

THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

June 2020 / Sivan-Tamuz 5780



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center
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SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]

SERVICES

June 6–Naso–E. Hallerman

June 13–Behaalot'cha–M&S Kranowski

June 20–Shelach–R. Scheckler

June 27–Korach–E. Hallerman

SERVICES WILL BE REMOTE

It seems likely that we'll still be observing social distancing throughout June and that we'll continue holding services remotely on Zoom. A service leader will inform us via email a couple of days before the services about how to join the upcoming session. Having remote services is not the same as worshipping together, but it's a way to connect with one another and feel Jewish together.

TOMMY'S BAR MITZVAH CEREMONY (VERSION 1.0)

Thomas Hindman saw his Bar Mitzvah ceremony postponed, but he deftly led us through the Shabbat service via Zoom on May 23 (the originally scheduled date of the event), and he offered a d'var Torah.



He will do an "official" Bar Mitzvah service, in which he will be called to the Torah, when we are all able to get together again in person. Congratulations, Tommy! From Mom and Dad: "Tommy, you made the day, which should have been your special day, absolutely amazing. You are resilient and strong, and we love you so much! Mazel Tov!"

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Well, another school year has come to an end, marked by graduations at the local high schools and colleges. But it just doesn't feel the same during this period of social isolation. Just last week, I was talking to my parents (who live in California), and they said "we're looking forward to you coming out here," to which I responded "that's great; I was hoping to come out next month." After a brief pause, my father said, "well, maybe not that soon."

I don't know about you, but I've found myself struggling to feel as productive as I had been back in the pre-Covid days of February. Between putting together video lectures, attending Zoom meetings, and doing a lot of reading, I felt like I'd spent the entire day stuck in a chair with little to show for my efforts. Have you found yourselves in the same situation? To deal with that problem, I've been setting small personal goals, especially non-work-related goals. One has been to get outside for a bit of exercise every day. It's been a great opportunity to stretch my legs and see a few familiar faces around town.

On another note, I'd like to congratulate Tori Silverman, who just graduated from high school. Tori has been an assistant teacher in our Sunday School program for the past three years. She has been a fixture at our various events, including our Purim party in March and the congregational picnic in August.

Also, a big thank you goes out to Tommy Hindman for leading our online service on May 23. It was supposed to be the day of his bar mitzvah ceremony, so he shared his already prepared d'var Torah.

Finally, have you attended one of our online services yet? They only go for about an hour, and—if you're shy like me—you can mute your audio, turn off your video, and just follow along. Please join us.

Shalom, Aaron Goldstein, BJCC President

KUDOS TO KIDS (OF BJCC FAMILIES)

Congratulations to members' children:

- Tori Silverman recently graduated with honors from Christiansburg High School and is heading to William and Mary in the fall. She plans to study life sciences and microbiology.
- Simon Hallerman received an MBA from George Mason University.
- Linda and Jimmy Deemer proudly announce that their grandson, Graham, is graduating from Washington-Liberty High School in Arlington, VA. He will be attending Oberlin College and Conservatory in the fall.
- Ruth Grene has double-good news: Son Nick graduated from Radford University in exercise science and hopes to coach in high school or college. Daughter Lucy received a degree from New River Community College and wants to work in a human services agency before pursuing a further degree in social work.
- Elijah Colliver earned a spot in the Virginia Institute of Marine Science Governor's School. He was one of only four students from across the commonwealth to be selected for this summer program.



THANKS FOR EVEN MORE DONATIONS TO THE FOOD PANTRY

The BJCC received more donations for the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry. The donors include:

- Cindy Rosenbaum and Matt Wisnioski
- Ellen and Leo Piilonen
- Leslie Kay and William Floyd
- Madeline Schreiber and Blaine Keesee
- Pamela and Daniel Sable
- Marcia and Larry Shumsky
- Steven and Cathy Jacobs
- Susan Cramer
- Irene Jacobs
- Shamira and Joshua Shallom
- Susan and Jeff Kurtz
- Karen and Erik Nilsen
- Golde Holtzman
- Michael Leib

And to repeat last month's list of donors:

- Lauren and Ethan Colliver
- Doris and Richard Zallen
- Rebecca and Stephen Scheckler
- Muriel and Nathan Kranowski
- Marvin Blecher
- Ester and Eric Hallerman
- Linda and Jimmy Deemer
- Cindy Rosenbaum and Matt Wisnioski
- Wendy Silverman and Dan Hindman
- Golde Holtzman
- Ellen and Leo Piilonen
- Anonymous

SHOFAR DEADLINE, JUNE 23

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the *Shofar* is June 23. Send information to Richard at richard@vt.edu.

HILLEL NEWS

See the Hillel calendar, and obtain more info at <http://hillelatvirginiatech.com>.



Some of the attendees at Tommy's Zoom Bar Mitzvah service on May 23.

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9 Sivan	2 10 Sivan	3 11 Sivan	4 12 Sivan	5 13 Sivan	6 14 Sivan Parashat Naso Reform Zoom service
7 15 Sivan	8 16 Sivan	9 17 Sivan	10 18 Sivan	11 19 Sivan	12 20 Sivan	13 21 Sivan Parashat Behaalot'cha Reform Zoom service
14 22 Sivan	15 23 Sivan	16 24 Sivan	17 25 Sivan	18 26 Sivan	19 27 Sivan	20 28 Sivan Parashat Shelach Reform Zoom service
21 29 Sivan	22 30 Sivan Rosh Chodesh Tamuz	23 1 Tamuz Rosh Chodesh Tamuz Deadline to submit information for July <i>Shofar</i>	24 2 Tamuz	25 3 Tamuz	26 4 Tamuz	27 5 Tamuz Parashat Korach Reform Zoom service
28 6 Tamuz	29 7 Tamuz	30 8 Tamuz				

BJCC Officers and Board Members 2019-20

(These email addresses are being protected against automatic spamming with a space before and after the @ sign. If you use one of these addresses, be sure to key it without the spaces.)

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