

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE  
*Jewish* **Reporter**

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 Jewish Federation of  
 New Hampshire

Volume 44, Number 5

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Shevat-Adar | 5784



SUMMER CAMP



Credit: Giorgio Cantoni, Unsplash

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[jewishnh.org](http://jewishnh.org)

**Nurturing Connection in Challenging Times: The Role of Jewish Federation of New Hampshire's Programming**

Allyson Guertin

**JFNH  
 Director**



In these uncertain times, as the world witnesses the events unfolding in Israel since October 7, our hearts are heavy with concern and solidarity. The echoes of conflict reach far beyond borders, impacting us here in New Hampshire. However, amidst these challenges, the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering connection within our vibrant community.

Our strength lies in unity, and JFNH has



*PJ Library celebrated Israel by watching Shalom Sesame's Grover in Israel.*

worked to create various programs and initiatives to allow our community to find solace and solidarity. The power of connection has never been more crucial, and we invite



*Community members gathered to make an Israeli themed brunch together at a home in the Seacoast.*

each member of our community to explore the diverse opportunities we provide to come together, support one another, and stand united.

*JFNH Director continued on page 3*

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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  
davegoldstone1@gmail.com  
Services: Contact for Date/Time Info  
President Dave Goldstone - (516) 592-1462  
or Eileen Regen - (603) 823-7711  
Weekly Services: July through Simchat  
Torah Friday: 6:30 PM; Saturday: 10 AM

## CONCORD

### TEMPLE BETH JACOB

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

## DERRY

### ETZ HAYIM SYNAGOGUE

Rabbi Peter Levy  
1½ Hood Road, Derry  
Reform, Affiliated URJ  
(603) 432-0004  
www.etzhayim.org  
office@etzhayim.org, rabbi@etzhayim.org  
Services: Fridays 7:15 PM, 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

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

Services: Fridays 6:00 PM (alternating  
Fridays)  
Saturdays 9:45 AM (alternating  
Saturdays)  
Morning Minyans: Wednesdays 7:00 AM  
(Please check website or call office for  
the days  
in the month that weekend services are  
being held.)

## 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 Sunday-Thursday  
7:30 PM and at the end of Shabbat  
Second Friday each month Shabbat Alive!  
6:30 PM  
Meditation every other Saturday 9:00 AM  
All services on Zoom, most at the Temple  
(check website)

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

## PORTSMOUTH

### TEMPLE ISRAEL

Rabbi 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

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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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## Shabbat Candle Lighting Times: (Manchester)

**February 2 4:41 PM**  
**February 9 4:51 PM**  
**February 16 5:00 PM**  
**February 23 5:09 PM**



## A PJ Summer

There's six inches of snow outside, we're expecting a low of 14° tonight, and I'm sitting at my computer registering my kids for summer camps and marking when other camps open registration. The winter plight of all parents with school-aged children: how to arrange for everyone to be safely accounted for, out of the house, off their devices and out of my hair for those precious three months of warmth and sun.

Our daughter Kira will be going off to Jewish sleep-away camp for a full session (four weeks!) this year. She's turning 10 and she couldn't be more excited. She tried camp for a trial session last year for only one week and was desperate to stay. This year we're giving in. Good luck to her counselors.

For several years now my parents have taken my kids for "Grandparents Camp" in Vermont. We enroll the kids in day camps up there for two weeks. This gives us a break and my parents wonderful one-on-one time with the kids. This summer my in-laws in Maryland have voiced an

**Dinah Berch**

**JFNH  
Program  
Coordinator**



interest – so we're looking into sending Cayden down to stay with them and maybe attend one of the Jewish day camps my husband Joshua attended as a child. *L'dor v'dor* – generation to generation. Maybe I'll even connect with my counterpart at PJ Library of Greater Washington D.C. to help my in-laws find extra programming while Cayden's with them!

Did you know that you can often participate in PJ Library programming in communities other than where you're registered for your book subscription? If you're planning to be away from home this summer traveling or vacationing with littles and you're looking for fun things to do, try reaching out to the PJ Library coordinator in that area! Not

sure how to find or connect with PJ Library in another community? Email me at [dinah.berch@jewishnh.org](mailto:dinah.berch@jewishnh.org) or check out the PJ Library Families Facebook Group – it's a national group and a wonderful resource. See this QR code to join! And if you have family visiting here in New Hampshire I encourage you to register and bring them along to PJ events at JFNH!



When you're ready to start talking about summer camp, I recommend turning to PJ Library for their wonderful collection of summer camp themed books. Some of my family's favorites include: *No Baths At Camp* by Tamar Fox, *Picnic at Camp Shalom* by Jacqueline Jules, and *Sadie, Ori, and Nuggles Go To Camp* by Jamie Korngold. For slightly older kids look for *Sami's Sleepaway Summer* by Jenny Meyerhoff or *The Path of Names* by Ari Goelman. To challenge your reader a bit more try *OyMG* by Amy Fellner, recommended for kids ages 10 and up, about a girl

learning to tackle concepts of Jewish identity while at a Christian summer camp. My daughter's suggestions from the PJ Our Way list are *The Sun Will Come Out* by Joanne Levy or *Noah Green Saves the World* by Laura Toffler-Corrie. Use this QR code to research more options for PJ Our Way readers – then contact me to see if I have any extra copies you can mail your camper!



I miss my summer camp days. I loved every moment. Ok, maybe not every moment – spiders in the showers, bears, catty cliques, and occasional homesickness. But I loved the general camaraderie, the feeling of being part of something, of belonging so completely. There's a Jewish value of "being happy with what you have" – *sameach bechelko* – that speaks to me when I think of camp. I know my kids are going to have an amazing summer and come back with so many inside jokes, crazy songs, new friends, and smelly laundry. I almost feel warm just thinking about it. Almost.

### JFNH Director

*continued from page 1*

One of the pillars of the Federation's mission is to create a sense of belonging. Our programs are thoughtfully designed to meet the unique needs of our community, becoming a beacon of hope and a source of connection during these trying times. From virtual events that bring us together in spirit to educational programs that deepen our understanding of the issues at hand, we are committed to creating spaces where every voice is heard, and every heart is embraced.

The strength of our community lies not only in shared celebrations but in our ability to come together during times of adversity. The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire encourages everyone to actively participate in our programs, whether virtually or in person, to find comfort, support, and a shared sense of purpose. Together, we can navigate these challenging times, ensuring that our bonds of connection remain unbroken.

As we face the uncertainties of the present, let us lean on the strength of our community. Through the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire's programming, we will find the resilience to weather any storm, fostering connection, understanding, and hope for a brighter future.



*PJ Our Way (children ages 9-12) competed in a Sufganiyot Showdown for Hanukkah! Did you see them on New Hampshire Chronicle?*



*Star of David challah's were made at the JFNH office with our community*



*Our annual Seniors Forever Young Hanukkah Party was a huge success with great food and fabulous company!*

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Jewish Federation  
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

# 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.

## Friday, February 2

### Temple Adath Yeshurun Family Shabbat Service

6:00PM – 8:00PM, Temple Adath Yeshurun  
Please Join us for a Musical Family Shabbat Service at Temple Adath Yeshurun at 6PM, featuring Cantor Shira Nafshi. Please RSVP in advance so that we may welcome you! Contact Karen Rothstein at 603-669-5650 or [office@taynh.org](mailto:office@taynh.org)

## Monday, February 5

### JFNH Book Club: Deborah Lipstadt's Antisemitism Here and Now

11:00AM – 12:30PM, JFNH Community Room  
Please join JFNH's Antisemitism and Diversity Committee for a discussion of Deborah Lipstadt's book Antisemitism Here and Now. The first 24 people to register will receive a free copy of the book. Available for pick up at the JFNH office. Deborah Lipstadt's book can be purchased at Barnes and Noble using this link <https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/antisemitism-deborah-e-lipstadt/1127921635?ean=978080143376>  
The book club discussion will be held at the JFNH office in our community room and will include coffee and pastries. Please register at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfpUZxmwHdfQUwjjZ-A6Yk0tdzIEOpjHRBScVClrabdlUo2Q/viewform>  
This will be a free event.!

## Thursday, February 8

### The Immigrant New Hampshire Experience: A Talk at Etz Hayim Synagogue

7:00PM – 9:00PM, Etz Hayim, Derry  
Becky Field will talk about her book Finding Home:

Portraits and Memories. She will be joined by a New Hampshire immigrant, who will describe the coming-to-America experience. Her book, Finding Home is a celebration of people from other countries who have resettled in New Hampshire, a state known for low cultural diversity. Photographer Becky Field had been documenting cultural diversity in the state since 2012. Now, in addition to her portraits, she met with 40 immigrants to record and transcribe their memories of life in their home countries and their journeys to find a new life in the Granite State. Some came to escape violence; some came for love; some came for education. Some are teenagers with a lot of life ahead of them; some are elders with long memories of their journeys. The stories show the resilience and determination of people to find a safe home, good education for their children, work to support their families, and freedom to practice their faith. Her first book was Different Roots, Common Dreams: New Hampshire's Cultural Diversity and she spoke about it at Etz Hayim in February 2019.  
Contact Etz Hayim at 603-895-6120 or [soreffs15@aol.com](mailto:soreffs15@aol.com)

## Sunday, February 11

### Shavua Tov Storytime 2023-2024

8:20AM – 9:00AM Zoom  
Cost \$18  
A program designed for families with children ages 2-5. Join us for a 20-minute interactive story time on Zoom one Sunday each month. Every month will have a different theme!  
Register once for \$18 per family to receive monthly crafts in the mail all year! If cost is prohibitive, please reach out to [alane.sabel@jewishnh.org](mailto:alane.sabel@jewishnh.org)  
The Zoom link will be provided to registered families each Monday ahead of the program. Please register at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeNcrPWZVh6bGCHKw1W0RjHZMYAjX06W1R-8hTeHgXJR6DrQ/viewform>  
"Reaching our Peak Potential."  
9:30AM – 11:30AM Temple Beth Abraham  
"Reaching our Peak Potential" will be the topic of discussion by Dr. Randy Pierce, LIVE IN PERSON at Temple Beth Abraham. The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club is proud to sponsor the presentation and breakfast.  
During two short weeks in 1989, a devastating neurological disease transformed Randy Pierce from a healthy, ordinary young man to a blind man,

completely uncertain of his future. Since those two weeks in 1989 Randy has earned his second-degree Karate black belt; achieved historic hiking accomplishments from the White Mountains of New Hampshire to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa; won two national marathon championships; completed several Tough Mudder events; and was inducted as a fan into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

Randy, a two-time TED Talk presenter and commencement address speaker, featured on national television shows including Rosie O'Donnell, Jimmy Kimmel Live and The Best Damn Sports Show will share some of the details of his journey and many lessons available to all of us – both personally and professionally – about striving to attain our own version of "Peak Potential."  
Please register in advance by emailing [breakfastsvp@snhmc.org](mailto:breakfastsvp@snhmc.org) to confirm your registration.

### PJ Our Way Book Club – "Pickled Watermelon"

3:00PM – 5:00PM, Zoom  
PJ Our Way Kids! Join us on Zoom on Sunday February 11th at 9pm for a discussion and fun activity around the book Pickled Watermelon by Esty Schacter.  
Discussion and activity will be facilitated by JFNH Shaliach Guy Ben David. The first 10 kids to register will receive a free copy of the book (one per household). Available for pick up at the JFNH office!  
Please register at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScE1bfg4FzsiZIJcwJV2RvmlVjQudnblcQD-to-UTZHRtRMvDa/viewform>

## Monday, February 12

### JFNH Shaliach presents Israeli Insider - Bedouins

11:00AM – 12:30PM JFNH Community Room  
Join JFNH Shaliach Guy Ben David the second Monday of each month to discuss about different topics in Israel.  
Fourth meetup: February 12th, we will discuss about the Bedouin society in Israel.  
At this time there will be no hybrid option for these sessions.  
Please register at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1IEEbySMD1PDDilVcduwCzZ0w7f5wz2xjyANjLpD04A?edit>

## Friday, February 16

### Tot Shabbat with Rabba Kaya

5:00PM – 5:45PM Temple Israel Portsmouth  
Temple Israel Portsmouth's kid-friendly musical Shabbat experience is led monthly by Rabba Kaya. Geared for children ages 5 and under; all are welcome. Consider staying for a family-friendly community Shabbat potluck dinner at 6:00PM. Bring a dairy/vegetarian/parve dish to share. Please register via the temple website calendar at [www.templeisraelnh.org](http://www.templeisraelnh.org)

### Family Shabbat & Pizza Dinner

5:30PM – 7:30PM Etz Hayim Synagogue  
Join us for pizza and salad at 5:30PM, followed by family services from 6:45PM to 7:30p. RSVP for pizza dinner is required by Sunday, February 11 to [rabbi@etzhayim.org](mailto:rabbi@etzhayim.org) Please indicate how many will be attending and if there are any dietary concerns. All are welcome!

## Saturday, February 17

### PJ Library Tot Shabbat Hop

9:45AM – 12:00PM, Temple Beth Abraham  
PJ Library's jBaby and Early Education Initiative invite families with children 0-5 (siblings welcome)

to celebrate Shabbat morning together. Each month at a different location!

Stories, Singing, and Blessings followed by a Kiddie Kiddush

Join other families for a musical Shabbat. Morning service will be led by cantorial soloist David Rothberg and will be followed by snack and playtime.

Please register at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScX-T0dXbuTdVNa89ZQxYveOZlvWNFU0oWWc9W1Kx8ZQoepQ/viewform>

## Sunday, February 18

### JFNH presents: A Taste of Israel 2024

2:00PM – 4:00PM JFNH Community Room  
\$18

A Taste of Israel/ Liftoach Shulchan (Open Table)

Come together to schmooze while enjoying delicious foods of Israel.

Please register at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScFsf1GGoXhofJhyHvStKLeHMmtZeM GqEijy-18QhVlisQ/viewform>

## Thursday, February 22

### NH Jewish Museum Spotlights NH Jewish Contributions to Healthcare

6:00PM – 8:00PM, JFNH Community room  
On Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 6pm, the New Hampshire Jewish Museum (NHJM) located in the Jewish Federation of NH in Bedford, will open an exhibit entitled "NH Jewish Contributions to Healthcare, Past and Present."  
One of the great past physicians to be featured will be Dr. Selma (Deitch) Sigel. A recollection from Dr. Sol Rockenmacher of Dr. Deitch; "A legacy to remember, I first met Selma in the 1970's, when I was in primary care pediatric practice in Dover...for her fellow pediatricians, she was our Jiminy Cricket, our conscience in thinking about what was best for children. One of Selma's most outstanding contributions was being on of the dynamic duo – with benefactor May Gruber, aka Pandora's Pride—who founded Manchester's Child Health Services, a model of healthcare that enrolled children in a wonderful safety net of services and human compassion. The program began in 1979, providing primary care and related health services to low-income children and families in the Greater Manchester area. It was quite possibly the first functioning family-centered, comprehensive, and coordinated Medical Home in the entire USA. At the time of her death in 2004, Child Health Services was seeing more than 2,000 children from the Manchester area. She also helped found the Derryfield School in 1964. In 1987, she was the Manchester Union Leader's Woman of the Year for New Hampshire, and in 1988 she was the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce's Citizen of the Year. She was, indeed, a special person.  
The program on February 22 has two components. The first will be to chronicle and honor the amazing NH Jews who made advances in healthcare, including the development of the measles vaccine and the creation of a child health program by Dr. Deitch. The second part will feature contemporary NH Jewish healthcare practitioners, teachers, administrators, and workers, speaking about their current innovations, procedures, and programs. The museum's mission is to collect, preserve, and display the Jewish history of our state. The museum tells the long overdue story of the Jews in New Hampshire all in one place. It is funded in part by a grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.  
Please register at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfq-C0i94ZRuAH6VIsL0D2VqnD09nUFs8ipEEWtwZw1BBqPw/viewform>

Keeping you connected



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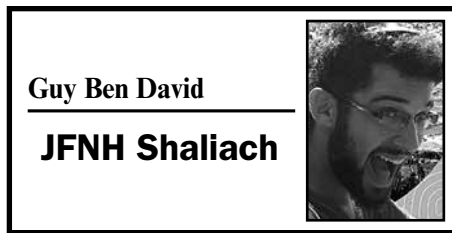
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## Thank You for Your Support

It's getting a bit cold outside, isn't it? Well, this is my first time experiencing anything under 25 degrees Fahrenheit. It was fun seeing how everything here is well prepared for the winter, and how everything slowly starts feeling cozy, like there is no better time to stay home. Surprisingly, ever since the winter started, I find myself being outside like never before, not even in Israel!

It all started with the community's support since the war in Israel. All the love and care made me feel at home, and it also helped me get back on the horse and become very social. Every day of the Shlichut programs looks different than the days before. Nothing as is expected. Nothing is routine. Nothing is normal. And I love it. Being busy in these times is the best thing I could ask for, so thank you for that.

The holidays are behind us, and we're looking forward to Purim, our next major holiday. It was my first time being in America for Thanksgiving and Christmas, and even though these are not my holidays, it was fascinating to see how they are being celebrated. One of the



Guy Ben David

JFNH Shaliach

**SPOTLIGHT**  
ON ISRAEL



things I like the most about this job is that every day I get to see new things that I've never seen before. Like a little child that is charmed by any little thing that he has never seen before, so am I. And this is what it's all about – trying and seeing new things. We could stay home, in our kingdom and rule everything, and sometimes, there's nothing that I need more than that. But going outside and exploring? I could have that every day. My best friend from high school, Oren, calls me the "Yes Man" (just like the Jim Carrey movie) and it's the best definition anyone could

give me. I want to see more, I want to explore, I want to wash my eyes with new sights every day – so if you have a new place to show me, a new person to introduce me to, a new story to tell me, or introduce me to new food (Kosher!!!) that I've never tried before – you know how to reach me. I will quote the TV show *Ted Lasso*: "Be curious, not judgmental." That way, when we're open to new things, we can hear other opinions and ideas. Even if the other side never listens – you

could still learn so much about yourself and other people.

I wish you all a happy new year. We celebrated one just a few months ago, but we're getting another opportunity for it. May we all become stronger and more open to new ideas, even if we don't get it back from the rest of the people around us. It's our job to improve ourselves even if it's dark and snowing outside. The world is not stopping; it's just at the other side of the sun.

## Super Sunday: A Super Success

December 17th was Super Sunday, our biggest fundraiser of the year. Thank you to our AMAZING Super Sunday volunteers who spent seven hours on the phones helping to make the day a success, and thank you to everyone who answered the call to help us raise over \$25,000. We cannot do this important work



See what's happening in the community at [www.jewishnh.org](http://www.jewishnh.org)

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## The New Hampshire Jewish Museum: Mark your Calendar for the Opening Ceremony of the Exhibit of NH Jewish Contributions to Healthcare

By Steve Soreff, MD

The program on February 22 has two components. The first will be the telling of the stories of some of the amazing NH Jews who made advances in healthcare: these include the development of the measles vaccine (Samuel Katz, MD, presented by Michael Miller, MD), the creation of a child health program in

Manchester (Selma Deitch, MD presented by Sol Rockenmacher, MD), and the leadership of Boston Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center (Sydney Gellis, MD presented by Sol Rockenmacher, MD).

The second part will feature present day NH Jewish healthcare practitioners, teachers, administrators, and workers speaking about their current innovations,



procedures, and programs. There will be talks about robotic surgery by Stacie Perlman, MD, a Fellow of the American

College of Surgeons, emergency communication by Michael Miller, MD, community team-based homecare by Captain Steven Marshall, EMT, innovations in cardiology by Lou Fink, MD, and adventures of a physician-mohel by Alan Green. There will be light refreshments.

For more information, please contact Stephen Soreff, MD soreffs15@aol.com or call (603) 895-6120.



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## Judaism and Mental Health

An estimated one in five Americans suffer from some form of mental health challenge – depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, and more. And while Jews partake of mental health services such as therapy in large proportions, studies *do not* show that Jews suffer greater levels of mental health challenges than the general population.

We find very little discussion of mental health challenges in the *Tanakh*, though some commentators suggest that King David may have suffered from depression. When the Bible refers to mental illness, it uses the heavily stigmatized word *shiga-on*, usually translated as “mad” or “crazy.” In general, *shiga-on* is considered a divine punishment for those who fail to perform the *mitzvot*. The Talmud expands the concept with the use of the word *sh'tut*, meaning “madness” or “folly,” suggesting that a person commits a sin only when afflicted with *sh'tut*. *Halakhah*, Jewish law, declares the *shoteh*, the “mad person,” exempt from most religious obligations. Nor can that person get married or be a witness.

Sadly, Jews, like so many other people, often attach stigma to a mental health challenge. A person who lives with mental illness may be seen as weak and not suffering from a “real” (that is, physical) illness. Families are often embarrassed when a loved one is suffering from a mental health challenge.

The most tragic expression of a mental health challenge results in a death by suicide. Many Jews have heard that “suicide is against the law in Judaism,” and fear that a loved one who dies by suicide will not be given a Jewish funeral or be permitted to be buried in a Jewish cemetery. While this used to be the strictest

<b>Rabbi in the House</b>	
	<b>Rabba Robin Nafshi</b> Temple Beth Jacob

interpretation of the law, Judaism now understands that a person who dies by suicide died from a mental illness, and is to be given the *k'vod*, honor, bestowed upon anyone who has died.

Several *middot*, Jewish values, help us when encountering people who suffer from mental health challenges. They include:

*B'tzelem Elohim* created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27) – All human beings are entitled to dignity and respect, and we must show such values to anyone experiencing a mental health challenge.

*Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh*, all Jews are responsible for one another (Talmud Shavuot 39a) – We must reach out with care and not shun anyone experiencing a mental health challenge.

*Refu-ah sh'leimah*, healing and wholeness (from the liturgy) – Our *mi shebeirach* prayer includes the words *r'fu-at hanelesh v'refu-at haguf*, healing of the spirit and healing of the body. This is a very real recognition that healing includes our emotional, social, and spiritual well-being. We also understand that healing is different from curing, especially when one has a mental health challenge, the journey to healing is a lifelong one.

*Piku-ach nefesh*, saving a life (many sources) – The highest *mitzvah* in Judaism is to save a life. This includes the physical and the emotional/mental/spiritual.

*Tikkun olam*, repairing the world

(from the liturgy; *Aleinu*) – Healing the world is not only a call to social justice, it is also a call to providing for the needs, including the emotional needs, of the members of the community.

Mental health challenges are not to be ignored, shunned, nor stigmatized. As Jews, we are called upon to take care of ourselves and one another, both in body and in spirit.

*Rabbi Robin Nafshi of Temple Beth Jacob in Concord was appointed by Governor Sununu to the New Hampshire Suicide Prevention Council. She also serves on the GLS Committee of NAMI New Hampshire, which administers a federal grant on youth suicide prevention. She is part of a team with Dartmouth Health that provides public education in the area of youth mental health, and she is on the executive board of Riverbend, the Concord-based community mental health center.*

### A gift from the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire



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

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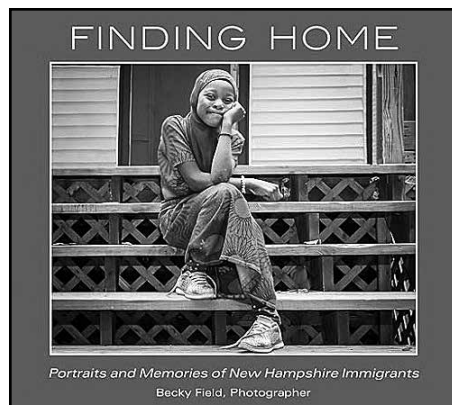
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## The Immigrant in New Hampshire Experience: A Talk at Etz Hayim Synagogue

By Steve Soreff, MD

Becky Field will talk about her book *Finding Home: Portraits and Memories* on Thursday, February 8, 2024, 7 PM at Etz Hayim Synagogue. She will be joined by a New Hampshire immigrant, who will describe the coming-to-America experience. *Finding Home* is a celebration of people from other countries who have resettled in New Hampshire, a state known for low cultural diversity, and as a photographer, Field has been documenting growing diversity in the state since 2012. Now, in addition to



these portraits, she met with 40 immigrants to record and transcribe their

memories of life in their home countries and their journeys to find a new life in the Granite State. Some came to escape violence; some came for love; some came for education. Some are teenagers with a lot of life ahead of them; some are elders with long memories of their journeys. The stories show the resilience and determination of people to find a safe home, good education for their children, good work to support their families, and freedom to practice their faith. Her first book was *Different Roots, Common Dreams: New Hampshire's Cultural Diversity* and she

spoke about it at Etz Hayim in February 2019.

The talk is in person at Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1 1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH 03038. There is no charge, but donations are encouraged. The presentation is part of Etz Hayim Synagogue's Adult Continuing Education Program, *Hot Topics and Cool Contemporary Stuff*. Please visit [www.etzhayim.org/learn/adult-learning](http://www.etzhayim.org/learn/adult-learning) for a complete listing of Hot Topics. For more information, please contact Stephen Soreff, MD, at [soreffs15@aol.com](mailto:soreffs15@aol.com) or 603-895-6120.

## New Hampshire Stands with Israel Concert

The New Hampshire Stands with Israel Concert, hosted by Temple Israel in Manchester, proceeded as scheduled on Sunday, January 7, 2024, despite the winter Nor'Easter. A wonderful crowd brought much enthusiasm, energy, and positive feelings to this event, resulting in a resounding success.

Rabbi Marc Philippe, a globally acclaimed singer, conductor, flutist, and Temple Israel's spiritual leader produced and arranged the New Hampshire Stands with Israel Concert. The concert featured a stellar lineup of renowned musicians: among them was Alyssa Landry, celebrated for her leading roles in productions like *Les Miserables*, *Cats*, *Nine*, *Hello Dolly*, and *Sweeney Todd*. Cantor Shira Nafshi, ordained from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religions' Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music, contributed her melodious presence. Award-winning concert pianist Thierry Boulanger, versatile American guitarist and composer Douglas Hirsch, and New Hampshire-based writer and musician Jasper Cottle, known for his proficiency in traditional Irish and Scottish music, folk and country, enriched the concert with their diverse styles. Matt Davis from Manchester, known for his expertise in rock, blues, and folk genres, also graced the

stage. The repertoire included captivating tunes such as *Olan Chesed Yibaneh*, *Charity*, *Close Every Door*, *Klezmer Medley*, *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav*, *Haleluyah*, and *Somewhere*.

The concert's purpose extended beyond musical enjoyment, as proceeds were directed to Leket, Israel's National Food Bank. Leket Israel provides fresh, healthy food for Israelis in need with a special emphasis on supporting populations affected by hostilities in response to the current crisis.

The Temple Israel Concert Committee expresses gratitude to the generous sponsors, including the Frederick Smyth Institute of Music, Stephanie and Joseph Conahan, Pressed Café, Bonnie and Bill Greiner, Morin's Landscaping, Joy and Michael Sydney, Dave McElroy, and the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire.

Special acknowledgement goes to the Concert Planning Committee, consisting of Joy and Michael Sydney, Rabbi Marc Philippe and Valerie de Roca, Pam and Steve Saulten, Louise Allard, Talia Oranburg, and Aida Koocher, who planned this outstanding event.

The event concluded with a wonderful dessert reception in the Klein Social Hall featuring coffee and pastries catered by Heidi and Mike Miller of the Perfect Platter.



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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



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THE POWER OF COMMUNITY.

# In the Community

## Jewish Community Gives Back at Christmas Holiday

In Jewish teaching, a mitzvah is a “good deed” that fulfills a moral obligation. Through Temple Adath Yeshurun (TAY) Brotherhood’s Christmas Mitzvah Program, members of the Jewish community have stepped forward to give back to the greater Manchester community with enthusiasm, feeling and caring for nearly 40 years.

This year, 43 volunteers covered the information desk at Elliot Hospital in Manchester on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and delivered luncheon food platters to 13 police and fire stations in Manchester and Bedford. Community is at the heart of the charitable missions for both the TAY Brotherhood and Sisterhood, say

Christmas Mitzvah Program co-organizers Sol Rockenmacher and Denis Paiste, who were assisted by their wives, Sisterhood Co-President Linda Rockenmacher and Marsha Paiste. “We are so grateful for all who stepped up to volunteer to help out with this year’s event,” says Rockenmacher, who is a TAY Brotherhood past president. Paiste is the current Brotherhood secretary.

Participating at Elliot Hospital this year were: Linda Abels and Richard Cohen; Alan and Ellie Rudnick; Michael Yellin and Debra Garlin; Bob Katchen and Dave Katchen; Reva

Rovner and Judith Jolton; Gail Ellis and Ed Schoen; Elaine and Harvey Bloom; Eliot Sirkin and Joanne Taube; and Dot and Marty Warshaw.

Delivering luncheon platters to local first responders were: Rachel Schor and Finn Schor; Lee Hill, Ellen Groh, Josh Hill, and Aaron Hill; D.G. Krasner; Eric Ratinoff, Nicole Leapley, Simon Ratinoff and Alix Ratinoff; Donna Lenz-Dolman and Alea Dolman; John and Kelly Edwards; Mark Bilech, Todd, Margot, and Quinn Kramer; Annette Kurman and Hazel Ali; David and Lisa Schechtman; and Norm and Andy Kushner.

Brotherhood membership is open to men affiliated with the Jewish community. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Granoff at [memkgranoff@comcast.net](mailto:memkgranoff@comcast.net).



Temple Adath Yeshurun (TAY) Brotherhood’s Christmas Mitzvah Program volunteers covered the information desk at Elliot Hospital in Manchester on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Shown here on Christmas Day are, from left, Gail Ellis, Ed Schoen, Judith Jolton, Reva Rovner, Elaine Bloom, and Harvey Bloom.



Temple Adath Yeshurun (TAY) Brotherhood’s Christmas Mitzvah Program volunteers covered the information desk at Elliot Hospital in Manchester on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Kim-ly Warshaw accompanied her grandparents, Marty and Dot Warshaw, during their two-hour shift.



Christmas Mitzvah volunteers Todd and Margot Kramer, and daughter, Quinn, delivered a deli platter and rolls to the Manchester Police Department on Christmas Day to say thank you from the Jewish community.



TAY Brotherhood Christmas Mitzvah program volunteers delivered platters of deli meats and cheeses and sandwich rolls to police and fire stations in Manchester and Bedford on Christmas Day to say thank you from the Jewish community for their service. Pictured at Temple Adath Yeshurun Christmas morning are, from left, Sisterhood Co-President Linda Rockenmacher, Simon Ratinoff, TAY 1st Vice President Eric Ratinoff, Alix Ratinoff, and Nicole Leapley, Josh Hill, Lee Hill, Aaron Hill, and Ellen Groh.



TAY Brotherhood Christmas Mitzvah program volunteers delivered platters of deli meats and cheeses and sandwich rolls to police and fire stations in Manchester and Bedford on Christmas Day to say thank you from the Jewish community for their service. Pictured at Temple Adath Yeshurun Christmas morning are, from left, David Schechtman, Lisa Schechtman, Donna Lenz-Dolman, Alea Dolman, Sol Rockenmacher, Mark Bilech, D.G. Krasner, Rachel Schor and Finn Schor. Sol and Linda Rockenmacher and Denis and Marsha Paiste organized the event.

**PJ OUR WAY**

**We Need You**

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

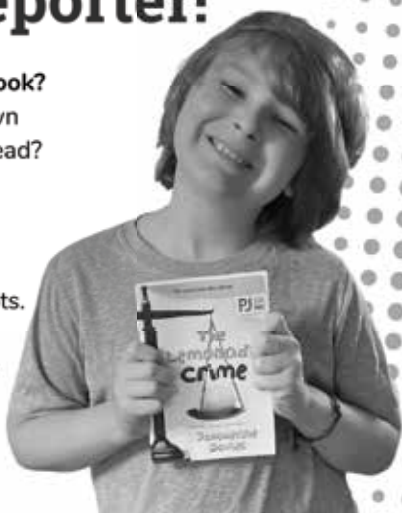
Do you have a favorite PJ Our Way book? Something you just couldn't put down or that you think **EVERYONE** should read?

**Tell us all about it!**

Send your reviews to [Dinah.Berch@jewishnh.org](mailto:Dinah.Berch@jewishnh.org) or email for details & question prompts. We'll publish your review in upcoming issues of The Reporter and on Facebook!



PJ Our Way sends FREE Jewish middle-grade books for kids ages 9 through 12. Sign up at [pjourway.org/enroll](http://pjourway.org/enroll)



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

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

**To get involved, contact [thereporter@jewishnh.org](mailto:thereporter@jewishnh.org)**

# In the Community

## Temple Israel Portsmouth: Latke-Palooza!

By Erik Martin, Head of School at Temple Israel Portsmouth

Latke-Palooza lived up to its name! Some 150 people gathered at Temple Israel Portsmouth to celebrate Hanukkah, enjoy one another's company, and nosh the night away. Ryan Kaplan and the Temple Israel Brotherhood crew spent the afternoon and evening frying latkes in the kitchen for all to enjoy. The Yiddish class, some of our madrichim, and Hebrew School students were the high-

light of the evening as they led the entire Social Hall in song. The madrichim wrote and performed an original song to the tune of "Let it Grow" from the beloved film, *The Lorax*. Thanks to Ron Sher for sharing photos!

It was an amazing way to end the year that has been so challenging for many of us. Despite the darkness in the world, we came together as a community with our friends and neighbors to celebrate the lights, no matter how small, that warm us all.



Photos by Ron Sher.



## Temple B'nai Israel of Laconia Invites the Community to Adult Education

Over the past year, Rabbi Jan Katz has created a wealth of adult education programs at Temple B'nai Israel that arose from her rich educational background as well as her personal experiences—opportunities to meet and learn from others engaged in Jewish causes, education, and social justice reform. When asked about her perspective on the importance and value of "lifelong learning," Rabbi Jan answered, "The world and Judaism rest on *Torah, Avodah, and Gemilut Chasadim*—Study, Worship, and Acts of Loving Kindness (*Pirkei Avot* 1:2). And Rabbi Akiva teaches that 'We learn in order to do.' Thus, we parse our sacred texts for contempo-

rary relevance and scaffold the issues of the day with the wisdom and knowledge of our history and sages in order to inspire us to envision a more just future for our people and for the world. The acquisition of knowledge is not only fulfilling, but assuredly empowering—to proudly identify as Jewish in an increasingly antisemitic landscape, to knowledgeably respond to anti-Israel rhetoric, and to model for our children and secure a legacy for future generations."

TBI invites the community to participate in upcoming interactive study, attend regular programs, and take advantage of special presentations by guest speakers.

- Rabbi Jan regularly offers interactive Torah study via Zoom on the third Tuesday evening of each month.
- Saturday evening February 10 on Zoom Dr. Joy Getnick, Executive Director of Hillel, University of Rochester, and scholar of History and the Middle East, will present "Ideas of Zionism, Past and Future." The program will project historical knowledge onto the present political and social landscape of Israel and address your questions with thoughtfulness and balance. This session IS NOT to be missed.
- Saturday evening, February 24 Rabbi Jan will explore the topic of Judaism

and DEI (Disability, Equity, and Inclusion), featured in the month of February's Jewish calendar.

- Saturday, April 13 TBI will host an interfaith learning seder in preparation for Passover and as an opportunity to share Jewish tradition and rituals with non-Jewish neighbors.
- Saturday, May 4 TBI will partner with the greater community to present an educational Yom Hashoah program.

Most of our adult ed offerings are on Zoom and open to the public. For more information about any of these programs, or to request Zoom links, please send an email to [webmail@tbinh.org](mailto:webmail@tbinh.org).












# Shavua Tov Story Time

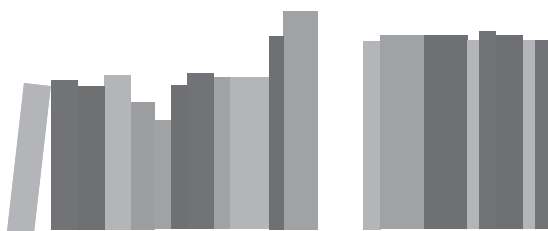
A program for families with children ages 2-5

Join us for a 20-minute interactive story time on Zoom one Sunday each month from 8:30am to 9:00am. Register once for \$18.00 to receive monthly crafts in the mail for the year! The zoom link will be provided to registered families each Monday ahead of the program. Scan QR code to register or go to <https://forms.gle/2zRdv4Zo7ddwLbA5A>.



September <b>10</b> Theme: Rosh Hashanah 	February <b>11</b> Theme: Mitzvot 
October <b>15</b> Theme: Sukkot 	March <b>17</b> Theme: Purim 
November <b>19</b> Theme: Shabbat 	April <b>14</b> Theme: Passover 
December <b>10</b> Theme: Chanukah 	May <b>19</b> Theme: Lag B'Omer
January <b>14</b> Theme: Tu B'Shevat 	June <b>9</b> Theme: Shavuot 

No Shavua Tov Story Time July or August for Summer Vacation



Jewish Federation  
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Visit <https://forms.gle/2zRdv4Zo7ddwLbA5A> to register or email [alane.sabel@jewishnh.org](mailto:alane.sabel@jewishnh.org) with questions.

# Summer Camp

## Now is the Time to Apply for Summertime Camp Grants

### Dreaming of Summer!

February is the perfect time to make plans with your kids for an incredible camp experience this summer. We are so fortunate in New Hampshire to have four not-for-profit Jewish overnight camps right around the corner as well as many more nearby. Camp is perfect for developing independence, gaining life skills, trying new activities, bonding with great staff role models, making lifelong friends and so much more. Parents and campers who have attended Jewish camps in the past tell us how important camp is for all these reasons. However, they continually emphasize the unique life-changing experience of being part of a warm and welcoming Jewish community.

Jewish camp isn't just filled with Jewish campers. It is mission driven, weaving together Jewish values, culture, and traditions into the fabric of camp, helping campers connect to their own identity and the larger Jewish community. It is also a load of fun!

### JFNH Incentive Grants

JFNH is proud to offer financial assistance for a Jewish overnight summer

camp experience in the form of incentive grants of up to \$1,000 for children attending not-for-profit Jewish overnight camp for the first time. The application process is done through the Foundation for Jewish Camp. These grants are not needs based. A limited number of grants will be offered on a rolling basis as long as funds are available. Explore Jewish summer camps and apply early at [www.onehappycamper.org](http://www.onehappycamper.org).

These grants are funded almost exclusively through the JFNH Annual Campaign. Your contribution to the JFNH Annual Campaign makes possible this opportunity for a life-changing experience for our NH children.

### Annebelle and Arnold Cohen Camp Grants

To honor the lifetime contribution of Annebelle and Arnold Cohen to the Jewish Federation of NH, the Eli and Bessie Cohen Camps offer special grants to income-eligible New Hampshire families at all three of their camps: Tevya, Tel Noar, and Pembroke. Check them out at [www.cohencamps.org](http://www.cohencamps.org). For more information and to apply for a grant, contact: Nancy Frankel ([corkysmagic@gmail.com](mailto:corkysmagic@gmail.com)).



## What Are Your Plans This Summer?

### Summer @ Derryfield

Summer Camp Registration Now Open!

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Situated in beautiful woodlands and waterfront in Northwood, New Hampshire, Camp Yavneh has been imparting Jewish knowledge and passion since 1944. Camp Yavneh is a K'lal Yisrael Camp – a place where all Jews engage in great camp programming in a place where Jewish traditions come to life.

Spend a terrific day at Camp Yavneh!

Yavneh for a Day

Sunday, July 14, 10 am - 2 pm



Have a blast with your family at Camp Yavneh's **מחנה משפחות** (Family Camp)!

Wednesday, August 21 – Sunday, August 25

All potential Summer 2025 campers (ages 5-8) and their families are invited to visit

Camp Yavneh for a tour, a chance to try out sports, nature, art, music and more!

Lunch is included. For more information, email [efrat@campyavneh.org](mailto:efrat@campyavneh.org).



Now in its second decade, what could be better than spending time with family and friends at Camp Yavneh? During the day there are fun, structured camp activities for kids while adults enjoy separate leisure time. In the evenings, there are family activities and adult social activities.



Come be a part of the Yavneh mishpacha (family)!  
Check out our website: [www.campyavneh.org](http://www.campyavneh.org)



# Summer Camps

# Summer Camp

## Letters from Camp

### Sophia Horowitz:

My name is Sophia Horowitz. I am 11 years old and am in sixth grade. Last summer I went to a sleepaway camp called Eden Village. I went with one of my best friends and my brother. I really loved camp. Here are some of my favorite things about it:



I made so many cool friends. They live all around the US and one even lives in Canada. I went to her Bat Mitzvah this fall. I had so much fun with friends doing activities, hanging out, and even cleaning the bunk!

One of the fun activities was Modeh Ani, which was a 45-minute activity every morning before breakfast. There was journaling, farming, cooking, music, running and just talking. I really loved the journaling practice, and I also did the animal feeding a lot, because Eden Village has a big farm with chicken, bees, geese, goats, and fresh produce ready to pick.

During Shmooze, an hour-long period

of free time at noon, I could also hang out with my friends and do lots of fun activities. Some of the activities I loved were swimming in the pool, boating in the pond, feeding the goats, chickens and geese, beekeeping, farming, circus arts and a lot more.

Shabbat at Eden Village is one of the most fun experiences there! The prayers are really interactive and fun with singing and jumping around and dancing. Also,

the food was amazing just in general, but especially on Shabbat! Everyone wears white, so it looks really cool. After the Shabbat meal, the youngest group of campers go to bed and the older groups go to the theater to dance and sing some more.

Also, one of the awesomest traditions at Eden Village is the Rainbow Olympics, which is sort of like a friendly color war. The four elements – earth, wind, water, and fire – compete against each other in a daylong competition of fun, games, and activities. I was on the Fire team and at the end there was a big obstacle course race. My team won!

I would tell anyone who is wondering whether to go to camp that you should totally go. You make lots of new friends and have awesome new experiences. The services are really fun and Shabbat is amazing!

### Joshua Horowitz:

My name is Joshua Horowitz. I am 8 years old and I love playing soccer. I'm in third grade and I live in Hanover, NH. Last summer I went to summer camp for

the first time at Camp Eden Village, and I loved it!

Eden Village was amazing. There was such good food. My favorites were chicken tenders, chocolate chip pancakes, and spaghetti. I also loved their homemade ice cream. One day we even got ice cream for breakfast because it was the rainbow Olympics!

There is a farm with chickens, bees, goats, and geese. There are also strawberry and blackberry plants, and you get to pick them and eat them whenever you want. My favorite activity was learning POI, which is a circus art with balls on strings that you swing around in the air. I also loved schmooze time. Shmooze is an hour of free time when you get to do whatever you want. You can swim, play gaga, feed the goats, geese and chickens, play soccer, do beekeeping or circus arts. I loved practicing POI with friends. I also loved Shabbat at



*Letters from Camp continued on page 15*



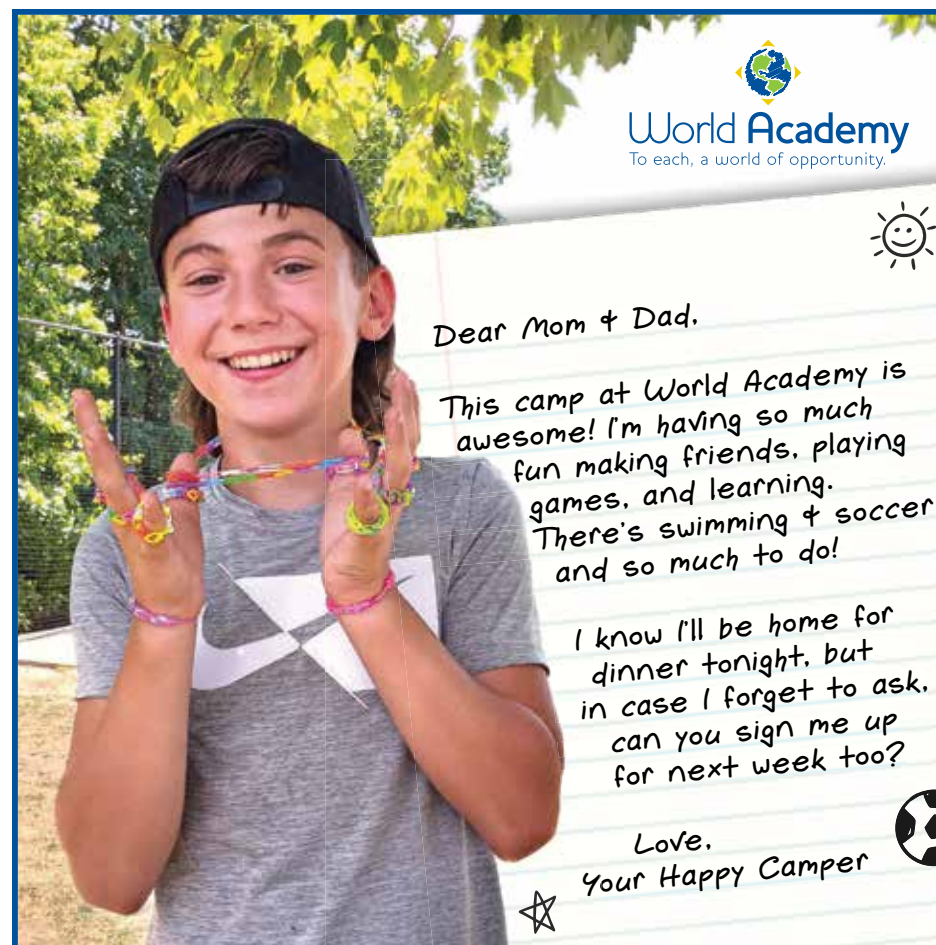
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Dear Mom & Dad,

This camp at World Academy is awesome! I'm having so much fun making friends, playing games, and learning. There's swimming & soccer and so much to do!

I know I'll be home for dinner tonight, but in case I forget to ask, can you sign me up for next week too?

Love,  
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# Summer Camp

## Letters from Camp

continued from page 14



Eden Village. The home baked challah, which all the campers helped to make, was delicious. And Share, which is every Sunday, is a whole camp talent show.

My friends are great – we loved to play yoyo together. I love Eden Village and cannot wait to go back next summer!

### Mason Lacroix

My name is Mason Lacroix and I went to Camp Young Judaea (CYJ) last summer for the first time and I was 11. There was so much to do at camp. I was able to play a lot of basketball and you have a



lot of free time and can hang out playing on the court with the rest of your Daled. Daled is what they call the oldest campers at CYJ. I also learned how to water ski which was really cool! Everyone at camp was super nice. We had Shabbat Services on Friday and Saturday mornings. I had never attended services before,

and everyone helped me learn. I can't wait to go back again next summer.

### Harper Lacroix

My name is Harper Lacroix and I had so much fun my first summer at CYJ. I was only 8 years old! I started the summer signed up for 2 weeks but had such a fun time I decided to stay the full first session, 3.5 weeks. My brother stayed also, which was fun. All the activities and electives

were so much fun, I really had fun in theatre class and was able to be in the play. I learned a lot participating in Shabbat Services every week

and one of our activities was called Jewish Life and was pretty fun. The food was good and there's a lot of options for everyone. We even got to go on some field trips outside of camp. I can't wait to go back again next summer!



# Summer Camps

See what's happening in the community at [www.jewishnh.org](http://www.jewishnh.org)

# Summer Camp

## Summer Fun at Temple Israel Portsmouth

By Tammy Roberge, ELC Director

For the week beginning Monday, July 15, 2024, Temple Israel Portsmouth's Early Learning Center will offer a summer camp program featuring a variety of fun indoor and outdoor activities. Day camp hours are 8:30 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Friday, rain or shine.

Open for children aged 2.9 months to six years old. Cost: \$250 per student. There is no obligation for enrollment beyond the week of summer camp. Open to Temple Israel members and Seacoast area residents. For more information or to register, please contact preschool director Tammy Roberge, preschool.director@templeisraelnh.org.



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## Book Review

Reviewed by Merle Carrus

### Swimming with Ghosts and Mother Daughter Murder Night

Today, we're going to look at two entertaining novels written by Jewish authors with Jewish characters, but which feature not exactly Jewish plots. These novels are both about relationships between parents and children: there are secrets, conflicts, and drama, but while the characters are described as Jewish, these are not books about being Jewish, nor do the novels seem to offer any religious significance.

First up, *Swimming with Ghosts* is the newest novel from author Michele Brafman. It is a story of family secrets. Written in the style of a thriller, this novel starts out slowly and introduces the reader to all the characters, building relationships, but the action soon develops as secrets are deftly revealed and relationships are altered. Secrets can bring people together or they can pull families and friends apart: There are people who want to face adversity head-on, and there are people who want to sweep trouble under the carpet and pretend it never existed. In the end, such piles create such a lump under the carpet it is hard to walk over or around them anymore.

In the book, Gillian Cloud has made the River Run swim club her sanctuary. She brings her new friend Kristy Wein-



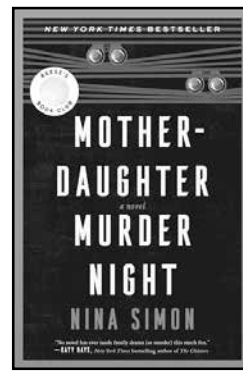
stein into the swim team world as they become inseparable. Kristy has reimaged her life by marrying the wealthy David Weinstein, leaving her childhood and family behind.

However, Gillian also has secrets of her own, that she left behind when she wrote her family history.

All the characters in this novel face addiction issues and childhood trauma. They each have to address those realities before they can heal and move forward. Then, a freak land hurricane occurs, throwing the city into four days of darkness. As the temperatures rise, so does the tension between Gillian and Kristy and Gillian's husband Charlie. The end is an explosion of emotion, and the final accounting for all the secrets that have been building under pressure.

Meanwhile, our second novel, *Mother Daughter Murder Night*, approaches the subject differently.

People start writing careers for any



number of reasons. For debut author Nina Simon, the reason was to entertain her mother, who was going through cancer treatments. Mother/daughter relationships can be fraught

for so many reasons, and in *Mother Daughter Murder Night*, we explore the relationship that adult daughter Beth has with Lana, her ailing mother, as well as with her own teenage daughter, Jack.

Lana, a tough businesswoman who has perfected the tough exterior needed to compete with men as an executive in the world of real estate, has been diagnosed with cancer. She reconnects with her estranged daughter at the beach house where Beth and Jack have made their home. When Jack finds a dead body, she becomes a person of interest in the investigation. Lana finds the intrigue of trying to find the killer keeps her mind off her pain while going in for chemo treatments. Eventually, the murder investigation becomes a family affair, and brings the

three women together as they start to understand each other and heal the tense relationships that had pulled them apart.

*Mother-Daughter Murder Night* is a delightful mystery and the interactions between mothers and daughters will have you thinking about your own relationships.

Michelle Brafman is the award-winning author of the novel *Washing the Dead* and the linked short story collection *Bertrand Court*. Her essays and short fiction have appeared in *Oprah Daily*, *Slate*, *LitHub*, *The Forward*, *Tablet*, and elsewhere. She teaches fiction writing at the Johns Hopkins University MA in Writing Program and lives in Glen Echo, Maryland.

Nina Simon is the *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Mother-Daughter Murder Night*. This big-hearted whodunnit is a Reese's Book Club pick and a "Best Book of 2023" selection for Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Library Journal. Before turning to fiction, Nina wore many hats: NASA engineer, slam poet, game designer, museum director, and nonprofit CEO. *Mother-Daughter Murder Night* is Nina's first novel. She wrote it as a love letter to her mother. Nina now lives off-the-grid in the Santa Cruz Mountains with her family.

## Movie Review

Reviewed by Zach Camenker, NH JFF Committee Member

### Maestro

If you're a movie fanatic like me in any way, then you were likely paying close attention to the highly anticipated Leonard Bernstein biopic *Maestro*, which dropped to Netflix in December. For several months, Bradley Cooper's second directorial feature has been a hot button topic among Hollywood and movie lovers alike. Coming with its own fair share of controversy much in the same way that Helen Mirren's film *Golda* did, *Maestro* was met with backlash largely for the prosthetic nose that Cooper wore in order to portray Bernstein. As with the Mirren film, relatives of Bernstein have come to the defense of Cooper for both his directorial and acting choices here.

For those who have not seen it yet, I recommend going in with little to no background on Bernstein or what the intricacies of the plot itself entail. I was



not aware of much and while it made the initial 30-45 minutes of the movie a bit hard to piece together, it left me more intrigued overall. When you recognize what Cooper is aiming to do stylistically, you can eventually immerse yourself in the plot pretty darn well.

While the film has been designated as a "biopic" by many, I actually would borrow a film term and a musical term to give it its own unique genre. To me, it is a biographical fantasia. A lot of biopics are actually taking this route of a

slightly freer form with a less linear plot and for some, it is working really well. Think the Elton John movie *Rocketman* or the Marilyn Monroe film *Blonde*, both which were met with their own mixed reviews. *Maestro* joins them stylistically in my book and while it is better for the "fantasia" style, it is by no means a perfect film just as its subject was by no means a perfect man.

Centered around Bernstein's marriage even more than his career, the movie spans multiple decades of his life surrounding the challenges of his relationship with his wife Felicia Montealegre. A lesser-known actress primarily of theatre and television, Montealegre was of Costa Rican descent on her mother's side. According to a basic Google search, her parents met when her American father was working in a minefield in Costa Rica. While not much is told of either her

backstory or Bernstein's, the characters' personalities are well-developed through the lens of their love affair.

Bradley Cooper and Carey Mulligan play Bernstein and Montealegre extraordinarily well. In fact, their performances alone make the film as strong as it is. Additionally, there are several other strong supporting players, including Matt Bomer and Bedford native Sarah Silverman, who is unrecognizable herself at times and brings a lot to the character of Shirley. If this were a biopic less focused on characterization or strong acting, it would not work nearly as well. Cooper captures the mannerisms, voice, charm, and particularities of Bernstein superbly while Mulligan takes the audience on a unique journey of a woman with deep emotional challenges, rises and falls in her career, and a huge char-

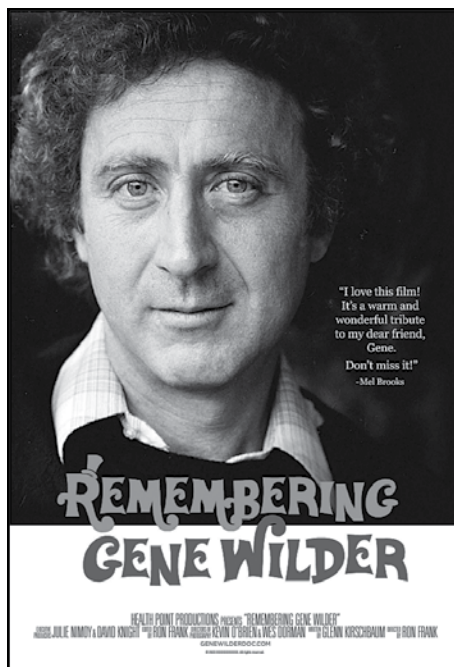
*Maestro* continued on page 19

# Opening and Closing Night Events of the 16th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival—Plus Special Event in March!

By Zach Camenker, NH JFF Steering Committee Member

The New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival will return on Thursday, April 4th for its 16th year of providing the best films in Jewish and Israeli cinema for Granite Staters. Full details about the Festival will be included in the March edition of *The Reporter*, but in the meantime, we are excited to announce our opening and closing night films.

On Thursday, April 4 at 7 PM at The Rex Theatre in Manchester, we will screen the documentary *Remembering Gene Wilder*. A new release, the film details the comic great Gene Wilder, best known for his portrayal of Willy Wonka and his work with Mel Brooks. Born to a Jewish family as Jerome Silberman in Milwaukee in 1933, Wilder rose to fame in the 1960s



the start of our 16th year! Tickets for both events will go on sale March 1st.

We will close our Festival at Red River Theatres in Concord on Sunday, April 14 at 3:30 PM. The Israeli film *Matchmaking* will screen and be followed by our Festival Wrap Party. *Matchmaking* is a comic film about a young man named Moti, an Orthodox Jew at a yeshiva who has everything going for him in the world of looks, intellect, and family. When forbidden love crosses his path, Moti goes against all his values and allows himself to go out on a limb to win the love of someone he may never be able to have. If that catches your eye in any way, plan to join us on April 14 to see if Moti himself wins or if the system once again dictates who he can marry.



Additionally, we are excited to announce our next event with our Film Club! To get you even more excited for the Gene Wilder documentary, we will be screening the 1979 Western comedy *The Frisco Kid*. A blast from the past in which Wilder plays a Polish rabbi en route to San Francisco, the film co-stars Harrison Ford fresh off his *Star Wars* fame and is directed by the legendary Robert Aldrich.

We will show the movie in person at Red River Theatres in Concord on Sunday, March 3 at 3 PM. Register and purchase tickets by using the QR code in this edition of *The Reporter* or email-



*Jewish Film Festival* continued on page 19

after starting his career in the theatre scene. He then had a film and television career that spanned over 30 years before retiring to his home in Connecticut where he enjoyed painting and writing.

A highly personal account of his fascinating life, the movie also traces his marriage to the late comic genius Gilda Radner and finding a second love in Karen Boyer Webb, whom he married two years after Gilda's death and remained with until his own death in 2016. For the first time since his passing, details surrounding his Alzheimer's diagnosis and final days are also made public. Anyone who enjoys Gene Wilder in any way will delight in this beautiful tribute to a beautiful man.

Prior to the screening at The Rex, there will be a reception at the Spotlight Room at the Palace at 5:30 PM. Come celebrate



NEW HAMPSHIRE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

## MOVIE CLUB: *The Frisco Kid* (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.

SUNDAY  
MARCH 3, 2024  
3PM

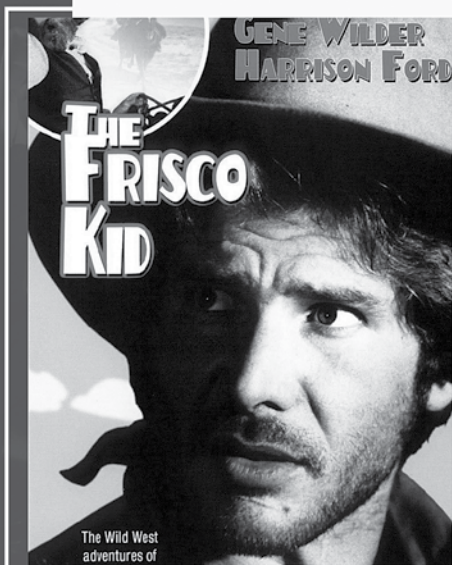
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Concord, NH

\$10/ticket - space limited  
Stay after to shmooze in the lobby!

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[info@jewishnh.org](mailto:info@jewishnh.org)



# SAVE THE DATE

The 16th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival

## APRIL 4 to 14, 2024

Presented by the Jewish Federation of NH

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

## Maestro

continued from page 17

acter arc that may just be the best part of the film. Both actors have received much critical acclaim and will garner some major gold this awards season.

Neither one is always easy to like and when you dig into the plot, it is easy to see why. Both of them brought things to the marriage that made it complicated, particularly Bernstein whose sexuality is at the center of much of the story. Despite the ups and downs of their marriage, it's clear that they shared a deep admiration for each other and their artistry.

Many wish that the artistry was explored more here. While I do too, that

may lend itself better to a documentary setting in which Bernstein's music and Montealegre's acting can be examined more closely. What works well here is that their marriage is explored in a way that makes one question their own relationships with friends and loved ones. Not to mention that the aesthetics of the movie are top-notch, particularly the gorgeous cinematography that shifts back and forth between lush color and black-and-white quite effectively.

Like many biopics, the only wish of some viewers is that the ending was a happier one. The happiness can instead be obtained in watching two top-notch performers own their craft in a uniquely executed film with a genre of its own.

## Jewish Film Festival

continued from page 18

ing [filmfest@jewishnh.org](mailto:filmfest@jewishnh.org). We hope to see you there!

More details will be forthcoming next

month and through advertisements about Film Festival ticket purchases, our other films, and locations of screenings. In the meantime, we hope you will consider joining us for one of these events and schmooze with us after at the receptions!



## Be part of the The 16th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival April 4 – 14, 2024

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- Sponsors receive broad exposure in a multitude of print, online and broadcast media channels.
- Introduce your business to the NH statewide Jewish community during the largest Jewish cultural event of the year.
- Reach an established and significant demographic of over 3,200 homes and a statewide filmgoing audience.

**Sponsorship opportunities are available for this highly anticipated cultural event.**

For details, e-mail [filmfest@jewishnh.org](mailto:filmfest@jewishnh.org) or go to our website [www.nhjewishfilmfestival.com](http://www.nhjewishfilmfestival.com) or [www.nhjewishfilmfestival.com/sponsor](http://www.nhjewishfilmfestival.com/sponsor)



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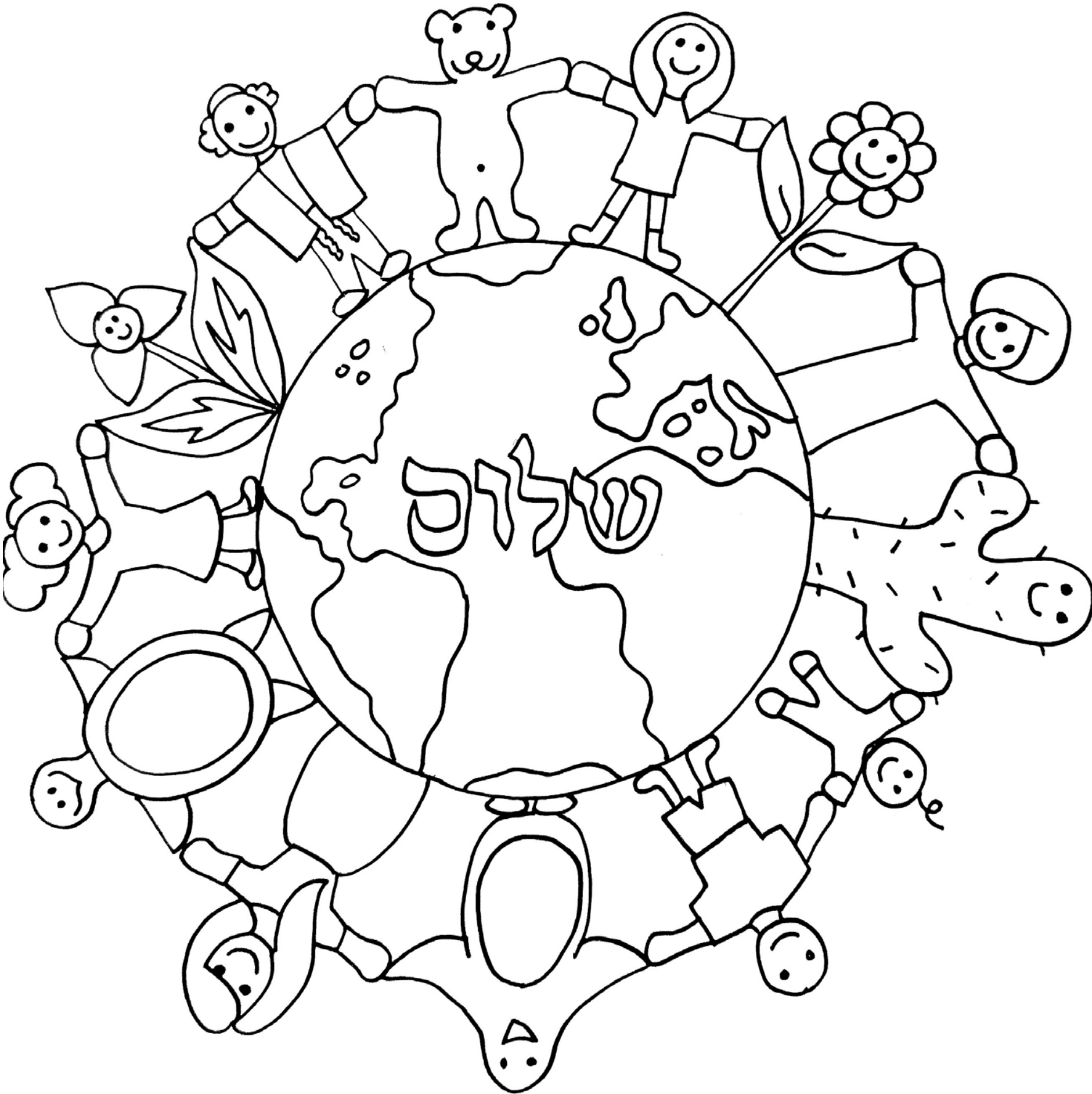
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# Kids' Corner Coloring Page



VERONICA

Veronica Ava Conley, ©2024

# Jewish Journeys

## A Life-Changing Trip Through Poland and Israel with a JFNH Grant

By Judith Boyd

As soon as we landed in Warsaw, I had a pit in my stomach. The pit in my stomach persisted throughout the first three days of the trip. As we walked through graveyards, destroyed synagogues, and sites of mass murder, I could feel it growing along with my grief, despair, and sadness. On the fourth day, the day we toured Auschwitz, the heaviness was so strong it felt like I was under a boulder. As I walked through the gates of the death camp, the only thing I could think about was the indescribable level of human suffering that occurred in the very place I was standing. Throughout the entire experience, it was the support of the girls on the trip that kept me going. And as we walked out together, holding the Israeli flag, I finally understood exactly how strong and determined the Jewish people are.



Although we established unbreakable bonds in Poland, Israel was where acquaintances transformed into lifelong friends. Like many Jewish kids in New Hampshire, I'm one of the very few Jewish students at my school. In kindergarten, I envied my friends for their beautifully decorated Christmas trees and the giant bunny who brought them candy once a year. And as I've gotten older, these jealousies have grown, too. Now, I envy my peers who don't have to argue with teachers about extensions for Rosh Hashanah or cram for tests right after the break-fast on Yom Kippur. Before going on Cteen Heritage Quest, this was my main relationship to Judaism. I saw being Jewish as a hindrance to my academic career, a drain on my social life, and overall, a limiting factor in my life. If there's anything that Heritage Quest and my friends showed me, it's how wrong I was.



Yes, my trip with Cteen emboldened me to develop my Jewish identity, but that identity has been challenged now more than ever. Lawmakers, university presidents, and academics alike have flagrantly turned their backs on the Jewish people and on the Jewish state. As lies become commonplace, many Jewish students have struggled to maintain their Jewish identity and have lost faith in the

state of Israel. But my trip to Israel showed me the truth, and the truth cannot be overshadowed by even the largest of lies. The truth is that we have the right to our indigenous homeland, and to defend it from those who seek its destruction. Moreover, the truth is that we are stronger together than we are divided. JFNH's generous grant gave me the opportunity to see the truth for myself, and I am incredibly grateful and thankful for that opportunity.

*Judith Boyd is a senior in high school and will be attending Brandeis University in the fall.*



# TOT SHABBAT HOP!

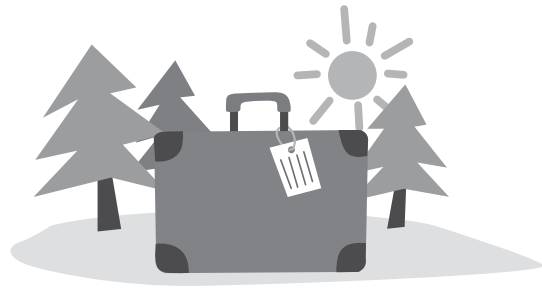
PJ Library's jBaby and Early Education Initiative invite families with children 0-5 (siblings welcome) to celebrate Shabbat morning together. Stories, Singing, and Blessings followed by a Kiddie Kiddush. Each month at a different location! Registration requested. Use QR codes or visit [www.jewishnh.org/community-calendar](http://www.jewishnh.org/community-calendar)

 TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM Saturday, February 17th, 9:45am Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua	 Chabad Center Saturday, January 13th, 10AM Chabad of New Hampshire, Manchester
 Temple Israel Saturday, March 16th, 10AM Temple Israel, Portsmouth	 Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry Saturday, April 13th, 10AM

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# Summer Camp Packing List

Hello campers and welcome to Camp \_\_\_\_\_,  
ADJECTIVE NOUNS

We hope you're ready for a jam-packed \_\_\_\_\_ full of \_\_\_\_\_, singing  
SEASON ACTIVITY  
 \_\_\_\_\_ songs, and making \_\_\_\_\_ friendships that will last a lifetime.  
ADJECTIVE ADJECTIVE

To be sure you're fully prepared for camp, here are some essential items to pack in your bag. Don't worry, we have an onsite store with \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ supplies, and much more.  
PLURAL NOUN TYPE OF TOILETRY ACTIVITY

## Packing List:

Two bottles of \_\_\_\_\_  
LIQUID

SPF \_\_\_\_\_ sunscreen  
NUMBER

Five pairs of \_\_\_\_\_  
ITEM OF CLOTHING

\_\_\_\_\_ shirts  
NUMBER

Five pairs of \_\_\_\_\_  
DIFFERENT ITEM OF CLOTHING

\_\_\_\_\_ to sleep in  
TYPE OF CLOTHING

Towel for \_\_\_\_\_  
SPORT

Extra \_\_\_\_\_ for writing letters home  
PLURAL NOUN

\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
PLURAL NOUN ACTIVITY

\_\_\_\_\_ sanitizer  
BODY PART

Shampoo and \_\_\_\_\_  
NOUN

\_\_\_\_\_ for sharing  
PLURAL NOUN

Sheets and \_\_\_\_\_  
NOUN

\*\*Please remember to wear \_\_\_\_\_ attire while at camp. Be sure to avoid any \_\_\_\_\_  
ADJECTIVE ADJECTIVE

\_\_\_\_\_ or clothing with \_\_\_\_\_ messages while at camp.  
ADJECTIVE TYPE OF CLOTHING ADJECTIVE

Please do NOT bring your \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ or any other pet to camp on opening or closing days. We do have camp \_\_\_\_\_ on the property.  
ANIMAL ANIMAL ANIMALS

Can't wait to \_\_\_\_\_ you later this year!  
VERB

To learn more about PJ Library and sign up for free Jewish storybooks, visit [pjlibrary.org](http://pjlibrary.org)





## Hadassah Supports the Injured and Disabled

By Michele Bank

The Manchester Chapter of Hadassah held a ticket drawing and raised over \$1500 with most of the proceeds going to the Heal Israel Now Campaign. Many thanks to all who participated and donated. Congratulations to our winners who will enjoy using their Amazon gift cards.

Members of the Manchester Chapter of Hadassah Book Club held a luncheon meeting in a restaurant to discuss the book, *Hotel Cuba*. Conversations go better with food.

As the war in Israel and Gaza continue, Hadassah is even more important for the state of Israel. Hadassah's hospitals are an integral part of Israel's health care system.

Hadassah is making an incredible impact on children at its youth villages. In these communities, Hadassah gives at-risk children and teens, many who are or-

phaned – Jews, Bedouins, Druze, Eritrean, Ethiopians, Muslims, Russians refugees and others – a home, an education, and support of every kind.

As reported in *The Times of Israel*, since October 7, more than 10,580 Israelis have been wounded in the war with Hamas in Gaza, attacks by Hezbollah along the Lebanon border, and terrorist attacks in the West Bank, according to Israel's Health Ministry. The latest figures provided by the Defense Ministry indicate that 6,125 of the wounded are IDF soldiers and members of the Israel Police and other security forces. Of these, 2,005 have already been recognized as permanently disabled. The number of physically and emotionally injured will only grow as the war continues, and many will require intensive and long-term rehabilitation.

Health Ministry information shared

with the Knesset a month into the war indicated that Israel is not prepared to handle the number of wounded soldiers and civilians, along with other patients needing rehabilitation after surgery or illness. It is expected that many Israelis wounded in the war will require in-patient and outpatient rehabilitation for severe physical injuries in combination with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Since October 7, Hadassah's existing rehabilitation facility has been expanded from 40 to 50 beds to accommodate patients injured in the war. Hadassah recently opened the Gandel Rehabilitation Center, three months earlier than was expected, that would go far in alleviating the shortage of rehabilitation beds in the capital, Israel's largest city. It will ultimately accommodate 132 hospitalized patients on three floors. Some 140 more patients per day will come for outpatient

treatment after they are discharged.

The new facility will have the newest and most advanced rehabilitation treatments and equipment for physical, occupational, respiratory, and speech therapies, as well as neurological and orthopedic rehabilitation. The center will house two large hydrotherapy pools, and the staff will include a variety of specialists trained to address the psychological recovery of soldiers and war victims.

You can help Hadassah continue its 112-year tradition of supporting a vast health care system, and youth villages that provide a home and hope to children who thought that there was none. Please go to [Hadassah.org](http://Hadassah.org) to donate. Hadassah is a Four-Star-Charity with a 100% ranking from Charity Navigator.

For more information about Hadassah, please contact Michele Bank at [michele.bank@gmail.com](mailto:michele.bank@gmail.com).

## A Punch in the Gut

By Evelyn Miller, JFNH Board

Reading the paper these days has been no fun, but on Sunday, November 12, 2023, I was horrified to see the bomb shelter we had donated to Israel pictured on the front page of *The New York Times*.

On the day of the October 7 attack, our bomb shelter (and others like it) promised to provide a safe haven to many Israelis fleeing the surprise terrorist attack. In the past, such shelters brought safety and security from rockets that would rain down on people, but October 7 was very different: Terrorists were scattered everywhere, people fled for safety in all directions, and even friendly bomb shelters (or homes) became slaughterhouses. There was no attempt to take hostages. There was no regard as to the age or sex of those shot in cold blood or burned alive.

I was devastated to read of the carnage. For 75 years we have watched this young country deal with every spectrum of problems—wars, mass migrations of Holocaust survivors, economic depression, drought, hunger, and the massive integration of cultures and religions from all over the world. Young pioneers sweated over an unfriendly environment to clear and drain malaria-laden swamps for farm lands. Innovative Israelis brought water from the seas to the des-



erts, to plant, harvest, and feed Israelis, and even export their produce to other countries. These Israelis, so creative in their thinking, developed agriculture, medicine, water, security, and high-tech research—and they have shared all of this with the world. Israelis tend to be the first responders to natural disasters. They share their knowledge of water purification and farming techniques with impoverished countries. They have come to our country to teach new emergency medical techniques to hospital teams responding to disasters.

My husband and I have truly fallen in love with Israel and its people. We know it is not a perfect country, but it is young and has done a hell of a job dealing with problems so far. We continue to support them in any way that we can, and we pray for lasting peace to this part of the world. Am Yisrael Chai.



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## Olive Oil for Cooperation and Peace

By Steve Soreff, MD, Israel Education and Engagement Committee

For what reason am I offering an olive oil endorsement as an article about Israel? Well, as explained by that olive oil's website: "Welcome to Sindyanna of Galilee, a unique non-profit organization led by a team of Arab and Jewish women working to create social change from the ground up. Our goals are to produce outstanding olive oil and other premium food products, while enhancing Arab-Jewish cooperation, promoting Fair Trade, creating economic opportunities for Arab women, and assisting local growers and producers" That explains it all.

Here is Sindyanna of Galilee's story. It began in 1993, in the Arab Israel village of Majd al-Krum when a group of olive farmers started to work together to produce olive oil for the market. Majd al-Krum is located in Galilee in Israel's



Northern District about 16 kilometers (10 miles) east of Acre. This was moderately successful, but the real turning point came in 1996 when the group went organic, and joined the World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO). This allowed the group to thrive in the export market. WFTO is the global community and verifier of enterprises that fully practice our 10 Fair Trade Principles. As explained by the website, "We are an association of visionary Small and Medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that believes that a new economy is possible: together, we stand as a collective of entrepreneurial activists and changemakers who are at the forefront of advocating for an equitable and sustainable world."

As explained by Hadas Lahav, the non-



profit's co-founder and chief executive, "My whole life, I was looking for ways to improve our society. Whether it's through women empowerment, Arab-Jewish collaboration or employment projects, everything that can make our society more just and fair."

This is a women-led, Arab-Israeli com-

pany, where Jewish and Arab women work side-by-side with the common goal of gender and religious equality. They provide fair trade products such as organic and extra virgin olive oils, za'atar spice mixes, carob syrup, almonds, honey, olive oil soaps, and various traditional handicrafts. The name, Sindyanna, was selected as it is a Palestinian oak tree known for its long lifespan and ability to grow to an astounding size if kept healthy and free from disease. Its original product is organic virgin olive oil bottles (750 ml) available for \$20, or 6 bottles for \$108. It is certified organic, fair trade and Kosher for Passover (and delicious). The oil is a blend of Barne'a and Coratina cultivars.

Sindyanna of Galilee spotlights the too often under-reported stories of Israel. It shows Palestinians and Israelis working together, women's place in the economy, a globally valued product (I learned about it while watching a Japanese news program), great local conservation, and the entrepreneurial spirit.

**PJ OUR WAY. 9-12yos**

**PICKLED WATERMELON**

**BOOK CLUB**

ESTY SCHACHTER

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 3PM VIA ZOOM**

9-12 year olds - join us for a fun book discussion followed by making your own pickles! Facilitated by JFNH Shaliach Guy Ben David \$15/person for pickle supplies. See registration form to learn more and choose your pick-up location. **PLUS: Free book for first ten kids to sign up!**



Scan QR Code to Register or Email Guy with questions: shaliach@jewishnh.org



### ISRAELI PICKLES RECIPE

Recipe Credited to Amir Ben David, Guy Ben David's father

#### MATERIALS:

- Cutting Board
- Knife
- 50oz air-tight jar & lid (not mason)
- Plate

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 8-10 mini cucumbers
- Roughly 1oz fresh dill OR one bunch, divided.
- 1/4 cup of salt
- 1 whole head of garlic
- 1 Green hot pepper (chili or jalapeno - to taste)

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Separate, peel and thinly slice garlic cloves.
2. Slice hot pepper into thin slices and mix with the garlic.
3. Place half of the dill in the bottom of the jar, followed by two-three cucumbers, then some of the sliced garlic and peppers.
4. Repeat until the whole jar is filled and you can't stack any more cucumbers inside, using all the garlic and pepper.
5. Fill the jar with water until the jar is 3/4 full.
6. Add the salt (don't mix) and the other half of the dill on top of everything.
7. Slowly add more water to fill the jar to the very top and then close the lid. Water may splash out a little to create the vacuum - don't leave any bubbles of air in the jar.
8. Find a nice indoor spot for the jar on a sunny windowsill. The pickles will use the energy directly from the sun but need protection from the cold outside! Keep the lid sealed and touch the jar as little as possible. It's a good idea to place the jar on a little plate, because it's alive and the liquids may leak outside of the jar. Since it's winter, it may take about a week or so to be ready - you can tell it's ready when the color of the liquid becomes dark olive.
9. When you open the jar, please do it slowly and with an adult - there's a lot of pressure in that jar! After you open it, you can enjoy great pickles! Make sure to keep them in their water for longer preservation. Store in the refrigerator after opening.

Guy Ben David | 603-627-7679 | shaliach@jewishnh.org

# Recent Events



**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2023  
**To:** New Hampshire Community Members  
 New Hampshire Police Chiefs & Sheriffs  
 New Hampshire Houses of Worship  
**From:** United States Attorney Jane E. Young  
 John Formella, New Hampshire Attorney General  
 Chief Allen Aldenberg, Manchester Police Department, and  
 President of NHACOP  
 Jodi Cohen, Special Agent in Charge – Boston Division,  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 Colonel Mark Hall, New Hampshire State Police  
**Subject:** Standing Strong Against Hate Crimes - A Message from  
 New Hampshire Law Enforcement

December 15, 2023

Dear New Hampshire Community Members,

As your New Hampshire Law Enforcement leaders, it is our duty and privilege to address our state-wide community of residents and visitors on a matter of utmost importance—our collective commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive environment for everyone.

Conflicts and tensions abroad can, understandably, affect individuals on a personal and emotional level. Recent international events have highlighted an increase in hate crimes, which is deeply troubling and goes against the values we hold dear. We want to assure you that federal, state, and local law enforcement stand united with our community members against all forms of discrimination, bigotry, and violence. It is our shared responsibility to foster an environment where everyone feels secure and supported.

We want to acknowledge the concerns some members of our community may feel about their safety and well-being. We have had discussions with members of various faith communities where we have heard about their concerns regarding safety at their houses of worship and in the community at large. These concerns have been communicated to every police chief in the state.

We, as law enforcement have a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to hate crimes and violence. We are dedicated to upholding the principles of justice, equality, and respect for all people. We will continue to work to enhance our community outreach programs and partnerships to address the root causes of these incidents.

Additionally, we understand the importance of community dialogue during these times of uncertainty. We continue to organize community forums and support initiatives to provide a platform for residents to express their feelings, seek understanding, and build bridges of empathy.

Community involvement is crucial in our fight against hate. We encourage you to report any suspicious activities or incidents promptly. Your cooperation is vital in ensuring the safety of every resident. Together, we can send a powerful message that hate has no place in New Hampshire. If you or someone you know is struggling, please reach out to local resources, and know that support is available.

Diversity is one of our community's greatest strengths. Together we should embrace this strength and stand united against fear and division.

Thank you for your continued trust and collaboration. By working together, we will create a community where everyone feels safe, respected, and valued.

Sincerely,

Jane E. Young  
 United States Attorney  
 District of New Hampshire

John Formella  
 New Hampshire Attorney General  
 New Hampshire Department of Justice

Allen Aldenberg  
 Chief of the Manchester Police Department  
 President of the NHACOP

Jodi Cohen  
 Special Agent in Charge – Boston Division  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation

Colonel Mark Hall  
 New Hampshire State Police  
 New Hampshire Department of Safety



*In late November, JFNH facilitated a meeting between NH synagogue leadership and NH's US Attorney and Attorney General, FBI, State Police, and representatives of law enforcement from around the state. We discussed recent hate incidents and law enforcements' role; how and when to report; and addressed questions about security for NH communities.*



## JFNH Tributes

Received by January 10, 2024

### Campaign

Happy Birthday Tracy Richmond! -- Love Rich and Barb  
 In honor of my wonderful wife Tracy Richmond for all the great work she does with the Federation NH. -- Love Larry, Caleb, and Owen  
 In honor of Paul Scribner – Anonymous  
 In honor of The NH Jewish community!! – Chanchie Krinsky  
 In memory of my mother Paula – Julie Griffiths  
 In memory of my wife, Deena Segal! – Len Segal  
 In memory of David G. and Barbara J. Stahl – Susan Stahl Hardy  
 In honor of Amy Lester and her efforts on behalf of Federation – Alissa Gold  
 In memory of Elizabeth LeSavoy – Richard and Jane LeSavoy  
 In honor of Harry Shepler – Lillian and Stephen Singer

### PJ Library

In honor of Estelle and Daniel Zoll – Shara Zoll and Andrew Lael  
 In memory of Great Grandma Hindy and Great Grandpa Uds – Jerrold and Deborah Kaufman  
 In honor of Eliana and Maya Winter – Larina Gebhard

### How to submit an obituary

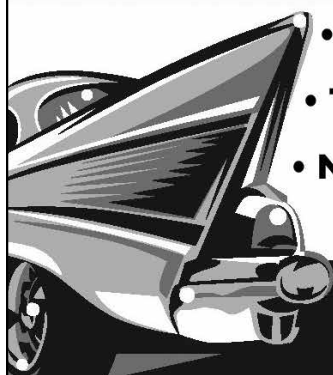
The Reporter publishes obituaries for any member of the community, past or present, for a \$36 fee. Please send obituaries and one photo, if desired, as a separate jpg attachment to thereporter@jewishnh.org or to the office along with payment at: JFNH, 273 South River Road, Unit #5, Bedford, NH 03110.

### Simchas

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

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

## ANNOUNCING OUR CAR Donation Program



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## JFNH Tribute Cards: A Double Mitzvah

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

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

All tributes will be listed in The Reporter.

### Amount of Contribution:

\$10    \$18    \$36    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Designated to the following fund:

- Annual Campaign
- Friends of the Reporter
- NH Jewish Film Festival
- PJ Library
- Senior Programs
- Shlichut (Israeli Emissary) Program
- Social Services
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_



Contribution:    in honor    in memory of    on the occasion of

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 Address of Tribute Card recipient

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Make your check payable to "Jewish Federation of NH" and mail with this form to: Jewish Federation of NH  
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See what's happening in the community at  
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Experience the wonderful culture of Israel through song, food, art and more. Children's and adult activities.



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Questions:  
Guy Ben David, [shaliach@jewishnh.org](mailto:shaliach@jewishnh.org)  
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