
THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

March 2024/Adar I-Adar II 5784



Blacksburg Jewish Community Center
Corner of Church and Roanoke Streets, PO Box 782
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Web site: www.bjccblacksburg.org



SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]

- March 2–Ki Tisa–E. Hallerman (BJCC & live-streamed)
- March 9–Vayakhel–Seraphina Colliver's Bat Mitzvah (BJCC & live-streamed)
- March 16–Pekudei–M&S Kranowski (Zoom)
- March 23–Vayikra–Brad & Eric (Zoom)
- March 30–Tsav–Marta & Muriel (Zoom)

IN PERSON, ZOOM, AND A BAT MITZVAH

Quite the variety of services this month. See details at the right about the Bat Mitzvah. Also, we're happy to welcome Brad Klein to the service leader lineup.

SHOFAR DEADLINE: MARCH 23

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

PURIM CARNIVAL

The BJCC and Virginia Tech Hillel are hosting a Purim Carnival on Saturday, March 23, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Hillel (710 Toms Creek Rd, Blacksburg). We'll have Purim carnival games and prizes, a Purim Play, a photo booth, a cake walk, a DIY costume station, a snacky potluck lunch, and lots of fun!

Please bring a snack to contribute to the snacky potluck lunch and a sweet treat for the cake walk. Costumes encouraged! Contact Anna Zeide at [annazeide \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:annazeide[at]gmail.com) with any questions.

Please fill out this quick form to RSVP:
<https://forms.gle/MHh3SA8ZJbqbzbA7>

BAT MITZVAH MARCH 9

Lauren and Ethan Colliver invite the BJCC community to join in the celebration of their daughter, Seraphina Leslie, as she comes to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. The service is at the BJCC and starts at the usual 10:00 AM.

There will be a kiddush and light snacks following the service.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Friends:

On March 5, four BJCC members will present a panel discussion on the Jewish experience in America to the Lifelong Learning Institute. I will first briefly describe the historic context for migration of European Jews to America and their experience from the 1880s onwards. Then, Linda Deemer, Al Kornhauser, Rebecca Scheckler, and I will highlight our own experiences. Discussion will follow. This event is restricted to LLI members; attendees must have registered for the current semester (\$60) and for this event (\$15) by March 4; you can't register at the door. For info or to enroll, call 540-231-5182.

On March 9 at 10:00 AM at the BJCC, please come out, participate, and share the nachas of Seraphina Colliver's Bat Mitzvah.

The interfaith book club will be starting a new book, *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others*, by Barbara Brown Taylor. The club meets every other Sunday at 3:00. For details or to be added to the contact list, email me at [ehallerm \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:ehallerm[at]vt.edu).

Shalom, Eric, BJCC President

HILLEL NEWS

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

DUES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL FEES

If you haven't already done so, please pay BJCC dues and Religious School fees as soon as possible.

Membership dues: \$700/year for families and \$350/year for single households.

Religious School fees: \$375/year for grades K-8 and \$225/year for pre-K.

You can pay these fees using the Donate button at bjccblacksburg.org/giving, or mail a check to:

BJCC / PO Box 782 / Blacksburg, VA 24063

As always, individuals and families can discuss a reduction of dues and/or fees 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.

PJ LIBRARY EVENT

The Harold Grinspoon Foundation recently invited all its member communities to apply for a grant in celebration of PJ Library's 18th birthday. We have a wide selection of PJ books for ages 6

months to 13 years and for parents. The BJCC applied and received a grant to fund two accessible and attractive display areas at the BJCC, one upstairs and one downstairs, to make browsing and borrowing books much easier.

We are very excited that Madelyn Rosenberg, author of multiple PJ Library and PJ Our Way books, will join us for the book nooks' dedication. Madelyn moved to Blacksburg with her family at age 3 and grew up here. She will do a book talk at 11:00 AM on Sunday, April 7, in the BJCC sanctuary. Please arrive by 10:45 AM so that she can start on time, as she has other commitments later in the day. After her book talk, we will go downstairs for refreshments (decorate-your-own-cupcakes and pizza) and crafts.

We hope you'll join us for this event. Suzan Antin will send a request for RSVPs, as we will need a head count for refreshments and crafts. If you're not on the Sunday School or PJ Library email lists and would like to be on the RSVP list, or if you have any questions about the event, please text Suzan at 540-415-8672 or email [suzan_antin \[at\] yahoo.com](mailto:suzan_antin@yahoo.com) (*note the underscore in the email*).

BJCC Officers and Board Members 2023–24

President	Eric Hallerman	ehallerm [at]vt.edu
President–elect (V.P.)	Open	
Past President	Dan Hindman	dhindman [at] vt.edu
Treasurer	Marta Brinberg	martabrinberg [at] hotmail.com
Secretary	Maddy Schreiber	mekeese [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

March 2024 / Adar I-Adar II 5784

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 21 Adar I	2 22 Adar I Parashat Ki Tisa At BJCC and streamed
3 23 Adar I	4 24 Adar I	5 25 Adar I	6 26 Adar I	7 27 Adar I	8 28 Adar I	9 29 Adar I Parashat Vayakhel Bat Mitzvah at BJCC and streamed
10 30 Adar I Rosh Chodesh Adar II	11 1 Adar II Rosh Chodesh Adar II	12 2 Adar II	13 3 Adar II	14 4 Adar II	15 5 Adar II	16 6 Adar II Parashat Pekudei Zoom service
17 7 Adar II	18 8 Adar II	19 9 Adar II	20 10 Adar II	21 11 Adar II	22 12 Adar II	23 13 Adar II Erev Purim Parashat Vayikra Zoom service Purim Carnival
24 14 Adar II Purim	25 15 Adar II Shushan Purim	26 16 Adar II	27 17 Adar II	28 18 Adar II	29 19 Adar II	30 20 Adar II Parashat Tzav Zoom service
31 21 Adar II						