# FJCC FLASH

Newsletter of the Flemington Jewish Community Center



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Remembering Rabbi Jaffe Building the Time Capsule High Holidays Back to School

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## RABBI'S REFLECTIONS



We have entered the period leading up to the High Holidays. This is a time of introspection. What do we want to fix in our lives? How are we going to do Teshuvah?

Teshuvah is most often translated as "repentance," but literally means "return." We have wandered, as they say, off the path. "Returning," in the Jewish tradition, is returning to God, to God's ways, to Godly ways. Maimonides offers a road map for Teshuvah. The outline looks something like this:

- Recognize and discontinue the improper action: The first step is to stop the sinful act and remove it from one's thoughts, resolving never to repeat it.
- Regret the action: A person must feel genuine remorse for having committed the wrongdoing.
- Verbally confess the action: This involves articulating the wrongdoing and taking responsibility for it. Confession is a positive commandment.
- Resolve for the future: This is a firm commitment never to repeat the destructive behavior again.

According to Maimonides, the highest degree of Teshuvah is achieved when a person finds themself in the same circumstances where they previously sinned, and refrains from doing so only because of their Teshuvah (and not due to fear or physical inability).

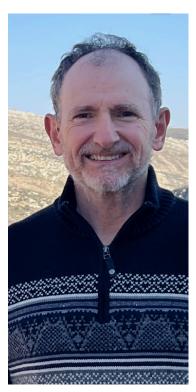
The question arises: What if we don't find ourselves in similar circumstances? Rabbi Alan Lew answers: "(Maimonides teaches that those circumstances) always (find us). The unresolved elements of our lives – the unconscious patterns, the conflicts and problems tat seem to arise no matter where we go, or with whom we find ourselves – continue to pull us into the same moral and spiritual circumstances over and over again..." The challenge, for Maimonides, is not to wait for the right moment to do Teshuvah, but to use each moment available to do it. The opportunities find us, not the other way around.

In the minds of our mystics, wandering from the right path is not necessarily a sign of great evil; it could be a result of distraction, of inattention to the moment at hand. To avoid this, they teach, we must cultivate a sense of being present in the moment, as much as we are able. Each moment is a precious opportunity to right a wrong, to fix something broken.

The High Holidays are so important because they offer us the opportunity, the excuse, to really focus on Teshuvah, to avoid distractions that may steer us off the path. Over the millennia, the Jewish people have fine-tuned their approach to returning. Let us use the wisdom of our tradition to grow personally and spiritually, and to support each other in this holy quest.

Shanah Toyah!

### FROM OUR PRESIDENT



The anthropologist Marget Mead once said "never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has". Since becoming President, I have witnessed first-hand how a relatively small group of staff and volunteers have made a tremendous impact on the FJCC. I want to thank each one of you for all that you do! It is important and meaningful.

As the High Holidays approach, I begin to reflect more deeply about being Jewish and why it is important to me. These sacred days remind me that I am part of something larger — a people bound by thousands of years of tradition, resilience, and shared purpose.

I am especially grateful to belong to the FJCC. It is here that I find a sacred space to reflect on the past

year, to seek renewal, and to begin again surrounded by a caring community. I appreciate the warmth of friendship, the comfort of shared values, and the joy of celebrating together. In this season of gratitude, I am reminded how deeply blessed I am to be part of a community that inspires, supports, and connects me to Jewish life. I look forward to sharing the high holidays with you and your family.

Wishing you and your family for happy and healthy 5786.

Jonathan Nemeth, President <u>president@flemingtonjcc.org</u>



# HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES 2025-5786

### Rosh Hashanah Services Schedule

Selichot		September 13
Study Session	7:00 PM	
Services	8:00 PM	
Rosh Hashanah		September 22
Services	6:30 PM	September 22
Candle-lighting	6:38 PM	
Rosh Hashanah		0
Services	8:30 AM	September 23
Jr. Congregation	10:00 - 11:30 AM	Debugitting.
Gan Jr. Congregation	10:00 - 11:00 AM	Babysitting
Tashlich	6:00 PM	10:00 - 11:30 AM
Evening Service	7:30 PM	
Candle-lighting (from an exis	sting flame) 7:35 PM	
Rosh Hashanah		September 24
Services	8:30 AM	25,1111121121
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### Yom Kippur Services Schedule

Kol Nidre	6:15 PM	October 1
Candle-lighting	6:32 PM	
Yom Kippur		
Services	8:15 AM	October 2
Yizkor	11:00 AM	
Jr. Congregation	11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Babysittin
Gan Jr. Congregation	11:00 AM-12:00 PM	11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Babysitting	11:00 AM-12:30 PM	
Minchah	4:15 PM	
Neilah	5:30 PM	
Fast Ends	7:20 PM	
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# HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES 2025-5786

### **Sukkot & Simchat Torah Services**

### Sukkot Day 1 and 2

#### October 6

Services 6:00 PM Candle-lighting 6:14 PM

#### October 7

Services 9:15 AM
Candle-lighting fr/existing flame 7:12 PM
Services 7:30 PM

#### October 8

Services 9:15 AM

#### Hoshanah Rabbah

October 13

Services 9:15 AM

#### **Shemini Atzeret**

#### October 13

Candle-lighting 6:03 PM Services 7:30 PM

#### October 14

Services 9:15 AM Yizkor 10:30 AM

#### Simchat Torah

October 14

Candle-lighting fr/existing flame 7:01 PM Services 7:30 PM

#### October 15

Services 9:15 AM

### Hebrew School Family Holiday Lesson

Sunday, October 12

10:30 AM

### HIGH HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

SEPT 23: OPEN 9-12 SEPT 24: CLOSED SEPT 25: CLOSED

OCT 1: OPEN 9-12 OCT 2: CLOSED

OCT 6: OPEN 9-12 OCT 7: CLOSED OCT 8: CLOSED

OCT 13: OPEN 9-12 OCT 14: CLOSED OCT 15: CLOSED

# **HEBREW SCHOOL**

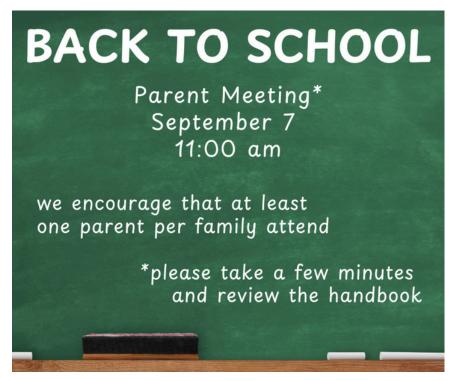
Hello Hebrew School Students and Parents!

Welcome back to Hebrew School. We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning Hebrew, celebrating holidays, exploring Torah stories, and experiencing Jewish customs and traditions. Some highlights for the coming year include:

- High Holiday Jr. Congregations for Gan 7th grade
- Family Torah Lesson
- Tot Shabbat
- Hebrew School Havdalah
- A Chanukah program for families with young children
- A family visit to the food pantry
- Sundays "in Israel"
- Youth Group programs for different age groups

There is a Back-to-School parent meeting for students in Alef – 7 th grade on **September 7 at 11:00 am**. Keep your eyes open for the "This Week in Hebrew School" email sent out each Friday. Click here to go to the Hebrew School Calendar.

All students must have current Hebrew School forms on file prior to the first day of Hebrew School.



Questions? Contact Mrs. Walsh at KWalsh@FlemingtonJCC.org

# **HEBREW SCHOOL**

# Hebrew School Registration 2025 - 2026

Current Hebrew School students will advance to the next grade.

Gan students who are currently in kindergarten will advance to first grade

To enroll a new student email kwalsh@flemingtonjcc.org



Questions?
Contact Mrs. Walsh at
KWalsh@FlemingtonJCC.org



Billing 2025 - 2026

The Tuition and Hebrew School Registration Fee will appear on your June statement

Hebrew School Registration Fee is due by August 1st

For financial arrangements: email treasurer@flemingtonjcc.org

## Gan Goes to Hebrew School with Mrs. Clarin



Did you know? Gan means garden!

Sept. 14 - Oct. 12\* - Nov. 16

Dec. 14\* - Jan. 11 - Feb. 8 Mar. 22 - Apr. 19 - May 17

10:00 - 11:00 AM

\* Part of a Family Program



# **HEBREW SCHOOL**



# YOUTH GROUP

Hi FJCC Community,

My name is Julia Sirota, and I am excited to be reprising my role as Youth Group Advisor for the 2025-2026 year!

For those who don't know me, I grew up at the FJCC from nursery school through Hebrew High. I spent my teenage years working as a Hebrew School TA and B'nai Mitzvah tutor, as well as helping restart the then-dormant FJCC Youth Group. After college, I served as the Youth Group Advisor during the 2018-2019 year, and I'm thrilled to be back again!



When I'm not at the FJCC, you'll find me at Rutgers - Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, where I'm a 4th-year student applying into Pediatrics residency programs. I love working with kids and teens, and I love building community, so getting to do both at the FJCC – a place I call home, and a place I hope for the youth to call home – is very special and exciting for me.

Looking forward to a year filled with fun and meaningful programming that fosters leadership skills and a deep connection to the community.

Julia Sirota, <u>julia.london.Sirota@gmail.com</u>





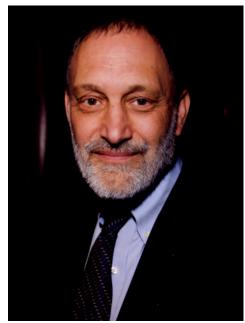




### D'var Torah delivered by Atara Jaffe

Shabbat shalom,

It is my great honor to stand here before this amazing community of individuals to share in the yahrzeit and commemoration of my father, Rabbi Jaffe. It feels both that 100 years and not one day has gone by. I am so grateful to be surrounded by you all today and share some thoughts from today's parsha in honor of him. I want to thank family and friends from coming from all over the country, and to Julia Sirota, Abby Walsh and the other individuals who took on the responsibility of organizing this service. I want to thank my mother and sister for everything.



When I think of my time growing up in the FJCC, I recall walking through the Hebrew school halls, marching my way up to the bima for Anim Zamirot, greeting everyone as if they were family. I realize through those formative years that I was a frightfully confident and stubborn individual. When I think back to how that might have come to be, I attribute that inner sense of self to my amazing parents, family and this community that recognized my spirit and saw me for me, even at a young age.

Validation and recognition are the cornerstones of empathy and human connection. Carl Rogers, a champion of client-centered psychotherapy, focused on utilizing validation as a path toward perceived safety to heal the impact of trauma and strive toward individual personal growth. It is the concept of recognizing another's thoughts, feelings and emotions as understandable and connecting with these emotions without needing to agree. It is a crucial tool in relationship building and bonding in the clinical setting and otherwise.

Our torah portion today, Re'eh, means "see". Or in other words, recognize. G-d asks the Jewish people to follow a variety of rules ranging from laws of kashrut to celebrating holidays, to agricultural practices and sacrifices. Here is one of my favorites: Regarding Agriculture: You must tithe all the produce of the seed that the field yields year by year. You must eat this tithe of your grain, wine, and oil—as well as the firstborn of your cattle and of your flocks—before God, your God, in the place to which He will choose to attach His Name, so that you may learn to revere God, your God, always.

To me, these laws seem strangely specific. However seemingly-odd and explicit these laws are, There is a clear undercurrent here. The way in which they are dictated suggests that in adhering to their specificity, we are recognizing G-d in our actions, validating him as a divine ruler. That validation, recognition and acquiescence is a part of our covenant with G-d.

D'var Torah delivered by Atara Jaffe, cont.

Well, it is now circa 2025 and not all of us adhere perfectly to some of these laws. In fact, I can't remember when I have ever tithed my grain, wine and oil before G-d in one particular place of his choosing. We may not all keep kosher, or dissolve our debts after 7 years. But we have evolved to continue to validate our religious beliefs in other ways, through prayer, charity, celebrating holidays and traditions and maintaining community.

My father, may he rest in peace, had a beautiful talent for validation and recognition of the Jewish religion and liturgy, culture and its people. Most weekday evenings He enjoyed lively discussion with Hebrew school or Adult students about halacha (Jewish laws), and jewish philosophy. Every year he extensively cleaned our home top to bottom to it rid of all chametz and only trusted a choice few, which didn't necessarily include his immediate family. And when it came to his community, his door was always open to everyone, no matter who you were. He took this verse Re'eh very seriously, "If there will be among you a destitute person among one of your brothers in your locale, in your land that God, your God, is giving you, you must not harden your heart."

There are countless stories and descriptions of my father, Rabbi Jaffe, making others feel seen, recognized and validated in times of doubt, joy, turmoil or change. His calm demeanor and easy presence was a gift to all of us. While he and I often had different viewpoints when it came to Halacha, he would always listen to my grumblings, and then say I just had to wait till after my Bat Mitzvah to follow my own rules. In his way, he saw me as an individual and validated my own personal opinions, of which there were many.

After he passed, we found his Bnei Mitzvah speeches to his students over the years, many of whom sit here in these pews today. He spoke to you of your strengths, your dreams, your "you-ness," and what he hoped for each of you in the future. He saw you.

To his congregants he was a confidant, a spiritual advisor, a friend or a colleague. He helped you through your conflicts, counseled you through existential moments of indecision, celebrated your simchot and comforted you in your losses. He saw you.

And to his family he was Evan, a true rock, who was always there to pick up the phone, or retrieve you from the airport at an ungodly hour. He was always present with support, silly jokes, and interesting conversation. He was an incredible husband, father, uncle, son, and cousin. He recognized us as members of a strong and beautiful family. He validated our individuality. He saw us.

He was a man rooted in tradition, Jewish laws and the rejoicing of holidays. But above all, he was a man rooted in the strength of his community and the people he loved.

### D'var Torah delivered by Atara Jaffe, cont.

There are times that I reflect upon my father's death with darkness. The drowning grief, the infinite loss of the man that I admire, respect, and love. But then I think about him as the man, the father, the friend and the teacher and I know there are brighter ways to maintain his memory and connection. To keep his spirit alive within me, within all of us.

So in the essence of today's parsha, I want to emphasize the attributes of recognition, of validation, of seeing that my father, Rabbi Jaffe so strongly embraced. These are our pathways to empathy, connection and compassion. These are the foundational blocks that our home here at the FJCC and beyond are built upon. A foundation that has brought such wonderful individuals together for a lifetime, because we see each other for our unique selves through the difficult and the joyous times. Because we validate that our existences are meaningful, beautiful and worthy of sharing.

May we keep our hearts soft for our those who may be destitute in not just money, but spirit and soul. May we keep our doors open, just like the Rabbi's office, so that our actions echo these beliefs. May we see one another for who we are and recognize and validate our most basic need of loving connection and compassion. And, in my father's words, may everything we do bring credit to ourselves, to our families, to our Jewish Communities and for all human kind, and let us say, Amen.



### **Thoughts from Phyllis Jaffe**

I want to share with you some thoughts... after my husband, Evan, Rabbi Jaffe died.

He left an incredible community for me, Jordana and Atara, here at the FJCC, and one that supported us through a very dark time. We were surrounded by their compassion. I knew they were grieving with me, and my heart went out to them as well.

And with that... there were hundreds of cards that came pouring in, and almost every one had a personal story enclosed, written to let me know how the Rabbi made a difference in their lives. Some were people that I knew and many others were not. We all knew how involved he was, not only in this community, but in other communities too, and he touched so many, in so many different ways. He was literally everywhere; here at the FJCC, Interfaith Hospitality, Meals on Wheels, Jewish Family Services, Federation, Food Pantry, Women's Crisis Center, Volunteer Guardianship, Hunterdon Developmental Center, Matheny School and Hospital, Congregation Beth El Synagogue to conduct morning minyan whenever the Rabbi was away, prisons where he served as Chaplain, and donating endless pints of blood through Hunterdon Medical Center, for which I believe he received an award, amongst many others throughout his life and after, and it began in elementary school, when he won the award for Mr. Big Words.

The kindness he imparted to all.

One day, during his first decade at the FJCC, I arrived home from work and checked our messages, and much to my surprise I heard: this: Hey Rabbi, Your gonna meet me at Johnny's Truck Stop at 7:00 to give me the money, right? I was dumbfounded and did not know what to make of this call, nor who this person was. When questioned, he told me that he didn't know this man, but knew he was in need of money, and so he did what was most important to him; giving, at every opportunity...but don't worry, he told me that as discussed, if that money was not returned, he would never give specifically to him again.

And he was a wonderful husband and father to Jordana and Atara. Caring, loving and he loved the Arts; Dance, Art; Literature... After he died, I received a call from Ben Duke, one of his best friends at his Prep HS in Denver. I had never met him, but he told me that Evan was the brightest student in the entire school, and that he had been "Head Boy." That was no surprise to me.

His legacy web reaches so far, but you, his students are a very big part of that. What a memorable day this is. That you are here after ten years, and I heard from so many that would have loved to be here, as well. How amazing that you carry your beautiful thoughts of him with you. What a gift that is, to you, to my family and a tribute to him.

I know that he connected so deeply with you. I went to almost all of the Bnei Mitzvot and would so enjoy watching the mutual connection. He took such interest and time in getting to know each and every student. He often picked up students early, from their home and took them to school, just to make it easier for their families, so that he could tutor them before school, which would make it easier for them to go to sports practice or other extra curricular activities. He wrote your Bar and Bat Mitzvah sermons specifically for you. One Shabbat, he even did a Rap sermon because the Bar Mitzvah loved Rap music, another time, he showed us dance moves; plies and releves on the bimah, because the Bat Mitzvah loved ballet.

### Thoughts from Phyllis Jaffe, cont.

And now, he would be amazed and proud of how accomplished you all are, your careers, your families, the little ones. As mentioned in the few words that I shared at his funeral, I told you that we always considered you like our own children, proudly talking about you over dinner. As much as you adored him, he adored you, and I love looking at photos on FaceBook of those who are in my FB community (so feel free to friend me if you are not) following your journey, your careers, your marriages, babies and children. I know that he is here now and is kvelling with pride and love for each and every one of you.

#### Just a few short notes:

Days after Rabbi Jaffe died, Jordana and Atara packed up his office and found a treasure trove of Bar and Bat Mitzvah sermons and carefully took each one, and placed them in an envelope with the family's name. Unfortunately, we don't have all, but we have quite a few, and they can be picked up on Sunday or after. Not all siblings within the family envelopes are there. There is a list of those we have, and if you live a distance, I can send yours to you, just let the office know. I apologize to those whose sermon is not included, but I am sure that you remember his special words to you.

Jordana, Atara and I want to acknowledge Julia Sirota and Abby Walsh for their tireless effort in putting together this beautiful Memorial Shabbat for Rabbi Jaffe and for all of us. They spent weeks upon weeks, even with their demanding schedules, to make this happen. You are both amazing young women and we thank you!

I also want to thank Rabbi Cohen for all of his guidance, involvement and warmth in this service, and to all of the others who contributed their time and love.



### By Mike Wolf

FJCC- The First 100 years

Looking for escape from the oppression of the pograms in eastern Europe, the first of many Jewish families arrived in Hunterdon County in 1908. For the most part farmers and cattle dealers, and wanting social as well as cultural activities, the new Jewish settlers formed a Federation of sorts where they would meet in the homes of the Jewish farmers. Although they organized a purchasing and loan cooperative, a formal organization was not realized until the founding of the Hebrew Citizens Congregation of Hunterdon in 1922.



With 16 families participating, it was primarily an organization put together to provide religious services for the high holidays. The desire for an organization that would provide for religious, cultural, and social activities was realized on December 6, 1926 with the founding of the Flemington Jewish Community Center.

The FJCC was incorporated by the State of NJ on May 27, 1927. Services were held at members homes and at various locations around town until the purchase of a small property on Park avenue in 1931, which served as a home to the FJCC for the next 17 years until the construction of a new building on East Main Street.

During the post World War 1 years, the complexion of the membership began to change. The original farmers and the next generation had branched into more businesses and integrated into the Hunterdon Community. In the late 1930's they were joined by refugees from Nazi Germany, like my father's family, and, after the war, the survivors of the concentration camps, all anxious to make a new life in Hunterdon County after the horrors of the Holocaust. Faced with a growing membership, in 1948 the congregation moved into a new building on East Main Street with Rabbi Maurice Idell as the first Rabbi in the new location. Over the years, we had a succession of rabbis, some lasting longer than others.

Then, in 1987, the congregation, after a long search, found an unusual rabbinical candidate. A new graduate of the seminary and a former ballet dancer and Hillel chaplain at University of Rhode Island. The newbie president at the time....me, along with the Board, engaged Rabbi Evan Jaffe as the new spiritual leader of the FJCC. He served as both Rabbi and cantor, read Torah, taught in the Hebrew School and personally prepared each student for their Bar Mitzvah. He served as the Jewish Chaplain for the Hunterdon Medical Center and the Hunterdon Developmental Center, where he worked weekly with severely disabled adult residents. The Rabbi was also involved with a number of local social service organizations: Hunterdon Interfaith Outreach Council, and Open ROAD (Religious Organizations Accepting Disabilities), which arranges transportation services for people with disabilities to the houses of worship of their choice.

Over time, the congregation outgrew the building on Main Street and needed a more modern facility.

FJCC- The First 100 years, cont.

A new synagogue building was completed in February 2006, and together with Rabbi Jaffe, the membership celebrated by marching over a mile carrying the eight Torahs under a chuppah from the old building in Flemington to the new one in Raritan Township. Under Rabbi Jaffe's leadership, the congregation commissioned the writing of their first brand new Torah. The realization of this dream was one of Rabbi Jaffe's last before his untimely passing in 2015.

Where are we now-

Led by Rabbi Eric Cohen, a dedicated Board of Trustees, staff, and a ton of volunteers, we have an excellent pre-school program open to the community, and a Hebrew School that provides a variety of programs and classes for our member's children leading to B'nai Mitzvot and post-B'nai Mitzvot classes. We are proud to host engaging speakers, holiday celebrations and social action programs through the Center Series.

Our 23,000 square foot building on 6 acres serves our growing membership with a 150 seat sanctuary, a small chapel, Hebrew school and pre-school classrooms, both meat and dairy kitchens, a bridal room, and a large social hall. With our modern facilities, it is our hope that the FJCC will be the scene of community building, education, and gatherings for all Jewry and the people of Flemington for many years to come. Thank you













### By Debbie Hylton

It is an honor to speak in this sacred space, the Flemington Jewish Community Center—the FJCC. For those who don't know me, my name is Debbie Hylton. I am a third generation member of this Synagogue.



I was born and raised here, in Flemington. And recently celebrated my 66th year. I continue to reside in Flemington with my husband, Alan. We have one daughter, Ariel. She is a speech-language pathologist and resides in South Boston.

My father Melvin Dvoor, of blessed memory, and his brother Herbert Dvoor, of blessed memory, grew up in Flemington. In fact, they grew up in the stone farm house which most of you passed by this morning.

My mother Marilyn Hayfer Dvoor grew up in Trenton.

I have one brother, Robert. He and his family also reside in Flemington.

As you all know, the Flemington Jewish Community Center will celebrate its 100th anniversary next year. How remarkable and special!

For me and others, the FJCC holds many cherished memories. This synagogue is a testament to faith, family, and community, a legacy started by my grandfather, Jacob Dvoor, of blessed memory and my grandmother, Ida Savelowitz Dvoor, of blessed memory, along with many other men and women.

There are stories of the early days and the group that came together weekly and sometimes daily with a shared vision to build a spiritual home in the town. They spoke of the sacrifices, late nights, and determination that went into establishing this house of worship. Dedication was their guiding light.

This synagogue has been a constant throughout my life. I remember and continue to enjoy Shabbat services, the taste of challah at Kiddush and so much more.

At the FJCC, I attended Hebrew school twice a week AND Sundays. At that time, there were 5-6 in my

class. I was the only girl.

I remember my grandmother and mom receiving FJCC Sisterhood Mother of the Year. And now it's woman of the year—providing opportunity for deserving recipients who unselfishly give of themselves toward the FJCC's sisterhood. I also remember my mom serving many years on the Sisterhood Board as corresponding secretary.





Mom inspired me in many ways. One of which was to be involved at the FJCC and the community at large. I served on various sisterhood committees and as sisterhood copresident. For the FJCC board of trustees, Alan served as President—as he followed in his mother's footsteps— Edith

Hylton of blessed memory, served as president of her synagogue, in San Francisco.

I happily remember milestones like my brother's Bar Mitzvah, cousin's Bat Mitzvah and other Bar and Bat Mitzvahs of friends and so much more.

Some of our very own simchas—our wedding (recently celebrated 29 years), my Bat Mitzvah on Ariel's 5th birthday, Ariel's Bat Mitzvah, and I received Woman of the Year. We are proud and grateful.

What is also extremely wonderful is that many here today and throughout this Shabbat, also have special and monumental memories of the Flemington Jewish Community Center.

L'dor v'dor—generation to generation: It's super special to watch our daughter remain connected and passionate to her Jewish faith. Perhaps the apple really doesn't fall far from the tree. We are blessed.

My grandfather and like others before us shared a vision that this synagogue is a place to connect, learn, and grow. It's a place where people support each other through life's challenges and celebrate together in times of joy. This is a place where people engage with each other to live a purposeful life.

The values my family and others helped instill here—the importance of tikkun olam, repairing the world; of tzedakah, charitable giving; and of shalom bayit, peace in the home—have guided my life and continue to shape the character of this community.

I have seen generations pass through these doors. They have witnessed the resilience and strength of the community in times of hardship and the unwavering spirit. Remembering these stories help keep the connection to the past alive.

May the community continue to build on this rich heritage, ensuring that this sacred space remains a source of strength, solace, and inspiration for generations to come.

As the community looks to the future, I believe my grandfather would be proud of the Flemington Jewish Community Center continuing that vision. Thank you for for joining us and wishing you a wonderful day.











Three Proclamations presented to the FJCC in honor of its 100th Anniversary were shared from

- The Hunterdon County Commissioners
  - Senator Cory Booker
  - Congressman Tom Kean

# FJCC GIVING GARDEN



Eleven years ago my son, Jake Nemeth, expressed to Rabbi Jaffe his desire to build a community garden for the hungry as his Eagle Scout project. To Jake's amazement, Rabbi Jaffe responded, "I know someone who manages gardens for the hungry and I think you might be able to build one for her here." A match was made in garden heaven that day as Jake was soon after introduced to then-Family Promise President, Maggie D'Aversa and her husband Mike. They'd been wanting to expand their Giving Garden concept in Flemington and the FJCC had a lot of land.

Not all board members liked the idea of a garden on FJCC property. But with Rabbi Jaffe's urging, board approval was given and in May, 2015 Jake and a large team of Scouts, Scouters, friends and of course Maggie and Mike, built a garden with a welcoming Star of David-adorned gate. Vegetables were planted and by the end of June, the FJCC Giving Garden brought our first cucumbers, beets, and radishes to the Flemington Food Pantry.

In June, Rabbi Jaffe walked in great pain to the garden to pose by the beautiful gate with Jake, Maggie and Neal Wolff. I cherish this photo which now hangs on Jake's bedroom wall. It accompanied an article in the Hunterdon Democrat about the project and our hopes of growing food for people who need it. The article was printed in the July 30, 2015 issue. Two weeks later, Rabbi Jaffe was gone.

During his life Rabbi Jaffe guided the spirituality of congregants, prisoners and the developmentally disabled. He worked to provide heat for those without and housing for the homeless. He educated the school districts and outside community to provide fair opportunities for Jewish students and residents. And he did much, much more. Many of his initiatives have had long-lasting impacts, still helping those he sought to help. I think Rabbi Jaffe would be so pleased to know just how much of a difference his "I know someone" statement made. Jake's garden, now in it's 11th growing season, has more than doubled in size and has produced hundreds and hundreds of pounds of vegetables for the Flemington Food Pantry. What a remarkable gift he gave Jake, Maggie, those who enjoy the food we grow, and all the many FJCCers and friends who have volunteered to build, plant, water, weed and harvest over the years.

# FJCC GIVING GARDEN







Helpers are always needed. Just 30 minutes will make a difference while helping you connect with nature!!!

Please contact Pam Nemeth at <a href="mailto:pambn@comcast.net">pambn@comcast.net</a> with questions and to volunteer.









Sat	Fri		Thu	Wed	Tue	Mon	Sun
	5	4		3	2	1	31
9:15am - Shabbat service	7:30pm - kabbalat shabat		1pm - Mah Jongg		11am - Yoga in the Social	Office Closed	9am - Sunday Morning
			7:30pm - Bridge		7:30pm - Genealogy	10:30am - Bridge	
			Thought shoge		7.copin schoology	10.00am Shage	
	12	11	_	10	9	8	7
9:15am - Shabbat service	7pm - Musical Shabbat		1pm - Mah Jongg	4:30pm - Gimel - Vav	11am - Yoga in the Social	10:30am - Bridge	9am - Alef - 7th Grade
	7:30pm - kabbalat shabat		7:30pm - Bridge	7pm - EB meeting	5:30pm - Security Meeting	1pm - Parshat Hashavuah	9am - Sunday Morning
					7pm - Center Series	7pm - Book Club	11:30am - Youth Group 8-
	19	18		17	16	15	14
9:15am - Shabbat service	7:30pm - kabbalat shabat		1pm - Mah Jongg	4:30pm - Gimel - Vav	11am - Yoga in the Social	10:30am - Bridge	DIS
11am - meditation			7:30pm - Bridge	7:30pm - BoT Meeting		1pm - Parshat Hashavuah	Gan Goes to Hebrew
Train - Hediaudi			Titopin Bridge	7.sopin bot meeting		ipin i di d	9am - Alef - Vav
							9am - Sunday Morning
							10am - Sisterhood Polish
	26	25	C	24	23	22	21
9:15am - Shabbat service	7:30pm - kabbalat shabat		Gedaliah Fast	Office Closed	Office Closed	Rosh Hashana Eve	9am - Alef - 7th Grade
				Rosh Hashana (Day 2)	Rosh Hashana	10:30am - Bridge	9am - Sunday Morning
				10am - Gan High Holiday		1pm - Parshat Hashavuah	10am - Hebrew School
				10am - High Holiday Jr.			12pm - Challah Bake
				4:30pm - No Hebrew			
	3	2		1	30	29	28
9:15am - Shabbat service	7:30pm - kabbalat shabat		Yom Kippur	No Hebrew School	11am - Yoga in the Social	10:30am - Bridge	9am - Alef - 7th Grade
		$\equiv$	office closed	Yom Kippur Eve		1pm - Parshat Hashavuah	9am - Sunday Morning
		/ Jr.	11am - High Holiday				10am - build the sukkah
			11am - High Holiday				
		y of .	rram - riign riolida)				

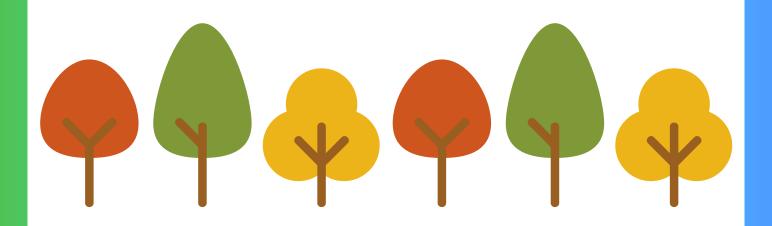




# October



Sat	Fri	Thu	Wed	Tue	Mon	Sun
3	3	2	1	30	29	28
at 9:15am - Shabbat servi	7:30pm - kabbalat shabat	Yom Kippur	No Hebrew School	11am - Yoga in the Social	10:30am - Bridge	9am - Alef - 7th Grade
		office closed	Yom Kippur Eve		1pm - Parshat Hashavuah	9am - Sunday Morning
		11am - High Holiday Jr.				10am - build the sukkah
		11am - High Holiday Jr.				
10	10	9	8	7	6	5
Sukkot (Day 5)	Sukkot (Day 4)		No Hebrew School	Office Closed	Sukkot Eve	9am - Alef - 7th Grade
at 9:15am - Shabbat servi		Sukkot (Day 3)	Office Closed	Sukkot (Day 1)	6pm - Supper in the	9am - Sunday Morning
7pm - Youth Group Mov		1pm - Mah Jongg 7pm - EB meeting 7:30pm - Bridge	(Sukkot (Day 2)			
17	17	16	15	14	13	12
9:15am - Shabbat servi	5:30pm - Tot Shabbat	1pm - Mah Jongg	Office Closed	Adult Simchat Torah	Sukkot (Day 7) /	Sukkot (Day 6)
11am - meditation	5:30pm - Tot Shabbat	6pm - HH	Yom Tov	Office Closed		9am - Alef - 7th Grade
at .	7:30pm - kabbalat shabat	7:30pm - Bridge	4:30pm - Gimel - Vav	Shemini Alzeret / Simchat		9am - Sunday Morning 10am - Gan Goes to 10:30am - Family Simchat 11am - 100th Daffodil -
24	24	23	22	21	20	19
at 9:15am - Shabbat servi	7:30pm - kabbalat shabat	1pm - Mah Jongg	4:30pm - Gimel - Vav	11am - Yoga in the Social	10:30am - Bridge	9am - Alef - 7th Grade
		6pm - HH 7:30pm - Bridge	7:30pm - BoT Meeting	7pm - Movie Club	1pm - Parshat Hashavuah	9am - Sunday Morning 10am - Senior Dancer - 3pm - Sweeney Todd at
31	31	30	29	28	27	26
	7:30pm - kabbalat shabat	00	4:30pm - Gimel - Vav	11am - Yoga in the Social	10:30am - Bridge	9am - Alef - 7th Grade
9:15am - Shabbat servi				7pm - Movie Club	1pm - Parshat Hashavuah	9am - Sunday Morning
10am - Jr Cong/Beyach				Terri movie oldo	Terminat Hashavadii	Juliay morning
1pm - nva						



# Our 100 Year Anniversary Mitzvot Challenge

"NJ Gal" is the most recent winner of the FJCC Mitzvah Challenge. She (at least I assume NJ Gal is a she) was selected by random draw and completed one or more of the following "mitzvot:"

- Help combat period poverty by making a monetary donation to Dignity Grows, a
  donation of menstrual products to the Flemington Food Pantry, or register to attend a
  Dignity Grows packing party (Menstrual Hygiene Day)
- Treat yourself to cheesecake, blintzes, bourekas or kreplach (Shavuot)
- Participate in or volunteer for the Farmland Ride (the Farmland Ride)
- Share a slice of red velvet cake or the red food of your choice, with someone who will enjoy it (Juneteenth)
- Drink a quart of water (National Hydration Day)
- Watch fireworks, in person or on TV (Independence Day)
- Tell someone why you are thankful for them (Global Forgiveness Day)
- Fill a box with household items you no longer need and bring it to a collection box (National Give Something Away Day)
- Splurge on something you want (International Self Care Day)

Congratulations to NJ Gal and thank you to all who are participating! Remember, all those who mark their progress on the challenge spreadsheet will be eligible for the next bimonthly prize.



Sunday, October 12 11:00 Rain or Shine

All ages welcome!
Tools & gloves provided.
DIY bulb decorating and a take-home craft for the kids

We're planting hope, tradition, and community spirit. Every daffodil is a reminder of the legacy we've built and the future we're growing together.

Contact Dale Sperling to volunteer or to donate bulbs Dale.Sperling@gmail.com | 917-513-2565



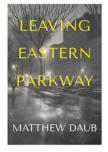
# **UPCOMING EVENTS**



September 8 at 7:00 PM At the FJCC

Leaving Eastern Parkway by Matthew Daub





Brooklyn's Hasidic community of Lubavitchers is turned upside down when family tragedy strikes and everyday life changes forever in the life of Zev Altshul.



Rosh Hashanah is coming!
Time to polish the silver in the ark!



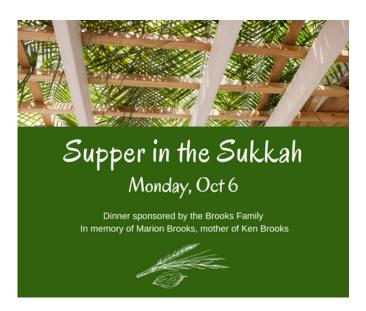
Please join Sisterhood on Sunday, September 14th in the Social Hall at 10am to help bring in the new year with shine!







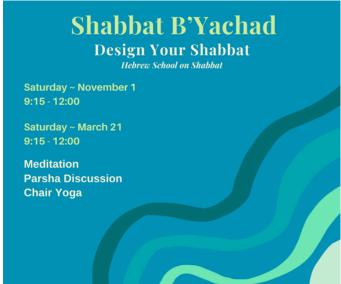
# **UPCOMING EVENTS**





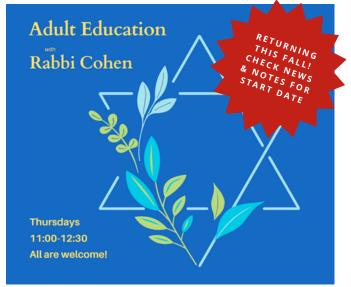


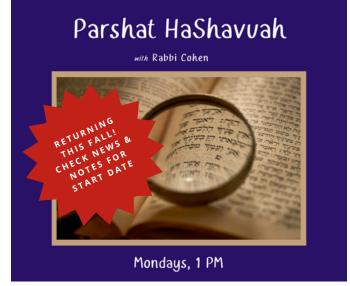




Register for events on ShulCloud.

**ONGOING EVENTS- join us!** 

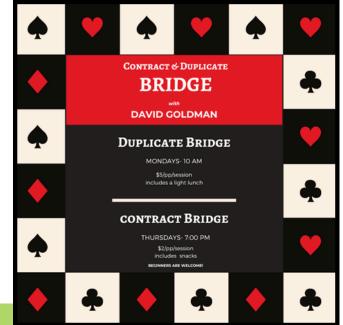






Tuesdays 11:15 \$5
Register karenyoga 108@yahoo.com







Thursdays, 1-3:30 \$5 cash at door New & Experienced Players Delcome!



Sept 14 ~ Oct 19 ~ Nov 6
Dec 17 ~ Jan 18 ~ Feb 12
Mar 22 ~ Apr 9 ~ May 31

DINNER IS SERVED

Dinner Is Served on 9/14 will be at Dora Restaurant in Clinton at 6 pm. Reach out to Kim at <a href="mailto:kimfmuller@yahoo.com">kimfmuller@yahoo.com</a> for details.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September 1- Ray Slavin, Arielle Mizrahi, Bruce Davidson, Ariela Rutbeck-Goldman

September 2- Stephanie McInerney, Amira Kleiman

September 4- Matthew Rednor

September 5 - Aaron Sperling

September 6- Liam Franklin, Lilah Mason

September 7- Hoyt Holley, Jeffrey Doshna, Zachary Nemeth

September 9 - Emily Quinn

September 12- Abby Walsh, Jamie Alexander, Jake Nifoussi

September 15- Jordan Alexander

September 16- Frank Rumore, Emma Hornick

September 17 - Howard Nifoussi, Noam Rutbeck-Goldman, William

Fernekes, Deborah Kesselhaut

September 18 - Edward Winnick, Benjamin Gavzy

September 20 - Alissa Fox

September 21 - Linda Atlas

September 24 - Sam Kohn

September 26 - David Goldman

September 27 - Zachary Sperling, Joshua Sperling

September 30- Rosemary Mehrlust

October 1 - Lois Butt, Kylei Mittler

October 2- Brendon Daneshrad, Lucy Shor, Nancy Rumore

October 3 - Elaine Stern

October 4- Adah Radzin

October 6- Jack Nahama, Robin Mason, Rebecca Mondshein

October 7 - Lindsey Rodriguez

October 11 - Arthur Grossman

October 15 - Ethan Mehrlust

October 20 - Evan Pollack, Richard Goodman, Eliot Friedman,

Jacob Clarin

October 23 - Mitchell Clarin

October 26 - Kari Gursky

October 27 - Steve Kesselhaut, Karen Stirberg

October 29 - Scott Berk, Joseph Muller

October 30-Benjamin Goldstein

October 31 - Kimi Mittler

LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS-EMAIL THE OFFICE OR EDIT YOUR SHULCLOUD ACCOUNT



September 2- Salena and Allen Kern

September 6- Julius Kawarsky and Alexander Soto

September 9- Bruce and Josy Kestenbaum

September 14- Drew and Deborah Farber

September 21- Joel and Sharon Goldstein

September 24- Edward and Sharon Winnick

October 2- Zel and Marsha Gerstein

October 11- Diane and Stuart Naar

October 13- Barry and Kimi Mittler

October 17 - Jeremy Silberman and Alisa Grossman

October 18- Deborah and Steve Kesselhaut

October 19- Scott and Jeanne Berk

October 26- Bruce Davidson and Marsha Goldstein



LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS-EMAIL THE OFFICE OR EDIT YOUR SHULCLOUD ACCOUNT

## **YAHRZEITS**

```
September 2- William Suess
September 5- Evelyn Treinish
September 7- Rosé Billowitz
September 9- Lillian Gerstein
September 10- Jack Franklin, Kurt Hylton
September 11- Abraham Greenberg
September 12 - Henry Berzofsky
September 13 - Norman Thomas
September 14- Bruce Nifoussi
September 16- Henrietta Farber
September 18- David Bruce Wasserman
September 19 - Jerry Cohen, Julius Kaminowitz
September 21 - Sarah Neibart
September 22 - Ruth Elstein, Harry Povlotsky
September 23 - Esther Friedel
September 24- Barbara M Berg, Arnold Stein
September 25- Edward Wagschal
September 26- Daniel Alexander, Abraham Goldstein
September 27 - Carolyn Watts
September 29 - Henry Schindler, Sarah Wetstein
September 30- Sandra Beluch
October 2- Richard Kaplan
October 3 - Thomas Doshna
October 4- Marion Brooks, Celia Rosenberg
October 5 - Joseph Ritwe
October 7- Helene Hubert
October 8 - Gloria Barak, Alvin Farber
October 9- Frank Stolpen
October 10 - Michael Muller
October 11 - Lyla Grossman, Ritalou Rogow Harris
October 12- Reuben Billowitz, Joy Ronald
October 13 - Abraham Chaiken, Daniel Shor
October 15- Edward Alan Cohn, Harvey Goldstein, Sylvia Goodman,
Raphael Zackowitz
October 18- Sol Daniels, Irving Waskowitz
October 19- Jerome Goodman, Loretta Grossman, Rubin Kaplan,
Ethel Kissin, Edward Stern
October 20 - Rosalyn Zackowitz
October 21 - Lucillé Waskowitz, Manfried Wolf, Eileen Wortman
October 22 - Gershon Dvoor
October 24- Janet Sugar
October 25- Thelma Kaplan, Eloise (Polly) Kawarsky, Stanley Lefkow,
Frank Rapp, Ina Lee Young
October 29 - Lawrence O. Gross
October 30- Samuel Atlas, William Doyle, Myron Neil Novick,
Juliette Wolf
October 31- Ann Borman, Bernard Gould, Gerald Kahansky
```

# Contributions

# Kiddush/Oneg/Nosh

### **Judy Gold**

For the yahrzeit of mother Renee Gold

### **Carolyn and David Goldman**

In celebration of the auf ruf of Michael & Tiferet

### Jeff Doshna

Special Shabbat dinner in honor of the Hebrew School Alumni

## Connie Mitchko and Jerry Grossman

Jerry's 93<sup>rd</sup> Birthday

### **Mitchell and Barbara Clarin**

In memory of Barbara Grace, beloved mother of Amy Marshall

### **Eric and Jane Wasserman**

Tiferet and Michael on their upcoming marriage

### **Nadine Milecofsky**

Mazel Tov to the Goldman family in honor of the Aufruf and upcoming wedding of Michael and Tiferet.

### **Philip and Evelyn Stern**

The marriage of Michael and Tiferet, Mazel Tov!

### Jonathan and Pamela Nemeth

Mazel Tov to the Goldman family for the wedding of Michael and Tiferet

# **General Donations**

### **Jeffrey Doshna**

In memory of Thomas Doshna, beloved father of Jeff Doshna

### **Audrey Brava**

In memory of Sandra Alper, beloved mother of Randi Pogash

### Nomi and Jack Forman

## **100th Year Celebration**

### **Tamar Small**

In memory of Rabbi Evan Jaffe

**Seth and Amy Rubin** 

Nomi and Jack Forman

### Marce Zuchovicki

For the daffodil planting event



# Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

### **Dena and Greg Scibilia**

In honor of Rabbi Cohen for his continued support during my illness.

**Shellie Jacobson** 

Joan Rose Spiefel

Jane and Jeffrey Anderson

# **Family Promise**

### **Eric and Jane Wasserman**

In memory of Zel's beloved sister Judith Gerstein

Mitchell and Barbara Clarin

### **Judy Gold**

In memory of Judith Sandra Gerstein, beloved sister of Zel Gerstein

**Joel and Sharon Goldstein**Donation

# **Building Fund**

### Marsha and Zel Gerstein

In memory of Barbara Grace, beloved mother of Amy Marshall. May the Grace and Marshall families be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

### **David Neibart**

In memory of Judith Sandra Gerstein, beloved sister of Zel Gerstein

### **Ken and Nancy Blankstein**

In memory of Judith Sandra Gerstein, beloved sister of Zel Gerstein

# Contributions

# Rabbi Jaffe's 10<sup>th</sup> Yahrzeit

Joel and Sharon Goldstein

**Phyllis Lerner** 

**Hannah Cohen** 

Liza Kazman

**Vivian Doshna** 

**Elyssa and Thomas Barbiero** 

**Liz and Darren Loew** 

**Joshua Camins** 

Zel and Marsha Gerstein

Jane and Jeffrey Anderson

**Ledgin-Toskos** 

**Rebecca Weston** 

**Alison Adler** 

**Janice and Marshall Moranz** 

**Mark Sirota** 

**Bruce and Josy Kestenbaum** 

**Elizabeth Lowe** 

**Nadine Milecofsky** 

**David Neibart** 

**Beverly Landstrom** 

Reba and Hoyt Holley

and other anonymous donors



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