine slowly whittled down the competition playing ping-pong. It was a fun event for all with Charlie Cohen and Bruce Rein taking over the air hockey table and Elizabeth Fine and Sarah Cohen getting absorbed in a serious game of checkers. Neil Garfinkle and Steve Montag put up formidable opposition in the table tennis rivalry. I hope

this can be a repeat event as it was enjoyed by all, followed by group singing of Chanukah songs with the rest of the congregation in the chapel.

Upcoming events include the Big (I mean 'Big') Breakfast on Sunday January 7th 2024 when we'll come together to eat, shmooze and learn about what your MPC has been doing the first half of the year. Please do come to be with your fellow members. It will be the first event as a merged synagogue having former TBS members joining us.

Our annual Man of the Year (MOY) luncheon will be held in Temple Beth Ahm Yisrael in Springfield, New Jersey, on Sunday, January 21, 2024, from 1:00-5:00pm. Cost is \$40 pp after MPC subsidy. We will be honoring Neil Garfinkle, past president of MPC, for all he has done for the club. Please contact Brian Frisch at 201-233-6231, or luvtoride@mac.com to reserve a spot. It's an opportunity to socialize and honor one of our own.

A couple of photos from our 4P Game Night are **highlighted on page 11**.

Happy 2024 - may it be a more peaceful and secure world for All!

B'Shalom,

Hal Fine



MEN'S PROGRESS CLUB
Fair lanes provide center
congregation find best

Join the MPC for its
BIG BREAKFAST
and General Membership Meeting

Sunday, January 7
From 9:30-11:00 am
In the Pulka Room

Open to All MPC Members

RSVP by Jan. 4 to finedad59@gmail.com

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY REGION OF THE FEDERATION OF JEWISH MEN'S CLUBS HONORS

NEIL GARFINKLE AS YOUR MPC MAN OF THE YEAR



SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 FROM 1:00-4:00 PM
AT TEMPLE BETH AHM YISRAEL
60 TEMPLE DR, SPRINGFIELD, NJ

TO RSVP OR TO TAKE OUT AN AD CONTACT
BRIAN FRISCH AT (201)233-6231 OR LUVTORIDE@MAC.COM
\$40 PER PERSON

Deadline: January 12

MPC 4-P Game Night



PROGRAM & EVENTS COMMITTEE

ANDREA PASS, LOIS MEISEL, CO-CHAIRS



The Programs & Events Committee has been busy holding and planning activities to interest a wide range of our members. Most recently, we held, "The Impact of Current Events on Antisemitism: a Discussion with Abraham Foxman, National Director Emeritus, Anti-Defamation League." We would like to offer a special thank you to the Cecil Roth Fund; Bud Kessler Fund; Jeffrey Yagoda Fund, and Shirley Pintel Fund for making this event happen. An additional thank you to our moderator Neil Garfinkle who did an extraordinary job in his research, questions and dialogue. Thank you to Ritch Rosen, Craig Mont, Rabbi Ronald Roth, Cantor Yoni Stokar, Thorin Tritter, Miriam Levin, Shifra Ansonoff, Scott Pass and Mark Meisel. We raised much needed funds for Magen David Adom and Leket Israel. (See photos below.)

Save the date: Monday, January 22, 2024, 8:00pm

Rabbi Roth will speak about "*My Pilgrimage, A Trip to Auschwitz and the Synagogue in Pacov, Czech Republic, the original home of our Holocaust Memorial Torah.*" This presentation marks the worlds International Holocaust Remembrance Day designated by the United Nations to be January 27th the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau to honor and recall the memory of the victims of the Holocaust. The Programs & Events Committee is teaming with Adult Education for this unique presentation.

Upcoming events will include:

- ♦ A Saturday evening social night
- ♦ A trip to the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C.
- ♦ Jewish Heritage Fair

If you are interested in joining the Programs & Events Committee we invite you to please reach out to us. The more, the merrier!

Best regards,

Andrea and Lois

andreapasspr@gmail.com

loismeisel@gmail.com



SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE - Mark Meisel

Article By Miriam Levin



Our collective hearts remain with Klal Yisroel as we continue to pray for the safe return of all of the hostages and Israeli soldiers. Should you wish to help, following is a sampling of just a few organizations that continue to provide aid. Feel

free to donate to one of these or to any other charity of your choice:

- ♦ Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey:

<https://jfnnj.org/>

- ♦ Friends of the Israeli Defense Forces

<https://www.fidf.org/>

- ♦ Magen David Adom

<https://www.mdais.org/en/donation>

With our support, may a lasting peace be achieved.

While our hearts and minds remain with Israel, with your generosity and help, we continue to do good works within our community. We were happy to share ideas with Congregation Beth Shalom members who joined us for the December Social Action Committee meeting. We look forward to expanding our ranks in the new year. If you would like to join this committee, please reach out to Miriam Levin at almirlevin@gmail.com.

Before moving on to January's initiatives, following are some highlights from our December projects. Our Chanukah Toy Drive was highly successful. Thanks to Beth Perlman who spearheaded this program and collected bags of games, sports equipment, and craft kits for children and teens. Your donations helped put a smile on so many faces this holiday season!

Also in December, The Social Action Committee, along with our Hebrew School students, packed Emergency Snack Packs for senior citizens who benefit from the Meals on Wheels Program. Should there be inclement weather during the winter season, preventing food deliveries, this fragile

population will not go hungry because of your generosity. Applause to Ilene Laufer for giving us the opportunity to make a difference!

On December 24, your donations of food and money helped feed approximately 200 county residents impacted by food insecurity and homelessness. The comments from recipients about your generosity spoke volumes. "God bless you!"; "Thank you for being here tonight."; "Please send my gratitude to your organization."

Thank you to all who participated in this great mitzvah. With your support, we put into action the Pesach directive, Let All Who Are Hungry, Come and Eat!

As I mentioned last month, our most recent initiative will focus within our congregation. Kudos to Nina Gold who will ensure that any congregant who is recovering from illness after returning from the hospital, sitting shiva, or welcoming a new child will receive a meal to make these times of transition a bit easier. Please let the office know if you know of someone who requires a meal.

Looking ahead to January, our older Hebrew School students will enjoy participating in a Tu B'shvat project with a few gentlemen from J-ADD. (The Jewish Association for Developmental Disabilities.) Both groups will surely benefit as they learn about ecology and celebrate the Chag Ha'llanot. Lastly, please mark your calendars for February 11th when the Social Action Committee will sponsor a Blood Drive facilitated by the American Red Cross. Don't miss out on this selfless act that can truly save a life!

B'Shalom

Mark Meisel
Miriam Levin

Dear Fellow Congregants,

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

Sincerely,
Beth Perlman



SISTERHOOD

Lisa Urbanski & Siri Horvitz, Co-Presidents



I hope you all had joyous and festive Chanukah celebrations with friends and family. On December 12, Gail Rottenstrich once again graciously opened her home to host our annual Vodka and Latkes event for all Sisterhood members. This event is always my favorite, and unfortunately I couldn't attend, but

I heard everyone had a wonderful time. Thank you Gail for being the hostess with the mostest!

On January 7, at 10am, in the second floor auditorium, Ilene Laufer will be hosting a gathering to discuss our 2nd Book Club selection, *Woman on Fire*, written by Lisa Barr. Please RSVP to Ilene Laufer at RFlanzman@aol.com.

Please join us on Saturday, January 20, at 9:30AM for our annual Sisterhood Shabbat. We will be honoring Fran Kessler for her 50 years of dedication to Sisterhood and the greater FLJC/CBI community at this special event.



Please contact Ilene Laufer at RFlanzman@aol.com or Nina Gold at ninagold24@gmail.com if you are interested in participating in this special service led by the Women of Sisterhood.

Many thanks to Gerry Kessel for chairing our Torah Fund Campaign and to our members who generously supported our effort in assisting the Jewish Theological Seminary to train Rabbis, Cantors and educators for the Conservative Jewish Community. It is never too late to show your support for the Torah Fund Campaign. Contact Gerry at grkessel@optonline.net or 201-264-3706 for more information!

many thanks to all of our Sisterhood members who volunteer and participate in our events. Your contributions keep our organization thriving. I am grateful to all of you and want to especially thank my amazing Board Members for their continued support.

Wishing you and your families a very happy and healthy New Year.

Siri and Lisa

Purchase an Electronic Memorial

The Electronic Memorial Board is located by the entrance to the Sanctuary and can be accessed online. New standard plaques may be purchased for \$360 each. If you wish to enhance your new plaque or existing plaque with pictures/bio/stories, there is additional cost of \$180. For further info, contact Bert Wertheim at bertw4839@aol.com.



Sisterhood Vodka & Latkes Event





SISTERHOOD SHABBAT

Saturday Morning January 20th, 2024 at 9:30 AM

Join us for an engaging service led by the women of Sisterhood!

This year's annual Sisterhood Shabbat is in honor of Fran Kessler for her contributions to Sisterhood, the Synagogue, and the greater Community.



Do you have an interest in contributing to the service by opening the ark, leading a prayer in English or Hebrew, or reading the Torah?

Reach out to Ilene at Rflanzman@aol.com or Nina at ninagold24@gmail.com to get involved!

Get Your Mah-Jongg Cards from Sisterhood!

Sisterhood will order Mah-Jongg cards for you or your group

Regular cards are \$14. Large print cards are \$15



Order Deadline: January 26, 2024



**Make checks payable to TBS Sisterhood and
Send to Cheryl Nowack, 39-35 Brookside Avenue, Fair Lawn**





MEN'S CLUB FUNDRAISER SUPERBOWL SQUARES

BUY BOXES FOR
\$36 EACH



NUMBERS WILL BE
RANDOMLY ASSIGNED
AFTER ALL BOXES ARE
PURCHASED

PRIZES

\$300 (END OF 1ST AND 3RD QUARTERS)

\$500 (HALF TIME) AND \$700 (GAME)*

*Assuming all boxes are sold

DROP OFF CHECKS, PAYABLE TO CBS/FLJC, AT CENTER OFFICE, 10-10 NORMA AVENUE
DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 4 OR WHEN BOXES SELL OUT

FOR MORE DETAILS, CONTACT MEN'S CLUB CO-LEADER
STEVEN MARGULIES SCMCOWBOY@AOL.COM OR 201.741.3571

KEHILLAT YELADIM AT FLJC/CBI

LED BY MORAH DEB LESNOY

Ages 5+

Shabbat Songs
and Tefillot

Torah Lessons

Kid-Friendly
Snacks*

* All snacks are nut-free

We are pleased to once again be holding an exciting Shabbat program
just for kids. Kehillat Yeladim meets twice per month at 10:30 AM

January Dates:

January 20 • January 27





COMMUNITY HEBREW SCHOOL OF BERGEN COUNTY

Marcia Kagedan



Shalom Friends, Happy New Year 2024! Let us pray that this year brings peace and tranquility.

The last month of 2023 was indeed pretty busy at the Hebrew School. On the first school day of December, the children were honored to help pack the emergency packs with the Chessed committee. As always, the children enjoyed learning about Chanukah and celebrating in so many different ways. Thank you to all of those who helped put together the Chanukah party at FLJC/CBI on the Sunday of Chanukah. It was a tremendous success. Tuesday, December 12, of Chanukah, at JCCP/CBT was also fun with lighting the roof top chanukiya, singing and eating donuts! What's not to enjoy?

January will also be a busy month. On January 7, the first Sunday of the month, the JCCP/CBT invites all CHSBC families to stay after school for a pizza lunch, games and crafts. More info will follow and RSVP will be required. On another Sunday, our older students will be getting ready for their participation in the World -Wide Wrap by making their own tefillin.

On Sunday January 21, we will have our next Sunday Special for 3–5-year-olds in Fair Lawn where they will learn about Tu Bishvat. This is open to the general community and all students will be learning a unit about Tu Bishvat, nature and the environment in preparation for the Tu Bishvat holiday celebrated on January 25. At the end of the month, we begin our

elective classes for three consecutive weeks which allows the children to choose the activity/learning unit in which they are interested in. Last year, the children really enjoyed this curriculum and I am looking forward to seeing them engage in this special way in the upcoming year.

On Sunday, January 21, our 4th-7th grade will enjoy a Kadima youth event at FLJC/CBI including pizza, sports and games.

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

If the weather is bad on a Tuesday, there will not be any Hebrew school if the public schools are closed or they cancel their school activities.

If the weather is bad on a Sunday (which makes driving unsafe) a message will be sent out via REMIND app and also by email announcing a school closure.

With global warming there is no knowledge of what this winter will bring!

Either way, stay safe and warm.

Marcia

Tot Shabbat with Morah Vivian Saturday Mornings in January at 9:30 AM

In the Youth Lounge
For Infants to 5 Years of Age



January 20 • January 27



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!

Questions: Contact Info@fljc.com or (201)796-5040

• 10-10 Norma Avenue • Fair Lawn • NJ
Security on Premises

Hebrew School Students Working with Social Action to Create Emergency Supply Packages (ESP)

Students packed 100 winter emergency supply packages for Meals on Wheels recipients and others supported by Jewish Family Services in our community.



Many of the recipients are Holocaust Survivors who depend on Meals on Wheels for their daily sustenance.

These packages provide food when inclement weather prevents the regular delivery of meals.



Rabbi Roth's Nosh and Knowledge Class "Jewish Ethics – Now" Continues in January

Classes are open to everyone will meet via Zoom on Tuesdays, January 2, 9, 23 and 30 from 11:30am-12:30pm and repeated from 8:00pm-9:00pm. (Note: there is no class on Tuesday, January 16.)

The Zoom link is listed in the weekly *Insider*. A reminder email with the Zoom link is also send out on Monday, before the class date. If you do not receive our emails, please call the office and give the staff your email information and your name will be added to our list.

January's classes will continue with the study of ***Jewish Ethics and Gun Control*** with a special emphasis on Gun Control in Israel and the American Jewish Community after October 7, 2023.

CBS/FLJC Honors International Holocaust Remembrance Day 2024

My Pilgrimage:
A Trip to Auschwitz and the
Synagogue in Pacov, Czech
Republic, The Original Home
of Our Holocaust Memorial
Torah – An Illustrated Talk
By Rabbi Ronald Roth

Monday, January 22
at 8:00 PM

Attend In Person or email
info@fljc.com for Live
Stream Link

This Program is Offered At
No Charge and Is Open to
the Community

Presented by Adult Education
and Programs & Events



The Synagogue in Pacov where our Memorial Scrolls Trust Torah is from. (Photo by Ronald Roth, October 2023)

Congregation B'nai Sholom/Fair Lawn Jewish Center | 10-10 Norma Avenue | Fair Lawn

FAMILY MATTERS

Refuah Shlemah to

Carol Aig (Tova Raiza bat Malka Esther v'Yitzhak)
Dalia Tzril bat Riva Braina
Binyamin ben Yehudah v'Rina
Sally Baker (Sarah bat Chana)
Steve Baltin (Shragum Mordekai ben Hava
Chaya Reuvat bat Esther Faigel
Howard Charish (Yosef David ben Raizel)
Dror ben Rivka
Esther bat Priva
Alan Gasmer (Avraham ben Chaya Sarah v'Yisrael)
Laili Golda bat Reuvat v'David
Sadie Moreh bat Leah Elka v'Lazer Melech (Sadie
Gomberg)
Liat bat Chava
Irene Gasmer (Chaya Sarah bat Esther V'David)
Joe Hymovitz (Yehudah Yaakov ben Esther Yucha
u'Moshe)
Ann Lefkowitz
Barbara Levy
Shimon Ma'aravi ben Edna v'Mordechai
Irene Mandel (Itka bat Yente v'Chaim)
Larry Mandel (Leibel ben Chaya)

Tsvi Marder (Tsvi ben Esther v'Yehoshua)
Judi Margolis (Zisa Ita bat Rachel v'David)
Naomi Michaelson (Nechama bat Miriam v'Chaim)
Mordechai ben Vera
Margaret Namer (Sarah bat Hayim v'Dona)
Irv Pollack (Yehezkel ben Sarah v'Yaakov)
Raisa Bat Aviva
Debbie Rosenzweig (Devorah Surah bat
Tzirl v'Eliyahu Meyer)
Jesse Rosenzweig (Yehuda Laib ben Rachel)
Lori Rubin (Leah bat Ada Levy)
Stanley Sanders (Sender ben Ettie v'David haLevi)
Amy Serelson (Chana Batya bat P'nina)
Carolyn Shenberg (Cipra Raisa bat Moshe v'Dishka)
Kenny Schmier (Kalman Ben Rivka)
Yehudit Chasida bat Perel
Tovah Pearl bat Shandel v'Shlomo
Arthur Wartenberg (Avraham ben David v'Shaindel)
Ilene Wolosin (Chaya Rossa bat Celia u'Max)
Yonatan Menashe ben Dina Rivka v'Dov
Roni Zerowin (Rachel Chana bat Tamar)



Mazel Tov to our January Birthdays

Arlene Albalah, Stewart Bard, Ella Berger, Lynne Cantor, Lilly Chedzhemova, Marvin Diner, Nina Gold, Barry Hauptman, Jack Joffe, Rita Kahn, Karen Krane, Judith Margolis, Loren Rosenthal, Jesse Rosenzweig, Douglas Stolar, Roni Zerowin

Mazel Tov to our January Anniversaries

Carol and Edward Aig; Natalie and Marvin Klein; Irene and Lawrence Mandel; Deborah and Armando Mantilla; Judith and Jerome Pitkowsky; Ellen and Bert Wertheim; Beth and Richard Wyler

THE GENEROUS HEART WILL BE FULFILLED

December 2023 Donations

ELLIE WEINER FUND

In memory of Monroe C. Novick
The best father and grandfather of all time. We miss you so much
The Novick and Telchin family

CLARE GREEN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Yana Garger, Alla Basis and Family

We are very sorry for the loss of your dear father, husband and grandfather Vladimir Basis
Donna Pasternak and family

Barbara Steinberg

We are very sorry for the loss of your dear husband and father, Phil Steinberg
Donna Pasternak and family

GENERAL FUND

Yana Garger

Deepest condolences on the loss of your father Vladimir Basis
Tamar and Jack Joffe

Marion Herrmann

Mazel tov on the birth of your sixth great-grandchild
Bea Goldstein

Carol Marcus

Wishing you a speedy recovery
Judi and Len Margolis

Maggie Wolf

In memory of Sheldon Zimmerman
Tamar and Jack Joffe

HOWARD R. HERMAN FUND

Arline Herman

In honor of my dear cousin on her birthday. Wishing you a happy birthday
Roberta Bekerman

KIDDUSH FUND

Yana Garger

In memory of your father Yladimir Basis
Carol Marcus

STEVEN K. WEIL FUND

Linda Blum

In memory of your mother
Bena Weil

Sylvia Cohen

Mazal Tov on becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Bena Weil

Terry DeMartino

In memory of your sister
Bena Weil

Stuart Rubinstein

In honor of your "special" birthday
Bena Weil

Arnie Spier

In memory of your mother Carla
Bena Weil

Rachel and Max Weil

In memory of your beloved grandfather
Debbie and Mark Oppenheimer

YAHREZEIT

Irving Becker

Henry Becker

Joshua Becker

Henry Becker

Virginia Becker

Henry Becker

Terry Breindel

Eileen and Steve Schwimmer

Freda Boston

Gail and Ephraim Levy

Herb Dell

Marsha and Robert Thaler

Connie Ezratty

Shirly Lebowitz

Judy Halpern

Howard Halpern

Raphael Karpen

Elaine Paris

Hilda Kirschenbaum

Ruth and Harold Kirschenbaum

Elaine Leibowitz

Evan Leibowitz

Francine Lempert

Frank Lempert

Eugenia Marcus

Linda Susan Marcus

Wilhelmina Margolis

Leonard Margolis

David Howard Jacobs

Elaine Paris

Adele Paget

Renee Paget

Henrietta Peters

Elaine Paris

Jeannete Rubinoff

Craig Rubinoff

Sophie Simon

Maxine Stave

Chaim Spring

Rosa Sirota

Florence Thaler

Marsha and Robert Thaler

Zlata Viner

Lilly Chedzhemova

Milton Wasserstrom

William Wasserstrom

Morris Weinberg

Sol Weinberg



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