

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE
Jewish **Reporter**

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New Hampshire

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November 2019

Cheshvan-Kislev 5780



CELEBRATIONS & SIMCHAS

JFNH Co-Sponsors NH “Holocaust/Genocide Education Act”

By *Melanie Zalman McDonald*,
Director, JFNH

Bedford – JFNH is proud to announce that it is a co-sponsor of the “Never Again: Holocaust Genocide Education Act” authored by Kati Preston of Barnstead, a Holocaust survivor. Determined to spread messages of tolerance and activism in schools, libraries, churches, and other venues, Preston, age 80, took legislative action this fall. She acts with the awareness that she is one of the few survivors left who are able to share their stories. Through a lifetime of speaking events with individuals of all ages, Preston has personally seen how effective Holocaust education is in teaching tolerance and anti-bullying to children.

In the past year, JFNH has received a significant increase in requests for assistance from temple lay leaders, parents of students effected by anti-Semitism at school, and concerned Jewish community

members who are experiencing hate on social media. In response to these and other significant challenges, JFNH devoted the Annual Meeting on Sept. 15 to shining a light on this increase in hate speech and bigotry within New Hampshire’s Jewish community and beyond. Speakers including Ms. Preston, New England ADL director Robert Trestan, Manchester mayor Joyce Craig, and Governor Chris Sununu all spoke about this epidemic of hatred. With this legislation in development, we are now able to put words into action.

After Preston approached the board of JFNH in early October, the board voted unanimously to support this effort by co-sponsoring the legislation. Together, we are engaging legislators and refining the language in the proposed bill to advance this critical issue. Stay tuned for more information as this exciting legislative action develops.

Jewish Federation of New Hampshire



JFNH Board chair Sarit Itenberg with Kati Preston, a local Holocaust survivor who is working with JFNH to advocate for a Holocaust education bill in the NH legislature. Photo courtesy of Alan Glassman.

shares Kati’s belief that in a world where anti-Semitism, hate, prejudice, and bullying are increasingly prevalent, we must find powerful new ways to safeguard our children’s future by proactively teaching tolerance.

Currently, the 13 states that have formally enacted such legislation are Cali-

fornia, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Oregon (begins 2020), Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Virginia. In October, Kati Preston testified in favor of similar legislation proposed in Massachusetts, which is now being voted upon.

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Why I Give to JFNH

Ken Litvack, Stratham, NH

“I give because I believe the our Jewish Federation is a beacon of hope to both the affiliated and unaffiliated Jews here in New Hampshire. I believe that if Federation doesn’t lead the fight against anti-Semitism, who will? I serve because I feel it is a responsibility and obligation of all of us to make sure our voices are heard. My family and I are committed to ensuring that the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire continues to grow and to thrive, expanding its programs and reaching Jews of all denominations. When I see seniors coming to our new building, or families gathering together to explore Jewish values, I say *THIS is what it’s all about!*”

Judith Jolton, Manchester, NH

“To me, Jewish Federation is all about tze-



Ken Litvack

dakah: the giving of time, commitment, and heart to enrich and embolden our Jewish community. For 50 years, in several cities, I have not only watched, but actively participated as




Judith Jolton

part of Jewish communities building upon themselves. What I continue to learn is that the more we put into Federation, financially and personally, the more we will get out of it.”

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CONGREGATIONS

JRF: Jewish Reconstructionist Federation **URJ:** Union for Reform Judaism
USCJ: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

AMHERST

CONGREGATION BETENU

Sam Blumberg (Rabbinic Intern)
5 Northern Blvd., Unit 1, Amherst
Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 886-1633
www.betenu.org
Services: Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat services at 7:30 PM
Saturday morning twice a month, 9:30 AM

BETHLEHEM

BETHLEHEM HEBREW CONGREGATION

Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum
39 Strawberry Hill Road
PO Box 395, Bethlehem
Unaffiliated-Egalitarian
(603) 869-5465
www.bethlehemsynagogue.org
davegoldstone1@gmail.com
Services: Contact for Date/Time Info
President Dave Goldstone - (516) 592-1462
or Eileen Regen - (603) 823-7711
Weekly Services: July through Simchat Torah
Friday: 6:30 PM; Saturday: 10 AM

CLAREMONT

TEMPLE MEYER DAVID

25 Putnam Street, Claremont
Conservative
(603) 542-6773
Services: Generally the second Friday of the month, 6:15 PM, April to November.

CONCORD

TEMPLE BETH JACOB

Rabbi Robin Nafshi
67 Broadway, Concord
Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 228-8581
www.tbjconcord.org
office@tbjconcord.org
Services: Friday night - 7 PM
Saturday morning - 9:30 AM

DERRY

ETZ HAYIM SYNAGOGUE

Rabbi Peter Levy
1½ Hood Road, Derry
Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 432-0004
www.etzhayim.org
office@etzhayim.org, rabbi@etzhayim.org
Services: Fridays 7:15 PM
Please check the website for the Shabbat Morning schedule

DURHAM

UNH & SEACOAST CHABAD JEWISH CENTER

Rabbi Berel Slavatticki
72-1 Main Street, Durham
(603) 205-6598
Rabbi@JewishSeacoast.com
www.JewishSeacoast.com

HANOVER

THE ROHR CHABAD CENTER AT DARTMOUTH

Rabbi Moshe Gray
19 Allen Street, Hanover
Orthodox, Chabad
(603) 643-9821
www.dartmouthchabad.com
chabad@dartmouth.edu
Services: Friday Evening Shabbat services and Dinner
Shabbat morning services
Call for times

KOL HA'EMEK UPPER VALLEY JEWISH COMMUNITY

Rabbi Mark Melamut
Roth Center for Jewish Life
5 Occom Ridge, Hanover
Nondenominational, Unaffiliated
(603) 646-0460
www.uvjc.org
office@uvjc.org
Services: Friday night Shabbat service at 6 PM
Saturday morning Shabbat service at 10 AM

KEENE

CONGREGATION AHAVAS ACHIM

Rabbi Amy Loewenthal
84 Hastings Avenue, Keene
Reconstructionist, Affiliated JRF
(603) 352-6747
www.keenesynagogue.org
rabbi.ahavas.achim@gmail.com
secretary.ahavas.achim@gmail.com
Services: Regular Friday night services at 7 PM
Monthly Shabbat morning services at 10 AM
Check the website for time variations

LACONIA

TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL

Rabbi Dan Danson
210 Court Street, Laconia
Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 524-7044
www.tbinh.org
Services: Every other Friday night at 7:30 PM

MANCHESTER

CHABAD CENTER FOR JEWISH LIVING

Rabbi Levi Krinsky
1234 River Rd., Manchester
Orthodox, Chabad
(603) 647-0204
www.Lubavitchnh.com
rabbi@lubavitchnh.com
Services: Shabbat Services
Saturday morning at 9:30 AM
Sunday morning minyan at 9 AM

TEMPLE ADATH YESHURUN

Rabbi Beth D. Davidson
152 Prospect Street, Manchester
Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 669-5650
www.taynh.org
templeadathy@comcast.net
Services: Shabbat services the first Friday of the month at 6 PM
All other Friday nights at 7 PM with some exceptions.
Alternating Shabbat services or Torah study Saturday mornings at 10 AM

TEMPLE ISRAEL

Rabbi Jeremy Szczepanski
66 Salmon Street, Manchester
Conservative
(603) 622-6171
office@templeisraelmht.org
www.templeisraelnh.org
Services: Fridays at 6 PM
Saturday at 9:30 AM
Minyans: Mon.-Fri. 7 AM. Call Stephen Singer 603-774-4048 for info.

NASHUA

TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

Rabbi Jon Spira-Savett
4 Raymond Street, Nashua
Conservative, Affiliated USCJ
(603) 883-8184
www.tbanashua.org
rabbi@tbanashua.org
office@tbanashua.org
Services: Friday night services 8 PM
1st Friday family service 7 PM
Saturday morning 9:30 AM
Mon. - Thur. minyan 7:30 PM

NORTH CONWAY

KEHILAT HAR LAVAN

Hazzan Marlena Fuerstman
PO Box 474, Bartlett
(978) 853-4900
harlavancommunity@gmail.com
Services: Wed. mornings 9 AM online via Zoom
Enter meeting ID <https://zoom.us/j/381930069>
Holiday service times, locations TBA

PORTSMOUTH

TEMPLE ISRAEL

Rabbi Ira Korinow (Interim)
200 State Street, Portsmouth
Conservative, Affiliated USCJ
(603) 436-5301
www.templeisraelnh.org
templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org
Services: Friday, 6:15 PM
Saturday, 9:30 AM
Tues. minyan 5:30 PM
Temple Israel has a fully licensed M-F preschool.

The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter

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The objectives of The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter are to foster a sense of community among the Jewish people of New Hampshire by sharing ideas, information, experiences and opinions, and to promote the agencies, projects and mission of the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire.

The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter is published monthly ten times per year, with a deadline for submissions of the 10th of the month before publication. There are no January or June issues. All items, including calendar events, for the December-January or May-June newspaper must be submitted by Nov. 10 or April 10, respectively.

Please send all materials to:
thereporter@jewishnh.org

To submit Calendar items for the print and online JFNH Calendar and E-News, go to <https://jewishnh.org/community-calendar>, click the red "Suggest an Event" button, then fill in the form with your event information.

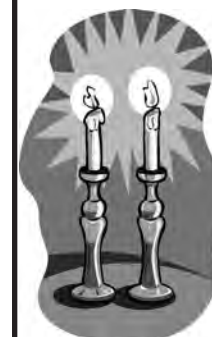
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The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter is overseen by the JFNH Publications Committee, Merle Carrus, chairperson.

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Shabbat Candle Lighting Times: (Manchester)



November 1	5:20 PM
November 8	4:12 PM
November 15	4:05 PM
November 22	3:59 PM
November 29	3:55 PM



ANSWER THE CALL WHEN YOUR PHONE RINGS

SUPER SUNDAY

December 8, 2019

Your generous support makes it all possible.

As one of America's most trusted names in charitable giving, the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign for Jewish Need is an incredibly responsive grassroots effort dedicated to strengthening and supporting our New Hampshire Jewish Community from the ground up.

Every gift makes a difference.
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It is what being Jewish feels like.

Together we are building a Jewish Future for New Hampshire.



www.jewishnh.org/give

To Volunteer, call us at (603)627-7679 or email info@jewishnh.org.



Statewide Calendar of Events

To submit Calendar items for the print and online JFNH Calendar and E-News, go to <https://jewishnh.org/community-calendar>, click the red "Suggest an Event" button, then fill in the form with your event information.

Friday, November 1

Family Shabbat Service & Potluck Dinner
6-8 PM, Temple Adath Yeshurun, Manchester
Family Shabbat Service and Potluck. Please bring a dish to share! Contact: Karen Rothstein at 603-669-5650 or office@taynh.org.

"The Sarajevo Haggadah," Composed and Performed by Merima Kljuco

7:30-9:30 PM, First Church, 1 Laban Ainsworth Way, Jaffrey
Electric Earth Concerts presents Bosnian-Dutch accordionist-composer Merima Kljuco and pianist Seth Knopp performing "The Sarajevo Haggadah: Music of the Book," Kljuco's riveting musical depiction of Jewish heroism through the ages in the face of violence and prejudice. Performed with visual accompaniment, "The Sarajevo Haggadah" features original paintings digitally animated by video artist Bart Woodstrup. Using the musical traditions of Spain, Italy, Austria, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kljuco illustrates and illuminates the Haggadah's travels from medieval Spain to 20th-century Bosnia, where it was rescued and hidden

during World War II by Muslims, to its restoration by the National Museum in Sarajevo after the 1992-95 war. Inspired by the historical novel by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Geraldine Brooks and commissioned by the Foundation for Jewish Culture, "The Sarajevo Haggadah: Music of the Book" creatively interprets this miraculous artifact as a universal symbol of exile, return, and co-existence. There will be a short talk before the concert by the Honorable Patti Whalen. For further information, email eeconcerts@gmail.com or call 603.499.6216. Tickets are \$30, and are available online at <http://electricearthconcerts.org> or at the door. This event is free to all students (college students are asked to bring ID).

Sunday, November 3

Brotherhood Meeting and Breakfast
10 AM – 12 PM, Temple Adath Yeshurun

Sisterhood Mah Jongg Tournament
12:30 PM, Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua
Games, snacks, prizes! Fun for all levels! Instructions for newbies! \$10 for Sisterhood members and \$18 for non-members. To RSVP contact Robin Rubin at 603-571-1090 or litrube@gmail.com.

The Israeli Election Experience
3 PM, Jewish Federation of New Hampshire Community Room, 273 South River Rd. #5, Bedford
Presented by Emil Campeanu with guest New Hampshire Shlichah Avia Sagron. The Israeli elections are complex, intense, and passionate. A myriad of political parties representing a wide verity

of ideologies and social segments are competing for voters' attention, hoping to pass the famous "Ahus Ha Hasimah" or electoral threshold, get a few seats into the upcoming Knesset and becoming part of the government coalition. The purpose of this program is to familiarize the audience with the basic notions of the Israeli elections system such as nationwide proportional representation, Knesset, coalition, etc., using the 1977 elections as a case study to present some aspects of the parties that took part on those historic elections. To register for this program, please call the JFNH office at 603-627-7679.

Tuesday, November 5, 12, 19, 26

Israeli/Palestinian Conflict – Historical Background, Where We Are Today
10–11:30, Granite State College, Manchester
This event is currently waitlisted; to be added to the list visit <https://www.campusce.net/granite/course/course.aspx?C=899&pc=142&mc=165&sc=0>
The conflict between Israelis and Palestinians is long and touches many of us locally in a personal way because of ties of family, faith, community, or work. For many, the conflict presents moral and spiritual dilemmas. We will look at the history of the population and settlement of the land, the rise of and philosophies within the Jewish and Palestinian national movements, and major periods such as 1947-1949, 1967 and its aftermath, and the Oslo peace period. What is the situation today and what are the visions of what is possible? We will try to answer questions, be rooted in facts, and acknowledge biases. The instructor is a rabbi who has studied and lived in Israel for two extended periods and has been involved in the religious Zionist peace movement.

Wednesday, November 6

Semi-Annual Rummage Sale
9:30 AM–4 PM
For questions or to help, please contact Carol Gorelick at 603-889-8067 or Robin Rubin at 603-571-1090.

Friday, November 8

Musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service With Special Guest Beshert
6:15–8:30 PM, Temple Israel, Portsmouth
Please join us for musical Shabbat services led by Rabbi Howard Mandell and featuring the musical group Bashert. The seven singers and musicians are members of Congregation Beth Israel of the Merrimack Valley in Lawrence, MA, and draw on a variety of sources for their musical Friday night services.

Saturday, November 9

Yedidim Friendsgiving
5:30 PM, location to be announced (held in someone's home monthly)
A dairy potluck Thanksgiving themed Havdalah service. Please check the TBA calendar or contact Jessie Mocle at yedidim@tbanashua.org for more information.

Sunday, November 10

Israel: A Mix of Cultures
2 PM, Temple Israel Portsmouth
Explore Israel with JFNH Shlichah Avia Sagron. Avia's presentation will be followed by a Q&A. Light refreshments will be served. Appropriate for adults and older teens. Since this is also Restaurant Week in Portsmouth, plan to also visit one of more than 40 restaurants offering a special three-course prix fixe menu (\$19.95/lunch, \$34.95/dinner). The

presentation is free. For more information, contact templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org or call 603-436-5301 x10.

Tuesday, November 12

"My Soul Is Filled With Joy," a Talk by Karen Treiger

6:30 PM, Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua
For more information, please see the article on page 13 in this issue of The Reporter.

Wednesday, November 13

Seniors Forever Young Lunch and Learn
12–3 PM, JFNH Community Room, Bedford
Join Seniors Forever Young for a Lunch and Learn presented by the Alzheimers Association: Understanding Alzheimers and Dementia. The cost is \$5/person, and includes a pizza and salad lunch. Please reserve your spot by November 7 by calling the JFNH office at 603-627-7679 or by mailing payment to the JFNH Office Attn: SFY.

Thursday, November 14

Manchester Chapter of Hadassah Meeting
1–3 PM, 1400 Front St, Manchester
Speakers Rachel Spierer and Mary Singer will discuss Debbie Friedman's liturgical lyrics and music. For more info, contact Michele Bank @ michele.bank@gmail.com.

Saturday, November 16

Breakfast with the Rabbi
9:30–11:15 AM, Temple Adath Yeshurun, Manchester

Havdalah Game Night
5–7 PM, Temple Israel, Manchester
Family fun with Havdalah game night and a meal. RSVP required by noon on Monday, November 4. Contact Christine Dame 603-622-6171.

Yedidim Dad's Night Out
6:30 PM, location to be announced
Join other young dads for a night of camaraderie! Location (and if there's a game on) coming soon! Please visit the TBA website for registration.

Sunday, November 17

Estate Planning A to Z, a Talk by Attorney William H. Barry III
9:30–11:30 AM, Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua
A lively opportunity to learn about designing an estate plan regardless of your age. Topics to be covered include Last Will and Testaments, Revocable Trusts, Durable Powers of Attorney, Healthcare Powers of Attorney, Nomination of Guardianships, and HIPPA Releases. Learn about the benefits and burdens of probate, the pitfalls of dying intestate (i.e., without a will), and the need for young adults (18 to 25) to have their own estate planning package. RSVP for breakfast to breakfastsvp@snhjmc.org.

Anti-Defamation League Presents Words to Action

3–5 PM, JFNH Community Room, Bedford
This program is geared for students in middle and high school (ages 12 through 17) and is designed to help students increase their understanding of anti-Semitism and the way it manifests itself, including anti-Semitism that is fueled by anti-Israel sentiment; increase their awareness of incidents of anti-Semitism in their environment; improve their ability to address specific incidents of anti-Semitism and/or anti-Israel bias, and to select

Calendar continued on page 5



Jewish Federation
Preschool

NOW ENROLLING

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(603) 782-5174
preschool@jewishnh.org
152 Prospect St., Manchester

A major focus of the Jewish Federation Preschool is the development of the child socially, emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually. We maintain a very low staff to student ratio, thus guaranteeing that every child receives consistent individual attention.

We recognize the uniqueness of each child, the importance of responsibility and commitment for each child, the need to develop creative and inquiring minds, and the importance of a warm, loving, positive and accepting classroom.

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Full Day hours 8:45am – 1:45pm
Early morning drop off and extended day available

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NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY: The JFNH Preschool admits students of any race, national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.

Calendar continued from page 4

appropriate responses; develop and use a variety of preventive and reactive responses to challenge incidents of anti-Semitism and/or anti-Israel bias; increase their ability to apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills to address anti-Semitism and anti-Israel bias; and enhance their leadership skills by developing a willingness, motivation, and commitment to take personal action against anti-Semitism. Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend. Please register by November 10 at <https://forms.gle/xB2sxdRWgyvww7K8> or by calling the JFNH office at 603-627-7679.

Tuesday, November 19

Manchester Hadassah Book Club Meeting

12:30 PM, location to be announced
Hadassah Book Club Meeting discussing The Bridge

Ladies: A Memoir by Betsy Lerner. For meeting site info contact Helen Arnold at helenarnold@comcast.net.

Saturday, November 23

Immigrant Experiences, a Lunch & Learn

12:30 PM (after services), Temple Beth Abraham
Beth Abraham community members who have settled in the Nashua area from other countries will share their reflections and experiences on leaving their home countries and integrating -- or not integrating -- with life in southern New Hampshire. This panel discussion is the third in the Meet the Congregation series.

Friday, November 29

TAY/TI Joint Shabbat Service

6-8 PM. Temple Israel, Manchester
Temple Israel Manchester will host members of Temple Adath Yeshurun and the Jewish community for Friday night services.



SAVE THE DATE
March 19-29, 2020

Shows in Manchester, Merrimack, Concord, Portsmouth and Peterborough

Presented by the Jewish Federation of NH
nhjewishfilmfestival.org



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www.investwithcohen.com

More Talk AND More Action! Put Your Dollars Where Your Heart Is...

In the non-profit sector, there is lots of talk about mission and impact. Boards and staff are always under fire to show how your charitable dollars are spent and to focus in on “where the rubber meets the road.” Certainly, JFNH is no exception. While some more obvious and tangible manifestations of your donations are easy to visualize (think getting The Jewish Reporter in your mailbox, think sending kids to Jewish summer camp, think PJ library books in the hands of our children and grandchildren), other efforts that involve staff time, expertise, and organizational resources are harder to measure. Some call it “overhead” or “administrative cost,” but really, it’s not that black and white.

Here is some of what you don’t “see” of your donations at work for our Jewish New Hampshire:

- Conference calls weekly with the ADL regarding anti-Semitic incidents in NH and across the country.
- Program development to educate about hate crime and combatting anti-Semitism.
- Forging interfaith and cross-cultural statewide partnerships to assure we aren’t standing alone against intolerance and bigotry.
- Learning from Jewish Federations

Melanie Zalman McDonald

Executive Director



of North America’s Secure Communities Network about threats and how to mitigate them for our synagogues and our broader community.

- Working with the Consulate General for Israel to New England planning collaborative programming that advances our work forging a strong NH/Israel partnership.
- Connecting with our social worker and our rabbis statewide to respond to social service needs.
- Taking time to appreciate and thank volunteers who roll up their sleeves to help.
- Supporting our Shlichah, Avia, as she works diligently to develop her multi-visit Hebrew School curriculum to foster a love of Israel among our youngest.
- Coordinating expert vulnerability assessments for synagogue communities to help prioritize future security needs.

- Advocating with our elected officials and leaders for increased funding for NH houses of worship to provide security upgrades.
- Speaking with those planning to relocate and/or those who have already relocated to New Hampshire to share the diversity of opportunities to support a rural Jewish life.
- Developing our next educational excursion for our Seniors Forever Young group.
- Touring prospective families through our JFNH Preschool to explore a quality Jewish education.
- Maintaining special Facebook groups for New Hampshire Hebrew school educators and “Young Mensches” to foster social connections, resources, and opportunities.
- Working with the Israel Action Network to utilize their resources to prevent/speak out about BDS on campus and other anti-Israel sentiments.
- Paper, technology, mileage, space to meet, time to research, groupthink/discussion, problem solving, professional development, expertise to teach and engage, so much more!

The list above is really just scratching the surface. The pace is fast, the work is important, and our (very) small team of

dedicated professionals is working tirelessly alongside our board to keep it all moving forward. Your donations help to ensure that there are people and resources to carry out these critical tasks so that we can fulfill our mission each day.

Your donation to JFNH ensures that this work (and more) can continue. Please, give generously and feel free to direct your campaign gift to the place where you’d like to see more! More Israel education and engagement. More kids getting assistance in attending Jewish summer camp. More efforts to fight anti-Semitism. More efforts to increase funds to NH houses of worship for security improvements. Tell us what is important to you and we’ll put your dollars into action.

Please, help us to succeed in the efforts above and to make more possible for and with you, our New Hampshire Jewish community. Know that your donations (in any amount) are going to fulfill our mission

To make your gift today, please visit www.jewishnh.org/give or call us at (603) 627-7679 Monday to Thursday, 9 AM to 4 PM. To speak with me about a legacy gift, or naming JFNH in your estate plan, please call me at Federation or email me at director@jewishnh.org.

Celebrations and Simchas Abound in the New Year

Shalom and shanah tovah to all!

I hope this article finds you all well and satisfied post the New Year, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot. I have had such a busy and wonderful few weeks that I wanted to write a little bit about what I experienced.

The New Year began sweet and happy. We attended services at Chabad, then ate and laughed with family. Avia, our Shlichah, joined our family for the second night meal. What a treat to have her! I had bought a dragon fruit as table décor — yes, that overpriced, unattractive, odd fruit no one else buys at Whole Foods — only to find her teaching us all about it and then us sampling it at the conclusion of the meal. It is a mix between a kiwi and a melon, I would say; not too sweet, but pretty delicious.

Then came the Bar Mitzvah of Zevi Krinsky, a fine young man, the youngest of Rabbi and Shternie Krinsky, who leyned Torah so beautifully that it warmed our hearts. The celebration continued on Sunday with a really fun party in honor of the Bar Mitzvah boy, where I got to connect and reconnect with many of you over delicious drinks, sushi, and

Dr. Sarit Itenberg,
Board Chair

Board Column



Chinese food while listening to great music on the keyboard! At the party was a guest caricature artist. The caricatures of my kids looked super cute. So did the drawing of my husband, Jonathan, actually. I looked like a rabbit mixed with a horse, but hey, it was a funny pic to take home! Rabbi Krinsky’s father was the guest of honor. What a humble, kind, and brilliant man. His heart is always in the right place — children and education. I had a great conversation with him.

After that it was time to shop for pre-Yom Kippur. I was at Trader Joe’s in Bedford trying to select the right chicken package when a few feet away I saw and heard a mother and daughter pair wondering where the kosher chicken was. It took me by surprise that there was someone that I did not already know there

looking for kosher chicken. Surely they were from out of town. I asked, “Excuse me, did I hear you say kosher?” A Jewish family in New Hampshire that I did not know shopping at my local Trader Joe’s! You can imagine that I was elated. I will spare you the details, although they were wonderful, but we connected and exchanged information. If you are reading this article, hello again!

Then, oh then, came Yom Kippur. This is always a spiritual time for me. I always thoughtfully reflect on the year. I think about and lament my shortcomings, people I could have treated better (usually family, which always upsets me so much to realize), successes that could have been more successful, and thoughts about the New Year, praying and hoping for health and happiness for all of us. My children mostly did great this year. There was a glass jelly bean dish broken, but thankfully no one was hurt. My friend was in the hospital not feeling well at all, but was discharged, thank goodness.

After I broke my fast, I had the privilege of returning the phone call of a NH Holocaust survivor I had not known be-

fore. This is a story in and of itself (see page 10). I was so happy he took the time to write a letter to us.

The momentum is climbing. I am feeling really good about us here, really. JFNH has some exceptional programs lined up (ADL, Israel elections education). We are starting to work on our Remembrance Day program, Shir Jazz concert, and even plan our next Annual Meeting — don’t forget, it will be in June next year! I am truly proud to be a part of an enthusiastic and really hard-working JFNH Board of Directors. You should all feel really good about the team at JFNH that is here supporting you!

We Apologize!

Jewish Federation of New Hampshire sends our apologies to Rick Sirvint & Roberta Gordonstein of Rindge, NH, for accidentally omitting them from our 2018-19 Campaign Honor Roll. Thank you for your generous gift of \$500 toward our Campership Program.

Why I Support the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire

By Board Member Tracy Richmond

When we moved to Bedford, New Hampshire, from Newton, Massachusetts, my boys were in third and sixth grade. I went to my son's elementary school, just as I had in Newton, to do a Chanukah craft with the third graders. I asked the kids to raise their hands if any of them knew about Chanukah or had taken part in a Chanukah celebration before. About 25% raised their hands, saying that they had celebrated the holiday at home with their families.

My excitement turned to dismay when I realized that although these children were "half Jewish" or had Jewish grandparents, they did not consider themselves Jewish. This shocked me and made me extremely sad. These children are not becoming Bar or Bat Mitzvah. My younger son is now in eighth grade, and in his class of approximately 350 children, I have heard of only three B'nai Mitzvahs besides his. Many of these kids may never attend a Bar or Bat Mitzvah celebration or feel like part of the local Jewish community.

My goal is to help these kids and their

families connect in some way, shape, or form to their Judaism. I am getting involved with JFNH to encourage families that might not consider themselves "religious" to enjoy and embrace their Jewish identity. I hope to ensure that every member of our community feels they have fun Jewish events to attend, warm Jewish connections to make, and all the support they need to help their children feel proud to be Jewish.

Be on the lookout for new and exciting programming and outreach to help families strengthen their connection to Judaism!



Tracy Richmond and son sharing Chanukah with his classmates.

Simcha Raba

Shalom, everyone! The theme of this issue of The Reporter is "Celebrations and Simchas," so I want to tell you about the way we celebrate weddings, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, and *brita* (naming ceremonies for girls) in Israel and mostly in my family. In Israel, the way you celebrate is really related to your culture, religious tradition, and the country your family is originally from.

For example, Sephardic Jews from the Middle East and North Africa have practiced pre-wedding henna ceremonies for generations. My mother's side immigrated from Morocco to Israel, and a few days before someone in our family gets married we celebrate a Moroccan henna tradition. Moroccan henna is very colorful and happy. Everyone wears the traditional clothes called "caftans" while listening to traditional Moroccan music and eating delicious Moroccan food. My mother is one of ten siblings, and she has seven sisters. My aunts know how to make incredible marzipan and sesame desserts. I'm sure that you can imagine how big and wonderful everything is. But the best and most meaningful part is when the henna ceremony begins, and the bride and groom hear their loved ones wish them many years of love, friendship, protection, health, and many, many children (we are a big family, after all). The family gives them gifts, mostly jewelry for the bride, and then everyone smears their hands with henna and puts cotton pads with red ribbons on it. The henna stays for a few days. Personally, I sometimes love the henna celebration more than the wedding.

Bar or Bat Mitzvah is a big deal for every child. You become a "man" or a "woman," and it's really meaningful.

Avia Sagron

JFNH Shlichah



Avia's mother holding her at her brita ceremony.

Now you have more responsibility for yourself and your choices in life. In Hebrew, we say "יבה למסיבה" (a reason to celebrate, and we all love a good party). When I grew up, most of my friends had a big event with all their family and friends. Today a lot of parents decide to go on a long trip with the whole family instead or to do a travel day with their family to Jerusalem and celebrate at the Western Wall with drummers and songs.

Shabbat Chatan is the Shabbat after a wedding, and it is very different from the Shabbat after a Bar Mitzvah. The Shabbat after a Bar Mitzvah, the family goes to synagogue and the simcha boy reads his parshah in the Torah; in some religious traditions, girls do it too. When the boy or girl is done reading the Torah, it's



Henna ceremony at Avia's parents' wedding.

a big simcha, and there is a tradition that all the crowd tosses toffee candies at him or her (it can get really dangerous)!

Shabbat Chatan is before the wedding or right after it. Ashkenazi Jews mostly celebrate the Shabbat before the wedding, and Sephardic Jews celebrate on the Shabbat after. Everyone comes to synagogue to hear the *chatan* (groom) read the Torah, and after there is kiddush and a great meal.

Everyone knows about a *brit milah*, eight days after a baby boy born so, I'll tell you about my brita (naming ceremony

for a girl). My mother always wanted to have a baby girl. When I was born, it was a big celebration, and my parents and my two older brothers Omri and Netzah were really excited to have me. They organized a really big party for me, and everyone used to tell me that it felt like a wedding.

I hope that you liked to read about Jewish celebrations through my eyes and about my special family. In Israel we say "Nipagesh be'smachot," meaning "May we always meet in celebrations!"

JFNH Preschool Is Off and Running This Fall

JFNH Signature Program

By Alane Sabel, Preschool Director

Manchester — JFNH Preschool welcomes the Buck family from Merrimack, NH. Jennifer Buck and her family recently moved to Manchester from Portsmouth. Her three-year-old daughter Lylah has been a wonderful addition to our school.

We kicked off the start of our High Holiday learning with a wonderful apple picking field trip. The children were very excited to have our new Shlichah Avia join us and she was thrilled to be included.

Avia is doing enrichment with our Preschool on Thursday mornings. The children love having her bring Israel alive through art, stories, and music.

Preschool ran two successful childcare days on the second day of Sukkot and

the second day of Simhat Torah. Since most of our children have two working parents, these types of programs are a wonderful and necessary addition to our Preschool. Along with these childcare days, we continue to offer vacation programs during the three school vacation weeks and before and after our six-week summer program.

We want to thank Rabbi Beth and Rabbi Jeremy for joining us at our Friday Shabbat



Erupting pumpkins.



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Picking Pumpkins at Parlee Farm.

programs and look forward to visits from the other area rabbis in the future.

See more about the Federation's wonderful Preschool by visiting us on Facebook or email us at preschool@jewishnh.org for more information.

We are continuing with our Box Top fundraiser. Please help out by collecting box tops and drop them off at Preschool or the Federation office. If you need a list of products that have box tops, please let me know and I will get you a list.

Local Realtor Donates Commission to JFNH

Bedford – Finding and leasing the new JFNH facility at 273 South River Road in Bedford was no easy task. “It took three to four months. We had staff, committee members, and board members tour many properties,” explained Ronald Fredette, Managing Director of KW Commercial, the commercial branch of Keller Williams Realty in Bedford. “Site location, cost, handicapped access, building security, on-site parking, and a larger program room were priorities.”

“Ron spent countless hours working on finding the perfect fit for our needs,” confirmed JFNH chair Sarit Itenberg. “He was quick to point out pros and cons. He and Keller Williams have proven to be close friends of the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire.”

Even when the Federation located the perfect property, a 3,100-square-foot space in Bedford's “Performance Zone,” obtaining it was not a sure thing. “Ron

had the patience of a saint during almost six weeks of lease negotiations,” said JFNH vice-chair Ken Litvack. “He was very responsive to our many, many emails and addressed all our questions immediately.”

Negotiations were successful, and JFNH signed the lease in July. After remodeling the space to fit the needs of office staff and the community, JFNH officially opened its doors in the new location in September.

Fredette's reward for all that hard work? A \$2,248 commission that he waived in full, essentially donating the entire amount to the JFNH. Fredette, who is not Jewish, says, “Their reason to move was to better serve the membership of New Hampshire, and I wanted to also do what I could to serve.”

“Ron was very generous in donating his commission back, and it will be used for the betterment of our community,” says Litvack.



Realtor Ron Fredette of Keller Williams

JFNH Says Goodbye to Longtime Editor

By Sheila Salenger

The longtime editor of The NH Jewish Reporter is retiring!!

Fran Berman, a resident of Exeter for more than 40 years, has decided to retire after nearly nine years as the editor of this periodical. She began her service with the Jewish Federation of NH as a volunteer, about 12 years ago, when she co-chaired The Sister City Committee, linking New Hampshire with Hof Hacarmel in Israel. With previous work experience as an editor, she was a perfect “fit” when the position of editor became available.

Fran grew up in rural New Jersey on a chicken farm. Her life as an editor began

when she was editor of her high school newspaper (The Franklin HS Beacon). She went on to Barnard College of Columbia University in NYC, where she majored in English. A few years later, she attended graduate school at New York University and earned a Master's degree in music therapy. Fran, who plays recorder, piano, guitar, and more, worked as a music therapist for severely handicapped children in the Boston area.

“Music therapy,” as explained by Fran, “is extremely successful in the development and improvement of language and motor skills as well as the enhancement of emotional well-being.” Later graduate training at University of New Hampshire led to an MBA degree and work as the

editor of *Wilson Business Abstracts* in Cambridge, MA.

After marrying and moving to Exeter, Fran gradually became involved in the local Jewish community. She and her late husband joined Temple Israel in Portsmouth, and over the years she advanced from studying for her adult Bat Mitzvah in 2000 to becoming a B'nei Mitzvah tutor and serving as VP ritual and then president of the congregation.

In recent years Fran has spent increasing amounts of time at Graylag, a beautiful 300-acre property in Pittsfield, NH, owned and nurtured by her partner, Carl Wallman. Now Fran is “retiring” into her next adventure: serving as president of a new nonprofit, Graylag Nature Preserve. The retreat center will offer people the opportunity to learn about and immerse in nature, with rental cabins, miles of

hiking trails, and a beautiful serene pond for kayaking or swimming. Fran says, “As we find ourselves increasingly reliant on technology, we need places like Graylag to help us slow down and connect with one another, ourselves, and nature.”

Already reminiscing about her years with JFNH, Fran opined that her favorite part of being editor of The Reporter has been getting to know and work with the many committed volunteers statewide who send in articles and photos to create The Reporter each month.

Fran is the proud parent of two children: Geoffrey Klein, an architect in Philadelphia, and Dara Klein, director of the Acharai Leadership Program at Combined Jewish Philanthropies in Boston. She also has two wonderful grandchildren: Jacob Klein, 4 ½, and Shira Frank, born just last month!



Fran Berman, outgoing editor of The Reporter

From OY to JOY

In today's society, many of our young people's only association with Judaism is by remembering the Holocaust or worrying about Anti-Semitism. Amidst all kinds of bad news, we sometimes forget that Judaism, at its core, is about simcha, the Hebrew word for joy. A few short weeks ago we celebrated Sukkot, named Z'man Simchatenu, the festival of joy. Yet this too is surprising! Sukkot recalls the years of wandering in the desert, exposed to the elements: heat by day, cold by night. The fact that Jewish tradition gave it the name of simcha tells us something deep about Jewish resilience and joy-in-adversity.

This is a long way from the Judaism of Woody Allen, the Judaism of guilt, neurosis, interminable suffering, the Judaism of kvetching and complaining, of "they all hate us" and z'is schver zu zein a Yid — it is difficult to be a Jew. Rightly so, because that is what you get when you take Judaism and subtract from it faith, hope, joy, and G-d. Judaism is a sustained tutorial in how to find happiness in the heart of strife, joy in the midst of pain, beauty in the everyday, and exhilaration even in ritual and routine. The idea of Ivdu et Hashem BeSimchah, serving G-d in joy, is one of the greatest contributions Judaism ever made to the spirit of life. Where we find joy, there we find G-d.


The great issues of contemporary Jewish life — anti-Semitism, the physical and moral assault on Israel, and the continuing attritions of apathy and assimilation — are all negative ones. If that is how we define ourselves, by the Oy-vei theory of Jewishness, or what Descartes might have described — I suffer therefore I am — what hope is there for our future? What nice young Jewish man or woman wants to be associated with misery and suffering?

One can look at the tasks required to raise healthy, independent children as chores, as things we have to do. Alternatively, one can look at them as something to celebrate! If we choose to celebrate raising children, then we are not cleaning, we are raising children who are responsible; we are not making beds, we are creating a generation that values being neat.

When we treat the tasks we need to do with excitement and happiness, our children want to follow in this path. When we view them as a chore, we risk imparting to our children the feeling of "do only as much of it as we absolutely have to, to survive" and "get away with as little as you can."

It is the same with Judaism. When we just observe Judaism, without celebrating it, we sometimes do as little as we can get away with. What messages are our chil-

Rabbi in the House



Rabbi Levi Krinsky

*Chabad of
New Hampshire*

dren receiving?

However, when we celebrate Judaism, even if we may be doing the same exact mitzvah, it's a whole different experience. The celebrating of the mitzvah shows that Judaism isn't something imposed upon us, but an expression of ourselves, our inner core. We are teaching our children to celebrate Judaism as much as we can: After all it's who you are, and who doesn't want to celebrate themselves?

If our children approach Judaism with an attitude of "oy" — then we can't really expect them to embrace it. It's our job as parents and as teachers to educate the next generation of Jews that Judaism can be something to be proud of and to rejoice and celebrate in. We need our children to view Judaism with an "ahh" not an "oy."

Let's make Shabbat dinner a festive occasion on a weekly basis. Let's tell stories, sing songs, and partake in a delicious meal. Let's celebrate Sukkot, build that hut with our children, and eat all week long in there. Let's make a Chanukah party with fun activities and the beautiful lighting of the menorah. Let's reward the children for good deeds and mitzvot that they do.

Let's tell our children how fortunate we are to be Jews, how lucky is our lot, how G-d gave us a special mission in life — how G-d gave us a special gift: the Torah. Let's focus on the JOY instead of the OY!

Rabbi Levi Krinsky, director of Chabad of New Hampshire, can be reached at Rabbi@ChabadofNH.com.



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or email info@jewishnh.org.



Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



A new, massive stone sculpture memorializes the many innocent children killed during the Holocaust.

The NH Holocaust Memorial Lives On

Nashua — I am a child survivor. I knew the real Nazis. The Nazis killed about 1 million Jewish children, but they did not kill me.

I paid little attention to my own survival until, about five years after retirement, the thought and soon thereafter the opportunity came to build a Holocaust memorial. The thought arose from listening to a radio program where a Christian lamented that the Jews had co-opted the Holocaust without significant attribution to the Christians who fought for and greatly risked their lives to save Jews. This program brought to full force my awareness that my own survival rested with devout Christians.

The opportunity came from a chance meeting with John Weidman, an internationally recognized local sculptor. The result is the NH Holocaust Memorial, placed on public land and maintained by the City of Nashua but built entirely with private donations from Jews and Christians.

This memorial is designed to symbolically experience the forced deportation of Jews to extermination camps and their mass murder in gas chambers. The memorial displays Jewish and Christian scriptures and recognizes Christian families who saved Jews.

The memorial was dedicated in 2014; historic video can be seen on the memorial's website, www.nhholocaustmemorial.org. One video shows children looking at their own image reflected from the

black cube in the central monument that represents the fanatical Nazi evil, with the name of a death camp reflected behind their image. The significance is inescapable: Except for the separation of space and time, these children could have been murdered in a Nazi death camp.

I realized that something was missing. This was revealed with my chance viewing of a photograph from the Auschwitz Album which shows a little girl in a white coat looking directly at the photographer with an intense expression of anxiety pleading to be rescued. She was one of 440,000 Hungarian Jews transported in crowded freight trains to Auschwitz. Most, like this innocent little girl, were choked to death in a gas chamber shortly following arrival. The killing of such a beautiful young child personifies the grotesque Nazi evil. I instantly knew this child had to be memorialized in a granite sculpture.

The result can be seen in a massive granite stone in which the image of this little girl is carved, courtesy of NH stonemason Joseph Gray and Massachusetts sculptor Kevin Duffy. Engraved above the image is Genesis 4:10, "What have you done, the voice of blood cries out from the ground."

The NH Holocaust Memorial, focused on children victims, is recognized as artistically among the finest in our nation. I hope all who read this will soon visit the only public Holocaust memorial in New Hampshire.

Portsmouth's Temple Israel Seeks USY Chapter Advisor

Portsmouth — Temple Israel Portsmouth is excited to launch a USY youth group chapter and is seeking a Chapter Advisor to champion this cause. TIP is a Conservative synagogue serving the seacoast area of New Hampshire and southern Maine. We have 310 membership households and a Hebrew school enrollment of approximately 80 students. Our congregation is deeply committed to fostering joyful Jewish living and learning in an atmosphere of mutual respect and tolerance.

The ideal candidate for this position will have experience in Jewish formal or informal educational settings, will have

training and/or experience working with youth in middle and high school, and will bring enthusiasm, creativity, and strong organizational and leadership skills to the position. The ability to work as a member of a team is also essential. The position will run through June 1, 2020. This is a part-time position with a stipend based on the candidate's experience and vision for the TIP USY chapter. If interested in learning more about this exciting opportunity, please send a cover letter and resume to TIP, Educational Committee, Attn: Ryan Kaplan at templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org.

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Early Learning Center Begins Another Year

By Tammy LaBonte, ELC Director

Portsmouth — Shanah tova to all! The Early Learning Center at Temple Israel, Portsmouth, came back into session for the 5779-5780 (2019-2020) school year on September 4, 2019.

The children have been learning about the upcoming High Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We have learned that Rosh Hashanah means “the head of the year,” and Yom Kippur means “day of atonement.” We have also learned about the mitzvot for Rosh Hashanah, such as eating apples and honey for a sweet new year, why the challah is round, and that this is the time to celebrate the creation of the world and be thankful! The children have created Happy New Year – Shanah Tova cards for our families and community.

The ELC is a licensed preschool serving children ages 2 years 9 months to 5 years. It operates Monday-Friday, 8:45 AM to 1 PM. For more information, contact Tammy LaBonte at preschool.directo@templeisraelnh.org or call 603-436-5301 x23.



The children created “I’m Sorry” cards for their families, and the teachers helped to write what atonement the card was addressing.



Children at the Early Learning Center at Temple Israel Portsmouth blowing the shofar to bring in the New Year.



Eating apples and honey.



Making round challah for Rosh Hashanah with Laura Sher.

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Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



To Volunteer, call us at (603)627-7679 or email info@jewishnh.org.

Author to Share a True and Compelling Holocaust Story

Nashua — The author Karen Treiger will speak at Temple Beth Abraham on Tuesday, November 12, at 6:30 PM.

After 18 years of practicing law in Seattle, Karen Treiger felt an unmistakable call to explore the story of her in-laws, Sam and Esther Goldberg. Educated at Barnard College and New York University Law School, where she was editor-in-chief of NYU Law Review, Treiger made the momentous decision to retire from her law practice and pull together the threads of a family story she had heard for many years.

The result of her three-year inquiry is the book *My Soul Is Filled With Joy: A Holocaust Story* (Stare Lipki Press, 2018). In it, Karen Treiger tells of Sam Goldberg's escape from Treblinka during the prisoner revolt on August 2, 1943. Running to the woods, Sam met Esther, who was hiding there. For another year until liberation, they hid together in



Karen Treiger

barns and in a pit in the forest. The author, married to Sam and Esther's son, uncovers details of their wartime experiences and travels to Poland to meet the families of the righteous Gentiles who helped them survive. The book also tells of Karen's family's experiences as they retraced the path from Treblinka to the pit in the Polish forest where Sam and Esther hid until their liberation. As Karen became invigorated and inspired by the

"Treiger's important book seamlessly connects past and present and traces the arc of Polish Jewry — from Poland to hell and somehow, despite the odds, back again to Poland."

Jonathan Ornstein, Executive Director,
Jewish Community Center of Krakow

people she encountered, Sam and Esther's story became her story too.

The dead of Poland speak loudly from the ashes, but the living find new voices. The author listens to these voices and finds her own in the process. Karen's book brings to life the toll that the Holocaust exacted on so many, especially the Jewish community. This is also a story of hope, love, and determination. It reminds us we must be grateful for what we have

and that there are still lessons to be learned from the Holocaust.

Since the book's publication, Karen Treiger has spoken from coast to coast and to international audiences to bring this compelling story to the world. In June she traveled to Poland, where she launched the Polish translation of the book and spoke at the National Ethnography Museum in Warsaw and at the Krakow Jewish Festival. She has been named to the Jewish Book Council Author's Network, the Seattle Holocaust Center for Humanity Speaker's Bureau, and the University of Washington Advisory Committee for its Extension Writing Program.

My Soul Is Filled With Joy was awarded a bronze medal from the Independent Publishers Book Association in the category of World History, and the Nancy Pearl Book Award -- Best Memoir by the Pacific Northwest Writers' Association Conference.



WORDS TO ACTION

Empowering Jewish Students to Address Bias on Campus

An interactive workshop for college and pre-college students to empower and equip them with constructive, effective responses to anti-Semitism and anti-Israel bias on campus.

Sunday, November 17th

Time: 3PM

Place: Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
273 South River Rd. #5, Bedford, NH

For: Students in middle and high school (ages 12 - 17)

RSVP: Jewish Federation 603-627-7679

Words to Action is part of the Anti-Defamation League's Confronting Anti-Semitism Program. Founded in 1913, the Anti-Defamation League is one of the nation's premier human relations and civil rights agencies. ADL is dedicated to fighting anti-Semitism and all forms of bigotry, defending democratic ideals and protecting civil rights for all.

www.adl.org/wordstoaction

Anti-Israel Incidents

Hate Speech/
Free Speech

Holocaust Denial

Prejudiced Comments

Bias in the Classroom

Anti-Semitic Vandalism

Gain the knowledge,
skills and resources to
respond to bias and let
your voice be heard.



Sharing Chanukah in your Child's Multi-Faith Classroom

If you're feeling unsure about explaining Chanukah to your child's class join us for this "how to" session!

Every participant will receive:

- An easy to explain summary of the Chanukah story
- The Dreidel Game ~ includes dreidels, coins and directions
- A PJ Library Chanukah book for your child's classroom
- Explore Chanukah craft activity ideas ~ Make and Take
- Sufganiyot (jelly doughnuts) and coffee while you shmooze with other adults

Wednesday, December 11th ~ 6 PM

JFNH Community Room ~ 273 S. River Rd. #5, Bedford

\$18/participant

Call the JFNH Office at 603-627-7679 to reserve your spot



Dr. Mehnaz Afridi to Speak at Temple Beth Jacob

Concord — On November 19, Temple Beth Jacob's annual Shapiro Family Lecture Series presents Dr. Mehnaz Afridi, Director of Manhattan College's Holocaust, Genocide, and Interfaith (HGI) Education Center, and Associate Professor of Religious Studies.

Dr. Mehnaz Afridi teaches contemporary Islam and the Holocaust, with a look at issues of religious identity including gender, race, and class. She is widely recognized as a unifying figure — a Muslim woman teaching about the Holocaust at a Catholic college. Dr. Afridi earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Syracuse University, where she studied post-Holocaust studies and Islam. She earned her doctorate in religious studies from the University of South Africa, where she examined the shift from early Islamic models of social



Dr. Mehnaz Afridi

life toward post-colonial and modern conceptions of the Islamic Identity.

Dr. Afridi is a widely recognized interfaith scholar and dynamic classroom presence; this fall, she received Manhattan College's annual Costello Excellence in Teaching Award, given to the faculty member of the School of Liberal Arts who exemplifies the excellence in teaching. This past summer,

she partnered with the Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom for a women's only Jewish-Muslim trip to Auschwitz. She is the first Muslim woman to lead a trip of that type that includes only women.

The lecture will be Tuesday, November 19, at 7 PM at Temple Beth Jacob, 67 Broadway, Concord. It is free and open to the public. If you have any questions, please email office@tbjconcord.org or call 603-228-8581.

So, What's New?

Manchester — Our Fall Brotherhood Breakfast, with noted City Planner Susan Silberberg presenting "Manchester's Mill Yard: Past, Present, and Future," will be at Temple Adath Yeshurun (TAY) at 10 AM on Sunday, November 3. Please see the October issue of The Reporter for details regarding the event.

Then it is on to the TAY Chanukah Party on Sunday morning, December 15. The theme continues with "Chanukah, the Game Show," an audience participation event where everyone gets a chance to compete for exciting prizes. New challenges this year will include the long-distance whipped cream challenge, sure to be an instant classic and fan favorite. Lunch, which will include the Brotherhood's awesome handmade latkes, will be served to all attendees.

The traditional Christmas Mitzvah Program will take place on Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, and Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25. We will step up once again to help our Christian friends by taking over various positions of service. These include covering the information desks at Elliot Hospital and Catholic Medical Center on Christmas Eve and Day, helping at New Horizons Soup Kitchen on Christmas Eve and Day, deliv-

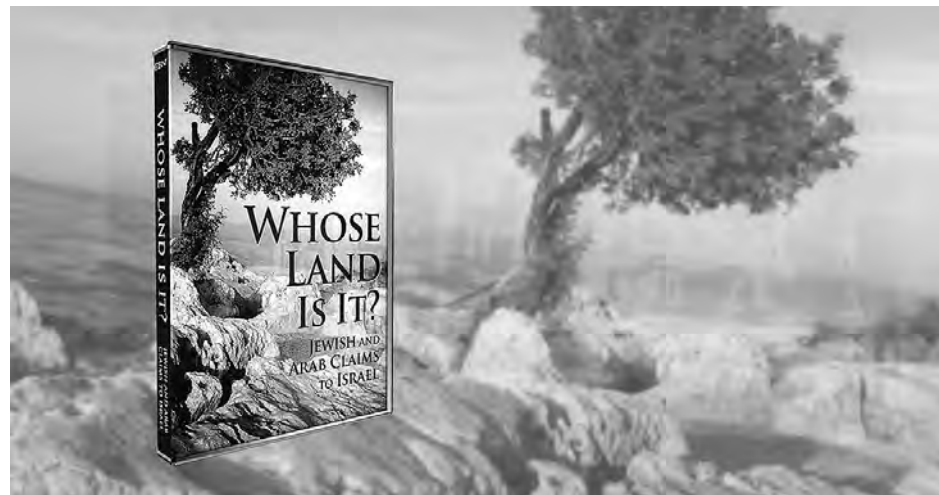
ering luncheon platters to police and fire stations in Manchester and Bedford on Christmas Day, delivering Meals on Wheels in Manchester and Bedford on Christmas Day, and helping with the bingo program at the Manchester Veterans Administration Hospital on Christmas Night. Want to help? Contact Sol Rockenmacher at rockenmacher@comcast.net.

Not that distant on the horizon is TAY Brotherhood's signature event, Deli Night, on Saturday, January 25. The best Jewish deli in New Hampshire! A night of good eating, great entertainment, and fun times. And did we mention good eating? We will keep you updated with details in future issues of The Reporter.

There is more to come for the rest of the 2019–2020 calendar. Stay tuned for further developments.

Fellows, if you are not yet a Brotherhood member, please come onboard and enjoy a great experience of warm and wonderful fellowship. Membership in the Brotherhood is open to all men with a connection to the Jewish community. For membership information, please contact Sol Rockenmacher (rockenmacher@comcast.net) or David Penchansky (docpen@comcast.net).

The beat goes on!



NH4Israel Hosts a Discussion About the Arab-Israeli Conflict

Manchester — On October 2, NH4Israel held its monthly meeting and had a discussion about the Arab/Israeli conflict.

During the meeting, the group watched a documentary made by CBN, entitled *So Whose Land Is It?* which featured expert commentary from former Israeli Ambassador Danny Ayalon. The documentary asked and explored who the Palestinians are, what the so-called "1967 borders" of Israel are, whether the West Bank is really "occupied territory," and whether the Jews hold the legal right to the land of Israel.

Most poignantly, the documentary details the plight of the nearly one million Jewish refugees who were expelled throughout the Middle East from their ancestral homes in 1948, with nary a word of protest from the international community. Indeed, even some dedicated members of NH4Israel were unaware of just how many Jewish refugees were forced to flee their

homes during and after the War of Independence. It is a story that needs to be told.

NH4Israel will not hold its regular meeting on November 6 in Manchester. Instead, the group will gather at Temple Emanuel in Newton, Massachusetts, for a special evening with Professor Alan Dershowitz (sponsored by CAMERA). To register for the event and for more information, please go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/defending-israel-an-evening-with-alan-dershowitz-and-camera-newton-ma-tickets-74423002203>.

Members are planning to carpool from New Hampshire to the event in Massachusetts, leaving from the I-93 Manchester and I-95 Hampton Park and Rides. If you are interested in carpooling, please email NH4Israel@gmail.com to reserve a car pooling spot (with your cell phone number so that drivers can coordinate with you.) We look forward to seeing you in Newton.

Buy or Sell at a Winter Holiday Bazaar Extravaganza

By Jewel B. Davis, Sisterhood Vice President

Portsmouth -- Temple Israel Portsmouth's Sisterhood will hold a winter holiday arts and crafts bazaar on Sunday, December 1, from 10 AM to 2 PM. Jewelry, knit goods, weaving, paintings, pottery, and other crafts will be among the goods presented. The event will bring a festive atmosphere for Temple members and neighbors to experience before Chanukah.

Artists and crafts people from within

and outside the Temple Israel community are invited to offer their wares. The cost to vendors is \$50 per table. Vendors may rent space at one or more 8-foot tables. Space is limited, so sign up early for guaranteed access. All proceeds will benefit Temple Israel Sisterhood.

There will be no cost for entrance to the bazaar — come one and all!

To volunteer at this event or reserve a table, please email Bugjewel@yahoo.com.

Otherwise, come on December 1 to look and purchase gifts!

Hadassah Meeting Will Focus on Debbie Friedman's Music

Manchester — The Manchester Chapter of Hadassah Book Club met in a restaurant in September to discuss the book, *House of Gold*. The ladies say that they enjoy having book discussions while savoring a meal. The next book the group will be reading is *The Bridge Ladies* by Betsy Lerner. It is the author's memoir about the bond between her and her mother. The discussion will be in November, and the time and place will be

listed on the JFNH calendar.

The chapter's November meeting will be held on Thursday, Nov. 14, at 1 PM. The guest speakers will be Rachel Spierer and Mary Singer, who will discuss Debbie Friedman's liturgical lyrics and music. All are invited to attend what should be a very interesting afternoon. The meeting will be held at 1400 Front Street, Manchester.

Hadassah provides podcasts and videos that you can listen to/watch right at home

on your computer. Just go to the website www.hadassah.org. In the red band on top of the page click on "Explore Hadassah." In the drop-down menu, click on "videos," which is listed under "multi-media center" on the right side. One series by Gil Troy is entitled "Discussing Zionism in the 21st Century." The word "Zionism" is often misunderstood. Hadassah invites thoughtful, engaging speakers to discuss Zionism from his/her personal perspec-

ive. Sessions are divided into short videos, enabling you to watch at your convenience, one after the other or spread out over hours or days. Speakers are scholars, activists, and community leaders, who will have you thinking in new ways about Israel, Zionism, and how they relate to you. The program is free of charge and open to all.

For additional information about Hadassah, please contact Michele Bank at michele.bank@gmail.com or 488-5657.

Arts & Entertainment

"The Spy" Is TV Worth Watching

By Paul Bieber

A couple of weeks ago we had our regularly scheduled meeting of The Reporter committee. Articles are assigned and suddenly I had the best assignment available. It was to write a review of "The Spy," an Israeli film about a spy during the early 1960s. Mystery and spy novels are among my favorite books and movies, and "The Spy" lived up to its promise as a historical movie with plenty of twists and turns.

Sacha Baron Cohen, playing Elee Cohen, was surprisingly good in this role. I have enjoyed his comedy and his offbeat humor in films. Reading a synopsis of the

six-part series, I expected this to be a farce with Sacha producing the series as well as starring. I was wrong. Sacha played this part with the seriousness needed to bring this very true story to film.

The movie is a dark film, in that the director used as little light as possible. There were scenes that were not clearly understandable due to this, but the intent came through. Elee is an Israeli citizen who has applied three times to join the Mossad and had not been accepted as the leadership thought he was too strong in his support of Israel to be a proper undercover operator.

Suddenly a case came up where he was

used. He spent six months in training and learning to be another person. The transformation of Sacha is clearly seen in the series. This is where Sacha becomes a real actor and not just a clown.

While he was out of the country, his wife had a baby, and he could not come home to be with her. In fact, he could not even communicate with her because of the fear that a communique could be traced back to him, uncovering his assumed identity.

The sets were amazing. Everything looked like 1963. The cars were real, the furniture and backdrops in every scene were well laid out to reinforce the mo-

ment. Even when Elee was flying, he was seen getting off a DC-3, the workhorse of aviation before jets appeared in commercial flying.

I hesitate to tell you any details of the six shows, as each step in Elee's life changes him and those around him. All that I can say is that if you like international intrigue, this is a series to watch. The first two episodes were a little slow. The next four were riveting. Don't give up watching after the second show.

The series is available only on Netflix. I had not been a member of Netflix until now. The \$9 per month is well worth it to see a series like "The Spy."

Book Review

Reviewed by Merle Carrus

Waisted: A Novel That Brings Dieting to the Fore

OK, so I admit it, I am one of those women who has been obsessed with my body since my teen years. Always looking at others thinking I should be thinner, that I should have smaller thighs, that if my breasts were smaller I would look better in my clothes. Dieting was the focus of the 1970s and it is only now, looking back from the weight I am today (not thin), that I can see how great I really looked back then. Oh, to weigh now what I weighed in high school!

But finally, I think, I am mostly happy with myself and even though it would be nice to fit into that dress or those pants, I am happy with myself and not stressing over my weight. I am enjoying every day and exercising only because it is good for me -- nothing in the extreme.

But I will say that to sit reading a book about dieting and food and extreme exer-

cising and weigh ins makes me think about eating and what I should eat as a snack while I am reading. So those cookies or chips probably are not a good idea, and I should be eating some carrots or apple slices instead. Oh, does it ever really end??

Waisted, by Randy Susan Meyers, is an incredibly well-written novel with clever, witty repartee. The characters are well drawn and the descriptions of the weight loss program are an accurately created exaggeration of weight loss TV programs. It is really true, the question of what lengths people will go to to achieve the ideal body, and also the idea of almost never being happy with the body you have and always having to maintain that level of intense exercise and restraint to keep the beautiful body when you get there.

So many of us grew up with Jewish mothers who thought they were helping

us and themselves going from diet to diet and at the same time telling us to eat and finish everything on our plates.

This is the story of three women who meet after they, each for different reasons, feel that their relationships with men would be improved if they were thinner. They are all obese, so there is a reason to try to lose a lot of weight. They therefore go to get help. The ad they each have answered promises weight loss with dignity and caring. What they find is a group of people who are using humiliation and degradation to manipulate them and see how far they are willing to go to achieve their dream.

Over a light lunch, Randy Susan talked about her childhood, growing up in Brooklyn, NY, with her mother and shopping with her grandmother. Each of her novels is based on stories she has ex-

perienced, and she says that her personal characteristics are evident in the characters in her books. She talks about her relationship with food and about all the women she interviewed and research she did about what women go through to work toward their ideal body. Personally, Meyers feels she has reached a good relationship with food and her body. She is quite the entertaining speaker.

Randy Susan Meyers is the best-selling author of *Waisted*, *Accidents of Marriage*, *The Comfort of Lies*, *The Murderer's Daughters*, and *The Widow of Wall Street*. Her books have twice been finalists for the Mass Book Award and named "Must Read Books" by the Massachusetts Center for the Book. She lives with her husband in Boston, where she teaches writing at the Grub Street Writers' Center.

Correcting Misinformation: J Street Supports Israel and Opposes BDS

An opinion piece in the October Reporter is so full of misinformation and downright falsehoods about J Street that a response is required.

J Street speaks for pro-Israel, pro-peace Americans who want Israel to be secure, democratic, and the national home of the Jewish people. It believes that a two-state solution is the only way to achieve these goals.

J Street does not support or advocate for any BDS (boycott, divestment, sanctions) initiative. J Street supported the congressional resolution, H.R.246, that expressed strong opposition to the Global BDS Movement. Both Reps. Annie Kuster and

Chris Pappas voted for H.R. 246.

J Street supports Israel's right to self-defense and has always supported and lobbied for U.S. aid for Israeli security, including the Iron Dome. Supporting defense aid to Israel is a criterion for members of Congress to be endorsed by JStreetPAC.

J Street U does not partner with SJP (Students for Justice in Palestine), and, in fact, J Street U students are often criticized by anti-Israel groups on campuses for their pro-Israel, pro two-state solution advocacy.

This summer, J Street sponsored its first Israel trip for young adults to share

the many facets of Israeli life including traditional sites in Israel, Jewish settlements across the Green Line, and Palestinian communities in the West Bank, including Ramallah. The vast majority of educational tours on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict do the same.

J Street opposed withholding Congressionally-appropriated aid to Palestinians, aid targeted to meet critical health, infrastructure, education, and anti-radicalization programs in the West Bank, Gaza, and neighboring countries. Israeli security officials also opposed these cuts, fearing the vacuum of support could lead to increased radicalization and violence.

According to reports, Netanyahu himself urged President Trump to restore UNRWA and bilateral aid to Palestinians. And, ironically, the Kushner peace proposal paper advocated supporting the very programs cut by the administration.

The time is long overdue for the Jewish community to engage in respectful, well-informed dialogue about our mutual concern for the future of Israel.

Emma Rouse lives in Durham and is the chair of NH J Street, a former NH state legislator and chair of the House Education Committee, and a member of Temple Israel Portsmouth.

J Street (and others) — A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

Norm Silber's article in the October edition of the Jewish Reporter clearly states the dilemma faced with citizens who support the Jewish State of Israel and those who desire to support radical organizations, such as J Street. While J Street labels itself as pro-Israel and pro-peace, the policies it promotes endanger the very existence of Israel, and our brethren who live there. While some "Jewish" organizations in the United States have strong relationships with conservatives and liberals, J Street only finds company within the far left wing of the Democratic Party. Unfortunately, this is also true of Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP), the New Israel Fund (NIF), and others. For example, the J Street National Conference, held during the last week of October, headlined only U.S. politicians from the left side of the aisle. One of these included Seattle-based Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, a friend of Congresswomen Rashida Tlaib and Ilhan Omar. Jayapal defended both representatives, via tweets, after they levied anti-Semitic attacks. Contrast this national conference with the AIPAC Policy Conference, held each spring, or the Zionist Organization of America Advocacy Mission, held each summer. These Washington, D.C., events always include elected officials from both major political parties.

It is a shame that wholesome sounding names and benign slogans are used to dupe some American Jews. These attack dogs are designed (especially) to turn young people against Israel. According to liberal Professor Alan Der-showitz, "J Street has given cover to an-

ti-Israel attitudes on campus and particularly its approach to Israel's self defense." J Street president Jeremy Ben-Ami sent out an email after the Pittsburgh Tree of Life massacre that stated the murderer was motivated by President Trump and Republicans. The email read, in part, "This kind of anti-immigrant, anti-Semitic thought has been spread not only by far-right groups, but by President Trump and some of his allies in the Republican Party." Absent was the fact that Robert Bowers, the killer, detested President Trump and accused him of being controlled by Jews.

In October 2018, Ben-Ami and J Street executives traveled to Ramallah to meet with Hussein al-Sheikh. As a senior terror commander for the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade of Fatah, al-Sheikh was responsible for providing funds and armaments to kill and maim Jews -- including American Jews. The NIF and JVP are both primarily funded by billionaire George Soros, who assisted the Nazis in collecting valuables from Jewish homes in his home country of Hungary. Soros has a long history of working against the State of Israel and other democracies around the globe. Both Soros-funded organizations are designed for the primary purpose of dismantling Israel and making the entire land Judenfrei.

J Street co-founder David Levy stated at the 2010 national conference, "Israel's rebirth in 1948 was an act that was wrong." J Street's Advisory Council member, Marcia Freedman, stated in 2015 that "Israelis should not have a

state." The 2017 president of the campus wing of J Street sent a letter to Congress saying it was unfair to label as anti-Semites those who oppose Israel's existence. As Congressman Pete Roskam lamented, "J Street, JVP, and Americans for Peace Now are anti-Israel groups. While a broad bipartisan group of members of Congress are focused on strengthening the mutually beneficial U.S.-Israel economic relationship, these outside organizations are more interested in defending destructive efforts to delegitimize Israel."

These radical organizations endorse the boycott, divestment, and sanctions movement, which is designed solely to harm the economy of Israel. At times, they will state that only products in Judea & Samaria should be prevented from export. However, absent from their argument is the fact that Arabs are employed by the specific firms which are targeted. Furthermore, Israel assumed control of this territory after the Six Day War of 1967, and the Jordanians withdrew. Nowhere on the planet is the victor harassed to return land that was won in a defensive war. This promulgation is reserved for the Jews. Finally, there exists a strategic necessity of maintaining this high plateau, a mere 12 miles from Tel Aviv and the largest population centers of Is-

rael. After four days of living in bomb shelters during the continuous 2014 rocket attacks from Gaza, Knesset member Otniel Schneller of the left-wing Kadima Party stated, "The anti-Israel and anti-ethical statement of J Street should serve as a warning for Israeli politicians and left-wing activists, including members of my own party, against supporting and identifying with J Street." Rabbi Eric Yoffie, then-President of the Union for Reform Judaism, similarly stated, "[J Street] could find no moral difference between the actions of Hamas, who has launched 5,000 rockets and mortar shells at Israeli civilians in the past three years, and the long-delayed response of Israel, which finally lost patience and responded to the pleas of its battered citizens in the south. [J Street's] words are deeply distressing because they are morally deficient, profoundly out of touch with Jewish sentiment and also appallingly naïve."

Unfortunately, some American Jews fail to realize the true aim of radical organizations who promote themselves as pro-Israel. The destruction of Israel is their objective.

Brian Grodman lives in Manchester and is active in local and national Zionist organizations.

When submitting a Letter to the Editor, please include your name, town of residence, and contact information. Letters to the Editor must be under 300 words in length to be considered for publication. Send your letter by email to the reporter@jewishnh.org with "letter to the editor" in the subject line.

See what's happening in the community at www.jewishnh.org

Different Forms of Zionism

By David Friedman

September's Reporter informed us of a brunch at which Jeremy Ben-Ami (president and founder of J Street) interviewed Congresswoman Annie Kuster about recent events concerning Israel.

October's issue contained an Op Ed by Norm Silber expressing shock that the Reporter called attention to either J Street or the congresswoman based in the main on his critique of alleged J Street funding sources.

Mr. Silber represents himself as a "regular at the Chabad house in Manchester." I love Chabad's warm outreach to all Jews but was unsure of their political stance on Jewish settlement of the West Bank. I researched this and found -- much to my surprise -- that they firmly believe that Jews have a God-given right and obligation to settle all of Biblical Israel. This link to Chabad's web site illustrates Chabad's commitment to religious Zionism.

(https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/298030/jewish/Peace-or-Piece.htm)

I suspect that Mr. Silber's vendetta against J Street has less to do with its funding than it has to do with its goals. Let us turn back the clock 24 years to when Yitzhak Rabin, who believed in a two-state solution, was assassinated by a religious Zionist, Yigal Amir. As we know, Arafat later rejected Israel's peace offer and unleashed the Second Intifada. This sharp inflection from high hopes to violent confrontation stilled most voices for peace. But J Street still believed, as I did, that peace was possible and a necessity and only achievable via a two-state

solution. Religious Zionists violently oppose any restrictions on West Bank settlement and thus had a decidedly negative view of J Street.

Clearly, there are two different forms of Zionism: religious Zionism and one that views Israel as both a safe haven and "a light unto the nations." A little-known fact is that David Ben Gurion was opposed to settlement of the West Bank as revealed in an interview in 1976. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/peace-over-territory-says-israels-first-pm-in-long-lost-footage/>

In closing, let me interject my own personal experience, which I hope supports the view that one can be both an ardent supporter of Israel and a strong supporter of J Street, which of necessity implies active criticism of some of Israel's government policies and actions. I have been a Zionist since 1955, when my parents visited Israel. My love for Israel and my fierce belief in its right to be a Jewish state was strengthened when my sister and four children made aliyah in 1966. And it was further strengthened as I became increasingly active in support of Israel through the American Technion association. Although not an active J Street financial supporter, the Jewish organizational world is not that large, and I interacted with J Street people from Ben Ami to the local J Street representatives. And I can assure you they were all lovers of Israel and firm advocates of Israel's right to exist.

David Friedman, a resident of Laconia, is the former president of the New England region of the American Technion Society and a member of International BOG Technion.

The views expressed in letters and opinions are those of the writers and do not reflect the views of JFNH, its staff, or its board of directors.

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OBITUARIES

Martin Trust

By Judith Wolff

Martin (Marty) Trust passed away peacefully on September 12. Marty cared about our Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, Temple Adath Yeshurun, and the Jewish community. He cared in both word and deed. Marty and his wife, Dena Kagen Trust, were and remain the largest givers to the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire since its inception. After donating for over 20 years, the Trusts moved from Manchester to Boston and Palm Beach. Because they were concerned that JFNH would suffer from the loss of their pledge, Marty continued to support JFNH for 10 years after his departure.



Born in Brooklyn, NY, to Rose and Max Trust, Marty grew from his humble beginnings to be a pioneer in global apparel manufacturing. He formed Mast Industries with Dena in the basement of their home in Canton, MA, and built it into an international organization manufacturing women's apparel. Marty traveled through China by boat long before many American companies traded with China and before any infrastructure was developed. His business had outposts in far-flung places including Sri Lanka, whose government awarded him the honorary title of "Ranjana" for his service to the country's apparel and textile industry. Marty served as the Consul General of Sri Lanka for the New England region for more than a decade.

Mast Industries was eventually acquired by The Limited Stores, on whose board Marty served for a quarter of a century. He also invested in Staples when it was one store in Brighton, MA. After Staples grew to become a public company, he also served on its board. After leaving Mast Industries in 2001, Marty formed another apparel manufacturing company with more than 40 joint-venture operations in eight countries.

But the venture that brought Marty and his family the most pleasure was being part of the ownership group that purchased the Boston Red Sox in 2001. He cherished his 18-year partnership in a team that won four World Series championship titles.

Marty attended Brooklyn Tech High School, The Cooper Union (a prestigious free tuition college in New York City for the brightest students studying engineering or the arts), and the Sloan Business School at MIT, where he received a scholarship provided by a man he never knew and never met. He trained as a mechanical engineer. Marty believed that education was the key to his success and was committed to giving to other young people what was given to him. He has provided opportunities and access to education for thousands of deserving students. At MIT, Marty endowed the Martin Trust Center for MIT Entrepreneurship.

His family foundation supports three areas: education, hospitals and medical research, and Jewish causes. He supported many hospitals in Boston and served on the board of the Beth Israel Hospital. He supported cancer research at Dana Farber and endowed The Trust Family Research Fund for Kidney Cancer at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. The family foundation recently built a new building attached to Temple Ohabei Shalom in Brookline for the Diane K Trust preschool. Countless organizations in New England have benefited from his support.

Marty will be remembered for his warmth, his humor, and his humility. He never forgot where he started out in life. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Dena Trust, his son David Trust, his daughter Laura Trust and husband Alan Litchman, and three grandchildren: Sam, Jake, and Bailey.

Remembrances may be made to The Trust Family Research Fund for Kidney Cancer at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, PO Box 849168, Boston MA 02284 or the Diane and Martin Trust Fund for Multigenerational Programming at Hebrew Senior Life, 1200 Centre Street, Boston, MA 02131

How to submit an obituary

The Reporter publishes obituaries of people who made significant contributions to Jewish life in New Hampshire. Please send obituaries in Word format and photos in jpg format to thereporter@jewishnh.org. Publication is at the publisher's discretion, subject to space limitations.

My Jewish Holidays and the Survival of Faith

By Joseph D. Steinfield

[This article was previously published in the *Monadnock Ledger-Transcript* and is published here with permission of the author.]

The Jewish High Holidays are based on the Hebrew calendar. So you never know from one year to the next just when the Jewish New Year (Rosh Hashanah) and the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) will arrive. This year, the Hebrew New Year 5780 began at sundown on September 29. Ten days later, beginning at sundown on October 8, Jews observed Yom Kippur and atoned for their transgressions during the past year.

Starting in 1948 when I was nine, I attended Hebrew School at Temple Myer-David, which — like the State of Israel — was born that year. I wasn't very happy cooped up in a basement classroom instead of playing ball, learning how to pronounce Hebrew words and read from right to left, but it wasn't optional. I had to get ready for my Bar Mitzvah, a Jewish boy's coming of age, four years later. My 10-year-old grandson is now in the same situation and actually likes it, at least so long as it doesn't interfere with playing soccer.

My family wasn't especially religious, and we were not weekly temple-goers by any means. But on the High Holidays we always went to *shul*, which is how my grandparents referred to the temple. The word means "school" in Yiddish.

One of my clear memories from those days is hearing the shofar, which is the Hebrew word for a ram's horn used as a musical instrument, a trumpet of sorts. It is an important Jewish symbol, calling up the Biblical story of how Abraham found a ram stuck in a bush, which he sacrificed instead of his son, Jacob.

I tried my luck at blowing the shofar when I was a boy, but with limited success. When the Pianist and I were in Safed, Israel, many years ago, we came upon a street vendor selling shofars — small, me-

dium, and large. When I declined his offer to "try it," the Pianist immediately accepted, picked up the small one, and out came a full blast, which became even fuller when she picked up the larger ones. "She's a musician," the vendor said.

I recently read an article about a man named Chaskel Tydor, a prisoner at Auschwitz during the Holocaust. The Nazis assigned him to dispatch work details, and on Rosh Hashanah 1944 he came up with a plan to send fellow prisoners far enough away from the camp so they could observe the holiday and pray. What he didn't know was that one of them took a hidden shofar with him. Imagine the risk of having such a possession in a concentration camp, not to mention blowing it. If you have ever heard the sound of the shofar, you know that it can't be blown softly.

When the camps were liberated in 1945, and Mr. Tydor survived, he was given the shofar for safekeeping. He held onto it as he made his way to a displaced persons camp and then to Montana, South Dakota, Manhattan, and finally Israel. It has survived to this day, and this year, 75 years (by both calendars) after that work detail, his daughter added it to a traveling exhibition at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Manhattan, which looks out directly at the Statue of Liberty. The president of that museum says, "If there's an artifact that symbolizes the Jewish soul, you'd be hard-pressed to find something more indicative than a shofar."

Other faiths have their own important symbols, not to mention stories of survival in difficult times. The story of this particular symbol should encourage all of us, whether Jewish or not. It is about more than a ceremonial 10-inch horn. It is a testament to the survival of a people and, more broadly, to the survival of faith itself.

Joseph D. Steinfield lives in Keene and Jaffrey. He can be reached at joe@joesteinfield.com Copyright 2019.

One Year Later

By Norm Kushner

As you are reading this, one year has passed since the massacre at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. Before that fateful and cataclysmic day, I, like many of you, would read about these horrific events or follow them on the cable news network of your choice then move on with my life because these things happen to "other people." In our family, we are now the "other people."

Our cousins Cecil and David Rosenthal were two of the victims, along with nine others that day. Six other congregants were wounded. This was a day that will forever change our perspective on how to treat and deal with these hate filled, anti-Semitic attacks.

Cecil and David were special. In our family we referred to them as "The Boys." They were gentle and loving men who loved their family, Judaism, and their community. They lived in a group home and looked forward to each Shabbat so they could attend services at Tree of Life and greet congregants as they arrived at the synagogue. It was here that they were murdered by Robert Gregory Bowers, who has a long history of anti-Semitic social media posts. To date, Bowers remains in jail awaiting trial on 63 federal and 36 state criminal counts.

We read and hear talk about how a tragedy this horrific could have been avoided. To be sure, enhanced security measures at synagogues and Jewish institutions must be reinforced and intensified. However, must we live in a state of fear? Anti-Semitism has existed for millennia and I suppose always will. Not to be naïve, we must endeavor to change the mind-set and perception of those who see Jews as the threat to their ways of life. We must embrace Christians, Muslims, and members of all faiths by sharing our ways of *mitzvot* in conjunction with theirs. We must open greater lines of communication between us and enlist their support and empathy. We all worship the same G-d, only the vehicles and pathways of that worship differs. We have much more in common than what separates us.

Times have changed dramatically in the past 20 years. There once was a time when people with differing views actually spoke with one another to resolve differences. The comedienne, Ellen DeGeneres, wisely commented recently that although

she had different views than others, that did not preclude her from being friends with them. As an example, she pointed to former president George W. Bush, a conservative, as a friend with whom she has many differences as she is a liberal gay woman.

Here in the United States, much has been said about gun control, and I am personally a supporter of stronger gun laws and control. However, the reality is that if the "bad actors" of the world want to acquire a weapon to do harm to Jews or anyone else, they will. Gun control, a valid issue, is only a part of the much larger problem that encompasses how violence is perversely glorified on TV, in theaters, in books, and in online games. There is no glory to those personally experiencing or affected by gun violence. This is a topic for debate by the general population and we, as Jews, can lead and speak to it effectively.

The question must be asked, What, if anything, has been newly learned? Since the Pittsburgh massacre, we have seen another at a Chabad House in California. In fact, anti-Semitic attacks continue regularly throughout the United States and the rest of the world. Just this past Yom Kippur, two people were shot dead outside a synagogue in Halle, Germany. Fortunately, not all attacks result in deaths, but all result in an erosion of the soul and heart.

Deadly terror is now a part of our new normal. We must be acutely aware of all that is occurring around us. We must listen, look for signs, and be proactive with our security measures. We must also be proactive in our outreach to the general community, demonstrating that we are not that much unlike them and are in fact very often just like them. We must convey that the terrorist attacks we Jews face today may face them tomorrow, and that this cycle of hatred can only be defeated together.

As Jews, we must live this as we look back on these tragic days. Always be vigilant, but never live in fear; never fear visiting your synagogue or other Jewish institution. Be proud of your Judaism; never fear displaying it, speaking of it, or living it. Be confident in who and what you are. Jews are G-d's chosen people. We are the people who set the standards for the rest of humanity to follow.

Norm Kushner is a resident of Bedford.

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Recent Events

Would you like to see photos of your Jewish community event here? We accept a maximum of 2 high-resolution photos per event, with 1-sentence captions. Send jpeg attachments to thereporter@jewishnh.org.



Chabad Hebrew School enjoyed a Shofar factory with Rabbi Krinsky, assisted by Keith and Karen Melaas.



Temple B'nai Israel new members Tina Tolin-Scheper and Ray & Paula Chambers enjoy Rosh Hashana lunch along with past TBI President Marsha Ostroff.



Temple Israel Manchester would like to thank its Kiddush Lunch Committee members: Rachel Spierer, Renee Brenner, Carol Pressman, David Winthrop, Carol Sternberg, Merle Paltrow, and Benay Birch.



Temple B'nai Israel in Laconia thanks our shofar blowers: Matt Young and Dr. Howard Mitz (pictured), and Stephen Cantor (who got away before we could get a photo). Yasher koach, gentlemen!



Members of Temple Israel Manchester attend the Tashlich Service at Arms Park on October 6, led by Rabbi Jeremy Szczepanski.



A selfie of Temple B'nai Israel volunteers who set up the Sukkah: Joe Lukeman, Stu Needleman, Ken Goodman, Karen Lukeman, Ira Keltz, and Gary Broom.



Temple B'nai Israel members Stu Needleman, Ken Goodman, Ira Keltz, Gary Broom, and Joe Lukeman stand proudly next to the Sukkah they just built.



Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Recent Events



One of the many families and guests at the Welcome Back Breakfast for the Religious School and congregants of Temple Beth Jacob. The TBJ Brotherhood cooked up a scrumptious breakfast for over 100 people!



A pidyon haben ceremony at Temple Beth Jacob witnessed by Religious School students and families and explained by Rabbi Robin and Ansel's parents.



Madrivot sharing a story with the kindergarten class at Temple Beth Jacob.



Preschool students from the Early Learning Center at Temple Israel, Portsmouth, decorate the sukkah.



Hebrew School students decorate the sukkah at Temple Israel, Portsmouth.



The teens of CTeen of NH had an awesome kickoff on Sept. 22, and are pumped up for an exciting year. In this photo they are playing a game called, the "Game of Phones."



Seniors Forever Young spent an afternoon at Encore Boston Harbor exploring its beauty, enjoying lunch, and trying their hands at the slot machines!

Keeping you connected

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JFNH Tributes

Received by October 10, 2019

Kushner-Tumen Family Fund for Children

Norm and Andy Kushner to Jennifer Fishbein in memory of her grandfather

Norm and Andy Kushner in memory of Jacob Kushner

Norm and Andy Kushner in memory of Florence Tumen

Norm and Andy Kushner to Mr. and Mrs. Eli Rosenthal and Family in memory of Cecil and David Rosenthal and other victims of terror

Social Services

Audrey Wiederman in memory of Joel M. Bass, father of Barbara Fisherman

Be A Mensch & Answer the Call!

JFNH volunteers will be calling on Super Sunday, Dec. 8, to ask for your support. We look forward to hearing about your Jewish journey and what you love most about JFNH. To save time, we welcome your pledge by phone (603) 627-7679 or online at jewishnh.org/give/



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² Participating average monthly balance total must be equal to or greater than organization's previous membership anniversary date for contribution eligibility.
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All tributes will be listed in The Reporter.

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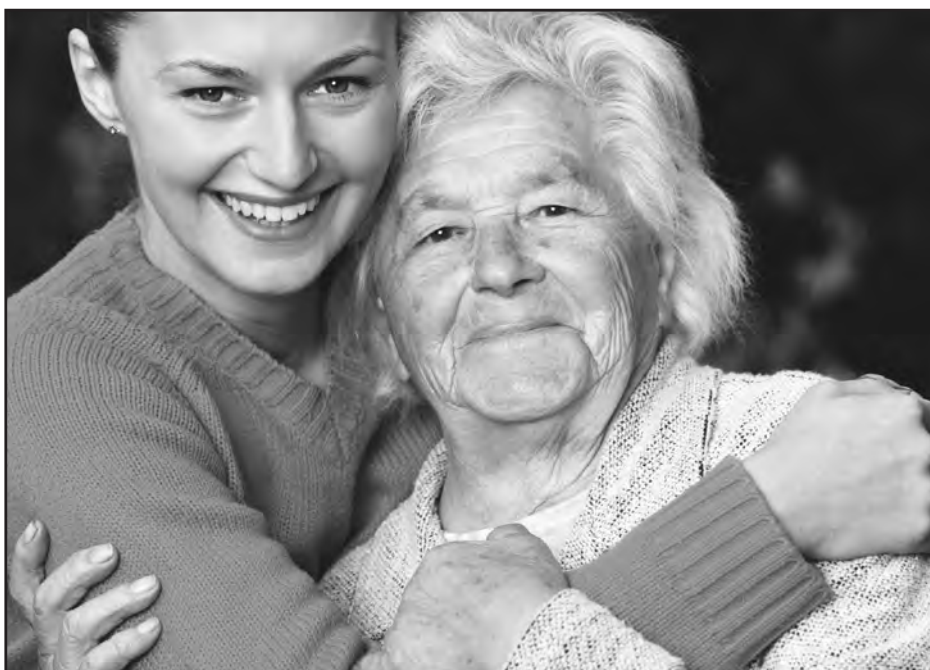
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