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# THE SHOFAR

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The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

July 2024/ Sivan-Tamuz 5784



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]

July 6—Korach—M&S Kranowski (Zoom)

July 13—Hukkat—E. Hallerman (at BJCC & live-streamed) \*\*followed by a potluck lunch\*\*

July 20—Balak—R&S Scheckler (at Nellies Cave Park shelter) NO live streaming of service.

July 27—Pinchas—Marta & Brad (Zoom)

## JULY SERVICES HERE AND THERE

We'll have Zoom-only Shabbat services at the beginning and end of July, plus one service in the building and one at Nellies Cave Park. The July 13 service is at the BJCC; it will include a Torah reading and will be followed by a potluck lunch. On July 20, we'll be at Nellies Cave Park for an outdoor service at the big covered pavilion; you could bring your own lunch to the shelter for a DIY picnic with other BJCC folks after the service.

## POTLUCK LUNCH, JULY 13

We'll have a potluck lunch after the July 13 service. Please bring a dairy, vegetarian, or kosher-fish dish to share. You can arrive before 10:00 AM and deposit your dish downstairs before services start at 10:00 AM. Or, just bring your dish at about 11:20 AM and join us downstairs for kiddush and lunch after services.

## SHOFAR DEADLINE, JULY 24

The deadline for submitting news for the next issue of the *Shofar* is July 24. Send information to Richard at [richard \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:richard[at]vt.edu).

## HILLEL NEWS

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

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Friends:

At the June congregational meeting, I was elected president for the 2024-2025 year. Also, we reelected the proposed officers into their positions of service: Maddy Schreiber (secretary), Marta Brinberg (treasurer), Cindy Rosenbaum, and Rita and Brad Klein (at-large members).

Some people may recall that I also served as president about two decades ago. While the BJCC works through many issues, we are now dealing with new problems (see June 2024 *Shofar*). Some relate to the security of our congregation and our building, including the addition of internet service within the structure. It will integrate well into our new security system, enabling us to remotely check on the building if an alert occurs.

The internet service will also allow us to improve the quality of the Zooming of our meetings/events to the BJCC family, especially during inclement weather. Most of us learned to be very good with Zoom during and after COVID. We hope to have the service installed soon, which would end the sometimes-spotty service we've encountered when using a cell-phone hotspot.

Our Board is also considering other issues, such as revisiting our dues schedules, Sunday School, and cultural event programming. Please let me know if you have concerns about these issues—and any others—by emailing me at [garylong@mac.com](mailto:garyl原因@mac.com). I'll be happy to share your comments with the Board.

One matter Eric mentioned in his "farewell" column last month is that the Board is working on the "writing up" of our Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). A committee chaired by Rebecca Scheckler is doing this work. We appreciate the committee's forthcoming efforts to codify our policies.

Shalom, Gary, BJCC President

## PJ BOOK NOOKS—SUMMER READING

Don't forget our new book nooks for summer reading for everyone! Stop by, upstairs or downstairs, and grab a book—or two. There is no limit on check-out time. The books with book cards should be signed out, and we ask that you return those when you are finished.

For adults, we have copies of the memoir, *My Russian Grandmother and her American Vacuum Cleaner*, in both book nook locations. This is “a loving and humorous family story about Israel’s pioneers and their offspring.” The books for adults are in the white bins.

Ages 9+ might enjoy the biography, *Women Who Broke the Rules: Judy Blume*, in the downstairs book nook, while upstairs we have *How I Became a Spy* for ages 10+. This is historical fiction, set in WWII London. PJ Our Way books, for ages 9+, are in the teal bins.

We have an extensive collection of books about Shabbat for ages 6 months-8 years. These are in the labeled blue bins, both upstairs and downstairs. Downstairs, you can find our newest book, *Rising*, for ages 4-5 about making challah

for Shabbat. *Braid the Challah* is also downstairs and is suitable for ages 6 months –2. Upstairs we have *Koala Challah* for age 4.

Suzan (the PJ Library guru) has received some questions about donating PJ books. She’s happy to take any PJ Library or PJ Our Way books that are no longer being read as long as they haven’t gotten wet, have no active mildew, and have nothing sticky on the cover. Just leave the donations in one of the hot pink bins, and Suzan will pick them up and add them to the collection. Happy Reading!



## BJCC Officers and Board Members 2024–25

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

President	Gary Long	glong [at] vt.edu
President–elect (V.P.)		
Past President	Eric Hallerman	ehallerm [at]vt.edu
Treasurer	Marta Brinberg	martabrinberg [at] hotmail.com
Secretary	Maddy Schreiber	mekeesee [at] gmail.com
Education Chair	Gil Hersch	gil251 [at] gmail.com
Community Service/Tzedakah	Ruth Grene	greneruth [at] gmail.com
Co-chair	Linda Deemer	lrdeemer [at] comcast.net
Religion Chair	Muriel Kranowski	murielk [at] vt.edu
Social Chair	Ruth Grene	greneruth [at] gmail.com
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
	Richard Hirsh	richard [at] vt.edu
<i>Shofar</i> Editor		

## July 2024 / Sivan-Tamuz 5784

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 25 Sivan	<b>2</b> 26 Sivan	<b>3</b> 27 Sivan	<b>4</b> 28 Sivan	<b>5</b> 29 Sivan	<b>6</b> 30 Sivan <a href="#">Rosh Chodesh Tamuz</a> <a href="#">Parashat Korach</a> Zoom service
<b>7</b> 1 Tamuz <a href="#">Rosh Chodesh Tamuz</a>	<b>8</b> 2 Tamuz	<b>9</b> 3 Tamuz	<b>10</b> 4 Tamuz	<b>11</b> 5 Tamuz	<b>12</b> 6 Tamuz	<b>13</b> 7 Tamuz <a href="#">Parashat Hukat</a> In person at BJCC and live-streamed service. Potluck lunch follows service.
<b>14</b> 8 Tamuz	<b>15</b> 9 Tamuz	<b>16</b> 10 Tamuz	<b>17</b> 11 Tamuz	<b>18</b> 12 Tamuz	<b>19</b> 13 Tamuz	<b>20</b> 14 Tamuz <a href="#">Parashat Balak</a> Service at Nellies Cave Park shelter. <b>No</b> live-streaming.
<b>21</b> 15 Tamuz	<b>22</b> 16 Tamuz	<b>23</b> 17 Tamuz	<b>24</b> 18 Tamuz Deadline for submissions to <i>Shofar</i>	<b>25</b> 19 Tamuz	<b>26</b> 20 Tamuz	<b>27</b> 21 Tamuz <a href="#">Parashat Pinchas</a> Zoom service
<b>28</b> 22 Tamuz	<b>29</b> 23 Tamuz	<b>30</b> 24 Tamuz	<b>31</b> 25 Tamuz			