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# THE SHOFAR

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The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

April 2021 / Nisan-Iyyar 5781



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center  
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Web site: [www.bjccblacksburg.org](http://www.bjccblacksburg.org)



## SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]  
Apr. 3–7th Day of Passover–M&S Kranowski  
Apr. 10–Shemini–R. Scheckler  
Apr. 17–Tazria-Metzora–E. Hallerman  
Apr. 24–Acharei Mot–S&M Kranowski

## SERVICES WILL STILL BE REMOTE

Even if we hope we're near the end of the pandemic, we're not going to take any chances with in-person services yet. Instead, we'll continue with our Zoom Shabbat services. We welcome our regular members, as well as friends and former members (some of whom attend from across the country and as far away as Japan). Drop in on Saturday mornings at 10:00 AM. You will receive an email a day or two before the services, telling you how to join the upcoming session.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Spring has sprung, as the old expression says. Our daffodils have grown and found full flower as tree buds show life and continue our cycle of life. Daylight saving time seemed like a harder transition than usual given our current online, Zoomy lifestyle. But it has been enjoyable to have that extra hour of light in the evening after getting home. I hope that everyone is enjoying spring and is able to take some time to get outside as the weather improves. As Passover begins, I want to wish all of you and your family Chag Sameach!

Shalom from Dan, BJCC President

## SHOFAR DEADLINE, APR. 22

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the *Shofar* is Apr. 22. Send information to Richard at [richard \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:richard[at]vt.edu).

## MORE ON MICAH'S BACKPACK

You may have seen in the December *Shofar* that the BJCC has been helping out Micah's Backpack by assembling bags of food every second Tuesday. If you've been in the Blacksburg area long enough, you've heard about this great program and have seen the yellow school bus, "Izzy," parked in front of St Michael's Lutheran Church. I recently reached out to the new director, John Stramiello, to learn that the church is delivering 250 bags of food (to 250 students) each weekend at 10 locations in the Blacksburg area: to one high school, one middle school, five elementary schools, two Head Start programs, and the Valley Interfaith Child Care Center. The bags contain two breakfasts, two lunches, and two dinners to help low-income families over the weekend. While the program receives some assistance through grants, John emphasizes that the program really depends on local citizens to minimize costs and to provide healthy food options. To my question of what was the strangest donation he has received, he responded "180 hot & spicy ramen soup bowls, twenty 10-pound bags of rice, and 500 packs of ramen noodles. Needless to say, I had to donate the soup bowls and the rice to another organization, but we did distribute the ramen noodles to our students." Thanks to Aaron Goldstein for submitting this information.



## THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS

- Bill and Vickie Epstein, long-time members of the BJCC who have moved to Henrico (Richmond area), have sent a large donation that is much appreciated.
- An anonymous donor has donated in the memory of Cathy Jacobs.
- Many thanks to Suzan Antin for her diligent management of the BJCC's PJ Library program. The Harold Grinspoon Foundation, which administers PJ Library, has again extended its grant support to the BJCC for 2021-2022 in recognition of her excellent service.

## MEMORIAL PLAQUES





If you would like to memorialize a loved one while contributing to the BJCC, our beautiful wall memorial at the rear of our sanctuary still has places for your tribute. Contact Linda Deemer with the English and/or Hebrew name of your loved one and a brief tribute (ex.: "In Loving Memory," "Devoted Wife and Mother," "1934-2018," age, etc.), and she will have the plaque engraved. The contribution for this plaque is \$180, payable to the BJCC. You can donate through our website or send a check to the BJCC, Attn.: Steve Scheckler, Treasurer. Contact Linda at lrdeemer [at] [comcast.net](mailto:lrdeemer@comcast.net). We look forward to seeing these memorials when we once again open our doors for in-person services.

## HILLEL NEWS

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



## April 2021 / Nisan-Iyyar 5781

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 19 Nisan <a href="#">Pesach V</a> (CH"M) 	<b>2</b> 20 Nisan <a href="#">Pesach VI</a> (CH"M) 	<b>3</b> 21 Nisan <a href="#">Pesach VII</a> 
<b>4</b> 22 Nisan <a href="#">Pesach VIII</a> 	<b>5</b> 23 Nisan	<b>6</b> 24 Nisan	<b>7</b> 25 Nisan	<b>8</b> 26 Nisan <a href="#">Yom HaShoah</a>	<b>9</b> 27 Nisan	<b>10</b> 28 Nisan <a href="#">Parashat Shmini</a>
<b>11</b> 29 Nisan	<b>12</b> 30 Nisan <a href="#">Rosh Chodesh Iyyar</a>	<b>13</b> 1 Iyyar <a href="#">Rosh Chodesh Iyyar</a>	<b>14</b> 2 Iyyar <a href="#">Yom HaZikaron</a>	<b>15</b> 3 Iyyar <a href="#">Yom HaAtzma'ut</a>	<b>16</b> 4 Iyyar	<b>17</b> 5 Iyyar <a href="#">Parashat Tazria-Metzora</a>
<b>18</b> 6 Iyyar	<b>19</b> 7 Iyyar	<b>20</b> 8 Iyyar	<b>21</b> 9 Iyyar	<b>22</b> 10 Iyyar  Deadline for May issue of <i>Shofar</i>	<b>23</b> 11 Iyyar	<b>24</b> 12 Iyyar <a href="#">Parashat Achrei Mot-Kedoshim</a>
<b>25</b> 13 Iyyar	<b>26</b> 14 Iyyar <a href="#">Pesach Sheni</a>	<b>27</b> 15 Iyyar	<b>28</b> 16 Iyyar	<b>29</b> 17 Iyyar	<b>30</b> 18 Iyyar <a href="#">Lag BaOmer</a>	

## BJCC Officers and Board Members 2020-21

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

President	Dan Hindman	dhindman [at] vt.edu
President-elect (V.P.)	Open	
Past President	Aaron Goldstein	goldst [at] vt.edu
Treasurer	Stephen Scheckler	stephen [at] vt.edu
Secretary	Maddy Schreiber	mekeese [at] gmail.com
Education Chair	Wendy Silverman	wssilverman [at] gmail.com
Community Service/Tzedakah Chair	Ruth Grene	greneruth [at] gmail.com
	Linda Deemer	lrdeemer [at] comcast.net
Religion Chair	Muriel Kranowski	murielk [at] vt.edu
Social Co-Chairs	Ruth Grene	greneruth [at] gmail.com
	Open	
Building Chair	Al Kornhauser	alkorn [at] vt.edu
Culture Chair	Rebecca Scheckler	rscheckler [at] Radford.edu
Board members-at-large	Bradley and Rita Klein	bklein [at] vt.edu
	Sharone Tomer	sharoneltomer [at] gmail.com
BJCC listserv keeper	Muriel Kranowski	murielk [at] vt.edu
Membership Co-chairs	Linda Deemer	lrdeemer [at] comcast.net
	Open	
Religious school director	Marta Brinberg	martabrinberg [at] hotmail.com
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