

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE
Jewish **Reporter**

Published by the
Jewish Federation of
New Hampshire

Volume 41, Number 6

March 2021

Adar-Nissan 5781



PASSOVER



**Happy
Passover**

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

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www.bethlehemsynagogue.org
davegoldstone1@gmail.com
Services: Contact for Date/Time Info
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www.templeisraelnh.org
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Saturday at 9:30 AM
Minyans: Mon.-Fri. 7 AM. Call Stephen Singer 603-774-4048 for info.

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office@tbanashua.org
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Holiday service times, locations TBA

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The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter

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

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

Please send all materials to:
thereporter@jewishnh.org

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

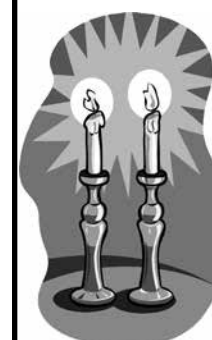
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The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter is overseen by the JFNH Publications Committee, Merle Carrus, chairperson.

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Shabbat Candle Lighting Times: (Manchester)



March 5	5:22 PM
March 12	5:31 PM
March 19	6:39 PM
March 26	6:47 PM

Happy Passover from JFNH

It is hard to believe that Passover is almost here, and we are once again planning family Zoom seders. I am not sure any of us thought that here, a year later, we would still be home, and not celebrating together with family and friends in person. I want to wish you a very happy Passover, filled with good health, and hope that next year we will get back to some type of normalcy.

The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire is so appreciative for the support we receive from the community. This year has proven to be quite the challenge, from many perspectives. So many are isolated and lonely, not to mention those who have lost their jobs and security. It is truly unprecedented. Your continued

Elyse Hyman

Executive Director



support will help us continue to meet the needs of our fellow community members.

JFNH has representation from almost every formal Jewish organization in New Hampshire: large and small, religious and secular, social, political, cultural, and educational. We warmly welcome all those who are interested, and we encourage participation in all our programs and activities. We could say, in a sense, that

COVID-19 did give us the opportunity to reach out across the state and include everyone in our programming and services this past year.

So, you may ask, how does the Federation allocate and distribute funds raised? Your support of the annual campaign allows us to continue:

- Supporting the community impacted by the pandemic with much needed social services.
- Collaborating with community partners to fight all forms of hate and anti-semitism, through education and programming.
- Educating our community on all things Israel, innovative programming, the Shlichah program, and community

conversations.

- Sending children to Jewish summer camp, and on Israel experiences.
- Presenting our Annual Jewish Film Festival (live or virtual) and hosting special film series and panel discussions throughout the year.
- Bringing Jewish customs and values into your homes, with PJ Library books and programs.

And the needs do not stop there. We need you and your continued support. If you have not yet made your gift to the Annual Campaign, please consider a donation. We thank you for entrusting us with this work. Know that we are making a difference here in New Hampshire, in Israel, and around the world.

Your Support for JFNH Allows Us to Do More

I echo what Elyse has written. Right now, more than ever, we could truly use your support. A successful campaign season only means MORE that we want to do for you, with those successes. COVID-19 has no plans of leaving yet, and our social services needs are increasing. We truly hope you consider a donation. We must be here to help each one of you and your loved ones should you need extra support during this pandemic. Our programming con-

Dr. Sarit Itenberg

Board Chair



tinues, our collaborations and partnerships take no pause. Our physical distance from you challenges us to be there for you still, and more meaning-

fully. The combination of creativity, teamwork, and community support is just one piece.

Your financial gifts are so appreciated. Please join me and challenge yourselves to help us do a little more. If a gift is not an option, please reach out and help us in other ways. We welcome new voices on the phone, and new faces on Zoom calls!

I must end on a funny note. This past week, I have witnessed my personal hard

work, dedication, and passion for the NH Jewish community unfold. My father, a JFNH supporter, told me he voluntarily solicited a gift from a community member whom he thought was not yet involved! The talking points he used were his very own, and came from his heart. Dad, look out, you may get a call to join the Campaign Committee!

Thank you for all that you do. Chag Pesach Sameach. Stay healthy and strong... and stay in touch!

Yes! Please Count Me In! Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation to support the Campaign for a Proud and Vibrant Jewish New Hampshire.

You may also donate at www.jewishnh.org/give or by calling (603) 627-7679.

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A Thank You to the Community

By Ken Litvack, Vice Chair JFNH

The Hebrew word “tzedakah” is commonly used to signify charity and philanthropy. It is a form of social justice in which donors benefit from giving as much—or more—than the recipients. The donors are the true believers.



Ken Litvack

I remember going to services with my grandparents, and on the way out, my grandfather would always put some coins in a blue and white tin box called the “pushke.” I asked him what it was for, and he always replied the same way: “It’s for people who are less fortunate than us.” My grandfather was not a wealthy man, by any means, but he always found some change to give to charity. I am proud to say his philosophy has impacted my entire life. You can still find these blue and white boxes in many places in Israel, and hopefully, the coins that Bertha and I left in them helped in a little way.

The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire performs tzedakah through many of our programs, our social services, PJ Library, outreach to our senior citizens, our Film Festival, and so on. None of this could have been accomplished without your support—not only financially, but also in service.

I am happy to announce that our campaign has exceeded our goals, not only in dollars, but also in new donors. This could not have been accomplished without the hard work and untold hours that committee and staff put in. We all have to thank our co-chairs, Tracy Richmond and Judith Jolton, along with the rest of our committee, Harry Shepler, Pat Kalik, David Goldstone, our Super Sunday star Jay Madnick, and our amazing staff, Allyson Guertin, Cheryl Gerrior, and Elyse Hyman.

None of the wonderful things we are doing could have been accomplished without the overwhelming support of our community. For that, I thank all of you from the bottom of my heart.



Families from across NH gathered in February on Zoom for the new JFNH Early Education Initiative Shavua Tov Story Time to celebrate the birthday of the trees.

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Passover 2021

Passover, or in Hebrew, Pesach (פסח), is almost here, so I think it's time to talk about the best Israeli Chametz (The adjective chametz is derived from the common Semitic root H-M-S, relating to bread, leavening, and baking (- AKA, all the good stuff).

So, top five Israeli Chametz food special!

1. **Pita Bread** - Fluffy, warm-from-the-oven bakery pita! When you enter a bakery in Israel it is almost impossible to ignore the piles of this wonderful pita bread and their smell...
2. **Jachnun** - A Yemenite Jewish pastry and traditionally served on Shabbat morning. Jachnun became huge part of the Israeli culture. Almost every Israeli family eats Jachnun over Shabbat and you can buy them handmade in many places. Because of the Israeli tourism in India, Jachnun is one of the most common dishes in India over Shabbat and all the Israelis are getting together to eat it and feel at home!
3. **Kubbeh** - a family of dishes with Iraqi and Kurdish Jewish origin. There are different kinds of Kubbeh and my fa-



Avia Sagron

JFNH Shlichah

SPOTLIGHT ON ISRAEL NH SHLICHAH



Jewish Federation OF NEW HAMPSHIRE | Israel Engagement and Education Committee

vorite is beetroot Kubbeh soup! Basically, its semolina dumplings filled with ground beef and served in beetroot soup. In Hebrew we usually say "Marak Kubbeh Adom" (Marak=soup, Adom=Red) because of the beautiful color the beetroots give the Kubbeh.

4. **Ptitim** (literally 'flakes') - a type of toasted pasta shaped like rice grains. Ptitim was created in 1953, during the austerity period in Israel. Israel's first prime minister, David Ben-Guri-



on, asked Eugen Proper, one of the founders of the Osem Food Company, to devise a wheat-based substitute for rice. It started this way but over the years it has become one of the most beloved and common food in Israel. It is very easy and quick to make and so delicious! Here you can

find it under the title "Israeli cous-cous" although its misleading because Ptitim is basically pasta and couscous made from semolina.

5. **Malawah** - one more traditional Yemen food, Malawach resembles a thick pancake but consists of thin layers of puff pastry brushed with oil or fat and cooked flat in a frying pan. Like Jachnun, Malawah is an inseparable part of the average Israeli family household. I never made it from scratch but it's really easy to find frozen and ready to cook (I know about some places in Massachusetts you can find it as well).

I hope you will try some of these before or after Passover.

And I would love to "see" you in my Virtual Moroccan Mimouna celebration on the last day of Passover, when we can eat Chametz and make Mofletta—a Maghrebi Jewish pancake traditionally eaten during the Mimouna celebration. Sign up will be open soon for "Mimouna in A Box Kit."

Hope you will celebrate this tradition with me this year!

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PJ Our Way, NH Shlichah Avia Sagron and Temple Beth Abraham hosted a Tu B'Shevat Paint Night for 'tweens' and children from across NH joined us for this fun night on Zoom.



Jewish Federation OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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PASSOVER GREETINGS 2021

Chag Pesach Sameach!
- *The Boyd Family*

Sending our best wishes for a happy Passover to our NH Community!
- *The Guertin Family; David, Allyson and Max*

Chag Pesach Sameach.
- *The Jolton Family*

Happy Passover and delicious Pesach!
- *The Kalik Family*

Happy Passover from the Kushner family
- *Andy, Norm, Scott, Jamie, Kenny, Lauren, Matthew, Ayla, Max and Zoey*

Our best wishes for a happy and healthy Passover.
- *Ken and Bertha Litvack*

Passover greetings from the Millers!

Chag Pesach Sameach from Rabbi Robin Nafshi, Cantor Shira Nafshi and the Temple Beth Jacob Community!

Best wishes for a joy-filled, sweet Passover.
- *The Regan Family*

Chag Pesach Semeach to all.
- *Marc Rubenson*

May Passover 5781 be much appreciated, as we have learned from and finally move forward from the Pandemic, distancing into responsible liberation for all people.
- *The Soreff family and nation*

Wishing you a Passover that is happy and filled with every good thing the holiday brings
- *from Renee Brenner*

During Pesach and always, the Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation wishes you love, joy and happiness.

Best wishes for a healthy and peaceful Passover.
- *Sol and Linda Rockenmacher*

Best wishes for Passover from your friends and fellow tribe members at Kol Ha'Emek, the Upper Valley Jewish Community in Hanover, NH (www.uvjc.org) The root of the word "mitzrayim" means "narrow" or "boundaries" indicating the limitations of life in Egypt. Let us use this holiday to individually and collectively expand our lives through the lessons of our Jewish faith and heritage.

Have a Zissen Pesach!
- *Abner Taub and Liliane Sznycer*

Chag Sameach, wishing you all a Zissan Pesach.
- *Michele and Michael Bank*

Wishing all a joyous and Healthy Passover. L'shana Haba'a Panim el Panim! Next year in person!
- *Rabbi Daniel Aronson and Congregation Ahavas Achim, Keene, NH*



Photo © 2019 Schneur Menaker/Jewish Federations of North America

Wherever and
however we gather,
we endure.

*Sweet and healthy Passover wishes
from your friends at Federation*

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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

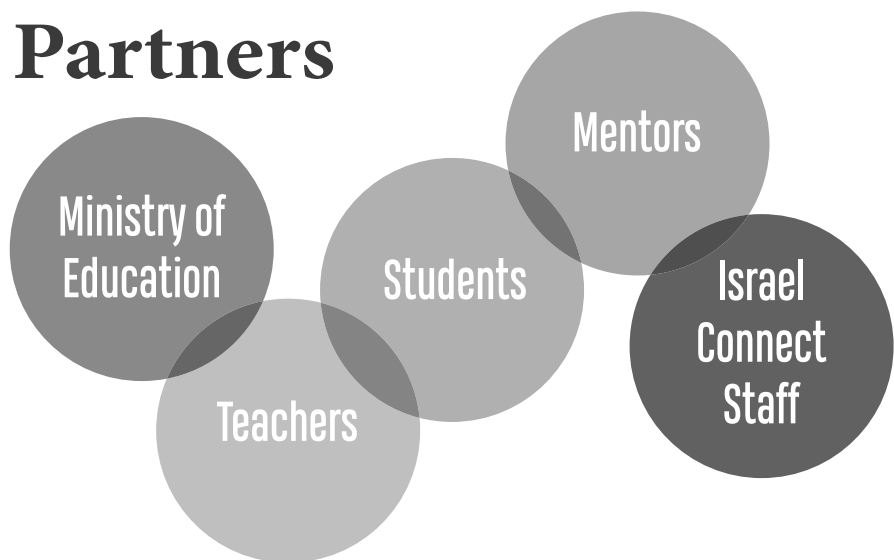
ENGAGE Mentors & Students **engage** weekly over SKYPE following an interactive curriculum

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

Pesach and the Meaning of True Power

This next month, we will celebrate at the holiday marking our ancestors' liberation from slavery and journey into freedom: Pesach. We will gather in person and virtually via the miracle of modern technology to recount our ancestors and their oppression at the hands of the Egyptian empire. The Egyptians perceived their power over the Israelites via their wealth and use of brute force. It was only when God stepped in and eventually humbled the Egyptians and led the Israelites to pursue their dream of freedom that it was clear what is meant by true power.

The revered 20th century Jewish scholar Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel taught the following in his masterwork *God in Search of Man*:

"We must not try to read chapters in the Bible dealing with the event at Sinai as if they were texts in systematic theology. Its intention is to celebrate the mystery, to introduce us to it rather than to penetrate or to explain it. **As a report about revelation the Bible itself is a midrash.**" (p. 185)

The Torah is not a historical document meant to be read literally, but a roadmap that is meant to challenge us in each generation through wrestling with her lessons. While the tradition teaches that the Torah preceded God's creation of the universe, once her timeless wisdom was revealed to humanity, the human writers who attempted to articulate that wisdom needed to clothe it in language that could be understood by the people of the time. Therefore, when we read the story of God and Moses leading the Israelites out of Egypt, we are not reading about some long-ago story about a people who no longer exist; we are actively engaging in the ongoing process of Revelation to discern what this parable is trying to teach us about our lives today.

Pharaoh lived with an incredible and unfounded sense of entitlement to the point that he treated his fellow human beings like chattel. His sense of entitlement enabled him to impose his will on others by whatever means he desired without regard for the other. He did so blindly, thinking that he was beyond reproach, only to be bested and humbled when he finally pushed too far, too many times.

The story of Pharaoh's treatment of the Israelites is a cautionary tale not to adopt a sense of entitlement towards others that ever allows us to treat one another as "the hired help," as it were.



Our money, our stations in life, our titles, our professions, our sense of prestige, our positions in society all do not give us the right to ever treat anyone like they are the hired help, or worse yet, like indentured servants. Frequenting an establishment or paying someone a salary does not mean you own the person providing the service, nor does it put them at your beck and call; it means you are fulfilling your end of a contractual agreement in exchange for securing their agreed-upon services.

Pharaoh may have been bossy and dictatorial, but he was no leader. True

power is not imposing one's will on others, it is bringing out the best in those around you. Leaders strive to bring others on board with them, rather than to simply force their vision upon them. They seek to make others their partners

in the process rather than their subordinate subjects to whom they dictate.

May the Holy Blessed One liberate us from this toxic and destructive mindset and lead us together in sacred partnership with one another, now and forever.

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Education

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.

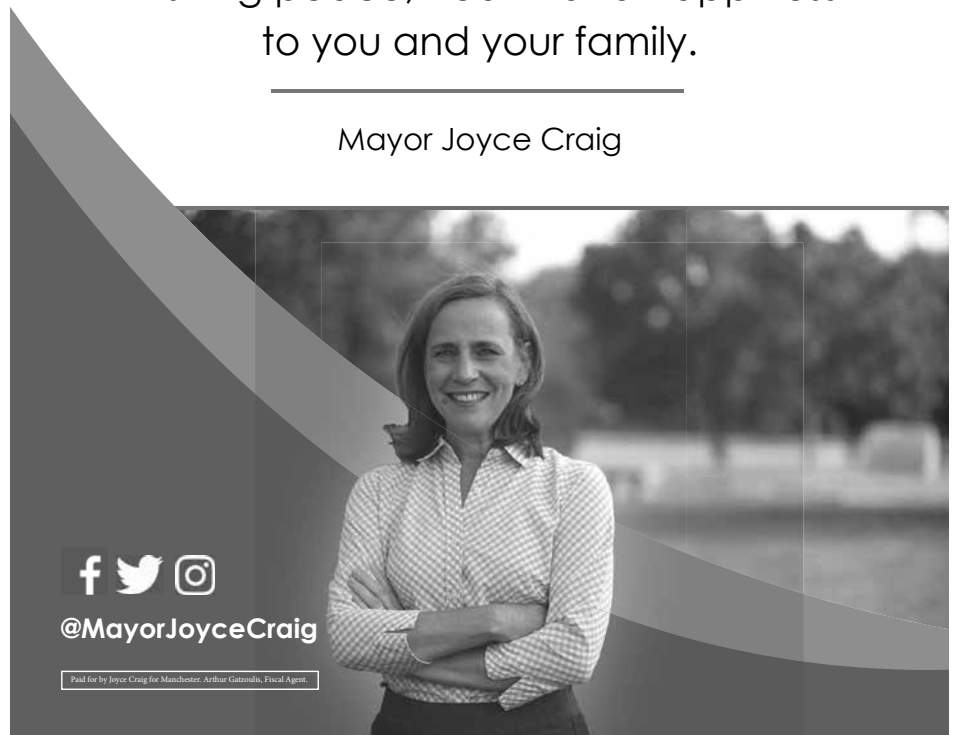
We have developed a list of objective resources that you can provide to your student's schools. We hope to have this list available on the Federation website soon.

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.

Chag Sameach!

Wishing peace, health and happiness to you and your family.

Mayor Joyce Craig



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

In the Community

The COVID-19 Vaccination Schedule: When Can I Get Vaccinated?

The end of the pandemic is in sight, but first, the vaccination rollout must continue. Many people reading this have already received their second doses of the Moderna and/or Pfizer vaccines, or know others who have received them. Meanwhile, FDA authorization of the one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine is also on the horizon.

However, since the vaccination process moves in stages, many are wondering when they will be able to sign up. Of course, this can be a moving target, as scheduling is dependent on available doses, but in New Hampshire, here are the basics, as provided by <https://www.vaccines.nh.gov>:

Phase 1: December to March

Phase 1A:

- High-risk health workers
- First responders
- Residents and staff of long-term care facilities

Phase 1B:

- People over 65
- Medically vulnerable individuals at

significantly higher risk, 2 or more conditions, such as the following:

- o Cancer
- o Chronic kidney disease
- o COPD
- o Down Syndrome
- o Heart Conditions
- o Immunocompromised States
- o Obesity
- o Pregnancy
- o Sickle Cell
- o Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus
- Family caregivers of people with 2 or more of above conditions (however, caregivers under 16 are not yet eligible during this stage)
- Residents/staff at residential facilities for individuals with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities
- Staff and officers in corrections facilities
- Healthcare workers and first responders not already vaccinated during 1a

Phase 2: March to May

Phase 2A:

- School and childcare staff – K-12

Phase 2B:

Individuals 50-64 years old

Phase 3: May and beyond

Phase 3A:

- Individuals under 50 who are medically vulnerable, and at moderate risk due to 1 or more of the previously listed conditions.

Phase 3B:

- Everybody else who has not yet been vaccinated at this point.

That is the plan for New Hampshire. To be clear, timeframes will depend on available doses. For more information, scheduling, and registration, please visit <https://www.vaccines.nh.gov>.



Photo by Hakan Nural, Unsplash

<p><i>Happy Passover</i></p> <p>ISRAEL BOOK SHOP, INC.</p> <p>Jewish Religious Books & Gifts</p>	<p>"New England's Judaic Superstore"</p> <p>FULL LINE OF PASSOVER ITEMS</p> <p>Seder Plates, Matzo Covers & Plates, Wine Cups, Haggadot, Chocolate and Candy,</p> <p>Cookbooks, Plague Bags, Frogs, Children's Books & Games, Music & More</p> <p>www.israelbookshop.com 617-566-7113 • 1-800-323-7723</p> <p>info@israelbookshop.com 410 Harvard Street, Brookline, MA</p>
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Happy Passover

Peace, health and happiness to you & your family!

Senator Maggie Hassan

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Girl Scout Shabbat at Etz Hayim Synagogue

Etz Hayim Synagogue welcomes all Girl Scouts to celebrate Girl Scout Shabbat on Friday, March 12th at 7:15 PM. The service will be via ZOOM. The link will be sent to all who register. All Girl Scouts who attend will be able to participate in reciting the Girl Scout Promise. If you have any questions, please contact Isabel Danforth – idanforth@gmail.com.

Girl Scouts is a value-based organization that encourages members to explore

their faith in relationship to the Girl Scout Law. During Girl Scout week, March 7th thru 13th, girls are encouraged to learn something new about faiths other than their own.

Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:

To serve God* and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do, and to respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

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



Jewish Federation OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Chanukah, Drive-In Style

By Etz Hayim

On Sunday, December 13, 2020, members of the congregation of Etz Hayim in Derry celebrated Chanukah drive-in style, in the parking lot in front of the synagogue. Once the crowd gathered, they were led in prayer by Rabbi Peter Levy and in song by Amy Dattner-Levy and her guitar.

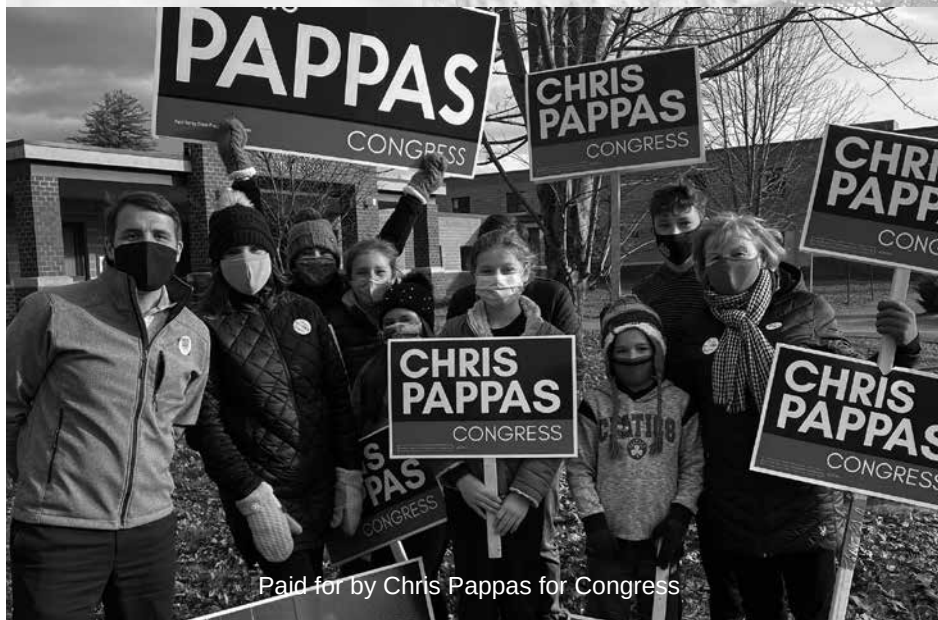
Many brought their own menorahs to light by their cars. A new, large outdoor Menorah, built by Jay Madnick, glowed for all to see.



Chag Pesach Sameach!

I hope those observing this holiday feel the connection to family, faith, and tradition even through this difficult moment for communities around the world.

Chris Pappas



Paid for by Chris Pappas for Congress

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Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation: Inauguration Day Brings Renewed Hope to Community and Nation

By David Goldstone

Our temple community has endured the scourge of the pandemic affecting our health and livelihood, civil unrest, political upheaval, and insurrection over these past 12 months, and yet we have persevered, and in some cases, thrived as a community. The inauguration of our newly elected president appears today as a light seen at the end of a long tunnel of despair. It is a light signaling the turning point in our battle with the virus that has disrupted our livelihood and our very lives, a light of fellowship, of reaching across the aisle to heal the wounds fomented in partisanship, and a light of compassion and understanding of our nation's diverse communities.

On Tuesday evening, January 19, the Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation joined the town of Bethlehem, New Hampshire and villages and municipalities nationwide in a Covid-19 memorial to victims of the pandemic, as well as a tribute to all

who were on the front lines when it came to first responses, care, medical treatment, and scientific advancement in the development of vaccines, as we reach a turning point in our battles with this virus.

As the town of Bethlehem lit the buildings and church bells rang, we turned on

the lights of our sanctuary, and blasted the shofar in memory, in tribute, and in renewed hope for our community, the nation, and humankind worldwide.

Let's all strive to make this moment the dawn of peace and reconciliation.

— Dave Goldstone, President

Present at the event with David Goldstone: Leslie Dreier, Jacki Katzman, Martin Kessel

Video and Photos Courtesy of Leslie Dreier & Martin Kessel

A large graphic for Chag Sameach. On the left is a black and white photograph of a family of five (two adults and three children) outdoors. The background is a light-colored, textured surface with faint images of Passover symbols: a shofar, a seder plate, and a glass of wine. The text "Chag Sameach." is written in a large, elegant script font. Below it, in a bold sans-serif font, is the message: "Wishing you, your family and all families a joyous and meaningful celebration of Passover, the Holiday of Freedom".

Chag Sameach.

Wishing you, your family and all families a joyous and meaningful celebration of Passover, the Holiday of Freedom



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SPOTLIGHT

ON ISRAEL EVENT SERIES



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Jewish Federation's signature Israel Engagement and Education Committee is dedicated to its mission to engage, educate, and connect New Hampshire's Jewish community to Israel and our brethren in the Jewish State. We accomplish our 'Spotlight on Israel' pursuit by presenting compelling Israel-themed programs throughout the year to our statewide NH community.

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For more information please contact us at: JFNH Israel Engagement & Education Committee
By phone (603)627-7679 through the Jewish Federation Office, Monday-Thursday, 9 AM- 3 PM
Email: info@jewishnh.org, visit www.jewishnh.org. On Facebook, visit Jewish Federation of New Hampshire.

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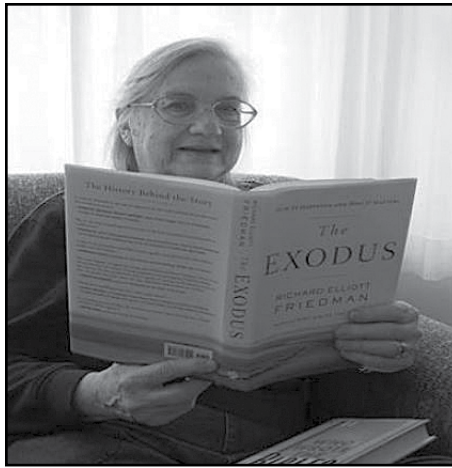
“Exodus – History, Fiction, or Some Place In Between?”

Presented by Isabel and Douglas Danforth,
March 21, 2021 Sunday 10 AM by Zoom

March 21, 2021, Sunday at 10 AM, Isabel and Douglas Danforth will present “Exodus – History, Fiction, or Some Place In Between?” by Zoom. They will be looking at Torah, archeological and historical evidence. Can we conclude that the Exodus that we celebrate at Passover was a historical event or not? Much of our discussion does come from the ideas of Richard Elliot Friedman’s recent book, titled *The Exodus*. We will discuss some of his evidence and see if we can agree or not with his conclusions.

This is a Zoom event. To get the zoom link, email: office@etzhayim.org

This is part of Etz Hayim Synagogue’s Adult Continuing Education Program Hot Topics and Cool Contemporary



Isabel Danforth

Stuff. For more information, please contact: Stephen Soreff, MD, at soreffs15@aol.com or 603-895-6120.

Etz Hayim to Hold a Second Seder on March 28, 2021

By Steve Soreff, MD

Etz Hayim Synagogue will host its Second Night Passover Seder on Sunday, March 28, 2021 at 6 PM. Our seder will be led by Rabbi Peter and Amy Levy and it will be BYOH – Bring Your Own Haggadah. For families with younger children attending, there will be activity cards and games for you to download.

To register and get the Zoom link, please email our synagogue office by March 22, 2021 at office@etzhayim.org. More information, please contact:



Stephen Soreff, MD, at soreffs15@aol.com or 603-895-6120.



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To see a list of stores that carry our complete selection of kosher wines, visit LiquorandWineOutlets.com/Kosher-Wines.

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LiquorandWineOutlets.com Please drink responsibly.

‘Nashua, The State of the City,’ brought to you by the Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men’s Club

“Nashua, The State of the City,” will be the topic discussed by Mayor Jim Donchess, on Sunday, March 21st, at 9:30 AM, LIVE via Zoom, presented by the Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men’s Club.

After graduating from Yale University where he majored in Art History, Mayor Donchess went on to earn his law degree from NYU School of Law with top honors. A practicing attorney for many years, Jim became the 51st Mayor of Nashua in 1984 during a period when the city was recognized by Money Magazine as the Best Place to Live in America. Now, Jim is beginning his second term of his second mayoralty. He is focusing on the economic growth of the community, on strategies to ensure that all of Nashua’s children reach their full potential, on a stronger municipal infrastructure, on steady progress toward a net zero Nashua, and on the cultivation of a 21st century arts, cultural, and residential neighborhood in Nashua’s downtown.



Mayor Donchess’ presentation will be followed by an open question and answer session.

The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men’s Club is proud to sponsor Mayor Donchess’ presentation which will start off with “Schmooze Time” from 9:00 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 featured 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 member-

ship 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 Tu B’Shevat Zoom Seder

A musical seder celebrating Tu B’Shevat, the New Year of the Trees, was held online on January 28th by Etz Hayim Synagogue in Derry. The Seder was in two parts, separated by a meal, and those who participated were asked to bring a few specific items. Rabbi Peter Levy led the Seder and a discussion about three kinds of fruits and nuts:

- Totally edible, such as seedless grapes, raisins, berries, and figs
 - Those with inedible seeds, including peaches, apricots, olives, and dates
 - Those with inedible skins, like kiwi, bananas, pomegranates, oranges, and nuts.
- White and purple grape juice, herbs

and spices and a variety of grains were also suggested, and it is a common tradition to make this a vegetarian meal.

Rabbi Levy’s wife, Amy Dattner-Levy, who sang and played her guitar, also led the group in taking turns reading excerpts from Dr. Seuss’ *The Lorax*, a story about a place virtually devoid of nature, where no flowers or trees grow.

Prior to the event, Rabbi Levy and his wife had delivered goody bags to religious school children for them to use during the Seder. The bags contained a sampling of several foods relating to the holiday, and allowed the children to share with others during the seder.

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PASSOVER

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Chag Sameach.

Wishing you a meaningful Passover,
as we celebrate the Festival of Freedom.

JAY KAHN
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‘Unorthodox’ and ‘Shtisel’ actress Shira Haas nominated for Golden Globe

Congratulations to Shira Haas, the star of Netflix’s 2020 breakout hit *Unorthodox*, for becoming the first Israeli actress (or actor) to ever be nominated for a Golden Globe award!

The Netflix original miniseries, which is primarily in Yiddish, features Haas in a role inspired by the 2012 autobiography of the same name by Deborah Feldman. Haas previously earned acclaim for her role as young Ruchami Weiss in the 2013 Israeli TV series *Shtisel* – which follows an Ultra-Orthodox family in Geula, Jerusalem – a series which also recently won a surprise following on Netflix, and was renewed for a third season.



Shira Haas in Netflix’s *Unorthodox* (2020)

Haas has previously won awards and nominations in the Israeli Academy Awards, the Jewish Film Festival, the Tribeca Film Festival, and more, and following her breakout role in *Unorthodox*, it seems clear that she has a bright future ahead.

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On Sunday, January 31, after the showing of "Shared Legacies," the New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival hosted a panel discussion with (from left to right) Robert Trestan, Executive Director of the Anti-Defamation League's Boston office (top row, left); James T. McKim, Chair of the Episcopal Church National Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism & Reconciliation and President of the Manchester NAACP; Dr. Dottie R. Morris, Associate Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion, Keene State College; Rabbi Ira Korinow, Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Emanu-El in Haverhill, MA, and former Interim Rabbi at Temple Israel in Portsmouth, NH; Professor Susannah Heschel, Eli M. Black Distinguished Professor and chair of the Jewish Studies Program at Dartmouth College; and Tanisha Johnson, Child and Family Services Director of Community Action Partnership of Stratford County and co-founder of the Black Lives Matter Seacoast Chapter. Over 300 people watched the film, and approximately 130 participated in the post-film discussion.



ENJOY AN OUTDOOR FAMILY VACATION AT CAMP YAVNEH!
TUESDAY, AUGUST 24 - SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2021



Family Camp at Yavneh offers five days of unforgettable fun at the end of August. There is no better place to relax with your friends and family in a welcoming Jewish camp environment. Enjoy a socially-distanced vacation with swimming, canoeing, and fishing at Lucas Pond as well as singing by the campfire, archery, art, and much more! We will be offering outdoor kosher dining and optional prayer opportunities. A visiting rabbi or scholar-in-residence will be joining us for stimulating learning and conversations.

REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 1ST. LIMITED SPACE IS AVAILABLE.
FOR QUESTIONS AND MORE DETAILS, CONTACT SHIRAH RUBIN, DIRECTOR OF FAMILY CAMP AT SHIRAH@CAMPYAVNEH.ORG

Movie Review: *Leona* (and preview of *The Keeper*)

By Zach Camenker, NH JFF
Committee Member

While many loyal fans of the New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival may have been disappointed to see certain titles scheduled for last year's festival not included in last summer's truncated virtual series, folks can take comfort in knowing that several of the films we had been scheduled to show are now available in a variety of places to watch from the comfort of your homes.

One of the movies we had hoped to show at the previously scheduled in-person 2020 Jewish Film Festival was Isaac Cherem's critically acclaimed 2018 drama *Leona*, which is now streaming in Red River Theatres' Virtual Cinema.

The story of a 25-year-old Jewish woman named Ariela who lives in Mexico City, *Leona* depicts Ariela's budding romance with a non-Jewish man despite objections from her parents and family—an all-too-familiar narrative for many people with experience in inter-faith relationships. The film, only 94 minutes long, is packed with raw emotion and endless tension.

One major perk that I have always associated with our Film Festival is the chance to see stories from other places in the diaspora about which we in the United States may otherwise know very little. *Leona*, taking place in a neighborhood in Mexico with many Jewish families, is no exception. I previously screened this film in fall 2019, and I learned a great deal about the Jewish culture in Mexico. This second time around, I picked up on other pieces that I had previously missed, which is a gift that any film should be proud of.

The depiction of Mexican Jewish life in *Leona* is one of its greatest strengths. In viewing it, one can certainly make comparisons and contrasts between American Jewish life, which ultimately leads to great conversation and deeper thinking. The film's two greatest strengths, however, are its use of themes and its performances. Without disclosing



any plot surprises, the film's title has a major significance that unfolds toward the final act. It is noteworthy that when the movie dramatically ends, your mind cannot help but backtrack to previous moments in which the title aligns with the themes and messages.

Additionally, certain elements of Judaism resonate deeply as thematic material, with intentional placement, throughout the piece. Some of the films that we screen at our Festival offer a poignant, but limited amount of Jewish themes while others include a significant amount. *Leona* offers the perfect balance, embedding the subtle themes into various points within the film, from the beginning scene which takes place at a mikvah, through several scenes at Ariela's grandmother's home for Shabbat, and both casual and intense conversations surrounding Ariela's religion. When she ultimately realizes that her non-Jewish boyfriend, Ivan, is going to be an issue for her family, the moment is heartbreaking.

Naian González Norvind's portrayal of Ariela is superb. She offers a range of emotions and while she has some especially tense scenes, she never overremotes or chews the scenery. This matches the persona of her character very well and



allows the viewer to see a sense of realism in the character of Ariela.

While the supporting cast is quite strong all around, the film delivers two additional female performances worthy of note: from Carolina Politi, who plays Ariela's mother, a woman on her own search for the right man following her divorce from Ariela's father, as well as Margarita Sanz, who plays Ariela's grandmother. Sanz, who lives up to the adage of "there are no small parts, only small actors," particularly stands out in how she showcases her endearing relationship with her granddaughter, as well as how she relays her own life experiences to Ariela.

This second time around, I found *Leona* even more engaging and provocative than previously. It is a well-made film that leaves the viewer with ideas to ponder and manages to pack quite a lot of emotion and plot into its short running time. My one criticism is that there are a lot of characters to keep track of, many of whom are underdeveloped and/or fail to resonate by the final act. The strengths of this picture far outweigh its weaknesses, though, and the film is certainly worthy of your viewing.

While touching on an intriguing topic for many members of the family, *Leona* does include some sexual scenarios that are not suitable for children and may be

uncomfortable for some adults.

Leona, along with many other excellent films, is available to stream from your home in Red River Theatres' Virtual Cinema through the Eventive app. Red River is a long-time partner of the NH Jewish Film Festival and continues to support us as we transition to virtual programming, so we strongly encourage you to show your support for their organization, as well.

Next on my to-view list is 2019's *The Keeper*, which was also scheduled for our 2020 Film Festival prior to the pandemic. Based on the true story of Bert Trautmann, a German POW and soldier, this film is available on Amazon to rent for \$4.99. Stay tuned for my review of this film for the April edition of *The Reporter*. In the meantime, for more suggestions on what to watch, feel free to visit my bi-weekly blog, "Close-Up with Camenker," sponsored by Red River Theatres in Concord at <https://www.redrivertheatres.org/about/rrt-movie-columns/close-up-with-camenker/>.

There are still tickets left for our next event, the Israeli TV Series Binge Fest. *The Conductor* will start screening on March 3rd and is available until March 17. Purchase tickets by going to our website www.nhjewishfilmfestival.com

As always, happy viewing!



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Over 250 people watched the second movie in the New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival's special Black-Jewish Civil Rights Alliance Film Series, "Joachim Prinz: I Shall Not Be Silent," and over 80 people attended the virtual post-film discussion on February 4, 2021. Pictured here are the panelists and others immediately before the panel discussion: from left to right: Patricia Gross Kalik, NHJFF Co-Chair (top row, left); Dina Michael Chaitowitz, JFNH Board of Directors; Rabbi Ira Korinow, Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Emanu-El in Haverhill, MA, and former Interim Rabbi at Temple Israel in Portsmouth, NH; Elyse Hyman, JFNH Executive Director (second row, left); Rabbi Neil Comess-Daniels, Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth Shalom in Santa Monica; Ross Fishbein, NHJFF Co-Chair; Wayne Jennings, chairperson and founder of New Hampshire's nonprofit National Cultural Diversity Awareness Council (bottom row, left); Robert Treston, Executive Director of the Anti-Defamation League's Boston office; and George Bruno, civil rights and immigration attorney and former US Ambassador to Belize.



Help Wanted!

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

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To get involved, contact thereporter@jewishnh.org

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Kids' Corner Coloring Page



VERONICA

Veronica Ava Conley, ©2021

Teens Exchange Acts of Kindness for Ski Trip

By Chanchie Krinsky, Director of CTeen of NH

Acts of kindness are greater than charity since they can be done for both the rich and poor... Charity can only be done with one's money, while acts of loving-kindness can be performed both personally and with one's money. - Rambam (Hilchot Aivel 14:1)

However, the Rambam, commonly known as Maimonides, hadn't met Michael Bogart, who accomplished both in one fell swoop. When I approached Michael for a sponsorship request to help defray the cost of a CTeen ski trip, Michael graciously agreed to make a donation, with one stipulation.

Michael's request? "I will send you the \$____, in exchange I would like each participant to send me a paragraph of one thing they are willing to commit to now and in the future to change the world for the better."

The well-known Rabbi Akiva taught: *'Love your neighbor as yourself'* (Leviticus 19:18). *This is the most important rule*

in the Torah. (Jerusalem Talmud Nedarim 30b)

Without pure love, it's impossible to treat others as they deserve. In Judaism, each person is likened to an entire world. Remembering this helps us to see the value in each and every person we come across, and can help us remember the key Torah commandment to be kind.

While breaking for dinner from some awesome skiing, every teen put thought into what they could do to lift up the people around them – and wrote it down. At home, in school, on the street, currently, and in their future. We talked about the power that one kind deed can have, and that deed's potential to change the course of a person's life. We never know the ripple effect of our actions.

What would normally have been "merely" a transactional contribution for teens to enjoy a much-needed day of skiing with friends (which in and of itself is still a huge mitzvah of tzedakah) turned into a powerful tsunami of kindness. CTeeners from Hollis, Warner, Bedford,

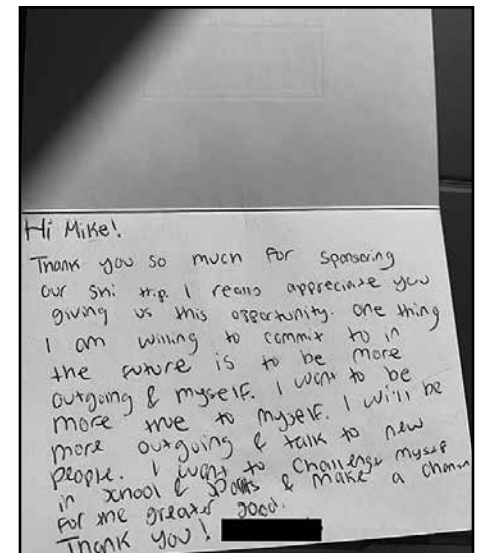
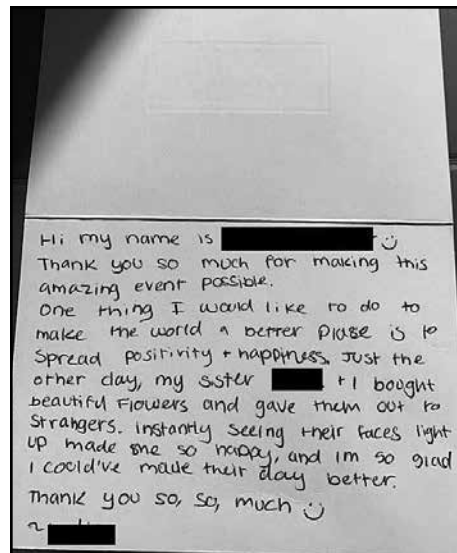
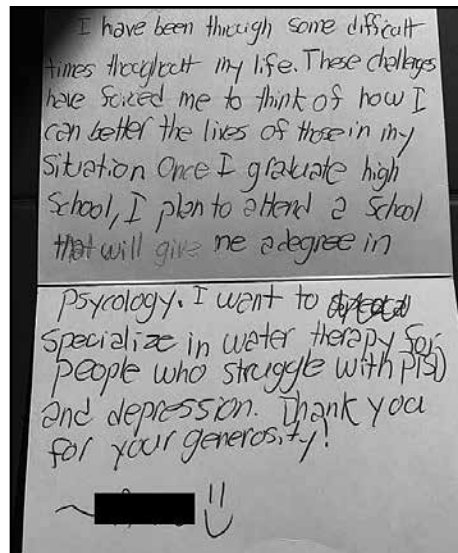
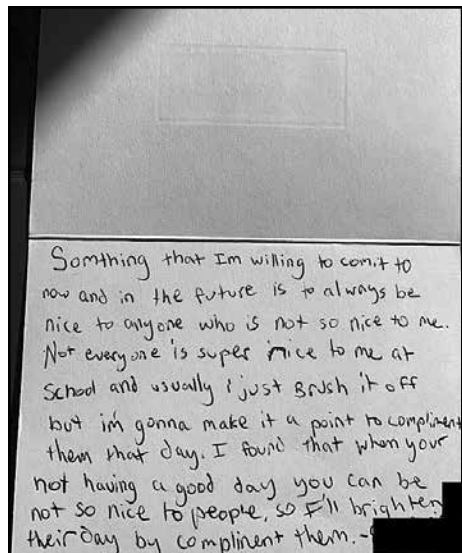


Nashua, Claremont and Londonderry are now ambassadors of light in their corner of the world.

Thank you to the people like Michael, who not only support our community efforts financially, but also with their ex-

ample, their wisdom, and their desire to bring this world to a holier and more beautiful existence.

Thank you to the teen members of CTeen, for being the bright future we all need and desire.



Temple Adath Yeshurun collected 215 cans for FIT/New Horizons. This donation was part of the Greater Manchester Clergy Association annual Souper Bowl. Photo by Nancy Frankel.

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Jewish Journeys

My Confirmation at Etz Hayim

By Benjamin Adams

On December 8, 2020, my friend David Meyer and I were confirmed in Etz Hayim Synagogue, creating a new checkpoint in our near decade of learning Jewish culture and history, as well as Hebrew. After our Bar Mitzvah, David and I attended confirmation classes in order to gain a better understanding of our people's history, and how we got to where we are now.

We led the service on Friday, December 8, which served as a way to share our confirmation experience with our Congregation. David and I had decided to include modern songs intertwined with those that we all know to be part of the Friday service. This enabled us with a way to connect our historic culture and song with the present day. For example, we combined the prayer Mi-Chamocho with words from the classic song *Ain't No Mountain High Enough* to show how the prayer and song both



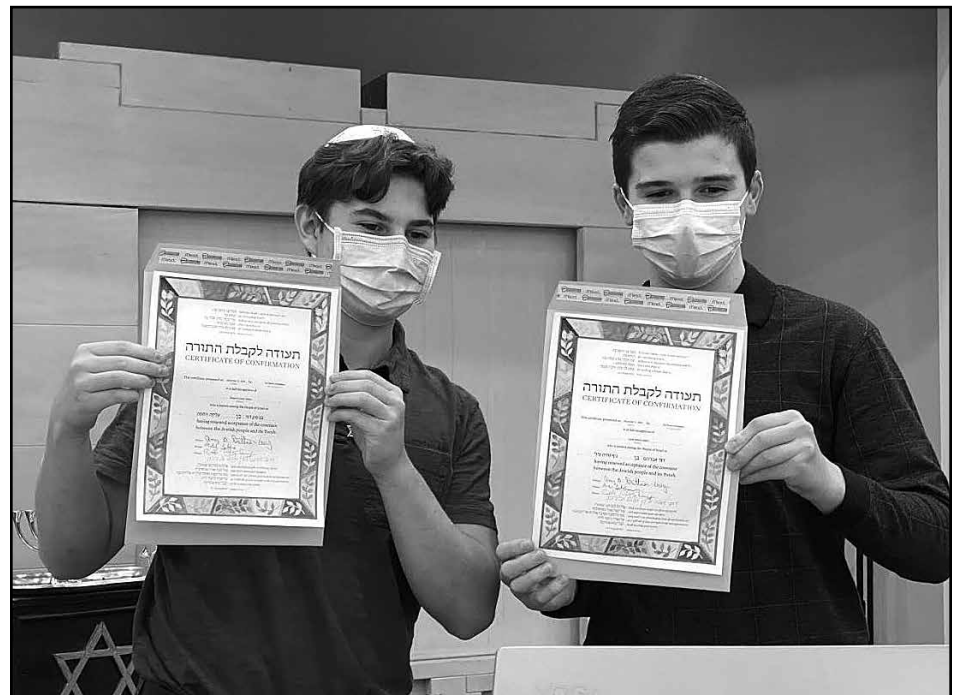
contain similar messages about how God is our protector, and acts as a shield for all of us.

At the end of our service, David and I presented speeches explaining our journey to this point, and what we mean to

do in the future. I shared my aspirations to the congregation, about how I wanted to continue my education in the future and how my perspective on Judaism has developed as I have aged: "A Jew is someone who follows the culture, someone who is proud to be among millions of those who they can call their people. I plan to embrace my identity as a Jew and while I will continue to practice the religion by attending services, I plan to mostly build on my interpretation on what being a Jew means to me. In the fu-

ture, I also plan to raise money to support other Jewish communities like my own, so that they too will be able to have a place of prosperity."

Looking back on my confirmation, and what it means to me, I will always remember with immense gratitude how my education in Judaism has shaped my life for the better. I would not be who I am today without the support and learning that I received from my Etz Hayim Hebrew School Teachers, as well as my Congregation and Jewish community.



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- Children with learning, emotional or physical disabilities
- Senior Care, Dementia
- Legal Aid, Incarceration or Police matters

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Jewish Journeys

Arriving in America

By Michel Adler, Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation

“Those are the lights of Long Island,” my father explained to me at three o’clock in the morning on the deck of the SS Atlantic, August 29, 1951. I was ten years old. That was my first American geography lesson. It was not a time for sleeping as we were on the threshold of a new life in a new country. Who knows what thoughts went through my father’s head? Was he wondering what kind of work he would find? Was he worried about where we would live?

As the ship sailed into New York harbor, we became totally enshrouded in fog. Bells clanked, foghorns blared. We could not see but a few feet in front of us. We could not see the Statue of Liberty greeting us, nor the “lamp lifted beside the golden door.” We may have been “yearning to breathe free,” but one could hardly call us “huddled masses” or “wretched refuse.” We also passed Ellis Island, a processing center for immigrants for many years, but now shut down. I knew nothing of that then.

“On the left lies New Jersey, and on the right lies New York,” was my second American geography lesson.

“Where are the skyscrapers?” I demanded to know. Of course, they were covered in the pervasive fog. In German, skyscrapers are called “cloud scratchers.” I guess in English they reach higher. Later, when I was in college, for a cheap date, a nickel for a ride on the Staten Island ferry bought us wonderful views of the skyscrapers at the tip of Manhattan, the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island and Governors Island. Sailing into New York harbor is always an impressive sight!

The tugboats soon pulled alongside the S.S. Atlantic and guided the ocean liner into Pier 42 on the Hudson River. By then, it was six o’clock and passengers were ready to disembark. The ship’s lounge had been transformed into an immigration and customs processing center. The first to disembark were American citizens followed by tourists from abroad. We, the new immigrants, the refugees, were last to clear immigration. It gave us the chance to have a leisurely breakfast, our last aboard this ship. My mother loved the ship’s breakfast with the freshly baked rolls and croissants, and in particular, the freshly squeezed orange juice, which later, when we could afford it, became a household mainstay.

Once on the dock and reunited with our crates that contained our worldly

possessions, we were greeted by a representative of the International Rescue Committee (IRC) who helped us through the inspections and transfers that followed. A customs official, using a crow bar, ripped open one of our wooden crates which had been carefully constructed with Swiss precision, and then, satisfied, he hammered the crate shut. That was the end of the inspection. I still have a trunk built for us, stenciled, in now very faint black paint, “Adler,” with the inspection chalk marks still visible and customs stickers still affixed.

The lady from the IRC bought everyone frankfurters on hot dog buns. Having just come from Switzerland where sausages and rolls are a specialty, this snack did not delight our taste buds. Somehow, the IRC representative transferred us to a “refugee hotel” on 112th Street and Amsterdam Avenue.

At this hotel, we were introduced to more American food. People cooked in their rooms. The room doors were left open and cooking smells permeated the building. A woman resident had made a special treat for us, red Jell-O with banana slices. “Mmm! Jell-O with bananas!” she exclaimed with delight. We were polite, and with much hesitation partook of this wiggly awful foreign concoction. I have since become more accepting of this unnatural food.

My father disappeared early in the morning, and after perusing the New York Times’ Help Wanted section, went job hunting. My mother, my brother, and I spent the day outside on walks, happy to leave the hotel. We found a grocery store where my mother bought cold cuts and rolls for lunch. It didn’t take long to discover that the same rolls, bulkies, or perhaps kaiser rolls, sold for only a nickel each at the A&P, as compared to the dime apiece charged by the “nice” Yiddish-speaking grocery store proprietor. A fellow Jew taking advantage of other Jews and impoverished refugees at that—shameful! He lost our meager business quickly.

We usually spent the day at Riverside Park along the Hudson River. I would dash off to climb on the monkey bars, or anything else climbable, play on the swings, or just otherwise entertain myself. On one of those sunny days, a policeman came by and thought I was playing hooky. As I did not speak any English, I pointed him to my mother who was conversing with my brother on a nearby bench. My mother spoke English relatively well, having attended a six-

month intensive English course before emigrating. She explained to the representative of New York’s finest our status and explained that the following week we would be moving into an apartment in the Bronx. A friend of my father and co-worker in Zurich, who had preceded him in the refugee exodus from Switzerland, had made the arrangements. My mother explained that I would be attending public school and my brother high school. (These turned out to be PS 92 and Theodore Roosevelt HS). The policeman, having done his duty, wished us well.

We moved to the Bronx the following week. My brother and I carried most of the contents of those crates from the basement up to our one-bedroom, fourth floor apartment. One of those crates was covered with a blanket and served as a kind of coffee table. Our apartment still needed cleaning, and we needed help unpacking and organizing our belongings. Our IRC case worker arranged for a cleaning woman with a southern drawl that was very difficult to understand. She told my mother what to buy for lunch, and for some strange reason, that included oranges for juice. My mother understood, “Oranges for Jews,” and thought it very strange. Well, the misunderstanding was happily resolved, but remained a joke for many years. The IRC also provided us with donated furniture – a dining room set, trundle bed for my brother and me, beds for my parents, additional clothing, and everyday dishes. I became the recipient of a wonderful warm winter coat lined with sheepskin which I wore until I outgrew it and it then was passed on to someone else in need.

Our building, a six-floor tenement walk-up, was home to people with a variety of backgrounds. Yiddish was one of the dominant languages. Our Italian “super” collected trash every evening. We deposited it on a dumbwaiter and he hauled it down by pulleys from the basement. It must have been quite a task every evening as there were four six-floor buildings with three apartments per floor - a total of 72 apartments! This unsanitary arrangement invited mice and cockroaches.

We lived on Mapes Avenue, between 180th and 179th Streets, a couple of blocks from Southern Blvd. The neighborhood along 180th Street, had several specialty retail stores, a dairy, a kosher egg store that also sold cracked eggs, which of course were cheaper than whole eggs. The eggs were candled to ensure they were kosher and did not have evidence of fertilization shown by a blood spot. We had the

joke about a woman walking into an egg store and seeing the lower cost of the cracked eggs, she told the clerk, “So crack me a dozen.” Produce stands and a laundromat were also nearby.

The real shopping area was Tremont Avenue. Here, we could find clothing stores, a supermarket, the Daitch Dairy, a bakery that sold a loaf of good Jewish rye bread for ten cents, jewelry stores, banks, a couple of movie theaters (Loews) and many more establishments. Saturday was movie day and I with friends saw such features as *East of Eden* starring James Dean. I saw *Gone with the Wind* with my mother.

In our first week in the Bronx, the best news came from my father, who found a job with Pan American World Airways as an entry level accountant for \$40 per week. Our IRC case worker also found him a bookkeeping job with a kosher butcher for \$35 per week. She tried to convince him that with his difficulty with English, the Pan Am job would be too challenging. My father held fast to his decision. Years later, he asked his boss why he wanted him to start the very next Thursday, in the middle of the week, when he had volunteered that he could start on the following Monday. His boss responded, “I was worried that someone with your qualifications would get hired elsewhere for more money and I didn’t want to lose you.” My father claimed to have earned a degree in accounting from the University of Vienna. Who could check that? Well, my father remained with Pan Am, and he was regularly promoted until he retired. Thanks to the generous fare discounts, my parents enjoyed many trips back to Europe. My brother and I took advantage of these low fares also. We were able to regularly visit our relatives in England and France.

My fourth-grade teacher, Mrs. Eisenberg, was kind and understanding. I was generally dressed in clean jeans and polo shirts. Somehow, I failed to “get the memo” as they say, that Wednesdays were assembly days with a special dress code of white shirt, tie, and blue pants for boys and a white blouse and skirt for girls. The elderly, white-haired teacher in the adjacent classroom pulled me aside and stopped to tell me I looked “like a garbage can.” Mrs. Eisenberg overheard and profusely apologized to me, and, I can only suppose, talked to the other teacher, who never did apologize. My mother was terribly upset. No matter

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Jewish Journeys

Stonecrest Day Camp

By David Goldstone

The following is a sample chapter from David Goldstone's longer story, *Hotel Memories*, which he provided to The Reporter.

Stonecrest had a day camp for the children, from toddlers to the preteen age. Every morning the bungalow colony was awakened by the playing of a record recording of "Reveli," on the loudspeakers mounted on the peak of the roof of the barn. That meant camp would be starting in five minutes. We would all meet up at a flagpole located near the top of a grassy hill. There were large boulders surrounding the flagpole. Each group of campers, divided up by age and gender, had their own boulder where they would meet.

The counselors were kids in their late teens or early twenties. The boys were also members of the Stonecrest Band, and the girls were babysitters.

The days were spent hiking through the forest, building teepees, playing baseball at Stonecrest's own baseball field, shuffleboard, bocce, and miniature golf. On rainy days there were plaster molds to paint, whittling branches into letter openers and walking sticks, lanyards in arts and crafts, as well as basketball, bombardment, and tumbling in the gym. We would all go home for lunch, except for Wednesdays, when there was a hamburger-hotdog cookout behind the main house.

Meanwhile, my parents put their golf bags on their two-wheeled golf carts and walked together up Prospect Street to the Bethlehem Country Club to check in. Stonecrest issued golf passes for free golf and swimming passes to the town pool (Many first timers didn't know that the free golf and swimming pool were not on the premises). They would play nine holes or 12 holes. The ninth hole was located opposite the back entrance to Stonecrest, and so it was very convenient to leave from there. It was also quite easy to sneak onto the course from there and play the "back nine," when it was not busy.

From the 12th hole you had to cross Prospect Street and walk up to the clubhouse to get to the 13th tee. My parents usually quit at the 12th and headed back to Stonecrest in time to make our lunch at 12 PM, when the morning session of camp ended.

At 1:55 pm the loudspeaker let all of Stonecrest know that it was time to report back to the flagpole. If the sun was out, we were off to the Bethlehem Town Pool. The trip on the Stonecrest bus was

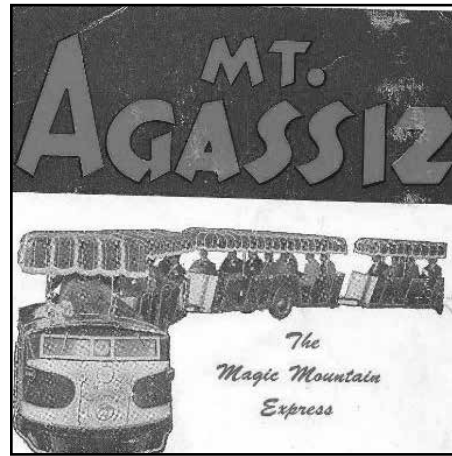


an adventure. Sometimes we didn't make it up the stiff incline of Prospect St., especially when Max Schwartz, the owner, was driving. He was a little old man who looked a little like David Ben-Gurion or Sam Jaffe, short and bent over. I don't know how he reached the gas pedal and clutch, and was able to see through the windshield at the same time. The bus often slipped downhill when he downshifted. Sometimes we had to back up and take the less steep street, which crossed the golf course and cut over to Maple Street to get to the pool. Sometimes it would stall out altogether and George would have to be called.

When we got to the town pool, we changed in the changing room, put our clothes in the cubbies and hoped they were still there when we came back! We stepped into a little foot bath of disinfectant and stepped out onto the pool deck. All the town people and kids were sitting around the pool. No one ever seemed to be in the pool when we got there (years later a local friend told me that when they heard the Stonecrest Bus chug into the pool area all the locals got out of the pool).

After the pool we played in the playground. The camp staff gave out ice cream bars, popsicles, or fudgsicles. In the afternoon there were often large camp-wide games like "capture the flag" or "Ringo-livio". Every Sunday there was an evening campfire and marshmallow roast by the flagpole followed by children's, and then adult, square-dancing called by "Sky Carter". We occasionally went on field trips to Forest Lake and hikes to "the old man in the tree" (Bretzfelder Park) and Mid-Acre Farm, where we would watch them process the milk and then buy glass pints of fresh plain or chocolate milk and drink them in the great pasture overlooking the mountains.

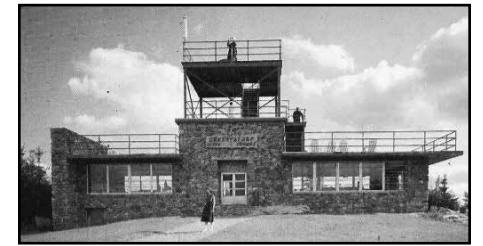
A highlight of the season was always a visit to Mt. Agassiz. The ride to the base of Mt. Agassiz was a great challenge for the Stonecrest bus. It had to climb up to the top of Prospect St where the shadowy remains of the then-empty (and probably haunted) Upland Terrace stood. To the left was the Strawberry Hill Hotel, with its



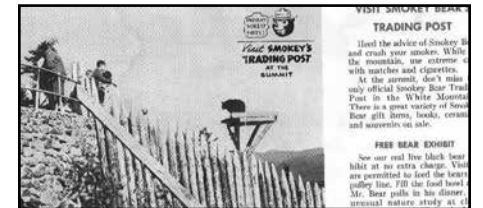
porch filled with people on metal chairs and wicker rockers. Across Log Cabin lane was a field where the "Howard House" once stood. You could see the remains of the old concrete swimming pool with the Howard House sign lying in the bottom. Crossing "Park Avenue" we passed the empty and crumbling Altamonte Hotel, and then a block of storefronts including Rexall Drugs and arcade and Ted's Barber Shop. There was then Ben Glazer's Sunlight Apartments, Steve's Boston Club, Sam's Meat Market, the Quality bakery, Durrell Methodist Church, the Woodlawn Hotel, and finally the "Bethlehem Spa" restaurant and gift shop. To the right was Strawberry Hill Street, a line of summer cottages and rooming houses continued down this side of Main Street to the Colonial Theatre.

Then, under the Strawberry Hill Street sign, hung another metal sign: Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation. Coming from an overwhelmingly Jewish neighborhood in Brooklyn, to Ida and Max Schwartz's predominantly Jewish bungalow colony, I did not realize how unique it was to find a synagogue in the White Mountains.

There was also the Sinclair Hotel. A line of tall cedars blocked your view into the hotel grounds: their private swimming, tennis courts and play fields, but you could hear announcements made over their loudspeakers to guests lounging around the pool, and music playing as well. The Sinclair was the largest hotel in town. The four-story giant was built so close to the sidewalk that it sometimes cast a shadow over the whole street. Across from the Sinclair was the Sinclair "Park" a formal garden and then the Jackson Block, a four-story wooden building housing the US Post office and the IGA grocery store. A large, three-story high arrow was mounted on the building facing both directions on Main St., and pointing up to Agassiz St, opposite the building. Painted in large red letters



Mt Agassiz Observatory, Gift Shop, Snack Bar and Ranger Station



on the white arrow was "Mt. Agassiz." We turned right here.

The accent of Agassiz Street started off rather mildly, passing the grounds of the "New Agassiz Hotel (the Sinclair's annex and nightclub) on the left and the "Perry House" on the right. Agassiz Street became increasingly steeper. Max had to rev up the old Bus in full throttle in its lowest gear to make it to the crest of the hill and pull into the Mt Agassiz parking lot.

The sign for the "Magic Mountain" was a giant hand dropping the stones down (from heaven..) to form this magical place. There was a small wooden "base lodge" where you bought tickets to go up to the top of the mountain, as well as a snack bar and gift shop. You could then walk up the mountain or take "the Magic Mountain Express", which was a model of a diesel locomotive (which covered a farm tractor) pulling a covered trolley up a steep winding paved road."

As you rode up the mountain there would be clearings in the forest to view scenery of the Franconia mountain range and the village of Bethlehem. At the top there was an impressive fieldstone observatory building with a three-story wood and pipe rail fire tower. It was considered one of the best panoramic views of the White Mountains and its surroundings. The building had a large gift shop restaurant and housed a U.S. Forest Service ranger. Outside was a terrace overlooking a stockade fenced area where there were two black bears which you could feed, by putting food in a can attached to a clothesline to a perched platform, which the bears would climb up to.

The final thrill of that trip was the ride back down on the Stonecrest Bus. Would the brakes hold, or would we be sailing down Agassiz Street out of control...?

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Jewish Journeys

Stonecrest continued from page 24

It felt as if every year of our lives was split in two. There was July, and there was the rest of the year waiting for July to come again. When we were staying in Stone House #2, my sister became friends with a girl in #3. They would talk to each other for hours through the opening above the showers in the bathrooms. We had New York friends and New Hampshire friends. Even though most of our Stonecrest friends lived in New York, we only saw each other in New Hampshire.

In the sixties, the trains stopped running, and we then took the thoroughly modern Trailways Bus which went directly from Port Authority terminal to Bethlehem, nonstop. You could even reserve your seats in advance, and we reserved the four front row seats, every year.

In 1964 I went to Boy Scout Camp in July instead of going to New Hampshire. That was the year things changed. The Schwartz's sold Stonecrest to two Long Island couples, the Pepitones and the Huberts. When I returned, I was now in my teenage years, too old for camp, playing handball, tennis, golf, baseball, and hanging out with other teens by the pinball machines and the jukebox. The Pepitones were different too. They did not pack up and leave when summer was over. They began to live at Stonecrest year-round. The summers were the same. Tony Pepit-



Stonecrest 1969 (three sheep are grazing upper right of pic)

one obtained a 16mm projector and Monday night became movie night. I remember seeing Judy Holiday in *The Solid Gold Cadillac*, Kirk Douglas in *The Champion*, and Henry Fonda in *Failsafe*.

Clem Hubert bought four sheep which he surmised would help to keep the grass cut. Sheep (and their droppings) were all over the property. On movie night, in the dark of the casino, if you were sitting in the aisle, you would often feel a wet nose and a wooly coat brush by you foraging for dropped popcorn. That winter, the Pepitones and Huberts had many dinners of lamb and mutton.

At the age of 16, kids my age were getting "working papers" for summer jobs. I was again going to Stonecrest but felt I was out growing "summer vacations." I remember my father spoke to the Pepitones, and suddenly I had my first summer resort job: I worked a few hours ev-



The Trailways Bus: Lunch stop



Barry Schiffman

ery afternoon at their little grocery store in the barn. In addition to milk, eggs bread, and corn flakes, we mostly sold ice cream pops, soda, and penny candies.

The job expanded the next year to the full season. When my parents left in August, I was housed with the counselors in the barn. The drummer, Barry Schiffman became a good friend of mine. He lived in Seaford, NY, when I was shocked to discover that his father was none other than "Sky Carter" the square dance caller (was anyone really from up there?). The other counselors were from Brooklyn and attended the same high school as I did, but I only met them in New Hampshire. Midwood High School had 3 times as many students as there were people living in Bethlehem, NH.

In addition to the store, I was now mowing lawns and moving beds around from one unit to another. This was done with the help of an old black Plymouth, upon which we attached beds, changing from twin beds to doubles and back again depending upon which guest was checking in or out. I was working with a local Bethlehemite, Greg Clark, who lived on Agassiz Street.

Stonecrest was now opened year-round and would attract fall foliage "leaf peepers" in October, hunters in November, and skiers and snowmobiles in the winter. Clem Hubert's sister, Barbara, and her husband Joe, came to visit and eventually moved to Bethlehem, converting a large cottage on Main Street to a restaurant they named The Villa. The Pepitones and Huberts had snowmobile paths cleared by loggers and their children became great skiers. In the summer, the cleared paths would lead to an abandoned sugar maple shack and another path lead all the way down to Barretts Brook, which was still within their 200 acre property. It was becoming an all-season resort.

I felt that I would be happy for the rest of my life just living and working at Stonecrest ... but the next year, I was replaced by "locals" and I found myself unemployed.

America continued from page 23

what I wore, she always made sure my clothes were clean. Where would I get a white shirt? The best we could do was a light grey shirt. It wasn't per code, but it solved the problem.

Those were some of the events in the first two weeks in America. I soon made friends and played stick ball in the streets with a pink ball and broom handle. The pink ball was made of pink rubber and also used for our games of stoop ball and down the river. There was no end of activities. Sometimes we visited the Bronx Zoo or Bronx Botanical Garden just a few blocks away. Our family went for walks in those parks every Sunday. The Botanical Garden had fields of golden daffodils every spring and many other varieties of flowers.

We had been given an FM radio and advised to listen to it to improve our English. We quickly discovered WEVD, the station named in honor of Eugene V. Debs, a Socialist Party leader. This was the Yiddish language station and while it did not improve our English, it made a big difference in teaching us to speak

and appreciate Yiddish. It seemed that New York had a radio station for every language in the world. We also listened to the German radio station's medley of programming which included, news (from the Heimat), music, and lectures. My parents spent their Saturdays writing long letters back to family in England and France as well as to their many friends in Switzerland. Saturday evenings we usually spent with our downstairs neighbors, the Glucks, who invited us to watch "Your Show of Shows" with Sid Caesar and Imogene Coca followed by the "Jackie Gleason Show." Sunday was the day for reading the Sunday *New York Times*, the *Aufbau* (Reconstruction), a weekly Jewish newspaper in German, a newspaper founded at the end of WWII with a large readership among German-speaking Jewish refugees. It no longer publishes in New York but has morphed into a monthly glossy magazine published in Switzerland. There was also the German newspaper *New Yorker Staats-Zeitung und Herold*. Sunday was also the day for vis-

iting re-found friends, refugees, Holocaust survivors, who had also come to New York. And so, we settled into a regular routine, later taking advantage of New York's cultural opportunities, theaters, museums, and parks.

Now, seventy years later, I am a retired electrical engineer, an avid skier, and, thanks to Martin Kessel's invitation, a member of BHC.

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BlueGreen Water Technologies, LTD., Announces Expanded C-Suite to Deploy Toxic Algae Treatment Worldwide

Tel Aviv, Israel (February 2, 2021) – BlueGreen Water Technologies, Ltd. (“BlueGreen”), a global cleantech company, has named Zohar Houri Chief Financial Officer and welcomes back Dr. Oori Weissshaus to the role Chief Technology Officer. The expanded executive leadership team has been put in place to support the growing demand for the deployment of BlueGreen’s groundbreaking toxic algae treatments, Lake Guard™ Blue and Lake Guard™ Oxy as the company combats cyanobacteria outbreaks around the world.

“We’re thrilled to welcome Zohar Houri and Dr. Weissshaus to the BlueGreen executive team,” said Eyal Harel, CEO of BlueGreen Water Technologies. “Our work around the globe has made a tremendous impact as we rehabilitate infested bodies of water and help to restore life’s most precious resource. With Zohar and Dr. Weissshaus as part of our team, we will immediately be able to accelerate and expand our

products and solutions to combat the global toxic algae epidemic.”

As Chief Financial Officer, Houri will lead all global financial growth including mergers and acquisitions, risk management, accounting, legal advice, and taxation of the company’s activities in the US, China, South Africa, Russia, and Israel. Houri will also work to position BlueGreen for a potential initial public offering.

Houri has more than 25 years of management experience in leading finance and operations for fast-growing companies in the food, agricultural technology, telecommunications, and industrial sectors. Most recently, Houri was deputy CEO and CFO of Alliance Tire Company, where he specialized in R&D, production, and marketing of OHT tires. Prior to that position, Houri was CFO of Syngenta Israel (formerly Zeraim



Zohar Houri (L) and Dr. Oori Weissshaus (R)

Gedera), a world-leading agribusiness company committed to sustainable agriculture through innovative research and technology.

Dr. Weissshaus rejoins BlueGreen to lead the company’s global satellite initiatives, to increase access to global real-time toxic algae surveillance data and to locate and accurately track toxic algae blooms on a global scale in real-time. During Dr. Weissshaus’s prior tenure as CTO of BlueGreen Water Technologies from 2014-2016, Dr. Weissshaus led the development of a line of products for tackling harmful algal blooms in freshwater systems. Dr. Weissshaus brings an insider’s understanding of market needs and possesses vast technological capabilities that will enable BlueGreen to harness diverse scientific tools to transform conceptual ideas into innovative commercial products.

Dr. Weissshaus has been conducting and leading research for the last fifteen years in both academia and industry, most recently as Director of Genomic Solutions at NRGene Ltd. Dr. Weissshaus has led projects for the development and commercialization of several products employing computational platforms using genomic data for crop enhancement and breeding.

About BlueGreen Water Technologies, Ltd.

BlueGreen Water Technologies, Ltd. (“BlueGreen”) is a privately-owned global watertech company dedicated to developing and implementing novel solutions to water-related problems. BlueGreen’s portfolio currently consists of two commercially available products, Lake Guard™ Blue and Lake Guard™ Oxy. For more information, please visit www.bgtechs.com, and connect with the company on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram.

Hadassah: Fundraising, Collaborating on New Medical Treatments, and Always Hard at Work

By Michele Bank

The Manchester Chapter of Hadassah is working on their annual Ad/Membership book. It is their biggest fundraiser of the year, raising valuable money to help fund all of Hadassah’s commitments in the United States and Israel. If you would like to support Hadassah, you can place a business or personal ad. “Jewels” are \$10 each for listing your loved one, “Tag Lines” are \$25 a page, “Memorials” and “Greetings” are \$10

and \$18 respectively. Larger messages may be placed in a block of space starting at \$40. Please contact michele.bank@gmail.com for more information.

As reported in the *Times of Israel*, Hadassah Medical Organization clinicians collaborated with Hebrew University bioengineering and business graduate students in a Bio-Design program. They developed a prototype to help comatose brain-injured patients. The device alerts Intensive Care Unit (ICU) staff of the need for immediate intervention to pre-

vent further deterioration in comatose brain-injured patients.

It is difficult to continuously monitor comatose patients, a crucial aspect of their care. The device that resulted is a pair of goggles, equipped with a camera lens and a light that, when placed on the patient’s closed eyes, can continuously monitor, measure, and record their pupils’ reaction to light. A tightening of the pupils in reaction to light indicates that the brain stem, the most basic part of the brain, is still active. If there is no reac-

tion, it means that the patient’s condition is deteriorating and that either medication or surgery is needed to halt possible further brain damage. The device would immediately alert ICU staff to any abnormal findings.

This would save the ICU nursing staff from the valuable time that it would take them to do a manual assessment of the pupils about every hour. The new technology’s feasibility has already been demonstrated in a clinical trial with 40 volunteers at Hadassah.

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Online Antisemitism is Soaring: Foreign Trolls and Other Extremists are Targeting Jews on Social Media

By Dr. Yvette Alt Miller

This article was originally published on Aish.com (<https://www.aish.com/jwls/Online-Anti-Semitism-is-Soaring.html>) and is reprinted with their permission.

Terrorists and foreign trolls are driving anti-Semitic hate online in the United States and elsewhere, posting negatively about Jews and driving hatred of Jews and Israel.

A new study analyzed 250 million extremist anti-Jewish posts and found that anti-Jewish posts increased sharply during times of political uncertainty and unrest. Much of the anti-Jewish hate that's being posted on social media seems to originate with domestic terrorists and foreign "trolls" in Russia and elsewhere: anonymous and misleading actors who are deliberately trying to stoke hatred towards Jews and foment divisions within the United States.

Prof. Ari Lightman, an expert in online extremism at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, recently spoke with Aish.com about the anti-Semitism that extremists are bringing into American online message boards and conversations – and what we can do to stop it.

He cautioned that it's often impossible to know the true origin of social media posts and memes. What's clear from his research, however, is that a plethora of social media users from hate groups, terrorist organizations, and hostile state actors are deliberately concealing their identities and posting anti-Jewish comments and memes, disguised as "ordinary" social media users.

"In my research, a number of Russian fronts are covering for the old school KGB," continuing that notorious spy agency's attempts to harm and destabilize Russia's historically enemies – including the United States. "In order to create a positive image of Russia, they promote anti-American feelings to cause unrest." The fact that the United States is a strong ally of Israel, and that Americans hold broadly pro-Israel feelings, means that attacking Israel – and by extension Jews – can be seen by America's enemies as a mode of attack on America itself.

According to Dr. Lightman, it's not only state-sponsored actors who are attacking Jews and Israel on American social media. "There are a lot of large monetary interests in Russia," he explains. "There are oligarchs who have oil, ship-

ping, arms contracts.... By stoking anti-Israel sentiment, there's a possibility that it helps them sell more arms, more oil, more shipping to Middle Eastern countries... You can see how disinformation can benefit Russian political interests and monetary interests within Russia."

The recent report, by the Network Contagion Research Institute (NCRI) at Rutgers University in New Jersey, found that anti-Jewish and anti-Israel posts draw on age-old canards that Jews have too much power and money and are somehow able to bend others towards their wills. Jews are portrayed as uniquely evil and even as having almost superhuman powers which they use to harm others.

Instead of attacking Jews in general, the Institute found that classic anti-Semitic stereotypes are applied to prominent Jews, then spread as conspiracy theories about those individual Jews – with the tacit understanding that these viral smears lower people's opinions about all Jews in general. Two popular targets are the Rothschild banking family and the financier George Soros, who is a prominent donor to liberal causes. The NCRI found a clear correlation between the online hate that's directed towards these prominent Jews and real-world attacks against Jews and Jewish interests.

Take George Soros. The Institute found that most attacks against Soros accuse him of being a globalist. He's routinely accused of subverting "domestic sovereignty (and giving it) over to an international order while (it's) being undermined internally by immigration and internationalism." On a typical day, the NCRI found between 2,000 and 3,000 posts attacking George Soros on the sites it monitors. Many of these are posted in coordinated ways by foreign internet trolls and by domestic American extremists and hate figures.

Yet in the days leading up to the massacre at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh on October 27, 2018, the number of anti-George Soros posts rose dramatically to 14,000 a day. While it's hard to prove that this was linked to the shooting, much of the rhetoric found online about George Soros seemed to echo the social media posts of the shooter, Robert Bowers.

Bowers explained his actions by saying that he blamed Jews for bringing immigrants into the United States. A few hours before he entered the synagogue and murdered eleven Jewish worshippers, he posted on the social network Gab about the

Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), which helps aid (legal) immigrants in the United States: "hias (sic) likes to bring invaders in that kill our people. I can't sit by and watch my people get slaughtered. Screw our optics, I'm going in." It was an echo of the anti-Semitic smears against George Soros that were filling the internet, and an uncanny example of online hate stoking real-life murder.

Some of the examples of online Jewish hate bear the hallmarks of sophisticated campaigns meant to demonize Jews and Israel.

In 2020, people searching Google for the phrase "Jewish baby strollers" found sickening images of ovens on wheels. The NCRI was able to track down a series of messages on the popular extremist message board 4chan in which users boasted that they'd succeeded in manipulating Google's search algorithms to post the images. While it's impossible to discern the true identities of the people behind this and other malicious anti-Jewish posts, the NCRI found that both Russian trolls and American extremists sometimes coordinate their posts, sharing content and posting anti-Jewish memes and comments at the same time.

Who is behind this massive rise in anti-Semitic posts? Prof. Lightman cautions that there are many actors, and that they carefully conceal their identities when posting negative comments about Jews. Social media posts, cartoons, graphs and charts, memes and other content that we might assume was posted in good faith by ordinary people was often deliberately created in order to frighten us, inflame our passions, and stoke hate.

It's "the usual suspects," who are fomenting anti-Jewish hatred online, Prof. Lightman notes. "The KKK, any of the white supremacist groups, the Proud Boys... Also folks who you might not believe are directly in league with these white supremacist organizations." These might be anti-Immigrant groups or anti-Israel interests, or even racial justice campaigners who oppose Israeli occupation of Judea and Samaria, the regions known as the West Bank of the Jordan River. These extremists "don't really care about the collateral damage to an entire ethnic group" that hateful posts might engender, Prof. Lightman explains.

Prof. Lightman warns that online hate speech is increasing at an accelerating rate. "Misinformation is being designed to be subjective and misconstrued: it's

designed to deceive the public." Alarmingly, extremist social media posts are proliferating even in mainstream social media sites – and our own behavior is making us vulnerable to being deceived.

One problem is the emergence of what academics studying online extremism call echo chambers: these are structural ways that social media sites allow us to keep out other people who might have different views from our own. "If we become friends on Facebook," Prof. Lightman explains, "and we share a lot of beliefs, we might exclude others (from our online friend group). This reinforces each other's beliefs to the exclusion of others." Surrounding ourselves only with opinions that agree with ours online makes us uniquely vulnerable to believing ever more extreme variations of our existing political tenets.

Another problem emerging in social media is the existence of "filter bubbles" that are built into social media sites. Based on our behavior online – what we watch, comment on, click on or "like" – social media sites' algorithms will feed us similar content. In time, this content can become ever more extreme.

In May 2020 the Wall Street Journal uncovered an internal study that Facebook commissioned – then buried – that showed the site's algorithms was indeed feeding users ever more extreme content, effectively radicalizing them.

The NCRI report found a worrying increase of extremist anti-Jewish posts on ostensibly mainstream online sites. While extremist posts might originate and proliferate on marginal social media sites that are known for fostering hateful dialogue, these posts and the ideas behind them can migrate for more mainstream discourse online. Newly popular sites like TikTok and Parler have seen particularly high levels of anti-Semitic posts, Prof. Lightman notes.

A key condition for that to happen is stress. Periods of civic unrest and transitions of power render people vulnerable to succumbing to online hate. The NCRI found that "anti-Jewish disinformation by conspiracy groups...peaked on Twitter at the onset of the Floyd social justice protests in May 2020, and remains higher now than it was before the coronavirus pandemic." One day during the George Floyd protests, the NCRI documented 500,000 Tweets concerning George Soros in one day.

Antisemitism continued on page 29

Recent Events

New Partnership Between Repair the World and The Jewish Theological Seminary

Two Organizations Committed to Jewish Education and Social Justice Will Work Together to Prepare the Next Generations of Jewish Leaders

New York, NY -- Repair the World, a national Jewish social justice service organization, and The Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS), a preeminent institution of Jewish higher education, announced a strategic partnership to support alumni of the Repair the World Fellowship, as well as Repair the World staff, by offering discounted tuition for study at JTS. The Repair the World Fellowship is a 2-year immersive service year for young adults passionate about mobilizing the American Jewish community to volunteer alongside them. Based in one of six Repair the World Communities throughout the United States, Fellows spend two years volunteering with local partners, learning the ins and outs of working at a non-profit, developing their event planning skills, familiarizing themselves with a community, building a nuanced racial justice lens, and getting to know themselves as they work

to build a more just world. Fellows will engage the Jewish community through meaningful service learning, Jewish ritual and text, and community programming to mobilize their peers to serve alongside them in partnership with local organizations. Those who complete the program, as well as Repair the World staff, can now deepen their understanding of social justice and Judaism by studying with JTS's renowned faculty in courses such as Jewish Social Justice, Judaism, Human Rights and Social Justice, Jewish Environmental Ethics, and Modern Jewish History.

"The Jewish Theological Seminary is excited about partnering with Repair the World. The combination of social justice training and higher education instruction can help set students up for a successful career in the social justice sector," said Missy Present, chief enrollment officer at JTS. "With a graduate education, these students are poised to make a tremendous impact on their communities through a greater understanding of Judaism's insight into social justice and by learning with a cohort of peers."

As a result of the partnership, Repair alumni and staff will receive:

- Waived application fee
- Tuition reduction of 65% tuition coverage (not including annual service fees). If an applicant qualifies for a Midcareer Fellowship through an outside foundation according to the qualification guidelines at the time of application, they'll receive 75% tuition coverage (not including annual service fees). Currently, the qualifications for a Midcareer Fellowship are: 5 years since undergraduate degree, 3 years working in a Jewish organization, American citizen.
- Reduced tuition of \$700 per course for a total of \$2,800 for those accepted to the certificate program in Jewish Ethics and Social Justice for completing the certificate program (4 courses total over one or two academic years).

More information about Repair the World's university partnerships can be found by visiting <https://wrepair.org/universitypartnerships/>. If you're looking to

volunteer virtually, please check out our opportunities on our website - <https://wrepair.org/volunteer>. If you're for skilled virtual volunteering opportunities, please check out our website - <https://repairtheworld.catchafire.org/volunteer-now>. For more information about JTS, visit <https://www.jtsa.edu>.

About The Jewish Theological Seminary

JTS is a preeminent institution of Jewish higher education, training thoughtful, innovative leaders—rabbis, cantors, educators, lay leaders, and scholars—who strengthen our communities with a vision of Judaism that is deeply grounded in the Jewish past and thoroughly engaged with contemporary society. JTS also provides high-caliber, lifelong learning and professional development to our alumni, adult learners, and Jewish communities throughout North America. Through its Library, JTS preserves and makes accessible to students and scholars throughout the world the greatest collection of Judaica in the Western Hemisphere. www.jtsa.edu

Book Review

Reviewed by Merle Carrus

Evening, by Nessa Rapoport

Evening, a novel written by Nessa Rapoport, is an interesting look at family dynamics when a young person dies and the family comes together to sit shiva. This is also a look at the complexities of sisterly rivalry.

Eve has run away from Toronto to New York City to escape the scrutiny of her parents, because she has chosen a less conventional lifestyle than her sister Tam. Eve teaches adult education classes, living in Manhattan in a relationship that she does not think she wants to lead to marriage. Her sister Tam has followed the more traditional route of mar-

riage and children along with her successful television career. At first it seems their parents are partial to Tam's choices, and Eve is resentful.

We meet Eve as she has returned home for a funeral: Tam has passed after a battle with breast cancer. But as we meet all the characters at Tam's funeral, we begin to see the cracks in the facade. Eve and Tam ended their relationship with an argument. Tam wanted Eve to settle down and maybe move closer to home in Canada. Tam felt

Eve should follow the more traditional lifestyle and get married to the man she

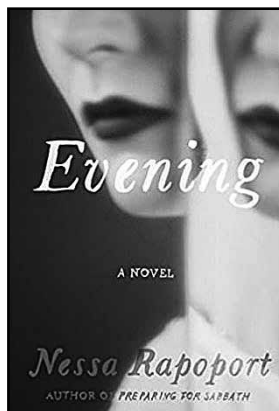
is living with and have children. Eve got angry and words were exchanged that now can never be taken back.

Eve feels stifled by the family dynamics and is looking to escape with an old high school boyfriend who has come for a shiva call. The book travels back and forth between the current time, and Eve's memories of childhood, growing up spending family vacations at their grandmother's lakefront property, then in high school, having a relationship with the handsome boy, Laurie. Each chapter represents one of the seven days of shiva, with Eve spending her days sitting with her family and going out at night reconnecting and reliving her teen years with Laurie. The interactions between the characters re-examine the his-

tory of all these family interactions. Looking at where and how these relationships started and developed to the present situation.

There are always family secrets and things you may have misunderstood about even the people closest to you. *Evening* features a well-developed plot with twists and turns that bring you along to a satisfying ending.

*Nessa Rapoport was born in Toronto, Canada. Her memoir, *House on the River*, was awarded a grant by the Canada Council for the Arts. Her essays and reviews have appeared in the *New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Times*, among others. She lives in New York with her husband, artist Tobi Kahn.*



Happy Passover

OBITUARIES

Carla Chervin

Carla Maria Chervin — award-winning poet, mother, grandmother, instructional designer, and curriculum development director — died Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021, at the age of 57. Born in NYC in 1963, Carla grew up an identical twin: stories of her childhood were filled with the imaginative games and adventures she created with her sister, Diana, and later, their younger brother, Charlie. Throughout Carla's life, she was beloved by all who met her, for her fierce intellect, analytical nature, inner strength, and the infinite reservoir of love she possessed for family and friends.

Carla's multi-layered, intricate writing—each line unspooling its own thread of deeper meanings—won her awards and recognition for poems such as "The Falcon was in Love," and "Sisters," as well as "Niobe's Prayer," and in 2017, her poem "A Song Sung by a Fish" was adapted to video form. When it came to her career, she was a self-professed "workaholic," who produced stunningly high-quality work at startling speeds. She worked with such companies as Educadium, ATI, General Motors, and CT Courses, and was the co-founder of SoftSkills Interactive, Two Steps Ahead, and PC Enterprises.

Whether in art, work, or friendship, Carla was a friend and mentor, who lent her passionate support to the ambitions of others, while simultaneously challenging them to grow even deeper into their craft. If there were a single message Carla imprinted on every person she met — a guiding philosophy in her life — it was, in her words, to always "Take the joy." She believed that something beautiful could be found in every moment, something she proved with her own life, as she endured hardships ranging from tragic deaths in the family, to a broken back, and her long struggle against cancer. Through all of this, she never stopped "taking the joy," and inspiring others to do the same.

Carla was a giant within her family. Today, she is survived by her mother, Ronda; aunt, Carla; mother-in-law, Jo; husband, Steve; sister, Diana; brother-in-law, Pete; closest friend, Jim; five children, Nicholas, Alexander, Maximilian, Zachary, and Martina; her daughters-in-law, Veronica and Ioana; niece, nephew, and niece's husband, Jennifer, Christopher, and Sean, as well as her great-nieces and great-nephew, Teresa, Julia, and Francis; and, of course, her legacy shines on brightly through her young grandchildren, Zaharina and Nathaniel, both of whom she had never expected to live long enough to meet, and both of whom she loved deeply.

Carla once wrote that "Every exhalation is a new letter in the alphabet of a life," and the life she breathed into the world will continue to thrive, long after her death. To all who knew her, may her memory be a blessing.



Jacqueline Fineblit

Jacqueline Sylvia (Cross) Fineblit, scholar, businesswoman, volunteer, wife, mother and grandmother, formerly of Manchester, NH and currently living in Boynton Beach, FL, died on January 19, 2021 at the age of 94. In Hebrew scripture Jackie would be considered "Eshet Chayil", a woman of worth, valor, and strength.

A graduate of Simmons College at age 20, Jackie was a life-long learner, astute businessperson, and active volunteer for organizations in both NH and Florida. A skilled writer, editor, and public relations professional, she utilized these skills professionally at the fledgling WMUR-TV station, the local AAA and ultimately, as co-owner and partner with her husband, Lionel, in the family-owned business, Pearson's Jewelry.

Married in August 1945, during the final days of WWII, Jackie and Lionel enjoyed 61 years together as partners in business and in life, until his death in 2006. Balancing her work, family, and community activities, she raised three children, graduated from the Gemological Institute of America, accredited as a registered jeweler, and volunteered her skills to a number of local non-profits including the early days of the Jewish Community Center Nursery School, the NH League of Women Voters, Manchester Garden Club, and Child and Family Services Manchester Regional Office Board of Directors.

Upon retirement, she and Lionel moved to Florida to be closer to her parents. She continued to take courses in graphic design, photography, and computer literacy. Together they traveled extensively, but always came home to NH in the summer to spend time with their children and grandchildren. Following the death of her father, Jackie discovered some papers in his home that seemed to have historical significance and embarked on her last great research activity. She joined the Jewish Genealogical Society of Palm Beach County, volunteering as a researcher in their library at Florida Atlantic University, and spent the next 20 years researching and documenting all four branches of her family's history, amassing volumes of data going back multiple generations. At the same time, she utilized her editing, writing, publishing and graphic arts skills as Publicity Director for the organization. In February 2017, the Society honored Jackie at a special luncheon, "Honoring Four Women at the Crossroads of 90," with keynote speaker Chuck Todd presenting her with a special award for her decades of service to the group.

Her family: daughter Ruth and her husband Jay Zax, son David and his wife Susan Fineblit, daughter Judith Anderson and former son-in-law Arthur, grandchildren, Amy (Zax) and her husband Ray Guimond and Evan Fineblit, niece, nephew and cousins, celebrate her long, productive and fulfilling life. There will be a private graveside service at Manchester Hebrew Cemetery.

Donations in her memory may be made to Jewish Genealogical Society of Palm Beach County, Inc, PO Box 7796, Delray Beach, FL 33482-7796 (www.jgspalmbeachcounty.org) or the adoption program at Waypoint (formerly Child and Family Services of NH), PO Box 448, Manchester, NH 03105. (www.waypointnh.org), or the charity of one's choice.



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.

Antisemitism *continued from page 27*

As we all endure the uncertainty of the pandemic, political unrest, and changes in political leadership, the conditions for higher levels of anti-Jewish hatred remain ripe. "We're all targets for misinformation," explains Prof. Lightman, "especially when we're under duress — and we've all been under duress for ten months." He calls misinformation the second pandemic that we're all currently living through, and being grievously harmed by.

In the face of such coordinated anti-Jewish attacks — and the conditions that

help people be more open to believe them — what can we as individuals do to stop online hatred for Jews and Israel and for other marginalized groups?

"We have to be incredibly skeptical and diligent in association with the information we get," Prof. Lightman cautions. Keep in mind that seemingly authentic sources of information might be completely fabricated. Studies can be biased, graphs that we see online might be wrong, and posts that seem as if they originated with a real-world person might have been written by a terrorist, or by a neo-Nazi,

or by a person who's being paid by a foreign government to impersonate Americans and write hateful posts. "Think like a journalist," Prof. Lightman urges. Don't be quick to believe what you read online.

Elderly people and teenagers are particularly vulnerable to misinformation, he notes, and are often targeted on social media. "We have to be skeptical of all the information we consume online." This is a lesson that's crucial to teach to our kids, who often engage in social media sites where misinformation and hateful

posts are rife.

It's an uphill battle. Most of us are consumers of social media and are exposed to the misinformation and anti-Semitism that fills our screens. We each have an obligation to do what we can to educate ourselves, to speak out when we see incorrect or hateful posts, and to limit our own social media consumption.

In a world with so much hatred and division, perhaps turning away from our computers and phones and making an effort to engage with people in the real world instead is a good place to start.



JFNH Tributes

Received by February 10, 2021

Campaign

From Bernice Taube in memory of Jacqueline Fineblit

Kushner-Tumen Family Children's Fund

From Norm and Andy Kushner in honor of Matthew Scotch and Rachel Richmond's Engagement

From Norm and Andy Kushner in memory of Harry Tumen

From Norm and Andy Kushner in memory of Betty Kushner

To David Fineblit and Family from Norm and Andy Kushner in memory of Jacqueline Fineblit

To Gary and Rochelle Lindner from Norm and Andy Kushner in honor of their next life adventure

From Bernice Taube in honor of Andy's special birthday

To Ada Isherwood in memory of her husband Bob from Norm and Andy Kushner

PJ Library

In honor of Allyson Guertin for the Early Education Initiative – Jonathan Greenblatt and Sarit Itenberg

Social Services

From Thelma, Steve, and Judy Ellerin in memory of Saul W. Ellerin

Film Festival

From Joanne Meyers for the special films on Black Jewish Civil Rights Alliance Series

Simchas

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

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

JFNH Tribute Cards: A Double Mitzvah

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

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A MAESTRO'S STORY: AROUND THE WORLD AND BACK TO ISRAEL