



BACK TO SCHOOL

JFNH and Local Synagogues Awarded Homeland Security Grants

Planning to attend JFNH's annual meeting online?

Please take a selfie of yourself "at the meeting" and submit it to the Reporter by August 10 for publication in the September issue!



Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Under the leadership of Trustee and Board Member Julia Kay Preis, JFNH applied for and will receive a \$50,000 grant from the Department of Homeland Security's Nonprofit Security Grant Program. The funds will be used to provide training to staff, volunteers, and community members of JFNH and local synagogues, and to make security upgrades and improvements to the JFNH building.

"This was absolutely a team effort," says Preis. "I am grateful to everyone who helped us push through challenging circumstances to secure this funding. Melanie Zalman McDonald worked extremely hard on this in her final days as our Executive Director, and ultimately produced most of the grant's content. This was her parting gift to us all, and she deserves our thanks."

"Judith Jolton graciously introduced us to TAY's successful grant writer from a prior round of funding. Bob Bersak provided insightful and impactful feedback on our draft. Ken Litvack and Steve Soreff provided expert copy editing, and Ken will co-captain our implementation with JFNH Accountant Cheryl Gerrior. Sarit Itenberg and Allyson Guertin deserve thanks for liaising with law enforcement."

Four New Hampshire synagogues also received grants to improve security at their facilities. Temple Beth Abraham in Nashua received \$45,000, Temple Beth Jacob in Concord received \$31,635, Temple Israel in Portsmouth received \$49,993, and Temple B'Nai Israel in Laconia received \$38,500.

These grants reflect a significant increase in funding to help non-profits, including houses of worship, secure their facilities against potential terrorist attacks. "Over the last year, I worked with colleagues from both parties to increase funding to help non-profits and houses of worship strengthen their physical security, and I'm

glad that New Hampshire non-profits and houses of worship will receive significantly higher funding this year," says Senator Maggie Hassan, who worked to quadruple funding for the program in a bill signed into law last year.

"Faith communities and nonprofits are playing a crucial role in supporting Granite Staters during this pandemic, but the sad reality of this time is that serious, credible

threats targeting houses of worship remain," said Representative Chris Pappas. "No Granite Stater should have to fear for their safety while seeking care at a nonprofit or seeking peace in their house of worship. These federal funds will help organizations improve emergency management and mitigate security threats from foreign and domestic terrorism to ensure the safety of our families and neighbors."

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jewishnh.org

ZOOOOOOO TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, August 16th 11AM

THIS YEAR IS VIRTUAL!

Join us on Zoom or LIVE on Facebook and Youtube.

Honor the Jewish Federation Preschool's 32 years of service to young children and families.

Hear JFNH's plans for 2021.

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Or join us on: YouTube



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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 Slavaticki
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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info@jewishnh.org

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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.

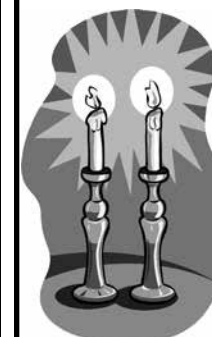
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The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter is overseen by the JFNH Publications Committee, Merle Carrus, chairperson.

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Shabbat Candle Lighting Times: (Manchester)



August 7	7:41 PM
August 14	7:31 PM
August 21	7:20 PM
August 28	7:08 PM

JFNH Board



July 8's JFNH Board Meeting took place over Zoom.

ADL Welcomes New Hampshire House of Representatives' Passage of the Holocaust and Genocide Education Bill

By the Anti-Defamation League

Boston, MA — ADL (the Anti-Defamation League) today welcomed the passage of House Bill 1135, *An Act relative to Holocaust and genocide studies*, by the New Hampshire House of Representatives. This bill will require the inclusion of Holocaust and genocide prevention education in the criteria for an adequate education in New Hampshire. The bill will also establish a commission to study best practices for teaching genocide education in New Hampshire public schools.

The legislation has already unanimously passed the Senate and includes the text of Senator Jay Kahn's Senate Bill 727. It is now headed to Governor Sununu's desk for his signature. New Hampshire is set to become the 14th state in the country to require genocide education in public schools.

"The need for Holocaust and genocide education in our schools could not be more urgent," said Robert Trestan, ADL New England Regional Director. "ADL documented 2,107 antisemitic incidents across the country in 2019

alone—the highest number on record since we started tracking incidents in 1979. 411 of these incidents occurred in K-12 schools, representing a 19 percent increase in school-based incidents relative to 2018. New Hampshire now has an opportunity to use the power of education to address this hate through this essential initiative for mandatory Holocaust and genocide education in the state."

"Without understanding the history of genocides, students cannot fully grasp the lasting impact that biased actions can have on the community at large," Trestan added. "Providing Holocaust and genocide education in New Hampshire schools will help to ensure that students are actively engaged in fighting hate in their communities, not passive bystanders."

ADL was joined by many organizations in supporting House Bill 1135, including the Roman Catholic Diocese of Manchester, Keene State University's Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Council of Churches and the New Hampshire Institute for Civics Education.

Volunteer Spotlight: Dina Chaitowitz

By Sheila Salenger

The dictionary definition of 'self effacing' informs that the term applies to a person who '...does not claim attention for oneself, is retiring and modest' Our Volunteer Spotlight now focuses on a volunteer who has performed numerous feats of highlighting Jewish activities in the areas of fighting anti-semitism, including bringing the ADL to JFNH and supporting the New Hampshire Holocaust Education Bill. Yet, Dina Chaitowitz is hesitant to claim any credit for her successful pursuits in Jewish advocacy here in New Hampshire.

Dina is a past president of Etz Hayim Synagogue of Derry. During her last year in office, she developed a network of parents whose children had experienced incidents of anti-semitism.

Her group, CHAI-NH (Combatting Hate and Anti-Semitism in NH) worked with, among others, State Senator Jay Kahn to sponsor the Holocaust Education Bill in the NH Senate. The immediate catalyst for her activities was a local student, whose Bar Mitzvah invitation to another student led to a YouTube video advising Jews to "go back to Hitler's ovens...." It's sad enough to recall the base actions pursued against the Jewish people during the last century's Holocaust. To realize that such animosity is still festering is a call to educate and inform this generation that it must NOT happen again.

Dina has created a sort of 'road-map' (she terms it a 'mini-manual'): *Some Beginning Steps if Your Child Has Been the Victim of An Antisemitic Incident in a Public School* (March 2020).



Dina Chaitowitz

She contacted the ADL and Keene State College's Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies in an effort to coordinate programs relating to anti-semitism, Holocaust studies, and hate crimes through the Federation. Virtual transmissions will be utilized in the fall to continue the efforts for tolerance and understanding.

Regarding the Holocaust Education bill: Dina affords generous kudos to Reverend Jason Wells, Executive Director of the NH Council of Churches, and to Attorney Robert Dunn, Director of Public Policy of the Diocese of Manchester. Their writing in support of mandated education in the state public school curriculum engendered great support for the bill. She says, "the two prime movers were Kati Preston and State senator Jay Kahn."

On June 30, the Holocaust Education Bill passed in the New Hampshire House. It is now on its way to the Committee on Enrolled Bills and the Governor.

Dina is looking for people who would like to join CHAI-NH and explore how the Middle East Conflict is being taught in the public schools of New Hampshire. If you are interested, please contact her through the JFNH office in Bedford. Sign me up, Dina!

JFNH Seeks an Editor/Communications Manager

JFNH seeks an experienced writer and editor to serve as the editor of the *NH Jewish Reporter* and JFNH's communications manager. The right candidate will have editorial experience, strong written and verbal skills, a flexible schedule, an interest in local and international news, and en-

thusiasm for strengthening and connecting New Hampshire's diverse Jewish community. The position requires attention to detail, the ability to meet deadlines, comfort with social media, and strong interpersonal skills. This is an equal-opportunity position.

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.

A World of Jewish Film, Available at Home

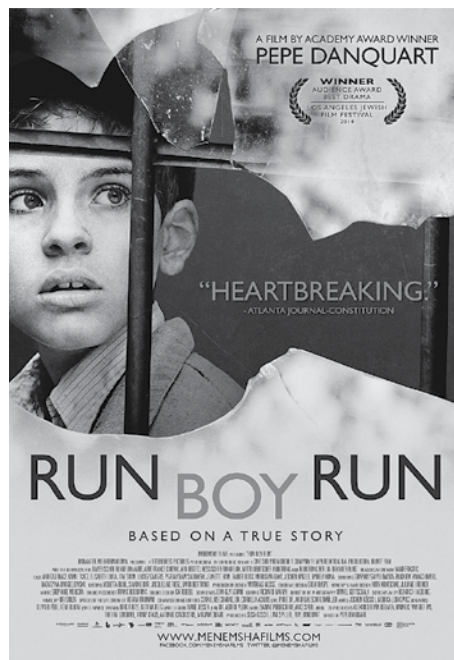
By JFFNH Committee Member Zach Camenker

If you're looking for entertainment after the New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival ends its virtual summer series in August, take the time to check out the Menemsha Films Library on Amazon Prime, where a variety of Jewish-themed films are available at no cost to Prime members and for as low as \$0.99 for non-members.

Those who have followed my reviews in the *Reporter* during the pandemic have likely noticed that I've mostly stuck to lighthearted fare. Limiting myself, however, to strictly comedic films means ignoring some superb titles that are worthy of watching. One example of that is Pepe Danquart's film *Run Boy Run*, which premiered at the Cottbus Film Festival in Germany in late 2013 and was screened at the 2015 New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival, as well as on many other circuits. For those who may not have caught the film then, I highly recommend it.

The story of eight year old Srulik Fridman, a Jewish boy living in Warsaw during the Holocaust, *Run Boy Run* traces Srulik's escape from the ghetto and his subsequent journey through Nazi-occupied Poland. Eventually changing his name to Jurek Staniak and assuming the identity of a Christian orphan, Srulik works to abandon his past in order to survive, all while trying to heed his father's parting words about remembering where he came from.

Srulik is played by twin brothers Andrzej and Kamil Tkacz with the expertise of seasoned film actors. The performance they generate together is dynamic and emotional, filled with such power that you forget you're watching young actors. You become emotionally invested in Srulik/Jurek's survival and can't help but laugh, cry, and suffer with him. To the brothers' credit, their performance appears as one as opposed to



that of two actors teaming up. They achieve great success in telling this incredible story.

The film was adapted from a novel of the same name, published in 2000 by Uri Orlev, and based on the life of Yoram Fridman. Like Srulik, Yoram escaped the Warsaw Ghetto at age eight and subsequently spent time journeying through Nazi-occupied Poland. The film itself is deeply emotional, raising a host of crucial questions about humanity and the importance of remembering our past, even the darkest periods.

The theme that resonated most with me, aside from survival and humanity, was courage, mentioned from the start of the picture. In watching this amazing piece, I couldn't help but think of Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel's equally powerful novel *Night*, which I read for the first time at 14 years old. In that novel, the extremely courageous Wiesel reminds us of the horrors of the Holocaust, which did not leave his memory for the rest of his life. Wiesel's experiences with genocide, chronicled through his novels, have served as significant



teaching moments. While Yoram Fridman's story, as told on film through Srulik, is different from Wiesel's, it too can educate others about the horrors of the past and serve as a teaching moment. I urge anyone who is seeking a film that tells the story of a Holocaust survivor to watch *Run Boy Run*. It is excellent in so many ways and I hope it will move you as deeply as it moved me.

The other film that I had the chance to watch was *Shalom Bollywood: The Untold Story of Indian Cinema*. This delightful documentary premiered in 2017 at the Mumbai International Film Festival and was screened at several Indian and Jewish Film Festivals throughout the world. It tells the largely unknown and fascinating story of India's 2,000 year old Jewish community and its role in shaping the enormous film industry known as Bollywood.

Directed by filmmaker and academic Danny Ben-Moshe, this film is a 79 minute history lesson that beautifully traces the intersection of India's film industry and small but mighty Jewish community, particularly the Jewish artists who launched Bollywood to its success. From the start, there is much to learn about the origins of Bollywood, which traces back about a hundred years to the Silent Era, much like in the United States. When the industry first began, however, it was dominated entirely by men to the extent that, as in the Shakespearean days, men would play women on the screen! When the industry began allowing women to act, it was India's Jewish community that staunchly supported

this progressive initiative.

Compared to the nearly one billion Hindus and 300 million Muslims, India only had a few thousand Jews at the time of the Silent Era, many of whom were Baghdadi Jews. *Shalom Bollywood* details the stories of five Jewish-Indian performers who helped launch the film industry: Sulochana (born Ruby Myers), David Abraham (known as Uncle David on screen), Miss Rose (born Rose Musleah), Pramila (born Esther Abraham), and Nadira (born Farhat Ezekiel). Of these performers, Sulochana was perhaps the most daring and was well known as India's first female superstar. The film notes that she was the one who blazed the trail for many other Jewish women to join the industry.

One interesting piece that I learned was how dancing became such a large part of Bollywood films. Since many of the early silent stars were women, dances were incorporated into the films to add entertainment value. The rest, as they say, is history!

As influential as these stars were to the film community, many of the producers who helped shape Bollywood were Jewish men, also hugely influential to the industry.

As daring as Sulochana and the other performers were and as open as the industry was to India's small Jewish community, it was not until the postcolonial era and India's independence from Britain that Jewish stories were told on film. Prior to that, they were left out completely, showing a less progressive attitude in that regard.

These early stars, many of whom faded over time in a similar way to several American screen legends, did not forget their Jewish heritage, remaining proud of both that and their work to help shape Bollywood.

If you want to learn more about India, a minority Jewish community, or the film industry itself, this is the perfect movie for you. While it is not as extensive as other documentaries and lacks cohesion at times, it provides great exposure to a different culture and a reminder of why film is such an important art form.

Even as arts and entertainment venues start to open back up, there are plenty of excellent Jewish films for the whole family to watch at home via streaming services. Look no further than what Menemsha Films has to offer on Amazon. Happy viewing!

Keeping you connected



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Jewish Federation OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Bringing the Colors of Jerusalem to New Hampshire

Seen through my eyes, *Yerushalayim* (Jerusalem) has always been colorful. It's a place of diversity, co-existence, culture, food, smells, history and faith. I had the honor of creating a piece of art for the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire building and I immediately felt inspired by Jerusalem. It took me several months, and I finished it right before my visit to Israel.

I'm very proud of the final outcome and so happy that a piece of my art and heart is there to show my love and ap-

*Yerushalayim shel zahav
Veshel nechoshet veshel or
Halo lechol shirayich ani kinor.*

Avia Sagron
JFNH Shlichah



preciation to our amazing community.

Special thank you to the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire for believing in me and encouraging me to do what I love most as part of my *shlichut!*

Jerusalem of gold
And of copper, and of light
Behold I am a violin for all your songs



Shlichah Avia Sagron put the finishing touches on the painting that now hangs in the JFNH building.

A Correction

A letter in our July issue thanking Federation Preschool faculty and staff omitted the names Paula Silver, Sarah Nelson, Sue Gelinis, and Cindy Zibel. We regret the oversight, and appreciate everyone who made the Preschool so special.

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What Torah and Talmud Say About Educating the Next Generation

Talmudic Tractate Kiddushin 29a, our tradition teaches: "...A father is obligated to circumcise his son, to perform a *Pidyon HaBen* if he is the first born, to teach him Torah, to arrange a marriage, and to teach him a trade; and to this some add a father is also required to teach his son to swim...."

At first glance, this may seem like an odd group, but I would suggest that for the last 1500 years this list established what parents were expected to do for their children (and today we understand that to mean mothers and fathers, for their sons and daughters.)

Parents are expected to insure that their children are part of a Jewish community, from birth on. Whether with a *Brit Milah* or a *Brit Bat*, welcoming a new baby to our community is a blessing for both the family and the community, and celebrating this *simcha* begins what we hope will be a lifelong connection.



Parents are also required to give their children a Jewish education, and I will return to that in a moment.

While today arranging marriages isn't part of our culture, in the time of the Talmud it was the norm. It was the way that one generation attempted to insure that another generation became part of the familial chain. Today, while most parents wouldn't tell their kids who to marry, parents still hope that their children will find support, comfort, and love in a committed relationship (and probably will express an opinion or two on a

prospective spouse.)

Parents are supposed to make sure that their children are taught a way to make a living. Again, in our day that doesn't mean you have to pass a family business down to a child, but I think it does mean that a child has to be given the training and education necessary for the profession of his or her choice. Interestingly, the Talmudic discussion of this requirement states that if you don't make sure your child can support him/herself, it is as if you have taught him/her banditry, because s/he will turn to theft to support him/herself. The rabbis could be pragmatists when necessary.

Why swimming? Babylon was often subject to flash floods and seasonal flooding. Not only could someone be swept away, but if they were making a living as merchants, and were on a ship that was imperiled, teaching a child to swim was a way to try and protect his

life. Teaching a child to swim, as well as a trade, reveals that the rabbis were concerned with the actual details of day-to-day living, not only the issues of religious identity.

What of today? Our world may be different than that of 5/6th century Babylon, but I don't think that changes the broad outlines of what our kids should learn from their parents or parental figures. Who they are, how to live in community and as individuals, how to safeguard themselves, and how to make a living are just as important today.

What may be different, however, is how we understand teaching them Torah. I don't think it means only teaching them how to live as active and committed members of a Jewish community by giving them sound Jewish educations, at home and in school. In the ever changing and complicated world in which we live, we also have to teach them pragmatic lessons about how to live in a world with COVID. I believe we also have to teach the moral lessons of how to live and work in a society where racism, sexism, xenophobia, prejudice, and hatred aren't part of our reality.

It is our responsibility to teach the next generation to do better than we have done, and how to live in a world where viruses of hate or viruses that imperil one's health don't threaten the well-being of anyone. So, as our children head back to school this fall, whether in person or virtually, I think parents and communities must give the next generation what they need to become healthy, committed, Jewish adults, working for a world where every person can sit in safety and security beneath his or her vine and fig-tree.

A gift from the
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire



Sign up your children ages 6 months through 11 years old and enjoy the gift of Jewish children's books and resources delivered to your home each month. Explore Jewish heritage and culture through PJ Library's high-quality stories about Jewish values, traditions, and heritage.

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Funded by the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, it's a gift that will nourish a Jewish life from the start.

Harold Grinspoon
FOUNDATION



Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

jewishnh.org

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*Serving all of New Hampshire
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*Home visits are
our specialty*

Jewish Federation of New Hampshire seeks an Executive Director

Jewish Federation of New Hampshire (JFNH) seeks an experienced Jewish Professional to serve as its leader in the capacity of Executive Director. Reporting to the Chair of the Board of Directors, this person is responsible for the successful achievement of JFNH's vision and mission.

The ideal candidate is a multi-tasker with strategic and tactical ability, able to lead all JFNH fundraising through individual giving, major gifts, stewardship and annual giving campaigns while also managing JFNH administration, financial oversight and personnel.

Our leader must eagerly become involved in communities statewide while supporting the JFNH mission with analytical and team-building skills that take our programs to the next level. This leader will be a visible, involved member of the Jewish community throughout the state of NH and must possess a passion for Jewish life both in NH and Israel.

A successful candidate will have a minimum of 5 years of direct fundraising experience, will be a self-starter, and possess excellent interpersonal skills. Prior management experience is required. This position is based out of our headquarters in Bedford, NH and this job requires the ability to work within this office and travel throughout the state of NH to meet with stakeholders, government leaders and organizations and support programming as needed. Weekends and evenings are required. Flexibility is a must.

The successful candidate is expected to live within commuting distance of the JFNH office or be willing to relocate to New Hampshire.

Temple Emanu-El Welcomes New Director of Congregational Learning

Temple Emanu-El of Haverhill, Massachusetts is excited to welcome Rabbi Rachel Putterman as its Director of Congregational Learning. Rabbi Putterman will inspire congregants' connection to Judaism by leading the Temple's lifelong learning programs, working closely with Cantor Vera Broekhuysen, spiritual leader of Temple Emanu-El, and the adult education and religious school committees to strengthen educational opportunities for all ages. Rabbi Putterman will also provide pastoral care to congregants and will lead or co-lead services throughout the year.

"We are pleased to welcome Rabbi Rachel to our community," said Temple president Loren Goldstein. "We look forward to seeing the educational innovations she will bring to our congregation and her contributions to the spiritual life at Temple Emanu-El." Scott Hannula, chair of the search committee, added that "Rabbi Rachel impressed us with her ability to genuinely connect with our religious school students and our adult congregants. Hiring Rabbi Rachel for this new role at our Temple reflects the community's renewed focus

on lifelong learning."

"I'm so excited to be joining the Temple Emanu-El community! I'm really looking forward to getting to know everyone—even if virtually at first," said Rabbi Putterman. "I hope to share my love of Judaism with the community in a way that resonates with members of all ages and backgrounds. Our tradition has a lot to teach us about contemporary issues, including how to cope during challenging times such as the one we're living through right now."

Rabbi Putterman was ordained by Hebrew College's pluralistic rabbinical school in Newton in June. During rabbinical school, she served numerous communities including the Center for Small Town Jewish Life, Bowdoin College Hillel, Beth Israel Congregation in Bath, Maine, and Boston College Hillel. She has also held various positions at the Haddasah-Brandeis Institute, including scholar-in-residence and academic advisor to undergraduate and graduate students who were engaged in research projects related to Judaism and gender. Rabbi Putterman is the



Rabbi Rachel Putterman has joined Temple Emanu-El as Director of Congregational Learning.

creator and director of "All Genders Wrap," a tutorial video series with a cast of diverse Jews demonstrating how to wrap te-

fillin. In her prior career as a public interest attorney, Rabbi Putterman represented domestic violence survivors in their family law cases. She lives in Boston with her husband and two daughters.

Temple Emanu-El is a dynamic Reform congregation with a traditional, yet creative orientation serving a community of diverse needs and backgrounds. Since 1937, members of the Jewish community of Greater Haverhill, the Merrimack Valley, and southern New Hampshire have joined together to express our Jewish identities through worship, education, social action, and friendship. As a congregation, we foster a deep commitment to a Jewish way of life and to the future of our community. For more information about membership, religious school, adult education, and social programs, contact Nancy LaFleur at 978.373.3861 or visit www.templemanuel.org.

Etz Hayim Announces Plans for Upcoming School Year

Etz Hayim's youth education program begins on Tuesday, September 8 at 6PM for students ages 7 - 16. We will begin our program online this year, with the hope to move classes back to our building later in the year.

Sunday Camp program for students ages 4 - 6 years old begins on Sunday, September 13. This program provides an adventure in Jewish learning through a mix of music, crafts, and games to introduce students to Etz Hayim, the Jewish calendar, prayer, Torah, and Hebrew. Sunday Camp meets from 10AM - 12PM one Sunday per month.

Aleph and Bet classes work to provide students with the basics of learning Hebrew letter recognition and decoding in order to begin to learn to read as well as Jewish Learning about holiday observance, *tzedakah* and Jewish living.

Gimel and Dalet teachers work with students to build their Hebrew reading skills with an emphasis on prayers surrounding the *Amidah* and Torah service as well as Jewish ethics and living based on The 2nd and 3rd book of the Torah.

B'nai Mitzvah program prepares stu-



dents to take their place as adults within the Jewish Community. This program includes a focus on leading prayer, Jewish History, Judaica, and preparation of D'Var Torah.

Confirmation students also meet on Tuesday nights, with a focus on advanced Jewish education, including classroom discussion and the opportunity to be a teacher's aide for our younger students.

Please register for all programs online at <https://www.etzhayim.org/learn>. You will need to fill out the registration form as well as the liability form below it. Registration is due by 6:00PM on September 1.

For more information, please contact us at office@etzhayim.org or call 603-432-0004. Etz Hayim is located at 1 1/2 Hood Road in Derry, NH.

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For more information, call
the synagogue office at
603-669-5650 or e-mail our
Education Director,
Stacy Garnick: eddirector@taynh.org

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Let School go During COVID-19: Notes from a Child Psychiatrist

By Lisa Jacobs MD, MBA

As we shelter in place for COVID-19, a threat unlike any we've encountered in our lifetimes, school continues. As their parents lose their jobs, kids are told to focus as a teacher fumbles to lecture online for the first time. As they lose the structure of school days and classrooms, they are told to educate themselves from the chaos of their homes. As sports and playing outside become distant memories, they are told to sit still and work. Is this reasonable? Is school the most important thing right now?

The social isolation, physical inactivity, and lack of structure for kids due to COVID-19 are risk factors for depression. We are limited in what we can do for kids or for ourselves right now . . . but there is one thing you can do:

1. Take the pressure off! Let school go of school performance. It's okay if kids can't focus. Contact their teachers and counsellors and explain what's going on. Ask for understanding. Ask for modifications. Come up with a plan together. Negotiate something that feels doable for your

child.

2. Help your kid create a routine that includes daily exercise and socializing, whether online or outside at a distance. Physical activity and peer support are more important than grades right now. These things will do more to protect their futures than the best grades could.

3. Tell kids it's normal to have a hard time now. We are all having a hard time. Normalize it. Let them know they are not alone. Let them know they can come to you.

4. Get professional help. Access treatment immediately if your kid says they're depressed. If your child begins hurting themselves or having thoughts of death, take them to the ER immediately to have their safety evaluated. If there are no safety risks but your kid is persistently sad or irritable, having trouble sleeping or eating, or struggling to do things, try to get an appointment with a psychiatrist or therapist. You can start with your insurance company, or psychology.com is also a good resource for local providers. If you can't access

mental health treatment quickly or if it's difficult to access mental health treatment, start with regular visits with their medical doctors.

This is an excerpt from *Parenting in a Pandemic*, a publication of the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute's youth suicide prevention initiative, and is published with their permission. The initiative, called *My Life Is Worth Living*, is training youth leaders to recognize warning signs, assess risk, and create safety plans with teens,

and to facilitate group discussions about identity, self-esteem, coping mechanisms, and personal meaning based on universal Jewish wisdom and contemporary psychology. *Parenting in a Pandemic* is available free of charge and can be customized by organizations to share with their constituents digitally or in print. To view the flipbook, visit: <https://online.flippingbook.com/view/751627/>. To order print or customized copies for your organization, visit <https://www.myjli.com/index.html?task=parenting>.

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Membership benefits include Services, Torah Study, Sisterhood, Brotherhood, Religious School and more, all are available virtually. For more information please contact the office at office@taynh.org.

TEMPLE ADATH YESHURUN, 152 PROSPECT STREET, MANCHESTER, NH 03104

OFFICE: OFFICE@TAYNH.ORG WEB: WWW.TAYNH.ORG PHONE: 669-5650

Temple Israel Portsmouth Offers Online Hebrew Classes for Adults

Temple Israel Portsmouth invites adults from other congregations to join ongoing Hebrew classes being conducted on Zoom. The public is also welcome. The current classes are Prayerbook Hebrew Grammar and Intermediate & Advanced Hebrew Grammar and Reading. An Alef-Bet class is planned for the fall.

The Prayerbook Hebrew Grammar class meets on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. and uses the textbook, *Prayerbook Hebrew the Easy Way*, Third Edition (EKS, 2003). By August, the class will be studying prepositions with endings and the perfect tense and translating sections of *Mi Chamocha*, *Shalom Aleichem*, and Blessings for Reading the Torah. The instructor is Jennifer Beard, who has a strong background in Hebrew education for children, adults, and bar/bat mitzvah students. Jennifer is currently a member of the TIP Ritual Committee.

The Intermediate and Advanced Biblical Hebrew Grammar & Reading class uses the textbook *The First Hebrew Prim-*

er, Third Edition Revised with New Explanatory Notes (EKS, 2005). By August, this class will be studying possessive endings for plural nouns and the piel conjugation. Each chapter includes stimulating exercises and readings from Ruth. The instructor is Kathryn Mulhearn, who has been teaching alef-bet and Biblical and prayerbook classes for 13 years at TIP. Earlier this year, Kathryn began following *Daf Yomi* and studying Aramaic.

An Adult "Learn to Read Hebrew Alef-Bet" class is planned for the fall on Zoom. Have you forgotten that Hebrew you learned back in Hebrew school? Maybe you never learned but were always curious, or just need to brush up. We have the course for you. An introduction to the alef-bet is planned for after the High Holidays, to be held on Zoom on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

To inquire or register for classes, please contact Temple Israel Portsmouth at templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org or 603-436-5301 x 10.

17 and a Harvard Graduate

By Hannah Boyd

Like teens across New Hampshire, Zara Foroohar celebrated her graduation virtually this spring. The commencement ceremony was livestreamed, and Zara was mentioned by name since, at 17, she was the youngest graduate of the year.

That's not surprising, since the school was Harvard University.

"I was almost always the youngest in my classes," says Zara, who began taking classes at the Harvard Extension School at 14 and entered the degree program at 15, after graduating high school. Harvard Extension School offers an ALB (Bachelor of Liberal Arts) degree program for non-traditional students, most of whom are working adults.

It's not only Zara's age that makes her a non-traditional student. Her family moved to rural Warner when she was 7 and raises chickens, goats, and cows. She and her sisters have always been homeschooled.

"There was always an emphasis on seeing the world, creativity, and seeing life as a learning process," says Zara. "You don't have to only learn in the classroom. Growing up on a farm gave us the chance to see a lot of 'sciencey' things you might not see in the classroom."

Her parents, Laura Macnow and Kam Foroohar, utilized educational co-ops, websites, and online programs like VLACs and the Art of Problem Solving that allow students to proceed at their own pace. By age 12, Zara was taking high school classes. At 13, her father, who had studied classics in college, began teaching her ancient Greek. She enjoyed it so much that she signed up for a summer course in ancient Greek and Latin at Harvard, and by 14 she'd started taking courses at the Extension School. (She wasn't able to apply to the degree program until she'd officially graduated high school.) Zara works in Boston and keeps an apartment there, so Zara was able to live at home while attending classes on campus.

"Wherever you go, if you're interested



Harvard graduate Zara Foroohar with her diploma.

in certain topics, you will find people like you," says Zara. "I did manage to find great friends and people that weren't into the whole party scene." She participated in the Club Swim Team, the Mountaineering and Hiking Clubs, and Hillel.

"It was difficult growing up where we live," she says. "Chabad has been amazing and so supportive, but practicing religion without a great community can be difficult. Having a Jewish community and kosher food in the dining halls made it accessible. It became something I could talk about, because I wasn't the only one in my town."

While Zara's ultimate goal is medical school, she is headed to Oxford University to pursue a Master's Degree in Classics in October.

"When I started, I didn't have an end in mind," says Zara. "It was just to get a better education. I just started taking it one step at a time. It was really out of my own interests and seeing where my interests could take me. The support of my family, friends, and Chabad made it possible."

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Brotherhood and Sisterhood Shabbat Supports Equity at Temple Adath Yeshurun

By Mary Singer

On Friday, June 25, readers converged by Zoom for a service focused on themes of gender and racial equality, with memorable reading passages selected by Steve Short and music selected by Alan Kaplan.

At the end of this article we have selections from Alan's thought-provoking commentary in the "Sermon of Songs" selected for their meaning to us all in the past two months, when the nightly news has added to the burden of pandemic restrictions as too many people have died or suffered unjustly.

The Brotherhood and Sisterhood at Temple Adath Yeshurun both offer membership to non-affiliated Jews separate from Temple membership. Each year Sisterhood and Brotherhood together sponsor a Sabbath service, often celebrating themes of equity and collaboration. Those notes resonated this year, after the events of May and June.

Alan Kaplan had singers and a pianist lined up: Mary Singer, Arielle Kaplan, Cantor Daniel Leeman, Jonathan Baron, Alan Kaplan, Mandy Frank, and Jan Bordeleau, on piano. Temple Adath Yeshurun readers included: Linda Rockenmacher, Sol Rockenmacher, Jan Belmont, Rona Zlokower, Gail Ellis, Nancy Frankel, David Rosenzweig, Fran Short, Jonathan Baron, Ted Yegerman, and Steve Short.

Kaplan also brought us some special songs by screen sharing, including HaZamir Youth Chorale's "Heal Us Now" and Women Cantors' Group "Yerushalayim Shel Zahav, Jerusalem of Gold."

Rabbi Beth Davidson enjoyed the service at home, and wrote this comment of appreciation: "I wanted to thank you for the lovely Shabbat service on Friday night. Steve, the readings all fit together really well; and Alan, your sermon was both challenging and uplifting. Thank you for all your hard work."

Highlights from Steve Short's Texts, which flowed with "milk and honey"

from the Torah portions of the season:

"In the valley of the giants where the stars and stripes explode, the peaches, they were sweet and the milk and honey flowed." ~ Musician Bob Dylan

"Faith is like porridge. Better with milk and honey." ~Writer George R. R. Martin

"If others hurl their darts against you, offer them milk and honey in return;

if they poison your lives, sweeten their souls. ~Abdu'l Baha, founder of the Bahai faith.

Highlights from Alan Kaplan's "Sermon in Song:"

From *Black Lives Matter*: "End discrimination of whatever kind (racial, religious, gender, etc.) and we will truly build a stronger and healthier planet to everyone's benefit."

I ask you to listen, take a moment to reflect and then help build a Sanctuary, like the one in "Intro to Sanctuary" by Julie Singer, written for the URJ Biennial in 2017.

So let us set a table Wide and Long, Where Everyone has Plenty and

Everyone Belongs.

So no matter what your skin color, or where you choose to be—

We will be your Sanctuary.

Do stand up and sing,

Let your voices ring,

Bring what you can bring,

And be a Sanctuary.

Alan Kaplan recommended the book *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*. "Debbie Irving has written a short but powerful book, *Waking Up White*. If you are interested in learning more about the inherent racism to which white people are born and want to work on this issue, it is a good starting point. She describes her own awakening. Through birth in a comfortable New England town, she was oblivious (as most of us are) about the inherent prejudice we carry with us everyday."

For information on joining Temple Adath Yeshurun's Brotherhood or Sisterhood, contact Sol or Linda Rockenmacher at rockenmacher@comcast.net or call them at 603-232-3477.

Temple B'Nai Israel's Jewish Food Festival Moves Online — Order Now for Takeout!

For the last 23 years, the New Hampshire Jewish Food Festival at Temple B'nai Israel (TBI) in Laconia has brought people together from New Hampshire and beyond to dine "under the tent." This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Jewish Food Festival will be a takeout only event. Orders can be placed online at www.tbinh.org from July 27 to August 10 and picked up curbside, by appointment, at the temple, 210 Court Street in Laconia. A drive-through system will be used for everyone's safety and masks are required.

Behind the scenes in the TBI kitchen, a talented cooking crew had begun the preparations for the Festival by participating in cooking and baking sessions in



expectation of the hundreds of hungry customers looking for their annual taste of traditional Jewish foods. As the pandemic emerged and forced the state to close, so did the TBI kitchen. The Food Festival committee members agreed they didn't want to disappoint their faithful fol-

lowing. Meeting via Zoom, the committee recently developed a take-home version of the Jewish Food Festival, following state guidelines for restaurant operations.

The online takeout menu offers some of the most popular items from the Jewish Food Festival. All items are sold frozen and include instructions for heating.

- Blintzes, lightly fried crepes filled with a mixture of farmers' cheese and cream cheese
- Matzo Ball Soup, a rich homemade chicken broth with fluffy matzo balls and carrots
- Homemade traditional brisket with gravy sold in 1/2-pound packages
- New York style Knishes, prepared with a new, improved, flaky dough,

filled with either hand-ground beef brisket or seasoned potatoes

- Noodle Kugel, noodles in a sweet cream baked custard, topped with cinnamon frosted flake crumbs
- Rugelach, pastry made with a cream cheese dough, filled with walnuts, raisins and cinnamon, rolled into crescents and lightly baked

This is the opportunity to fill your freezer to capacity with the most mouth watering and delectable foods prepared with love and care. Orders will be filled on a "first come-first served" basis until inventories are depleted. All questions may be directed to foodfestival@tbinh.org and orders can be placed at www.tbinh.org starting July 27th.

Monadnock Community Comes Together to Remove Hateful Graffiti

In June, as protests against the killing of George Floyd were occurring throughout the state, a billboard in Temple was defaced with anti-Semitic and racist slurs. Temple-Greenville Police said that public property located along the same portion of 101 West was also vandalized.

The graffiti included a swastika, the

phrase "white power," and the n-word. The owners of the billboard, Fenton Family Dealerships, took it down within a day. When Department of Transportation employees were slow to arrive, local residents removed the remaining graffiti, which also included a swastika and racial slurs, on their own.

Jewish Federation of New Hampshire

Director of Outreach and Engagement Allyson Guertin told the *Monadnock Ledger-Transcript*, "This type of vandalism is a jarring reminder that hate and bigotry still exist in our community and we have learned that anti-Semitic words have a direct connection to tragic consequences. We at the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire are committed

to building bridges and educating against anti-Semitism. Our hope is that Jews and non-Jews around our state will join us in condemning this hateful act. We ask you to reflect on the situation and think about what you can do in your own communities to bring people together and avoid things like this from happening in the future."

Vandalism at Camp Tevya Turns into Outpouring of Care

By Juliana Rowland

This article appeared in Hollis Brookline News Online on June 24 and is reprinted with their permission.

Sometime over the past weekend, someone entered Camp Tevya property and broke a glass basketball backboard, leaving rocks and broken glass underneath. Ben Portnoy, Director of Tevya, said that when the vandalism was discovered earlier this week, they filed a report with Brookline Police and started reviewing security camera images to see what they could find. Portnoy said, "I was really disappointed that this happened, but we were going to pick up and go on."

But this morning, he said, he awoke to something unexpected. Someone in the Brookline community posted on the town Facebook page about the vandalism, expressing their concern about the damage and their wish to help mend the relationship with the camp. "People were expressing so much care and concern that this happened. It's so heartwarming that people responded in this way."

Camp Tevya has been part of the Brookline community since 1940 with hundreds of campers and families enjoying the space each summer. It was a difficult, heartbreaking decision, Portnoy said, when the staff chose to cancel

camp for the summer due to ongoing concerns about coronavirus.

The camp has always maintained a close relationship with the town even in the off-season, Portnoy said. The property is maintained year-round with a caretaker on-site five days each week. The rest of the time, he says, they rely on the care and respect of Brookliners to watch over the area. He relates that this vandalism is from a few in the minority, but the majority offer respect, care, and connection.

Portnoy was further amazed today when someone in the Facebook group wanted to start a GoFundMe page, and others directed people to the existing Tevya donation page. "People came forward, even those who have not gone to camp, offering to help." By mid-afternoon there were more than enough donations to cover the cost of the backboard. "It's been an overwhelming positive response to a negative action." He notes that with some of the online donations coming in, people are using the comments section to express their care and concern, as well as sharing some personal connections that Tevya has had in their lives, such as one family's children taking their first steps while on camp property.

Portnoy says any funds received over the backboard replacement cost will be directed towards maintenance and up-



Camp Tevya, a nonprofit in its Brookline home since 1940, is usually filled with kids and teens laughing, playing, and celebrating all the joys of summer.

keep of the facilities. With no funds coming in from campers this year, the camp will be challenged to meet their financial needs.

To clarify a question about public usage, Tevya is privately owned property. According to Portnoy, "When camp is not in session, we are happy to allow people to walk/bike through camp and enjoy the space, but facilities (such as our basketball courts, tennis courts, or using our beach for swimming) have never been made available for general open public use. (Any other organizations that have used our facilities or site have signed waivers and gone through appropriate channels to do so. People have always seemed to respect those boundaries.) That's still the plan for this



Damaged backboard brings out care and concern.

summer while camp remains not in session. There may have been some confusion early on that since camp was not opening this summer that the facilities (basketball, tennis, beach) would be more available for public use, but that's not the case."

In the end, Portnoy states this whole experience of being on the receiving end of a caring community response is overwhelming. "It's like finding moments of the silver lining. It's brightened the day and the week."



Temple B'Nai Israel's Board met virtually to discuss the purchase of new audiovisual equipment.

Temple B'Nai Israel Invests in Streaming Technology

The Board of Trustees of Temple B'Nai Israel in Laconia authorized the purchase of new audiovisual equipment that will allow us to stream services from our synagogue for the High Holidays, as well as enabling us to continue to offer services via Zoom (or other platforms) even as we pray we will be able to gather together again in person in the future. Stu Needleman and his committee including Gary Broom, Ira Keltz, and Rabbi Dan Dan-

son received invaluable advice and input regarding this project from Dr. Alan Kaplan. While we all wish we could be together, the congregation has responded very well to our online offerings, and the option of attending services from home even after re-opening seems like a great fit for a small synagogue that draws folks from so far away. The photo shows the Board during Stu's presentation of the planned improvements.



Congregants thanked the Korinows from a safe distance.



Rabbi Ira Korinow and wife Sally.

Temple Israel Portsmouth Bids Farewell to Rabbi with Car Parade

The Temple Israel Portsmouth community gathered on Sunday, June 14, to thank Rabbi Ira Korinow for his two years of wonderful service as interim rabbi. Plans for an in-person celebration had to be scrapped due to COVID-19 concerns, so about thirty cars lined up at Strawberry Banke and drove through the temple parking lot to give Rabbi Ira and his lovely wife Sally a

goodbye parade.

Cheers, honks, and streamers flew through the air along with good wishes for the enjoyment of his retirement, which he had deferred to support this congregation. Rabbi Ira was completely surprised and delighted. As the board of directors has honored Rabbi Ira and Sally with a lifetime temple membership, we look forward to future visits!



Friends and family joined Shayna by Zoom as she was called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah.

A Zoom Bat Mitzvah at Etz Hayim

By Shayna Adams

My Zoom bat mitzvah ceremony was held on June 20. Unlike at my brother's and sister's bar and bat mitzvahs, the synagogue was not filled with people celebrating my coming to the Torah. We had less than a *minyan* within the walls of Etz Hayim. However, we had a crowd of friends and family watching me through a screen.

Although nature challenged us by bringing us apart, we found a way to have everyone together. My bat mitzvah was not what I had originally envisioned, but to me, it felt perfect. I couldn't see all of my family and friends during my bat mitzvah, but I could see them afterward, and everyone was smiling even though they weren't there with me. They were smiling because they saw me smiling.

I couldn't have a big party or else I would have put people at risk. What I did have, thanks to my family, was a picture-perfect dress, a hairstyle that I loved, a photoshoot, and, at the end, a surprise as they lifted me up on a chair for *Hava Nagila*. I was really happy that friends and family from far away, who might not have been able to travel to my bat mitzvah, were there through Zoom.

My Torah portion was about the *tallit*, and 12 scouts from the tribes of the 12 sons of Jacob scouting out the Promised Land. For my *Dvar-Torah*, I focused on the *tallit* and the fringes on it. This made me think about how we are living today and how much kindness is needed. It's important because with everything going on in our world right now,



Shayna Adams celebrated her bat mitzvah in June.

we seem to be forgetting to be kind. And that is wrong.

I said in my *Dvar-Torah* that G-d would not want us to be lazy and mean. I said that G-d would want us to be holy, and kindness is holy. I hope that my words will help my friends and family, as well as you, think about how we can all be a little more kind to one another. My Bat Mitzvah is over, but I will continue to do my best to be kind. Wearing my *tallit*, continuing to learn and read *Torah*, and participating in my community will help me to remember this.



The Etz Hayim Board met over Zoom to welcome new leadership

Etz Hayim Synagogue Elects New Board

By Laurie Medrek and Allison Doyle

Please welcome the new Board of Etz Hayim Synagogue in Derry. Here is the lineup for 2020/2021:

Laurie Medrek, President
Allison Doyle, Vice President
Nick Bartol, Treasurer
Andrea Meyer, Secretary
Mary Edelstein, Board Member
Molly Freilich, Board Member
Cindy Landau, Board Member
Marcy McWilliams, Board Member
Lisa Rothenberg, Board Member
Laurie and Allison are excited to have the opportunity to work together in a co-leadership role and look forward to continuing the teamwork that Paul Martin and Pete Wasserman demonstrated so well this past year.

Nick, Cindy, Marcy, and Andrea are returning board members and will help guide the transition, while we welcome fresh perspective, ideas and energy

from Mary, Molly, and Lisa. This is the year of girl power with the count of eight women and Nick. While we sympathize with Nick, we are sure we'll collaborate nicely regardless of the lopsided gender count.

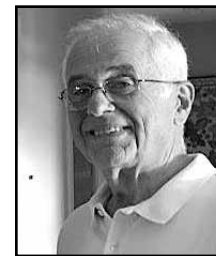
Our immediate priorities are re-opening our synagogue in the safest and most secure way possible to resume our synagogue life in the wake of COVID-19; ensuring the safety and security of our members against anti-Semitic acts violence; and membership growth, retention and engagement, particularly through this period of isolation.

We look forward to serving and want to sincerely express our gratitude to Paul and Pete who set such a great example of shared leadership and who have committed to being a resource as we cross over into these uncertain and challenging times.

Contact us at President@etzhayim.org, or visit www.etzhayim.org.

Longtime Temple B'Nai Israel Treasurer Retires

Temple B'nai Israel legend has it that Jerry Fleischman was treasurer for 17 years! He did the job so well, and for so long, that past president Marsha Ostroff used to call him "Treasure." We really couldn't picture where we would be without him in that role. Well,



Jerry Fleischman

it finally happened. He stepped out of the position, and it has taken the creation of a whole new committee to try to fill his shoes! Thank you, Jerry, for so many years of being the voice of fiscal restraint and always helping us look to the future.

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



Share your High Holiday Greeting

High Holiday Greetings with a donation of \$18 or above will be listed in the September Reporter. Please print your greeting *clearly* below:

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At Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation, Adversity Brings Us Together

By David Goldstone & Eileen Regen

The year 2020 has been like no other. A deadly virus has overtaken the world, and we are urged not to congregate to prevent what has been called “community spread.” Wow! It’s the 100th anniversary of our congregation, and we are asked not to congregate! Here in Bethlehem, a town known for its pure mountain air, we are asked to wear face masks when walking down Main Street.

In addition, our nation has been awakened to the onslaught of police brutality cases that have caused massive protests and marches from New York and Los Angeles to Littleton. These issues have challenged our Jewish community here in the White Mountains and we have responded.

We observe and celebrate the Sabbath and holidays alone together: we light the Sabbath candles, hold up our Kiddush cups and sing “*L’Cha Dodi*” together from our homes with weekly Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat services led by Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum. From our laptops or tablets at our dining room tables we can sing, pray, *kibbitz*, and fulfill the mitzvah of observing the Sabbath as a community. We are learning what the Torah has to say about today’s issues and crises: Rabbi Kirshbaum’s online Torah studies give insight into our modern day ethical dilemmas regarding racism, feminism, and social justice issues.

BHC’s popular group activities continue online via Zoom meetings. BHC will continue to produce Building Community Through the Arts programs online with Books of Jewish Interest, White Mountain Jewish Film Festival Film Forums, and a concert with one of Dr. Richard Kogan’s programs from his renowned “Mind and Music of Famous Composers” series.

BHC members will offer Feldenkrais sessions, a walking club (with proper social distancing), and other programs in which you can participate online.

BHC is alive and well, safe and sound. We hope you are too. You don’t have to be in Bethlehem to be part of BHC Online, so come and join us. We are 100 years young and raring to go!

Weekends: BHC plans to continue ongoing Kabbalat Shabbat services at 5 p.m. on Friday evenings, and Sunday morning Torah Studies at 11 AM with Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum, who will officiate by Zoom from her home in Omer, Israel.

Building Community Through the



Arts Events Online:

White Mountain Jewish Film Festival ~ Film Forum

Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., August 13, August 27

The WMJFF Film Forum has proved to be a very popular film lovers gathering and continues with lively discussions of classic American and international films of Jewish life led by guest speakers.

August 13: *The Chosen* ~ Film Forum

Danny, a Hasidic Jew, meets Reuven, a Zionist, while playing baseball. Although they have differences, their friendship grows strong. When they reach college, outspoken support by Reuven's professor father for a national Jewish state causes conflicts with Danny's conservative father leading to tension for the friends.

Details: 20th Century Fox, 1982, (108 Min) PG, Director: Jeremy Kagan, Screenplay: Chaim Potok, Starring: Robbie Benson, Barry Miller, Maximilian Schell, Rod Steiger

Guest Speaker ~ Rick Winston, Film Expert and Lecturer

Author and co-owner of Montpelier's Savoy Theatre and Programming Director for the Green Mountain Festival for 14 years, Winston has taught film history at Burlington College, Community College of Vermont, Goddard College, and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Winston has made presentations about film history throughout Vermont and has been a frequent and popular guest speaker for the White Mountain Jewish Film Festival events.

August 27: *God's Slave* ~ Film Forum

Based on the actual events of a 1994 bombing in Buenos Aires still making headlines today, *God's Slave* follows Ahmed, trained since childhood as an Islamic terrorist, who is now assigned to execute a suicide bombing at a synagogue; and David, the coldblooded Israeli special agent who will stop at nothing to prevent the attack. But neither man is defined solely by his extremist views. Ahmed, posing as a doctor, lives happily with his wife and young son. Though David's marriage is on the rocks, he remains devoted to his wife and daughter. With time running out before the attack, David zeroes in on Ahmed as a suspect, and his investigation culminates in violent, if unexpected, consequences.

Details: Filmed in Venezuela, Argentina, Uruguay, and the USA, 2013, (90 Min) NR

Director: Joel Novoa Starring: Mohammed Alkhalidi, Daniela Alvarado, Laureano Olivares, Marialejandra Martin Languages: Spanish and Hebrew with Subtitles

Guest Speaker ~ Marjorie Agosin, Chilean-American poet, novelist and human rights activist. Marjorie Agosin is the daughter of Jewish parents who fled Europe. The family moved to the United States to escape the military coup that overthrew Salvador Allende's Socialist government. In her scholarship and creative work, Agosin focuses on social justice, feminism, and remembrance. She has received numerous honors and awards for her writing and work as a human rights activist, including a Jeanette Rankin Award in Human Rights and a United Nations Leadership award for Human Rights. The Chilean government honored her with a Gabriela Mistral Medal for Lifetime Achievement. Agosin is the Luella LaMer Slaner Professor in Latin American studies and a professor of Spanish and Latin American literature at Wellesley College.

Participants can watch these movies at home for less than half the price of a theater ticket and then join the discussion for free! To learn how to sign up for the discussions, contact BHC at whitemountainjewishfilm@gmail.com

Sounds of the Sanctuary Classical Concert Series

Friday, August 7, BHC offers a special piano concert and talk by Dr. Richard Kogan, distinguished psychiatrist and concert pianist. He will focus on “The Mind and the Music of Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky” from his popular series, “The Mind and the Music of Great Composers.” Presenting with Kogan is pianist and composer Elizabeth Borowsky. If you are interested in joining this program discussion, please let us know – details for registration for this unique event are available at www.bethlehemsynagogue.org/concert.

Books of Jewish Interest

BHC's Books of Jewish Interest group meets at 4 p.m. Wednesdays via Zoom.

August 12 - *The Book of Jeremiah* by Julia Zuckerman

Zuckerman tells the story of awkward but endearing Jeremiah Gerstler, the son of immigrants, a brilliant political science professor, husband, and father. Jeremiah has yearned for respect and acceptance his entire life, and no matter his success,

he still strives for more. As a boy, he was feisty and irreverent and constantly compared to his sweet and well-behaved older brother, Lenny. At the university, he worries he is a token hire. Occasionally, he's combative with colleagues, especially as he ages. But there is a sweetness to Gerstler, too, and an abiding loyalty and affection for those he loves. When he can overcome his worst impulses, his moments of humility become among the best measures of his achievements.

Spanning eight decades and interwoven with the Jewish experience of the 20th century, Julie Zuckerman charts Jeremiah's life from boyhood, through service in WWII, to marriage and children, a professorship and finally retirement, with compassion, honesty, and a respect that even Gerstler himself would find touching. (Review by New Books Network)

Discussion Leader: Ed Cowan ~ Guest: Author Julie Zuckerman

August 26 *Violins of Hope* – James A. Grymes

Grymes traces the beautiful and haunting history of violins played by Jews in the Holocaust. Each chapter is dedicated to one violin, its players and places, and how it eventually came into the hands of Israeli violinmaker and repairman Amnon Weinstein. Across the board, each of the violins aided someone's survival or made life more bearable.

In Auschwitz, SS members used prisoners to form orchestras for entertainment. Often the musicians received special treatment from the guards. They noted, “We played music for sheer survival. We made music in hell.” It was by no means a guarantee of survival, and some orchestras were gassed immediately after their set. But some of the stories are accounts of hope, education, and joy.

In the backwoods of Norway, the conductor Ernst Glaser headed an initiative where he played for the Norwegian resistance movement, hiding out in the wilderness to relay Norwegian history and pride.

Motele Schlein's story describes using his musical prowess to sneak into an SS party and plant bombs. Motele muses, “I'll play so well tonight, that you'll be blown apart dancing.” The accounts are unembellished, with plain, yarn-spinning language. They breathe new life into history. (Review by Publishers Network) Discussion Leader: Lechaim Naggan

For more information about BHC and these popular events, please visit our website: www.bethlehemsynagogue.org

Temple B'nai Israel Expands Jewish cemetery in Laconia

In 1985, two members of Temple B'nai Israel, Irene and Arthur Gordon (of blessed memory), worked tirelessly to help create the Jewish cemetery located within the Union Cemetery in Laconia. Irene and Art were keenly aware of the need for Jewish residents of the Lakes Region to have a final resting place. After their appeal to the Temple Board was unanimously approved, the next step was to go before the Union Cemetery Board to present the idea.

It was Irene who worked up the courage to make the presentation and, to her total delight and surprise, the members of the Union Cemetery Board were more than happy to provide a section to be consecrated as the Temple B'nai Israel Cemetery. The consecration took place in November 1985, after the land was cleared and prepared.

Up until that date, there had been no place in the Lakes Region for Jewish individuals who wanted to be buried in a Jewish cemetery. Local people often had to buy plots in far-away locations or be buried in non-Jewish areas. Many members of the Temple immediately bought plots to ensure a local resting place.

The Jewish section is a self-contained area, separated from the main cemetery with two granite pillars to mark the entrance. Granite curbstones and bushes border the property, which contains 140 plots. It is a quiet and serene setting,



Irene Gordon, Co-Founder of TBI's Cemetery.



A serene view from the Jewish section of the Union cemetery in Laconia.

surrounded by mature trees with a brook running alongside. Arthur Gordon, who passed away in 2017, is buried adjacent to the brook. Art, a man of optimism and quick wit, told Irene he wanted "the ocean view" when they were selecting plots. To date, there have been about 50 burials, including mem-

bers and non-members of Temple B'nai Israel.

Recently, the board of Union Cemetery, which Irene Gordon has served on for many years, has granted Temple B'nai Israel the rights to an additional 30 plots located behind the current section. Individuals with non-Jewish spouses or cre-

mations are welcome. Costs for the plots include all aspects of perpetual care.

Plots may be purchased by contacting Irene Gordon, TBI Bereavement Chair, at (603) 267-1935 or by email at itg2@metrocast.net. You may also send inquiries to the Temple at info@tbinh.org. Member and non-member rates are available.

TAY Brotherhood's Beat Goes on Virtually at Annual Meeting and BBQ

TAY Brotherhood's Annual Meeting/BBQ on June 2 turned into a virtual one, Zoomed to and from the homes of attendees. We were adapting to the necessary changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Men's Club Co-President David Penchansky led the way. Rabbi Beth opened the program with a prayerful discussion about health and racial disparity issues. Eagle Scout Ryan Rosenberg led us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. We then heard and saw stirring videos of both our National Anthem and Hatikvah. This was followed by Manchester's Justin Cohn, who entertained the audience from his home studio with his voice and his guitar.

Then we discussed the Brotherhood Year in Review. Sol Rockenmacher told about the Fall Brotherhood Breakfast, where city planner Susan Silberberg talked about our Manchester Millyard. He reviewed the ongoing Christmas Mitzvah Program, with over 100 participants in-

involved in helping at New Horizons Soup Kitchen, the Elliott Hospital and Catholic Medical Center information desks, delivering Meals on Wheels, delivering luncheon platters to police and fire stations in Manchester and Bedford and helping with the Christmas night Bingo game at the Veterans Administration Hospital. David Penchansky reviewed yet another wonderful Deli Night, attended by over 200 grateful guests. Bob Katchen spoke about the MANTY Winter Wonderland Breakfast. Joel Gordon headed up wonderful Chanukah and Purim parties for our kids (and adults as well).

Along came COVID-19. The Purim Party on March 8 turned out to be the last non-virtual event of the year. Planned but postponed events included the Spring Breakfast and the ever oh-so-popular Spring Dinner Dance (with music by the Manchester West High School Jazz Band)...maybe in the fall?

It was on to virtual reality. David

Rosenzweig discussed the Memorial Day Program, usually held in the sanctuary at the Manchester Hebrew Cemetery but Zoomed this year.

Steve Short led us in a toast to Brothers who have passed in the last year.

The present slate of officers will continue on for the time being: Co-Presidents David Penchansky and Sol Rockenmacher, Vice President Joel Gordon, Secretary Mark Granoff and Treasurer David Rosenzweig.

We presented a cash award to Eagle Scout Ryan Rosenberg to help fund his project to provide storage support for the Music Department at Manchester West High School. There were no submissions for the Sugerman Scholarship Award this year.

The wrap-up of the evening was the presentation of the Man of the Year Award. Previous winners were asked to stand in recognition of past achievement. Then it was on to the video of this year's

"novel" presentation of the award to a surprised outgoing TAY President Bob Bersak. Bob's award reads: "To a man who has served his country and his community with honor and distinction, who leads by example by being level-headed and fair and who steps up to a challenge when called upon, who has been a tower of strength during a time of national emergency, demonstrating steady leadership with grace under pressure, whose humanity is evidenced by his self-effacing good humor, modesty and love of family."

We wished this always well-attended and enjoyed event could have happened in real-time, but that was not to be this year. We were still able to show that the Brotherhood beat goes on. Our Brotherhood banner states: Service, Community, Fellowship. We will continue to work to follow that mantra, come you know what or high water...even COVID-19.

From your TAY Brotherhood, "Be safe and be well."

In the Community

JCPA Mourns Death of Congressman John Lewis: A True American Hero

The Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) mourns the death of civil rights leader Congressman John Lewis. He was a true hero and beacon of hope. He will be sorely missed.

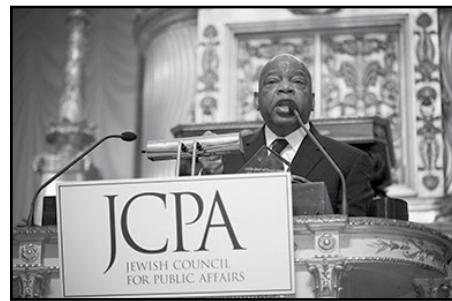
JCPA and the Jewish Community Relations Council in Atlanta worked closely with Representative John Lewis for decades in advancing civil rights. "John was an unwavering ally of the Jewish community. His most sincere, heartfelt love was for humanity. Not only HIS people, ALL people seeking justice," stated Lois Frank, past JCPA chair and a friend of the Congressman for many years. "For a man of such celebrity this humble and gracious spirit prevailed. His *neshama* was pure...one of a kind."

Congressman Lewis was not only a voice for the Black community, but spoke out against discrimination and hate

against all people. "Once people begin to see the similarities between themselves and others, instead of focusing on differences, they come to recognize that equality is essentially a matter of human rights and human dignity," he stated.

In 2008, Congressman Lewis received the *JCPA's Tikkun Olam Award: Partner in Repairing the World* which recognizes individuals who demonstrate a deep commitment and extraordinary effort to improving the lives of people everywhere, and who embody the Jewish principle of *Tikkun Olam*.

Congressman Lewis had close ties to Jewish leaders throughout his lifetime and remained dedicated to advancing civil rights and Black-Jewish relations. Most recently, JCPA applauded and supported the creation of the Congressional Caucus on Black-Jewish relations, which



Congressman John Lewis

he helped launch and played an active role in.

Last year, JCPA organized a civil rights mission to Atlanta and Alabama, where we remembered the courageous activism of the Congressman as we marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma where he risked his life in 1965 to advocate for voting rights for Black Americans.

"The best way to honor Congressman

Lewis is to join people of color and redouble our effort to ending racial disparity in America," stated David Bernstein, JCPA's President and CEO. "His work and legacy live on in our work."

JCPA continues to stand in solidarity with the Black community working together for justice and equal opportunity and against hate, racism, antisemitism and bigotry.

The Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) is the national hub of the community relations network, representing 125 local Jewish community relations councils (JCRCs) and 16 national Jewish agencies, including the four main denominations of American Judaism. It advocates for a just and pluralistic American society, Israel's quest for peace and security, and human rights around the world.

Opinion

Torah for Turbulent Times: If It's Not Broken, Break It

By Rabbi Mark Melamut, Upper Valley Jewish Community

A "broken letter" literally cut in half in the Torah? That's right, this past week's portion includes something unique. In the word "shalom," one letter in Hebrew, the vav, is cut in half. Rather than fix it, the tradition is to preserve it. What might it mean that even the word in Hebrew for peace, "shalom," contains a broken letter? Why wouldn't we just fix it? Isn't our instinct to mend anything that's broken, especially a letter in the Torah? Perhaps the letter is a reminder of what we already know, that in some ways everything is broken. And maybe, just maybe, the Torah is ahead of its time. That is, instead of a model that

relies on how it's always been done, the nudge is to push forward, give it a turn, and break it even if it's not broken — all in order to see something differently and to innovate for the future.

One image I found that really conveys this idea is that of the horse and buggy, along with this quote. "Imagine if you waited until it was broken to fix it. You'd be commuting to work in one of these." In our time, many questions, small and large, loom over our heads. When will this end? Will school be back on? What day is it? When will we be able to do this or that again? Etc, etc, etc? Brokenness is an aspect of the reality of our world and even of our most sacred text. On the one hand, it's important to name how it can make us feel: deflat-

ed, depressed, down and distraught (just to name a few). On the other hand, as the saying goes, there are two sides to every coin. Innovation encourages us to grow, thrive, and meet the needs of the future by not getting stuck in old patterns, habits, and ways of being in the world. As an example, take Jewish worship. Even when we ONE DAY go back to being "live and in the room together," many have suggested that we stick with simultaneously streaming or zooming. Of course, just like with theater, it's not exactly the same experience and it's a challenge to feel the "soul" of the room. But, it certainly has some advantages, like accessibility and convenience.

Returning to the Torah portion, we find that peace comes at a price. In our

story, Pinchas takes matters into his own hands with a particularly violent gesture in order to stop a plague (Numbers 25:7-8). His problematic action helps to end the plague, and he is rewarded by G-d with a brit shalom, covenant of peace. It's literally and figuratively a broken peace, but it's a peace that is nonetheless better than nothing. When we experience brokenness, something we confront each and every day in some way, it makes us sad. But, perhaps we can name it and reframe it, like the broken letter in the Torah. If we're encouraged to innovate and plan for our future by breaking even that which is not broken, how much more so in order to ensure a healthy, holy, and holistic world for us and for those that follow.

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VIRTUAL SUMMER FILM SERIES

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Online at www.nhjewishfilmfestival.org

By phone (603-627-7679) through the Jewish Federation Office,
Monday–Thursday, 9 AM–3 PM

Information: Call 603-627-7679 or visit www.nhjewishfilmfestival.org
for the latest on the NH Jewish Film Festival.

 On Facebook, visit Jewish Federation of New Hampshire and
New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival for updated information.



Supported in part by a grant from the New Hampshire
State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment
for the Arts.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS



PRODUCERS



DIRECTORS AND FILM STARS



Maryellen and Mark Bilech • Pam Grich and Louis Fink
Sarit Itenberg and Jonathan Greenblatt • Nancy and Richard Kudler
Honey Weiss and David Lewis • Julia and Ido Preis
Barbara and Barry Scotch • Anonymous

FREE Virtual Summer Film Series

All films premiere on Thursday evenings at 6:00 PM,
and are available for streaming for 72 hours.

ZOOM discussion sessions begin at 7:00 PM on Sunday evenings,
July 26, August 9 and August 30 at the end of the streaming window.

Please find the link for each film and accompanying Zoom event in
your email by 4:00 PM on each new streaming day.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUMMER FILM SERIES



Love In Suspenders July 9, 6 PM

Director: Jorge Weller
Comedy, 2019, Israel
102 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles
Content Warning: Adult Content



My Name is Sara July 23, 6 PM

Post film discussion with screenwriter
David Himmelstein on Sunday, July 26, 7 PM
Director: Steven Oritt
Drama, 2019, USA
111 minutes, English
Content Warning: Adult Content, Sexual Situations



Futures Past August 6, 6 PM

Post film discussion with Director
Jordan Melamed on Sunday, August 9, 7 PM
Director: Jordan Melamed
Documentary, 2016, USA
89 minutes, English



Shooting Life August 20, 6 PM

Director: David Kreiner
Drama, 2018, Israel
84 minutes
Hebrew with English subtitles



Paris Song August 27, 6 PM

Post film discussion with Director
Jeff Vespa on Sunday, August 30, 7 PM
Director: Jeff Vespa
Historical Drama, 2018, Kazakhstan, Latvia, USA
90 minutes
English, Arabic, French, Hebrew



Presented by
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Nissim Black's "Mothaland Bounce" Unifies #BLM and Orthodox Judaism

With the surge of antisemitism coming from the black community, Black sees "Mothaland Bounce" as a healing tool of unification for both cultures.

By Mordechai Yosef Ben Avraham Hazan

Legendary Beatles superstar John Lennon once said: "Music reflects the state that the society is in. It doesn't suggest the state. The poets and musicians and artists are of the age – not only do they lead the age on, but they also reflect that age. Like, The Beatles. We came out of Liverpool and we reflected our background and we reflected our thoughts in what we sang, and that's all people are doing."



Writer Mordechai Yosef Ben Avraham

In a recent interview, Orthodox Jewish rapper Nissim Black says his new hit music video/single "Mothaland Bounce" expresses a generational cultural desire of unity from seemingly opposite ideologies. This isn't just a perspective; it's actually his life. Nissim is an African American convert from Seattle.

As a creative artist, Nissim sees the world through the lenses of being both Jewish and Black. With the surge of anti-Semitism coming from the black community, Black sees "Mothaland Bounce" as a healing tool of unification for both cultures.

Nissim Black is a Breslov Chassid, deeply immersed in the teachings of Rebbe Nachman. "There is Truth, the truth of the Truth and there is Peace. The Truth is 'the boy stole an apple', the truth of the Truth is 'the boy was hungry' and Peace is 'nobody stole anything, now, give the boy an apple!' said by Rebbe Nachman of Breslov (of blessed memory).

"Torah Judaism has allowed me to expand my mind in ways I never knew was possible," says Nissim Black.

Nissim Black continued on page 22



Nissim Black (left) with Mordechai Yosef Ben Avraham walking the streets of Jerusalem. Photo: Mordechai Yosef Ben Avraham.

Jewish Celebs Share Experiences With Antisemitism in '#JewishPrivilege' Push Back on Twitter

By Shiryn Ghermezian

This article first appeared in the *Algemeiner* and is reprinted with their permission. You can view the original at <https://www.algemeiner.com/2020/07/13/jewish-celebs-share-experiences-with-antisemitism-in-jewishprivilege-push-back-on-twitter>



Sarah Silverman.

Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

After antisemitic Twitter accounts began posting tweets on Sunday with the hashtag "JewishPrivilege," comedian Sarah Silverman and other Jewish social media users pushed back by using the hashtag to share their experiences with Jew-hatred.

Far-right and white supremacist Twitter users posted the hashtag as they tweeted about Holocaust denial, claims of Israel committing genocide and conspiracy theories involving Jewish world domination and control of the media.

The UK-based Campaign Against Antisemitism (CAA) explained, "The idea that Jews are a 'privileged' group is

a slur designed to deny that antisemitism exists and to imply that Jews are a cause of racism towards other minorities."

The CAA said that when "challenged to take action against the hashtag, Twitter reportedly refused, saying that it did not breach its terms of service, which evidently permit the platform to be used for the dissemination of racist material."

Not long after "#JewishPrivilege" went viral on Twitter, Jewish Twitter users flipped the hashtag and used it to tell their personal stories about facing antisemitism.

Silverman wrote on Sunday the following post:

"My dad getting the shit kicked out of him everyday at school 4 being a kike to kids in NH throwing pennies at me on the bus to pastors in Florida calling for my death and telling their congregation that knocking my teeth out and killing me would be God's work. #JewishPrivilege"

She also said, "People like Jews when they're suffering. Less comfortable with Jews if they're thriving. ... tbn Jews basically feel the same... Pooh Pooh #JewishPrivilege."

Former 2020 Democratic presidential candidate Marianne Williamson responded to Silverman's post, saying: "It's people emailing & tweeting to me that Jews need to be quiet now & that 'that's not just a suggestion' or friends who don't realize I'm Jewish making it clear how anti-Semitic they are or family members afraid to wear a Star of David in their own neighborhood.#JewishPrivilege."

"Central Park" star Josh Gad tweeted

about the family members his mother lost in the Holocaust.

"Guess we're at the #JewishPrivilege part of 2020 because Neo-Nazis have a social platform. Where to start? Is it the privilege of my mom never getting to meet her grandparents because they were murdered or is it her parents being robbed of their childhoods by being put in camps?"

Television producer David Simon, best known as the creator of "The Wire," wrote: "My #JewishPrivilege? Garden-variety stuff. Eleven dead relatives at Auschwitz and in the Russian woods and a father who was a hostage and suffered PTSD years after the Jewish non-profit where he worked was stormed by angry dudes with guns & scimitars who threatened to behead him."

Former New York State Assemblyman Dov Hikind — founder of Americans Against Antisemitism — wrote, "I had the #JewishPrivilege of growing up without grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins because my parents' family were nearly entirely wiped out by Hitler."

Book Review

Reviewed by Merle Carrus

Make It Concrete by Miryam Sivan

This is a novel with many layers. To read it on the surface is to miss the complexity involved. On the surface, this is the story of a woman searching for happiness and meaning in her life. She is a divorced mother of three children living in Israel. Isabel Toledo is a descendant of Spanish Jewry. Even though she made *Aliyah*, moving to Israel to marry her Israeli husband and raise her children there, she would not give up her name and connection to her past.



Her father's family can trace its lineage back to the expulsion from Spain in 1492. Her mother, Suri, is a Polish Holocaust survivor who does not want to talk about her experiences during the war. Though Isabel asks her mother questions about her past, Suri always puts off the discussion, which has left Isabel frustrated and unfulfilled.

Isabel is a ghostwriter telling the sto-

ries of Holocaust survivors, one after the other, for a demanding publisher in New York. She has written many books for him, but the current book is becoming hard to finish. Isabel tells Emanuel, "Jaim Benjamin's book is just hard. Feels like iron chains are attached to the sentences."

The survivor, Jaim Benjamin, is a Greek Jew of Sephardic heritage, like her father, and it is disconcerting to her. This story seems to be more personal than the others, reminding her that her own mother has never told her story. It becomes harder and harder for Isabel to finish this manuscript. Taking on the burden of listening and sharing the Holocaust memoirs is getting more and more difficult. She is starting to see demons wherever she looks.

To try to find some peace, Isabel has multiple relationships. There is the seri-

ous boyfriend, who is pushing to make the relationship more permanent. But Isabel cannot commit yet because she also has a young lover who she visits at construction sites and another man, on the side, she visits when in Prague. This was the one area of the book I found a bit unrealistic, at least based on my own feelings and relationships. I found it hard to believe a woman would be so sexually active without commitment. Isabel is looking for a way to avoid the demons in her head, but even with these affairs she cannot get rid of them.

Each of her relationships is similar to concrete. They start off as liquid and pour into a foundation that then becomes either strong and permanent or develops cracks and defects that break them apart. There is a sensuality to the descriptions of the concrete pours and how concrete is described in the book.

Isabel is afraid to commit to Emanuel, who wants to marry her and offers permanence and stability. She is unsure about her young construction worker, because he is younger than she is and deserves to find true love and start his

own family. She also picks up men while traveling for one night stands. But the cracks are developing and the weakness of the concrete is starting to show.

Reader will enjoy Sivan's wonderful prose and descriptions of Israeli locations as they follow the characters and encourage the ones they have become attached to to succeed.

Miryam Sivan is a former New Yorker who has lived in Israel for more than twenty years. She teaches literature and writing at the University of Haifa and has published scholarly articles on American and Israeli writers and a book-length study on Cynthia Ozick's fiction. SNAFU and Other Stories was published in 2014 and Make it Concrete, a novel, came out in April 2019. Much of her fiction is about the experiences of expats in love, in flux, in the liminal space between cultures, languages, and historical epochs. Her short fiction has appeared in various journals in the United States and the United Kingdom and two of her stories were adapted for the stage in London and New York.

Sports World Reacts to NFL Player's Anti-Semitic Posts

By Hannah Boyd

When Eagles player DeSean Jackson shared an anti-Semitic conspiracy theory on Instagram, the sports world was quick to react. The quote, falsely attributed to Hitler, accused Jews of harboring a plan for world domination and oppressing Black people, and called Black people "the real children of Israel." Coming a mere six months after followers of the Black Hebrew Israelites movement, which espouses those views, went on a murderous rampage at a kosher market in New Jersey, the post provoked a firestorm.

"The Philadelphia Eagles do not tolerate hate towards any individual or group. We believe in respect and equality for all races, ethnicities, and faiths," announced the Eagles. "Today we have penalized DeSean for conduct detrimental to the team....In our many conversations with him, it has also been made clear that this is only the beginning." Team owner Jeffrey Lurie and General Manager Howie Roseman are both Jewish.

Steelers Offensive Tackle Zach Banner choked up in a video he posted to social media in response. "There's a common misbelief among Black and Brown people — and I know this from growing up and I've listened to it — that Jewish people are just any other white race.... You mix them up with the rest of the majority and don't understand that they're a minority as well....We need to understand that Jewish people deal with the same amount of hate and similar hardships and hard times. I'm not trying to get emotional right now. I want to preach to the Black and Brown community that we need to uplift and put our arms around them just as much when we talk about Black Lives Matter and elevating ourselves. We can't do that while stepping on the back of other people to elevate ourselves."

"I think the Black and Jewish communities have a lot of similarities," wrote the Patriots' Julian Edelman, who is Jewish. "One, an unfortunate similarity is that they are both attacked by the ignorant and the hateful. It's really hard to see the challenges a

community can face when you're not a part of it. So what we need to do is, we need to listen. We need to learn. And we need to act. We need to have these uncomfortable conversations if we're going to have real change.

So to that end, DeSean, let's do a deal. How about we go to D.C. and I take you to the Holocaust Museum and then you take me to the Museum of African American History and Culture. Afterwards, we'll grab some burgers and we have those uncomfortable conversations."

Jackson has already accepted the invitation of Edward Mosberg, a 94 year old Holocaust survivor, to visit Auschwitz. From the Depths, an organization that supports Holocaust survivors, arranged a Zoom call between them, during which Mosberg wore his concentration camp uniform. He is an honorary chairman of the organization.

Chiefs' Offensive Tackle Mitchell Schwartz, who is Jewish, played football with Jackson in college and told CNN he believed the post stemmed from ignorance, not malice. "Anti-Semitism is

on the rise in this country," he wrote on Instagram. "Tragedy after tragedy, the number of hate crimes against Jews has reached record levels in the past few years. My hope is we can use this moment to shed light on and bring awareness to the hate and oppression the Jewish Community still faces while standing strong with the Black Lives Matters movement. We can only have change if we denounce racism and bias in all its forms."

NBA player Stephen Jackson took another tack, defending DeSean Jackson. "He don't hate nobody, but he's speaking the truth of the facts that he knows, and trying to educate others,"

Sports continued on page 24

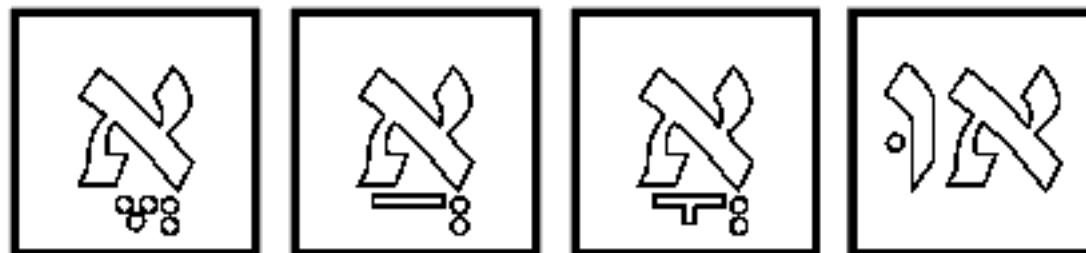
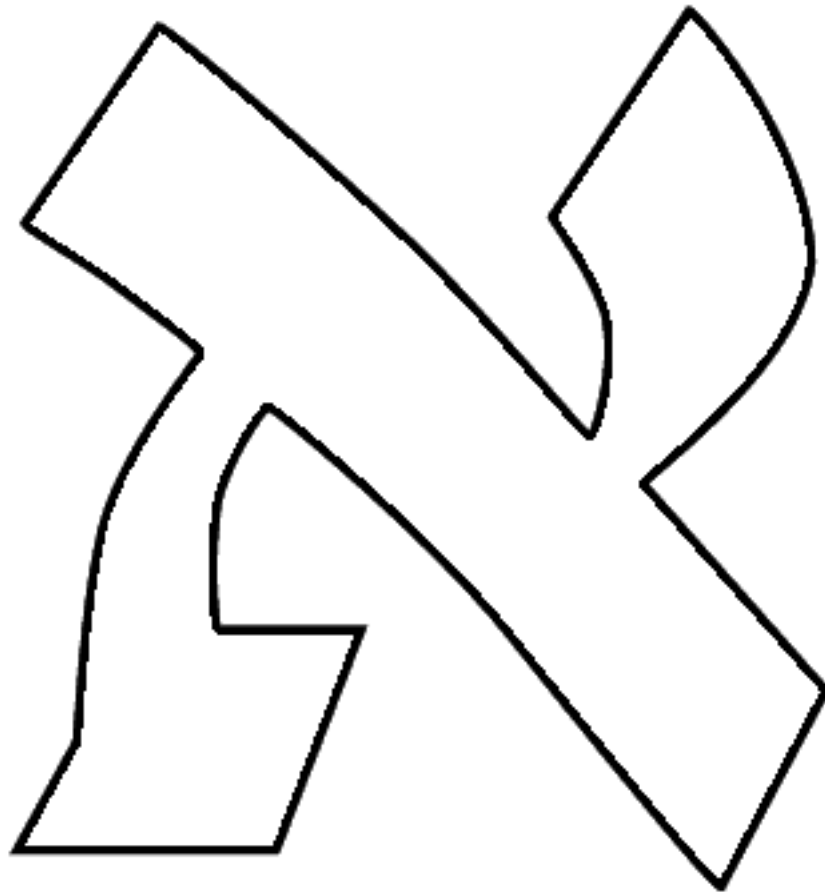
Joke of the Month

An epidemiologist, a rabbi, and a biologist walk into a bar.
Ha! Ha! Ha!

Kids' Corner Coloring Page



ALEF



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Chesed Opportunity: Brighten a 101st Birthday Spent in Quarantine!

Thelma Wacks had planned to celebrate her 101st birthday with family this August, but the Jewish retirement home where she lives has had to limit visits due to the pandemic. In lieu of a party, her family is asking the community to send notes and well wishes.

“She absolutely loves receiving cards, keeps every single one, and marks them on her map,” says family member and Nashua resident Jeni Smith. “If any of you can spare a moment and a stamp, I’m sure she would love handmade cards from kids or even just a little note wishing her the happiest of birthdays. She is still very active, continues to play the piano and sing, loves birds and flowers, and is addicted to FreeCell. We would be very grateful, and I know she will be so excited!”



Thelma Wacks, who will celebrate her 101st birthday this month, would enjoy receiving birthday greetings from New Hampshire.

Please send your very best birthday wishes to:

Thelma Wacks
Lanow House
1799 East Jefferson Street
Rockville, MD 20852

Nissim Black *continued from page 19*

“Mothaland Bounce” has amassed over a million views in seven days, making it one of the most impactful music videos Nissim Black has ever released. In the attached interview, Nissim talks about the unification of different cultures, his mainstream record deal, and what it’s like as an African American Jew in the Orthodox world.

Nissim also answers an age old question: is it possible to be pro-black and pro-Jewish? (Of course.)

Mordechai Yosef Ben Avraham Hazan is a rabbinical student in Jerusalem. He grew up in Los Angeles, California, where he converted to Judaism. Before coming to Israel, Mordechai Yosef was an entertainment executive with companies such as Warner Brothers, Electus, and others. He was also a writer for Vogue Japan, and most recently, My Jewish Learning.

This article first appeared on TheJ.Ca and is reprinted with their permission.



37th Annual Gail Singer Memorial Blood Drive!

Wednesday, Aug. 26 and Thursday, Aug. 27
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester Downtown
700 Elm St., Manchester, NH 03101

All presenting donors will receive a complimentary T-shirt plus vouchers and coupons from many of our partners.* Parking is validated inside blood drive.

As a service for our donors, blood donations will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies, providing insight into possible exposure to coronavirus.

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For more information visit GailSingerMemorial.org

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*Offers and items are non-transferable and are not redeemable for cash. Items are available while supplies last. © 2020 The American National Red Cross | 2018-APL-01171 | 335401-01-RW

Be a Hero at the Gail Singer Memorial Blood Drive

By Stephen Singer

It is my distinct honor to once again chair the iconic Gail Singer Memorial Blood Drive. We are so very proud that this drive has evolved into one of our community's signature events, setting a record several years ago as the largest single day blood drive in America. We will once again shower our donors with gift bags loaded with goodies, but because of the pandemic the drive will look a bit different this year. The American Red Cross has always had an extremely high standard of safety, and this year the bar for those standards will be raised even

higher. Temperatures will be taken at entry points, face masks will be required for both donors and staff, hand sanitizer will be available throughout the facility, and of course social distancing will be enforced from start to finish.

To expedite and facilitate your blood donation, we are recommending that you pre-register by making an online appointment. Please share this information with your family, friends, and colleagues. As always, the Singer Family appreciates your support and partnership. Looking forward to personally greeting you next month at the Doubletree Hotel in Manchester.

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Helping Our Neighbors in Times of Need

By Ambassador Zeev Boker, Consulate General of Israel to New England

Since 2006, a unique relationship has developed between the Boston Cape Verdean community and members of the local Jewish community. We come together every year on Passover to celebrate both our cultures and shared connections. The participation of the Israeli Consulate's representatives at the Cape Verdean-Jewish Passover Seder has fostered a close connection based on respect, understanding and solidarity.

The holiday of Passover commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from Egypt. The Cape Verdean-Jewish Passover Seder is structured around the Jewish holiday, whose theme - the quest for freedom - resonates with the history of each group. This custom began because of the shared experience both Jewish and Cape Verdean communities faced when coming to the USA. Indeed, there is a historical connection that dates back to both the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions where waves of Jewish exiles escaped persecution to settle in Cabo Verde, a country comprising a



Ambassador Zeev Boker, Consulate General of Israel to New England

group of islands located 385 miles off the west coast of Africa.

The State of Israel and the Republic of Cabo Verde established diplomatic relations in 1994, and since then the Israeli agency responsible for educational and cooperation programs in developing countries, MASHAV, has helped to enhance agricultural and

sustainable development there. In addition, Cape Verdean Ambassador Carlos Wahnnon Viega served as both the Ambassador to the United States and Israel during his diplomatic career. The growing relationship between Israel and Cape Verde is reflected in the deepening connection between the Consulate General of Israel to New England and the local Cape Verdean community.

The Cape Verdean Community in Boston resides mainly in the neighborhoods of Dorchester, Mattapan, East Boston and Hyde Park. These areas have been disproportionately affected by the Coronavirus compared with other neighborhoods in the area. According to the Boston Public Health Commission, despite Black residents making up only 25% of the population, they represent approximately 38% of the positive cases of COVID-19 in Boston.

The pandemic crisis has highlighted the stark reality of unequal access to health care based on race and socio-economic factors in our region. As COVID-19 continued to spread, this community, which is represented by the Cape Verdean Association of Boston, lacked access to free PPE (masks). By way of affirming the

Jewish concept of "Tikkum Olam," which means making the world a better place, the Israeli Consulate believed it was important to lend support to our neighbors in times of need.

Given that our celebration of Israel's 72nd Independence Day was cancelled due to the pandemic, we couldn't think of a better way of using the funds than by donating a total amount of \$11,000 to the Cape Verdean Association in order to purchase the needed supplies to manage the rise of infection and assist in their relief efforts. We offered our support and sense of solidarity given our long-standing and historic relationship, so that together we can overcome these difficult times. Hopefully, next year we will be able to resume our special Cape Verdean-Jewish Passover Seder and rejoice in health and wellness together.

July 5th marked Cabo Verde National Day, celebrating 45 years of independence. We hope that our modest gesture of support will contribute to strengthen the resolve of our Cape Verdean neighbors here in Boston during this period of great need and uncertainty.

Sheba Medical Center Empowers Ethiopian-Israeli Youth

By Sharon Gelbach

Sheba Medical Center, Israel's national hospital, enjoys a reputation for medical innovation, but many are unaware that it is also at the forefront of societal integration among various minority groups in Israel. In the past several years, Sheba has integrated hundreds of Ethiopian *olim* into the hospital workforce, providing free classes to help them navigate Israeli bureaucracy and improve their language skills.

Most recently, Professor Eldad Katorza, senior physician at Sheba and Director of the Arrow Project, decided to give youth from the Ethiopian community a head start by incorporating them into a pilot program within the Arrow Project.

Project Arrow (*Chetz* in Hebrew, the initials of *chokrim tze'irim*, meaning "young researchers") is an apprenticeship program for med students, designed to pave their way into the world of medical research. Established in 2006, this revolutionary initiative matches selected medical students with experienced

researchers who serve as their mentors. During once or twice weekly meetings, the student-mentor team work through every stage of medical research, from formulating the initial question, to collecting and analyzing data, to presenting the results at medical conferences.

This year, for the first time, each research duo included also a third tier: high school students from the Ethiopian community.

In the early stages of planning the pilot program for the Ethiopian high school students, it quickly became evident to Katorza just how crucial, timely, and challenging his initiative was. "I asked my son, then in 11th grade, to look around his own school in Givatayim for students from the Ethiopian community who might be suitable for the program. As it turned out, there wasn't a single Ethiopian student in his school, nor in any of the good schools in the area."

Members of the Ethiopian community tend to dwell in poorer neighborhoods where community services, schools



Students and staff of the Arrow Project on a tour of Sheba Medical Center near Tel Aviv. Professor Katorza is in the center and Yair Jalmar is at the far right.

included, are on a lower level. These conditions put Ethiopian teens at a disadvantage from the outset. Due to economic necessity, the youth are pushed to join the workforce at an early age,

further perpetuating a cycle of poverty.

"Almost four decades have passed since the first wave of Ethiopian *aliyah*," observes Katorza, "yet judging from

Sheba Medical continued on page 25



News from Hadassah

By Michele Bank

During this period of limited social gathering, the Manchester Chapter of Hadassah stayed connected to its members by holding its first virtual book club meeting. Eight members participated in the discussion of Cilka's Journey by Heather Morris. In addition to having an interesting discussion about the book, members enjoyed connecting with each other, even if virtually.

National Hadassah has started a virtual book club called "One Book, One Hadassah." *The Book of V* is their next book and there will be a live virtual discussion/interview with the author, Anne Solomon, on August 20 at 7 PM. You can register to join this webinar with Hadassah members across the country by going to Hadassah.org and entering register for "One Hadassah, One book."

National Hadassah is also offering many podcasts that you can watch on Hadassah.org. Topics include building bridges between Arabs and Jews, medicine, and Coronavirus.

In international Hadassah news, the following Hadassah story made page one in the New York Times. In an astonishing confluence that probably could only have happened in the troubled Middle East, an Arab Muslim surgeon at Jerusalem's

Hadassah Hospital used illustrations from an anatomy textbook written by a Nazi professor from Vienna to operate on a Jewish patient injured in a terrorist attack.

Dvir Musai was 13 when he was gravely wounded by a mine planted by Palestinian militants. Since then he has undergone numerous surgeries. Now 31 and married with two children, Musai returned to the doctors, seeking relief from unrelenting pain in his foot. Relying on detailed nerve illustrations from the Nazi-era textbook, Dr. Madi El-Haj, a nerve surgeon, performed the successful surgery, forging an ongoing friendship between two families, one Arab, the other Jewish.

Show your family and friends that you are thinking of them during this time of social distancing by sending a lovely Hadassah e-Card. You can do this by visiting Hadassah's e-Card Marketplace, where for a minimum annual donation of \$36 you can send unlimited Jewish all-occasion e-Cards for an ENTIRE YEAR.

Manchester Hadassah hopes you are all safe and healthy during this difficult period and looks forward to eventually meeting in person again. For more information about Hadassah, please contact Michele Bank at michele.bank@gmail.com

Sports continued from page 20

he wrote on Instagram, adding, "The Jews are the richest. You know who the Rothschilds are? ... They control all the banks. They own all the banks."

Former Eagle Malik Jackson defended DeSean Jackson's references to Farrakhan, who has famously referred to Jews as "satanic" and "termites" and praised Hitler. Saints player Malcolm Jenkins referred to the controversy as "a distraction."

Some saw a double standard in the reaction to DeSean Jackson's posts. "The truth of Jackson's wrist slap is

likely this: Anti-Semitism doesn't cause the same fury as other prejudices," wrote famed sportswriter Mitch Albom in a column in the *Detroit Free Press*. "There is rarely as loud or sustained an outcry when a synagogue is attacked or a Jewish person is killed for his faith. Or the entire Jewish population is slandered."

NBA Hall of Famer and writer Kareem Abdul-Jabbar dedicated a column in the *Hollywood Reporter* to the question, "Where Is the Outrage Over Anti-Semitism in Sports and Hollywood?" concluding, "if we're going to be outraged by injustice, let's be outraged by injustice against anyone."

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OBITUARIES

Irma R Wallin

April 14, 1947 – July 15, 2020

Irma Rosalie (Holtzman) Wallin of Nashua, NH died Wednesday July 15, 2020 in Boston, MA. Born on April 14, 1947 in Lowell, MA, she was the daughter of Sophie (Levin) and David L. Holtzman. Irma grew up in Manchester and graduated from Central High School. She received a BS with distinction from Hofstra University, majoring in psychology and elementary education and was elected to Kappa Delta Pi-National Honor Society in education, and was a Graduate Fellow at Ferkauf Graduate School of Yeshiva University, where she received an MA in Special Education. She taught learning disabled children in Dumont, NJ before moving to Cleveland, Ohio. She moved back to Manchester in 1975 to raise her family. She and her late husband Gary established Mailing Corporation of America, a direct mail fundraising firm specializing in non-profit organizations and later Wallin Group, Inc. of which she was president until her death. While in Manchester she was an officer and member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Community Center and a member of the Board of the Jewish Federation of Greater Manchester. She was also a member of the Board and later President of Temple Israel. She was an active member of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and a past member of the United Jewish Appeal's Young Leadership Cabinet, and life member of Hadassah. Irma was on the founding board of the Israel Institute, a nonprofit promoting the study of modern Israel in colleges and universities throughout the world. She was a most generous and devoted mother, grandmother and friend. She loved to travel and took many memorable trips with her husband Gary, children and dear friends. She is survived by her daughter, Amanda (Kudler) Abramovich and her husband, Dan of Acton, MA, her son Justin S. Kudler and his wife Stephanie of West Hartford, CT, step-daughter Amy G. Wallin and her husband Aaron of Hampton, NH, step-son Ian R. Wallin and his wife Jodi of Westfield, NJ and step-son Michael A. Wallin and his wife Veronica of Wake Forest, NC.; grandchildren Sophie and Hallie Kudler, Zachary and Elsa Abramovich, Garrison and Rose Wallin, Jack Wallin, and Cecilia Wallin, and very special friends Lynn Schusterman of Tulsa, OK and Jane Weitzman, of Greenwich, CT. She was predeceased by her husband, Gary P Wallin in 2004. The funeral will take place at Chabad of New Hampshire, Manchester, NH for the immediate family only and burial will be in the Montefiore Cemetery, Pelham, NH. Friends and extended family are invited to join the funeral by Zoom. Memorial week will be observed by Zoom. Please reach out to the family for Zoom details (irmawallinfuneral@gmail.com). Memorial donations may be made to the Irma and Gary Wallin Young Leadership Fund at the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, 273 South River Rd. #5, Bedford, NH 03110; B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, 800 8th St. NW, Washington, DC 20001; The Jewish Book Council, 520 8th Avenue, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10018; Chabad of New Hampshire, 1234 River Road, Manchester, NH 03104; or the charity of your choice.



This is reprinted from Dignitymemorial.com.

How to submit an obituary

The Reporter publishes obituaries for any member of the community, past or present, for a \$36 fee. Please send obituaries and one photo, if desired, as a separate jpg attachment to thereporter@jewishnh.org or to the office along with payment at: JFNH, 273 South River Road, Unit #5, Bedford, NH 03110.

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JFNH Tributes

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Priscilla Wiggins in honor of Darvi Rosenberg, CPA

Simchas

New! B'nai mitzvah, engagement, wedding or new baby in the family? Share your happiness with the community with a notice in the *Reporter's* new *Simchas* section. Your \$36 payment will support JFNH's nonprofit mission. Submit a short notice and photo to thereporter@jewishnh.org or JFNH, 273 South River Road, Unite #5, Bedford, NH 03110.

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.

Sheba Medical *continued from page 23*

their rate of participation in academia, their level of affluence and other markers of social mobility, it appears that the government has failed to take the necessary steps to help them bridge the gaps and facilitate their successful absorption into mainstream Israeli society."

Anxious to change this negative trend, Katorza decided to include outstanding students from the Ethiopian community in the Arrow Project.

Good intentions aside, it wasn't simple to locate high school students from the Ethiopian sector who met the criteria for participation in the program: high marks in the sciences, high motivation and interest, and living near enough to the Sheba campus to be able to easily attend the weekly meetings. Ultimately, Katorza was aided by an organization called *Fidel* ("alphabet" in Amharic), which promotes the education and social integration of Ethiopian-Israeli youth. The *Fidel* staff welcomed this opportunity to incorporate Ethiopian students in Sheba's research-mentoring platform and provided ten candidates, from which the top five were chosen.

According to Professor Katorza, the

pilot was a resounding success and will be repeated in the coming year. "We found that once they are freed from the limitations of their environment, the students manifested amazing capabilities. We endeavored to help build their self-confidence, empower them, and teach them that they can do anything they put their mind to."

Throughout the year, in addition to their full participation in research, the Ethiopian high-schoolers were also exposed to the exciting clinical activity at the hospital. "At the beginning of the year, the students didn't have any specific plans for the future," Katorza said. "Now, they are now seriously considering a medical career."

One of those is Yair Jalmar, 17, from Beer Yaakov, who participated in a research project with pediatric cardiologist Dr. Shai Tejman. "This project helped me develop my interest in medicine and learn more about the advanced technologies and devices as well as the various departments in the medical field," he said.

Thus far, former participants in the Arrow Project have gone on to publish their findings in prestigious medical journals, and several have joined the outstanding team at Sheba.

JFNH Tribute Cards: A Double Mitzvah

Sending a tribute card from the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire is one of the best ways to honor someone for any *simcha*, e.g. birthday, anniversary, bar/bat mitzvah. It is also the perfect way to say "Thank you" or to send your condolences.

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njs@silbersnh.com
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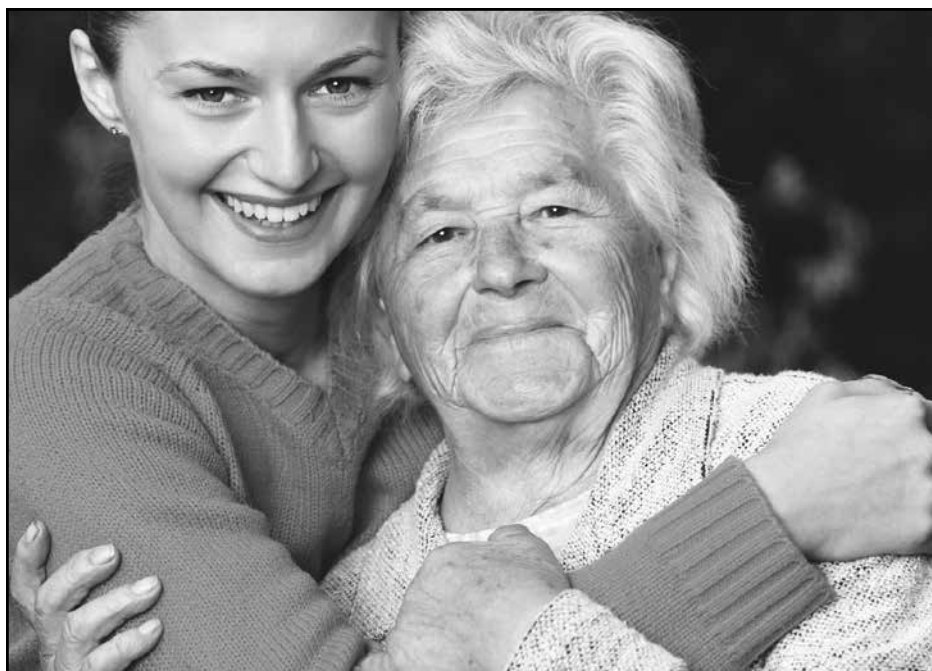


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