

THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

July 2020 / Tamuz-Av 5780



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center
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Web site: www.bjccblacksburg.org



SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]

SERVICES

July 4–Hukkat/Balak–T. Hindman →
July 11–Pinchas–S&M Kranowski
July 18–Mattot/Masei–E. Hallerman
July 25–D'varim–R. Scheckler



SERVICES WILL BE REMOTE

It seems likely that we'll still be observing social distancing throughout the next month 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 worshiping together, but it's a way to connect with one another and feel Jewish together.

SHOFAR DEADLINE, JULY 23

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the *Shofar* is July 23. Send information to Richard at [richard \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:richard[at]vt.edu).

BAR MITZVAH OF JACOB KEESEE, AUG. 1

Jacob Keese, son of Madeline Schreiber and Blaine Keese, is having his Bar Mitzvah service on Sat., Aug. 1 at 10:00AM at Temple Emanuel in Roanoke. Due to COVID-19, in-person attendance is limited to family, but the BJCC membership is invited to attend the service via Facebook Live. Maddy will send a message and the Facebook link prior to the service as a reminder. We hope many of you can attend via streaming! Contact Maddy Schreiber with questions at [mekeese \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:mekeese[at]gmail.com).

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

“How are you?” It’s a simple greeting, and in earlier times, it was almost a throw-away form of “Hi” or “Hello.” But that simple question has taken on a lot of meaning and now carries a whole new context compared to previous years. We are all concerned about our health and safety—and the health and safety of everyone around us. In these days of quarantines and distancing, we appreciate the importance of our community health and wellness. I hope to make this a theme this year—of checking on and improving our community wellness. This effort relates to our religious, cultural, social, and nutritional wellness.

Even though we can’t worship or kibbitz in person, I want to try to make the BJCC a more supportive community for us all. We hope to do some more remote programming, and we are planning on having our Sunday school starting in the fall. More details to come in the future.

If there is anything I can do, please feel free to reach out to me at [dhindman \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:dhindman[at]vt.edu).

Shalom, Dan Hindman, BJCC President

HILLEL NEWS

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

שלום

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS! AND MORE!

The BJCC is the sponsoring partner for the PJ Library program, which provides free, award-winning books that celebrate Jewish values and culture to Jewish families with children 6 months through 12 years old. Currently, we serve 23 children from 15 families who live in Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Radford, and Floyd.

If you know of a Jewish family with children ages 6 months to 12 years, encourage the parents to sign up for PJ Library at www.pjlibrary.org.



People often ask what comes after PJ Library? We're now proud to announce that answer is PJ Our Way.

PJ Our Way is for kids ages 9-12. It is kid-driven—they choose their own books, creating a totally tailored experience based their own interests and reading levels. To make the choice easier, the PJ Our Way [website](http://www.pjlibrary.org) includes summaries and author bios, along with ratings, reviews, and video trailers created by members themselves. Kids can also take polls and quizzes, participate in monthly interviews and

challenges, post their own reviews, and comment on blog posts.

The PJ Our Way site is a safe and moderated space, perfect for acclimating older kids to using the web independently. It even has a blog for parents, where you can read about the books on offer for your child and find family discussion questions for each book. You can also find out what values or topics are covered, as well as any content advisories you or your child should know before choosing a book. You can sign up for PJOW at www.pjourway.org.

But wait, there's more! [Grandparents](https://pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/grandparents) of children who have a current PJ Library subscription can sign up to receive their own children's books and other special mailings, so that their grandchildren can enjoy Jewish stories while visiting. More information and a sign up can be found at <https://pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/grandparents>.

PJ Library's website has a wealth of ideas for story times and "craft-alongs," parenting resources, virtual field trips, cooking, summer at home, and much more. These can be found at <https://pjlibrary.org/familyactivities>.

Suzan Antin is BJCC's coordinator for PJ Library and is happy to answer any questions you may have. (suzan_antin [at] yahoo.com)



Get more information about PJ Library at pjlibrary.org.

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9 Tamuz	2 10 Tamuz	3 11 Tamuz	4 12 Tamuz Parashat Hukat-Balak Reform online service
5 13 Tamuz	6 14 Tamuz	7 15 Tamuz	8 16 Tamuz	9 17 Tamuz	10 18 Tamuz	11 19 Tamuz Parashat Pinchas Reform online service
12 20 Tamuz	13 21 Tamuz	14 22 Tamuz	15 23 Tamuz	16 24 Tamuz	17 25 Tamuz	18 26 Tamuz Parashat Mattot-Masei Reform online service
19 27 Tamuz	20 28 Tamuz	21 29 Tamuz	22 1 Av Rosh Chodesh Av	23 2 Av Deadline for submitting info for August <i>Shofar</i>	24 3 Av	25 4 Av Parashat D'varim Shabbat Chazon Reform online service
26 5 Av	27 6 Av	28 7 Av	29 8 Av Erev Tish'a B'Av	30 9 Av Tish'a B'Av	31 10 Av	

BJCC Officers and Board Members 2020-21

(Officers are definite; some committee chairs need to be verified)

These email addresses are being protected against automatic spamming by using “[at]” and a space before and after what would normally be an @ sign. If you use one of these addresses, be sure to replace the [at] with @ and without the spaces.

President	Dan Hindman	dhindman [at] vt.edu
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