

THE SHOFAR

The Monthly Bulletin of the BJCC

April 2024/ Adar II-Nisan 5784



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



SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

[Saturday Shabbat services begin at 10:00 AM]

April 6–Shemini–R&S Scheckler (BJCC and streamed)

April 13–Tazria–Brad and Eric (Zoom)

April 20–Metzora–Eric (BJCC and streamed)

April 27–5th day of Passover –Marta (Zoom)

MIXED SERVICES IN APRIL

Shabbat services in April will alternate between in-person (with a live stream if our technology permits it) and all-Zoom. If you can come to a BJCC service, no worries about technology, and it's good to gather in person.

THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS!

We are grateful for the following donations:

- ✧ Irv Gertner, to the general fund.
- ✧ Anonymous, in honor of Edward Gralla
- ✧ Anonymous, in memory of Nat Kranowski

SHOFAR DEADLINE, APR. 23

The deadline for submitting news for the May issue is Apr. 23. Send information to Muriel at [murielk \[at\] vt.edu](mailto:murielk[at]vt.edu).

HILLEL NEWS

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



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Friends:

It's been an eventful month, as the coming month will be too.

Last month, we shared in the joy of Seraphina Colliver's Bat Mitzvah. The sanctuary was filled with family, friends, and congregants. Such *nachas* we shared!



Photo - Laura Jacobs

The BJCC has sponsored the PJ Library for several years, and it will now house two book nooks for the Library. Please come out for a special dedication event on April 7 (RSVPs are requested). Details appear elsewhere in the *Shofar*.

Security upgrades have been quietly ongoing for some time now. Tempered glass covers were installed to protect our stained-glass windows this past month. Thanks, Al, for your efforts to find, contract, and expedite this project. A security camera will be installed soon.

Pesach is coming, with the first *seder* on Monday evening, April 22. Remember to clean out your *chometz* and buy *matzo*! More importantly, savor the joy of freedom, and teach that joy to your children! *Chag sameach*!

Shalom, Eric, BJCC President

JOIN US FOR THE DEDICATION OF OUR PJ BOOK NOOKS, APRIL 7

A special treat is in store for all BJCC members and friends. On Sunday, April 7, we will open our new PJ Library book nooks. We will have two nooks--one upstairs in the sanctuary vestibule, and one downstairs in the multipurpose room. Each nook will be stocked with bins of books for adults and for children ages 6 months to 13 years.

PJ author Madelyn Rosenberg, who is the daughter of BJCC member Linda Deemer, will be here to kick off the celebration with a book talk at 11:00 AM in the sanctuary. Please gather at 10:45 AM so that she can start on time.

After Madelyn's book talk, we will go downstairs for brief remarks, refreshments, and crafts. We hope that you will take time to explore our wonderful collection of books and games and find something interesting to take home.

Our collection includes multiple books which have won the Sydney Taylor Award, given by the Association of Jewish Libraries to outstanding books for children and teens that authentically

portray the Jewish experience. We also have Caldecott Medal winners. The Caldecott Medal is given to the most distinguished American picture book for children and is awarded by the American Library Association. Authors in our collection include Jane Yolen, Patricia Polacco, Maurice Sendak, Jan Brett, Leslie Kimmelman, Madelyn Rosenberg, Eric Kimmel, David Wisniewski, Chris van Allsburg, Sydney Taylor, and Isaac Bashevis Singer.

Please RSVP to Suzan Antin, suzan_antin@yahoo.com. (There is an underscore between her first and last names in the email.)

PJ Library and PJ Our Way are programs that provide free books once per month to Jewish children. PJ Library is for ages 6 months to 8 years, and PJ Our Way is for children ages 9 to 12. The national sponsor of PJ programs is the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, which provided the funding for our book nooks and for our celebration in honor of PJ Library's 18th birthday.

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	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
BJCC listserv keeper	Rebecca Scheckler	3050hawks [at] gmail.com
Membership Chair	Open	
Religious school directors	Anna Zeide	annazeide [at] gmail.com
	Gil & Nicole Hersch	gil251 [at] gmail.com
<i>Shofar</i> Editor	Richard Hirsh	richard [at] vt.edu

April 2024 / Adar II-Nisan 5784

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 22 Adar II	2 23 Adar II	3 24 Adar II	4 25 Adar II	5 26 Adar II	6 27 Adar II Parashat Shemini BJCC and streamed
7 28 Adar II PJ Library Nook dedication	8 29 Adar II	9 1 Nisan Rosh Chodesh Nisan	10 2 Nisan	11 3 Nisan	12 4 Nisan	13 5 Nisan Parashat Tazria Zoom service
14 6 Nisan	15 7 Nisan	16 8 Nisan	17 9 Nisan	18 10 Nisan Yom HaAliyah	19 11 Nisan	20 12 Nisan Parashat Metzora BJCC and streamed
21 13 Nisan	22 14 Nisan Erev Pesach 	23 15 Nisan Pesach I  Deadline for next issue of the <i>Shofar</i>	24 16 Nisan Pesach II 1st day of the Omer	25 17 Nisan Pesach III (CH"M) 2nd day of the Omer	26 18 Nisan Pesach IV (CH"M) 3rd day of the Omer	27 19 Nisan Pesach V (CH"M) 4th day of the Omer Zoom service
28 20 Nisan Pesach VI (CH"M) 5th day of the Omer	29 21 Nisan Pesach VII 6th day of the Omer	30 22 Nisan Pesach VIII 7th day of the Omer				