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# THE SHOFAR

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The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

November 2024 / Tishrei – Cheshvan 5785



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center  
Corner of Church and Roanoke Streets, PO Box 782  
Blacksburg, VA 24063 (540) 300-BJCC  
Web site: [www.bjccblacksburg.org](http://www.bjccblacksburg.org)



## SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]

Nov. 2–Noach–E. Hallerman (BJCC & live-streamed) followed by a potluck lunch

Nov. 9–Lech Lecha–M. Brinberg (Zoom)

Nov. 16–Vayera–M&S Kranowski (Zoom)

Nov. 23–Chayei Sarah–R&S Scheckler (BJCC & live-streamed)

Nov. 30–Toldot–E. Hallerman (Zoom)

## A VARIETY OF SERVICES THIS MONTH

We'll have two in-person services in November (Nov. 2 and 23) and three Zoom services. The Nov. 2 service will be followed by a potluck lunch.

## POTLUCK LUNCH ON NOV. 2

We'll have a potluck lunch after services on Sat., Nov. 2. You can bring your dish with you (plan to arrive downstairs with it a few minutes before 10:00 AM) and attend the service, or come and join us at 11:30. Please bring a vegetarian or kosher-fish dish to share. If you come for the service, your dish can be refrigerated and/or can be heated in the oven so it's at the best temperature for serving.

## PLEASE ATTEND COMPRESS AND SHOCK TRAINING FOR A FREE AED, NOV. 3

The BJCC has the opportunity to receive a free automated external defibrillator (AED), a device that can save the life of someone having a heart attack. In order to receive this device, we must have 35 folks signed up for in-person training.

Since we are such a small congregation, we are also offering our friends this no-cost training. It will occur on Sun., Nov. 3, from 1:00-2:00 PM. Snacks provided. **Please sign up ASAP** at this link, <https://www.compressandshock.org/event-details/blacksburg-jewish-community-center>.



## THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS

To Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry:

- Jonathan and Suzan Antin
- David and Marta Brinberg
- William Floyd and Leslie Kay
- Muriel Kranowski
- Matthew Lawhead and Sharone Tomer
- Michael Leib
- Leo and Ellen Piilonen
- Marcia Shumsky
- Ed Tuchler
- Anonymous donor

Thanks to everyone for participating. We raised a total of \$2,512, \$400 more than last year.

## PJ BOOK NEWS

Our book nooks are being utilized, judging by the books that have been checked out, which is great news, since our collection is a terrific resource for our community!

For adults, this month's features include *Casting Lots: Creating Family in a Beautiful, Broken World*, located in the white bin upstairs, and *Outwitting History*, located in the white bin downstairs. A reviewer said, "A meditation on identity, faith, and belonging—one that's as funny as it is moving—*Casting Lots* will resonate with anyone who has struggled to find their place in the world and to understand the significance of that place." *Outwitting History* is Aaron Lansky's account of how he saved more than a million Yiddish books. He narrates "his adventures as well as the poignant and often laugh-out-loud stories he heard as he traveled the country collecting books. Introducing us to a dazzling array of writers, he shows us how an almost-lost culture is the bridge between the old world and the future—and how the written word can unite everyone who believes in the power of great literature."

Ages 9+ can find a wonderful variety of Jewish biographies in the teal bins. Upstairs, we have the stories of the Three Stooges, Harry Houdini, Ralph Lauren, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Gal Gadot. In the teal bins downstairs, we have another copy of the RBG book, as well as books about Judy Blume, Stan Lee and Albert Einstein.

For readers ages 6 months to 8 years, we have bins of books about Israel and books in Hebrew. If Hebrew is one of your languages, or if the young readers in your life might want to know more about Israel, check out the blue bins labeled Israel/Hebrew that are located in both book nooks.

Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving and happy reading, Suzan Antin

## DUES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL FEES

Please pay BJCC dues as soon as possible. Member dues: \$800/year for families and \$400/year for single households. Please pay via PayPal or send membership dues to BJCC, PO Box 782, Blacksburg, VA 24063. As always, individuals and families can discuss a reduction of dues in privacy with the treasurer, Marta Brinberg. The BJCC mission is to serve the needs of New River Valley Jews. No one will be turned away for lack of financial resources.

## SHOFAR DEADLINE, NOV. 24

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the *Shofar* is Nov. 24. Send information to Richard at richard [at] vt.edu.

## BJCC Officers and Board Members 2024–25

President	Gary Long	glong [at] vt.edu
President–elect (V.P.)	Open	
Past President	Eric Hallerman	ehallerm [at]vt.edu
Treasurer	Marta Brinberg	martabrinberg [at] hotmail.com
Secretary	Maddy Keesee	mekeesee [at] gmail.com
Education Chair	Gil Hersch	gil251 [at] gmail.com
Community Service/Tzedakah	Ruth Grene	greneruth [at] gmail.com
Co-chairs	Linda Deemer	lrdeemer [at] comcast.net
Religion Chair	Muriel Kranowski	murielk [at] vt.edu
Social Chair	Open	
Building Chair	Al Kornhauser	alkorn [at] vt.edu
Culture Chair	Rebecca Scheckler	3050hawks [at] gmail.com
Board members–at–large	Bradley and Rita Klein	bklein [at] vt.edu
	Cindy Rosenbaum	cbrosenb [at] hotmail.com
	Rebecca Scheckler	3050hawks [at] gmail.com
BJCC listserv keeper	Open	
Membership Chair	Anna Zeide	annazeide [at] gmail.com
Religious school directors	Gil & Nicole Hersch	gil251 [at] gmail.com
<i>Shofar</i> Editor	Richard Hirsh	richard [at] vt.edu

## November 2024 / Tishrei-Cheshvan 5785

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 30 Tishrei <a href="#">Rosh</a> <a href="#">Chodesh</a> <a href="#">Cheshvan</a>	2 1 Cheshvan <a href="#">Rosh</a> <a href="#">Chodesh</a> <a href="#">Cheshvan</a> <a href="#">Parashat</a> <a href="#">Noach</a> At BJCC and live-streamed. Potluck lunch at BJCC.
3 2 Cheshvan Compress and Shock training, 1:00 PM 	4 3 Cheshvan	5 4 Cheshvan	6 5 Cheshvan	7 6 Cheshvan	8 7 Cheshvan <a href="#">Yom</a> <a href="#">HaAliyah</a> <a href="#">School</a> <a href="#">Observance</a>	9 8 Cheshvan <a href="#">Parashat</a> <a href="#">Lech Lecha</a> Zoom service
10 9 Cheshvan	11 10 Cheshvan	12 11 Cheshvan	13 12 Cheshvan	14 13 Cheshvan	15 14 Cheshvan	16 15 Cheshvan <a href="#">Parashat</a> <a href="#">Vayera</a> Zoom service
17 16 Cheshvan	18 17 Cheshvan	19 18 Cheshvan	20 19 Cheshvan	21 20 Cheshvan	22 21 Cheshvan	23 22 Cheshvan <a href="#">Parashat</a> <a href="#">Chayei Sarah</a> At BJCC and live-streamed
24 23 Cheshvan Deadline for submission of items for Dec. <i>Shofar</i>	25 24 Cheshvan	26 25 Cheshvan	27 26 Cheshvan	28 27 Cheshvan	29 28 Cheshvan	30 29 Cheshvan <a href="#">Parashat</a> <a href="#">Toldot</a> Zoom service