



SUMMER CAMP

**Jerry Lewis, Jay Madnick, and the Power of Community:
A Summary of JFNH's Super Sunday Telethon**

By Dina Michael Chaitowitz

What do Jerry Lewis and JFNH Board of Directors member Jay Madnick have in common? They have both hosted phenomenally successful telethons. The Federation's Super Sunday Telethon, held on December 8, 2020 in connection with its annual fundraising, brought in twice as much money as the annual campaign raised last year.

JFNH's first-ever virtual telethon, which took months of preparation by many people, was a gamble—but creative genius Jay Madnick wanted to provide our quarantined community with something that could be enjoyed at home. Having grown up watching Lewis's annual Labor Day Muscular Dystrophy Association telethon, Jay had faith that JFNH could create a telethon that would be fun, innovative, and successful. He was right.

If you missed the event, do not fret: The recordings of telethon segments will be available on JFNH's website as soon as they are prepared for uploading. You will also find the recipes used during the cooking and baking segments. While we hope you tune in to watch

these recordings for the sheer fun of it, outlined here are some of the highlights of the event.

The program started with Allyson Guertin, JFNH's Director of Outreach and Engagement & PJ Library Coordinator, who gave an overview of JFNH's prolific and diverse programming, COVID-19 notwithstanding: these ranged from Shlichah Avia Sagron's cooking events and Hebrew classes, to our early education programming, to our adult and family virtual and interactive trips to Israel. She also explained that we have increased our social services, in light of increased community needs resulting from the pandemic. Longtime JFNH Board member Judith Jolton spoke passionately about other important JFNH activities, including PJ Library, the NH Jewish Film Festival, MOMentum, Seniors Forever, our involvement in the passage of the



JFNH Chairperson Sarit Itenberg acted as one of the hosts.



Super Sunday Committee Co-Chair Pat Kalik periodically "popped in" on the hosts with live updates on the progress of the telethon fundraising.



Creative genius and Super Sunday Committee Co-Chair Jay Madnick enjoyed making the commercials, being Director for a Day, and working with the office staff and all the volunteers.

Holocaust and Genocide Education Act, and our monthly newspaper, The Reporter.

"Tzedakah," Judith said, is all about the giving of time and commitment, and the heart, to enrich our Jewish community."

Well said, Judith.

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**New Consul General to N.E. says
'I'll do my best to show what Israel is all about'**

By Penny Schwartz, Jewish Journal

BOSTON – The friendly handshakes, informal drop-ins to Shabbat services, and schmoozing at cultural events have been replaced with Zoom meetings, socially distanced introductions, and face masks with the insignia of the Israeli and American flags.

Welcome to the COVID-19 era diplomatic world of Ambassador Meron Reuben, the newly appointed Consul General of Israel to New England, who began his new post in November in the midst of a pandemic. He follows Ambassador Zeev Bokor, whose two-year assignment here ended.

Reuben arrived in Boston from Israel at

a time when the global pandemic upended the time-honored traditions and gatherings where a new consul general would be out and about, meeting and greeting the Jewish community. Even his ability to meet in person with the region's diplomatic corps has been a challenge.

"Everyone has been very welcoming, but it is difficult. I would have gone to shuls and met people. I'll get there," the ambassador told Jewish Journal in a recent phone conversation.

"Diplomacy is very personal. You need to be there," said Reuben, whose foreign min-



Consul General Meron Reuben

istry career has spanned more than three decades, including a year as Israel's ambassador to the United Nations (2010-2011).

But he has not altogether avoided the personal touches. He's arranged his spacious living room to accommodate a socially distanced meeting area, spacing chairs far apart and opening windows to allow in fresh air. His first purchase in Boston was an

outdoor heater that he set up for meetings on his balcony.

Reuben met Governor Charlie Baker and

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CONGREGATIONS

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

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www.betenu.org
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BETHLEHEM HEBREW CONGREGATION

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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

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Rabbi Robin Nafshi
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Please check the website for the Shabbat Morning schedule

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www.JewishSeacoast.com

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chabad@dartmouth.edu
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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

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Rabbi Dan Aronson
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
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Check the website for time variations

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Rabbi Dan Danson
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Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 524-7044
www.tbinh.org
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www.Lubavitchnh.com
rabbi@lubavitchnh.com
Services: Shabbat Services
Saturday morning at 9:30 AM
Sunday morning minyan at 9 AM

TEMPLE ADATH YESHURUN

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Reform, Affiliated URJ
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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 services 8:00 p.m., Shabbat Alive! first Friday of the month 6:30 p.m., online Saturday service 10 am, evening services daily at 7:30 p.m. except Saturday 45 minutes after sunset.

NORTH CONWAY

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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 Kaya Stern-Kaufman
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
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The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter

Volume 41, Number 4

FEBRUARY 2021
Shevat-Adar 5781

Published by the
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire

273 South River Rd. Unit #5
Bedford, NH 03110
Tel: (603) 627-7679

Editor: **Nicholas Conley**
Layout and Design: **Tim Gregory**

Advertising Sales:
603-627-7679
info@jewishnh.org

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

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

Please send all materials to:
thereporter@jewishnh.org

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

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

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Shabbat Candle Lighting Times: (Manchester)

February 5	4:46 PM
February 12	4:56 PM
February 19	5:05 PM
February 26	5:14 PM



The JFNH Stands with Democracy

By JFNH

On January 6, 2021, we witnessed extreme violence and destruction in our country. In the midst of democracy in action, waiting for Congress to tally the votes for a peaceful transition of power as we begin a new administration, we watched rioters attack and storm the Capitol in a disgraceful act of domestic terrorism. Our values and freedoms were under attack, and we have much work to do to return to civility and respect for one another.

In an article by Todd Sukol, he states: “Among the bright spots I have seen in recent weeks is the joint television commercial produced by opposing candidates in the Utah gubernatorial election. They appeared together to tell the world that although they have strong differences, they respect each other as human be-

ings. They modelled civility and humanity; disagreement without hatred.”

Our prayers go out to the law enforcement, our elected officials, and all those who work in the Capitol.

The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire stands with these national Jewish organizations in recognizing democracy as the fundamental principle of our country.

ADL: <https://twitter.com/ADL/status/1346895158747521025?s=20>
 AJC: <https://twitter.com/AJCGlobal/status/1346900056344055808?s=20>
 RJC: <https://twitter.com/RJC/status/1346889406184087553?s=20>

Sarit Itenberg
 Chair of the Board

Elyse Hyman
 Executive Director

January 6, 2021 - The Day of Shattered Democracy

By Sarit Itenberg (JFNH Board Chair) and Jonathan Greenblatt

Shalom Chaverim,

Hopefully, you’ve all had a healthy start to 2021. This is—optimistically—the year of saying goodbye to COVID-19 restrictions. The time ahead should be an exciting period, with most of us getting vaccinated in the months to come, resuming travel, having family gatherings, houses of worship resuming in-person services, and—in the words of our daughter—“Getting more hugs!”

We have now joined the thousands of fortunate healthcare providers vaccinated against this horrible virus, which has taken so many lives around the globe, drastically affected so many people’s livelihoods, and dramatically impacted how we all live our daily lives over the last year. We are certainly grateful about the rapid development and rollout of the vaccines, and we hope that the organized administration of the doses improves from its current state, moving forward. We hope and pray that all people who are interested in being vaccinated will be able to schedule their first vaccination dates in the near future.

Now, on a grimmer note: After the events of Jan 6th, 2021, we have been doing a lot of soul searching, and recal-

ibrating. We have done so through the lens of being American parents of young children, and especially as Jews in America in 2021.

What occurred at the Capitol, weeks ago, is something we can never forget.

Regardless of our individual political leanings, whether conservative or liberal, the events that transpired on January 6—and the time period prior—must be recognized as a pivotal point in modern American history. The U.S. Capitol was attacked, and lawmakers from both houses of Congress, on both sides of the aisle, as well as the US Vice President, were threatened by a crowd of mostly white nationalist domestic terrorists. The fact that this bloodthirsty, well-organized mob was incited by a sitting U.S. President is truly astonishing. The fact that President Trump has never been able to *immediately* criticize and condemn members of racist white nationalist groups in the past, throughout his four years in office, should have been a warning to more of us. After all, even at the presidential debates, he told the Proud Boys to “Stand back and stand by” instead of condemning their organization. That there were not more fatalities and injuries is miraculous, but we must recognize the immeasurable bravery and hero-

Democracy continued on page 4

The History of Antisemitism, and Why We Must Speak Out Against Hate

So, 2020 is behind us, thank goodness and good riddance. But with the elections, pandemic, and divisive communities, we are seeing antisemitism once again on the rise, in so many different ways.

I am not sure how many of us are aware of the history of antisemitism, and why it continues systemically worldwide, but I thought it was important to lay out the how and why it continues to prosper well into the 21st century.

Antisemitism is defined as hostile actions or discrimination against Jews, as a religious and/or ethnic group. For thousands of years, since the time Jesus was crucified, the Jewish people have been blamed and persecuted for lies that have been propagated—initially by leaders of the Christian communities, and then filtered into the communities themselves. Over and over again, through the centuries, the Jews were blamed for a variety of actions and problems related to the greater community. In the mid-1300s, Jews were even blamed for poisoning the water wells in Europe, causing the Black Plague. As Christianity became more popular, Jews were portrayed as not accepting the word of God. Jews were not allowed to work in a number of industries, and they were forced into jobs such as moneylending and trade commerce, living together in areas of a city called ghettos. In spite of the way they were treated and lived, they continued their observance and ritual practices.

It was not until the 1960s that the Church published a statement renouncing the long-held belief that the Jews had killed Jesus.

In the late 1800s, Eastern European Jews were tortured by pogroms—entire ghettos were burned to the ground. A Russian book, *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, was published and contained numerous lies about the Jews which gave the Cossacks, the army, the approval to desecrate, kill, and torture entire Jewish towns, all because the book stated that Jews wanted to take over the world and should not be trusted. At

Elyse Hyman

Executive Director



around this time, Jews were thought to be a separate race, not just a religion.

And we all know what transpired during the Holocaust. Six million Jews killed, an entire generation lost forever.

In the past several months, there have been several antisemitic incidents in New Hampshire. Our job is to remain vigilant, to speak out against those who hate, and to report incidents to both the police and the ADL. We must take a stand, make a statement, and most importantly, not stand by silently and let these awful, hateful incidents continue. Although the hate and the lies have continued for thousands of years, and though antisemitism does not seem to disappear, we cannot be deterred or give up. It is imperative to teach our children, all our children, that hate, of any kind, is not an option and will not be tolerated.

What are we doing as a community to stem this hatred and antisemitism?

- Thankfully, this past summer, New Hampshire was the 14th state to pass—and our Governor signed a bill—to mandate Holocaust and Genocide Education programs in our public schools.
- We will partner with local schools, and the ADL host learning forums for all children and teens.
- Make our voices heard, report incidents and actions to the police and ADL promptly.
- Partner with community interfaith organizations and stand together against all forms of hate.

Why we cannot come together to combat the pandemic and live side-by-side, as neighbors, I do not think I will ever understand. Hatred and blame are not going to cure anything. Hope and hard work will help. Let us not give up.

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Super Sunday *continued from page 1*

Dick Lutsk, Play-By-Play Broadcaster at College of the Holy Cross, then introduced a number of presenters, including Alane Mazer-Sabel (beloved 32-year director of JFNH's former preschool), who offered young children a story about "Mitzvah Giraffe," and talked directly to them about how easy it is to help others. JFNH Board member Debbie DePasse followed with a discussion

Democracy *continued from page 3*

ism of the Capitol police officers, who held back the massive insurgent mob until reinforcements arrived.

Many of us have noticed that, ever since 2016, the white nationalist racists and bigots of our country have felt increasingly comfortable coming to the surface, as seen by the rising number of antisemitic hate crimes. With the events of January 6th in our rearview, we must now *collectively* work to make it less comfortable for them. This will require new laws, and precise law enforcement, by the FBI and DHS, as well state and local police forces. This will require us to be awake, aware, vigilant, and vocal.

It is important to point out that we cannot fault a political party for having a number of racist, bigoted, and antisemitic supporters. However, it's also important that we should demand for our political parties to immediately denounce these types of "supporters," and not kowtow to such individuals or organizations, nor rely on them as voting blocs in primary and general elections.

We also need to be weary of political figures, from any party, who associate with—or show support for—individuals and/or groups that have antisemitic, racist, bigoted or xenophobic agendas, such as the Proud Boys, QAnon, the KKK, Neo-Nazis, and so on. We must demand that candidates with such associations be blocked from major party representation: this would force them to run as independents, and thus not allow their views to be mainstreamed. We must work to avoid scenarios where candidates who espouse QAnon theory—itsself an outgrowth of ancient antisemitic conspiracy theories—or make statements such as "Hitler was right about..." or anything of that sort are ever taken seriously by their constituents.

We now are at the start of Black History month. I have had the privilege of sitting in on several Zoom conference calls with Black leaders, and interfaith

of JFNH's new early education initiative, which includes Shavua Tov Story Time (stories, games, music, crafts, and values for families with children aged two to five) and a new Facebook group designed to empower families raising Jewish children in New Hampshire and enable them to connect with each other and their Jewish community (if you are interested, go to JFNH Family Connection on Facebook, and ask to join). Dick also introduced a number of music vid-

leaders, in our great Granite state. The context, specifically, has been the pandemic and its effect on the minority community, even here in NH. The data does not lie. These conversations, conducted through a safe Zoom setting, allow educated and thoughtful individuals to engage in an environment of open dialogue and learning. These sorts of conversations are the opposite of what we saw on January 6th: open dialogue, done with respect, nuance, open minds, and a look toward harmony instead of hatred. The best we can do is learn what we do not know. We should engage with groups we may not have otherwise engaged with. We all have a story.

We will soon have a wonderful program hosted by the JFNH Film Festival and TAY, featuring a film called *Shared Legacies: The African-American Jewish Civil Rights Alliance*. Following this film, which involves the era of MLK and the relationships he had with the Jewish community, will be a program moderated by Robert Trestan, Executive Director of the ADL's Boston office, including a panel of leaders, in our state, of both the Jewish and Black communities.

These programs and discussions are not separate: They are not to stand alone. To successfully dive in and process these subject matters—both domestic antisemitism, and domestic racism—will make each of us a better version of our own self.

This month, please join us. Join us in reaching across the room, across the street, and across the state, to be more openminded, amicable, and caring towards one another. Let's recognize our own imperfections, or worse, our own ugly preconceptions. Remember the rule: "People and country before politics and party."

Please join us at JFNH to continue the hard fight, to continue learning, and to continue growing, teaching, and loving.

Warmly and compassionately,
Sarit and Jonathan

eos by musician—and adored former shlichah—Noam Wolf.

Charlie Sherman, sportscaster at WBZ News Radio, hosted the second hour. After a humorous sports tête-à-tête with fellow sports enthusiast Dick Lutsk, Charlie introduced Jacki Katzman, a Feldenkrais Awareness Through Movement mentor, who guided us in a simple body-based meditation. Jacki invited the community to visit Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation which, sans pandemic, offers programs in the Feldenkrais Method in the summer.

David Goldstone, Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation President, and Chairperson of the JFNH Social Services Committee, spoke of the rising need for assistance, and JFNH's hotline. The hot-

line (603-310-9941) will put you in touch with JFNH's social worker, Mel Spierer. Dave emphasized, "We are not just here for your support. We are here to support your needs as well. We are here to help you survive these particularly trying times—to help you heal and thrive as part of our Jewish community."

Next, Kugel the Clown did a Chanukah magic show straight from "Yu-gozrazia." Afterwards, Shlichah Avia Sargon, an artist, worked through a Chanukah-themed paint-by-number design she created just for Super Sunday, explained the difference between the dreidels in America and those in Israel, while she shared her love for the holiday.

JFNH Board Chairperson Sarit Iten-

Super Sunday continued on page 5

Statewide Calendar of Events

DISCLAIMER: Events are submitted weeks in advance of publication, and are subject to change, particularly during the pandemic. For information on format changes, re-scheduling, and so on, please contact the event's host.

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.

Monday, February 1- Thursday February 4

Joachim Prinz: I Shall Not Be Silent Special JHJFF Event

6PM – 8PM, Virtual Event
Special New Hampshire Film Festival Event. The screening window for the film will begin Monday February 1st at 6 pm for 72 hours. Post film discussion will be Thursday February 4th at 8 pm. Register here <https://www.nhjewishfilmfestival.com>

Sunday, February 7

The Impact of the COVID Pandemic on Mental Health

9:30AM-11:30AM, Zoom
Live via Zoom presented by the Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club. Dr. Feder will discuss the COVID Pandemic and its effect on our Mental Health and offer some suggestions on how potential coping mechanisms may help to reduce the impact of the added stress and anxiety that is affecting our community at this trying time. Dr. Feder's presentation will be followed by an open question and answer session. Visit <http://www.snhjmc.org> for more information.

Sunday, February 21

Shavua Tov Story Time- Purim

Start your week (and your Sunday morning) with and interactive story time.
This 20 Minute Zoom program is designed for families with children ages 2-5.
All registered families will receive a craft mailed to your home the week of the program. As a family make your craft ahead of the program and we'll use the finished projects as part of our program! Pre-registration is required and the Zoom link will be provided when registration is received.
To register call the JFNH office at 603-627-7679 or email allyson.guertin@jewishnh.org
**Shavua Tov Story time is a new program through the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire's Early Education Initiative!*

Monday, February 22 – Friday, February 26

Virtual Family Israeli Getaway

11AM, Zoom
Cost \$50.00
Looking for a family activity over February Vacation? Board a virtual airplane and join Jewish National Fund's Virtual Travel & Tours and PJ Library-New Hampshire on a week-long interactive trip to Israel!
About the tour: This will be a fun packed family Israeli adventure! "Walk" through narrow cobbled streets Jerusalem. "Climb" the Ancient Masada. "Swim" on the Dead Sea, and much more!
This trip is geared for families with children ages 6-12
Cost: \$50 per family, includes a week of touring and a Purim celebration. Invite your friends to come along on the journey! Each registered family will receive a package containing all the items they need for an exciting, engaging, and interactive adventure in Israel!
Financial aid available
For questions or more information, Contact Allyson Guertin, allyson.guertin@jfnh.com or 603-627-7679 x 1002. Or Dana Klein, dklein@jfnh.org or 617-423-0999 or 617-423-0999 x484.
Show your support for tourism in Israel. Proceeds go directly to compensate our guides.
Register at jfn.org/jfnhpjlibrarytour
You will receive your login information upon registering

Your Federation at Work

Super Sunday *continued from page 4*

berg hosted the next hour, which began with storytelling by Etz Hayim Synagogue's Book Bubbie, Leslie Kirshman. Following the Book Bubbie, Nancy Frankel (AKA Kugel the Clown) who has chaired JFNH's Camp and Israel Experience Grant Program for 16 years, explained the non-need-based grants that are available to Jewish youth who go to a Jewish summer camp or participate in a peer trip to Israel or an Israel study program. Nancy explained that, "These experiences comprise one of the most important ways that we can ensure that Jewish values and traditions carry on into future generations." Laurie Kagan Medrek, President of Etz Hayim Synagogue and Jewish cook extraordinaire, then shared her recipe and tips for perfect mandelbrot. The hour wrapped up with the sweet and spiritual music of Jewish singer-songwriter Sue Horowitz. Sue, who was previously connected to Temple Israel in Dover, NH, zoomed to us all the way from Iowa to share her uplifting music, including *Henai MaTov* and *Hineini*, reminding us how wonderful it is to be together (even if only on Zoom) and how important it is to welcome each other with trust and pride.



JFNH Board member Dina Michael Chaitowitz's "black and white" soda was enjoyed by her husband and volunteer taste-tester, Robert J. Lynn.

Jenny Rosenson from the Seacoast hosted the final hour of the telethon. We met Ambassador Meron Reuben, the Consul General of Israel to New England since November 2020. Ambassador Reuben had just arrived in the United States around the time of the telethon and said he looks forward to working with JFNH and our new Executive Director, Elyse Hyman. He commended JFNH for its work in highlighting Israeli culture with programs such as the Spotlight on Israel film series that took place October through December and the shlichah program. Evelyn Miller, the Chair of the Israel Education and Engagement Committee, described some



JFNH Vice-Chairperson Ken Litvak's egg cream exploded onto his computer.

of the programs, including MOMentum's 10-day trip to Israel for young moms, the upcoming adult and family virtual tours of Israel, a virtual discussion with members of Israel's Olympic Bobsled and Skeleton Team in March, and JFNH's plans for sister cities in Israel. Watch for JFNH's weekly eblasts for more information!

Continuing with the Israeli theme, Jenny then introduced Alison Kaufman Miller, founder of the Artisan Wine Group and professional wine educator, who interviewed—live from Israel—Nevo Hazan, the owner of Nevo Winery, and Lior Perl, the winery's manager. Nevo Winery is a kosher boutique win-



Shlichah Avia Sagron did a paint-by-number segment and talked about Chanukah, Israeli-style.

ery in the heart of the Judean Hills. This segment included a tour of the winery, a tasting of a rosé and a cabernet sauvignon (Alison used words like "stunning," "spectacular" and "incredible" when describing the wines), as well as tasting tips from both Alison and the winemakers. L'Chaim!

From wine to dessert. The New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival presented the movie short *Egg Cream*, and JFNH Vice-Chairperson Ken Litvak and Board member Dina Michael Chaitowitz competed in an egg cream-making contest in which the audience voted

Super Sunday continued on page 6

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www.investwithcohen.com

Super Sunday *continued from page 5*

for the best egg cream (Ken's drink won for traditionalism; Dina's drink won for calories). NHJFF Co-Chair Ross Fishbein also announced JHJFF's free two-part film series on the Black-Jewish Civil Rights Alliance (including post-film discussions with very distinguished panelists) that will take place from January 28 to February 4. Ross told us to mark our calendars for the next film festival, which will take place from May 11, 2021 to June 1, 2021. Please visit <https://www.nhjewishfilmfestival.com> for details.

From dessert to breakfast. After surmounting technical difficulties (including an internet outage), JFNH Board member Dina Michael Chaitowitz and her son, Samuel Chai Lynn, demonstrated how to make a few key Israeli breakfast dishes: tzatziki, shakshuka, roasted eggplant with za'atar, Israeli salad, pita with za'atar, and tahini sauce. B'tayavon! By the way, Sam, who spent about two years in Israel during college, explained that the average Israeli might enjoy one item for breakfast rather than the hotel-style smorgasbord of Israeli foods that we

know and love, and joked that college students everywhere often eat corn flakes.

Behind the scenes, a cadre of callers logged into a separate Zoom session and made fundraising calls after receiving a bit of training from JFNH Treasurer Harry Shepler. Although they were muted on their Zoom session, they could see and support each other while making their calls and, periodically, they would unmute to chat about the progress of their fundraising efforts. JFNH Board member Bob Feldmann checked in with the callers, tallied the pledges, and relayed that information to Super Sunday Co-Chair Pat Kalik, who occasionally popped in on the telethon hosts to give a fundraising update.

It was a fabulous event – full of love for all things Jewish, friendship, and community. Remember, you can watch (or re-watch!) the event online. Of course, you can always make a donation by going to JFNH's website at <https://jewishnh.org/ways-to-give/donate-online>, or by calling the office at (603) 627-7679. As Charlie Sherman and Sarit Itenberg quipped, "Gelt is good." Gelt will also allow us to continue with all our wonderful and important programming.

Thank you to all our volunteers – the organizers, presenters, and tech people, and to our terrific office staff. Special thanks to the idea man, Jay Madnick. And many thanks to everyone who tuned in to watch or who has donated, or will donate, to our great mission. We are grateful to all of you.

Organizing Committee:

Rhonda Bernstein
Dina Michael Chaitowitz
Debbie DePasse
Cheryl Gerrior
Mindee Greenberg
Allyson Guertin
Kerry Hansen
Elyse Hyman
Sarit Itenberg
Judith Jolton
Pat Kalik, Super Sunday Committee Co-Chair
Ken Litvack
Jay Madnick, Director and Super Sunday Committee Co-Chair
Tracy Richmond
Steve Soreff
Russell Wolff, Video Production Specialist

The "Tech Crew":

Jonathan Kane, Zoom Hosting
Wayne Kurtzman, Announcer
Mike Schloss, Zoom Spotlight
Russell Wolff, Video Production Specialist

Hosts:

Dick Lutsk
Charlie Sherman
Sarit Itenberg, Board Chairperson
Jenny Rosenson

Presenters:

Dina Michael Chaitowitz, Israeli Breakfast, Egg Cream Contest
Debbie DePasse, Chair, JFNH Early Education Committee
Ross Fishbein, Co-Chair, NH Jewish Film Festival
Nancy Frankel, Kugel the Clown; Chair, Camp and Israel Experience Grant Program
David Goldstone, Chair, JFNH Social Services Committee
Allyson Guertin, Director of Outreach and Engagement & PJ Library Coordinator
Nevo Hazan, Owner, Nevo Winery
Sue Horowitz, Music with Sue
Elyse Hyman, JFNH Executive Director
Sarit Itenberg, JFNH Chairperson
Judith Jolton, Campaign Co-chair
Pat Kalik, Co-Chair, NH Jewish Film Festival



Alison Kaufman Miller, founder of the Artisan Wine Group and professional wine educator, taste-tested Nevo Winery's wines while interviewing the winemaker and winery manager.

Jacki Katzman, The Feldenkrais Method
Leslie Kirshman, The Book Bubbie
Ken Litvack, Campaign Co-Chair, Egg Cream Contest
Robert J. Lynn, Egg Cream Contest
Samuel Chai Lynn, Israeli Breakfast
Laurie Medrek, Baking Mandelbrot Ambassador Meron Reuben, Consul General of Israel to New England
Alison Kaufman Miller, Artisan Wine Group, Interview of Nevo Winery
Evelyn Miller, Chair, JFNH Israel Education and Engagement Committee
Lior Perl, Manager, Nevo Winery
Tracy Richmond, Campaign Co-chair
Alane Sabel, Storytime
Avia Sagron, Painting with Avia, NH Shlichah
Noam Wolf, Music, former NH Shlichah

Callers and Call Support:

Rhonda Bernstein
Dina Michael Chaitowitz
Elsa Conrad
Debbie Depasse
Bob Feldmann
Marcia Feldmann
Ross Fishbein
Stephanie Flanders
Mindee Greenberg
David Goldstone
Dorothy Goldstone
Kerry Hanson
Sarit Itenberg
Judith Jolton
Pat Kalik
Ken Litvak
Ami Kilchevsky
Chanchie Krinsky
Sheryl Liberman
Alane Mazer-Sabel
Evelyn Miller
Carol Pressman
Julia Kay Preis
Tracy Richmond
David Rubin-Baker
Harry Shepler
Steve Soreff



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Legal Aid, Incarceration or Police matters

Don't let your problems simmer until they boil over.
Call the JFNH social worker at **603.310.9941**.
All calls and assistance are confidential.

Team Spring

It has been a while since I've written to you guys. Last time I shared my thoughts and recommendations for wintertime in Israel. This month, I will tell you about spring!

Here in NH, without even thinking, fall is my favorite time of the year. In Israel, though, spring is the winner! I have heard a variety of nicknames for the spring here, like "mud" and "bug" season, but I promise it is nothing like that in Israel.

Our winter in Israel, unlike here in NH, is very, very short (last week I saw pictures of my friends getting tan in the sun. In January. Just imagine) Winter starts in December and is over in March...and then there is about a month and half of pure magic. When it is warm outside, but not a temperature that makes you want to sink yourself into an ice bath (like some days in June), the sky is clear blue, and everything is blooming!

I am always amazed by how the Jewish holidays are in sync with the seasons. It begins with Tu BiShvat, that is celebrated on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat. It is also called Rosh Hashanah La'Ilanot, or literally the "New Year of the Trees" in Hebrew, continued to Passover, that gives us the chance to clean and refresh everything in our home after the winter, inside and outside. (Fun fact: the best time to do body cleansing is in the springtime!)

After this long pitch for Team Spring



Spring trip



Avia Sagron

JFNH Shlichah

SPOTLIGHT ON ISRAEL EVENT SERIES



(I hope I convinced some of you to join) here are some recommendations for my top three spring activities/places to be:

Blooming Trip (Hebrew: "Teyul Pricha") in the Golan Heights and Mt. Hermon

As always, I will start with the Golan. During the year, the Golan is pretty "yellowish," but, in the spring, there are endless fields of green and flowers. At Mt. Hermon there will sometimes still be snow on top, and it is one of the most beautiful views. There are many trails and organized trips to explore the different kinds of plants and flowers. Later in the season, Mt. Hermon itself start blooming, and trails are open as well.

Darom Adom Festival ("Red South") Annual Israeli Festival

This is the Festival held usually from mid-January till the end of March during the Anemone flower's blossoming season in the northern Negev region of Israel. There are wide selection of activities and excursions that the area has to offer, and it really is a fun experience.

Unique Coffee Shops and Art Galleries

Because the weather is so nice this time of year, and nature is in its prime, one of my favorite things to do is to find unique coffee shops with great coffee and spectacular views, where I meet my friends or just go by myself and



Avia and Shoam, her nephew.

paint. Coffee shops which I recommend (all of them being local Galilei small businesses): Cafe Rushka in Matat, The House at the Edge of Landscape in Amuka, Café Adika, Asaf Winery in the Golan Heights, Mattarello Coffee, Ein Zivan in the Golan Hights, Pina Barosh in Rosh Pina.

Riddle: What is the Hebrew name of the flower that make the south red? (clue:



Flower time!

it also a common Israeli name)

I will raffle my own watercolor painting of the same flower to the first 5 people who answer right! Email your answer to Shlichah@jewishnh.org or PM me on FB: Avia Sagron NH Shlichah

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Nu... Why Purim?

This month, we will celebrate the holiday of Purim, at which time we read the Megillah of Esther. Connecting with the child in us all, we celebrate this

redemption story with costumes, groggers, and levity. It is a time of joy, when most of the long winter is behind us and springtime beckons. Passover, our



Rabbi in the House



Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman

Temple Israel Portsmouth

great redemption story, is only one month away, and it is as if the seeds of salvation begin to stir at Purim.

One of the unique themes of Purim is the hidden aspect of God. Throughout the entire Megillah there is not one mention of God, whereas on Passover, God is the major protagonist in our story of redemption from Egypt.

In our Purim story, Esther, whose name in Hebrew means hidden, hides her true identity from the King until just the moment when the revelation of her true identity will bring salvation to

her people. It is through her hiding and then revealing that redemption becomes possible.

Chazal—our Rabbinic Sages teach that the great mystery that lies hidden in this story is the way in which Divine providence seems to unfold, reversing the destiny of the characters. Those destined for destruction are saved and elevated, while those intent on destroying are themselves taken down. This theme of reversals, of redemption emerging from catastrophe, is alluded to in the Talmud (Megillah 13b). It is taught that when Haman cast lots to determine the time for the massacre of the Jews, he rejoiced when it fell in the month of Adar because that is the month when Moses died. Moses' yahrzeit is the 7th of Adar. What Haman did not know however, is that this is also the date of Moses' birth. Thus, Adar marks the birth of redemption.

The lessons of Purim reveal that things are not necessarily as they appear. Truth can be obscured, especially when the King is derelict. But when truth is revealed, justice can be restored.

The Pachad Yitzchak (a Hasidic sage) relates a beautiful teaching in which he explains how the holidays of Purim and Passover are connected. In the Passover story, God's presence is explicit, while in the Purim story, God's presence is not mentioned. These stories present us with two ways of recognizing and connecting with God. He gives this example: when one is searching for a friend in the darkness, the use of a candle will illuminate the friend's presence. This resembles the Passover story when God's presence is obvious, and no personal work is necessary to see and to connect. The Purim story, however, expresses a time of darkness in which external light is not available. This demands that we acquire new sensibilities. One can for instance, listen for the voice in the darkness, or develop the sensitivity to sense their presence.

Pachad Yitzchak states that the light of the redemption of Purim depends on us learning to recognize light in the darkness. Aviva Zornberg explains that it is up to us to develop new sensibilities, and to become sensitive to the sounds of God in our lives and in our texts. Purim teaches us that it is possible to evolve spiritually, to sense God's presence when the light is obscured, and to partner with God in the process of an unfolding redemption. *Ken yehi ratzon*—may it be so!

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pjlibrary.org
Ages 9 through 11
pjourway.org

The Purim Story for Kids: A PJ Library Guide to Making it Family Friendly!

Purim is a holiday marked by joyous activities. We dress up in our favorite costumes, share gifts of food with friends, give charity to those in need, have a festive meal with family and friends, and read a story (PJ Library's favorite activity) – specifically, the story of *Queen Esther* – together.

The story behind Purim isn't exactly family-friendly, though: some not-so-friendly highlights (more like lowlights) include Queen Vashti (Queen Esther's predecessor) being humiliated by her husband, a murder plot against the king, the evil Haman conspiring to wipe out the entire Jewish people, and the Jews taking revenge by hanging Haman and all of his sons. Yikes.

So how then, on a holiday otherwise perfectly suited to kids, do we share the



story of Purim? Here are a few ideas:

Keep things simple: Feel free to summarize the story of Purim, especially for younger children. On Purim we celebrate the bravery of Queen Esther, a very smart Jewish woman who was married to a king, Ahashverosh. When Esther learned that Haman, who worked for the king, was plotting against the Jews, she summoned the courage to tell the king about Haman's evil plan and saved her people.

Focus on the values: The Purim story helps kids learn about *courage*, *bravery*, and *standing up for what's right*. Your



kids can grasp the themes of the story, without knowing the gory details. Here are some questions to kickstart conversations:

- Who is a hero?
- What does it mean to be brave?
- When was a time that you felt brave?

Watch a video: There are some fantastic videos online that capture the Purim story in a way that kids can digest. Shalom Sesame and BimBam are a few!

Share a read aloud - Below are a few recommendations:

One, Two, Three Purim!

Written by: Naomi Shulman

Illustrated by: Nora Hilb

Ages: 6 Months to 2 Years, 2 to 3 Years

Publisher: PJ Publishing

Dressing in costume, baking hamantaschen, making noise—it must be Purim! Getting ready for this holiday is as easy — and fun — as one, two, three.

Sammy Spider's First Purim

Written by: Sylvia Rouss

Illustrated by: Katherine Janus Kahn

Ages: 3 to 4 Years

Publisher: Kar-Ben Publishing

The Shapiro family is getting ready for



the exciting holiday of Purim. Young Josh is making a grogger (noisemaker) to take to a celebration at the synagogue. Sammy Spider wants to join in the fun, but his mother reminds him, "Spiders don't celebrate holidays; spiders spin webs." Sammy can't help himself and gets caught in Josh's grogger. Will Sammy escape and get home to his mother?

Purim Chicken

Written by: Margery Cuyler

Illustrated by: Puy Piniellos

Ages: 6 to 7 Years

Publisher: Albert Whitman & Company

When the barnyard animals decide to put on a Purim play, Cluck the chicken wishes she could play Queen Esther — but that role goes to Quack the duck. But when Quack goes missing, Cluck springs into action — both on and off the stage.



The Story of Esther

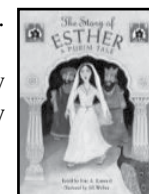
Written by: Eric A. Kimmel

Illustrated by: New Hampshire Community Member Jill Weber!

Ages: 8+ Years

Publisher: Holiday House

The Purim story, full of drama, brings together a mighty king, a jealous scoundrel, and a wise uncle. At its center is a clever heroine, Queen Esther. It was her courage that saved the Jewish people at a dangerous time.



Check out the PJ Library website for more resources <https://pjlibrary.org/purim> or contact your New Hampshire PJ Library Coordinator Allyson Guertin at allyson.guertin@jewishnh.org



Middle East Education in Our Schools: What's Going on in Our Schools? How Can We Improve Middle East Education?

By Dina Michael Chaitowitz

What is your child's or grandchild's school teaching them about Israel?

A group of concerned members of the NH Jewish community are working on ways to promote factual source material on Israel, Judaism, and the Middle East in our schools.

The group decided to meet after discovering that one school gave students problematic material, obtained from an opinion media site, as part of a lesson on the conflict in the Middle East.

We have developed a list of objective

resources that you can provide to your student's schools. We hope to have this list available on the Federation website soon.

We also need your help in monitoring the information presented to our children and grandchildren on this topic. If you encounter material that you think is factually incorrect or possibly antisemitic, or if you are unsure, please contact Dina Michael Chaitowitz at dmichaelchaitowitz@gmail.com. And, please let us know about those schools that you feel are doing a good job teaching this subject matter.

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Summer Camp

Camp Young Judaea: Opening Our Doors in 2021

Camp Young Judaea (CYJ), located in Amherst, New Hampshire is excited to open our doors for our 82nd camping season in June 2021. After a heartbreaking decision to not open in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we quickly pivoted to a virtual online camp program for our camp community. Our home-grown CYJ@Home program, which hosted more than 200 campers

and staff members, created a memorable experience during an uncertain and unprecedented time. Campers and staff alike were thrilled to have an opportunity to connect during an otherwise isolating time.

With 2020 in the rearview mirror, we are now counting down the days until summer 2021. With camper and staff safety as our highest priority, we have

hired a Covid-19 Safety Officer, who is already collaborating with our Covid-19 Advisory Panel comprised of CYJ staff, Board members, medical providers, and mental health professionals to ensure that camp remains the same experience that generations of campers have enjoyed at their “home away from home”.

Our staff is attending virtual webinars, workshops, conferences and training sessions on safely opening camp during the pandemic, including collaborating with camps that successfully opened in 2020. Carefully researched plans and protocols will cover everything from programming and testing to meals and social interactions. We are also modifying camp facilities, including upgraded ventilation in bunks and significant changes to our health center. We’re adding dozens of handwashing and sanitizing stations throughout camp as well as many other measures to meet best practice COVID-19 health and safety guidelines set by the state of New Hampshire as well as the American

Camp Association and the Association of Camp Nurses.

Most importantly, to best support our campers, we will be expanding our camper care team and providing additional training before and during the summer for our counselors on physical, mental, emotional and social health. All of us at Camp Young Judaea are dedicating our full attention to providing exactly what kids need this summer—the chance to be a kid again, make friends, gain independence, experience a full range of fun activities, be a part of a warm, welcoming Jewish community and enjoy the outdoors and our wonderful facilities, including our pool and lake.

If you’d like additional information about CYJ, please visit our website, www.cyj.org, email us at info@cyj.org or call us at 781-237-9410. Many of our age groups are already full for the summer of 2021, but we do have limited spaces available. We can’t wait to hear from you!

THINKING ABOUT OVERNIGHT CAMP?

Join us for a Virtual Open House!



Sunday February 28 at 4 pm EST
RSVP to info@cyj.org for Zoom link

Camp Young Judaea Amherst, NH
www.cyj.org | 781 237-9410

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

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Summer Camp

The Cohen Camps: Open for 2021!

At Camp Pembroke, Camp Tel Noar, and Camp Tevya – the three Cohen Camps – kids and teens ages 7-16 live all the magic of a Jewish sleepaway summer. With caring counselors, young people develop lifelong skills, confidence, resilience, and friendships...and have tons of fun! Parents say their children “feel strong,” like they “belong to something,” and come home “more confident, with lifelong friends, having grown ‘Jewishly’ and proud of who they are.” Camp Tel Noar is warm and close-knit (camptelnoar.org, Hampstead, NH) while Camp Tevya (camptevya.org, Brookline, NH) is spirited and larger, and Camp Pembroke is a special sisterhood just for girls (camppembroke.org, Pembroke, MA). The Cohen Camps are kosher, family-

run since 1935, and ACA Accredited.

This year, The Cohen Camps can't wait to give campers the connection and community they crave after COVID. Our programs will stay fun, engaging, and as “normal” as possible. We've developed thoughtful health/safety plans and secured excellent medical advice. By bringing even more activities outdoors, establishing a protected camp “bubble,” and enhancing everything from hand-washing to ventilation to staff training, we anticipate an awesome summer!

To learn s'more about our camps and COVID safety planning, please visit cohen-camps.org. Contact our Camp Directors at 781-489-2070 or info@cohen-camps.org.

Camp Gan Izzy

2020 is now over, and if that news wasn't good enough, here is some GREAT news: The Camp Gan Izzy 2021 season is about to open for business!

Camp will run from June 28 to July 23, giving us all 4 weeks of nonstop fun and excitement. Registration will open at the end of January, so keep an eye out for the email. We are offering a \$1 RISK FREE registration so that you can feel comfortable saving your spot for the time being. Payments will not be required until April.

As always, safety is our number one priority, so we will closely follow the guidelines of the CDC and the state of NH with everything that we plan. This past summer, we had a bite-sized program once a week, and we are ready to build upon our experience from that incredibly successful summer to bring you a wonderful, Covid-friendly CGI that will be even better than before.

That being said, we are incredibly hopeful that by the time summer rolls around, things will be much improved, and we will be able to go back to our much beloved full camp experience, including swimming at SNHU, full day trips across NH, Maine and Vermont, and more. However things may work out, though, we look forward to spending another fabulous summer with you!

**CAMP
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IZZY!**

MANCHESTER, NH

**Covid-19
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Registration**

JUNE 28-JULY 23, 2021

AGES 3.5-11

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CDC COMPLIANT

The Yavneh Mishachah

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There is no summer like a summer at Yavneh! Representing a diverse and rich Jewish community in a true Klal Israel environment, campers and staff spend a summer creating and deepening friend-

ships, participating in amazing individualized and communal programs, and living their best Jewish lives. We build our community on the traditions from our 75+ year history, and continually evaluate and innovate the summer experience to make sure that every camper and staff member goes home feeling more skilled, more proud of their Jewish identity, and more accepted as who they are.

Limited spots available for current 3rd through 5th graders. Reach out today: info@campyavneh.org, (603) 942-5593.



Camp Yavneh

SUMMER 2021



Select openings for current 3rd-5th graders.

info@campyavneh.org

603-942-5593



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Monday – Wednesday

11:00 am – 1:00 pm Virtual Tour and Activity

Thursday

9 am – 11 am Virtual Tour and Activity

Friday

11:00 am – 12:00 pm Wear your costume for a Purim and Pre-Shabbat Celebration!

Register at jnf.org/jfnhpjlibrarytour

You will receive your login information upon registering.

ABOUT THE TOUR: This will be a fun packed family Israeli adventure. “Walk” through the narrow cobbled streets of Jerusalem, “climb” the ancient Masada , “swim” in the Dead sea, and much more! This trip is geared towards families with children ages 6-12.

Cost: \$50 per family. Includes a week of touring and a Purim celebration. Invite your friends to come along on the journey! Each registered family will receive a package containing all the items they need for an exciting, engaging, and interactive adventure in Israel!
Financial Aid available.

For questions or more information contact

Allyson Guertin - allyson.guertin@jewishnh.org or 603-627-7679 x 1002

Dana Klein – dklein@jnf.org or 617-423-0999 x 484

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Bethlehem Memories Spur Progress for Centennial Celebration in 2021

Written by Rita Katz Farrell.
Submitted by Eileen Regen, Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation

NOTE: This essay originally appeared in the Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation's 90th anniversary celebration book, *Jewish Light of the White Mountains*.

As BHC's Centennial Celebration Committee returns to the planning table, BHC members and friends savor the memories of those whose lives have been woven into the Bethlehem community for generations. Rita Katz Farrell's detailed memories bring new excitement and purpose to the celebration plans.

Dora's Place – Cup of Coffee, Piece of Cake

*Bethlehem? A railroad town? There are no railroads!
Ah, but long ago there were, and decades after they disappeared,
Boston engineers were still drawn to Bethlehem.*

From 1867 to 1924, three separate railroad lines convened in Bethlehem Junction. The earliest trains carried passengers, mail, and lumber, southward via Fabyans to major markets. Later rail lines were added, first to Franconia Notch, then to Bethlehem Village. In season, seven locomotives a day puffed into Bethlehem Junction.

In 1940, there was still one train from Boston to Littleton, and David Solomon Katz's fellow railroad engineers on the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad (New Haven RR), urged him to join their families and visit Bethlehem. They boarded the Boston & Maine to Littleton, and then taxied with Dick Coney to the outskirts of Bethlehem for a week's vacation at Eddy's Location or St. Clair's Trout Pool tourist cabins east of Bethlehem on Route 302.

David Katz was one of only two Jewish engineers working for the now extinct New Haven Railroad. The other was Isadore Krauss. Both were big men, both lived in Hartford until "Dave" moved his family to Boston's Roxbury section, and both families spent summers in Bethlehem Junction where Lydia Oppenheimer Krauss baked strudel and Dora Schnapp kept open house.

While the leisure classes summered on the American plan in Bethlehem's thirty "downtown" hotels, the working class rented cabins where wives cooked with



Dora Schnapp (front row, second from right) played her violin for hospitalized troops during WWI. She married David Solomon Katz after she arrived in the United States.

food brought from home. Children spent their days hiking, splashing in the sparkling waters of the Ammonoosuc River, or, when it rained, hunched over back issues of *National Geographic* in the log chalet hand-built by Floyd Eddy.

In the evenings, everyone squeezed into someone's cabin to sip coffee or tea, enjoy homemade cake, and sing as Dora Katz played songs on her violin including Irish ballads (Danny Boy), German lieder, (*Wenn uns Gott, Kinder Shickt*), and Yiddish favorites (*A Bisele Liebe*).

She was still playing her beloved violin at 96, just days before she slipped quietly away at home with her daughter in Delaware.

The trains and track are long gone; snowmobiles roar over old railroad beds; nature has reclaimed most tourist cabins; a Depression era CCC camp lies in ruins; and the mountainous Casella Waste landfill looms over a once bucolic setting.

Slabbing the Ammonoosuc is Muchmore Road, once dubbed Rabbi Row by locals because the families of Rabbis Bokser and Gelb owned cottages there. Around the bend, a jovial Brooklyn house painter named Sol Schiffer rented a converted train station every summer for his daughters and wife Rebecca, from whose tiny kitchen came cooking aromas and an invitation to anyone out for a *shpazier* (walk) to drop in, have a nosh, and laugh at Sol's jokes.

In 1942, Jack Finn wanted to sell his small house in the Junction. Built before 1870, it had one indoor faucet, one light bulb, no indoor toilet, an oil stove for cooking and heat, an attached shack filled with years of cans and trash, and

no foundation.

But for the Katzes, the White Mountains evoked memories of their Austro-Hungarian homeland in the Carpathian Mountain villages of Miliye and Viznitz. They saved up, paid Mr. Finn the \$500 price, and bought the only house they would ever own.

Five generations lived or vacationed there: Scheindel "Baba" Schnapp, her children Dora, Max and Lottie; David's sister Anna, niece Ruth and son Michael; Dora and David's children Adolph, Bernhard, Rita; grandchildren Shira, Larry, Danny, David, Debbie, Steven, John, Heidi, nieces, nephews, most of the 14 great-grandchildren, and especially Will, Jon Ava and Lily, for whom Bethlehem has become a second home.

Every summer Dora urged family and friends, all immigrants, to come up for a few days, gaze at the mountains from the back yard, and breathe the fresh air, the *frische luft*. No charge.

When hotels then refused to accommodate the handful of African Americans who visited the North Country, employees would quietly phone Mrs. Katz, knowing she would welcome as guests in her home any travelers stranded by bigotry. No charge.

When sons Adolph (Al) and Bernie completed their WWII service in the Navy and Army respectively, they used part of their mustering out pay to fix up what their father called "the shack. They attached sheet rock, jury-rigged wiring, and painted. Then Al returned to college and Bernie worked a summer on Courtland Quimby's road crew.

Every summer, caddies from the Ma-

plewood Hotel walked down to St. Theodore's Church (now home of ex-caddy George Manupelli) for Sunday Mass, then stopped for pancakes at Ethel and Walter Roes' Mountain Valley Inn & Cabins, where at age eleven Rita had become a waitress and chambermaid, and pumped gas.

The Katz family had no car. A trip to the Village meant the children walked up and back while Dora flagged the Portland to Montreal bus in both directions and rode in style.

The Katzes were not religious, but would accompany Dora's mother "Baba" when she attended shul in the city. The family then and now celebrates Jewish holidays with traditional foods and lively secular discussions about the lessons the holidays teach about optimism, reflection, freedom, thanksgiving, unity and adversity.

Dora was active in the BHC Sisterhood. She worked on the annual luncheon, the Bingo fundraisers for Littleton Hospital, and attended Bernie Rubin's Culture Club originated by Paul Pactor. She was friendly with everyone, and especially fond of Ann and Julius Friedlander, Adele and Morty Fisch, Esther Kamerling, Hilda Kate Meyer, and Mildred Jailer.

She had a *weltanschauung*, or world view. She joined the Garden Club, Bethlehem Women's Civic Club, the Durrell Church cookbook project, the White Mountain Senior Citizens Club, and the Littleton Hospital yard sales. She applied her training as a nurse or *krankenschwester* in the Austrian Army during WWI to quietly care for local neighbors unable to pay a doctor. She introduced Bethlehem elementary students to trick-or-treating for UNICEF and spoke with them about her visit to Israel. Friends nicknamed her the mayor of Bethlehem because of her unflagging energy and good humor. The book, *The History of Bethlehem, New Hampshire, 1774-1974* notes that "Mrs. Dora Katz found a piano for the Country Club, and we're all trying to figure out how little Dora carried that big piano into the building."

With courage and strength rooted in her unflagging belief that peace and justice must prevail, she joined the International Workers Order, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and Russian War Relief.

Before civil rights was an era, she collected petitions demanding that major league baseball end its Jim Crow policy

Centennial continued on page 15



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HELP US ENGAGE, EDUCATE, AND CONNECT!

Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club Presents: The Impact of the COVID Pandemic on Mental Health

By the Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club

"The Impact of the COVID Pandemic on Mental Health," will be the topic discussed by Robert Feder, MD, on Sunday, February 7, at 9:30 AM, LIVE via Zoom, presented by the Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club.

After graduating from The University of Michigan in 1972, Dr. Feder continued his studies at the University of Washington, receiving his Doctor of Medicine degree in 1977. Dr. Feder spent a year interning at Greenwich Hospital in Greenwich, CT as part of his four-year Psychiatric Residency Program at Yale University. Board Certified in Psychiatry since 1982, Dr. Feder has been in private practice since 1995, specializing in Adult Psychiatry, Addiction and Forensic Psychiatry. Dr. Feder—who has been published more than 30 times—serves on staff at both the Catholic Medical Center in Manchester and the Southern New Hampshire Medical Center in Nashua. A Dis-



Robert Feder, MD,

tinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and former President of the New Hampshire Psychiatric Society, Dr. Feder regularly lectures and speaks throughout the region to both his peers and civic organizations. Dr. Feder and his wife are well known members of our community.

Dr. Feder will discuss the COVID Pandemic and its effect on our mental health, and offer some suggestions on how potential coping mechanisms may help to reduce the impact of the added stress and anxiety that is affecting our community at this trying time.

Dr. Feder's presentation will be followed by an open question and answer session.

The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club is proud to sponsor Dr. Feder's presentation which will start off with "Schmooze Time" from 9:00 am to 9:30 AM. This presentation is open to the public but advance registration is required. Please contact Don Gorelick at president@snhjmc.org to confirm your registration.

About the Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club

The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club was founded in 1982 and conducts monthly Zoom meetings during the pandemic. The Club's mission is based on building a brotherhood of like-minded men who wish to share their commitment and values to those in the greater NH Jewish community. The SNHJMC has provided quality programming such as our bi-annual town hall-style political event and our annual children's breakfast, which this year fea-

tured a science exhibit designed to both educate and entertain young minds. The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club is a non-profit organization serving all of southern NH's Jewish communities, regardless of synagogue membership, for over thirty years. If you or someone you know would like to join our Men's Club please contact our President, Don Gorelick, via email: president@snhjmc.org or visit our website at <http://www.snhjmc.org>. Membership Dues have been waived this year due to the COVID pandemic.

Etz Hayim Synagogue: Hot Topics and Cool Contemporary Stuff

By Stephen Soreff, MD

In February 2021, Etz Hayim Synagogue will have two Adult Continuing Education Program Hot Topics and Cool Contemporary Stuff for February 2021, via Zoom.



Etz Hayim

Feb 7 Sunday 10 AM: "Engaging Children through Jewish Reading Aloud"

Allyson Guertin, PJ Library Coordinator, will start with adults by discussing ways to engage children through

Jewish read aloud. Then, for the last 15 minutes, children will join us and adults can read to their children. Done in conjunction with Sunday Camp.

Feb, 18, 2020 Thursday 7 PM: "Stress and How to Manage it During a Pandemic"

Allison Doyle, M.S., Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, will address how stress affects your body and how we cope. In addition, she will discuss how to deal it with effectively.

To get the Zoom link please contact office@etzhayim.org. For more information, please contact: Stephen Soreff, MD, at soreffs15@aol.com or 603-895-6120



The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire's Ben Gurion Society met for the first time on November 22, 2020 for a Thanksgiving Rugelach Bake. The Ben Gurion Society includes all members who make a gift of \$1,000 or more to the JFNH Annual Campaign. The 1-1/2 hour cooking program, led by expert baker Chanchie Krinsky, was loads of fun. Here are the before and after photographs of the happy participants. For more information about the Ben Gurion Society, please contact Tracy Richmond at tracyrichmond@me.com.

Centennial continued from page 13

and hire Jackie Robinson. She campaigned tirelessly for progressive candidates, including Littleton's Hugh Galen, and was among those en route to a Paul Robeson concert in Peekskill, New York who were stoned by local farmers.

Her love for her children and grandchildren was embodied not in sentiment but in her determination to strengthen them against succumbing to defeatism or opportunism.

In 2003, her daughter sold the house

in the Junction and with her husband Jack moved to their vacation home on Agassiz Street. It may have indoor plumbing, but the "foundation" continues to be Dora and Dave's open welcome for family and friends.

DISCLAIMER: In our previous issue, the above story was, unfortunately, printed with the wrong byline. In order to right our wrongs, and ensure that all hard work is properly credited, we have printed it once again, this time with the corrected byline. Thanks for reading! – NC

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

Temple Beth Jacob to Host Sarah Hurwitz

By Rabbi Robin Nafshi

Temple Beth Jacob in Concord will be in conversation with Sarah Hurwitz for the synagogue's annual Shapiro Family Lecture, on Thursday, March 4, at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Please email office@tbjconcord.org or rabbi@tbjconcord.org for the Zoom link.

Sarah Hurwitz was a White House speechwriter from 2009 to 2017, starting out as a senior speechwriter for President Barack Obama and then serving as chief speechwriter for First Lady Michelle Obama. Sarah worked with Mrs. Obama to craft widely-acclaimed addresses – including her 2016 Democratic National Convention speech and her political speeches during the 2016 campaign cycle – and traveled with the First Lady across America and to five continents. Sarah also worked on policy issues affecting young women and girls as a senior advisor to the White House Council on Women and Girls.

Before working at the White House, Sarah was chief speechwriter for Hillary Clinton during her 2008 presidential primary campaign. Prior to the Clinton and Obama campaigns, Sarah served as deputy chief speechwriter for Senator John Kerry's 2004 presidential campaign, deputy chief speechwriter for General Wesley Clark's primary campaign, and a speechwriter for Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa. Sarah was also a lawyer at the

Washington, DC office of WilmerHale.

A graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, Sarah is the author of *Here All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality, and a Deeper Connection to Life – in Judaism (After Finally Choosing to Look There)*. Michelle Obama tweeted about Hurwitz's book saying, "Sarah Hurwitz is a brilliant writer with a big heart and a kind soul—and I'm sure *Here All Along* will reflect her thoughtfulness and eloquence, which I depended on for so many years. I'm so proud of you, Sarah, for sharing your journey and your voice with the world!"

This is the tenth program of the Shapiro Family Lecture Series. On the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary, Betty and Peter Shapiro endowed the Shapiro Family Lectures in memory of Peter's grandparents Harry and Hattie Shapiro, founding members of Temple Beth Jacob, and Peter's parents Milton and Blanch Shapiro, TBJ members who were instrumental in TBJ's decision to affiliate with the Reform Movement. The purpose of the endowment is to provide the TBJ and greater Concord community the opportunity to engage with a variety of speakers on significant subjects of contemporary relevance. Past speakers have included Rabbis David Saperstein, Jill Jacobs, David Ellenson, and Lawrence Hoffman, and Professors Sylvia Barack Fishman and Mehnaz Afridi. Donations to the fund are welcome.



On a Virtual Israel Tour

By Stephen Soreff, MD

Welcome, and get on the bus! From January 4-8, 2021, Peggy and I, along with 42 others toured Israel—virtually.

It was billed as "Jewish National Fund's Virtual Travel & Tours Presents A VIRTUAL TRAVEL ADVENTURE TO ISRAEL, January 4 - 8, 2021, Monday – Thursday, 4:00 – 5:00 pm ET Virtual Tour, 5:15 – 6:00 pm ET Virtual Discussion, Friday, 2:00 – 3:00 pm ET Pre-Shabbat Experience." The cost was \$50 per family. This tour had been specifically crafted for the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire by Evelyn Miller in conjunction with the JNF. There were two big reasons for the trip, which are both spelled pandemic: one, we could not physically go to Israel, and two, the tour guides needed work. Spoiler alert: it was an amazing and astonishing trip.

As we got on the bus, we met our tour guide, Jonty Blackman. He noted, "I've been guiding now since 1997, and have been doing virtual tours for JNF since June." Every certified Israel tour guide, that I or any other person on the bus have met, will say our guide is better than the last one. And this was true here. His command of history, and his ability to weave stories and people into events, was dramatic and outstanding.

Here is a too brief overview of many of the things we did each day.

On Monday, January the 4th, after landing at Ben Gurion, we went to the Ayalon Institute, Tel Aviv, Jaffa, Netanya, and a Desalination plant. Tuesday, the 5th, we traveled to Acre, the Crusader City, Tsfat one of the four Holy Cities of Judaism, Kiryat Shmona and the Hula Valley. Wednesday, the 6th, We climbed Mount Masada, floated in the Dead Sea, saw products growing in the desert, and visited Be'er Sheva. On Thursday, the 7th, we went to visit Jerusalem, including



the Old City, the City of David, Western Wall, Ammunition Hill, Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum. We ended the trip at the Machaneh Yehuda Market (Shuck) before boarding the bullet train to return to the Ben Gurion Airport and to fly home to Boston. Friday, the 8th, we met early because of shabbat. We heard about ADI Negev, a rehabilitation community and hospital in the desert for folks with severe physical and mental challenges. We also saw the Lauder Employment Center in the Negev. The two locations highlighted the JNF's commitment to not only its overall mission to help the land and people of Israel, but also to bring and sustain people in the north and south of Israel. As we said goodbye, we all left with the strong desire to return again to Israel.

Reflections on the tour—or what make it so good? First, we went to Israel! What could be better? Second, I learned a great deal of Israel's history, its arts, its agriculture, its people and its soul. Third, I traveled with a group of neat people who love Israel. Fourth, I discovered the huge depth and range of the Jewish National Fund (JNF) activities. Fifth, I got to see, hear from, and meet people not only from New Hampshire but from across America, including one couple joining us from Australia. And sixth, like every other time I returned from Israel, I wanted to go back!

Purim Spiel – Etz Hayim

By Stephen Soreff, MD

Purim calls for celebration and a spiel. And that is what the Home-in-tash Production crew is doing. They are answering the call on Saturday night, February 27, 2021 at 7 PM, via Zoom, with a presentation and world premiere performance of *The Ganse Megillah: 5781*. It will show how Mordecai and Esther battled against COVID-19.

To get the Zoom link please contact office@etzhayim.org and more information, please contact: Stephen Soreff, MD, at soreffs15@aol.com or 603-895-6120



These statues, done by Leslie Kirshman, are at the entrance to Etz Hayim.

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

In the Community



In November, Congregation Betenu presented Amy Matson with the JFNH's Shem Tov award for all her wonderful work in support of the synagogue and its members. Here she is pictured with her boys, Sam and Seth (top right); her understandably proud parents, Judith and Martin Sleeper (top left); synagogue President Elsa Conrad (second row, left); synagogue Vice President of Administration, Sheryl Liberman (second row, middle); synagogue Trustee at Large, Sara Murphy; and the synagogue's rabbinic intern, Rav Dena Glasgow (bottom row). Mazel Tov, Amy! We are so proud of you.

Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation



Become a Friend of the Festival

The 13th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival premieres May 19 - June 10

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Contribution: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$180-\$249

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Sponsorship Opportunities are available for this highly anticipated cultural event.

For details, contact Patricia Kalik at (603) 627-7679

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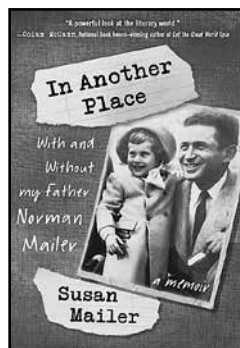
Book Review

Reviewed by Merle Carrus

A Plethora of Books

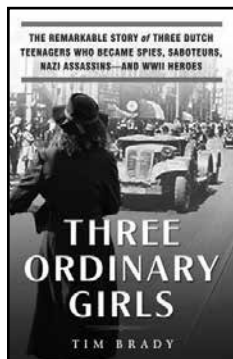
This month I will share short mentions of a number of books, as we continue to stay home more—and hopefully have more time for reading.

Reading is one of my favorite pastimes, and I am in awe of the authors who are able to capture your imagination and write one winning masterpiece after another. One talented—though controversial—author is Norman Mailer. His books were celebrated, and he was a best-selling author, with works like *The Naked and The Dead*, and *In the Belly of the Beast*, among others. His daughter, Susan Mailer, has chronicled her life with her father in a memoir titled, *In Another Place With and Without My Father Norman Mailer*. Susan takes the reader on an intimate journey of the life she lived with her father. It was intense, fractured and complex. Norman Mailer was married six times and fa-



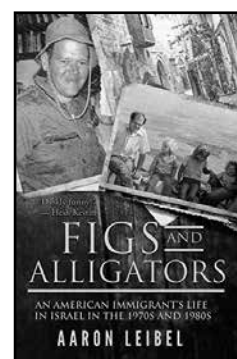
thered nine children. Susan details her relationship with Norman, all his wives and her siblings. It is like getting to be the proverbial fly on the wall in the Mailer household.

Three Ordinary Girls, written by Tim Brady, really makes you think about how you would react in the face of adversity. This is a recounting of three Dutch teenagers who stepped up and joined the resistance movement in Holland, as the Germans invaded their country. Two sisters, Truus and Freddie Oversteegen, grew up in a socialist home with a mother whose passion was politics and progressive thought. Hannie Schaft was at college studying, when she decided to take action to help her Jewish friends avoid capture. By the end of WWII, these three girls would be notorious for having taken direct action against the Nazis from their homes in



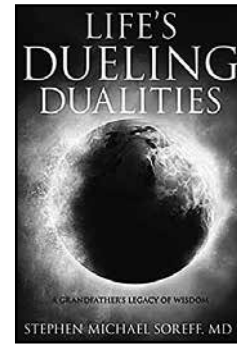
the city of Haarlem. This is a fascinating look at how these ordinary Dutch girls performed extraordinary acts of selfless courage to slow the Nazi's Final Solution.

Traveling to Israel, we read a book written by Aaron Leibel about his family's years spent living in Israel. *Figs and Alligators* contains the recollections of the years Aaron and his wife, Bonnie, took their family and moved from America to Israel. They lived there through the 1970s and 1980s. Leibel worked a variety of jobs in Israel, finally as a reporter and editor for Israel newspapers. He also served as a soldier, called up in 1974. The family experienced living in Jerusalem, on a kibbutz. They experienced living there through the Yom Kippur and the first Lebanon War and they were there when Egyptian President Anwar Sadat made his his-



toric visit, which led to the first peace treaty. This is a personal story of a family living day to day in a turbulent, beautiful nation.

Last, but not least, a grandfather's legacy of wisdom for his grandchildren. Another New Hampshire resident and member of our Jewish community, Stephen Michael Soreff, has written a missive about his views on what he sees as life's contradictions. *In Life's Dueling Dualities*, he shares his philosophy and observations on such topics as ambivalence, following your heart, and following the rules or challenging them. Using such idioms as "the early bird catches the worm", and "look before you leap," as well as "he who hesitates is lost", he lays out the things he learned through his life, or as it calls it, the School of Hard Knocks, to offer the reader and his grandchildren the road to success.



Sports and the Jewish Community in 1993

As evidenced by the title, David Ostrowsky's book *Pro Sports in 1993* focuses exclusively on athletes and sports franchises that experienced great success during this sliver of calendar time. The author explains that, as an avid sports fan, he "really fell in love with sports in '93 at a time when teams and athletes were really at the top of their game."

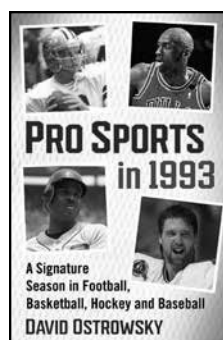
The NH Jewish Reporter asked Ostrowsky to look back and think about how the sports of 1993 could relate most to the Jewish community—and he found us some fairly strong connections.

Ostrowsky chronicled the Buffalo Bills' historic 32-point comeback against the Houston Oilers during the postseason in January 1993. One of the chapter's core narratives was that of Hall of Fame coach Marv Levy. The ninety-five-year-old Levy is a football legend, a guy who began coaching the game in the early fifties at the amateur level before coaching in the Canadian Football League and later in the NFL. While he led the Bills to an unprecedented four consecutive Super Bowls in the nineties, Levy has acknowledged that his greatest coaching experi-

ence was patrolling the sidelines during The Comeback Game. On this blustery early winter day in western New York, the Bills, already missing their starting quarterback and running back, found themselves trailing 35-3 against the Houston Oilers early in the third quarter. What transpired was nothing short of a miracle.

The Bills scored five consecutive touchdowns by the early fourth quarter and ultimately pulled off the historic win, 35-3, in overtime. Former members of Levy's team whom he interviewed articulated how Levy's calm and steady demeanor was instrumental in maintaining positive morale when things looked bleak.

Throughout the early nineties, the Bills were the dominant team in the AFC, in no small part due to a coach for whom players had unwavering respect. A veteran of World War II, whose father had served in the Great War, Levy was the rare NFL head coach who didn't treat a football game like a life or death scenario. He treated his players with re-



spect and dignity. They, in turn, performed this miraculous feat against Houston, one that burnished Levy's Hall of Fame legacy.

In July 1993, Baltimore's newly minted retro-style ballpark, Camden Yards, hosted the MLB All-Star Game. While the trendsetting park was the epicenter of attention during the Midsummer Classic, the week-long festivities included a very thoughtful tribute to the stars of Negro League baseball. The two gentlemen who spearheaded the initiative were Dr. Charles Steinberg, director of public affairs for the Baltimore Orioles, and his college intern, Theo Epstein, who was in the nascent stages of a brilliant career in baseball.

With racial tensions still lingering in America in the wake of the still-recent L.A. Riots, Epstein, who had long been fascinated by the history of the Negro Leagues, collaborated with Steinberg to pay homage to many former baseball stars whose stories had long been forgotten. In fact, many believe that their efforts

were critical in helping former Negro League star Leon Day gain overdue recognition, that ultimately led to his election to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1995. While New England baseball fans naturally associate both Epstein and Steinberg with their successful careers in Boston, *Pro Sports in 1993* sheds light on critical contributions they made to enhance an already special All-Star week in '93.

Lastly, a book chronicling sports in 1993, like Ostrowsky's, would not be complete without a chapter on the heyday of the Michael Jordan-led Chicago Bulls dynasty. Indeed, in June 1993, Jordan and the Bulls won their third consecutive NBA Finals before the superstar retired several months later. The man responsible for running this dynastic franchise was none other than principal owner Jerry Reinsdorf, who also owned the Chicago White Sox at the time. While the oncourt stars of the team were Jordan, Scottie Pippen, and head coach Phil Jackson, it was of course Reinsdorf who brilliantly orchestrated the direction of the franchise (they won six titles in the nineties) in the

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Movie Reviews: Herb Alpert Is... and Stand!

By Zach Camenker, NH JFF
Committee Member

When I was 13 years old, my father, an admirer of all kinds of music and a kid who grew up in the 60s and 70s, gave me a Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass album as a birthday gift. At the time, I was playing trumpet in my middle school band and flourishing in the creative arts as an active thespian and member of my school district's boys' chorus. I remember putting the album in my purple boom box and getting lost in the rhythm and melody of Alpert's tunes.

I've always been an old soul and still have that album, occasionally popping it into my walkman as a salute to the start of my adolescent years and continued love of the arts. Though I only kept at the trumpet for one more year, I still adore the sound of "big band" music.

Recently, I came across the new documentary *Herb Alpert Is...*, which has been available in the Virtual Cinema through Concord's Red River Theatres for a couple of months. I finally took the time to watch it, and it did not disappoint. The piece traces Alpert, who was 84 at the time of filming, throughout his career as a musician. It also highlights his little-known art and sculpting talents and vast philanthropic efforts: pieces of him that the world likely knows little about.

A lifelong Californian who was born on March 31, 1935 in Los Angeles, Alpert is the son of Jewish immigrants. While the film does little to address his parents or his heritage, Alpert does mention that his father arrived in the United States at age 16, having traveled alone on a boat from Europe without speaking a word of English. While we have heard similar immigrant stories throughout time, I still marvel any time someone recounts details such as that, as they truly exemplify the fulfillment of the American Dream.

Another interesting piece about Alpert is that many, including myself, assumed that he was of Mexican or Hispanic descent. As the documentary notes, given his work with the Tijuana Brass and their style of music, many fans initially thought Alpert changed his name from something like "Alberto Martinez" to a more American-sounding name as other artists have done in the past.

I learned a great deal watching the film, especially about Alpert's humanitarianism and heart of gold. The film also does a great job of tracing how



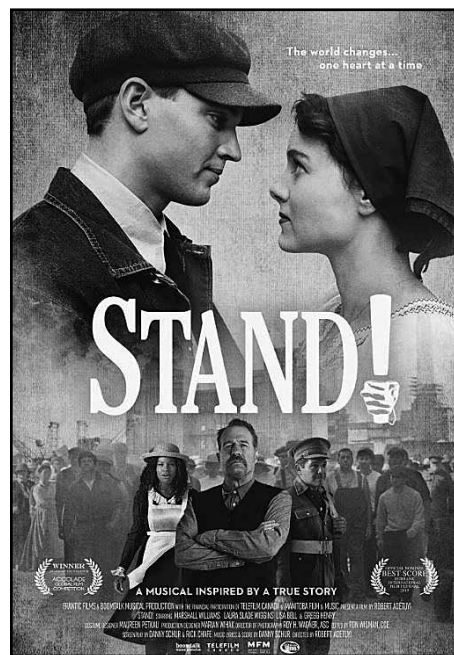
deeply affected Alpert was by a plateau in his career, following a meteoric rise to fame, generally unprecedented for an instrumental artist.

The documentary details the latter very well, interviewing Alpert in depth as he recounts how the ups and downs of fame, fortune, and family all collided, bringing him much doubt about himself and his music, at times making it difficult to even play. Despite this challenge, which lasted longer than he would have liked, Alpert eventually bounced back and carried on a fruitful career that continues to this day. Following the end of his first marriage, he married fellow musician Lani Hall, who he has been with for nearly 50 years and who has evidently been his rock.

Watching this piece is very inspiring, especially with respect to the coverage of his philanthropic work for arts organizations, creative arts education, other musicians, and through his passion for art and sculpting.

Though a bit long, this film has something for everyone. It is a fairly standard presentation of a famous artist, but the man being presented is one worth spending nearly two hours with.

Since I began reviewing films for *The Reporter*, I have not yet written about a film that I did not like, but I guess there is a first for everything. In taking the chance to further support Red River Theatres by screening another film in their online content library, I took it upon myself to watch the musical *Stand!*, which tells the story of a Romeo and Juliet-like romance developing between a young Ukrainian man of Catholic faith and his Jewish neighbor in Winnipeg, 1919. The development of



their romance does not sit well with their families, nor does their intense involvement in strikes for fairer working conditions against the backdrop of anti-immigrant rhetoric that still feels eerily familiar more than 100 years later.

Like many films that sound intriguing to me, this is a movie I wanted to like. As a huge fan of musicals, history, and as someone of Ukrainian Jewish descent, I was interested in how the piece would play out, as well as the historical contexts surrounding these real-life events about which I knew so little.

While I was disappointed for a variety of reasons, let me say that the film is still

an important one to watch. Despite its disjointed story line, mediocre performances, and the overall flat vibe, you will undoubtedly learn about the struggles that Jewish immigrants to Canada faced at a time in history where immigrants of all backgrounds and faiths confronted the same struggles in the United States. I know very little about Canadian history, but considering they are our neighbor to the north, I feel it is something important to learn.

The film likely lends itself much better to the stage, where it was originally presented, as other musicals have in the past. Two of my all-time favorites, *Mame* and *Les Misérables*, both come to mind, as their respective film versions—with Lucille Ball and Bea Arthur in 1974, and Hugh Jackman and Russell Crowe in 2012—did not quite match up to the excellence of their stage versions. Even still, I encourage folks to see the movie, if for no other reason than to support a great local arts organization and to learn about the history behind it, but also because my impression of the film may not match with your own personal feelings after screening it. One thing I've found as an avid filmgoer for the vast majority of my life is that one's opinions do not always match with the crowd!

Both *Herb Alpert Is...* and *Stand!* can be viewed using the Eventive app offered through Red River Theatres' Virtual Cinema, featured on their homepage at www.redrivertheatres.org. Red River, a long-time partner to, and host of, our New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival, offers a variety of other Jewish-themed films worth checking out at your leisure. Additionally, if you wish to hear more about Red Rivers' offerings, I recently began a blogging partnership with them called "Close-Up with Camenker," which runs every two weeks. Feel free to check it out at www.redrivertheatres.org/about/close-up-with-camenker/ and let me know what you think. As always, thanks for your support, and happy film viewing!

Sports continued from page 18

midst of pervasive free agency and league expansion. Not to mention, Reinsdorf gave Jordan the opportunity to try his hand at professional baseball when he inked MJ to a minor league deal with the Chicago White Sox in February '94.

So while *Pro Sports in 1993* naturally has a strong focus on megastars of the early nineties such as Jordan, Troy Aikman, Joe Montana, and Barry Bonds,

the book contains several inspiring stories of prominent Jewish sports figures who made key contributions towards their teams' successes during this signature year in professional sports.

David Ostrowsky is a former sports-writer for the Metrowest Daily News and Jewish Advocate and author of 'Game Over or Game On?' His most recent book is 'Pro Sports in 1993,' published by McFarland & Company.

NH Jewish Film Festival to offer Israeli Television Series 'The Conductor' Binge Fest

By Zach Camenker, NH JFF Committee Member

As we in New Hampshire prepare for the winter, amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival is pleased to offer a two-week virtual event for our audience to stream an Israeli television series—right from their homes!

The series is *The Conductor*, featuring renowned award-winning Israeli actors Lior Ashkenazi and Shira Haas. Haas starred in the recent hit Netflix Series *Unorthodox*.



The Conductor premiered in Israel in 2018 and consists of one season with 10 episodes, about 40 minutes each. It tells the fictional story of world-renowned musician and conductor Noah Gamliel, whose extraordinary career brought him to the heights of the orchestral world in the United States. The series takes the audience on Noah's adventure back to his home of Israel. As he abandons his life in the United States, Noah faces unexpected changes, as his aging father



struggles with Alzheimer's disease and Noah experiences his own health challenges that threaten his career. To help cope with all of this, Noah agrees to take the place of the recently deceased conductor of a local choir in which his father sings.

The series, which all of the Film Festival's screening subcommittees recently watched, was very well-received and praised for the actors' performances, the plot and storyline, and depictions of Israeli life.

For those who are interested, *The Conductor* will be available to watch



from March 3 to 17 on the Film Festival's new screening platform, Eventive, for a twenty dollar fee for the entire series. Further details can be found on our website www.nhjewishfilmfestival.com. The box office will open on February 3rd. Our full annual Festival will be held in May with virtual programming. Your support in fulfilling our mission is, as always, most appreciated!

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



Jewish Federation OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

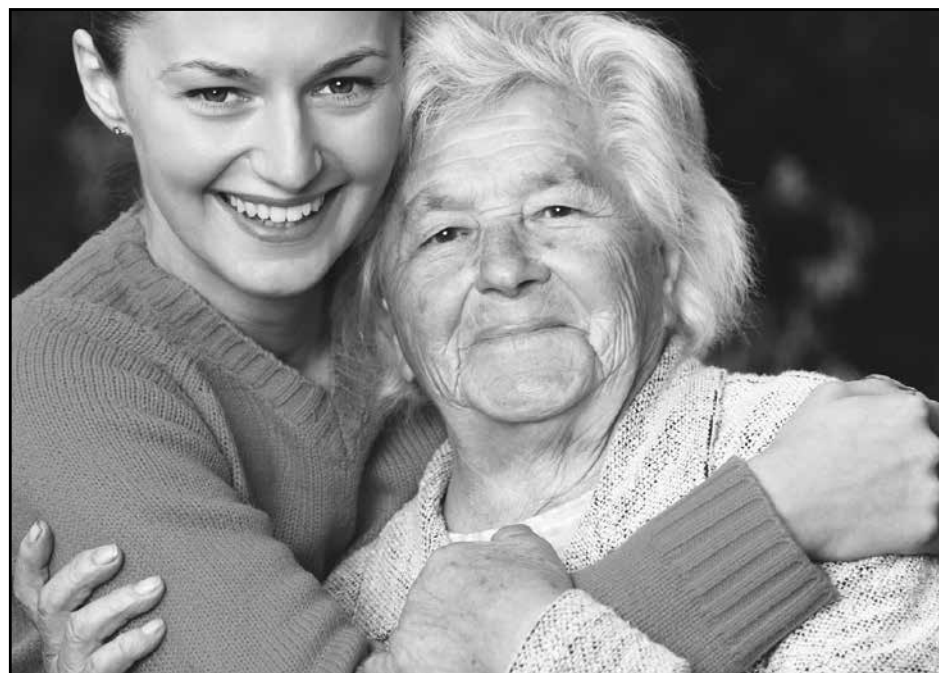
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Jewish Federation OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Kids' Corner Coloring Page



Veronica Ava Conley, ©2021



The facts

- **Started in 2011** with 10 students and 10 mentors
- The school year 2018-2019 - 40 schools **hundreds of students and hundreds of mentors**
- Students receive a **huge boost in their grades**
- **100%** of students and teachers would recommend the program
- Countless studies show that **language immersion** is one of the most effective ways to learn a language
- Accepts students and volunteers from all political and religious affiliations

What we do

CONNECT English-speaking mentors in North America **connect** with Israeli students in underserved communities

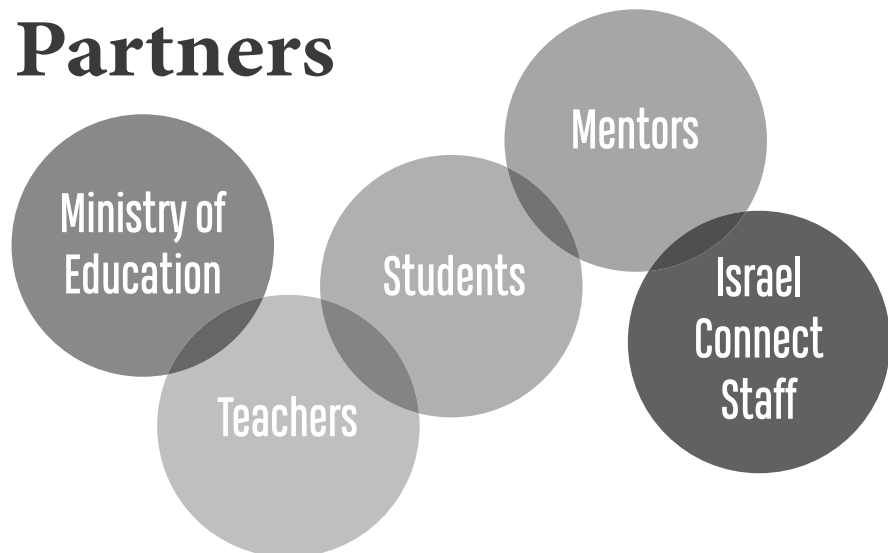
ENGAGE Mentors & Students **engage** weekly over SKYPE following an interactive curriculum

IMMERSE Students get a true English **immersion** experience - something not possible in large classrooms

ADVANCE Students **advance** academically to prepare for their English proficiency exam for university acceptance in Israel

INCREASE Testing scores are **increased** - Students gain confidence and knowledge

Partners



Role Model Education English Friendship
 Israel Pluralism **Connect** Hebrew Special Needs
 Model That Works Skype Mentors
 Students Conversation Fluency Technology Diversity

For more information on supporting Israel Connect or becoming an Israel Connect mentor contact Sarah Gordon at 613.869.7197 or sarah@israelconnect.today

Hundreds of Diaspora Volunteers are Helping Israeli Children Learn English

Israel Connect began in 2011 as a grassroots network of Canadian volunteers who answered the call of Israeli educators to provide their students with English language tutoring. Many of the students live outside Israel's main cities and are less likely to encounter English speakers. Within Israel, access to English immersion experiences is strongly and positively correlated with higher socio-economic status. The better his or her English skills, the more successful and affluent a student is likely to become. Without strong English language skills, students simply cannot get accepted to universities.

Back in 2012, a former university

classmate approached Sarah Gordon, an active member of the Jewish community in Ottawa. Having landed a teaching job in a poor neighborhood in Israel, Gordon's friend struggled with helping her students. Gordon paired two of the most difficult students in this class with English language mentors in Ottawa. Soon other teachers in Israel were in touch asking for assistance. Eight years later, the program has 500 volunteers in North America. In partnership with the Israeli Ministry of Education, Israel Connect supports hundreds of students in dozens of schools across the country. As a result of recent school closings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic,

the need for volunteers has grown. Hundreds of Israeli high school students are now on the waiting list.

If you speak and read in English, you can help.

Becoming a mentor does not require a teaching degree or Hebrew language skills, only a desire to have a positive impact on someone's life. "There is little prep time", according to Gordon, because lessons are provided to volunteers by the program. Gordon describes the experience for the volunteers, many of whom are retirees, in this way: "[S]tuck at home during the pandemic, the one hour Zoom session with a student can become the highlight of the week.

A lot of our volunteers get up early, get their cup of coffee, read the newspaper, and then turn on Zoom for their session." Helena England, of Durham, says, "The two students I worked with were charming young women who were eager to learn English and teach me about Israel."

If you are interested in becoming a virtual volunteer in Israel, simply go to <http://www.israelconnect.today/> to learn more about becoming a mentor for Israeli children.

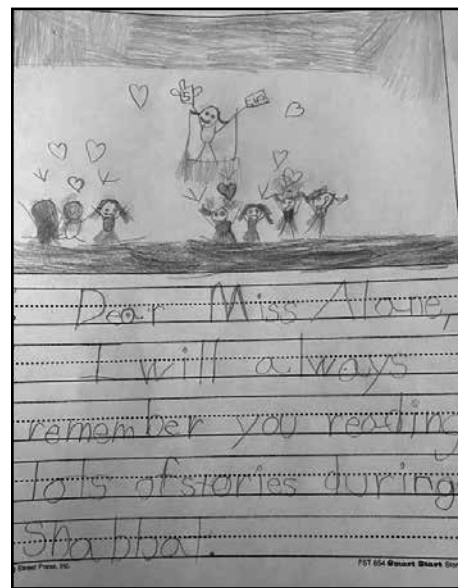
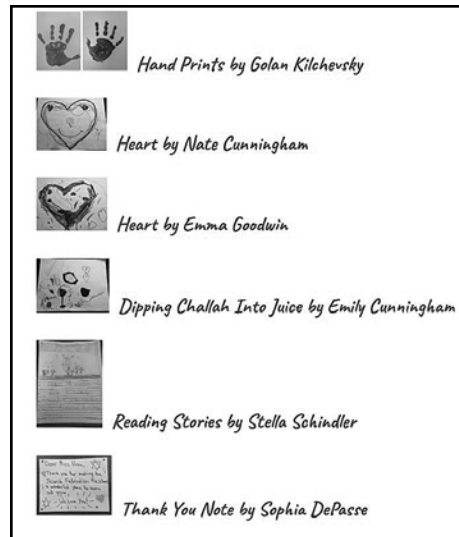
Helena England is a retired educator who lives in Durham. She loves to visit and learn more about Israel.

A Quilt for Alane Sabel

By Debbie DePasse

On December 16th, the JFNH Board presented Alane Sabel with a handmade quilt in honor of her 32 years of service to the preschool. When the preschool closed last spring, the preschool students were asked to submit one of these items, depending on their age: a hand-drawn heart, a handprint, and either a favorite memory

or a message of thanks. A quiltmaker was commissioned to create the quilt with words of thanks embroidered at the top and bottom. With the preschool logo and children's artwork in the center—and 32 photographs of preschool students and staff, through the years, on the sides of the quilt—the final result was a beautiful gift that was given to Alane as a token of thanks and gratitude.



"Dear Miss Alane, I will always remember you reading lots of stories during Shabbat."



The complete quilt.

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Jewish Journeys

Making a Difference in Our Community

By TAY Social Action Committee

The TAY Social Action Committee has been meeting monthly, and we are happy to report that our TAY fall project has been successfully adapted to keep everyone safe while making a major contribution to our community. SAC has been busy collecting and delivering donated items to the Waypoint Youth Resource Center in Manchester. YRC serves homeless young adults (ages 18-23) as a drop-in center, providing an array of services.

So far, three carloads of requested items, which have been donated, have been delivered, and a fourth is on the way. Initially, the donations were from the TAY community, but as it happens, there is a wonderful surprise and heart-warming addition to the story...

It turns out that Nancy had found a

listing on Next Door—the community website—with a privacy tent for free. She contacted the woman who made the listing, to ask if would be suitable for outdoor use, and was told that it was meant for indoors only. However, she wanted to know more about our project. Nancy sent her a description of the TAY Social Action Project, and the woman, who lives in Londonderry, wanted to help. In fact, she ordered three beautiful new sleeping bags, three small tents, and a large warm blanket, and delivered it all to Nancy—including some shoes and coats! She said that she likes to keep busy and help. Her generosity was overwhelming.

Thank you to Pam Englander, and Priscilla Malcolm, and Judy Wolff, for working with Nancy Frankel to collect and deliver the donations. The project is ongoing, so it is not too late to contrib-



Priscilla Malcolm and Pam Englander with the delighted Youth Resource Center staff (David Arce, Coordinator) and about 1/4 of the first load of items delivered.

ute adult-size winter shoes and boots, gloves, sox, hats, hand warmers, winter coats and jackets, sleeping bags, and small tents. If you have items that you can drop off or need to arrange for pick-up, please contact Nancy Frankel – corkysmagic@gmail.com.



Nancy Frankel loads up the second delivery with the Londonderry donations.

Gemilut Hasadim 2020: TAY Brotherhood Christmas Mitzvah Program Continues On

By Sol Rockenmacher

The Jewish Almanac notes: “In Jewish tradition, *gemilut hasadim* are a category of *mitzvot* (good deeds) that obligate the individual to act in certain ways, on certain occasions, as a mark of basic human decency and respect towards others, living or dead, rich or poor, using one’s time, effort, and money whenever necessary.” They are deeds of lovingkindness involving “a degree of gentleness, extreme care, affection, tenderness - a summoning of all the human resources of sympathy for the benefit of others.” The Temple Adath Yeshurun Christmas Mitzvah Program, on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, organized by the TAY Brotherhood, has been in existence now for well over 35 years. It is a fine example of how members of our Manchester Jewish community have been giving back to their non-Jewish community, with enthusiasm, feeling, and caring. In recent years this has included helping to prepare and serve meals at New Horizons Soup Kitchen, covering the information desks at Catholic Medical Center and Elliot Hospital, delivering Meals on Wheels in Manchester and Bedford, helping with the Bingo game at the Veterans Administration Hospital, and delivering luncheon food platters to the Police and Fire Stations in Manchester and Bedford.

Then along came COVID-19... and



Rachel Schor, Ariana Bell and DG Krasner ready to go.

the only surviving traditional Mitzvah event this year was the delivery of luncheon platters on Christmas Day to the Manchester and Bedford Police and Fire Stations. An enthusiastic group of five teams of volunteers stepped up to make deliveries to thirteen locations. (See attached pictures). All went well.

But our members wanted to step up to do more in this difficult year, in the spirit of *gemilut hasadim*. We made cash donations to Catholic Medical Center and Elliot Hospital for hospital workers, who would be working and putting their lives at risk, to get snacks or meals on Christmas Eve/Day. We also made a cash donation to the TAY Social Action Committee in support of their program Operation Feed the Hungry to buy food for the FIT New Horizons Pantry.

Our Brotherhood banner says: Service, Community, Fellowship. As is stated in



Nicole Leapley from Delivery Team Ratinoff-Leapley.

our Constitution: “The purpose of the Brotherhood shall be to act as an arm of the congregation to further the purposes and objectives of the Congregation, to perform worthwhile acts of service to our Temple and our community, and to develop and build friendship and fellowship among its members.” “Any male affiliated with the Jewish community, whether or not through membership with a temple, through marriage or conversion who shall join the Brotherhood and subscribe to the Constitution thereof, shall be entitled to full membership.”

If you have any questions please contact Sol Rockenmacher at rockenmacher@comcast.net or David Penchansky at docpen@comcast.net.

Be safe and be well.



Alea and Caleb of Team Dolman pick up their station's platters.



Deliverers Aaron, Josh and Lee Hill and Ellen-Groh with Linda Rockenmacher.

Conversation with Lindsay K. McAlpine: High School Junior, CTeen Leader, and Edward Brodsky Student Fellowship Recipient

By Dina Michael Chaitowitz

Inspiration can come from all sorts of places and people. For me, inspiration comes from 16-year-old high school junior Lindsay K. McAlpine. I met Lindsay about four years ago, when she was preparing for her Bat Mitzvah ceremony, and I could not be more impressed by her. I thought her story might be inspirational to other folks, as well, so I decided to interview her for *The Reporter*.

Question: You have been subjected to a few incidents of antisemitism in school. Would you share with us what happened?

Lindsay: In elementary school, a student said something nasty about me online. By itself, this would have been a not uncommon piece of middle school nastiness, but it was coupled with another comment by a different student who said he would like to fight me but couldn't because I'm Jewish and fighting would constitute a hate crime. I found that very upsetting. My parents and I spoke to the school about the incident, but nothing happened.

Then, in my freshman year at high school, I was subjected to antisemitic comments after bringing Chanukah gelt to school to share. One student gave me a "Heil, Hitler," and shortly thereafter told me to "get back into the oven." At that point, I filed a complaint with the school and the student was, I believe, suspended. A week later, another student—a friend of the first—also gave me a "Heil, Hitler," and I believe he too was suspended.

Q: Do you think suspension "does the trick?" I worry that suspensions without something more may simply aggravate the prejudice. What do you think?

Lindsay: There needs to be some education. I don't think people understand what they are saying.

Q: Agreed. So, what was the next step in your incredible journey?

Lindsay: I discovered Chanchie Krinsky and Chabad's CTeen program. I went to an Escape Room event and met some really cool people and, since then, I've become a CTeen Leader and, just recently, an International CTeen Leader. As a CTeen Leader, I help to organize and manage events for my fellow teens. As an International CTeen Leader, I meet online with other CTeen Leaders from all over the world. I also started working as a teacher's assistant at Chabad's Hebrew



Lindsay K. McAlpine helping to prepare CTeen summer care packages.

School this year, but I have temporarily suspended that activity because of the pandemic. I hope to go back.

Q: Lindsay, you also were invited to be an Anti-Defamation League ("ADL") Edward Brodsky Student Fellow. How did that happen and what does the Fellowship entail?

Lindsay: I went to a virtual "Words to Action" program sponsored by the ADL and the Federation in the fall, and I met two members of the ADL who were facilitating the program. My involvement in that program led to the Fellowship. So far, there have been about four meetings of the Fellowship group—students from around the country—and we have talked about racism and antisemitism—all the "isms"—and what can be done. We've brainstormed ideas about how we can make things better in the world. It's been an incredible experience. I've met a lot of interesting teens—not all of them Jewish. We've worked closely together to come up with an "action plan." It is a very fun, very welcoming environment.

Q: What ideas did you come up with?

Lindsay: We talked a lot about the need to spread awareness—many of us think people are not aware of the significance of what they are saying and doing—and the need for people to "stand up" and "speak up."

Q: Many people are anxious about speaking up. What accounts for your willingness to speak up?

Lindsay: I would want people to speak

up for me. I want people to know that they have a voice, and that they have a voice for a reason, and they should use it. The most powerful thing in the world is our ability to communicate, and we should choose our words wisely, and try to change the world with our words.

Q: What would you say to people contemplating participating in CTeen or Words to Action?

Lindsay: I would say these are experiences of a lifetime. You'll meet amazing people, people with different backgrounds who you might not normally talk with but with whom you share common interests, just genuine people, people who you'll know for the rest of your life. Regarding Words to Action, I think it is important for teenagers to show up and stand up for each other, and for adults to hear from teenagers about what is happening to teenagers—to get that perspective. Also, if more teens participate in programs like Words to Action, we will have more teenagers who are prepared for difficult times and who can teach future generations the skills needed to deal with difficult interactions.

Q: Have you learned anything about yourself as a consequence of your involvement in these activities?

Lindsay: The programs have opened my mind to things that are happening in the world, like racism. And I know that I want to be involved in my community in a positive way.

Q: Anything else you want to share?

Lindsay: I just want people to know that it's okay to be yourself in this world. You shouldn't hide who you are. You

shouldn't be afraid to be who you are. You shouldn't be afraid to bring Chanukah gelt to a class. You shouldn't have to worry that people will say something to you as you walk down the hallways of your school because of the color of your skin, or because of how you walk, or because of anything. You were made into this world the way you are, and you need to be able to show that to people, because if you hide, there won't be any improvement in people's attitudes.

"Yasher Koach," Lindsay. I will definitely be following your journey.

For more information about Chabad's CTeen program, please visit <https://www.chabadofnh.com> or contact its director, Chanchie Krinsky, at 603-647-0204 or at Chanchie@ChabadofNH.com. CTeen is, according to its mission statement, "[f]or Jewish teens across New Hampshire, who desire a sense of belonging, meaning, purpose, and connection. Chabad's youth group, CTeen, is where aspects of mind, body, and soul converge, and teens are valued for who they are."

For more information about Words to Action, "an interactive education program for middle, high school, and college students designed to empower and equip them with constructive and effective responses to combat antisemitism and anti-Israel bias," visit <https://new-england.adl.org/words-to-action>, and stay tuned for future collaborations between the Federation and ADL that will be announced in Federation emails and in *The Reporter*.

Help Wanted!

Do you live in Keene, Laconia, Bethlehem, Hanover, or another NH community and want to help produce the Jewish Reporter?

We are looking for people all over the state who are interested in writing about their local Jewish community.

To get involved, contact thereporter@jewishnh.org



Revolutionary Israeli Ventilation System Provides Smart Solutions for COVID ICU Wards

By Sharon Gelbach

With the arrival of the long-awaited coronavirus vaccine there has also been a spike in morbidity, clearly indicating that we're not out of the woods yet. In fact, hospitals in Israel have warned that they are steadily approaching maximum capacity, as the numbers of severely ill COVID patients breaks all records.

When COVID-19 first erupted in March 2020, health authorities warned that a surfeit in severely ill coronavirus patients would overwhelm the system due, in large part, to a lack of ventilation machines – the standard of care for coronavirus patients whose condition deteriorated to pneumonia. In the ensuing months, Prof. Eyal Leshem, the director of the Center for Travel Medicine and Tropical Diseases at Sheba Medical Center, explained that in addition to the shortage of ventilators, one of the most pressing issues was the lack of highly trained ICU staff to monitor patients attached to those devices.

A groundbreaking innovation by Yehonatan Medical now addresses both these crucial issues.

Yehonatan Medical, in collaboration with Professor Ori Efrati, director of the Pediatric Pulmonary Unit at Sheba Medical Center, devised a state-of-the-art, first-of-its-kind ventilation system

that can treat between three and five patients simultaneously. That means more patients treated by fewer ICU staff.

"Conventional ventilators, aside from being very costly, are limited in that they can only be used with one patient at a time," explained Prof. Efrati. "Their capacity factor and programming functions were designed for single-patient use, and there is also the danger of cross contamination."

The revolutionary ventilation system resolves issues that corona ICU wards have been grappling with as the number of severely ill patients rises.

"We were able to use the relatively simple and inexpensive BipaP non-invasive ventilation machine as the basis for the Advanced Ventilation Technology," explained Prof. Efrati. "Thanks to the high-power output and built-in disinfecting mechanism, the new system can safely treat three to five patients simultaneously."

Moreover, a system that can treat multiple patients simultaneously necessitates fewer ICU-trained staff. Thanks to the remote interface, the medical team can monitor patients from a safe distance.

"This tremendous breakthrough is nothing less than a game-changer when it comes to caring for large numbers of corona patients," Prof. Efrati added.

Dr. Michael Cohen, an engineer and



Dr. Michael Cohen

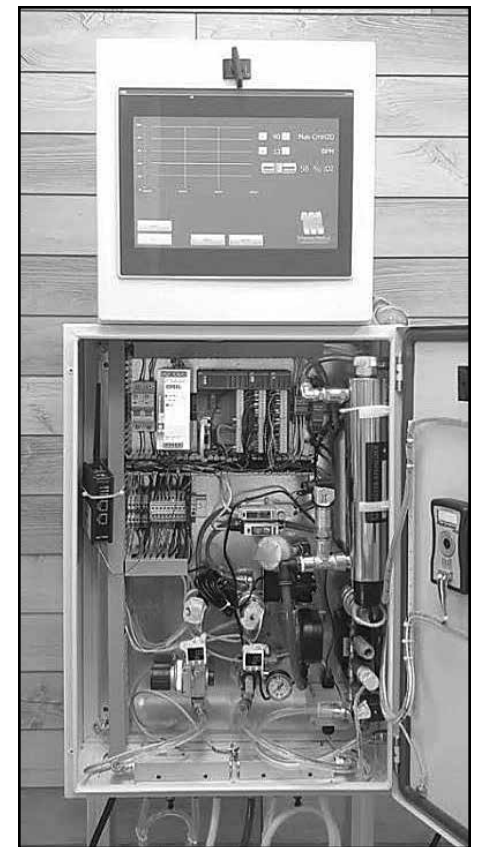


Professor Ori Efrati

scientist and the founder of Yehonatan Medical who designed the Advanced Ventilation Technology said that "All in all, we're talking about a system that delivers personalized care in a multi-user format."

Additional features based on AI technology include: the ability to include a hierarchy and classification of alerts; the ability for automatic parameter correction according to set criteria; respiratory rehabilitation for the patient by adjusting to changes in the patient responsiveness; and more. The streamlined, relatively low-cost system can be implemented in makeshift clinical settings, such as field hospitals, as well as in step-down units within the hospital, in the internal and other wards.

Yehonatan Medical is the medical department of Mofet Etzion, a company that for over two decades has developed



various security and military innovations for the IDF and foreign armies. Dr. Cohen has developed dozens of life-saving innovations, including in the area of cardiology in collaboration with world-famous cardiologists and cardio-

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Consul General *continued from page 1*

Boston Mayor Marty Walsh in person when he participated in the lighting of the Hanukkah menorah on the Boston Common. He also took part in a virtual menorah lighting in Connecticut with Governor Ned Lamont.

Throughout the pandemic, the Consulate office has been open on a limited basis in order to carry out its day-to-day services.

The 59-year-old Reuben was born in South Africa and lived for a few years in London with his mother. They settled in Israel in 1974, before he turned bar mitzvah age. He studied diplomacy and international relations at Hebrew University and was an air traffic controller during his military service in the Israeli Air Force.

His diplomatic posts traversed five Spanish-speaking countries, including Chile, Mexico, Paraguay, Bolivia, and Colombia.

For the last five years, Reuben served

as Israel's chief of state protocol, the go-to foreign ministry official responsible for diplomats and visiting world dignitaries. At the end of his tenure, he was behind the scenes when leaders from the United Arab Emirates made a historic visit to Israel as part of the Abraham Accords in 2020.

But Reuben, a warm and engaging conversationalist with an easy laugh, is not motivated by the titles and lime-light of photo ops that sometimes come with the role of a diplomat.

"My philosophy is that titles come and go. In the end, you have to be yourself. That is the main focus that I've always been interested in," he said.

He is most at home with the "nitty gritty" of diplomacy as a way to foster dialogue and understanding between different cultures, nationalities, and within the broad base of the global Jewish community.

"You don't need to call me Consul General. You can call me Meron," he said.

Looking ahead, Reuben is eager to engage with New England's robust academic community, a major center of education that also attracts many Israelis, he observed.

"I think, sometimes, we don't get a good rap" on college campuses, Reuben said. "I hope to leave some kind of mark and explain more about Israel not being white and colonialist and being a multicultural and multiethnic society, which it is. I'll do my best to show what Israel is all about."

He'd like to encourage more opportunities to forge stronger bonds between Israelis and American Jews across New England. Some 25,000 to 30,000 Israelis live in the region, but many are not active in synagogue life, one place where they might mix socially with Boston-area Jews.

He gives high marks to programs like Birthright Israel that bring college-age Americans on visits to Israel.

Boston's liberal social values appeals to Reuben, who is open about

being a gay man. "I'd like to be able to live my life the way I want to," he said. He anticipates that Boston will be a hospitable environment for him and his partner.

Reuben is the proud father of two grown daughters from an earlier marriage. One is an art student at Jerusalem's prestigious Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design. His youngest daughter is fulfilling her obligatory military service in a combat unit stationed on Israel's southern border.

One of his fond memories of their growing up was when they would bring him one of their hundreds of children's books. "Dad, please read to us," they'd say.

He envisions reading Israeli children's books to kindergartners here. It may offer the perfect way to connect a new generation of young people with Israel, he said.

This article was originally published in the Jewish Journal, jewishjournal.org



From Frozen Chosen to the Hebrew Hammer: The Inspiring Story of Israel's Olympic Bobsled and Skeleton Team

SPOTLIGHT ON ISRAEL EVENT SERIES



By Linda L. Gerson, Israel Engagement & Education Committee

Save the date: **March 21, 2021 at 7:00 PM**

JFNH's Israel Engagement & Education Committee is pleased to present our next Israel Speaker Series program entitled **From Frozen Chosen to the Hebrew Hammer: The Inspiring story of Israel's Olympic Bobsled and Skeleton Team**. Sign up in advance on the registration link you'll find in your email to hear and learn the incredible and unlikely story of Israel's Bobsled and Skeleton Team.

Join us and meet David Greaves and Larry Sidney, who will speak with us in person on a ZOOM link on Sunday, March 21, 2021 at 7 pm EST.

David Greaves is a founding member of the 2002 Israeli Bobsled and Skeleton Team, and current President of Bobsleigh Skeleton Israel Olympic Federation. Today David oversees Israel's seven athletes competing internationally in bobsled and skeleton. Professionally, David is Executive Director of the Jewish National Fund of Canada (JNF Canada).

Larry Sidney took up the sport of skeleton in 2012 before making Aliyah and joining the Israeli program in 2015. He had his strongest season leading up to the 2018 Olympics, and was an alternate for those Olympic Games. One of his proudest moments was helping to



David Greaves

coach, and being at the starting line of the skeleton event at the 2018 Pyeongchang Olympics, while his teammate, AJ Edelman, became the first Israeli athlete ever to slide in the Olympic Games.

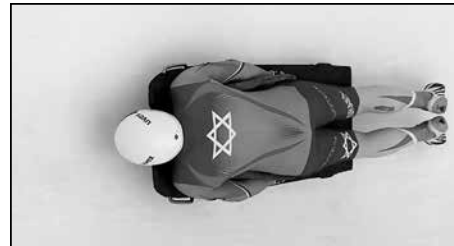
After the 2018 Olympics, Larry joined Bobsleigh Skeleton Israel (BSI) as Vice President before assuming his current title of Secretary General. Larry works alongside BSI President David Greaves to oversee the program and support the current group of Bobsleigh and Skeleton athletes. Professionally, Larry is a Holistic Wealth Advisor in Reno, Nevada.

Bobsleigh Skeleton Israel (BSI) is the national federation for the winter sliding sports of Bobsleigh and Skeleton. BSI is a member of Israel's National Olympic Committee (NOC) and are driven to support Israeli athletes to be the best that they can be on the World stage. BSI has been a member nation of the International Bobsleigh Skeleton Federation (IBSF) since 2002 and



cardiac surgery at Toronto General Hospital; and Dr. Gideon Cohen, cardiothoracic surgeon at the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Center in Toronto. The development of the system itself took place in Israel, marking the first time that an invasive ventilation machine was built in Israel.

The Advanced Ventilation Technology is currently in advanced phase trials at the MSR Medical Simulation Center at Sheba, where it is being tested on artificial lungs, and is expected to be ready for mass marketing in the coming months.



in 2018 became a full voting member.

BSI is committed to recruiting and developing athletes that perform at the highest level of our sports with a goal of competing each year at the World Championships and every four years at the Olympic Winter Games.

BSI endeavors to build a community of friends and fans to support their pursuits and dreams to represent Israel in International bobsleigh and skeleton competitions. These international sporting events provide the athletes with an immense sense of pride, and a unique opportunity to shine a light on the shared values that Israeli athletes share with other athletes in the international sporting community.

Today there are three Skeleton athletes and two Bobsled teams, all trying to qualify for the 2022 Winter Olympics, to represent Israel.

Israel inspires and connects us!



Larry Sidney

Support Hadassah Through Amazon Smile

By Michele Bank

Members of the Manchester Chapter of Hadassah joined with other chapters nationwide to help Hadassah raise money when they shop on Amazon. AmazonSmile is an easy way to support Hadassah, at no cost to you. Instead of going to Amazon.com, you can just log on through Smile.Amazon.com, and then select Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, New York as your charity. Amazon Smile will then donate 0.5% (or 0.5 cents per \$1 spent) of your "eligible" purchases to Hadassah. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. If you have an account with Amazon.com, all your account information will remain the same.

The last quarterly AmazonSmile notification reported that Hadassah received a donation of \$936.83 from purchases

made. Thanks to customers shopping at smile.amazon.com, or with AmazonSmile turned on in the Amazon shopping app, everyday purchases generated \$11,029 to Hadassah. Please consider signing up: It is an easy way to enable Hadassah to continue its vital work in Israel, the US and worldwide.

National Hadassah has a Hebrew@Hadassah program held virtually via Zoom. You can register for the 2021 weekly series on the Hadassah website. For questions, go to EducationAndAdvocacy@hadassah.org. The cost for all 2021 Hebrew classes is \$36 for the entire series. On Mondays, Beginner's Hebrew is 3-4 PM, and Intermediate Hebrew is 4-5 PM. Your ticket purchase provides you with access to weekly Hebrew classes for the 2021 series. Classes began on January 4, and will continue weekly through December 31, 2021.

For information on Hadassah, please contact michele.bank@gmail.com.

COVID continued from page 26

thoracic surgeons from Israel, the US and Canada.

"Some of the insights for the development of this revolutionary ventilation system were provided by cardiologists who helped us to devise the various accoutrements and sensors," Dr. Cohen said, making specific mention of Dr. David Adams, professor and system chair of the cardiovascular surgery department at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York; Dr. David Tirone, chief of

Recent Events

The New Hampshire Council of Churches Condemns Antisemitism in NH

By Rev. Jason Wells

The New Hampshire Council of Churches is an ecumenical Christian body of nine diverse denominations, including Protestant, Unitarian Universalist and Orthodox traditions.

On the eve of Hanukkah, state Representative Dawn Johnson posted an antisemitic caricature on social media, originally posted on a Neo Nazi website. During the holiday, an attacker with a pellet gun vandalized a menorah at Dartmouth College.

As followers of Jesus, “born under the law” of Israel in Bethlehem (Galatians 4:4), we condemn antisemitic words and acts and stand with our Jewish neighbors whenever they are attacked.

As church leaders, we affirm that antisemitism has no place in our civil discourse, our elected bodies or in our

churches. Our denominational bodies have each condemned antisemitism as an ideology. Many of our denominations also have taken steps to undo Christian antisemitism wherever it endures within our structures.

At the statewide level, the NH Council of Churches works together with the Jewish Federation of NH and the Jewish Clergy Association. This year, the Council worked alongside Jewish leaders to advocate passage of bill HB1135 (formerly SB727) in requiring Holocaust and genocide education in our schools. At the invitation of Governor Sununu, the Council has appointed a representative to the newly-formed Commission on Holocaust and Genocide Education.

We encourage witnesses of hate crimes



of any kind to report them to local law enforcement and the Civil Rights Unit of the NH Department of Justice at <https://www.doj.nh.gov/civil-rights>. Locally, many of our member congregations have fruitful relationships with their neighbor synagogues through participation in local interfaith councils. These relationships have deepened mutual understanding, love and community service together.

The Council on its own sponsored educational programs on Pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Lutheran leader who gave his life in opposition to the Nazi regime. These programs help Christians to understand the deadly role of the silence and complicity that allow the hateful message of antisemitism to spread.

Finally, we affirm the unique relationship between Judaism and Christianity, like a tree and its branches (Romans 11). When others threaten the well-being of

Jews, the well-being of Christians is also threatened. In the spirit of our shared well-being, we encourage all our congregations to express love, support and solidarity with their Jewish neighbors in their words and actions.

Yours in faith,
Rev. Jason Wells, Executive Director
Bishop James Hazelwood
New England Synod - ELCA Lutheran
Bishop A. Robert Hirschfeld
The Episcopal Church of New Hampshire
The Rev. Taesung Kang, Granite District Superintendent
New England Conference, The United Methodist Church
Rev. Gordon Rankin, Conference Minister
New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ

Hadassah's Statement on the January 6th Riots

Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.'s National President, Rhoda Smolow, as well as CEO/Executive Director Janice Weisman, released the following joint statement, following the violent attack on the US Capitol on January 6, 2021:

“Earlier today, Americans of all political stripes watched with anger, fear

and sorrow as the United States Capitol—a great symbol of our democracy—was desecrated by a violent mob intent on impeding a constitutional process. They have failed.

“The criminal behavior and events of this afternoon are abhorrent, as are attempts to disrupt democracy with incitement to violence. As Jews, we know the

power of words, and demand our elected leaders raise the level of discourse and lead with civility.

“We feel the heavy weight of today's events and the chasms that divide our nation. We hope that we will continue to learn from and about others, to love our neighbors, and to move forward as one nation.

“We are grateful to the law enforcement agencies who stood in harms way, and that our elected representatives have safely returned to the House and Senate to continue the business of the people.”

With Pride, Passion and Purpose,
Rhoda Smolow
Hadassah National President

Condemning Recent Antisemitism in NH

By Jewish Federation of New Hampshire

Last week, the people of NH learned that Representative James Spillane posted an antisemitic meme on his Parler account. The image depicts obvious Jewish caricatures as bankers controlling the world. Online, he shared the image with his own caption, “Truth.”

In September, he posted a so-called “Public Service Announcement,” stating that “If you see a BLM sign on a lawn, it's the same as having a porch light on at Halloween. You are free to burn and loot that house.”

Representative Spillane is serving in his fourth term in Concord, representing Candia, Deerfield, and Nottingham. There have been numerous calls to the Department of Justice, Civil Rights Office calling for Spillane's resignation since his posting.

Last week we also witnessed the actions of some who took similar calls to

violence to heart. Rioters attacked and stormed our Capitol in a disgraceful act of domestic terrorism. Our values and freedoms were under attack, and we have much work to do to return to civility and respect for one another.

We condemn Rep. Spillane's words, as they incite violence and promote intolerance in our community. That these words came from an elected official is reprehensible and should not be tolerated.

We stand together.

Sarit Itenberg, The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
Rabbi Beth D Davidson, Temple Adath Yeshurun
Rabbi Robin Nafshi, Temple Beth Jacob
Reverend Jason Wells, Executive Director, Council of Churches
Rabbi Jon Spira-Savett, Temple Beth Abraham

Hanover police need help identifying possible menorah vandals

By Damien Fisher

This article originally appeared in *The New Hampshire Union Leader*, and is reprinted with their permission.

The police investigation into the vandalism of a menorah display at Dartmouth College continues to gain steam while New Hampshire Jewish leaders see a continued problem of antisemitism.

Hanover police Lt. Scott Rathburn said two young men have been identified through a witness statement and surveillance video taken by cameras set up by a downtown store.

“We believe the two people you see, one is carrying a thin, long item, which could be a pellet gun,” Rathburn said.

Last week, the large electric menorah near the Dartmouth Common in front of Dartmouth Chabad House had seven of its nine lights shot out with a BB gun. Chabad Rabbi Moshe Leib Gray said



Two young men seen in this video are suspected to have taken part in a Dec. 15 menorah vandalism at Dartmouth College. Police are asking for help identifying them. (COURTESY)

some of the lights had been shot multiple times.

Jewish Federation of New Hampshire board member Dina Michael Chaitowitz said her organization was “outraged and saddened” by the incident, saying it is in keeping with a growing acceptance of antisemitism in New Hampshire.

Vandals continued on page 30

Recent Events

Sports, “Hitler” Drills, and Progress

By Dina Michael Chaitowitz

In November, after learning of the use of the term “Hitlers” as part of a sports drill, the Anti-Defamation League (“ADL”) sent a letter to the state Department of Education (“DOE”), the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (“NHIAA”), and the New Hampshire Youth Lacrosse Association (“NHyla”), and asked for the cessation in the use of the term. The ADL received favorable responses from all three organizations. The letter from the ADL and the joint letter of the DOE and NHIAA are reproduced below. The NHyla sent the following email to Peggy Shuker, ADL New England Interim Deputy Regional Director:

From: Kevin Bishop
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:46 PM
To: Shukur, Peggy
Subject: New England office of the Anti-Defamation League
Good Afternoon, The New England office of the Anti-Defamation League

(ADL) recently contacted NHyla about the use of the name "Hitler" to describe a common lacrosse drill involving dynamic leg stretches while walking. We want to state explicitly that we should never be using terms that may evoke pain or trauma for our student-athletes, even if we did not intend to cause such harm. We call on every organization and coach to examine the language used on the field, in the locker room, and at practice to ensure they exceed the high standards we set for our youth and our sport. The full letter is attached.

Thank you,
Kevin Bishop NHyla President

We are grateful for the positive responses of the organizations involved. We are also extremely grateful to the person who brought the use of this troubling term to the attention of the ADL. We encourage anyone who witnesses or is subjected to anything that is similarly troubling to contact the JFNH and the ADL. Working together, we CAN make a difference.

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Jonathan Greenblatt

Deputy National Director
Kenneth Jacobson



November 19, 2020

Via Email

New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association
251 Clinton Street
Concord, NH 03301
Attention: Donna Plumb, Director of Operations (info@nhiaa.org)

New Hampshire Youth Lacrosse Association
NHyla P.O. Box 812
Hampstead, NH 03841
Attention: Kevin Bishop, President (president@mhyla.org)

Frank Edelblut
Michelle Myler
New Hampshire Department of Education
101 Pleasant Street
Concord NH 03301
frank.edelblut@doe.nh.gov
michelle.myler@doe.nh.gov


Ladies and Gentlemen:

As you may know, ADL (the Anti-Defamation League) is a 107-year-old civil rights and anti-hate organization dedicated to fighting antisemitism and discrimination. We often assist community members in addressing antisemitic or other bias-related incidents. It is in this regard that we write to you today.

It has come to our attention that certain New Hampshire schools are conducting athletic team practices using a drill referred to by the coach as “Hitlers.” This drill, more commonly referred to as a “Frankensteins”, is a dynamic warm-up drill involving leg stretches while walking. Though this context may appear harmless, naming a drill after the Nazi leader and chief perpetrator of the Holocaust is harmful to students whose ethnicity, race or religion was targeted by the Nazi regime, and to students whose family members may have lost their lives fighting against or at the hands of the Nazis. Today, many white supremacist groups in the U.S. today praise Hitler and Nazi Germany’s discriminatory practices and hate toward Jews, people of color, people with disabilities and members of the LGBTQ+ community. These groups pose a threat to the safety and well-being of all, particularly those who belong to the marginalized communities that these groups continue to target.

ADL New England
40 Court Street, Boston, MA 02108 | t: 617.406.6300 | f: 617.406.6310 | boston@adl.org

Frank Edelblut
Commissioner



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
101 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301
TEL. (603) 271-3495
FAX (603) 271-1953

Christine M. Brennan
Deputy Commissioner

December 21, 2020

Dear School Districts,

It has recently been brought to the attention of the Department of Education and the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association that some NH schools may be utilizing language during athletic team practices that could be hurtful to certain groups of people or individuals. This letter is not to identify any individual school district (s). Rather, it is an opportunity for all school districts to take a moment to become more cognizant of the language that is used on the field.


Specifically, this letter addresses the terminology of the warm-up drill which involves leg stretches while walking. This dynamic warm-up drill is used in most sports and is often referred to as “Frankensteins.” We have heard that some coaches have referred to this drill as “Hitlers.”

While this may appear to be fairly harmless, it is important for school districts to be cognizant of language used. This is an opportunity for school districts set the tone for the conduct of youth sports in a manner that is respectful and mindful of all.


Once again, this letter is not sent to identify any particular school district. Rather, we are taking this opportunity to remind the New Hampshire high school athletic community that names and language that are used on the field, in the locker room, and at practice matter. Coaches can and should set the standard and expectations for acceptable language and behavior.

Thank you for giving this your attention.


Sincerely,



Frank Edelblut
Commissioner of Education



Jeffrey Collins
Executive Director, NHIAA




We have been informed that this situation occurred during lacrosse practice but it is likely to occur in other sports and possibly in physical education classes. Rather than try to address this situation by naming particular schools, we instead urge you to take the opportunity to remind the New Hampshire high school athletic community that names and language matter on the field, in the locker room, and at practice. Coaches can and should set the standard for acceptable language and behavior and this case presents an opportunity to illustrate those expectations. This is also an opportunity for schools that have not yet done so to stop using the term “suicides” to refer to a common running drill. In short, we ask you to set the tone for the conduct of youth sports in a manner that is respectful of all.

We ask that you promptly investigate the usage of this drill name at your schools and request that all coaches, regardless of sport, rename any drill which has disrespectful or damaging implications.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We are available to work with you to convey these expectations to the New Hampshire school community. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions or concerns. We look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,



Robert O. Trestan
Regional Director



JFNH Tributes

Received by August 10, 2020

Campaign

From John Morgenstern in memory of Barbara Morgenstern
 From Bernice Taube for a wonderful recovery for Judith Jolton
 From Beth and Jim Lieberman in honor of Ken Litvack and Tracy Richmond
 From Linda Eskin gratefully dedicated to Allyson Guertin and Merle Carus for sharing her Chanuka Story

Irma and Gary Wallin Young Leadership Fund
 From Carol Pressman in memory of Irma Wallin

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, Unit #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.

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.

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

Vandals *continued from page 28*

"The hateful and destructive anti-Semitic incident was deeply disturbing, not only because it is indicative of rising antisemitism — indeed, rising intolerance in general — in our society, but because it occurred at a time when the world needs light and during a holiday (Chanukah) that celebrates the dispelling of darkness," Chaitowitz said.

Chaitowitz cited statistics compiled by the Anti-Defamation League that shows a rise in antisemitism in the region and throughout the country.

"The Anti-Defamation League reports that assault, harassment and vandalism against Jews are at near-historic levels in the United States," Chaitowitz said. "It is important to remember just how recent the deadly attacks at the synagogues in Pittsburgh and Poway were."

The ADL reports that cases of anti-

Semitic and other hate incidents continue to increase in New Hampshire.

White supremacist propaganda in the Granite State increased in 2020, from 43 incidents so far in 2020 compared with 29 in 2019 and three in 2018. The total hate incidents in New Hampshire is at 50 incidents in 2020, compared with 2019's 34. Reported hate crimes have gone from 13 in 2018 to 16 in 2019.

Rathburn said the Hanover Police investigation has so far listed the incident as possibly bias-based, though it is impossible to know yet if this was a hate attack.

"It's hard to say when you can't have the person tell you what the motivation was," Rathburn said.

Rathburn said there are reports of other BB gun damage at buildings near the Chabad House that took place around the same time as the menorah incident.

Anyone with information is asked to call Hanover police at 643-2222

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.

Your JFNH tribute card serves double duty by helping to support the vital programs serving the New Hampshire Jewish Community.

All tributes will be listed in The Reporter.

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David Greaves



Larry Sidney

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021, 7 pm
FROM FROZEN CHOSEN TO THE HEBREW HAMMER: THE INSPIRING
STORY OF ISRAEL'S OLYMPIC BOBSLED AND SKELETON TEAM

Join us and meet David Greaves and Larry Sidney to hear the incredible and unlikely story of Israel's Bobsled and Skeleton Team.

Bobsleigh Skeleton Israel (BSI) National Sports Federation of Israel was originally Israel's Bobsled Team in 2002 when three American Jews decided to represent Israel in winter sliding sports. The three made Aliyah, exceeded all expectations and qualified Israel for two World Championships.

Through passion and dedication, Israel qualified her first skeleton athlete for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea. In 2020, David Greaves, one of the founding bobsled members of the 2002 Israeli Bobsled and Skelton Team, is President of BSI today. He oversees Israel's seven athletes competing internationally in Bobsled and Skeleton. Professionally, David is the Executive Director of JNF Canada.

Larry Sidney took up the sport of skeleton in 2012, joining the Israeli program in 2015. After the 2018 Olympics, Larry became BSI's Secretary General. Working alongside David Greaves, they manage the BSI program supporting the current group of athletes. Today three Skeleton athletes and two Bobsled teams, are trying to qualify for the 2022 Winter Olympics, to represent Israel. Professionally, Larry is a Holistic Wealth Advisor in Reno, Nevada.

Speaker series is FREE.
Suggested donation
of \$18 supports JFNH
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FREE Israel Speaker Series

The Speaker program is scheduled for Sunday, March 21, 2021, at 7 pm. The ZOOM link for the Speaker program on Sunday, March 21 at 7 pm will be sent to all registered attendees via email by 4 pm on Thursday March 18, 2021 for your viewing use.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ISRAEL SPEAKER SERIES.
Attendees must register no later than 2 pm on Thursday, March 18 to receive the 4 pm email viewing link.

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