

Message

Our 94th



FEBRUARY 2025

TEVET/SHEVAT 5784

Madison Jewish Center

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2025

Saturday February 1st

**Services in the
Beit Hamidrash at 9:30am
Torah portion: Bo**

Friday February 7th

**Candle Lighting 5:03pm
7:30pm Services on ZOOM**

Saturday February 8th

**Services in the Beit
Hamidrash at 9:30am
Torah portion: Beshalach**

Wednesday February 12th

**Tu B'Shvat services on
ZOOM at 7:30pm**

Friday February 14th

**Candle Lighting 4:38pm
ZOOM Services 7:30pm
Birthday/Anniversary
Shabbat**

Saturday February 15th

**Services in the
Beit Hamidrash at 9:30am
Torah portion: Yitro**

Friday February 21st

**Candle Lighting 5:20pm
7:30pm Services on ZOOM**

Saturday February 22nd

**Services in the
Beit Hamidrash at 9:30am
Torah portion: Mishpatim**

Friday February 28th

**Candle Lighting 5:28pm
7:30pm Services on ZOOM**



Rabbi's February Message

As most of you know or should know, my loving wife Deborah and I started a jazz label in 2012. Now entering its Bar Mitzvah year, it has been an extraordinary journey, meeting amazing, virtuoso, and skillful musicians, award winning artists and performers.

Recently, I received an amazing opportunity to release an album by the great Sheila Jordan, an award-winning vocalist, and NEA Jazz Master. Without consulting with my company directors, marketing people or financial staff, without hesitation I said yes. When asked I said it was personal, and after hearing my reason, everyone understood and appreciated my action.

Let me explain. Sheila Jordan is just a few months older than my mother, 96 years young. She has led a complicated and difficult life, and has survived because she found music, and became one of the most creative singer-songwriters in the jazz genre. Google her, you will find an amazing history. Now at 96, she is embarking on another chapter of her life. She states that at her current age, she still has a story to tell, relevant to the times and her experience. As her vocal prowess may no longer be at the apex of her abilities, her emotion is the vehicle that still transports to the listener.

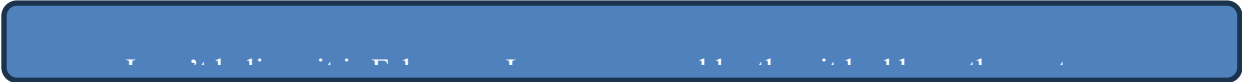
As I have watched my mother's mental health decline these past 4 years, I reflected that through her eighties and into her nineties she was fiercely independent, making decisions, volunteering at the cancer center, attending city council meetings, and assisting numerous charities. She accompanied those in need of assistance to doctors, lawyers, keeping notes on their behalf, running errands for those who were shut ins. She was on the Bikur Cholim (hospital visitation) squad and frankly, it was embarrassing, because her energy would run rings around her three children. She too, like Sheila, desperately fights to stay relevant, even as her mental faculties diminished and her dementia increased. There is a wonderful movie that I suggest all to watch, and it is called "Quartet." I believe it was Dustin Hoffman's directorial debut. The film also stars the late great Maggie Smith, Billy Connolly and a star filled cast. Many of the supporting and background cast in the film's "retirement home for former professional musicians" were portrayed by actual professional musicians, as illustrated by then-and-now photos during the closing credits. The film is about Beecham House, a retirement home for former professional musicians patterned after the real-life Casa di Riposo per Musicisti founded by Giuseppe Verdi. All the guests in the retirement home are suffering in varying degrees from the ailments that old age can bring, but continue to be engaged in their former professions, including lecturing and introducing young people to music. The major point of the movie is that these once highly talented artists are trying to cope with aging and remaining relevant. The acting and music are splendid. Highly recommended!

Our society sadly marginalizes our elderly. Many believe they are a burden and have difficulty coping with aging. Physical decline is inevitable, that is part of aging. However, what comes with aging is experience and knowledge. We can learn much from our seniors, consulting, advising, and teaching. But we dishonor them for their physical failures and potential failing health.

Ben Sira of Seder fame wrote; “Dishonor not the old; we shall all be numbered among them.”

MJC may be aging but we are relevant. As we enter our 96th may we all aspire to be like Sheila Jordan, start a new chapter and fight to remain relevant.

B’shalom,
Rabbi Bickhardt



President’s Message February 2025

I can’t believe it is February. January was colder than it had been the past few years. We’ve had a few snowfalls, and yet it still feels like spring is right around the corner. What a perfect time to celebrate Tu B'Shvat, recognized as the "New Year of the Trees." This festival serves as an opportunity for Jewish communities worldwide to reconnect with nature and the environment.

Traditionally, Tu B'Shvat involves consuming various fruits, particularly those from the seven species, which symbolize the richness of the land. Join us for our virtual Tu B’Shvat Seder Wednesday February 12th. Zoom codes and a list of fruits If you would like to commemorate the new year by planting a tree in Israel, please contact the MJC office.

Please support our affiliates who work tirelessly to provide social and educational activities for all our Madison members and in the process provide much needed financial support through their fundraising efforts. Come out to Madison for the Social Club Bingo Night Saturday February 8th at 8PM . Join Sisterhood for an in person health night Monday February 24th. Mark your calendars for the Torah Fund brunch March 9th at 10 AM.

Linda



The Latest from Sisterhood February 2025

This is a very busy time for Sisterhood. Many events are being planned.

Movie night took place on Monday, January 20th. We watched the “Red Sea Diving Resort” in advance. Rachel prepared a very interesting, educational, and informative history about the Ethiopian Jewish refugees and their rescue through the Sudan to safety in Israel. A very lively discussion ensued.

On Monday February 24th, there will be an in-person health night. Instructor Iris will lead a Full Body Workout class. Grab and Go refreshments will be available. The cost is only \$10. Ilene Marcus and Eva Hirsch are in charge.

The Torah Fund Brunch will be held on Sunday, March 9th from 10:00 to 12 noon. The guest speaker is Ron Schweiger. He will present a lecture on the history of Sheepshead Bay. The chair is Marlene Podell. The cost is only \$25.

On March 17th, the program will be the Jews of Ireland. Rachel Kaylie and Harriett Cohen are the chairs. The cost is \$5 and there will be Irish refreshments including whiskey and Baileys. Our annual get together “Spring Fling: Taking a Ride on the Wild Side” is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21st. There will be delicious food, a DJ, dancing, and raffles. The chair is Barbara Stein. Many more activities are being planned. Watch for flyers and check your email for further information. A phone tree also goes out every week.
Ilene Karpas

Shalom parents,



We still need a parent to run the Parent's Association

SOCIAL CLUB HAPPENINGS

February 2025

BINGO is coming back! It is scheduled for Saturday night, February 8, 2025. The cost is only \$18. This includes 2 Bingo cards and snacks. Additional cards will be available for \$3 each. There will also be a 50/50 raffle. Harriet Cohen is the chair.

Michele Blatt and Elyse Glenn are still working hard researching ideas for an educational trip. It will be planned for either March or April. Any suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

The Social Club Shabbat is scheduled for Friday evening, May 9th. It will be preceded by a delicious dinner. Ilene Karpas is the chair. We will be unveiling a plaque in memory of Cantor Leslie Rimer z'h. Please try to attend and support our members who will be conducting the service.

The annual end of year barbecue will be held on June 8th. Further information to follow. Please keep MJC alive by supporting as many activities as you can. Check your email and the Message for further information. Phone trees will be going out every week. Watch for flyers.

Ilene Karpas

R'fuah Sh'leimah Prayer

For: Erwin Schussel
 By: Linda & Stephen Bell
 Irma & Roy Alexander
 Ellen Green
 Marlene Podell
 Ilene Karpas
 Linda & Michael Parnes
 Irina Makarovskaya
 Bella Benders
 Bunny & Brian Bender

For: Arlene Kane
 By: Fran Liebowitz
 Bunny & Brian Bende
 Marlene Podell
 Ellen Green
 Irma & Roy Alexander
 Linda & Stephen Bell
 Irina Makarovskaya
 Bella Benders
 Harriett & Stephen Cohen
 Shelli & Ronald Feldman

Madison Jewish Center

2989 Nostrand Avenue
 Brooklyn, New York 11229
 (718) 339-7755
 Email: info@madisonjc.org
 Fax (718) 375-2271
 Rabbi Johanan Bickhardt
 Linda Parnes, President

Wouldn't you like to be a Kiddush sponsor with good food and good friends, continuing a successful tradition? Madison Jewish Center's major function is to provide for our religious and spiritual needs. Social needs are often closely related to these. Joining with other members of the MJC community to sit down to a meal can give us religious, spiritual, and social benefits. Following Saturday services Madison Jewish Center has a weekly Kiddush luncheon, giving attendees quality time together.

We would like to encourage as many people as possible to sponsor or co-sponsor these weekly luncheons. Comments from past participants range from, "great conversations," "opportunity to make good new friends," "no need to run home after services" to "hope these continue." There are levels of sponsorship to suit every budget. We are offering you the opportunity to donate \$25.00 a month as a co-sponsor (or just \$200.00 for the year) or \$50.00 per month as a Platinum level co-sponsor (or just \$300.00 per year), to our Kiddush Fund. If you sign up you will be listed in the monthly Message.

If you choose to be a full sponsor for a special occasion, the cost is \$200.00 for the basic Kiddush (tuna, egg salad, bagels, cream cheese, cake, coffee, and tea) for a limited number of people.

Please email your response to emg522@aol.com, or send your check to the MJC office if you wish to be a regular or Platinum level sponsor for the 2024-25 year. Checks should be made out to Madison Jewish Center, (or you can use Zelle to info@madisonjc.org).

See you at services!

Thank you,

Luncheon Kiddush Committee

The Luncheon Kiddush Sponsorship list for 2024-2025:

Platinum sponsors:

Bunny and Brian Bender
 Marlene Podell
 Linda & Michael Parnes
 Ellen Green
 Irma & Roy Alexander

Randi & Bruce Herman
 Myra Lee and Albert Fleischman
 Michael Sosin
 Beverly Hoffnung

Regular Sponsors:

Ellen and Aviva Hamou
 Ilene Karpas
 Helen and Warren Leibowitz
 Terri Miller
 Stu Cohen

HONOR FUND

To: Randy & Rachelle Grossman

A donation has been made in honor of your daughter Rebecca's engagement to Benjamin

By: Fran Liebowitz
Barbara & Barry Stein

To: Greg Posniack

A donation has been made in honor of your Special Birthday

By: Ellen Green
Bunny & Brian Bender
Linda & Michael Parnes
Irma & Roy Alexander
Linda & Stephen Bell
Marlene Podell
Bella Benders
Irina Makarovskaya
Michael Sosin
Ilene Karpas

To: Bunny & Brian Bender

A donation has been made in honor of your granddaughter Julie Lieber's

Bat Mitzvah:
By: Linda & Stephen Bell
Irma & Roy Alexander
Ellen Green
Marlene Podell
Ilene Karpas
Linda & Michael Parnes
Fran Liebowitz
Mel and Elyse Glenn
Judy Posniack
Harriett & Stephen Cohen
Mario & Teresa Gottesmann
Irina Makarovskaya
Bella Benders
Shelli & Ronald Feldman
Barbara & Barry Stein

To: Hope & Matt Lieber

A donation has been made in honor of your daughter Julie Lieber's

Bat Mitzvah:
By: Linda & Stephen Bell
Irma & Roy Alexander
Ellen Green
Marlene Podell
Ilene Karpas
Michael Sosin
Linda & Michael Parnes
Fran Liebowitz
Mel and Elyse Glenn
Judy Posniack
Harriett & Stephen Cohen
Stu Cohen
Mario & Teresa Gottesmann

To: Eva & Elias Hirsch

A donation has been made in honor of your son Daniel's marriage to Lina

By: Linda & Stephen Bell
Irma & Roy Alexander
Ellen Green
Marlene Podell
Ilene Karpas
Linda & Michael Parnes
Irina Makarovskaya
Bella Benders
Bunny & Brian Bender
Michael Sosin
Judy Posniack

To: Nancy Nagourney

A donation has been made in appreciation for all

your help during my illness
From: Ilene Karpas



Memorial Fund

To: Jaqueline Treiber & Family

A donation has been made in memory of

Your beloved Charles

By: Judy Posniack & Family

To: Tara, Melanie, Robert & family

A donation has been made in memory of

Your beloved mother & grandmother Flo Hirsch

By: Marlene Podell

To: Arlene Schwartz

A donation has been made in memory of

Your beloved sister Judy Schwartz

By: Marlene Podell

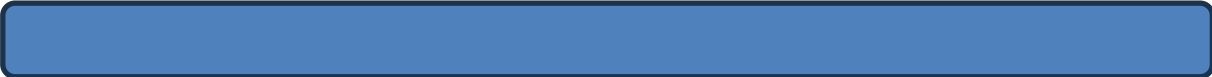
Bunny & Brian Bender

To: Marlene Podell

A donation has been made in loving memory of

Paul Podell, a loving, caring & thoughtful friend

From: Terry & Tommy Sorrentino



Thank You

Dear Madison,

With gratitude, I appreciate your condolences and donations in memory of Neil,
along with your kindness and support.

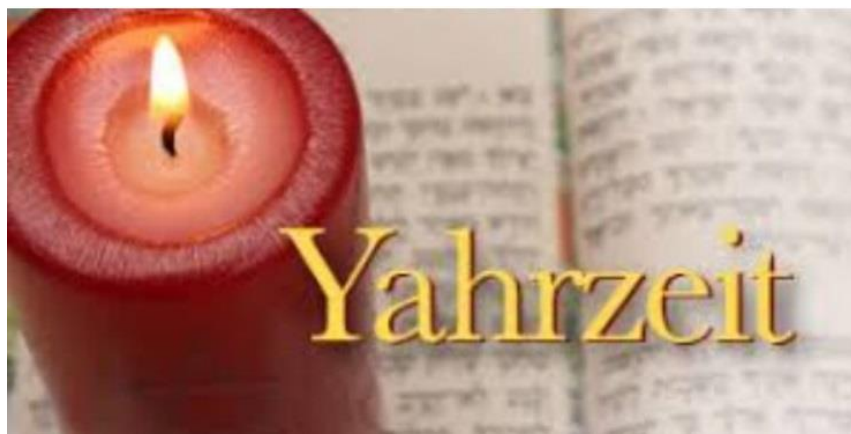
Fondly,

Rita Kaufman

Heartfelt thanks to my dear friends in Sisterhood for the delicious deli! The family says yum too.

Love you all...Arlene





DONATIONS FOR FEBRUARY 2025 HAVE BEEN MADE BY:

Cheryl DeSimone
Bernice Bender
Bella Benders
Jeffrey Bernstein
Bryan Blank
Terri Bobrow
Harriett Cohen
Sherri Colon

Sherry Desmon
Shelli Feldman
Steven Fox
Eugenia Genyuk
Barbara Greenberg
Brian Klasewitz
Judith Korcz
Barbara Kowalski

Selena Kutschera
Frances Liebowitz
Linda Parnes
Helene Pelowitz
Elysa Resnikoff
Judith Schneier
Harold Wachter



SAVE THE DATE

Sisterhood

Monday February 24 th	In person health night
Sunday March 9 th	Torah Fund Brunch
Monday, March 17 th	Jews of Ireland
Wednesday, May 21 st	Annual Fashion Show

Social Club

February 8 th	Bingo
May 9 th	Social Club Shabbat
June 8 th	End of year barbecue

Congregation

<p>THE MESSAGE <i>Published 11 times a year * July/August * 1 issue</i> <i>Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism</i> 2989 Nostrand Avenue., Brooklyn, NY 11229 718-339-7755 * email: info@madisonjc.org Fax: 718-375-2271 Rabbi Johanan Bickhardt.....Rabbi Leslie Rimer z'h.....Cantor Emeritus</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Linda Parnes.....President</p> <p><i>Sisterhood Presidents</i> Harriett Cohen & Shelli Feldman</p> <p><i>MJC Social Club President</i> Ellen Green</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>P.A. President</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Message Layout</i> Bruce Herman</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Editorial Staff</i></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Roy Alexander</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Rabbi Johanan Bickhardt</td> <td style="width: 33%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ellen Green</td> <td>Bruce Herman</td> <td>Ilene Karpas</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lainie Packer</td> <td>Linda Parnes</td> <td>Marlene Podell</td> </tr> </table>	Roy Alexander	Rabbi Johanan Bickhardt		Ellen Green	Bruce Herman	Ilene Karpas	Lainie Packer	Linda Parnes	Marlene Podell	<p>SERVICE SCHEDULE Friday Evening 7:30 PM Saturday Morning ...9:30 AM Weekday Minyanim (Monday & Thursday) on ZOOM.....7:15 AM</p> <p><i>If you need a Minyan at any other time, please call the office and we will attempt to arrange one.</i></p>
Roy Alexander	Rabbi Johanan Bickhardt									
Ellen Green	Bruce Herman	Ilene Karpas								
Lainie Packer	Linda Parnes	Marlene Podell								
	<p>If you have Yahrzeit and need a minyan on a day when we don't have a service scheduled, please contact the office, so we can schedule a service for that day.</p>									
	<p>TEMPLE OFFICE HOURS The Synagogue office will be open Monday through Thursday from 9:00am to 4:00pm, Friday from 9:00am - 12 noon We are closed on all Jewish and legal holidays.</p>									

Please Join Us
Madison Jewish Center
2989 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11229

Saturday February 8, 2025 at 8:00 PM
Social Club Bingo Night
In The Madison Jewish Center Ballroom



Includes: Admission, 2 Bingo Boards, Snacks, Coffee, Tea, Cocoa, and Cake/Croissant.
\$3 charge for additional Bingo Boards.
There will be a 50/50 drawing!



RSVP by 1/31/25 to Melanie Gioia at 718-942-5604 or melanievsg67@gmail.com

Cost: \$18 pp. Mail to Madison Jewish Center, 2989 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11229 Attention: Social Club.

✂-----Enclosed is \$ _____ Payable to Madison Jewish Center
_____ will attend the Social Club Bingo on 2/8/25. Please add number of reservations and names, as well as contact phone number and email address.

Please Join Us
Sisterhood of Madison Jewish Center

2989 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11229

718-339-7755

www.madisonjc.org

Sunday, March 9, 2025

10:00 AM – Noon (start of Daylight Savings Time)

Torah Fund Brunch

Guest Speaker

Brooklyn Borough Historian Ron Schweiger

Topic: History of Sheepshead Bay



\$25 per person payable to Sisterhood of Madison Jewish Center -Mail to Teresa Gottesmann, 1849 East 26th St. Brooklyn, NY 11229 or Zelle Teresa at 718-490-6735.

All proceeds go to the Torah Fund Campaign of Women's League for Conservative Judaism. The Fund supports the Jewish Theological Seminary, scholarships for students and other Jewish institutions.

You must reserve so food can be ordered.

RSVP by 3/3/25. Questions to Marlene at 718-531-7911 or marlst2@aol.com

Please Join Us
Sisterhood of Madison Jewish Center

2989 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11229

718-339-7755

www.madisonjc.org



Monday, March 17, 2025 at '
Sisterhood Board Meeting
In the middle classroom



Followed by

The History of the Jews in Ireland

Led By

Rachel Kaylie and Harriett Cohen

The history of Jews in Ireland encompasses a diverse mix of people from all walks of life. Some of them made important impacts on politics, while others impacted Irish and Jewish cultural life.

It will be an in-person event - followed by -"Refreshments with an Irish Flair!"

Cost: \$5 pp payable to Sisterhood of Madison Jewish Center. Mail checks to Teresa Gottesmann, 1849 East 26th St., Brooklyn, NY 11229, or via Zelle to Teresa - (718) 490 - 6735.

Reservations are requested by March 11th so we can plan accordingly. Please contact Rachel Kaylie at Rkaylie@aol.com or text at 718-974-8180 or Harriett Cohen at Harriett.cohen08@gmail.com or text at 718-916-7772 for questions & reservations.

February

Birthday List



Stuart Cohen	1 st
Brian Bender	5 th
Robin Sutherland	11 th
Erica Bloom	14 th
Mark Bloom	14 th
Roy Alexander	15 th
Linda Bell	23 rd
Beth Flash	24 th
Hope Lieber	24 th



Anniversary List

Randi & Bruce Herman	11 th
Teresa & Mario Gottesmann	14 th



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**The Tree of
Life is on
page 15**

**The Kiddush Fund
Sponsors list is
on page 7.
Add your name to our
sponsors!**

RACHEL L. KAYLIE, ESQ.
ATTORNEY AT LAW

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Shevat 3 Services in the Beit Hamidrash at 9:30am
2 Shevat 4	3 Shevat 5 ZOOM services at 7:15am	4 Shevat 6	5 Shevat 7	6 Shevat 8 ZOOM services at 7:15am .	7 Shevat 9 Candle Lighting 5:03pm ZOOM Services 7:30pm	8 Shevat 10 Services in the Services in Beit Hamidrash, at 9:30am Bingo at 8 PM in ballroom
9 Shevat 11	10 Shevat 12 ZOOM services at 7:15am Exec Bd meeting	11 Shevat 13 Admin Bd meeting	12 Shevat 14 Tu B'Shvat seder and services on ZOOM at 7:30pm	13 Shevat 15 ZOOM services at 7:15am	14 Shevat 16 Candle Lighting 5:12pm ZOOM Services 7:30pm Birthday/Anniversary Shabbat	15 Shevat 17 Services in the Beit Hamidrash at 9:30am
16 Shevat 18	17 Shevat 19 ZOOM services at 7:15am	18 Shevat 20	19 Shevat 21	20 Shevat 22 ZOOM services at 7:15am	21 Shevat 23 Candle Lighting 4:46pm ZOOM Services 7:30pm	22 Shevat 24 Services in the Beit Hamidrash at 9:30am
23 Shevat 25	24 Shevat 26 ZOOM services at 7:15am Sisterhood Health Night 7PM in person	25 Shevat 27 Social Club Meeting	26 Shevat 28	27 Shevat 29 ZOOM services at 7:15am	28 Shevat 30 Candle Lighting 4:55pm ZOOM Services 7:30pm	

