

FJCC FLASH

Official Newsletter of the Flemington JCC



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Newsletter - כודריג

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This Months Contributors:

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RABBI'S REFLECTIONS

While the Passover Seder marks the beginning of our journey as a free people, it is the holiday of Shavuot that marks our acceptance of this status. On Shavuot, we commemorate the occasion on which we assumed responsibility for the freedom we've been given. This is the moment when we accepted the Torah.

At Mount Sinai we received our mission statement. It was not enough just to escape Pharaoh, and then flee into the wild. Freedom is not about "everything goes," but about responsibilities; it is about entering into covenants, and forming responsible relationships.



Counting the Omer

On the second Seder night, we begin a sacred counting, of Sefirat HaOmer. We begin to count the 50 days that lead from freedom at the shore of the Sea of Reeds to the moment we received the Torah at Mount Sinai. Traditionally, each day we say a blessing and count one more day. This practice offers us time to reflect on what it means to be free.

When Shavuot arrives, we are asked to re-commit ourselves to the covenant we have with Torah, with each other, with the larger communities of which we are part, with the Jewish people as a whole, with the human race, and with the natural world in which we live, and which needs our efforts to safe-guard it. Acceptance of the Torah involves all these relationships. As we count the Omer to Shavuot, let us consider: how will we live up to our responsibilities as free people?

"Great things are done by a series of small things brought together."

Vincent van Gogh

StBaldricks.org

FROM THE DESK OF OUR PRESIDENT

Yay for May! Flowers are blooming, students are graduating and moms are getting some well-deserved appreciation. What a fabulous month! In addition, May is Jewish American Heritage Month and so, the month is full of celebrations among Jews and non-Jews in the United States.

May is Pretty, May is Mild
by Annette Wynne
May is pretty, May is mild,
Dances like a happy child;
Sing out, robin; spring out, flowers;
April went with all her showers,
And the world is green again;
Come out, children, to the glen,
To the meadows, to the wood,
For the earth is clean and good,
And the sky is clear and blue,
And bright May is calling you!
May is pretty, May is mkle,
Dances like a happy child,
On a blessed holiday,
Come out, children, join the play!

Here are a bunch of reasons to throw a party and get out to join the fun:

Lag B'Omer on May 9

What is Lag B'Omer? Lag B'Omer is the 33rd day of counting the Omer, the 49-day period between Passover and Shavuot. "Lag" in Hebrew is the number 33. The Omer is a time of semi-mourning when weddings and other celebrations are forbidden, and as a sign of grief, observant Jews do not cut their hair. We learn in the Talmud that during this season, a plague killed thousands of Rabbi Akiva's students because they did not treat each other respectfully. The mourning behavior is presumably in memory of those students and their punishment. According to a medieval tradition, the plague ceased on Lag B'Omer, the 33rd day of the Omer. As a result, Lag B'Omer became a happy day, interrupting the sadness of the Omer period for 24 hours. We listen to music and enjoy the season by celebrating outdoors.

Members of the FJCC will gather for a celebratory dinner and musical concert with the band Coo Coo Cachoo on May 8th at 6:30. Please register on Shulcloud:
<https://flemingtonjcc.shulcloud.com/event/Lag-BOmer-Picnic=2023>



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FROM THE DESK OF OUR PRESIDENT

If those were not enough, here are a few additional reasons to celebrate in May:
Teacher Appreciation Day on May 9

Mother's Day on May 14

National Chocolate Chip Day on May 15

and

Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Day) on May 19

Yom Yerushalayim commemorates the reunification of Jerusalem and the establishment of Israeli control over the Old City after the six-day war against the Jordanian forces in 1967. The day is marked with different events such as recitations of the Hallel prayer in Synagogues, lectures on the history of Jerusalem, street parades, parties, state ceremonies, and memorial services for those that died in the six-day war.

At the FJCC, on May 18 th we will celebrate with a virtual tour of the city of Jerusalem by Israeli tour guide, Joel Haber, a New Jersey native. He will talk about the history of the city, entice us with the tastes and smells of the bustling marketplace, and highlight some of the important tourist sites. Look on ShulCloud for more specific information and to register for this engaging event:
<https://flemingtonjcc.shulcloud.com/event/Yom-Yerushelayim-2023>

To round out the later part of the month, more celebrations are called for on:

Armed Forces Day on May 20

Shavuot starts evening of May 25

Memorial Day on May 29

Whatever the reason or the day, to all the adults, adults who are children-at-heart, and to all the children -- come out and join the play!

- Sharon Rednor



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B'NAI MITZVAH SPOTLIGHT



Mazel Tov to Rose Cameron Weitz on her May 6th, 2023 Bat Mitzvah. Rose is a 7th grader at JP Case Middle School. She loves baking, singing, playing piano and clarinet, needlepointing, and art. For Rose's Bat Mitzvah project, she has been baking cupcakes in exchange for donations made to Family Promise of Hunterdon County. To date, Rose has raised approximately \$850. She plans to continue this project after her Bat Mitzvah. Stay tuned for future baking dates. Rose is very excited to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah with family and friends.

HEBREW SCHOOL

Hebrew School has been busy with the holidays. There was a large crowd at the Purim dinner and Megillah Reading. As soon as Purim ended, the student began their Passover studies to be well-prepared for their family Passover Seders. The Rabbi led a Model Seder on Zoom for Gan - seventh grade. Only a few weeks of Hebrew School are left, and the students will be wrapping up their studies.

Speaking of wrapping things up, join us for a Shabbat dinner on May 12th, serving wraps and mac and cheese. The Gimel and Dalet students will lead services, and the Gimel students will receive a Siddur.

Karen Walsh
Hebrew School Director
Flemington Jewish Community Center
Phone: [908-782-6410](tel:908-782-6410) ext. 13
Fax: 908-806-7736
kwalsh@flemingtonjcc.org



CLASS SERVICES, DINNERS, & HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

WINNER WINNER CHICKEN DINNER

- Chicken Shabbat Dinner
- Fourth & Fifth Graders Lead Services
- Storyteller Rebecca Kelly

OCT 28

DELI DELIGHT

- Deli Sandwiches Shabbat Dinner
- 7th - 12th Graders Lead Services

DEC 9

CHANUKAH DINNER

- Outdoor Menorah Lighting
- Family Menorah Lighting
- Chanukah Dinner

DEC 21

CHINESE NEW YEAR DINNER

- Chinese Food Shabbat Dinner
- Fifth & Sixth Graders Lead Services

JAN 27

PURIM DINNER

- Family Megillah Reading
- Purim Dinner
- Traditional Megillah Reading

MAR 6

IT'S A WRAP

- Dairy Wraps & Pizza Bagels Shabbat Dinner
- Third & Fourth Grade Class Service
- Third Graders Receive their Shabbat Prayer Book

MAY 12

Save the Dates

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HEBREW SCHOOL

Thank
You

Dear FJCC Family and Friends,

I am humbled by the outpouring of support over these past few months. Your kindness and generosity have been overwhelming. I have enjoyed the text messages, phone calls, get-well cards, gifts, meals, and gift certificates for meals.

I am looking forward to returning to the building in the coming weeks and thanking you all in person.

With gratitude,
Karen

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DINNER CLUB



SPOTLIGHT ON SISTERHOOD



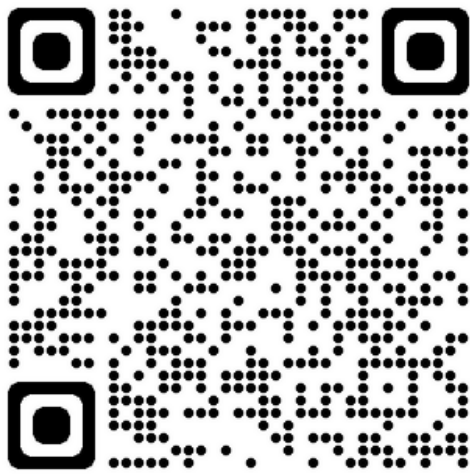
Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Kitchen Shower! We were able to supply the kitchen with a lot of much needed items. Please check out the gift registry below if you would like to contribute. You can also make a donation via check to FJCC Sisterhood. Be sure to put "Kitchen" in the memo!

Thank you Carol Wolf for organizing and catering!

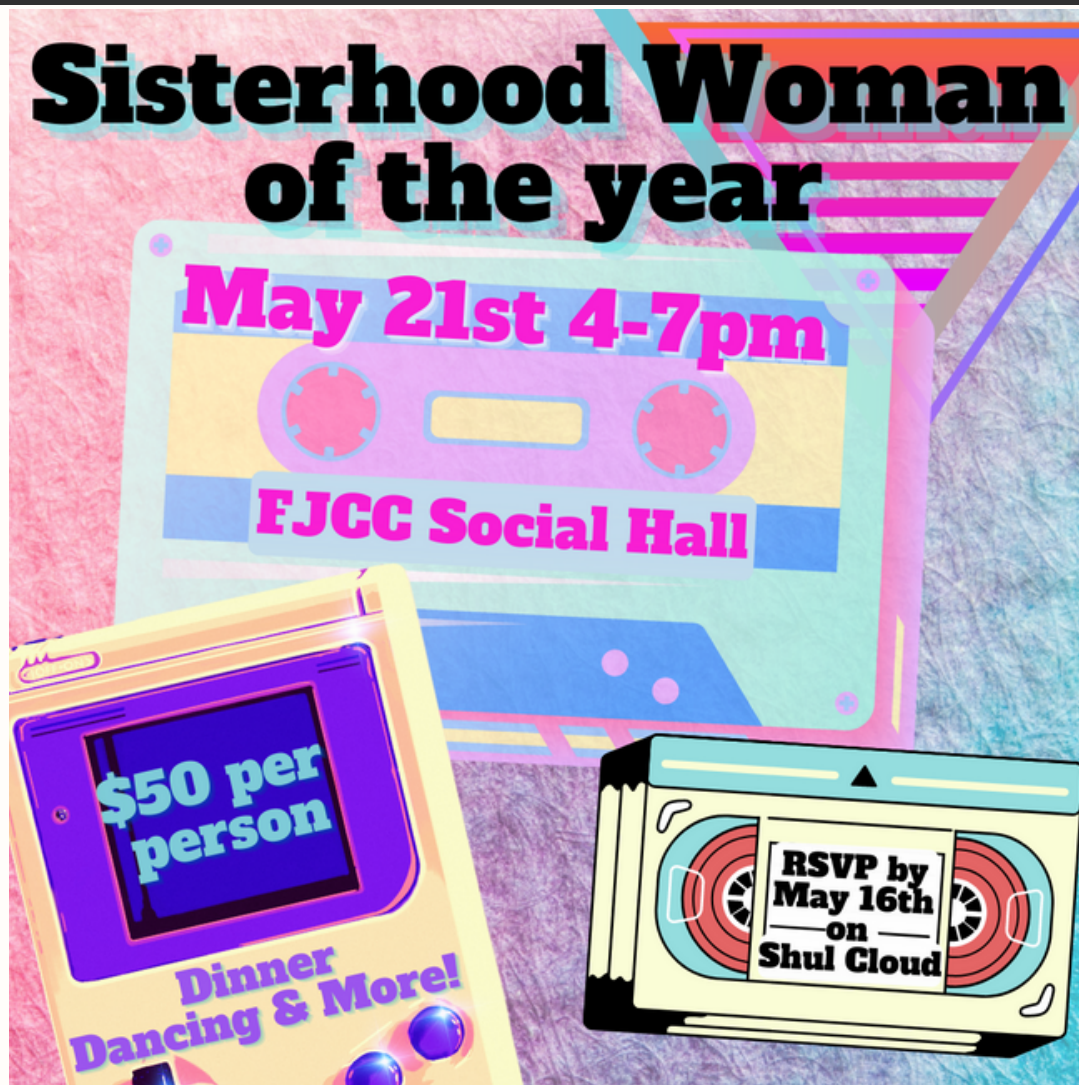


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SPOTLIGHT ON SISTERHOOD



Use the camera feature on your phone to scan the QR code which takes you to the registry!



Come dressed in your favorite 80s outfit and be ready to P-A-R-T-Y! For just \$50, you'll get a fully catered meal, karaoke, dancing, giveaways, and most importantly... memories to last a lifetime!

Questions or want to sponsor the event?
Email us at
Sisterhood@flemingtonjcc.org

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")

Copy of Gift Shop Inventory Survey

Web survey powered by SurveyMonkey.com.
Create your own online survey now with...

[surveymonkey.com](https://www.surveymonkey.com)

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!

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

DINNER IS SERVED FJCC DINNER CLUB*



Sunday, May 7th
V-SPOT FOOD - NEW HOPE 6:30 PM
BYOB
RSVP REQUIRED BY MAY 4TH
TO RSVP OR FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT:
KIMFMULLER@YAHOO.COM
*ADULTS ONLY



Author Walter Russell Mead

Sunday, May 7
12 Noon



A groundbreaking work that overturns the conventional understanding of the Israeli-American relationship and, in doing so, explores how fundamental debates about American identity drive our country's foreign policy.

\$18/pp at the door
\$30 if you sign up for all 3 author talks!



A Day of Community and Community Service
May 7th 12:30 - 3:15 PM

Lunch at The Flemington Presbyterian Church at 12:30
Followed by Volunteer Opportunities in the Community.

Details and Sign Up Link Coming Soon

Flemington Baptist, Flemington Jewish Community Center, Flemington Presbyterian Church, Flemington United Methodist, and Grace United Church of Christ

Lag B'Omer PICNIC

with
MUSICAL GUEST

Coo Coo Cachoo

Monday, May 8

6:30



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

MAY 12TH
6:00 PM

IT'S A WRAP
SHABBAT
DINNER

Register By
May 2nd
\$25/ Family
\$15/Single

Dairy &
Vegetable
Wraps
Pizza Bagels &
Mac n' Cheese

Gimel and Dalet Classes
Lead Services at 7:30 PM

Gimel
Students
Receive their
Siddurim

Register After
May 2nd
\$36/ Family



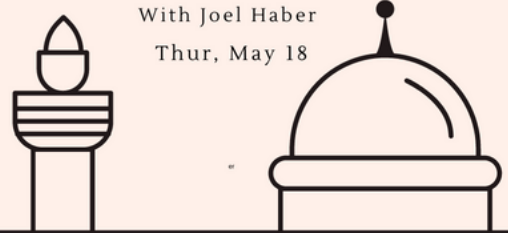
YOM YERUSHELAYIM

UNCOVERING THE SECRETS OF THE WESTERN WALL

VIRTUAL TOUR

With Joel Haber

Thur, May 18

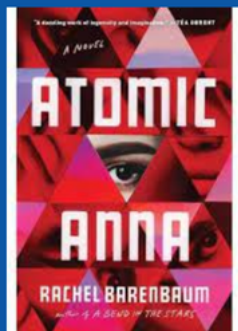


An FJCC Book Club Selection

MEET THE AUTHOR

Rachel Barenbaum

Monday, June 5
7 PM



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

Sisterhood Woman of the year

May 21st 4-7pm

FJCC Social Hall

\$50 per
person

Dinner
Dancing & More!

RSVP by
May 16th
on
Shul Cloud

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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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 and receive a free event t-shirt by signing up before May 15th. Tech support is provided by Sourland Cycles.

You won't want to miss out on this ride - Hurry and sign up before April 30th for the lowest registration fee.

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

BIRTHDAYS

May 1

Stephen Rogow

May 2

Helen Pollack
Connie Mitchko

May 3

Stephanie Scibilia
Yael Ezra

May 4

Cydney Cohn

May 5

Marian Daniels
Calvin Scibilia
Jordana Jaffe

May 6

Mitchel Ezra

May 9

Jane Wasserman
Reba Holley
Jenna Nifoussi
Nomi Forman
Rachelle Butt

May 10

Deborah Farber
Jessica Corchin

May 11

Sharon Winnick
Michael Weinstein

May 12

Larissa Wolf

May 15

Carolyn Goldman

May 19

Leah Kleiman

May 20

Pamela Nemeth
Jonathan Weitz

May 22

Liam Byne
Mona Shapiro

May 23

Matthew Neibart

May 24

Barbara Clarin
Mindy Engle-Friedman

May 25

Martin Wolfson
Ben Kestenbaum
Jessica Neibart

May 26

Sharon Landstrom
Jenny Nahama

May 28

Robert Rapkin

May 29

Marsha Goldstein

May 30

Eric Cohen

May 31

Karen Walsh
Seth Rubin

ANNIVERSARIES

May 3

Jeffrey and Amy Marshall

May 5

Robin and Bradley Mason

May 11

Seymour Mondshein and Lisa Martin

May 13

Brian and Dale Sperling

May 26

Alan and Deborah Hylton
Harry and Laurie Rapkin

May 29

James and Alyssa Fox
Stephen and Joan Rogow

May 30

Loren and Florence Friedman Hurwitz
Ryan and Heather Goldschmitt

YAHREZEITS

May 2
Chaim Leaf

May 3
Marcellus Blount
Jo Ellen Leavitt

May 4
Arlene Stern
Samuel Linsenbaum

May 6
Lori Ollwerther
Bernard Weiss

May 9
Lillian Rapp

May 10
Jacob Moskowitz

May 11
Estelle Kern
Emil Neibart

May 13
Guy Landstrom
Sylvia Goodman
Sylvia Weiner

May 15
Anne Lubowsky
Sylvia Stolpen

May 17
Walter Likusk

May 18
Shelley Lynn Goldstein
Ruth Radzin
David Alan Daniels
Victory Lonsk

May 19
Goldie Goldstein
Leonard Hurwitz

May 20
Emma Leaf

May 22
Morton Engle

May 23
Sheldon H. Lipsitz

May 24
Nancy Taub

May 25
Mamie Kaminowitz

May 26
Charles Levinston
Abram Kaplan
Harry Arcus

May 27
Natale Formica

May 28
Jack Kogan

May 30
Jennie Silver Goldstein
Millie Orlin

May 31
Barbara Ackerman

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Kiddush/Oneg/Nosh

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For the Yahrzeit of beloved mother Sally Eisinger Stein

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