

FJCC FLASH

Official Newsletter of the Flemington JCC



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Newsletter - כודריג

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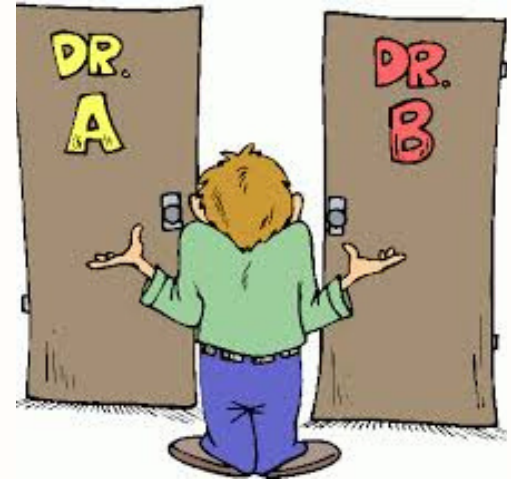
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This Months Contributors:

Rabbi Cohen
Sharon Rednor
Deborah Kesselhaut
Karen Walsh
Rachel Rodriguez
Kim Friedman Muller
Pam Nemeth

RABBI'S REFLECTIONS

How do we decide between two competing opinions? Assume each side is intelligent, well-educated, and well-intentioned. Assume we have examined each argument, and find each has a sound basis in the facts. How do we choose whose opinion to follow? Do we toss a coin? The sages didn't think so. They did, however, offer us a way to move forward. In the Babylonian Talmud, in the Tractate of Eruvin we learn:



Rabbi Abba said in the name of Samuel: "For three years, the House of Hillel and the House of Shammai argued. One said, 'The halakha (Jewish practice) is like us,' and the other said, 'The halakha is like us.' A heavenly voice spoke: "Both these and those are the words of the Living God, but the halakha is like the House of Hillel." A question was raised: Since the heavenly voice declared: "Both these and those are the words of the Living God," why was the halakha established to follow the opinion of Hillel? It is because the students of Hillel were kind and gracious. They taught their own ideas as well as the ideas from the students of Shammai. Not only for this reason, but they went so far as to teach Shammai's opinions first."

One of the most important lessons which I learned, while in rabbinical school, is that the way in which we present our point of view may actually be more important than the content of our opinions. We may be far smarter than the person with whom we are disagreeing (or think we are), but if we do not present our argument in a respectful way, or behave in a respectful manner, our sages teach us that our point of view should not rule the day. At one point, education, cleverness, even devotion, are no longer sufficient criteria to make a decision.



This is a fascinating teaching coming from sages who achieved their positions through intellectual prowess. Our sages recognize that education and academic achievement are important, but not sufficient. We all need to behave like "menschen," like respectful adults.

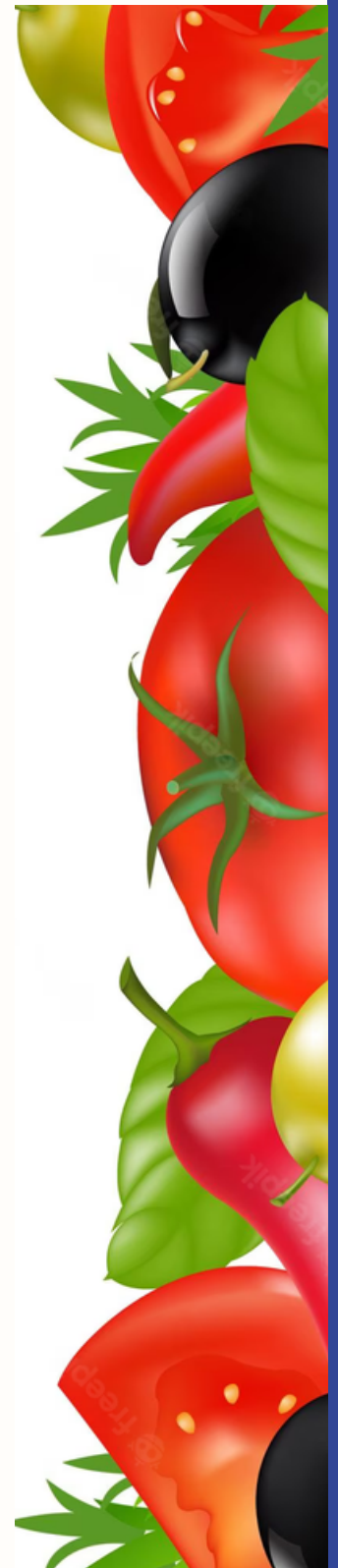
May we all take their teaching to heart.

FROM THE DESK OF OUR PRESIDENT


Spring has sprung and already June is here! Three omnipresent themes during June: 1) gratitude to teachers, family and volunteers, for all their support, 2) the call to get outside and enjoy the springtime and 3) a slower pace that includes connecting and celebrating with friends and family. Popular or unpopular – you’ll note the lack of reference to technology in my comments.

With pride, the FJCC families, teachers and community celebrated recently as the Gimel and Dalet class members led services. These children worked hard to prepare for the evening and their efforts showed. We also applaud the accomplishments of all the other Hebrew School and Hebrew High students. My thanks go to the parents for bringing your children to Sunday school and midweek Hebrew school. Your commitment to giving your children a Jewish education is admirable. Thank you also to the teachers: **Barbara Clarin, Rabbi Cohen, Saul Katz, Emily Quinn, Laurie Rapkin, and Karen Walsh** for adeptly guiding the students. It is a pleasure to see the children grow under your guidance.

The great outdoors is our playground! The nursery children had so much fun watching their seeds grow into plants and then putting them in the garden. Thank you to **Pam Nemeth** who obtained a grant to install a drip irrigation system so our garden can flourish while conserving water usage. With good outdoor weather, our cyclists are training for participation in the 6th Annual Farmland Ride bicycle tour of Hunterdon County.



FROM THE DESK OF OUR PRESIDENT



This fundraiser is a win-win, promoting healthy living, participating with our community and raising funds. Thank you to **Dena Scibilia, Mitch Clarin, Barry Mittler, Nomi Forman, Bruce Moskowitz** and the many sponsors. Come out and join the fun on June 11th.

In late Spring, services and regular weekly programs continue, but the school sessions and Center Series activities take a short hiatus. This leaves more time for reading and celebrating with family and friends. Here are two reading suggestions - The Life of Samuel Johnson by James Boswell or Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury who states:

"We cannot tell the precise moment when friendship is formed. As in filling a vessel drop by drop, there is at last, a drop which makes it run over; so in a series of kindnesses there is at last one which makes the heart run over."

As for celebrating with friends, here are some suggestions: there is **Liam Byne's** Bar Mitzvah, a pot luck/music gathering at Deer Path Park, and sponsored Kiddushes in honor of loved ones. Why not gather a group of your friends and sponsor an oneg together, as a way of relaxing amid good company on a Friday evening. And, if anyone is interested, we can get the ping pong table out for a bit of fun!

Happy Spring!

- Sharon Rednor

HEBREW SCHOOL

The year has gone by quickly!

First, I would like to thank and acknowledge **Rabbi Cohen** for guiding the Hebrew School students and staff, preparing each child for their Bnai Mitzvah, and fostering a love of learning from our youngest to our Hebrew High students. I want to express my appreciations to:



- **Saul Katz**, who teaches Hebrew reading, prepares our 3rd-6th grade students for Shabbat services.
- **Emily Quinn** who teaches holidays, and Israel.

We are fortunate to have a group of high school and college aged students who work in the classroom as teacher assistants and tutors.

Kylei Mittler, Sam Muller, Charlotte Byne, Ian Weitz, Jamie Cohen, and **Rose Weitz** (volunteer).

My heartfelt thanks to **Kimi Mittler**, my work wife, and the Hebrew School support staff. Kimi keeps all the paperwork in order, supplies band-aids, and knows that my glasses are on the top of my head, and that I'm holding my keys, even though I am frantically looking for them.

I would also like to thank **Carolyn Goldman** for everything she does for Hebrew School, all the shopping, and preparing for Hebrew School dinners, onegs, and programs. She is thoughtful in her selections, creative in her presentation, and mindful of allergies assuring that there is something for everyone to eat. Have a great summer.

2023-2024 Schedule & Paperwork

	Sunday	Wednesday	Thursday
Alef-Bet	9:00 - 11:30		
Gimel	9:00 - 11:30		
Dalet	9:00 - 11:30	4:30 - 6:15	
Hay	9:00 - 11:30	4:30 - 6:15	
Vav	9:00 - 11:30	4:30 - 6:15	
7 th Grade		4:45 - 6:15	
Hebrew High			6:00 - 7:15

Check your email for Back-to-School information the week of July 17th and return completed forms by August 14th.

B'NAI MITZVAH SPOTLIGHT



We are excited to announce the Bar Mitzvah of our son, **Liam Byne**, on June 3, 2023.

Liam is currently a 7th grader at JP Case Middle School, where he is in Advanced Math, is in the Gifted & Talented Stretch classes, and plays cello with the school orchestra. Liam recently performed in his school production of The Addams Family and goes into school early most mornings as a member of the Chorale. Outside of school, Liam is a member of multiple robotics clubs, takes piano lessons, and is active in Boy Scouts of America.

He has taken inspiration from the Scouts in choosing his Bar Mitzvah project, in which he will be collecting clothes for a local charity.

Liam has been preparing diligently for his Bar Mitzvah, practicing every day for the big event.

We are so proud of him and everything he has accomplished!!!

INTRODUCING.....

Karen Weiner



After a lifetime on the West Coast including a childhood in California and raising a family in Oregon, I decided to see what life is like on the East Coast. I ended up in Frenchtown serendipitously as it met all of my criteria! (I was looking for a small town feel, a property with acreage, but also an area with diversity, progressive thought and a Jewish community near by!)

My boys are now busy pursuing their passions in Austin and Eugene and I just finished a masters degree at Columbia in organizational psychology/change leadership. A physician by training and the former CEO of my medical organization, I have combined my education and experience and now serve as a strategic advisor to established and emerging leaders, especially in healthcare.

I have adopted a puppy named Lewin and am loving getting to know Hunterdon County and the surrounding area. I am very excited to be part of this community!

Welcome Karen and your adorable new pup Lewie!

Welcome to our "Newer" FJCC Members...

We look forward to getting to know you better as you share with us in our New Member Spotlight column.

The Gordon Family, from Hopewell
Ross & Meghan Gordon and their sons Miles & Nathan

The Weintraub Family, from Flemington
James & Kyoko Weintraub and their daughter Ariel

The Ricciardi Family, from Pittstown
Anthony & Alison Ricciardi and their son Anthony

The Daneshrad Family, from Flemington
Ray & Ana Daneshrad and their children Bradley, Brendan, Briela and Bryce

Dr. Ian Frank and Phyllis Bookspan, from Stockton

The Rutbeck-Goldman Family, from Lambertville
Harris & Ariela Rutbeck-Goldman and their daughter Lev and son Noam

DIGNITY GROWS

To the FJCC Community:

On behalf of the Jewish Federation of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties (JFEDSHAW) thank you to all who supported the Dignity Grows packing party held at the FJCC on May 11th.

Five hundred tote bags, each filled with a month's supply of women's hygiene and menstrual supplies were packed and then provided to local food banks and Jewish Family Services to distribute. Representatives of the foodbanks shared with us how sought after these items are by their clients.



As a committee member on the JFEDSHAW chapter of Dignity Grows I was really proud to see the wonderful outpouring of support from within our FJCC community. A special shout out to Rabbi Cohen and the Hebrew High kids for helping not only with packing but also clearing out all the empty boxes for recycling.

To keep our packing parties going additional sources of funding both corporate and private are continuously needed. Got ideas or avenues for funds? Want to get more involved? Feel free to reach out to me directly or to <http://www.jfedshaw.org/dignitygrows>.

Thanks again.

Kim Muller



GIVING GARDEN

Our garden has been providing fresh vegetables to local food pantries, mostly the Flemington Food Pantry, since 2015. It was an Eagle Scout project by my son, Jake Nemeth, and began with six 6' x 4' beds. Today we have ten beds and a large composting system. Our plan is to eventually expand to fifteen beds, two of which will be added this season. We have never had a fundraiser but do rely heavily on contributions from local organizations for supplies, and from volunteer groups, including the FJCC Nursery School and Hebrew School, to prepare the beds and plant the plants.

Here are photos – the garden as it looked in 2015 and what it looks like today.

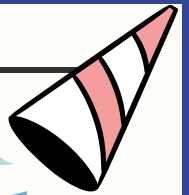
--Pam Nemeth



DINNER CLUB



JUNE 2023 | 12 SIVAN - 11 TAMMUZ 5783



SPOTLIGHT ON SISTERHOOD



MAZEL TOV!

**Pamela Nemeth, this year's
Woman of the Year!**



SPOTLIGHT ON SISTERHOOD

Pam and her family are longtime members of the FJCC. She has 3 sons, a cat, a dog, AND a husband! Even with all her family obligations, she has managed to serve on the FJCC Nursery School board, volunteered for Sisterhood, participated in Rabbi's Adult Ed programs, is on the board of Jewish Federation's Women's Philanthropy, and she manages and cares for our Giving Garden, which includes countless hours of weeding, watering and harvesting. Not to mention organizing volunteers, which is a full-time job in and of itself!

If you missed the Progressive dinner, you also missed out on viewing Pam's professional level art skills! She has numerous beautiful works of art hanging in her home that she created. And that's not just including the handsome sons she and Jonathan created!

Pam is the FULL package. She's not just beauty and grace. She also has a Masters Degree in Sociology and is active in social causes and has served on a delegation to the UAE!

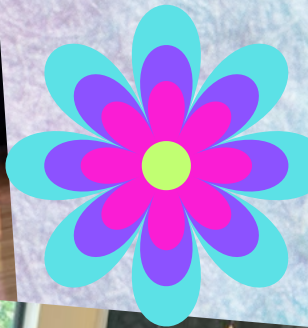
Please join us in wishing a hearty Mazel to Pam for this wonderful acknowledgment of everything she has done for the FJCC and our community at large.

THANK YOU for being you
Pam!



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SPOTLIGHT ON SISTERHOOD



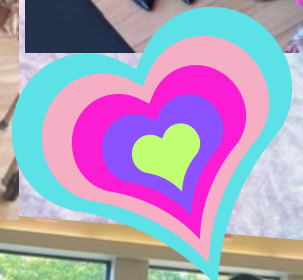
Good Times

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SPOTLIGHT ON SISTERHOOD



TIME TO CELEBRATE



Thank You to the Local Businesses and Individuals Who Support Sisterhood!

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Oncology**

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EJCC Gift Shop**

**Andrea Goldstein-Byne
Cara London
Rachel Rodriguez
Cheryl Schutz
Carol Wolf**



SISTERHOOD

Check out the redesigned Sisterhood Gift Shop!

Email Sisterhood@FlemingtonJCC.org or text Cheryl at (908) 391-9069 to schedule an appointment.

Featured inventory!

Local Merchants!

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")

Copy of Gift Shop Inventory Survey

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Create your own online survey now with...

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WEEKLY EVENTS

Parashat HaShavuah

with

Rabbi Cohen

Mondays, 1:00
Beginning Sep 12



All are welcome!

Chair Yoga Not Just for Seniors

No Chair Yoga on Tuesday
August 30th or September 6th

Chair Yoga resumes on September 13th
at a new time, 11:45 AM



CONTRACT & DUPLICATE BRIDGE

with

DAVID GOLDMAN

	DUPLICATE BRIDGE MONDAYS: 10 AM \$5/pp/session includes a light lunch	
	CONTRACT BRIDGE THURSDAYS: 7:30 PM \$2/pp/session includes snacks ----- BEGINNERS ARE WELCOME!	

Mah Jongg

Thursdays, 1-3:30
\$5 cash at door

New & Experienced Players Welcome!
Members can bring friends
Light snacks served



Contact Karen Walsh: kwalsh@flemingtonjcc.org

Adult Education Classes

with

Rabbi Cohen



Thursdays
11:00
Begins Sept. 15
All are welcome!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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

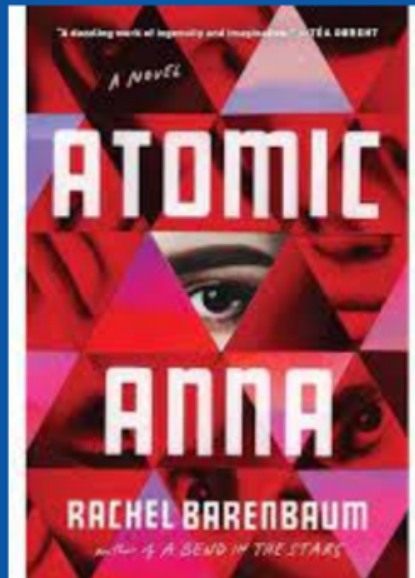


An FJCC Book Club Selection

MEET THE AUTHOR

Rachel Barenbaum

Monday, June 5
7 PM



A time travel novel about attempts to undo the Chernobyl disaster.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Register for events on Shulcloud. Links are posted where applicable



June 11th
JOIN THE FARMLAND RIDE -

RELAX AND RIDE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Come join us on the Farmland Ride - where you can relax and ride in the countryside of Hunterdon County. Beautiful low-traffic country back roads are the heart of this ride, along with some challenging hills.

4 great routes to choose from: - 15, 30, the new 45! and 62 (metric century) miles.

Lunch is included and provided by Blue Fish Grill. Enjoy fully stocked rest areas. Tech support is provided by Sourland Cycles.

DON'T WAIT - SIGN UP TODAY
CLICK ON THE GRAPHIC ABOVE TO REGISTER

BIRTHDAYS

June 2

Nathan Lefkow
Joshua Butt

June 3

Lila Goldschmitt
Spencer Goldschmitt

June 5

Jocelyn Pollack
Lisa Martin

June 6

Joan Rogow

June 7

Jeffrey Alexander
Sarah Sornstein
Jennifer Woollacott

June 9

Barry Rubin

June 10

Josy Kestenbaum
Rachel Farber

June 11

Scott Gerstein
Emily Clarin

June 14

Craig Sirota

June 15

Mark Weinstein
John Fellin

June 16

Antje Doyle

June 18

Florence Friedman Hurwitz

June 19

Barry Mittler

June 20

Jeffrey Rubin
Susan Rubin

June 26

Marjorie Rednor

June 29

Jack Forman
Jayna Kawas
Brandon Hubert

ANNIVERSARIES

June 4

Dale and Mona Shapiro

June 8

Garry and Rachel Rodriguez

June 11

Marvin and Shellie Jacobson

June 13

Richard Goodman and Stacey Gould
Judith and Michael Leibowitz

June 15

Ricky and Donna Levinston-Braff

June 17

Andrea Goldstein-Byne and Scott Byne

June 18

Austin and Sharon Rednor
Kenneth and Sharon Skowronek

June 19

Frank and Nancy Rumore
Stephen and Susan Rubin

June 20

Arthur and Cathie Wetstein

June 22

Neil and Helen Pollack

June 23

Jonathan and Karen Stirberg

June 26

Phillip and Elise Franklin
Jason and Emily Quinn

June 29

Lesley Cohen-Lee and Cliff Lee

June 30

Scott and Kari Gursky

YAHREZEITS

June 1
Martin Sobel

June 3
Isadore Kanter
Flora Jacobson

June 4
Bessie Triber

June 5
Yetta Fersht
Ira Stolpen

June 6
Irene Suslow
Max Lubowsky

June 7
Bernard Weschler

June 8
Norbert Hubert

June 10
Steven Epstein
Edith Hylton
Edith Weinstein
Mildred Stempler
Newton Brooks

June 12
Iris Ort Auerbacher
Rivia Hurwitz

June 13
Ian R. Arcus

June 15
Abraham Mondshein

June 16
Ida Kamich
Harriet Nemeth

June 18
Minnie Lipsitz

June 19
Marc Alan Suess

June 21
Simone Kestenbaum

June 22
Julius Goodman
Wesley Goldstein

June 23
Joyce Schindler

June 25
Barbara Friedman
Helen Handler

June 26
Miriam Lily Rednor

June 28
H. Ronald Treinish

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Kiddush/Oneg/Nosh

Loren Hurwitz and Florence Friedman Hurwitz
In Honor of the Weitz Family

Garry and Rachel Rodriguez
In Honor of Ian's 15th Birthday

Julius Kawarsky and Alexander Soto
In Honor of John Fellin and Bruce Moskowitz

Mitchell and Barbara Clarin
In Memory of David Waldman
In Memory of Nadine Lipson, mother of Scott Lipton

Bruce Moskowitz and John Fellin
In Memory of David Waldman, father of Robin Alexander and
father-in-law of Jeff Alexander. May his memory be for a blessing!

General Donations

Garry and Rachel Rodriguez
In Honor of Bruce and John's 40th Anniversary. Mazel Tov!

Frederick and Suzanne Rothstein
For the Yahrzeit of

Mitchell and Barbara Clarin
For the Yahrzeit of Donna Young

Zina Rutkin
For welcoming us when we're in town visiting our Kids!

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Rabbi Discretionary

Barry and Kimi Mittler
For the Yahrzeit of Sylvia Mittler

Frederick and Suzanne Rothstein
Sale of Chametz

Jerrold and Linda Atlas
Refuah Shelemah!

Howard and Anneliese Nifoussi
Sale of Chometz

Mark and Laurie Weinstein
Chametz sale

Harry and Laurie Rapkin
Sale of Chametz

Gift Card Donations

Nathan and Patricia Lefkow
For Karen Walsh, get well soon! The Lefkows

Nadine Milecofsky
Dockside gift card for Karen Walsh

Family Promise

Malka Goodman
In Honor of Rose's Bat Mitzvah

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Building Donations

Marlene Dvoor

For the Yahrzeit of Grandparents Ida and Jacob Dvoor

Zelic and Marsha Gerstein

For the Yahrzeit of Evelyn Simon

To Jonathan and Jodi Weitz on the upcoming Bat Mitzvah of Rose

To Jerrod Atlas on a Refuah Shlema

To Stanley Weinstein on a Refuah Shlema

In Memory of David Waldman, father of Robin Alexander

To the Schindler Family on the marriage of Craig to Beth Bergman

To Bruce and John on their 40th Anniversary

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