

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE  
*Jewish* **Reporter**

Published by the  
 Jewish Federation of  
 New Hampshire

Volume 44, Number 10

August 2024

Tammuz – Av 5784



**BACK TO SCHOOL**

**Everyone Has  
 Something  
 to Teach**

**Dinah Berch**

**JFNH  
 Program  
 Coordinator**



Yesterday my family visited a wonderful state park on Lake Wentworth. On the way, we discussed whether you could bake bread in a mailbox or cookies on the dash of your car – and whether an attempt would be a worthy science project or just a mess. My kids made friends with other kids and took turns teaching each other various floating techniques and other underwater skills. I envy children's ease at making friends, and I love that

*Teach continued on page 3*

Look for the 2024 Annual Report included in this issue of the *Jewish Reporter*.

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**Jewish Federation  
 OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR

*Annual Meeting  
 and  
 Community Shem Tov Awards*

**Sunday, August 11th  
 6pm**

In person at the Bedford Event Center and Livestreamed  
 379 South River Road, Bedford

*Doors open at 6pm with a Kosher Dessert Reception.  
 Meeting begins promptly at 7pm*

Scan QR code or visit <https://givebutter.com/JFNH2024> for tickets

For more information visit [www.jewishnh.org](http://www.jewishnh.org) or email Allyson Guertin at [allyson.guertin@jewishnh.org](mailto:allyson.guertin@jewishnh.org)  
 Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, 273 South River Road, Unit 5, Bedford, NH 03110

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 Jewish Federation of New Hampshire  
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# CONGREGATIONS

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

## AMHERST

### CONGREGATION BETENU

Dena Glasgow (Rabbinic Intern)  
5 Northern Blvd., Unit 1, Amherst  
Reform, Affiliated URJ  
(603) 886-1633  
www.betenu.org  
Services: Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat services at 7:30 PM

## BETHLEHEM

### BETHLEHEM HEBREW CONGREGATION

Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum  
39 Strawberry Hill Road  
PO Box 395, Bethlehem  
Unaffiliated-Egalitarian  
(603) 869-5465  
www.bethlehemsynagogue.org  
Weekly services from July through Simchat Torah with Zoom services and Torah study from November to June. Please check our website for service times and event information.

## CONCORD

### TEMPLE BETH JACOB

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

## DERRY

### ETZ HAYIM SYNAGOGUE

Rabbi Robert Lefkowitz  
1½ Hood Road, Derry  
Reform, Affiliated URJ  
(603) 432-0004  
www.etzhayim.org  
office@etzhayim.org, rabbi@etzhayim.org  
Services: Fridays 7:15 PM, Sat 9:30 AM  
followed by Torah Study  
Family Service Fridays 6:30 PM (2nd Fri of Month)  
Please visit www.etzhayim.org/calendar for optional Zoom link.

## HANOVER

### THE ROHR CHABAD CENTER AT DARTMOUTH

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

### KOL HA'EMEK UPPER VALLEY JEWISH COMMUNITY

Rabbi Mark Melamut  
Roth Center for Jewish Life  
5 Occom Ridge, Hanover  
Nondenominational, Unaffiliated

(603) 646-0460  
www.uvjc.org  
office@uvjc.org  
Services: Friday night Shabbat service at 6 PM  
Saturday morning Shabbat service at 10 AM

## KEENE

### CONGREGATION AHAVAS ACHIM

Rabbi Dan Aronson  
84 Hastings Avenue, Keene  
Reconstructionist, Affiliated JRF  
(603) 352-6747  
www.keenesynagogue.org  
rabbida@keenesynagogue.org  
office@keenesynagogue.org  
Services: Regular Friday night services at 7 PM  
Weekly Shabbat Torah study at 9:30AM.  
Shabbat morning services on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:30AM.  
Meditation and Pirkei Avot study on the 4th Saturday of each month at 10:30AM.  
All services are in-person and online.  
Check the website for schedule changes and Zoom links.

## LACONIA

### TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL

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

## MANCHESTER

### CHABAD CENTER FOR JEWISH LIVING

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

### TEMPLE ADATH YESHURUN

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

### TEMPLE ISRAEL MANCHESTER

Rabbi Marc Philippe  
66 Salmon Street, Manchester  
Conservative Affiliated UCJ  
(603) 622-6171  
office@templeisraelmht.org  
www.templeisraelmht.org

Shabbat Services: Every month we offer one Friday night Shabbat with a catered community dinner (rsvp required), and two Saturday Shabbat services followed by a light kiddush (no rsvp necessary).  
Every Wednesday, we offer a 7:00am in-person morning minyan and a 6:30pm Torah study via ZOOM. Please check our website www.templeisraelmht.org, call our office at 603.622.6171 or email office@templeisraelmht.org for information on specific service dates and times.

## NASHUA

### TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

Rabbi Jon Spira-Savett  
Conservative  
(603) 883-8184  
www.tbanashua.org  
rabbijon@tbanashua.org  
office@tbanashua.org  
Services (generally):  
Every Friday at 8:00 pm  
Every Saturday at 10:00 am  
Evening Minyan Monday-Thursday at 7:30 pm  
All services are in-person and on Zoom (check our website for schedule changes and Zoom links)

## NEWINGTON

### UNH & SEACOAST CHABAD JEWISH CENTER

Rabbi Berel Slavaticki  
2299 Woodbury Avenue, Newington  
Orthodox, Chabad  
603-584-4111  
Rabbi@JewishSeacoast.com  
www.JewishSeacoast.com

## NORTH CONWAY

### KEHILAT HAR LAVAN

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

## PORTSMOUTH

### TEMPLE ISRAEL

Rabbi Kaya Stern-Kaufman  
200 State Street, Portsmouth  
Conservative, Affiliated USCJ  
(603) 436-5301  
www.templeisraelnh.org  
templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org  
Services: Friday, 6:00 PM  
Saturday, 9:30 AM  
Tues. minyan 5:30 PM  
Temple Israel has a fully licensed M-F preschool.

# The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter

Volume 44, Number 10

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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.

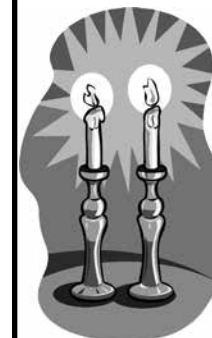
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The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter is overseen by the JFNH Publications Committee, Merle Carrus, chairperson.

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## Shabbat Candle Lighting Times: (Manchester)



August 2	7:47 PM
August 9	7:38 PM
August 16	7:28 PM
August 23	7:17 PM
August 30	7:05 PM

# Federation Voices

## Teach

continued from page 1

they practice *lomed mikol adam* – learning from everyone.

This fall, Kira will go off to fifth grade at the middle school, Cayden will go into second grade at our public elementary school, and Rayna will (hopefully) be with a nanny. At almost-six-months-old, she's already learned how to roll over and stick everything in her mouth; we're moving on to sign language and useful skills like sleeping. My eldest is nervous about going off to a new school. It will be quite a transition: getting up earlier, riding a bus, meeting new kids, being in a new building – it's all scary.

My 5th grade teacher was one of my favorites. If I finished my work early, he would let me teach him basic Hebrew beginning with the alphabet and moving into simple phrases. I loved that he treated me as someone with just as much to teach as to learn. As Kira wrestles with fifth grade math or cursive or social studies, with growing up and becoming herself, I want her to remember that she has so much to teach.

My PJ Library reading list for learning from everyone includes: *The Only One Club* by Jane Naliboff and *The Mitten*

*String* by Jennifer Rosner. *No Rules for Michael* by Sylvia A. Rouss is also a great read before school starts again! PJ Our Way has wonderful titles that explore middle school or starting at a new school: *The Kindness Club: Chloe on the Bright Side* by Courtney Sheinmel; *Amelia's Middle-School Graduation Yearbook* by Marissa Moss; *This Is Just A Test* by Wendy Wan-Long Shang; *How To Survive Middle School* by Donna Gephart. I do hope that Kira doesn't need to worry about forgetting to wear pants or taking advice from hamsters. If you'd like to borrow any of these books, send me an email at [dinah.berch@jewishnh.org](mailto:dinah.berch@jewishnh.org)!

For podcast lovers, check out "PJ Library Presents: Have I Got A Story For You" episode 26: The Donkey and the Garden. This episode is all about Rabbi Akiva getting over his embarrassment and learning to read as an adult. Visit the QR to listen:



One more thing in my own "back to school" kit is a list of techniques for managing big emotions. PJ Library has resources and reading guides to help with that, too. Check out their



hub at the QR code. Not only do I want my children to understand that everyone has something to teach, but I also try to celebrate that everyone learns in their own way.

What special skill or talent can you teach? Post a video to our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pjlibraryNH/> so we can learn more about each other, and from each other!

A gift from the  
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire



**SIGN UP** Ages birth through 8  
[pjlibrary.org](http://pjlibrary.org)  
Ages 9 through 12  
[pjourway.org](http://pjourway.org)

Sign up your children ages birth through 12 years old and enjoy the gift of Jewish children's books and resources delivered to your home each month. Explore Jewish heritage and culture through PJ Library's high-quality stories about Jewish values, traditions, and heritage.

Through the program your family will be enriched by experiencing the joys of Jewish life.

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

Harold Grinspoon  
FOUNDATION

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OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
[jewishnh.org](http://jewishnh.org)

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[www.investwithcohen.com](http://www.investwithcohen.com)

# Statewide Calendar of Events

**DISCLAIMER: Events are submitted weeks in advance of publication, and are subject to change. For information on format changes, rescheduling, and so on, please contact the event's host.**

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

## Thursday, August 1

### White Mountain Jewish Film Festival – The Frisco Kid

6:00PM – 9:00PM, Colonial Theatre, Bethlehem  
Cost \$10 PP

The Frisco Kid – a 1979 American Western comedy film directed by Robert Aldrich, starring Gene Wilder as Avram Belinski, A Polish rabbi who is traveling to San Francisco, and Harrison Ford as a bank robber who befriends him. Jordan Hiller deems it one of 25 "Essential Jewish Movies," writing that The Frisco Kid is, "...all pratfalls and tuchus jokes aside, the quintessential 'Torah' movie."

Steve Soreff who serves as President of Etz Hayim Synagogue and on the board of directors of the JFNH, will be our guest speaker.

As always, your ticket includes our festival's famous patio parties beginning at 6PM with complimentary refreshments and an assortment of beverages. The guest speaker will introduce the film at 6:30PM and then stay for a Q&A as the house-lights go on afterwards.

Movie Time – All Films: Box office opens: 5:30PM/ Patio opens 6:00PM/ Guest Speaker: 6:30PM/ Film: 7:00PM.

General Admission \$10; BHC and JFNH Members: \$9; Season Pass (5 Films): \$40. Tickets are sold at the door or can be purchased online: <https://www.bethlehemsynagogue.org/film-series-2024>

## Friday, August 2

### Temple Adath Yeshurun Family Shabbat Service

6:00PM – 8:00PM, Temple Adath Yeshurun, Manchester

Family Shabbat Service at 6PM. Pizza following the Service. RSVP for Pizza required please.

Contact Karen at 603-669-5650 or [office@taynh.org](mailto:office@taynh.org).

## Saturday, August 3

### Havdalah Cruise

6:30PM – 9:30PM, Cruise Dock at Weirs Beach, Laconia

Cost \$25 PP

Havdalah Cruise aboard the Winnepesaukee Spirit. Temple B'nai Israel invites the Jewish community to share in the joy and celebration of Havdalah under the stars. We set sail at 6:45PM from Weirs Beach for a leisurely cruise around the big lake. Once aboard we will share the Havdalah ceremony, songs, desserts, and beverages.

This program is funded in part, by a grant from the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire

The price is \$25 per person. Purchase tickets at <https://tbinh.org/registration-for-tbi-program/>

## Wednesday, August 7

### Books of Jewish Interest Club

4:00PM – 5:00PM, Bethlehem Public Library, Bethlehem and Zoom

For the third book in the Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation's summer reading club, we turn to a memoir by female Jewish comedian Judy Gold: "Yes I Can Say That." We meet simultaneously in-person at the Bethlehem Public Library and on Zoom.

For more information, visit our website at <https://bethlehemsynagogue.org/books-2024>

## Thursday, August 8

### Manchester Chapter of Hadassah Open Meeting

6:30PM—8:00PM, 1400 Front Street, Hospitality Room, Manchester

Chapter meeting with guest speaker Rebbetzin Valerie Philippe of Temple Israel, Manchester. Light refreshments.

Contact Michele at 603-488-5657 or [michele.bank@gmail.com](mailto:michele.bank@gmail.com)

## Friday, August 9

### Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation presents Sounds in the Sanctuary

5:00PM – 6:30PM, Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation, Bethlehem

Cost \$25 PP

The Lysander Piano Trio - Itamar Zorman, violin, Liza Stepanova, piano, and Michael Katz, cello – perform Rachmaninoff, Beethoven, and a recent piece by Israeli composer Udi Perlman.

Tickets available online at <https://www.bethlehemsynagogue.org/concert-series-2024>. Or at the door, \$25 General Admission/ \$20 BHC Members, Season Pass (4 Concerts) \$75 General Admission/ \$60 BHC Members.

### Etz Hayim Synagogue Invites you to meet Rabbi Robert Lefkowitz

7:15PM – 9:00PM, Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry

We invite you to a special Shabbat service to welcome Rabbi Robert Lefkowitz to Etz Hayim Synagogue. Service to be followed by Oneg Shabbat. Etz Hayim Synagogue is pleased to announce the appointment of Rabbi Robert Lefkowitz as its new rabbi, beginning August 1, 2024. After a thorough search conducted by the Rabbi Search Committee, Rabbi Lefkowitz was selected as the new spiritual leader of our temple family. He will succeed Rabbi Peter Levy who is retiring after having served Etz Hayim for the past ten years.

Rabbi Lefkowitz and his wife, Debbie, have been living in Orlando, FL since 1994 where they established Congregation Beth Emeth where he was involved in all aspects of the synagogue, including ritual, lifecycle events, education, pastoral support and administration. For the past three years, Rabbi Lefkowitz has been the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Shalom in Brandon, Florida.

Rabbi Lefkowitz was ordained from Tifereth Yisrael Rabbinical Yeshiva in New York and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Baruch College, and a master's degree from Columbia University in Communication, Computing and Technology in education. Originally from the Albany, NY area, their move back North was precipitated by their desire to be closer to family.

At a recent visit to Etz Hayim, Rabbi Lefkowitz expressed, "We are here at Congregation Etz Hayim to ignite your spark, so we can touch your heart and stir your soul." He believes in living by five simple rules: Free your heart from hatred (Leviticus 19:17), free your mind from worries (Talmud Yevamot 63 B), live simple (Psalms 116.6), give more (Deuteronomy 15:11), and expect less (Jeremiah 45:5).

Etz Hayim Synagogue was founded in 1991 and has been a beacon of Jewish life in the greater Derry region throughout its 33-year history. Etz Hayim is located at 1 1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH and is an

independent synagogue operating in partnership with the Union for Reform Judaism and the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire. Visit us at [www.etzhayim.org](http://www.etzhayim.org).

## Sunday, August 11

### JFNH Annual Meeting and Community Shem Tov Awards

6:00PM – 9:00PM, Bedford Event Center, Bedford

Join Jewish Federation of New Hampshire for our 2024 Annual Meeting on August 11th. This event will be in person at the Bedford Event Center and Livestreamed.

After a difficult year for the Jewish community, gather together to hear about Federation's recent accomplishments and plans for the year ahead. Vote for the incoming JFNH Board of Directors. Celebrate the Community Shem Tov Recipients. Doors open at 6PM with a Kosher dessert reception and the meeting begins promptly at 7PM.

To register: <https://givebutter.com/jfnh2024>.

## Monday, August 12

### Tisha b'Av Gathering at Temple Israel Portsmouth

8:00PM – 9:30PM, Temple Israel, Portsmouth

Please join congregants of Temple Israel Portsmouth for a Tisha b'Av Gathering in the Chapel. On the fast day of Tisha b'Av (the ninth day of the Hebrew month Av), we recall destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and we grieve for the many losses endured by the Jewish people throughout the ages and through to this very moment.

In commemoration of Tisha b'Av, Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman will lead is in songs and readings, including chanting from the book of Lamentations as we come together in community to find strength in our collective grief.

It is customary to sit on the floor/ground and read these texts by candlelight. Please bring a flashlight or cell phone and a cushion to sit upon. Chairs will also be available for anyone who prefers.

Kindly register via the temple website calendar to receive updates.

### Tisha B'Av at Rabbi Marc's

8:00PM – 10:00PM, home of Valerie and Rabbi Marc Philippe, Manchester

Join members of Temple Israel Manchester and Temple Beth Abraham for spiritual work to transform darkness into light.

An address will be provided after you RSVP.

Christine Dame 603-622-6171 or <http://www.templeisraelmht.org>.

## Thursday, August 15

### White Mountain Jewish Film Festival – Broadway Danny Rose

6:00PM – 9:00PM, Colonial Theatre, Bethlehem  
Cost \$10 PP

Broadway Danny Rose – Danny Rose (Woody Allen), a hopeless New your talent agent, is a tireless workhorse for his eccentric, unimpressive acts.

When Rose signs has-been lounge singer Lou Canova (Nick Apollo Forte), he knows he has to go to great lengths to keep his new client which means escorting Canova's mistress, Tina (Mia Farrow), to the singer's shows. The only problem is that her boyfriend is a jealous gangster who thinks Rose is her new man and wants revenge.

Rick Winston, guest speaker, was the co-owner of Montpelier's Savoy Theater for 29 years. He has taught film history at Burlington College, Community College of Vermont. Goddard College and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

As always, your ticket includes our festival's famous

patio parties beginning at 6PM with complimentary refreshments and an assortment of beverages. The guest speaker will introduce the film at 6:30PM and then stay for a Q&A as the houselights go on afterwards. Movie Time – All Films: Box office opens:

5:30PM/ Patio Opens: 6:00PM/ Guest Speaker: 6:30PM/ Film: 7:00PM.

General Admission \$10; BHC and JFNH Members \$9; Season Pass (5 Films) \$40. Tickets are sold at the door or can be purchased online: <https://www.bethlehemsynagogue.org/film-series-2024>.

## Friday, August 16

### Temple Israel Shabbat Service and Community Dinner

6:00PM – 8:00PM, Temple Israel, Manchester

Traditional Friday service followed by a catered community meal.

Register <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/ww8xevd>

Christine Dame 603-622-6171 or <http://www.templeisraelmht.org>.

## Sunday, August 18

### Temple Israel Tu B'Av White Party

6:00PM – 8:00PM, Temple Israel, Manchester

Join us for the White Party!

RSVP required by noon on August 8th. Register at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/ruw227c>

## Wednesday, August 21

### Books of Jewish Interest Club

4:00PM – 5:00PM, Bethlehem Public Library, Bethlehem and Zoom

The Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation wraps up our literary exploration of Jewish humor with "All About Me" by Mel Brooks. Dave Goldstone, organizer of the White Mountain Jewish Film Festival, will moderate the discussion. We meet simultaneously in-person at the Bethlehem Public Library and on Zoom. For more information, visit our website at <https://bethlehamsynagogue.org/books-2024>

## Friday, August 23

### Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation presents Sounds in the Sanctuary

5:30PM – 6:30PM, Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation, Bethlehem

Cost \$25 PP

Pianist Michael Arnowitz performs a smorgasbord of compositions by Brahms, Ligeti, Stravinsky, Beethoven, and Victoria Poleva.

Tickets available online at <https://www.bethlehemsynagogue.org/concert-series-2024>. Or at the door, \$25 General Admission/ \$20 BHC Members, Season Pass (4 Concerts) \$75 General Admission/ \$60 BHC Members.

### Temple Israel Outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat Services at Strawberry Banke

6:30PM – 8:00PM, Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth

Please join Temple Israel Portsmouth on the lawn by the Shapiro House at Strawberry Banke for outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat services led by Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman. Bring a dairy/pareve/vegetarian picnic dinner and your own lawn chair. Security will be provided. Services will be live streamed on the Temple Israel Facebook page. In case of inclement weather, services will be held in the sanctuary and accessible via the usual Zoom link. <http://www.templeisraelnh.org>.

## Saturday, August 24

### Temple Israel Manchester – Open House for Prospective Members!

10:00AM – 2:00PM, Temple Israel, Manchester

*continued on page 5*

# Statewide Calendar of Events

## Calendar of Events

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Please join us for an Open House/ special Saturday service on August 26th at 10AM at Temple Israel in Manchester! This service is open to greater New Hampshire Jewish community for those that may be "shul shopping" or anyone interested in joining for services! Come meet Linda Sinkow, Temple Israel's Vice President and Chair of Membership and Rabbi Mark Philippe for morning services immediately followed by kiddish catered by Rosenfeld's Bagels! Contact Linda Kropp Sinkow 508-561-3740 or lindsayinkow@gmail.com.

### Sunday, August 25

#### Back to Shul Fest 2024

12:00PM – 3:00PM, Strawberry Bank, Portsmouth  
Join Temple Israel and a few hundred of your best friends for an afternoon of music, food, and games! More information coming soon.  
Contact Heather Tomlinson 603-436-5301 or <http://www.templeisraelnh.org>.

### Tuesday, August 27

#### Etz Hayim Synagogue Religious School Open House

6:00PM – 7:00PM, Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry  
An Open House will be held on Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at 6:00PM, where students and parents will meet our teachers and review the curriculum. We offer the following programs:

Sunday Camp (Ages 4-6) meets from 10:00AM -12:00PM one Sunday afternoon per month, beginning Sunday, September 15, 2024. This program is free, and no membership is required. Our Sunday Camp Teacher uses a mix of music, crafts and games to introduce students to the Jewish calendar, prayer, Torah and Hebrew.

Our Youth Education program meets every Tuesday from 6:00PM – 8:15PM, beginning September 3, 2024, for students ages 7 to 18 in grades 2+. Kitah Aleph (Grade 2) and Kitah Bet (Grade 3): These classes enable students to learn the basics of Hebrew letter recognition and decoding in order to begin to learn to read. Students will also learn about holiday observance, Tzedakah and Jewish living. Kita Gimel, Dalet, B'Nai Mitzvah, and confirmation (Grades 4 and up): Students start with building Hebrew reading skills, working up to leading prayer for our older students, as well as learning Jewish ethics, history and Judaica. Liturgical and Judaic knowledge and skills in preparation for becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

To register, please visit <https://www.etzhayim.org/learn>. Our educational program is supported in part by a grant from the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire.

### Thursday, August 29

#### White Mountain Jewish Film Festival – No Name Restaurant

6:00PM – 9:00PM, Colonial Theatre, Bethlehem  
Cost \$10 PP

No Name Restaurant – To save the synagogue of the once largest Jewish community in the world from being shut down, Ben, and ultra-orthodox Brooklyn Jew visiting Jerusalem, is sent to Egypt to be the desperately needed tenth man for the ceremonies of Pesach. Having missed his plane and been kicked off the bus in the Sinai Desert, his last hope is Adel, a grumpy Bedouin looking for his camel.

This 2022 award-winning, German-Israeli-Egyptian co-production is a sleeper hit and a testament to cross-cultural collaboration.

As always, your ticket includes our festival's famous patio parties beginning at 6PM with complimentary re-

freshments and an assortment of beverages. A guest speaker will introduce the film at 6:30PM and then stay for a Q&A as the houselights go on afterwards.

Movie Time – All Films: Box office opens: 5:30PM/  
Patio opens: 6:00PM/ Guest Speaker: 6:30PM/  
Film: 7:00PM. General Admission \$10; BHC and JFNH Members: \$9; Season Pass (5 Films): \$40.

Tickets are sold at the door or can be purchased online: <https://www.bethlehemsynagogue.org/film-series-2024>.

#### Temple Emanu-El Challah Baking

6:30PM – 8:30PM, Temple Emanu-El, Haverhill, MA  
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Knead and Braid together with Rebecca Russell. Socialize and learn the art of baking Challah and experience the beauty of this special mitzvah. Cost \$18 for one large or two small take-home ready-to-bake Challahs. Starensier Assembly, Temple Emanu-El 514 Main Street Haverhill, Ma. Contact Lisa at 978-373-3861 or [email office@templeemanu-el.org](mailto:office@templeemanu-el.org).

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# Your Federation at Work

## Goodbye to Guy

On June 23, JFNH and the NH Jewish community at large said goodbye to our wonderful shaliach, Guy Ben David. We will miss him dearly, but wish him well on his future journeys.



# Your Federation at Work

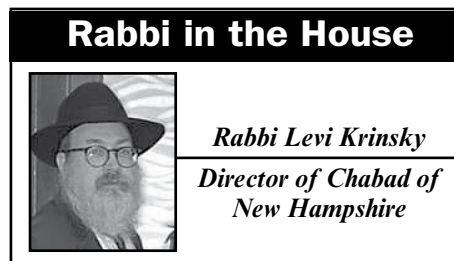


## Accessing Your Divine Purpose

As a Rabbi, I often ponder the challenge of distinguishing between our public persona and our personal identity as individuals, parents, and partners. Recently, I encountered an insightful article regarding a pivotal moment in the Torah involving Moses. It was the only instance where Moses implored G-d for punishment and challenged Him to perform a unique miracle.

The incident revolves around Korach and his followers confronting Moses, challenging his leadership directly. In response, Moses petitioned G-d to demonstrate His authority in an unprecedented way. G-d responded by having the earth swallow Korach and his followers alive. The author argues that Moses made a critical error in taking this challenge to his leadership personally, asserting that a leader should maintain a clear distinction between their role and their personal self.

I respectfully disagree with this perspective. To illustrate this perspective, I recall a story about Reb Mendel Futerfas. Reb Mendel, a devout Jew imprisoned for spreading Judaism in Stalin's Soviet Union, faced a poignant moment in a Siberian labor camp. Fellow inmates, once prominent figures in Soviet society, mourned their lost status and



sobbed over their former lives of privilege. Reb Mendel listened intently but did not join their tears.

One inmate cynically remarked, "I guess you were a loser then, so you lost nothing now!" Reb Mendel calmly responded, acknowledging his longing for his family, freedom, and former business success "When I was wealthy and successful, I was a Chossid, serving G-d; and now that I am in Siberia, I am still a Chossid, and I am still serving G-d every day."

Reb Mendel's story reveals a profound truth: he defined himself not by material possessions or past achievements, but by what he was. He was a Jew. He was a servant of G-d; he was an agent of the Divine on earth.

This story underscores a fundamental principle: our self-definition should not hinge on what we possess or achieve externally, but on who we are at our core.

We can categorize our lives broadly into three aspects: what we have, what we do, and who we are. While defining ourselves by possessions is superficial and temporary, defining ourselves by our actions can be more meaningful if those actions reflect our true values and beliefs.

Are we mere creatures striving to protect our happiness, or are we endowed with a divine purpose, tasked with uplifting others and contributing positively to the universe? For Moses, his identity was inseparable from his role as a servant of G-d. His leadership was not merely a position but a manifestation of his deep-seated loyalty and devotion.

When Korach challenged Moses, he wasn't just questioning Moses's leadership; he was challenging the very foundation of Judaism. Moses understood that his leadership was integral to maintaining the authenticity and authority of G-d's commandments. Therefore, he could not afford to tolerate any doubt or dissent that could undermine the people's faith in divine order.

This principle resonates profoundly in the legacy of my teacher, my Rebbe, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M Schneerson, whose 30th yahrzeit we recently commemorated. Known for his ability to inspire countless individuals,

the Rebbe didn't just impart wisdom to rabbis or scholars; he saw the potential for greatness in every person. He taught that each of us carries a divine spark and a unique mission to fulfill in this world. By connecting people with their inner truths and divine purpose, he empowered them to make meaningful contributions to society.

The Rebbe's teachings remind us that leadership, at its core, is about helping others discover and fulfill their higher purpose. It's about recognizing that every individual, regardless of their background or circumstances, has the capacity to shine and positively impact the world. Just as Moses defended the integrity of Judaism against doubt, the Rebbe inspired countless individuals to embrace their spiritual identity and contribute to a greater good.

In conclusion, while separating role and self is important, Reb Mendel and the Rebbe's teachings offer a counterpoint. They show that true leadership and personal identity are intertwined. Our actions should reflect our values and commitments, not just our roles. By embracing our divine mission, we can make a lasting impact, just as Moses did in his time. Now that's good company to be in.

## Education

### Welcome Returning and New ETZ Hayim Students!

Please visit [www.etzhayim.org/learn](http://www.etzhayim.org/learn) for registration forms.

**Open House:** An Open House will be held on Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 6:00 PM where students and parents will meet our teachers and review the curriculum. We offer the following programs:

- **Sunday Camp** (Ages 4-6) meets from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. one Sunday afternoon per month, beginning Sunday, September 15, 2024. **This program is free, and no membership is required.**

Our Sunday Camp Teacher uses a mix of music, crafts and games to introduce students to the Jewish calendar, prayer, Torah and Hebrew.

- Our Youth Education program meets every Tuesday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m., beginning September 3, 2024 for students ages 7 to 18 in grades 2+.
- **Kitah Aleph** (Grade 2) and **Kitah Bet** (Grade 3): These classes enable stu-

dents to learn the basics of Hebrew letter recognition and decoding in order to begin to learn to read. Students will also learn about holiday observance, Tzedakah and Jewish living.

- **Kitah Gimel, Dalet, B'Nai Mitzvah and Confirmation** (Grades 4 and up): Students start with building Hebrew reading skills, working up to leading prayer for our older students, as well as learn-

ing Jewish ethics, history and Judaica. Liturgical and Judaic knowledge and skills in preparation for becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

**To register, please visit:**  
<https://www.etzhayim.org/learn>.

*Our educational program is supported in part by a grant from the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire.*

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# In the Community

## JAM Fest, A Celebration of Jewish Arts & Music on New Hampshire's Seacoast

**Date:** Sunday, August 25th  
**Time:** 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
**Location:** Strawberry Banke Museum, Portsmouth, NH

**Portsmouth, NH** – Are you ready to JAM? Get ready for an extraordinary cultural experience at JAM Fest, the Jewish Arts & Music Festival, taking place on Sunday, August 25th at the historic Strawberry Banke Museum. This vibrant festival will showcase an eclectic mix of live music, dance, food, crafts, and games, celebrating the rich and diverse traditions of Jewish culture.

JAM Fest is open to all, and we warmly encourage the entire community to join us in celebrating the vibrant Jewish arts, music, culture, and community of the Seacoast. This festival is an opportunity for people of all backgrounds to come together, enjoy great music, dance, food, games, and more while learning more about Jewish traditions in a beautiful and historic space.

### Live Performances:

Experience the soulful sounds and dy-



namic performances of renowned Jewish artists:

- **Jacob's Ladder:** A Jewish bluegrass group that blends traditional melodies with Appalachian influences for a unique and lively musical experience.
- **Klezperanto:** A New Age klezmer band known for their energetic and innovative take on traditional klezmer music.
- **Mizrahi Dance Archive:** A dance sensation that will captivate the audience with their vibrant and dynamic dance

routines inspired by Jewish traditions from North Africa, the Middle East, and beyond.

### Food & Beverage Trucks:

Savor the flavors of Jewish delicacies from around the world with a diverse selection of food from top-notch food trucks:

- **The Sleazy Vegan:** Serving up delicious and innovative Jewish dishes with a vegan twist, inspired by Appalachian and South American cuisine.
- **Fat Pockets:** Sink your teeth into a falafel as big as your head! Fat Pockets is serving up falafel, salads, and more, sure to tantalize your taste buds.
- **Maev's Mobile Cocktail Hour:** providing signature drinks for both kids and adults, ensuring everyone can enjoy a refreshing beverage while soaking in the festivities.

### Crafts and Games:

Dive into a world of creativity and fun with a wide array of crafts and games designed for all ages. These activities offer something for everyone, create your own masterpieces with hands-on activities such as painting, beadwork, and traditional Jewish crafts. Participate in a variety of carnival games with a Jewish theme that promise fun and laughter for everyone.

### Sponsors:

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our sponsors, New Hampshire Humanities, the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, and the Temple Israel Cultural Endowment Fund whose generous support has made JAM Fest possible.

### Contact:

For more information, please visit our website [TIPNH.org/JAMFest](http://TIPNH.org/JAMFest) or email us at [JAMFest@tipnh.org](mailto:JAMFest@tipnh.org)

**Review your favorite PJ Our Way book for The Reporter!**

Do you have a favorite PJ Our Way book? Something you just couldn't put down or that you think **EVERYONE** should read? **Tell us all about it!**

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## PLANNED GIVING

Secure the future of our Jewish community

**As you envision the future of the Jewish community that means so much to you, consider creating a planned gift with the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire that will touch the lives of generations to come.**

### ENDOWMENT AND PLANNED GIVING

By making a planned gift to a JFNH endowment fund, you can ensure that your generosity and vision will have an impact that extends far beyond your lifetime. Endowment funds that were established decades ago are still providing important support to our community today. At JFNH, we have the knowledge and expertise to help you design a planned gift that meets your needs while also endowing your personal vision for the future.

- **Unrestricted Endowment.** A gift to JFNH's Unrestricted Endowment will support the full spectrum of initiatives and programs essential to the future of our Jewish community.
- **Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE).** You can create an endowment to perpetuate your Annual Campaign gift. This is a wonderful way to sustain your lifelong investment in the community you have helped build.
- **Restricted Endowment.** Our planned giving professionals will work with you to craft a gift that supports the work of a valued partner organization or an area of particular interest to you, such as caring for the most vulnerable, engaging people of all ages in Jewish learning, and supporting Israel.

### WAYS TO ENDOW YOUR VISION

- **Bequests:** A bequest through your will, trust, or retirement account is an easy way to create an endowment. We will work with you and your advisor to create a gift that clearly reflects and honors your intentions.
- **Retirement Plan Assets:** You may designate JFNH as a beneficiary of a qualified retirement plan such as an IRA, 401(k), or 403(b). To do so, simply contact your plan administrator and complete the appropriate beneficiary designation form. By naming JFNH as a beneficiary, you may avoid significant and often unanticipated estate and income taxes that would otherwise be paid by your heirs.
- **Life Income Gifts:** A Charitable Gift Annuity or a Charitable Remainder Trust can provide an immediate tax deduction and lifetime income for one or more beneficiaries. After the death of the last beneficiary, the remainder becomes part of an endowment fund to be used in accordance with your wishes.
- **Life Insurance:** You may purchase a life insurance policy that names JFNH as both owner and beneficiary. After your passing, JFNH will redeem the policy and the proceeds will support JFNH's endowment.

### LEARN MORE:

Contact Foundation Chair Julia Preis through the JFNH Office at 603-627-7679



# In the Community

## Sounds in the Sanctuary Flows into August

Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation's chamber music series, "Sounds in the Sanctuary," continues on August 9 with a performance by the Lysander Piano Trio. Itamar Zorman, violin, Liza Stepanova, piano, and Michael Katz, cello, met at The Julliard School. They perform throughout the United States, and their recent international engagements include Calgary Pro Musica in Canada, Pro Musica San Miguel de Allende in Mexico, and a tour of Israel.



*The Strad* praises the Lysander Trio for its "incredible ensemble, passionate playing, articulate and imaginative ideas and wide palette of colors." *The Washington Post* notes their "uncommon degree of heart-on-the-sleeve emotional frankness" and "vivid engagement carried by soaring, ripely Romantic playing."

The Lysander Trio will perform pieces

by Rachmaninoff and Beethoven, and "Nostos," a recently premiered work by Israeli composer Udi Perlman.

Pianist Michael Arnowitt closes the season on August 23 with a program including Brahms, Ligeti, Stravinsky, and Beethoven. Arnowitt's playing delights audiences around the world, from his home in Vermont to Canada, Korea,



Russia, and many European countries. His life and music are the subjects of a documentary film, "Beyond 88 Keys" (2004), which has been broadcast on public television and shown at festivals in Europe and the United States.

Arnowitt will play a smorgasbord of compositions by Brahms, Ligeti, Stravinsky, Beethoven, and Victoria Poleva.

All performances are held at 5pm at 39 Strawberry Hill Street, Bethlehem, New Hampshire 03574. General admission tickets are \$25.00 (BHC members \$20). Tickets are available at the door (cash or check only) or at tickets.catamountarts.org.

Full program notes and biographies are available at: <https://www.bethlehemsynagogue.org/concert-series-2024>



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# In the Community

## Etz Hayim Synagogue of Derry, NH Appoints New Rabbi

We invite you to meet Rabbi Lefkowitz at a special Shabbat service on Friday, August 9, 2024 at 7:15 PM followed by oneg Shabbat.

Etz Hayim Synagogue is pleased to announce the appointment of Rabbi Robert Lefkowitz as its new rabbi, beginning August 1, 2024. After a thorough search conducted by the Rabbi Search Committee, Rabbi Lefkowitz was selected as the new spiritual leader of our temple family. He will succeed Rabbi Peter Levy, who is retiring after having served Etz Hayim for the past 10 years.

Rabbi Lefkowitz and his wife, Debbie, have been living in Orlando, FL since



1994 where they established Congregation Beth Emeth where he was involved in all aspects of the synagogue, including ritual, lifecycle events, education, pastoral support and administration. For the

past three years, Rabbi Lefkowitz has been the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Shalom in Brandon, Florida.

Rabbi Lefkowitz was ordained from Tifereth Yisrael Rabbinical Yeshiva in New York and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Baruch College, and a Master's Degree from Columbia University in Communication, Computing, and Technology in Education. Originally from the Albany, NY area, their move back North was precipitated by their desire to be closer to family.

At a recent visit to Etz Hayim, Rabbi Lefkowitz expressed, "We are here at Congregation Etz Hayim to ignite your spark,

so we can touch your heart and stir your soul." He believes in living by five simple rules: Free your heart from hatred (Leviticus 19:17), free your mind from worries (Talmud Yevamot 63 B), live simply (Psalms 116.6), give more (Deuteronomy 15:11) and expect less (Jeremiah 45:5).

Etz Hayim Synagogue was founded in 1991 and has been a beacon of Jewish life in the greater Derry region throughout its 33-year history. Etz Hayim is located at 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH and is an independent synagogue operating in partnership with the Union for Reform Judaism and the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire. Visit us at [www.etzhayim.org](http://www.etzhayim.org).

## Etz Hayim Celebrates in June



Our celebration began with Winter Royce-Roll and Johnathan Calderone immersing in the Mikveh in Newton (separately, of course) after meeting with their Bet Din (Rabbis Robin Nafshi, Peter Levy and Neal Kaminsky).



Winter and Johnathan completed their ritual conversion (their spiritual journey started years ago) by declaring their Hebrew names, putting on tallit and embracing the Torah. Winter chose the name Aviva Chanina bat Avraham v'Sarah (Spring of grace). Johnathan stayed close to home with Yonatan (gift from G-d) Ben Avraham v'Sarah.



Winter, Johnathan, Gail Wolfe, and Linda Aaronson await their receiving the Torah from Mike Schloss while Rabbi Levy chants the opening prayers.



Robin Haroutunian, an Episcopal seminarian and weekly EHS Shabbat service attendee, participated with the B'nai Mitzvah class from the beginning. At the service, he offered prayers for the US and the State of Israel.



Rabbi Levy offers his valedictory address to the congregation at the 32nd annual meeting.

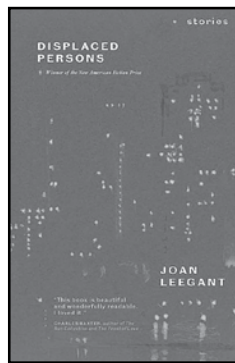
## Book Review

Reviewed by Merle Carrus

### Displaced Persons by Joan Leegant

*Displaced Persons* is a book of short stories, gathered by author Joan Leegant. Some stories are set in Israel, showing the life of Israeli citizens and immigrants from a variety of countries, while other stories are set in the United States, displaying the lifestyles and differences of people from all walks of life. All the stories have one thing in common; people everywhere are going through similar life experiences and traumas.

These stories will speak to readers, because we are all going through personal encounters and occurrences that are similar to people all over the world. Our personal adventures and life experiences are important to us individually, and though we may think we are unique, in the end I was able to find some personal similarities in many of the short stories.



In the book, there is a story about two teenage tourists on vacation with their parents. In an effort to feel independent and grown-up, they go off on an adventure through the Arab market in Jerusalem's Old City. Wandering into a restaurant they have an unsettling encounter which shows their naivete as Americans in a foreign country.

Another story features a visiting professor from Boston, whom in Israel meets up with an Israeli born in Iraq. This story accentuates Israel's multicultural makeup, the changing face of Is-

raeli society and how there are so many people from different places and backgrounds who now call Israel home. There is a story about a father who wants to travel across the country from New York to live in a more rural environment for his sabbatical year. Taking his family away from the only lifestyle his children know, there is some uneasiness. As they travel there are some difficult episodes, and the family does not get along. A tragedy on the road brings the family together. And there's also a story about an elderly curmudgeon whose daughter invites him over to celebrate Hanukkah with her husband and stepson, and gets a surprise when he finds himself enjoying being part of the family.

Though the stories focus on the sadder side of life, there are some lighter moments, a few positive moments, an ef-

fort to always find levity among the problems and challenges. The stories seem very real to life and the ups and downs we all face every day.

Joan Leegant has written two other books: *An Hour in Paradise*—which won the PEN/New England Book Award and the Edward Lewis Wallant Award and was a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award and a Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers pick—and *Wherever You Go*, a novel. For five years she was a visiting writer at Bar-Ilan University in Tel Aviv, where she also lectured in Israeli schools and she taught English to African refugees and asylum seekers. Joan lives in Newton, MA with her husband Allen Katzoff.

Joan will be speaking about this new book, *Displaced Persons*, at Temple Beth Abraham in October 2024.

## Film Review

Reviewed by Zach Camenker, NH JFF Steering Committee

### Sidney Lumet's 'The Pawnbroker'

I love coming across classic films that are completely new to me. The 1964 movie *The Pawnbroker* was recommended to me recently. After reading an intriguing synopsis, I rented it on Amazon. As a big fan of Sidney Lumet's films and Rod Steiger's acting, I was caught by their pairing and by the movie's focus on Holocaust survivor trauma. Before I even began watching, it was clear to me that this was an audacious and new approach for a film to take in the 1960s, especially at a time when the Production Code was still in existence yet beginning to fade.

This outstanding film clearly broke the norm and shattered glass ceilings in so many ways. By all accounts, it tackled the feelings of trauma and guilt felt by many Holocaust survivors before any other film did. Rod Steiger plays Sol Nazerman, the title character, who op-



erates a pawn shop in Harlem. Despite leaving Germany more than two decades ago, he is still tortured by the memories of his family members who were killed in concentration camps. The emotion that Steiger wears on his face throughout the film is nothing short of phenomenal. He carries the plot and remains a broken character throughout. Compared to his other roles of that era, he is nearly unrecognizable. The way he remains a broken person with both subdued and emotional characterization is

powerful. At times, Sol clearly suppresses his guilt and trauma despite the vivid recollections of times past. At others, he is charged with intense emotion, anger, and sadness, though often in solitude, which is a clear reflection of the loneliness he feels as a survivor who watched his loved ones die.

Steiger does not have an easy task here. He is middle-aged in some scenes and young in others, which must have been a challenge at age 39. His work here is among some of the finest of that era and reminds me again that he was often not as recognized as his fellow peers. Despite receiving a Best Supporting Actor Oscar nomination for playing Marlon Brando's brother in *On the Waterfront* and winning in the Best Lead Actor category in 1967 for *In the Heat of the Night*, he is perhaps most brilliant as Sol, which also earned him an Oscar nomination. The character arc that he reaches in only two hours is truly amazing.

In addition to Steiger, Brock Peters, who played Tom Robinson in *To Kill a Mockingbird* two years earlier, gives another of the film's strongest performances. As the Harlem crime boss Rodriguez, who has a penchant for adding another layer of torment to Sol's misery, Peters is also unrecognizable. His versatility

both in his performance and characterization of Rodriguez enhances the film greatly despite his limited screen time. You cannot help but feel badly for Sol yet feel no remorse for Rodriguez and his circuit.

Sidney Lumet directs the film with an elegance and focus that mirrors so many other classics of the 60s. His marvelous use of the edgy Harlem setting and seedy pawn shop, coupled with the way he hones in on the tension of the events, makes this a clear standout among his filmography. Still fairly early in his movie career, he delivers the work of a master. When you add another master like Quincy Jones, who scores the film perfectly, the whole thing is just mesmerizing.

Every now and then, a particular film stays with you. I watched *The Pawnbroker* well over two weeks ago and have been thinking about it quite a bit since then. Although it is a tough film for many reasons, it is also so powerful and, in my opinion, important. The idea of "never forget" that is often associated with the Holocaust can apply here too. Let us not forget that this film exists and that it can educate us on a whole new level about the varied emotions that survivors felt then and still do today.



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## “I am a Jew”

A Poem by Kerry Hansen

**From the author:** *I wrote the poem in response to the Oct Hamas Attack on Israel and the anti-Semitism that followed. I have friends that are from or are in Israel.*

I am a Jew  
I may break, but I'm not broken  
Every seen and unseen scar bears a  
story  
Of my life, of your life.  
Each single strand combining in  
tapestry  
We are One.

I am a Jew  
I bend in sorrow  
but in strength I rise  
I rise because I must  
I rise to reach out to others  
to lend and to receive solace  
in needing each other, we are One.

I am a Jew  
I cry in heartbreak  
but my eyes are open  
to see in you  
our shared experience  
to see in your tears  
that we are together  
Our cries entwined as One.

I am a Jew  
I may break, but I am not broken!  
Each shattered piece carries the resolve  
that I will go on  
that we will go on  
from fracture to strength  
from bereft to hope  
clasped hands and hearts  
unite us as One.

One people,  
One tribe.  
One family

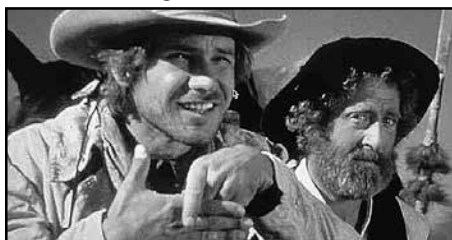
We may break, but we are not broken!  
We are One!

V'imru Amen!

*Kerry Hansen is a lifelong NH resident living on the Seacoast with her husband, two cats, and a dog. Kerry was on the JFNH Board of Directors for two years and is a member of Temple Israel Portsmouth.*

## Laughter Fills Bethlehem's Colonial Theatre

The White Mountain Jewish Film Festival, organized by Dave and Dorothy Goldstone and the Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation, opened in July with a new comedy, *Yaniv*. The laughs continue on August 1 with *The Frisco Kid*, a 1979 American Western comedy film directed by Robert Aldrich, starring



Gene Wilder as Avram Belinski, a Polish rabbi who is traveling to San Francisco, and Harrison Ford as a bank robber who befriends him. Jordan Hiller deems it one of 25 “Essential Jewish Movies,” writing that *The Frisco Kid* is, “...all pratfalls and tuchus jokes aside, the quintessential 'Torah' movie.” Steve Soreff, who serves as President of Etz Hayim Synagogue and on the board of directors of the JFNH, will be the guest speaker.

On August 15, the festival will screen another classic, *Broadway Danny Rose*. Danny Rose (Woody Allen), a hopeless New York talent agent, is a tireless workhorse for his eccentric, unimpressive acts. When Rose signs has-been lounge singer Lou Canova (Nick Apollo Forte), he knows he has to go to great lengths to keep his new client, which means escorting Canova's mistress, Tina (Mia Farrow), to the singer's shows. The only problem is that her ex-boyfriend is a jealous gangster who thinks Rose is her new man and wants revenge.

Rick Winston, guest speaker, was the co-owner of Montpelier's Savoy Theater



for 29 years. He has taught film history at Burlington College, Community College of Vermont, Goddard College, and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

The fourth film of the festival, on August 29, is another new comedy, *No Name Restaurant*. To save the synagogue of the once largest Jewish community in the world from being shut down, Ben, an ultra-Orthodox Brooklyn Jew visit-



ing Jerusalem, is sent to Egypt to be the desperately needed tenth man for the ceremonies of Pesach. Having missed his plane and been kicked off the bus in the Sinai Desert, his last hope is Adel, a grumpy Bedouin looking for his camel. This 2022 award-winning, German-Israeli-Egyptian co-production is a sleeper hit and a testament to cross-cultural collaboration.

As always, each ticket includes the festival's famous patio parties beginning at 6:00 PM with complimentary refreshments and an assortment of beverages. The guest speaker will introduce the film at 6:30 PM and then stay for a Q&A as the houselights go on afterwards (the box office opens at 5:30 PM and each film starts at 7PM).

General Admission \$10. BHC and JFNH Members: \$9. Tickets are sold at the door or can be purchased online: <https://www.bethlehemsynagogue.org/film-series-2024>.



The 17th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival

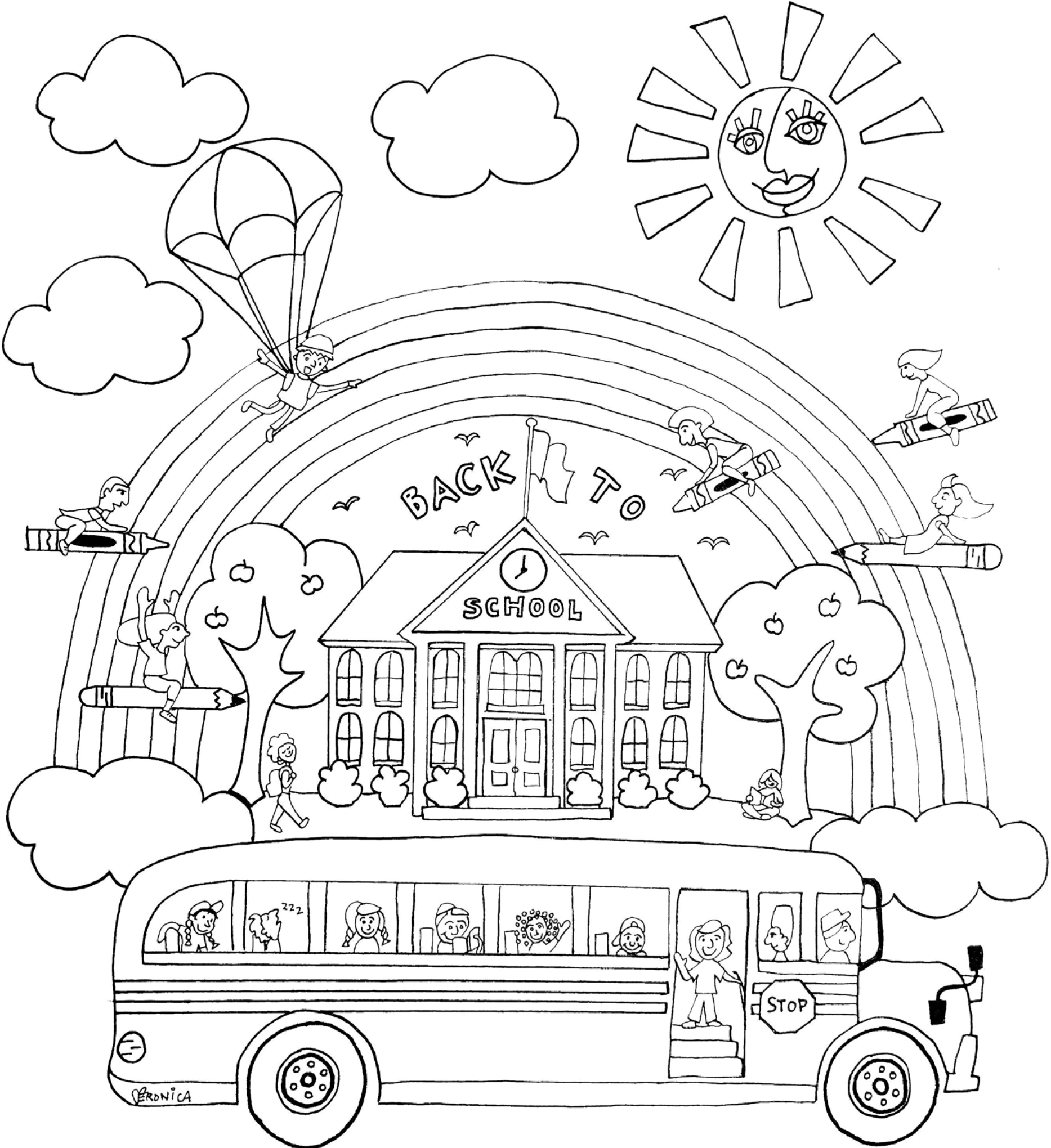
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Jewish Federation  
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

# Kids' Corner Coloring Page



Veronica Ava Conley, ©2024

## “Interfaith Bidding for Peace” Auction Raises Funds for Israeli Schools

By Deborah Levine, Arts Review Team Chair

On June 23, 2024, Temple Israel Portsmouth’s Arts Review Team hosted a successful benefit art auction, raising \$4600 to support Hand in Hand schools, a nonprofit network of bilingual K-12 schools which brings together thousands of Jewish and Arab children, teens, and families across Israel. Our donation is planned to support music and arts programs in these schools.

Dubbed “Interfaith Bidding for Peace,” the local event engaged congregants of Temple Israel, Newington Town Church, UCC, and South Church, Portsmouth. In addition to bidding on artworks and

other items attendees enjoyed a performance by the Unity Band featuring “Shalom/ Salaam.” Those gathered were led in “Dances for Universal Peace” by Julie Serrano, and in prayer and song by Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman. Participants also created their own peace mandalas, at a delicious Israeli lunch catered by Dahab Falafel, and learned more about Hand in Hand’s programs, including the role of alumni as peace emissaries in their communities and campuses across Israel.

According to founder Lee Gordon, “Almost every family in Hand in Hand – Jewish and Arab alike- knows someone or knows of someone who was murdered, wounded, or taken hostage in the Hamas

attacks on October 7, 2023... In the midst of this pain and fear, Hand in Hand students, parents, and community members come together daily and engage in both learning and also serious, deep and meaningful dialogue and discussion. It is not always easy, but Hand in Hand has created a model of what Israel can and should look like, where its Jewish and Arab citizens can live in equality, co-existence and partnership.”

In the face of the continuing war in Gaza, our local event brought together people of many faiths to take a small action as a bridge towards peace.

Thanks to the generosity of local artists and community members, there are still a number of artworks available for sale to

support this important effort. Contact the Temple Israel office to view the exhibit, which will remain on display in the Social Hall through September 15, 2024.



Browsing the artwork



Unity Band



Auction volunteers



Emcee Jeff Salloway



Deborah Levine, event coordinator

## Jewish Journeys

### A Decade of Service - Rabbi Peter Levy: A Reflection

By Steve Soreff, MD

As the president of Etz Hayim Synagogue, I had the honor to say thank you and goodbye to our fourth rabbi, Rabbi Peter Levy. This is my opportunity to reflect on he and his wife Amy's remarkable decade of service and commitment to the Jewish community, and the greater Derry community, as well.

As a second career rabbi, ordained by the Academy for Jewish Religion in Riverdale, N.Y., with earlier work in the textile industry, it was clear that Rabbi Levy's first love was for teaching Torah and for Israel. He brought with him a passion for Hebrew, Torah, music, and Talmud. Rabbi Levy and Reverend Ray Bonin, the Episcopal Church of Transfiguration's Priest, made the true spirit of our Interfaith Campus shine. They led a life-changing Interfaith Tour of Israel in 2017. The group went to the holy sites of



Photograph by Allegra Boverman at Farewell Luncheon for Peter and Amy June 29, 2024.

both faiths. They created a local television show, *A Priest and A Rabbi*, demonstrating a genuine interfaith dialogue. They have for years, through Zoom, led Tuesday morning Talmud and Gospel Studies for local and national participants. They jointly conducted annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Services.

*Jewish Journeys* continued on page 17



Jerusalem March 16, 2017. Left Rabbi Peter Levy, and right Reverend Ray

# Jewish Journeys

## Jewish Journeys continued from page 15

Rabbi Levy has run two Adult B'nai Mitzvah Classes allowing older members as well as newly converted Jews the

privilege of being called to the Torah and reading from it. He and Amy also introduced many innovative and creative programs, including Tu B'shvat seders, Community Second Night Seders, and brilliant, clever, and entertain-

ing Purim spiels. He applied his chaplaincy training by frequently visiting congregants when they were hospitalized. He and Amy, along with the Membership Committee folks, annually showed the Etz Hayim flag at Old Home

Days in Londonderry, Derryfest, and Chester Town Fair.

As for Amy: as a former NYC educator and guidance counselor, music teacher, song leader and cantorial soloist for many congregations, our congregation benefitted greatly from her many talents. In addition to enhancing our Shabbat worship with upbeat and vibrant music and introducing a variety of programming, Amy chaired and participated in a multitude of fundraising activities and ran our gift shop. For her efforts, she was named Etz Hayim's 2022 Shem Tov nominee.

True to their love of the Torah and teaching, Rabbi and Amy wanted their farewell event on Saturday, June 29, 2024, to be part of Sabbath Morning Services and Torah Study. Those attending it expressed their gratitude for the many ways the Rabbi and Amy have touched their lives. When asked "What will you miss about Etz Hayim?" Rabbi Levy replied that there are two things. First and foremost, he mentioned the kids. He appreciated their honesty and the unparalleled opportunity to watch them grow. He worked with students starting in Sunday Camp and saw them through to becoming Bat and Bar Mitzvahs. As he told a reporter, "I have Multiple Sclerosis, and when I got here 10 years ago, I walked in on two feet and a stick, now I roll out on four wheels. Yet on Tuesday nights, when I roll up the front walk, a bunch of kids will come running to the door to open it for me." Second, he cited that what he will miss next is the beautiful, diverse folks who come to Etz Hayim. He loved the people who came to services from the congregation, from the Church, and from different political affiliations and views. He particularly enjoyed the gathering and conversations at the oneg after Friday night services.

We thank both Rabbi Levy and Amy for a decade of great service to Derry's Jewish community, and best wishes on the next phase of their life together.

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## Update from Hadassah

By Michele Bank

The Manchester Chapter of Hadassah held its annual brunch on June 23 at the Manchester Country Club. It was a fun event where members and guests gathered to celebrate our 50-year members. Several of the honorees brought their family and/or friends. There was a delicious brunch, vocal entertainment, a silent auction, and many door prizes. Everyone expressed how enjoyable the event was.

The next chapter meeting will be on Thursday, August 8 at 6:30PM. The address is 1400 Front Street in Manchester. Rebbetzin Valerie Philippe of Temple Israel in Manchester will be attending the meeting and leading a discussion. She recently transferred her Hadassah membership into the Manchester Chapter.

Monthly, Hadassah has a Lunch N

Learn region-wide discussion group meeting on Zoom. On August 12, from 12:30 – 1:30, the topic is Women of Action: Miriam. Members may register at <http://events.Hadassah.org/HN-Elunchnlearn2024>. National Hadassah is continuing with their Hebrew@Hadassah classes. The next semester starts on September 9 with three courses that you can register for: New Beginner, Beginner and Intermediate. Go to [Hadassah.org](http://Hadassah.org) to register.

The third annual Hadassah Northeast Walkathon for Israel and Women's Health will be held on Sunday, September 22 at the Chestnut Hill Reservoir in Brookline, MA. Volunteers are needed to help at the registration table, soliciting sponsors, raising donations, etc. The community is invited to join members of the Manchester Chapter at this event.

Hadassah has several travel opportunities planned. The Israel for First Timers trip is October 30 – November 10, 2024. The next trip is Hadassah Cultural Curiosity – Israel Through Music, Art and Cuisine running from November 10 – November 20, 2024. The last trip of the year is Hadassah's Spinning Around Itself – A Hanukkah Family Tour that is from December 22, 2024 – January 1, 2025. For more information go to <https://www.hadassah.org/get-involved/israel-travel>.

Donations to Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) enable field-changing research, healing innovation and top-level rehabilitation. It ensures new treatments and scientific breakthroughs to save lives in Israel and around the world. In the area of research, Hadassah scientists are testing medications to learn which work best for their patients. Tests

are done in the lab using 3D models called organoids, which are made from patient stem cells. They apply data to choose the most effective treatment for each patient, comparing their condition with vast numbers of treatment outcomes. Additionally, an experimental treatment was developed at HMO that has a 90% success rate at bringing patients with multiple myeloma into remission. Hadassah researchers say that the results are an unprecedented achievement in the treatment of multiple myeloma cancer. Also known as bone marrow cancer, multiple myeloma has long been considered incurable.

For additional information about Hadassah, the walkathon, signing up for the Hebrew classes, or Hadassah travel please contact: [Michele.bank@gmail.com](mailto:Michele.bank@gmail.com) or go to [Hadassah.org](http://Hadassah.org).

## A Growing Friendship: Israel and India

By Richard England

News reports of anti-Israel protests in Europe and North America make it seem as though Israel faces growing isolation in the world. However, what most media sources have not been reporting is a growing friendship of great importance: the evolving partnership between Israel and India.

At first glance, this friendship might seem unlikely. After all, India has 1.4 billion people whereas Israel has only 9 ¼ million citizens. Furthermore, although newly independent India did recognize the fledgling State of Israel in 1950, the two countries didn't establish full diplomatic relations until 1992. New Delhi tried to remain neutral during the Cold War between the U.S. and Soviet Union and didn't want close relations with a U.S. ally. Indian governments led by the Congress Party also tried to maintain good relations with various Arab nations that were hostile to Israel at that time. After the turn of the last century, though, things began to change. In 2003, Ariel Sharon was the first Israeli prime minister to visit India. In 2017, Narendra Modi, India's present prime minister, was the first Indian leader to visit Israel. During recent years, there have been numerous delegations of Israeli government ministers, Knesset members, and business leaders to New Delhi and other Indian cities.

What explains this growing engagement between Israel and India after de-



cadecades of aloofness? One reason is that both nations face security threats from neighboring nations – Pakistan and China, in the case of India. Another reason is that, despite the enormous difference in the sizes of their economies, Israel and India have a lot to offer one another through trade, investment and technology transfer. In 1992, trade between the two nations totaled only \$200 million, mostly diamonds. By 2022-23, non-defense trade reached \$10.8 billion, double the level of only four years earlier. Major Israeli exports to India include electronics, aerospace equipment and parts, and fertilizers. Israeli imports from India include refined petroleum products, manufactured goods, and gems. The two governments have recently been negotiating a free trade agreement. If those negotiations succeed, the two countries will become even more interconnected economically.

Another economic tie of growing importance is the employment of Indian labor within the Israeli economy. There are roughly 20,000 Indian citizens currently living in Israel, many of them nurses and care givers or IT professionals. Because of the call up of several hundred thousand IDF reservists to fight Hamas, Israel faces a severe labor

shortage, especially in construction. India is prepared to offer Israel 100 thousand guest workers who would earn far higher wages than they could earn back home. These guest workers would also enjoy far more humane working conditions than they would experience if employed in the Persian Gulf economies.

Because both nations face serious security threats, military cooperation has also increased during recent years. Sales of equipment to the Indian military now comprise almost half of Israeli arms exports. These exports include reconnaissance drones and radar systems. Although Russia and France remain the prime arms suppliers to India, Israel now provides 8 percent of Indian arms imports. The defense ministers of the two nations met for the first time last year.

Investments and technology transfer are another area of growing connection between Israel and India. The Adani Group, a major Indian conglomerate, purchased the Port of Haifa for

\$1.1 billion in 2022. IDE, an Israeli leader in water treatment and desalination technologies, has built several major facilities in India. The two governments have signed several agreements to pursue

joint research and share technologies in fields such as agriculture, health, and water conservation.

In addition to growing ties between political, military and business leaders, there are also more frequent person-to-person contacts between the two countries. During the COVID pandemic, IsraAid provided plane loads of respirators and medicines to an Indian population that was ravaged by the virus. Nearly a thousand Indian graduate students now study at Israeli universities. Thousands of young Israeli backpackers trek through the Indian countryside each year after their service in the IDF. Roughly 85 thousand Israeli Jews are immigrants from India or their descendants: They serve as a cultural bridge between the two countries.

Given the rapid development of Indo-Israeli ties during the past three decades, it is not surprising that the Israeli foreign minister recently said, "India and Israel are strategic partners. The bilateral political ties are warm and forward-looking." It is also unsurprising that Prime Minister Modi commented swiftly after the assault on Israel by Hamas: "We stand in solidarity with Israel at this difficult hour."

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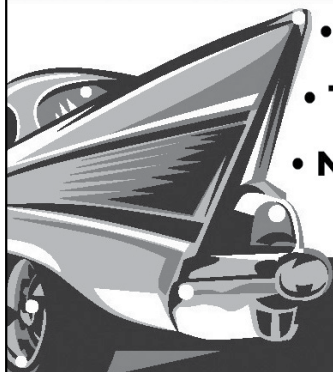
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New! B'nai mitzvah, engagement, wedding or new baby in the family? Share your happiness with the community with a notice in the Reporter's new Simchas section. Your \$36 payment will support JFNH's nonprofit mission. Submit a short notice and photo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

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

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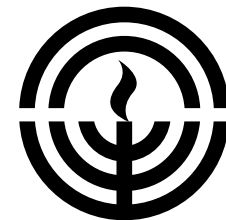


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