



המרכז היהודי ד'פורסט הילס

Message

FOREST HILLS JEWISH CENTER

November-December 2022 / Heshvan-Kislev-Tevet 5783 / Vol. LXXVIII No. 2

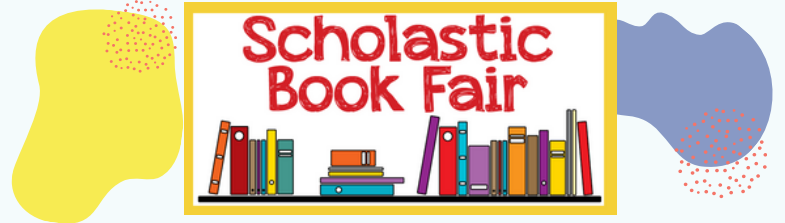


JOIN US FOR
SHABBAT
Daven & Dine

DEC
2

5:00-5:30PM - NOSH AND GREET
5:30-6:30PM - KABBALAT SHABBAT AND MAARIV
6:30PM - DELI & SALADS DINNER

\$24 A PERSON, MAXIMUM \$60 PER FAMILY
RSVP BY 11/21
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/FHJC-DAVEN-DINE-12-2022](https://tinyurl.com/fhjc-daven-dine-12-2022)
debra.weil@yahoo.com for more information



Sunday, December 11—9:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Nursery Only: Monday, December 12—9:00 AM - Noon
FHJC Heller Ballroom

This year including Vendors for all your gift needs.

Volunteers wanted, please sign up:

<https://tinyurl.com/FHJC-Book-Fair-2022>

Vendors wanted, please apply:

<https://tinyurl.com/Book-Fair-Vendors-2022>

On Sunday, December 11, you may bring the following donations to help victims of domestic violence at Transition House:

Puzzles - must have all pieces and be in original containers or in ziplock bags

Toys - must be clean - all plastic parts should be washed - and be complete with all pieces and must be in the original box or in ziplock bags

Children's Books - must be clean and gently used

Or consider purchasing something at the Book Fair to donate

Any questions, please contact David Haas: dlhaasesq@gmail.com

FHJC 2022-2023
SHABBATON
FROM HOME

FHJC ADULT EDUCATION
2022-23 PROGRAMS & SESSIONS

See Page 9 for list of incredible presentations!



Hanukkah begins Sunday evening, December 18.

FHJC Annual
Hanukkah Candle Lighting



Tuesday, December 20
6:00 PM
3rd Night

Join FHJC for a communal candle lighting, outside on 69th Road.
Music, Dancing, & Latkes!



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Rabbi Gerald C. Skolnik

Feeling Heard, and Reaching Out...

As I contemplate the things that I'll miss (aside from all of you!) when I retire at the end of this coming June, I am increasingly realizing that having the chance to speak from the pulpit regularly on Shabbat and holidays is near the top of the list. On Simhat Torah, our wonderful Torah reader Ira Beer referenced a rough calculation of the number of sermons that I've delivered over these forty-two years (not to mention the other speaking opportunities that have been my responsibility), and it was overwhelming. One might think that, after all that, I might relish the chance to step aside and be freed from the weekly pressure to produce something worth hearing.

That's true, to some degree. Not having to carry that responsibility week in and week out will be a welcome relief, to be sure. But the real truth is that having the opportunity to regularly share what's on my mind with you, and to share it through the prism of a Torah lens, has been a great honor, and one of the things that I've enjoyed the most. Ultimately, I'm a teacher, and teachers love to teach. I'll miss that regular outlet.

But as long as I'm on the subject, I have always been grateful for people who have written or e-mailed me to share their reactions to the sermons. Just a week or so ago, I received an e-mail from a member who clearly had been listening very intently to what I was saying, and took the trouble to write me and share her thoughts. I loved that. Similarly, someone recently came over to me after a service and said that I had no idea the degree to which my sermons through the years had resonated with her. I was, of course, moved by her comment, but I encouraged her to write me and share what she was feeling. These are the kinds of responses that rabbis treasure...

There have also, of course, been those moments when people have shared their reactions with me in more immediate and less "gracious" ways, but they have been few and far between.

As my final year here moves inexorably towards a conclusion, I want to invite you to share whatever you're feeling, whether about sermons or any other ways in which we have interacted through the years. I realize that, as much as my retirement is a significant event for me, it is for all of you as well. We've been a part of each other's lives for over four decades, and we share so much history... you can enrich what I will take with me, both literally and figuratively, by putting pen to paper and helping me appreciate what this remarkable tenure in the rabbinate has meant for me, and for you. Sermons, weddings, funerals, classes... there's a lot to process. You can help me process all of this by making yourselves heard. I would value that so much...

Rabbi Gerald C. Skolnik



Forest Hills Interfaith Thanksgiving Service SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 4:00PM

The beautiful Thanksgiving Interfaith Service is taking place once again!

Join family, friends, and neighbors at the Community House of The Church in the Gardens, 15 Borage Place, Forest Hills. Feel the joy of being together once again. FHJC's Nagilah and Youth Choir will be singing! Reception to follow.



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NOTES FROM THE HAZZAN

Hazzan Randall Levin



The Jewish way of giving thanks

Thanksgiving has always held a special place in my family. For immigrants and successive generations of American Jews, Thanksgiving represented inclusion in the larger society, and a holiday that did not require subjugating or altering one's religious beliefs or observances (the weekday observance and traditional fare probably helped the cause). Successive waves of immigrants of many nationalities came to view Thanksgiving as a holiday that celebrated living in a land free of religious persecution. We celebrate and "give thanks" to our own versions of the Almighty, to each other, or to no one in particular.

Of course, gratefulness is a basic virtue of Judaism, and celebrating with food is also not only a custom, but a requirement in many situations. The renowned Rabbi Avraham Danzig (1748-1820) held a yearly *seudat hoda'ah*, on 16 Kislev to commemorate his family having miraculously survived a fire that killed 31 people in his village. Danzig felt that a meal of thanksgiving was an appropriate way to acknowledge just how precious and precarious life is. One can only imagine the Pilgrims had a similar feeling after escaping religious persecution and surviving a dangerous voyage and a harrowing fight for survival in their New World. And many of our own ancestors had a similar experience - arriving in America was often a lifesaving proposition, surely worthy of a *seudat hoda'ah*.

Jews traditionally say thanks every day - multiple times, in fact - and on some holidays we express our gratitude to God in a more elevated fashion. In the daily Amidah (and in Birkat Hamazon) we recite "*Modim*," also known as *Hoda'ah*, the eighteenth blessing of the weekday Amidah. Additionally, on the biblically mandated festivals of Pesach, Shavuot and Sukkot we recite the Hallel, a set of Psalms (113-117) giving both praise and thanksgiving to God. On Hanukkah we also elaborate further on the daily *Hoda'ah* prayer by adding *Al Hanissim* (something we do not do for the festivals outlined in the Torah). We also say the full Hallel on each day of Hanukkah.

Our rabbinic sages saw a connection between the recitation of Hallel and the lighting of the menorah as an expression of gratitude. Our tradition dictates that Hanukkah celebrates not only a victory but a miracle. Though we give thanks to God on a daily basis, we are most aware of God's presence in events in which there is a significant element of awe - some aspect pointing to the hand of God. In the case of Hanukkah, we acknowledge and celebrate the unlikely victory of the few and the weak over the powerful that occurred during the Maccabean Revolt. Our tradition notably adds another, less militaristic, miracle to the mix - the ability of a single potent cask of oil to burn for eight nights instead of only one. The oil burning for eight days serves another function as well. It was imperative that the re-dedication of the Temple not be seen as temporary and that the length of the re-dedication would be as long as any festival prescribed in the Torah. The additional miracle of the oil provides an element that transcends a celebration of one single victory, or moment, or a day. The extended celebration thus has the capacity for an elevated spiritual understanding, consonant with broader rabbinic theology and the prevailing Jewish way of observing a national holiday. Each day we recite the Hallel, and each night we light the menorah and recite the blessings. So it is with the recitation of Hallel. The rituals are repeated, day after day, night after night, and thus infused into our collective - they are made seasonal, rather than momentary.

There is so much to be thankful for in life that we surely have room for multiple ways of expressing gratitude. Whether sitting down for a *seudat hoda'ah* with our families, reciting the Hallel, or lighting the Menorah for eight nights, we should embrace our opportunities to express our gratitude to God for the gift of life, and to remind ourselves of the preciousness of that gift.

Hazzan Randall Levin





THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

Romi Narov

We had a very busy holiday season, culminating in a very jubilant celebration of Simchat Torah. We celebrated Rabbi and Robin Skolnik being honored as Hatan Torah and Kalat Bereshit. We joined them following services for a lovely lunch that was graciously sponsored by Rabbi and Robin.

During that luncheon, a number of members came over to me to express how much they are enjoying the opportunity to break bread as a community and how much they miss the interaction with their fellow members. Before the pandemic, a Shabbat kiddush after services was a given. However, since March of 2020, having a kiddush luncheon became a rare event. As we try and return to a more normal life, maybe it is time to reinstitute this part of our life as well. But of course, like many other aspects of our lives, it has

to come back in a somewhat different format. For one, we no longer have an in-house caterer. It makes any event that involves a meal more complicated and costly. This should not stop us. We have already received a number of pledges towards financing these luncheons and are in the process of forming a hospitality committee to make this happen. When we have established a schedule for enhanced Shabbat Kiddush luncheons, we will publish it and we hope many of you will join us! And of course, we will welcome contributions of time, or money, to keep this going!

Another successful effort is the return of communal Friday night meals. We have a number of these planned in the near future and hope to see many of you there as well! This effort also requires a

lot of volunteers to make it successful. We are truly blessed as a of community to have members who are generously giving of their time to make these meals happen. Kol hakavod and Todah Rabba!

The days are most certainly getting shorter and the weather is changing. I am looking forward to the celebration of Hanukkah to bring some needed light to the long winter nights. But before we get to Hanukkah, I hope that you will all enjoy a Happy Thanksgiving!

Stay warm and safe!

B'Shalom
Romi Narov

Shabbat Kiddushim are back and we need your help!



If you can contribute time and effort, please consider joining the Kiddush Committee. Many hands make light work. Contact Jonathan Kastin if you would like to be involved or have any questions - jkastin@mac.com or 917-789-0490.

If you can contribute funds to sponsor a kiddush; full sponsorship cost is \$1,200. An individual can sponsor or a group of people can sponsor together. Please also consider celebrating your birthdays and other special events by contributing \$36 (or more) to the kiddush fund, and your simcha will be acknowledged on that Shabbat. Any amount is appreciated and will be collected in a kiddush fund for monthly kiddushim.



[Click to contribute!](#)

ONGOING EVENTS

Saturday afternoons: Open Gym - 2-4PM (Toddlers-5th Grade); 4-6PM (6th grade and up)

Sundays at 9:25AM: Yoga with Lorain. Email Lorain for details.

Mondays at 1:30PM: Study with Rabbi Skolnik *on haitus*.

Mondays at 5:00PM: De-stress with Dr. Mitchell Frank and Ariela Frieder, M.D.

Wednesdays at 4:45PM: The FHJC Watch Party - The Booth at the End.

Wednesdays at 6:25PM: Yoga with Lorain. Email Lorain for details.

See the FHJC Calendar for links to these events.

NEWS FROM NURSERY SCHOOL

Lynn Fisher



Most educators dream of a classroom where children have the tools and skills to calm their bodies and self-regulate when they're upset, a place where children even help each other in those hard moments. Often teachers focus on challenging behaviors rather than what is challenging the child. In other words, some educators have the main goal of getting the child to comply to rules and expectations. Shifting from a focus on children with challenging behavior to children whose behavior challenges us, creates a simple but meaningful change in thinking and responding.

Children need to learn to regulate throughout the day, but especially when they're upset! When a child becomes triggered, they may crash into freeze, flight, or fight mode. Children who go from 0-60 in the blink of an eye, may need additional support to help them learn regulation skills. For some children this comes naturally and for others, guidance on how to recognize and name their big emotions and how to express their wants and needs requires additional support. Children often need space, they need to be heard, they deserve to be understood, and it's up to educators and school staff to be present in those moments and to find authentic ways to reach them and validate their emotions. Helping calm a child is called co-regulation. Co-regulation is sharing space with a child as they

move from a disregulated state to a regulated state. When we focus on co-regulation, it models coping skills and builds trust. When we start using a lens of co-regulation, we start to understand the importance of self-awareness of our own emotions and stress level.

As I mentioned in the Sept/Oct issue of *The Message*, the FHJC Early Childhood Program staff journey together each year, collaborating and working together as a team in each classroom by creating a culture of warmth, honor and respect. We also journey together with the children, creating relationships that provide a foundation for the love of learning, building identity and the development of their own thoughts and ideas. This allows our children to gain the social emotional skills needed to regulate their emotions; a lifelong skill we all use each and every day.

Lynn Fisher



Our littlest learners are sharing their thoughts and ideas as they form the foundation for engaging with learning, building knowledge and making connections to real-world experiences. Their thoughts and ideas are honored and respected in their classroom and around our school.

SHABBAT
ON THE STOOP
MINDFULNESS, STORIES & SONGS
SATURDAYS
EMAIL US AT shabbatFHJC@gmail.com FOR INFO & DATES
ALL FAMILIES WELCOME

Looking forward to seeing you at our next meet up!
November 5 at 11:30-12:15
on the stoop in the FHJC alley.

Let's share a Shabbat experience for tots – seven year-olds and families linking Shabbat, Jewish values and mindfulness. Songs, stories and tools to manage stress, build focus and foster gratitude with a goal to growing resilience and optimism in your child and your family. At the Queens Blvd. entrance to FHJC – 11:30 AM-12:15 PM

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Nov 5, Nov 19, Dec 3, Dec 17, Jan 7
Jan 21, Feb 4, March 4, March 18, April 1
April 22, May 6, May 20



EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Jessica Braginsky



The beautiful thing about Judaism is that, when done well, it can support you to live a life of contentment. A happier and healthier life. In the end, that is what we strive for at Religious School at FHJC. Two important Jewish values provide great examples: gratitude and community.

These Jewish values are learned and lived in Religious School. Every Sunday morning our kitah gimmel/3rd grade through kitah chet/8th grade students participate in a weekday shacharit minyan. When they come to the Birkat Hashachar, our dynamic leaders Aaron Yavelberg and Marcy Mirkin invite the students to share what they are grateful for. It is uplifting to hear our students share their gratitude for their family, their health, their material well-being and their friends. And our students have the opportunity to reflect on all the good things in their lives, hakarat hatov. Interestingly, experts today when asked how to feel more content, encourage such things as “gratitude journals” to help us appreciate what we have.

Community is essential for our mental health, and mental health professionals agree. Judaism also places a high premium on community. At FHJC as a whole and the Religious School in particular, creating community is one of our main goals. Sukkot and Hoshana Rabba are two great examples. On the day before Sukkot families from the Religious School joined in the fun of decorating the sukkah. A great group combining seasoned members and new families broke bread, laughed and created beauty for our whole community to enjoy. On Hoshana Rabba our students joined the main congregation for hoshanot. It was wonderful to see both the adult congregants and the students parading around the Little Synagogue holding lulavim and etrogim and singing praises to God. The feeling of belonging to a Jewish community was palpable.

This February 19-26 connect to your Jewish community on all levels! Go to Israel with FHJC. Spots are still open for this heavily subsidized trip with Hazzan Levin, Morah Jessica Braginsky and their families. The cost is approximately \$1600 plus airfare. The rewards are immeasurable! Click [here](#) for more information.

Jessica

De-Stress with FHJC

Mondays, 5pm via Zoom

Warm company and professional support from Dr. Mitchell Frank and Ariela Frieder, M.D.

Come share your concerns and hopes. See the FHJC listserv for the link.



HEBREW LITERATURE GROUP



The Hebrew Literature Group began its new season in a meeting on October 13th. Our year-long topic is the biblical book of Job, with special attention to a new translation by Edward Greenstein of Bar Ilan University. Our initial session was exciting, opening up fascinating points of search and discussion which will be followed up on in subsequent meetings; that said, if you didn't make it to the first session, it will be no problem to catch up and feel fully engaged. Our next meeting is planned for **Thursday, December 1st at 5 pm**. Watch for further announcement on the listserv with a Zoom link. As always in the Hebrew Literature Group, texts are read in Hebrew with English translation and discussion is in English. Come join us!

Mitchell Frank





SISTERHOOD

Rae Theise Kerzner, Presiding Officer

Each year before Kol Nidre, at FHJC we traditionally turn to our family and those sitting near us and ask for forgiveness. This year, the conversation I had with a woman sitting in the row in front of me went somewhat differently, and still resonates with me. I said, "I really don't have anything to ask forgiveness from you, but maybe we can turn this exercise around and be pro-active. I hope in the coming year, we can get to know each other better. I look forward to becoming a true friend and to listen better and be more supportive."

Fall is a season of change. Externally, we watch the trees turn color, feel the chill in the air and start to spend more time indoors. Internally, we can use this time as an opportunity for change and growth as well. I watch my 2-year-old grandson learn new words and master new skills (and occasionally be frustrated when something is initially too challenging.) His enthusiasm and thrill with his new-found knowledge is contagious and inspires me. What can I learn? How can I challenge myself? In what ways can I grow and reach out more compassionately to those around me? These are questions we can all ask ourselves.

The FHJC Sisterhood helps our members deepen our connections with each other and provides a wide variety of challenging and stimulating programs which help us stretch both our bodies and our minds. In October, we had a fascinating discussion of Jewish Sexual Ethics. Join us on November 15th as Robin Skolnik leads the book review on "The House on Endless Waters" by Emuna Elon, a multi-generational story of Jews in Amsterdam during WWII and the present day. In December, our semi-annual drive for Transition Center returns. On January 12th, we join with BQLI for No More Dripping, Dropping, or Drooping: Your Guide to B

Bladder & Pelvic Health with Dr. Jill Maura Rabin, a urogynecology specialist at Northwell Health. Yoga, led by Lorain Wankoff has resumed on a twice-weekly schedule. For more information, you can contact Lorain at lls@aol.com or sisterhood@fhjc.org. Daytime Readers has a devoted following and you can join their next meeting on Thursday, December 15th when they will be discussing "The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post: A Novel" by Allison Pataki.

Our new Sisterhood Board will be installed on Shabbat, November 5th. Sisterhood Shabbat will take place on February 4th, 2023, Parashat BeShalach. It is an inspiring event in which women of all ages conduct the service. Hazzan Levin can help you learn to daven, layn or chant Haftorah, even if you have never done it before. We hope you will join us in person to participate, or watch us on Zoom.

Looking forward to seeing you and getting to know you better,

Rae Theise Kerzner
Presiding Officer, Sisterhood

Parenting Is Hard - We Are Here To Help

In-person Facilitated Parent Partnership Support Group, Monday, Nov. 7 at 8:00

Parenting can be the most rewarding job a person does but it can also be the most difficult. When our children struggle, we often feel their frustration and their pain, as well. Between changing world dynamics, the wake of the COVID pandemic, social pressures and ever-increasing mental health conditions, our children are faced with numerous challenges every day.

If your child is struggling in school, with friends, at home, or if they are showing signs of mental health needs, please join our new support group for parents. We'll be addressing the impact of these issues on our children and how we, as parents, can take care of ourselves while we help them work their way through.

This in-person group will have its next meeting on Monday, November 7, at 8:00 pm and continue to meet the first Monday of every month. Our facilitator is Aaron Yavelberg, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a teacher in our Religious School. He has fifteen years of experience working with children and families in the mental health field and is excited to lend his knowledge to the parents in our synagogue community.



ADULT EDUCATION

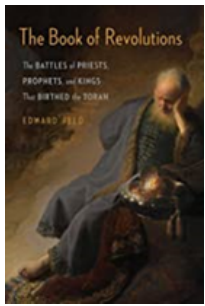
JUDY GOSTL & DAVID SNYDER

The Adult Education Committee has come up with another interesting year of programs for FHJC. Some of our favorites who love to teach will be back and we will also hear from someone new to this program.

November will have a session of the Ongoing **Hebrew Literature Group** on **December 1, 2022, at 5:00 pm**. They will continue this year's exploration of the Book of Job using the translation by Professor Edward Greenstein.

The list of scheduled classes follows. Please note the dates in your calendars.

- **Rabbi David Cavill – Tuesday 11/22 at 8:00PM – The Afterlife in Jewish Thought and Text – Part 1** – What does Judaism say happens after we die? Does it say anything? What is a soul? How is it distinct from the body? We pray for the resurrection of the dead but what does it mean? What is Olam HaBa, the next world? Join Rabbi David Cavill for an exploration of these questions through a sampling of Jewish texts.



- **Lenny Picker – Sunday December 4, 2022, 10-11:00AM on Zoom – Both These and Those Are the Words of The Living God: A Conversation with Rabbi Edward Feld.**

In *The Book of Revolutions: The Battles of Priests, Prophets, and Kings That Brought the Torah*, (the Jewish Publication Society), Rabbi Edward Feld brilliantly synthesizes biblical criticism, history, and theology, to identify three disparate, and sometimes contradictory, legal codes in the Tanakh, and explores their origins in three very different "revolutions that took place in biblical times." Rabbi Feld is a prominent educator and writer. Lenny is dedicating this conversation to the memory of Debra Danis Seiden, former Adult Ed Co-chair.

Jay Luger presents:

- **Tuesday, December 13, 2022 – From Polytheism to Henotheism to Monotheism or Why does a Monotheistic God speak in the Plural?** We will study select passages in the Torah and a well-known but not well understood Psalm. This is not "God is Dead." Rather it is about the Death of the Gods in the Tanakh.
- **Tuesday, January 31, 2023 – Nine Entered Paradise during their lifetimes – Part 2.** – Who were these people and why did they deserve to enter the Garden of Eden? In Part 2, we will discuss the lives of two women, two non-Jews, righteous gentiles and the scribe Ezra, their careers and why they merited to enter the Garden of Eden during their lifetimes. You need not have attended Part 1 to understand and enjoy Part 2. Please, come and join us.
- **Rabbi Chana Thompson Shor – Monday, March 13, 2023 – Chana's Song and the Triumph of a King:** After Chana dedicates her longed-for son to Temple service at Shiloh, she recites a Psalm about kingship. Scholars have long wondered about its purpose. I think I may have the answer.
- **Jack Gostl – Monday, March 20, 2023 – The Roll of Psychiatry in the Holocaust** – The perception of the Holocaust, especially among non-Jews, is that an anti-Semite came into power in Germany and killed six million Jews. While correct, the emotional content of that number, and the individual stories behind it, obscure a considerable amount of important information. Quite literally the trees obscure the forest. While doing research for a future documentary on the Holocaust, information turned up showing the involvement of the German psychiatric establishment, and the pseudo-science of eugenics, as major underlying causes of the Holocaust. These root causes can be traced to the 19th century and, unfortunately, some remain in place today. A word of caution: This presentation includes words, pictures and film clips that are disturbing.
- **Mitchell Frank – Thursday, March 30, 2023 – Jewish Life in the Early Second Temple Period** – Last year, the Hebrew Literature group, led by Mitchell, focused on the five megillot. He realized that not only are these beloved books captivating as literature but that they also reveal much about Jewish life in the early Second Temple period.
- **Nora Mandel – Monday, May 8, 2023 – The Baron de Hirsch Fund and Jewish American Farmers in the Early 20th Century** – Nora will explore this topic through the story of her great-uncle, Leo Steckel, and his experiences with the De Hirsch Fund and the Jewish immigrants the fund helped to settle in U.S. agriculture.
- **Ira Beer – Monday, May 15, 2023 – Items observed in the book of B'Midbar during 23.5 years as a Torah Reader.** We all know Ira – so strap in for a wild ride through the 4th book of the Torah.

Acknowledgements

PULPIT FUND

Shirley Rossman Zucker & David Zucker – in honor of **Robin Skolnik's** Woman of Achievement award

The following donations were made in honor of **Judy Beizer's** special birthday:

- Barbara & Jerry Klibanoff**
- Romi Narov**
- Risa Matzner & Rob Samuel**
- Candy & Carl Koerner**
- Sara & Howard Weinstein**
- Joan & Les Levinson**
- Debbie & Jeff Bochner**

Esther Feldman – in honor of **Stanley Greenwald's** 85th birthday
Ann Sullivan – in honor of **Stanley Greenwald's** 85th birthday
Robert Goffner – in gratitude to **Judy Beizer** for honors received
Teri Goffner – in gratitude to **Norman Gursen** for honors received
Marcia Hittner – in gratitude to **Judy Beizer** for High Holiday honors received

Rita & Michael Lieberman – in gratitude to **Judy Beizer** for her assistance

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Dorothy Mahlab – in gratitude for the love and support of her sisters

Zahava Mahlab – in gratitude for the love and support of her sisters

Hanna Mahlab – in gratitude for the love and support of her sisters

Tikva Mahlab – in gratitude for the love and support of her sisters

Anne Frankel – in memory of her dear mother, **Belle Frankel** (14th yearzeit)

Tikva, Zahava, Hanna & Dorothy Mahlab – in memory of their loving parents **Dr. Edward & Suzette Mahlab**

KIDDUSH FUND

Rhonda & Doug Israel – in memory of **Allan Rolnick's** sister, **Rochelle**



SISTERHOOD DAYTIME READERS

Thursday, November 10, 8:15PM

Join Sisterhood to celebrate Jewish Book Month as Robin Skolnik leads a discussion about *House on Endless Waters*, by Emuna Elon.

Click [here](#) to RSVP. There is no charge for this event.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

Helaine & Andy Bass & Family – in honor of the engagement of **Felicia & Ben Leeman's** daughter **Rebecca** to **Maor Gordon-Guterman**

Joanne & Haskell Klaristenfeld – in honor of the engagement of **Felicia & Ben Leeman's** daughter **Rebecca** to **Maor Gordon-Guterman**

Romi Narov – in honor of the **Bat Mitzvah** of **Rebecca Dunkel**

Ilana & Bill Altman – in honor of **Judy Beizer's** special birthday

Pauline & Mark Raphael – in honor of **Judy Beizer's** special birthday

Judy & David Zipkowitz – in honor of the birth of **Francie & Stephen Teitelbaum's** granddaughter, **Liv**

Judy & David Zipkowitz – in recognition of **Matt Beizer**

Diane Kranz – in memory of **William Cimbol**

Bonnie Gorman – in memory of **William Cimbol**



Give the spice of life



GIVE BLOOD

BLOOD DRIVE

November 27, 2022

9:00am – 1:30pm

Forest Hills Jewish Center

106-06 Queens Blvd. Forest Hills, NY 11375
 Location: Crystal Room

To schedule an appointment scan the QR code

Or [Click Here](#)



Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo. Mask requirements may change depending on CDC guidelines. Visit nybc.org/bloodcenter for complete COVID-19 safety protocols.

New York Blood Center 800.933.BLOOD • nybc.org #nybloodcenter

MAZAL TOV TO OUR B'NEI MITZVAH



Madison Pollack

Bat Mitzvah, November 12, 2022

Madison Fayth Pollack is the fifth generation of her family to worship at the Forest Hills Jewish Center. She has literally grown up at FHJC having attended class here since she was two years old; and is a proud member of the Ashrei Academy. Madison is an 8th Grade Honors Student at Halsey Middle School in Rego Park. She is a voracious reader with an absolute love for all things Disney. Madison is passionate about dancing, which she has studied since she was four years old. She is currently a member of the Competition Dance Team at All Star Dance Studios in Forest Hills, and has competed at Nationals numerous times. Madison's Bat Mitzvah project takes her every Sunday Morning at 7AM to Briarwood where she helps out at a local food pantry, addressing the growing food insecurity challenges faced by so many New Yorkers. She would like to thank everyone for joining her on her special day.



Chloe Gordon-Zolov

Bat Mitzvah, November 19, 2022

Chloe has been a student at the Forest Hills Jewish Center since pre-k. She is currently in eighth grade at Russell Sage Junior High School, where she is a member of the band and the Executive Board of the National Junior Honor Society. She has been in the Girl Scouts since fourth grade. When Chloe was in fifth grade, she spent five months with her family in Santiago, Chile, where she attended a bilingual school. She plays piano and flute, and she loves nature and animals. For her "Save the Dolphins" Mitzvah project, she has been taking part in coastal clean-ups on the Long Island shore. She is grateful to Rabbi Skolnik, Hazzan Levin, Jessica Braginsky, and all of her teachers at the FHJC for providing her with a warm Jewish community and a strong foundation in Jewish values.

Life Cycles

Mazal Tov מזל טוב

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

Felicia & Ben Leeman on the engagement of their daughter Rebecca to Maor Gordon-Guterman

Alyssa & Howard Pollack on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Madison

Barbara Bernstein on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter, Madison

Allison & Aaron Shine on the Bat Mitzvah of their niece, Madison

Terri Gordon-Zolov & Eric Zolov on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Chloe

Paul Gordon on the Bat Mitzvah of his granddaughter, Chloe

Francie & Stephen Teitelbaum on the birth of their granddaughter, Liv

Pauline Clements on the birth of her great grandson, Jack Ethan Clements

Sharon Matzner & Philip Braginsky on the marriage of their daughter Sarah to Mickey Ruddy

Roz & Oskar Matzner on the marriage of their granddaughter Sarah to Mickey Ruddy

Risa Matzner & Rob Samuel, Jessica Braginsky & Howard Berman on the marriage of their niece Sarah to Mickey Ruddy

Romi Narov on the birth of her grandson Teddy (Theodore) Arthur, son of Michele Narov & Jordan Gothelf

Hamakom Y'nahem המקום ינחם

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

Lisl Topper on the loss of her dear daughter, Debbie

Kiddush!

Kiddush Sponsorship

December 17

Sponsored by Felicia & Ben Leeman in honor of the engagement of their daughter, Rebecca to Maor Gordon-Guterman

Happy Hanukkah from FHJC



See below for special code for FHJC members to participate at no charge!

We are excited to announce the full year of ScholarStream learning in 5783! Beginning in August and spanning all the way up to Shavuot, Conservative Movement seminaries and institutions are partnering to offer seven series that will bring our community face-to-face with the brightest and most engaging scholars our movement has to offer.

Series #3: Great Thinkers Who Have Influenced Conservative Judaism

Wednesdays, November 30 and December 7, 14, 21 at 8 PM ET / 5 PM PT

Series #4: The Exodus in the Jewish Tradition: Philosophy, Bible, Midrash and Art

Wednesdays, January 11, 18, 25 and February 1 at 12 PM ET / 9 AM PT

Click [here](#) for the link for FHJC members to register for any of the seven ScholarStream series offered this year, spanning August 2022 to May 2023. **Coupon Code: FHJC5783** Enter this coupon code on the registration page under "Event Fees," then click "Apply." That will allow you to register for each of the series we are sponsoring at **no cost**. Please note that the coupon code is case sensitive.



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