



המרכז היהודי ד'פורסט הילס

Message

FOREST HILLS JEWISH CENTER

May-June 2021 / Iyyar-Sivan-Tamuz 5781 / Vol. LXXVI No. 4

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE FOREST HILLS JEWISH CENTER ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

immediately following evening limud, on Zoom

Agenda

A Tribute to the Outgoing Officers and Members of the Board of Trustees

Election and Installation of New Officers and Trustees

The President's Annual Report for the Preceding Year

New Building Progress Report

Trustees Serving a Three Year Term:

Jeffrey Bochner

Richard Chase

Robyn Cimbol

Lee Elovitch

Diane Fogelman

Preston Forman

Joe Fox

Paul Goldfarb

Eric Kober

Risa Matzner

Alyssa Pollack

Peter Taub

Lorain Wankoff

Debra Weil

Zach Winkler

Additional candidates may be placed on the ballot by petition signed by ten (10) members.

Candidates for Office Nominated by the Nominating Committee and Recommended by the Board of Trustees:

Romi Narov, President

Richard Chase, Vice President

Eric Kober, Vice President

Carrie Leifer, Vice President

Debra Weil, Vice President

Rabbi David Cavill, Treasurer

Robert Samuel, Secretary

Such petition must be filed with the Secretary of the Center at least six (6) days prior to the date of election, and only members in good standing may be nominated.

FHJC
Tennis on the Green
at the
West Side Tennis Club

Save The Date
Monday, August 23
Watch for details.

Yom Hashoah 5781

Our annual Yom Hashoah commemoration feature presentation was delivered by FHJC Executive Director Deborah Gregor, who shared an extraordinary account of her parents' experience in the Holocaust. We lit memorial candles with survivors and children of survivors, Center member Ruth Baran-Gerold recited a moving Yiddish poem, and together we recited Kaddish. Remembrance is our sacred obligation!

We've asked Deborah to share some of her presentation, including her list of teachings she learned from her parents. Please see page 12.



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Rabbi Gerald C. Skolnik

Dare We Hope??

Over the past fifteen or so months I have heard many people cite a quote attributed to one Gretchen Rubin: The days are long, but the years are short. When applied to raising children, I get it. But to be perfectly honest with you, as regards COVID-19, I'm not so sure I agree with the sentiment, or even understand it.

Since that day in March of 2020 when the world as a whole, and particularly our own city of New York, closed up shop and told everyone to stay home, time has both dragged and sped by. Not only have the days been long, but they have bled one into the other, making it difficult to mark the passage of time altogether. And yet here we are, confronting the advent of a second summer in the era of COVID-19, and it seems as if it has come upon us more quickly than we could have imagined...

There is, of course, one critical difference between this year and last: this year we have vaccines to help us combat the COVID plague. We have real, tangible, and credible hope that there is light at the end of this very dark tunnel. Last year we wondered when and from where our salvation might come, as so many people all around us were sick and dying. This year, America has once again resumed a leadership position in public health, as we have successfully vaccinated many millions of our citizens. We still have a long way to go, and there are, incredibly, still significant numbers of citizens who refuse to allow themselves to be vaccinated. Please join me in urging all of them, if not for themselves than for our sakes, to help stamp out COVID-19 once and for all! And while we're mindful of the vaccines, we should all pause and give thanks for the remarkable work of the scientific and medical communities to produce these life-saving drugs in such a short period of time...

And through it all, the pulse of Jewish life continues to beat steadily. We look forward to the celebration of Shavuot, as we mark the anniversary of our Torah's revelation on Sinai. We will be joining with many thousands of Conservative Jews from around the world in a Global Tikkun Leil Shavuot, a program that will last from noon on Erev Shavuot on May 16 until noon on the first day of Shavuot, May 17. You don't need to register to participate, and of course you're not expected to stay on for the whole program, but it's not a bad idea to register, so you'll get a picture of the whole program.

Here's the link where you can find all the information: <https://tinyurl.com/RA-Shavuot>

I'll be teaching one very small section of the program, but I heartily encourage you to take advantage of the many opportunities this broad program offers you!

As we move inexorably towards the summer months, I hope you know how incredibly proud I am of our synagogue, and of all of you, for the way we have coped together during this time of pandemic. We have a lot to be proud of here in Forest Hills Jewish Center.... Yasher koach to us all!

Rabbi Gerald C. Skolnik

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Editorial Board: Karen L. Stein (Editor), Gerald C. Skolnik (Rabbi), Henry Rosenblum (Hazzan), Deborah Gregor (Executive Director), Jessica Braginsky (Director of Education and Engagement), Lynn Fisher (Director, Early Childhood Education), Laurie Worthman (Office Manager). Officers: Romi Narov (President), Deborah Ball Witlin (Vice President), Eric Kober (Vice President), Carrie Leifer (Vice President), Dr. David Zipkowitz (Vice President), Rabbi David Cavill (Treasurer), Robert Samuel (Secretary). Arms: Men's Club, Warren Wankoff (President), Minyan Club, Betty Korb (President), Sisterhood, Debra Weil (President). Opinions expressed in The Message are the authors' and do not necessarily represent those of the Forest Hills Jewish Center, its officers and Board, or the Editorial Board.



NOTES FROM THE HAZZAN

Hazzan Henry R. Rosenblum

Today was *Pesah Sheni*, the day on the Jewish calendar one month after the holiday of *Pesah*, when those Israelites who were not able to bring the *Pesah* sacrifice to Jerusalem due to being out of town or in a state of ritual impurity were given a second chance to bring the offering. We moderns shudder at the prospect of reentering a *Pesah* condition after we've finally left it behind until next year, even if we're not required to eat matzah again or clean our houses as we did last month, but to our ancestors this was a very important opportunity to perform this most significant mitzvah.

Although it is not nearly the same, we all have a renewed opportunity now to perform an important mitzvah. As we continue to emerge from the darkness of this pandemic, the ability to reenter a real-time prayer group and prayer space is right in front of us. We have come to enjoy davening from the comfort of home, in the most casual attire imaginable, without having to get ourselves to the shul. But *Tefillah B'Tzibbur*, "Communal Prayer," was always considered the preferred desideratum by the Rabbis. Certain prayers could not be said without a minyan, the Torah could not be read from the scroll without a minyan, and it is only for the time of this pandemic that the Law Committee

of the Rabbinical Assembly ruled that an exception could be made and permit the recitation of the Mourner's Kaddish without a minyan of 10 people together in person.

If you are vaccinated and feel ready to take the step, we are waiting for you in the Little Synagogue on Friday nights and in the Main Sanctuary on Shabbat morning. People are still sitting in pods or socially distant and are all wearing masks, but we are coming together as a community again. It is critical for us to do so if we are to ensure the future of our congregation. Zoom has been wonderful in enabling us to feel connected in ways that none of us could have imagined, but davening together, hearing each other sing, seeing each other in our shul are all things that we need to do as we move forward. This is our *Pesah Sheni*. This is our opportunity to do what we have missed out on and what we need to do if we are to reinvigorate our spiritual lives and our shul. Seize the opportunity! Don't miss out! Join us in prayer in our Synagogue and raise your voices, even if somewhat softer than you might really want to. We need you and now is the time!

B'Shalom,
Hazzan Henry Rosenblum

Weekly Online Learning

Learn with Rabbi Skolnik

Evening Limud

Weekday Evenings, 7:30 PM, via Zoom

Join Rabbi Skolnik each evening on Zoom to study together, followed by Mourner's Kaddish.

See online calendar for Zoom link or click [here](#).

Parashat Hashavuah Group

Mondays, 1:30-2:45 PM via Zoom

Join Rabbi Skolnik each Monday on Zoom to discuss the fascinating weekly Torah portion.

See online calendar for Zoom link or click [here](#).



Learn with Shimon Yaakov Laxer

Our weekly Isaiah Havura continues to go strong, as we continue making progress throughout the section of the book of Isaiah known as "Isaiah's Apocalypse"! The author of this section, who might not have been Isaiah himself, is one of the most playful of poets in the TaNaKh, relishing opportunities to play around with words and sounds as he describes in vivid detail what the totality of humankind has to look forward to if we fail to rise to the responsibility of acting as the Almighty knows we can. (Spoiler alert - It's not pleasant!) The imagery is stunning and the music of the words and sounds is captivating, taking on almost a mystical, or a magical quality at times.

Our meeting time is **Friday morning from 10:15 until 11:30**. All newcomers welcome! We read all texts in both Hebrew as well as English. Feel free to reach out to me for the Zoom link or with any questions at shimon_yaakov@aol.com.



THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

Romi Narov

And just like that, summer is around the corner...

Pesach is behind us and before we know it, we will be celebrating Shavuot. The trees around Forest Hills are blooming and flowers are popping out of the ground all around us. Ahhh, Spring in Forest Hills! It is time to shed the greyness of winter and enjoy the outdoors. Soon summer will be here!

As we are approaching summer and the weather is improving, we are taking baby steps to resume some in-person activities. We reassembled the same task force that planned our becoming a virtual synagogue community to plan our return to our physical space and be present in the Sanctuary and Little Synagogue for in-person activities.

We have returned to the Sanctuary for the celebration of Bnei and Bnot Mitzvah. Kabbalat Shabbat and Shabbat services are resuming on a regular basis in the Little Synagogue and Rabbi BenZion Bokser Sanctuary and we continue to hold some holiday services in person. We are doing all of this following, at a minimum, the CDC's recommendations for places of worship. We are also very aware of the fact that not everyone feels comfortable or safe yet to come back to services. So, in order to engage as many of our members as we can, we will continue simultaneously with our virtual presence on Zoom. While it is not a good substitute to in-person presence it is still a virtual space where we can worship and also interact with each other, offering many of you the human contact that the pandemic robbed us of.

A lot of thought and effort is going into our reopening planning. But in order to succeed we need the engagement of our community, all of us. We need to return to a level of participation that will show us that we

are moving in the right direction. Zoom was a great tool when we could not be together. Have we gotten too used to going to services in our pajamas? I hope not.

Another area of our activities that we are trying to resuscitate are our kid services. Who does not miss hearing their cheerful voices within our walls? Our school directors are hard at work planning activities that will safely bring our children back to our REAL space. I cannot wait.

So, as we are all shedding the layers that helped us survive the winter, I hope that you are able to enjoy the outdoors and that you will join us as we try and resume our lives as they were.

B'shalom
Romi Narov

Shabbat at FHJC

FHJC maintenance supervisor Frank captured our children enjoying Shabbat programs at FHJC again!



Forest Hills Jewish Center
Award Winning Nursery Program
3K and PreK For All

 106-06 Queens Blvd. 718-263-7000 x220
 Forest Hills, NY nursery@fhjc.org
 www.fhjc.org/education/nursery-school

NOW OFFERING! **FREE**
3-K FOR ALL
 For Children Born in 2018
Register Now!



Go to myschools.nyc.gov
Deadline: May 28, 2021

Children in our Toddler/3K Programs have priority enrollment in our 3K/Pre-K For All Programs

Early Drop-Off and Late Pick-Up Available

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

www.fhjc.org/religious-school/



NEWS FROM NURSERY SCHOOL

Lynn Fisher



As the school year starts to wind down, it gives me a chance to reflect on the past year. As we approach the end of this very uncertain year, I struggle to find the words that accurately describe the awe I am in of the teachers' strength, the resilience of the children, and the commitment of our families. So I am going to rely on the lyrics of the McFadden & Whitehead song, Ain't No Stopping Us Now.



Earth Day

There's been so many things that's held us down
But now it looks like things are finally comin' around
I know we've got, a long long way to go
And where we'll end up, I don't know

But we won't let nothin' hold us back
We're putting ourselves together
We're polishing up our act!
If you felt we've been held down before

I know you'll refuse to be held down anymore!
Don't you let nothing, nothing
Stand in your way!
I want ya'll to listen, listen

To every word I say, every word I say!
Ain't No Stoppin Us Now!
We're on the move!
Ain't No Stoppin Us Now!



Back in August, who thought we would get here? As of today, we have 90% of our students in person 5 days a week and only 10% learning remotely. We have been able to watch the children learn and grow in so many ways. I was reading an article recently about young children and the differences between risk and hazard. A hazard is something that could hurt or endanger a child that may not be on the child's radar. For example, a whole grape and a two year old or a room full of cute rabies-infested puppies and a four year old. Risks however are the challenges that the child encounter in their environment - physical, emotional, cognitive and or social. For example sliding down the slide head first or climbing up high in a tree. As educators it is our job to provide opportunities for children to take risks each day. By giving children risk opportunities, we are giving them time to practice trying out consequences before they get older and are faced with larger risks. When we support risk-taking in early childhood, we are giving children the tools needed to grow up in the world

safely. We help children understand how to trust themselves and build confidence. Children need risk for the benefits of their growth and development. They gain strength, dexterity, executive functioning, balance, and body awareness. This is how they learn new things.

As the children came through our doors (or through our computer screens) this past September to play, paint, draw, build, read, write, color, and learn, they have engaged in a wide variety of educational opportunities that encourage self-expression, communication, logical thinking, and problem-solving. We have seen the children grow physically, socially and emotionally. And through the power of compassion and love-filled teaching, our students have been able to grow at their own pace. The children have been active participants in constructing their own knowledge and in the direction that their learning took them. They took risks. Some failed and some succeeded, but they have all grown. The staff and families took risks this year too and I thank you for that. I thank you for trusting us with your children and allowing us to provide what they so greatly needed during this challenging time.

We've got the groove!
Ain't No Stoppin Us Now!
We're on the move!
Ain't No Stoppin Us Now!

I hope you enjoy a happy, healthy and safe summer with your children. I look forward to seeing all of the growth in our returning students in September. I also want to extend a big mazal tov to our children who are moving up and continuing on their journey.

Lynn Fisher

Whether they are converting their dramatic play center to a concession stand or reflecting on their friends' work, our children are active participants in constructing their own knowledge and in the direction that their learning takes them.



EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Jessica Braginsky

A Culture of Experimentation

Trying something new, even if it may fail sets thriving companies apart and positions them to grow and innovate. Stefan Thomke, in the Harvard Business Review, finds that when firms adopt this mindset, curiosity will prevail and people will see failures not as costly mistakes but as opportunities for learning. Performing many experiments means you will see some ideas flourish while plenty of others fail. The business blog *Runrun.it* points out that, "Failure is an imperative aspect of a culture of experimentation." Without experimenting and failing at some projects, you will never be able to achieve that one great idea that helps your organization take off.

We are also experimenting by putting an emphasis on social and emotional learning as a lens for Jewish education. This year, with the enormous stress of upheaval caused by the pandemic, we have invested in our students' mental health in two ways. The Religious School and Nursery School joined together to train our teachers, parents and students to incorporate mindfulness tools into their daily lives. We have seen some benefits and we are still working hard to practice the tools that we learned. We were also selected to pilot a mental health program for the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students in Religious School. Klei Kodesh Conversations examined friendships and family relationships, personal strengths and outside support, to help our students know that they are not alone when they are struggling with stress and anxiety.



FHJC has set itself apart by fostering innovation and experimentation. In the Religious School this year we have been somewhat forced to innovate due to the pandemic. We have moved our minyan on-line. We have tried a hybrid approach to classes for our older students, with some in person and some virtual.

And there is much more. We are trying out podcasting with our 8th graders. Taking virtual field trips. Looking for new and innovative Shabbat programming.

One successful experiment we tried this year is Hebrew Reading Tutoring. This has become the primary method for teaching and practicing Hebrew reading and decoding for our students who have mastered the basics of Hebrew. Hebrew Reading Tutoring is a tutoring session that occurs weekly with one teacher and two students spending a half hour on Zoom reading prayers and even playing Hebrew games. This has enabled our students to go at their own rate and progress as fast as they are able. Some of our strongest students have even been reading and understanding modern Hebrew stories about holidays.

Why try these experiments? Why not stick to the tried and true? Judaism is so layered and rich. And people, even children, are so different in temperament and interests. The challenge is to find the entry point to Judaism and Jewish learning that fits the student. That is one of the missions of the FHJC Religious School. Drawing our students into a relationship with their masoret, their heritage, will help each child thrive and the Jewish people to grow in strength.

De-Stress with FHJC

Mondays, 5:00 pm via Zoom

Warm company and professional support from Mitchell Frank and Ariela Frieder.

Come share your concerns and hopes.

See the FHJC listserv for the link.

FHJC SURJE INVITES YOU:

THE FIRST SURJE SALON SESSION

WANT TO BE MORE INVOLVED IN SURJE? WANT TO SHARE RESOURCES AND IDEAS? COME TO OUR OPEN MEETING TO DISCUSS THE ROAD AHEAD.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Monday, May 24th at 6:00pm
Link to register:
<http://bit.ly/SurjeSalon>

SURJE: Standing Up for Racial Justice & Equity

You're invited to join us for our very first FHJC SURJE Salon Session, an open space to reflect on what has been accomplished so far, and to discuss what SURJE can be. If you're looking to get more involved in SURJE, or simply want to share ideas and resources, this is a space for you! We look forward to working together to continue strengthening our community.

Monday, May 24, 6:00PM

Register at the following link: <http://bit.ly/SurjeSalon>

HEBREW LITERATURE GROUP

The Hebrew Literature Group continues to meet monthly on Zoom, studying poems and songs and the music they inspire. Texts are in Hebrew (and occasionally in Yiddish, Ladino, and Latin) with English translation, and discussion is in English. Come join us! Mitchell Frank



SISTERHOOD

Debra Weil

It always seems shocking to note how quickly time seems to fly after the Passover dishes are put away. Maybe because we are so aware of the passage of time as we count the Omer, but suddenly it's Spring and very soon - it will be Summer!

FHJC Sisterhood is "springing" into action, and has many programs and activities planned in the next few months. We are continuing our Health Awareness programs with our "Immunizations - They're Not Just for Kids" presentation by Dr. Judy Beizer and Mollie Mandel, RN on May 12th; Yoga with Lorain and Walking, Balance and Posture continue with their weekly meetings. Woolgatherers, our weekly crafters (and "chat-ers") meet and greet continues on Tuesday afternoons. While not specifically a health maintenance program, these weekly gatherings have certainly helped to provide connections and support for our Sisterhood members.

On June 10th our Sisterhood will be joining with the other BQLI Synagogues to celebrate our respective "Women of Achievement" at the annual Gala celebration. FHJC Sisterhood is thrilled to be honoring our very own Woman of Achievement, Rae These Kerzner. Rae is a devoted Sisterhood member, and has been our amazing treasurer for the past 5 years, after having served on the Executive Board of FHJC. Rae is a past Torah Fund honoree, daily minyan and Shabbat services attendee, as well as a brand-new grandmother! We hope many of our FHJC members will honor Rae by placing ads in the Gala Journal as well as attending the Virtual Gala via Zoom.

During the Women of Achievement Gala, there will also be the Installation of the new BQLI Board for 2021-2022. FHJC Sisterhood is very proud to have not 1, but 3 members of the upcoming BQLI Board: Shirley Rossman Zucker - Torah Fund

Director; Marcia Belgorod - Community Affairs/Social Action Chair; Debra Weil - Health Education Chair. It is a testament to the quality of the FHJC Sisterhood that BQLI has so many of our members represented on the Board. Mazel Tov to Rae, and Behatzlachah - Best of Luck to all the new Board Members!

Sisterhood programming continues throughout the Summer months! Daytime Readers will be discussing "The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig on Thursday, July 8th. We will be learning about Genealogy with David Ellis and Organizing Your Life - Deciding What Stays and What Goes with Jamie Novak during July and August. We will be continuing to hold Sisterhood Tzed Talks in our on-going collaboration with SURJE, and working to make both FHJC and Sisterhood more open and welcoming to those of all ages, colors and orientations. We look forward to welcoming all of you to join with Sisterhood as we go from strength to strength.

- Debra Weil, FHJC Sisterhood President



Honor Your Woman of Achievement With an Ad in Our Virtual Gala Journal Thursday, June 10, 2021

Honorees will each receive a limited edition Commemorative Gala Journal. Ads may also be placed in honor of Incoming and Outgoing BQLI Region Board Members or other Sisterhood members.

**We are very pleased to be honoring Rae These Kerzner as our Woman of Achievement from FHJC Sisterhood. Members of the FHJC Sisterhood Executive Board will be installed to positions on the BQLI General Board:
Marcia Belgorod - Community Affairs/Social Action Chair
Shirley Rossman Zucker - Torah Fund Director
Debra Weil - Health Education Chair**

Online Ads and payment, go to: <https://bqliregion.ticketleap.com/journal/> **OR**

Mail Ads with completed form and check made out to BQLI Women's League to: Karen Seltzer, 1A Chelmsford Drive, Muttontown, NY 11545

Send photos, clip art or other art as a jpeg or pdf to karensBQLI@gmail.com
Questions? Email Karen or call 516-626-7724

Please submit content and payment by **Friday, May 14, 5 p.m., 2021**

MAZAL TOV TO OUR B'NEI MITZVAH

Mazel
Tov!



Joshua Levy Obadiah

Bar Mitzvah, May 8, 2021

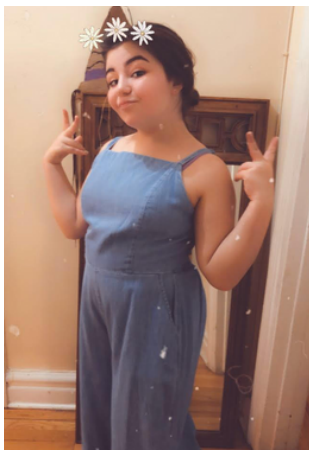
Joshua is excited to become a bar mitzvah at FHJC, which he attended in nursery school and kindergarten. Josh is a seventh grade student at Solomon Schechter School of Queens. Joshua loves sports, especially basketball and soccer. He loves to play sports and go to Nets games with his father. Up until Covid, Josh was on his school basketball team, and also played travel soccer for the Queensborough United Soccer League. Josh also loves to spend time with his family and friends. He likes to do things with his twin sisters – Alexa and Olivia and his mom Rafaela and dad Ron. He also likes to travel to California and Florida and spend time with his cousins and grandparents.



Liora Beer

Bat Mitzvah, May 29, 2021

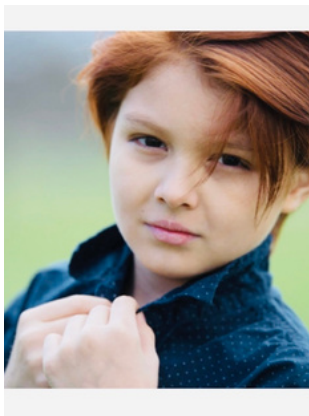
Liora is in the 6th grade at the Abraham Joshua Heschel School. For the past 3 summers before the pandemic, she attended the Usdan Center for the Creative and Performing Arts. This summer she is looking forward to going to Camp Ramah in the Berkshires. Her favorite hobbies are painting, photography, and reading. She is also a wonderful loving sister to Rina and Yael.



Elana Pearl Kaufman Greenberg

Bat Mitzvah, June 12, 2021

Elana has been a part of FHJC even before she was born. She was on the amazing FHJC trip to Israel led by Rabbi and Robin Skolnik in 2008 and she surely heard the sounds and tasted the falafel. A few months later on a Shabbat morning standing at the bimah Rabbi Skolnik officially announced her Hebrew name – Eliana Peninah – after her maternal grandmother and great-grandmother. Elana started her education at the FHJC nursery school with Morah Rina and Morah Ricki. Today, as Elana prepares to become a bat-mitzvah she continues her FHJC studies. She is also a 7th-grader at Louis Armstrong Middle School where she focuses on chorus and drama including participating in ANNIE and FAME. Elana is passionate about social justice and the rights of others. Her mitzvah project will donate essential products in support of the women and girls at Transition House. She loves her voice and acting lessons and Sababa, the Jewish surfing camp.



Deko Jaramillo

Bar Mitzvah, June 26, 2021

I was born into a Hispanic family. We converted into Jews. After that day at the beach in Miami many things have happened. I was officially a Jewish boy. It was crazy how I started sharing a connection with Hashem. This changed my life forever. My parents signed me up at FHJC. I never thought I would be able to speak or learn Hebrew. Then all of a sudden, I turned 12 years old, and it was time to start preparing for my 13th birthday AKA my Bar Mitzvah. Hazzan and everyone else at FHJC have been working hard and teaching me much more to the Hebrew language. I had high doubts that I would be able to learn the Hebrew in time for my celebration. However here I am, confident, excited, very anxious. I have G-d to thank for making this all possible. I can't wait to see how things turn out.

Acknowledgements

PULPIT FUND

The following donations were made in honor of **Senta Baum's** 100th birthday:

Dorrie & Hal Berkowitz
Ruth & Gunther Bechhofer
Lisl Topper
Susan & Ralph Straus

Marian & Martin Krasilovsky - in honor of the birth of **Judy & Matt Beizer's** grandson, **Jonah Shai Kook**

Rhonda Schuval - in honor of **Lorain & Warren Wankoff's** 50th wedding anniversary

Barbara Bernstein - in honor of the birth of **Judy & Matt Beizer's** grandson

Rachel Gostl - in gratitude to **Gary Weil**

Michael Landsman & Naomi Baumgarten - in memory of **Benjamin Robinson**

Michael Landsman & Naomi Baumgarten - in memory of **Isadore Landsman**

Marian Krasilovsky - in memory of beloved mother, **Anita Thorner**, on her *yahrzeit*

Roz Feuer - in memory of **Susan Feuer's** mother

The following donations were made in memory of

Deborah Ball-Witlin's mother, **Leona Ball:**

Teri & Steven Goffner
Roz & Oskar Matzner
Michael Landsman & Naomi Baumgarten
Arlene & Eli Ratzabi

Barbara Bernstein - in memory of **Dorothy Mahlab's** beloved mother, **Suzette**

Georgette & Anthony Danker - in memory of **Dorothy Richter**

HAZZAN'S MUSIC FUND

Anne Frankel - in memory of father, **Ernest Frankel** (27th *yahrzeit*)

YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

Pauline & Mark Raphael - in gratitude to **Candy & Carl Koerner** for their kindness

Judy & David Zipkowitz - in honor of the birth of **Helaine & Joe Fox's** granddaughter

Judy & David Zipkowitz - in honor of **George Leifer's** special birthday

Barbara Bernstein, Alyssa, Howard, Madison, Hailey & Melissa Pollack & Allison & Aaron Shine - in honor of a special lady,

Senta Baum on a special birthday

Judy & David Zipkowitz - in honor of **Rae Kerzner** being honored as FHJC Woman of Achievement

Helaine & Andy Bass & Family - in honor of **Matt & Judy Beizer** becoming grandparents

The following donations were made in honor of the birth of **Judy & Matt Beizer's** grandson, **Jonah Shai:**

Nancy & Richard Chase & Family
Judy & David Zipkowitz
Rebekah & Norman Fassler

Randi Zwick-Marks - in memory of her mother, **Susan**

Randi Zwick-Marks - in memory of her grandmother, **Anne Workman**

Richard Chase - in memory of her mother, **Alyce B. Chase** (19th *yahrzeit*)

Richard Chase - in memory of his father, **Lawrence Chase** (1st *yahrzeit*)

Helaine & Andy Bass & Family - in memory of **Deborah Ball-Witlin's** mother, **Leona Ball**

From the **Sunday-Thursday shiva food families** - in memory of **Deborah Ball-Witlin's** mother, **Leona Ball**

Arlene & Eli Ratzabi - in memory of **Deborah Ball-Witlin's** mother, **Leona Ball**

Life Cycles

Mazal Tov מזל טוב

...to those in our Center family who are celebrating a simcha:

to **Senta Baum** on her 100th birthday

to **Judy & Matt Beizer** on the birth of their grandson, **Jonah Shai**

to **Helaine & Joe Fox** on the birth of their granddaughter, **Maya Sloane**

to **Rafaela & Ron Obadiah** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Josh**

to **Edie & Ira Beer** on the occasion of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Liora**

to **Sara Kaufman-Greenberg & Eric Greenberg** on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Elana**

to **Jullie & Oskar Jaramillo** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Deko**

to **Lorain & Warren Wankoff** on their 50th wedding anniversary

to **Yonah Ringlestein & Jason Kirschner & Bina Kirschner** on the birth of their daughter & sister

to **Susan Moskowitz & Alan Kirschner** on the birth of their granddaughter

Hamakom Y'nahem המקום ינחם

...may God grant comfort and consolation to those who have lost a loved one.

to **Alissa Stollwerk** on the loss of her mother, **Susan**

to **Deborah Ball-Witlin** on the loss of her mother, **Leona Ball**

to **Jonathan Kastin** on the loss of his mother, **Fran Kastin**

to **Cheryl Topal** on the loss of her father, **Mel Taub**

We mourn the loss of our dear Center members:

Dorothy Richter

Carl Stern

May their memories be for a blessing



Looking for the Calendar?

Please visit the FHJC website for our up-to-date calendar.

Excerpts from Deborah Gregor's Yom Hashoah Presentation

Their notebook full of memories, and several hours of their recorded testimonies bear witness to atrocities in measured words and voices. They recollect the deaths – some by bullet, some by disease, some by hunger, some by freezing, some by electric fence, some by gas, some in a ditch, some in a cattle car, some in a gas chamber, some in front of the eyes of their children, some of despair. But their stories also illuminate their paths of survival.

After telling their stories, what does being the child of survivors require of me? How am I supposed to honor it? How has it impacted who I am? And why do we do this every year? Why do we insist “Zachor”? What exactly are we meant to remember? Of the 1.1 million Jews who walked through the gates emblazoned “Arbeit Macht Frei,” 960,000 never walked out. Six million Jews were eradicated from the face of the earth during the Shoah. For what purpose did the few survive when the many perished? Six million didn’t get to tell their stories, and we must never forget them, but we can’t know their stories. The stories we know were told by the few who survived. What are we meant to learn and decipher from the stories we tell? I know that what the ovens did not cremate, was refined in the crucible of the Shoah into a different stuff. No one survived unchanged. That altered DNA is my DNA.

So as I listen to and read their words, and think back on my life as their daughter, I know that some of what they tried to teach me was born of the fear and sadness that would never leave them, but ultimately, the essence that was distilled by their suffering was hope, and though the human race has the capacity for great evil, the capacity to not lose hope is what allows us to survive.

I am the child of survivors; this is what my parents taught me:

Don't judge other people, you have no idea what they've been through.

Most people are good.

Raise your hand.

Take responsibility for yourself.

Sometimes you have to take a chance.

Smile.

Appearances matter

Always look at the bright side.

Say yes.

Learn everything you can, from anyone you can.

Help everyone you can, whenever you can.

Appreciate the people who support you.

Appreciate the beautiful and good things in life – the big things and the small.

As long as there is life, there is hope.

And, when you are warm indoors, looking out at the rain, thank God.

Congratulations Graduates

James Bass – Brooklyn Law School
Jacob Bass – NYU
Madeline Forman – Garden School Jackson Heights
Dylan Friedman – Louis Armstrong Middle School
Charlie Goldfarb – HS 157 Halsey Middle School
Rachel Kronenberg – PS 101 – The School in the Gardens
Abby Kronenberg – Middle School at Metropolitan Expeditionary Learning School
Jonah Leinwand – Solomon Schechter School of Queens
Jasper Levy – Goucher College
Jeremy Manheim – PhD in Chemistry from Purdue University
Rachel Manheim – Bachelor's degree- Human Development Binghamton Univ.
Michal Picker – The Channel View School for Research
Tamar Picker – The Queens High School for the Sciences at York College
Georgia Rafalaf – PS196Q
Andrew Topal – George Washington School of Law
Alex Turner – HS 157 Halsey Middle School
Asher Turner – Academy of American Studies
Natan These – Touro College – Doctorate in Physical Therapy (D.P.T. degree)



Pre-K Graduates:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Arabella Avila | Nathan Lovett |
| Yocheved Cohen | Samson Mandelbaum |
| Ethan Cohn | Hudson Nayman |
| Aiden Denver | Luciana Perdomo |
| Dann Ehrman | Austin Prapakachaporn |
| Nathan Epelbaum | Zachary Routhenstein |
| Jacob Feder | Aubrey Rutsky |
| Ryan Fine | Maya Salzer |
| Marlowe Gill | Elad Segal |
| Tal Goldberg | Maya Simkhayev |
| Lyla Haas | Karim Soliman |
| Olivia Herz | Suhaan Soni |
| Leah Hopkins | Ezra Sundel |
| Etayo Jones | Rose Weisberg |
| Layla Khukhashvili | Mark Wofsey |
| Ryan Levy | Shayna Yavelberg |
| Nicholas Lo | Yosef Yomtobian |
| | Landon Zeltser |

MAZAL TOV!



Book of Remembrance

On the 2nd day of Shavuot, as on all other designated holidays
when Yizkor is recited, Rabbi Skolnik will read the names of those inscribed in the Book of Remembrance.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Davora Abraham | Rosalie Fuchsberg | Julius D. Kahn | Joseph Lestz | Jack Schaeffer |
| Yakov Hassid Abraham | Meyer Fuchsberg | Kate Kahn | Leon Levin | Lillian Schaeffer |
| David Abrahams | Dr. J. Savin Garber | Frances Kalikow | Charles Levy | Leo Schain |
| Madeline Abrahams | Syd Garber | Morris Kalikow | Pearl Levy | Martha Schain |
| Barney W. Adler | Faith Garfield | Nathaniel Saul Kane | Ludwig Loewenstein | Harold Schantz |
| Henrietta K. Adler | Philip Garfield | Benjamin B. Katz | Margaret Loewenstein | Elias Segal |
| Esther Anapolsky | Benedicto Geber | Haskel Katz | Dr. Jack London | Mildred Segal |
| Samuel Anapolsky | Marta Geber | Helen F. Katz | Dr. Edward Mahlab | Irwin Seitenbach |
| Arthur Ball | Feiga Rosa Ginsburg | Miriam Katz | Suzette Mahlab | Malvin Sevin |
| Otto Josef Baruch | Albert Glazer | Morris M. Katz | Lionel Malamed | Albert Shaw |
| Berthold Bear | Cecelia Glazer | Fred E. Katzner | David Maryasin | Ruth Shulim |
| Lisa Bear | Clara Glazer | Gladys Kenner | Leopold Lipot Mayer | Annette Silberman |
| Martin Bear | David Glazer | Max Kenner | Rose Guttman Mayer | Ruby Silberman |
| Toni Bear | Gussie Glazer | Herman Kingsley | Theodore Mayer | David Skolnik |
| Victoria Benghiat | Arnold Glick | Marion Kingsley | Michael Mayorowitz | Lillian Skolnik |
| Ida Benghiat | Fannie Glick | Henry Kletter | Gertrude Mayorowitz Lukacs | Edward Skornicki |
| Edwin Berger | Irving Glick | Sophie Kohn | Harry Mesard | Natalie Skornicki |
| Julie Berger | Max Glick | Louis Kohn | Lily R. Mesard | Mildred F. Smith |
| Sol Berley | Ruth Rhoda Glick | Aaron Korn | Rabbi Amos W. Miller | Agnes Sobel |
| Sydell Berley | Helen Goldenberg | Lillian Korn | Hannah B. Miller | Irene Sobel |
| Jean Roberta Biegelson | Sherry Sue Goldenberg | Fortuna Kovalsky | Chaskel Morgenstern | Ivan Sobel |
| Sidney Biegelson | Martin Goldman | Max Kovolick | Irene Morgenstern | William Sobel |
| Edward Birnbaum | Lola Joy Goldman | Leo Kra | Carl J. Moskowitz | Deena Soloway |
| Evelyn Blum | Celia Goldman | Adolph G. Kraus | Charlotte Moskowitz | Joseph Stark |
| Robert Blum | Norman Peter Goldman | Samuel Kravitz | George Moss | Katalin Stark |
| Abe Blumstein | Abraham Goldsmith | Melanie Krieger | Irving Moss | Pearl Strauss |
| Rabbi Baruch Micah Bokser | Harold Goldsmith | Abraham Krumbein | Jack Nelson | Amy Lisa Sturm |
| Kallia Bokser | Mary Goldsmith | Sarah Krumbein | Ruth Nelson | Judith Susan Sturm |
| Rabbi Ben Zion Bokser | Benjamin Goldstein | Benjamin Krumholz | Abraham Okun | Ida Sumerfeld |
| Aaron Broder | Carl Goldstein | Henry Krumholz | Celia Okun | Meyer Sumerfeld |
| Jennie Broder | Dave Goldstein | Jack Krumholz | Theodore Okun | Sally Tenenbaum |
| Sylvia Broder | Herb Goldstein | Mera Krumholz | Harvey L. Perlstein | Fred Theise |
| Milton Bruck | Nettie Goldstein | Rose Krumholz | Jeanne S. Perlstein | Leslie Ticker |
| Ruth Bruck | Rita Goldstein | David Kule | Isidore Platkin | Marvin Ticker |
| Dora Butnick | Cantor Isaac Gorsky | Eugene Kule | Shep Porter | Max Troper |
| Milton Butnick | Sylvia Gould | Geraldine Kule | Tauba Potik | Jack Vogel |
| Irving Cahn | Ann Grossman | Philip Kule | Yefim Potik | Laura Vogel |
| Hugo N. Cahnman | Cantor Erno Grosz | Isidore Kulichefsky | Perla Raphael | Bessie Walker |
| Elaine Charap | Gertrude B. Gruenberg | Jennie Kulichefsky | Raphael Raphael | Ellen Bea Walker |
| Hyman Sid Citron | Jascha Gurewitz | Barbara Kupferberg | Irwin Reich | Joseph Walker |
| George DePinna | Bella Hahn | Herbert Kupferberg | Stephen Reich | Leon Walker |
| Marcia DePinna | Fred Hahn | Cantor David Kusevitsky | Feiga Remetier | Marie M. Walker |
| Abram Dykerman | Celia Haims | Elaine Kusevitsky | Frank E. Riesenfeld | Robert Walker |
| Alfred Dykerman | George Haims | Patricia Lily Kusevitsky | Sylvia Rolnick | Rose Walker |
| Erna Dykerman | Joseph Haupt | Harry B. Lader | William Rolnick | Jacob Wallach |
| Herman Dykerman | Celia F. Heiferman | Helen J. Lader | Carla Rosenblum Bromberg | Raoul Wallenberg |
| Ester Dylewski | Cookie Heiferman | Murray Landau | Carolyn Rosenblum Lubin | Stanley Weg |
| Lola Eckstein | (Esther Rose Signet) | Dorothy Lapin | Howard Rosenblum | Alfred A. Weinberg |
| Helene Falik | Solomon G. Heiferman | Samuel Lapin | Jonathan Rosenblum | Selma Weinberg |
| Estelle Feiner | Jean Claude Heilberg | Elayne Leef | Dr. Louis Rosenblum | Anna Weiner |
| Sonia Gurewitz Fink | Ray F. Heitner | Larry Leef | Lillian Rosenthal | Morris Weiner |
| Abraham Obiedzinski Fink | Solomon Heitner | Mark Leef | Seymour Rosenthal | Isidore Weinkselbaum |
| Philip Fogelman | Anna Heller | Rabbi Albert Leeman | Sidney Roth | Jennie Weinkselbaum |
| Rose Fogelman | Arthur Heller | Edward Lehem | George Rozsa | Jerry Weinkselbaum |
| Pauline Fox | Jesse Heller | Fortuna Lehem | Toni Pernitz Ruda | Walter Weintraub |
| Randy Fox | Morris Heller | Marco Lehem | Sabina Safier | Herbert Weiser |
| Sam Fox | Albert Hirsch | Palomba Lehem | Simon A. Safier | Milton Winograd |
| Stella Frank | Herta Hirsch | Sol Lehem | Gladys Salup | Estelle Zafran |
| John Steven Fuchs | Sybil Hyman | Charles Leibler | Abraham Salzmann | Ira Zalbe |
| Josef Samuel Fuchs | Nathan Hyman | Frieda Leibler | Elizabeth Samuel | Frieda Zielonka |
| | Eva Lea Jaari | Abraham Lerner | Siegfried Samuel | Harry Zielonka |
| | Lochem Avichai Jaari | Clara Lerner | Irving Savitz | Abraham Zwick |
| | | Maurice Lerner | Ruth Savitz | Dora Feldman Zwick |

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