

...Read More Howie and Julie Leopold

Howie was born in Brooklyn and then raised in Staten Island with his younger brother, Kevin. He attended yeshiva from pre-k through twelfth grade, graduating from the Jewish Educational Center in Elizabeth. Howie and Julie are so happy that Kevin and his wife, Jennifer, and family recently relocated to Bergen County and are now also valuable members of the synagogue.

Howie graduated from SUNY Albany, majoring in U.S. history and double minoring in Hebrew and business. He received his juris doctorate from Albany Law School. After working at various law firms, he has been operating his own general practice law firm headquartered in Hackensack and a satellite office in Manhattan.

Howie and Julie met in May, 1992, when they were introduced by Julie's closest childhood friend, who was dating Howie's closest friend at the time. Although their friends broke up soon after, Julie and Howie stayed together. In 1994, they married and moved to New Milford and then to Oradell in 2003.

Howie and Julie have four children, each of whom has grown up in the JCCP/CBT. They all attended preschool and summer camp at the JCCP/CBT's Early Childhood Center, attended the JCCP/CBT's Hebrew school, and celebrated their b'nai mitzvahs in the synagogue. Jordan is a sophomore at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA, where he is majoring in media and communications, and minoring in business. Brianna is a senior at River Dell High School, and will be attending college in the fall, with a plan to study chemistry. Their twin daughters, Hayley and Malayna, are freshmen at River Dell High School.

When they were first married, Howie and Julie visited many area synagogues, looking for a place to call home. After attending services and social activities at the JCCP/CBT, they instantly felt welcomed by the community and knew they had found the right place to join. Since then, Howie and Julie have become integral members of our synagogue. In 1995, Howie became involved with our Men's Club. He was Vice President and then Co-Vice President for several years, where he not only continued Men's Club breakfasts and other usual events, but assisted in talent shows, comedy nights, trips to the Meadowlands, golf outings, etc. After leading the Men's Club, Howie became Co-President of what was then known as The Young Couples' Club, became Trustee, Vice President, and served as President of our synagogue from 2016 to 2018. Along the way, Howie has served on nearly every committee, and continued to work on various activities, including 10 years organizing fund-raising golf outings.

Julie has also been very active in the synagogue as an officer of the APT (Association of Parents and Teachers) for many years, and continues to serve on APT even though all of their children have graduated from the Hebrew school. She is perhaps best known as the heart and soul of the annual APT Bingo event, which continues, after over 10 years, to be one of the best-attended yearly events. She has run a cappella concerts, Chinese dinners, and comedy/magic shows, and can always be found behind the popcorn machine at the annual Purim carnival.

Howie and Julie have made the synagogue the center of their family life, and support it in any way they can, upholding the values taught to them by their parents, Bob and the late Bunny Leopold, and Walter and Carol Shanler. They are grateful that they and their children have made

life-long friends at the JCCP/CBT. Howie and Julie believe that by leading by example and action, their children will learn the importance and significance of Judaism in their lives.