## FJCC FLASH

Official Newsletter of the Flemington JCC



Rabbi – Eric Cohen President – Sharon Rednor Newsletter - רודריגז

> <u>1st Vice President</u> Jonathan Nemeth

<u>2nd Vice President</u> Rachel Rodriguez

<u>3rd Vice Presiden</u>t Kim Muller

<u>Treasurer</u> Jonathan Weitz

<u>Secretary</u> Nadine Milecofsky

Immediate Past President
Bruce Moskovitz

#### Trustees

Marsha Goldstein Marvin Jacobson Bruce Kamich Cara London Nathan Lefkow Alan Radzin Dale Sperling Adam Wolf leffrey Doshna \* Jack Forman \* lim Fox \* Zel Gerstein \* Dan Gross \* Alan Hylton \* Howard Nifoussi \* Ed Mehrlust \* Phil Stern \*

Michael Wolf \*

\* Life Trustees

#### This Months Contributors:

Rabbi Cohen Sharon Rednor Deborah Kesselhaut Karen Walsh Rachel Rodriguez Pam Nemeth Howard Nifoussi Bruce Moskowitz

#### RABBI'S REFLECTIONS

In The Canterbury Tales, Chaucer has the franklin (one who is relatively well-off, but not of noble birth), say: "patience is a virtue..." While Chaucer may have taken the line from classical authors, he introduced it into English, and it has come down to us through the ages. How many of us as parents, teachers, coaches, or mentors, have



come across situations in which we ... just lose it. The story of the spies, in the Book of Numbers, is one such instance. Moses sends spies to the land of Canaan (the name of the country before it was the land of Israel), to do some reconnaissance before invading. The spies return, and eight of them report that conquering the land is far beyond the abilities of the Israelites. Two of them, Joshua and Caleb, disagree; they urge they Israelites forward, assuring them that they can do this, and reminding them that God will be on their side. The Israelites do not believe Joshua and Caleb, and announce that it is time for them to choose new leaders and head back to Egypt. God appears, supports Moses, and Joshua and Caleb, and proceeds ... to lose patience.

God tells Moses that God has had it with the Children of Israel. God is tired of their whining and complaining. Step aside, says God, and I will wipe them out. God wants to start all over, with a new people, who will be descended from Moses. How many times have children, students, colleagues, employees, bosses (the list goes on) driven us to extremes? We've worked so hard to get them to a certain point, and what happens? They fail; they disappoint; they fall short.

When Moses hears what God plans to do, Moses reminds God that God has made promises to these people, and to their ancestors, and appeals to God's 13 Divine attributes. One of these attributes is patience. Patience is not merely a virtue for Chaucer, it is a DIVINE virtue in the Torah. Perhaps it is Divine because it is so hard. We've worked so hard to get to a particular point. Who wouldn't lose it if it appears that everything is falling apart? Even God, it seems, needs a Moses to remind God of what is as stake if we lose our patience.

#### RABBI'S REFLECTIONS



My teacher, Rabbi Art Green, points out that, what went wrong here, is that the people's fear was greater than their confidence. They are afraid of fighting the nations of the Promised Land, whom they now discover live in fortified cities and have giants fighting on their side. This is going to be hard! Yes, God is on their side, and yes, the Israelites are fully capable of winning over the land. But, their 400 years of enslavement are still weighing heavily upon them. God, it would seem,

has not adequately taken that history, and its psychological impact, into account.

Once God listens to Moses, and calms down, God realizes that the Israelites don't need to be destroyed; they need more time, 40 years to be exact. But, to get to this conclusion, God needed to calm down, and to listen to Moses. Patience is not easy. Ask any parent or teacher! It's apparently not easy even for God.

I will admit that patience is extremely difficult for me. I try very hard, but it is tough. In almost every situation, it helps to have a Moses to remind me what is at stake if I lose my cool. Do I really want to destroy everything I have worked so hard to achieve? Blowing up is never a constructive response. But..., it is sometimes hard not to.

There are times I have successfully controlled my temper. Those are the moments when I am able to stop reacting, and acknowledge that my feelings about other peoples' failures are just that: my feelings. Losing my patience is a lot more about the hurt to my ego, than it is about others' shortcomings. Can I stay calm enough to recognize that, and, by doing so, preserve what I have achieved so far? It's a work in progress. We are works in progress. May we all strive to show patience in the face of trying circumstances, and challenging people.

# FROM THE DESK OF OUR PRESIDENT

Happy Summer! To me, summertime is a time to celebrate the outdoors, the bounty of the garden and growth, in general. So too, the FJCC is celebrating these things this summer.

Thanks to the Nursery School students, under the guidance of their teachers and Pam Nemeth, many seedlings were planted in the outdoor garden. The children made a spectacular start to the Giving Garden and had a spectacular school year. We are proud of the students' accomplishments as they move up to the next grade. So too, we are proud of all the high school and college graduates of the FJCC. Congratulations!

"It always amazes me to look at the little, wrinkled brown seeds and think of the rainbows" said Captain Jim. "When I ponder on them seeds I don't find it nowise hard to believe that we've got souls that'll live in other worlds. You couldn't hardly believe there was life in them tiny things, some no bigger than grains of dust, let alone colour and scent, if you hadn't seen the miracle, could you?"

— L.M. Montgomery, Anne's House of Dreams

On June 11th, we celebrated the beautiful outdoors of Hunterdon County as over 200 riders joined in the 6th annual FJCC Farmland Ride. The event was a huge success, thanks to the many ride-day volunteers led by Dena Scibilia, Mitch Clarin, Bruce Moskovitz, Barry Mittler, Nomi Forman, and John Fellin.

Moving on to the bounty of the garden ... we look forward to donating produce to the Flemington Food Pantry and Grow a Row. This year, the



## FROM THE DESK OF OUR PRESIDENT

FJCC garden was expanded by 3 beds thanks to Glenn Gold and Rich Goldstein. And, the watering of the garden will be boosted due the installation of a drip watering system. Thank you to the North Hunterdon Rotary Club, the Nemeths, the Kestenbaums and Rutgers Nursery. The Rotary Club granted the funds toward the drip irrigation system as well as the lumber for one of the new beds. Ionathan and Pam Nemeth donated a second and the Kestenbaums made a donation toward the third bed and we're hoping more FICC members will contribute the remaining \$100 toward the third. Rutgers Nursery donated the soil for the 3 beds. The FICC Giving Garden expects to donate lots of fresh tomatoes, kale, zucchini and more to the participants at the Flemington Food Pantry. The FICC also looks forward to gleaning the fields for donations to America's Grow A Row. Please stay tuned for announcements from Mona Shapiro of the upcoming summer harvest dates.

Finally, I am happy to report that the FJCC staff family has grown. Please join me in welcoming Cantor Akiva Nelson to the FJCC. With Rabbi Cohen, Cantor Nelson will be leading services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur this year. All of us will have an opportunity to meet him and hear his beautiful voice at services on Friday July 14th and Saturday July 15th . Please plan to attend and give him a wonderful, warm FJCC welcome!

Enjoy the relaxed pace of summertime!

Sharon Rednor

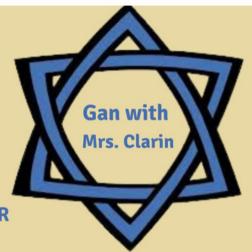
#### **HEBREW SCHOOL**

2023-2024

#### GAN GOES TO HEBREW SCHOOL







We are offering Gan Goes to Hebrew School again this year. This program is for families who have Pre-K and Kindergarten aged children. Gan goes to Hebrew School will meet several times during the school year on Sundays from 10:00 am – 11:00 am. Mrs. Clarin will be teaching again this year.

Things you need to know:

- 1. This is not a drop off program. Parents and younger siblings will meet in the social hall and have an opportunity for coffee and nosh while Pre-K and Kindergarten aged children are in the program.
- 2. This program is designed so both children and parents can socialize, get to know one another, create meaningful friendships, and be introduced to Hebrew School.
- 3. The class will run from 10:00 am 11:00 am on the following Sundays:
- a.September 10 Rosh HaShanah
- b.October 8 Details to Follow
- c.November 5 All about Shabbat
- d.December 3 Chanukah Time
- e.January 21 The Birthday of the Trees
- f.February 4 Havdalah
- g.March 24- Details to Follow
- h.April 14 Passover
- i.May 19 -- Shabbat Time
- 4. Classes include a story, a craft and Jewish play time.
- 5. The children will be dismissed to their parents at 11:00 am. Families are invited to join the big kids for Rabbi time in the sanctuary to learn songs and prayers at 11:00 am
- 6. The cost of the program is \$50 for the year.
  - 7. Contact Karen Walsh kwalsh@flemingtonjcc.org for questions and to reserve your spot.

#### **HEBREW SCHOOL**

#### Our Tzedakah Counts

















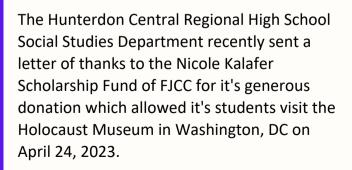
#### **HEBREW SCHOOL**

What do we do when the kids aren't here? Plenty!! Kimi and I are tackling reorganizing the all the Hebrew School supplies. It is no small undertaking, but Kimi has it all under control. Rabbi and I are editing the handbook, and the Bnai Mitzvah guide. The staff is reviewing the curriculum and selecting books for the coming year. We are also preparing for High Holiday Junior Congregation.

Back to School packets will be sent out the week of July 17th . All forms are due back by August 14th . Please email me if you have any questions at kwalsh@flemingtonjcc.org.









On Sunday, June 25 the FJCC had a Genizah ceremony where we buried the siddurim and other books with God's name in the cemetery.

#### **2023 FARMLAND RIDE**



#### **GIVING GARDEN**

Hello Giving Gardeners,

I've just gotten back from vacation and was overjoyed visiting our garden again. The two new beds are full (thank you Amy and everyone else who planted in them) and the other ten beds are bursting with gorgeous big plants. We've got beans and peas and kale ready to be cut and brought to the food pantry!!! Sadly, most of the sunflowers along the fence are completely gone. No site of even a stem remaining. (It is a mystery as to what happened to them.) But two new sunflower plants planted two weeks ago are still there, as are a cucumber, corn and squash plant.

Thank you to the Rodriguez family, John Fellin, Rich Goldstein, Virgie and Jake Nemeth for watering.

The drip-line materials are here and - I can't believe I'm saying this - hopefully it will stop raining so the ground can dry and we can install our new watering system.

Lastly, I want to tell you our first delivery to the Flemington Food Pantry happened. New FJCC member Terri delivered eight absolutely magnificent heads of lettuce.



Remember: Don't throw away your apple cores, grass trimmings and coffee grounds. Compost them at the FJCC!!!

Stay dry everyone,

Pam



#### SPOTLIGHT ON SISTERHOOD

"I am a Jew because...." Essay

Samantha Muller

I am a Jew because of my family. Not only because of the matrilineal descent of Judaism but because of the vibrant traditions passed down to me. From the warm glow of Hanukkah candles to the sumptuous smell of my mother's Passover brisket, my year is made whole by centuries-old traditions that my family has adopted to become our own. Most notably, we fill our Passover table with neighbors and friends, many of whom are not Jewish. This simple act of inclusion represents to me the greater purpose of Judaism and its relevance in modern-time, to support and learn from one another. I am not a Jew to alienate myself from those of other faiths but rather to explore the religion which ties me to my ancestors, and to share in my traditions and those of others with an open mind. I view Judaism as a means of connecting with others rather than creating barriers, a way to connect with past, present, and future generations.

Through working with the first and second-grade class in Hebrew School, I have been granted the opportunity to aid the education of the next generation at the FJCC. Their growth throughout the year amazes me, and I am incredibly proud that I have been able to help them along the way. Regardless of how my week outside of the classroom had been, I was immediately rewarded through my time with them. Though their immense aptitude for the Hebrew language was often hidden behind a stubborn veil of "I would rather color", I witnessed a growing sense of self-confidence within each of them. Witnessing this growth has awarded me a greater appreciation for the numerous learning opportunities which Judaism provides.

Though the study of Hebrew is possibly the most obvious education provided by Judaism, I believe that being a Jew includes so much more. Through discussions of Torah stories and the welcoming community that has been fostered here at the FJCC, I have seen the moral framework that Judaism provides. From welcoming new members, to fundraising and volunteering together, our synagogue embodies what it means to serve one's community while helping one another become the best version of themself. Judaism does not instill in one the fear of eternal damnation or the promise of a blissful afterlife as encouragement for one to be a good person, rather, Judaism expects that individuals will be responsible and kind members of their communities simply because it is the right thing to do.

Though the phrase "right thing to do" is highly subjective, Jews are granted the ability to decide for themselves how Judaism fits into their lives. Each sect of Judaism encourages a varied sense of conservativeness, and modern-day Jews are increasingly creating a unique definition of Judaism for themselves. For some, this may be living a strictly ultra-orthodox life. For others, this may be attending only high holiday services, or none at all, and holding in their heart the importance of respect and volunteerism. Though we are all vastly different, our shared identity as Jews ties us to one another and grants us the ability to appreciate the beautiful diversity of our world.

### **SISTERHOOD**



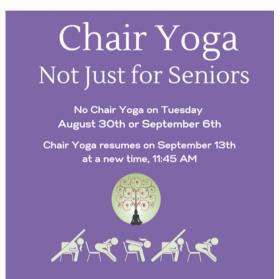
Are we missing an item or category you'd like to see? If so, please be sure to tell us by taking the survey below! (Click on the link "Copy of Gift Shop Inventory Survey)

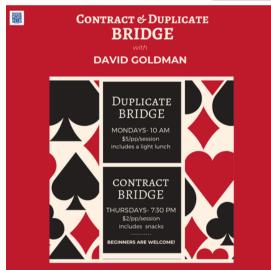
### **WEEKLY EVENTS**

# Parashat HaShavuah Rabbi Cohen Mondays, 1:00 Beginning Sep 12

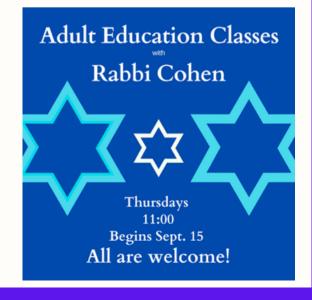


All are welcome!









#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Register for events on Shulcloud. Links are posted where applicable.



This film looks beyond the 16-time Grammy-winning musician to see the polio survivor whose parents emigrated from Poland to Israel and the young man who struggled to be taken seriously as a music student when schools saw only his disability. In the film, Perlman's life story unfolds through conversations with fellow musicians and friends, including Billy Joel, Alan Alda, pianist Martha Argerich, cellist Mischa Maisky, and his wife of 50 years, Toby. The Perlmans dedicate their lives to their large Jewish family in New York City, their shared love for music, and their continual support of young musicians. Itzhak is a portrait of musical virtuosity that explores themes of Jewish identity, Jewish history, humor, and love.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Register for events on Shulcloud. Links are posted where applicable



#### **BIRTHDAYS** •

<u>July 2</u> Marce Zuchovicki Craig Schindler

<u>July 4</u> Shira Engle-Friedman David Rothstein Joyce Nehama

> <u>July 5</u> Becky Lefkow

J<u>uly 6</u>
David Cohn
Nathaniel Mehrlust
Nadine Goldman
Samuel Doshna

<u>July 7</u> Jacob Stirberg

<u>July 8</u> Stacy St. Pierre

<u>July 9</u> Austin Rednor

<u>July 10</u> Judith Leibowitz Sharon Rednor

July 11
Ross Holley
Amy Cook

July 13
Jami Krampel
Harry Rapkin
Ian Weitz
Cory Franklin

<u>July 14</u> Arielle Engle-Friedman Alisa Grossman

> <u>July 15</u> Denise Vasquez

J<u>uly 16</u> Adrienne Scibilia Anthony Ricciardi Jeffrey Marshall

J<u>uly 17</u> Jonathan Treinish Michael Goldmn Bruce Moskowitz

> <u>July 18</u> Carly Braff

July 22 Gabrielle Spinowitz Nadine Milecofsky

<u>July 25</u> George Ollwerther

July 26
Raymond Bragin
Danny Braff

<u>July 29</u> Brianna Glacken

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**

J<u>uly 1</u>
Kenneth and Sharon Brooks
Edward and Rosemary Mehrlust

<u>July 4</u> Matthew and Cheryl Schutz

July 5
Eric Sirota and Cara London

<u>July 7</u> Reba and Hoyt Holley

July 11
Philip and Evelyn Stern
Adam and Larissa Wolf

J<u>uly 14</u>
David Feedholm and Maria Shepard

#### **YAHRZEITS**

July 2 Judith Weinstein Michael Galer

> <u>July 5</u> David Quinn

July 6
Sheila Neibart
Harry Lehrer
Leon Suslow

J<u>uly 7</u>
Elsie Simon
Louis Hurwitz
Ira Solomon

<u>July 8</u> Shirley Cohen

<u>July 11</u> Isaac Mizrahi Edna Goldstein <u>July 12</u> Daniel Doshna

<u>July 16</u> Sarah Doshna

<u>July 19</u> Beatrice Klein

<u>July 22</u> Allan Goodman Ozzie Nahama

<u>July 23</u> Herbert Dvoor

<u>July 24</u> Ruth Naar Reba Chaiken

> <u>July 25</u> Ira Siegel

<u>July 29</u> Anna Kanter

## CONTRIBUTIONS

## Kiddush/Oneg/Nosh

Salena and Allen Kern
In Memory of Lillian Rapp and Estelle Kern

Jonathan and Karen Stirberg
In Honor of Jonathan's father Nathaniel

Mitchell and Barbara Clarin
In Memory of Edward Vogel
In Memory of Sarah Kippelman

Scott Schindler
For the Yahrzeits of Joyce Schindler and Florence Noshay

Fredrick and Melissa Kleiman

For the Yahrzeit of Ira Siegel, beloved father of Melissa Kleiman

#### **General Donations**

Frederick and Suzanne Rothstein

For the Yahrzeit of Minnie Goldstein, Rick's grandmother

For the Yahrzeit of Bessie Triber, Sue's grandmother

## CONTRIBUTIONS

## **Building Donations**

Zelic and Marsha Gerstein
In Memory of Edward Henry Vogel, father of Elizabeth
Loew

Jack and Marian Daniels

## **Rabbi Discretionary**

Judith Schindler
In Celebration of Craig's auf ruf

Jack and Nomi Forman

Florence Friedman Hurwitz and Loren Hurwitz
In Honor of Weitz Family on the Bat Mitzvah of Rose

Joel and Sharon Goldstein
In Memory of Edna Goldstein

Nathan Treinish
In Honor of Bruce Moskowitz and John Fellin

Jerrold and Linda Atlas

For the Yahrzeits of Isadore Kanter and Anna Kanter

#### **ADVERTS**





8 LOCATIONS ON ROUTES 202 & 31, FLEMINGTON, NJ 1-800-FLEMINGTON • FLEMINGTON.COM





www.cocoalogwco.com

HOWARD A. HERMAN, D.M.D.

120 Main Street Flemington, NJ 08822 908-782-1717

37-39 Belvidere Avenue Washington, NJ 07882 908-689-4440

Office Hours By Appointment NJ Specialty Permit # 2937 Cacua Lorw Co. Cruzy Good Cookies are freshly baked at the FJCC - Delectable, delicious and Enther, Cookie Bosse or Platters are available for

> Oneg and Edduch Trays Bar/Bat Mitevalsa Religious School Events Holidays and Gibs Lana! Delivery and Shipping

Sample Pricing: Trays available for \$18/\$36/\$54/\$72 Gift Box of 18 Cookies for \$18

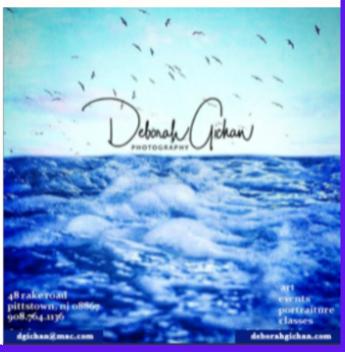
Orders and Questions: Visit www.cocoalocwen.com or: lin@cocoalocwen.com 908-328-5258

#### **FAMILY FUN!**





TO ADVERTISE IN THE BULLETIN, CONTACT DEBORAH IN THE OFFICE AT (908) 782-6410



#### **ADVERTS**



Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC

DEBBIE GRILL-MCINERNEY, SRES, CNE

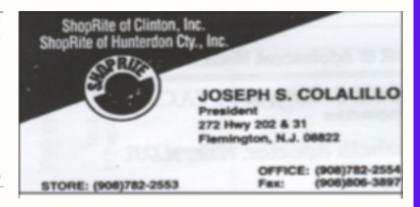
D16 N2 REALTORS\* Circle of Excellence Sales Award\* Silver

(908) 625-5690 CELL (908) 782-6850 OFFICE (862) 345-2276 EFAX



35 Highway 31 Flemington, NJ 098322

www.DebbieGrillMcinerney.cbintouch.com



#### Fox Skin & Allergy Associates

Alissa B. Fox, M.D.-Dermatology Fellow, American Academy of Dermatology James A. Fox, M.D.-Allergy-Immunolgoy Fellow, American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology

3461 Highway 22 @ County Line Rd., Branchburg, NJ Phone (908) 725-4777

1100 Wescott Dr., Suite 303, Flemington, NJ (Allergy-Immunology only) Phone (908) 788-6479

#### Flemington JCC Gift Shop

To schedule, email <a href="mailto:sisterhood@flemingtonjcc.org">sisterhood@flemingtonjcc.org</a>



#### JUDITH "JUDY" M. GOLD, SRES

International Diamond Society RELO Certified Specialist

C: 908-303-2100 O: 908-782-6850 F: 862-345-1361 soldbygold54@gmail.com





RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

100 Reaville Ave, Suite 100 Flemington, NJ 08822



#### Darren E. Loew, D.D.S.

4 Walter E. Foran Blvd., Suite #205 Flemington, NJ 08822 (908) 782-7626 fax (908) 450-1122

#### Niyati Patel-Parelds, D.M.D. M.D.S.

1465 State Hwy. 31 Clinton, NJ 08801 (908) 735-7620

"I've Got Friends in Loew Braces'

www.loeworthodontics.com

TELEPHONE 908-788-5317

JACK S. FORMAN, D.P.M. PODIATRIC MEDICINE AND FOOT SURGERY

OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT **HUNTERDON PROFESSIONAL BUILDING** ROUTE 31, P.O. BOX 2207 FLEMINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08822

#### CENTRAL LÍQUORS

8 Reaville Avenue Flemington, NJ 08822

Fax (908) 782-6751

Phone (908) 782-2518