

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE
Jewish **Reporter**

Published by the
 Jewish Federation of
 New Hampshire

Volume 43, Number 5

March 2023

Adar-Nissan 5783



F I L M F E S T I V A L

FILM FESTIVAL



15th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival Schedule

By Zach Camenker, NH JFF Steering Committee
 Member and Screener

This year, the New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival celebrates its 15th season! We will once again offer a multi-access event with in-theater screenings, as well as virtual titles to view. The Festival will begin on Thursday, March 16 and end on Sunday, March 26. Virtual Screenings will continue during our Bonus Weeks, Monday, March 26 through Sunday, April 16. This year's selections include documentaries, dramas, comedies, and a collection of short films. The titles come from all over the world, with something for each member of the family

to enjoy. Additionally, PJ Library will have a special event, offering a free film at the Federation Office for children 8 years and younger on Sunday, March 19. Three of our in-theater events will also have guest speakers and post-film discussions while one of the virtual titles will feature a special guest Zoom panel presentation. All of these special events will be moderated by Film Festival Committee Members.

The Film Festival is supported by the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, a grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, numerous corporate



A Multi-Access Festival Featuring Both In-Theater and Virtual Screenings

America | Barren | Dedication | Farewell, Mr. Haffmann | Israel Swings For Gold
 Karaoke | The Levys of Monticello | Man in the Basement
 Our (Almost Completely True) Story | Out of Exile: The Photography of Fred Stein
 PJ Library Special Film Event - Shaboom | Reckonings

SHORTS PROGRAM

A Kaddish for Selim | Give It Back | Ismail's Dilemma | Pops | Space Torah

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jewishnh.org	

sponsors, and many Friends of the Festival. We extend a huge "thank you" once again. Without the generous support of these folks, we would be unable to offer this incredible cultural program.

Thursday, March 16: Opening Night at the Rex in Manchester!

To kick off our Festival, we return again to the Rex Theatre in Manchester on Thursday, March 16 at 7 PM. The Rex, which is part of the renowned Palace Theatre and was a new venue for us last year, will feature the New Hampshire premiere of *Out of Exile: The Photography of Fred Stein*. The story of Fred Stein, who arrived destitute in Paris in the 1930s as the Nazis were on the rise, is featured in this documentary. The film traces Stein as he realizes he can support himself through his brilliant photography. Upon reaching New York after another escape from danger, more photographs flow from his camera. When his life is cut short by an accident, his work is forgotten until his son decides that it is his task to bring his father's photography to the attention of the world.

The winner of the Best Documentary Feature Award at the Prague International Film Festival and selected for numerous other Festivals around the world, Peter Stein, who also directed the film about his father, will join us at The Rex for a post-film discussion and dessert reception. He will bring over 40 of his father's photos to display in the lobby as well. We hope you will join us for this exciting night as we celebrate our kickoff!

Sunday, March 19: Critically acclaimed film to screen in two New Hampshire cities

Audiences on two opposite ends of the state in Keene and Portsmouth will get the chance to enjoy what the French daily newspaper *Le Parisien* called "meticulous," when *Farewell Mr. Haffmann* makes its New Hampshire debut on Sunday, March 19 at 2 PM. Screening at both the Showroom in Keene and the 3S Artspace in Portsmouth, which are new venues for us, we are delighted to bring our viewers this French drama that is set in occupied Paris in 1941 at a moment when all Jews are asked to identify themselves to the authorities. The story of a

Film Festival continued on page 15

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 Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
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CONGREGATIONS

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

AMHERST

CONGREGATION BETENU

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

BETHLEHEM

BETHLEHEM HEBREW CONGREGATION

Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum
39 Strawberry Hill Road
PO Box 395, Bethlehem
Unaffiliated-Egalitarian
(603) 869-5465
www.bethlehemsynagogue.org
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.

DURHAM

UNH & SEACOAST CHABAD JEWISH CENTER

Rabbi Berel Slavaticki
72-1 Main Street, Durham
(603) 205-6598
Rabbi@JewishSeacoast.com
www.JewishSeacoast.com

HANOVER

THE ROHR CHABAD CENTER AT DARTMOUTH

Rabbi Moshe Gray
19 Allen Street, Hanover
Orthodox, Chabad
(603) 643-9821
www.dartmouthchabad.com
chabad@dartmouth.edu

Services: Friday Evening Shabbat services
and Dinner
Shabbat morning services
Call for times

KOL HA'EMEK UPPER VALLEY JEWISH COMMUNITY

Rabbi Mark Melamut
Roth Center for Jewish Life
5 Occom Ridge, Hanover
Nondenominational, Unaffiliated
(603) 646-0460
www.uvjc.org
office@uvjc.org
Services: Friday night Shabbat service at
6 PM
Saturday morning Shabbat service at
10 AM

KEENE

CONGREGATION AHAVAS ACHIM

Rabbi 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

66 Salmon Street, Manchester
Conservative
(603) 622-6171
office@templeisraelmht.org
www.templeisraelmht.org
Services: Fridays at 7 PM
Saturdays at 10 AM
Morning Minyans - 7:00am every
Wednesday. At this time, we are offering
in-person Friday and Saturday Shabbat
services on alternating weeks. Masks are
required.

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)

NORTH CONWAY

KEHILAT HAR LAVAN

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

PORTSMOUTH

TEMPLE ISRAEL

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

The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter

Volume 43, Number 5

MARCH 2023

Adar-Nissan 5783

Published by the
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire

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

Editor: Nicholas Conley

Layout and Design: Tim Gregory

Advertising Sales:
603-627-7679

info@jewishnh.org

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

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

Please send all materials to:
thereporter@jewishnh.org

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

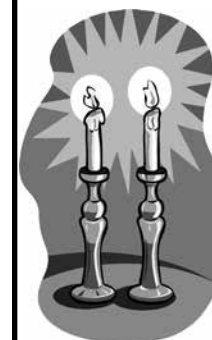
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The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter is overseen by the JFNH Publications Committee, Merle Carrus, chairperson.

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Shabbat Candle Lighting Times: (Manchester)



March 3	5:19 PM
March 10	5:28 PM
March 17	6:36 PM
March 24	6:45 PM
March 31	6:53 PM

Why I Give to JFNH

By Gary Lindner

I was brought up in Maspeth, Queens, a part of New York City where Jews represented a small minority of the population and antisemitism was prevalent. For example, I have vivid memories of the events surrounding the 1962 conviction and hanging of one of the most notorious architects of the Holocaust, Adolf Eichmann. On that day, local hoodlums celebrated him and even gathered at a bonfire to pray for his soul. A few of us looked on in horror.

That same summer, I attended Surprise Lake Camp, a Jewish Federation camp in Cold Spring, New York for the first time. I knew no one, but quickly grew to appreciate the contrast between being the



object of suspicion, derision and antisemitism, to the warmth of acceptance and inclusion I found at the camp.

I spent many summers at Surprise Lake, as a camper, counselor, and eventually as a supervisor. I was introduced to my wife Rochelle by her late brother Bruce, who mentored me as a new counselor. It was there that I worked with visiting Israeli counselors who literally lost life and limb in the Yom Kippur war of 1973. While we did not act on it, some of our co-workers and I felt the desire to go to Israel and join in the fight. "Why them, and not us?" we thought.

A wise person said, "Wherever we find ourselves, we find each other." We have all been touched by the familiarity of Jewish geography and by the warmth in meeting other Jews in unexpected environments; there is a palpable sense of belonging. I believe the Federation is the place where Jews and Jewish organizations meet, iron out differences and recognize our sameness. In my view, there are just too few of us to argue, "I only give my money to the Temple." We also support our Temples, but we cannot help but be reminded with every toppled gravestone, with every painted swastika, with every threat or actual shooting in a temple, that it isn't over. Those threats are jointly met by many, including the Federation, and that requires financial support.

Finally, the many programs enjoyed by Jews across the State—from PJ Library, to support for Jewish education, to the Jewish Film Festival, to joint travel to Israel, to addressing ongoing responsibility for the Jewish Cemetery in Clairmont, to representation to the State of NH and the media, to the simple fellowship we all crave with one another—the Federation provides a connection point for all Jews in NH. For these reasons, Rochelle and I continue to support its ongoing needs through the annual campaign and its long-term needs through the Foundation.

Please strengthen these ties that bind us as one Jewish community. Please join us by donating to the maximum extent you are able.

JFNH Board Spotlight: Board Member of the Month

Meet Pat Kalik from Manchester, New Hampshire.

Tell us a little about yourself.

I graduated from Cornell University in 1972 with a BS degree in Food Science and Nutrition. I had several diverse jobs including food quality control, hotel management, and ski "bumming." In 1984, I moved with my husband Allen and my two children to Manchester and bought Executive Exchange Answering Service. When we walked into 714 Union Street, home of Executive Exchange, there were 10 old-fashioned switchboards, and over the next several years, we built it up to a state-of-the-art call center. We developed software for the call center which we then sold to others, and Professional Teledata was born. My partners and I sold Professional Teledata to Startel in 2015. I continued to work closely with Startel until my retirement in 2019.

Since retirement I have enjoyed volunteering for political candidates, JFNH, and Temple Adath Yeshurun. My children, Lisa and Daniel, grew up in Man-



chester and are now grown, married, and have their own children. I am lucky to have four wonderful grandchildren: Ellen, Howie, Abe, and Vivi.

Why did you join the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire Board of Directors?

I joined the JFNH Board so I could give back to the Jewish Community that I became part of when I moved to NH in 1984.

What committee(s) do you currently volunteer with?

I currently am the Co-Chair of the Film Festival Committee, and I also serve on the Campaign, Governance, Early Education, and the Antisemitism and Diversity committees.

What do you love most about JFNH?

I love that JFNH is bringing dynamic and varied programs to all of New Hampshire. We have programs for everyone starting from infants to NH seniors.

**PJ YOUR Way
PIZZATASCHEN
and Lego Graggers**

Come celebrate Purim in style - with make-your-own Lego Graggers and Pizzataschen! Costumes encouraged. All pizzataschen ingredients and Lego supplies will be provided.

**Saturday, March 4th
6pm-7:30pm
Bow, NH - private home**
Full address provided to registered guests. This event is for kids aged 9-12.
\$5/family.

Scan QR Code to RSVP online.
Please register by 3/27

Dinah Berch | 603-627-7679 ext 1002 | dinah.berch@jewishnh.org

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Statewide Calendar of Events

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

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

Thursday, March 2

Seniors Forever Young: Bake Hamantaschen with Chanchie

1:00PM, Chabad of NH, Manchester
\$18/person

Join us at Chabad of Manchester to bake your own Hamantaschen! All Supplies provided. Light refreshments served (no lunch). In person only. Registration requested by February 23rd. Call JFNH office at 603-627-7679

Friday, March 3

First Friday Tot Shabbat

4:30PM – 5:30PM, Temple Israel, Portsmouth
Temple Israel Portsmouth's "First Friday" kid-friendly musical Shabbat experience is led monthly by Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman, with special musical guests Lisa Jane Lipkin and Jay Hitt. Geared for children aged 5 and under; all are welcome. Kindly register on the temple's website calendar. <https://templeisraelnh.shulcloud.com/calendar>

Temple Adath Yeshurun Friday Shabbat Family Service

6:00PM – 8:00PM, Temple Adath Yeshurun, Manchester
A Family friendly Shabbat Service at TAY. The Service is geared to young families and open to all. Please call ahead and let us know you'll attend, so that we may welcome you, Contact Karen Rothstein at 603-669-5650, office@taynh.org, <http://www.taynh.org>

Saturday, March 4

Lunch & Musical Program Featuring Kimayo after Shabbat AM Service

10:30AM – 1:00PM, Temple B'nai Israel, Laconia
Cost \$18
On Saturday, March 4th, immediately following the Shabbat morning service, the community is invited to attend a "Lunch & Learn" session featuring the music and mission of folk-pop artist Kimayo (Kimayo Music). Enjoy a special presentation, concert and open discussion through storytelling and live music to inspire hope, restoration, and unity between LGBTQIA+ folks and faith communities. Lunch will be provided by Annie's Catering of Laconia. Suggested donation \$18 per person. Registration is required. <https://tbinh.org/event/shabbat-am-service-march-4/>

PJ Our Way Pizzas and Lego Graggers

Cost \$5/family
6:00PM – 7:30PM, Private home in Bow, NH
Come celebrate Purim in style with make-your-own Lego Graggers and Pizzas! Costumes encouraged. All pizzas ingredients and Lego supplies will be provided. This event is for kids ages 9-12. Registration is required. Full address

will be provided at time of registration. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJvGuQ0ANP7LNHG0IWniAQk4NbxPSD3fNntNfHnI1-wgFWw/viewform>
Contact Dinah Berch at Dinah.berch@jewishnh.org with questions.

Etz Hayim Synagogue Presents "To Tell the Truth" – Shushan Style

7:00PM – 9:00PM, Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry
The Etz Hayim Never Ready for Prime Time Players invites you to "To Tell the Emet (Truth), Shushan Version." Using the format of the classic and present-day TV game show. For each segment, a famous/infamous character from the story of Purim will be questioned along with two imposters. Audience members will interview and vote for the real character. Between each segment, we'll sing, of course! The free performance takes place on Saturday March 4th. For mor information contact rabbi@etzhayim.org

Sunday, March 5

Temple Beth Abraham Purim Community Celebration

3:00PM – 5:00PM, Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua
Join us to celebrate Purim with fun activities for all ages! <https://tbanashua.shulcloud.com/event/purim2023>

Monday, March 6

Purim Carnival and Megillah Reading

4:15PM – 7:30PM, Temple Israel, Portsmouth
Please join Temple Israel Portsmouth for an evening of games, prizes, music, food and fun! Come for the carnival, stay for the Megillah reading, and don't forget your costume! Register on the website calendar, <https://templeisraelnh.shulcloud.com/event/purim-carnival-and-megillah-reading.html>
4:00PM - 5:30PM Purim Carnival in the Social Hall
5:30PM – 6:00PM Pizza and Salad in the Social Hall and Shmooze
6:00PM – 7:30PM Megillah Reading and Purim Spiel in the sanctuary.

Temple Adath Yeshurun Adult Megillah Reading

7:00PM – 9:00PM Zoom
Please join us on Zoom for an Adult Megillah Study Session, Please RSVP to the Temple Adath Yeshurun office to get the Zoom Link office@taynh.org or Karen Rothstein at 603-669-5650

Seacoast Jewish Center Presents Purim Comedy Night

7:00PM – 9:00PM, North Country Hard Cider, Dover, NH
Cost \$36
Join us for a Purim Comedy Night featuring the famous Dan Crohn! We are so excited to celebrate Purim together. To get into the Purim spirit, please come in your best costume! You don't want to miss this! Adults only! Open bar! Dinner Buffet! Register today at <http://jewishseacoast.com/comedy>

Tuesday, March 7

Seacoast Jewish Center Presents Purim in Candyland

4:30PM – 6:30PM, Seacoast Jewish Center, Durham
The Seacoast Jewish Center Presents Purim in Candyland:
Interactive Megillah reading, prizes for all kids in costume, Purim buffet with Hamantaschen, candy bar & pinata, music and dancing. Fun for all ages!
<http://jewishseacoast.com/candy>

Sunday, March 12

Shavua Tov Storytime 2022-2023

8:30AM – 9:00AM Zoom
A program designed for families with children ages 2-5. Join us for a 20-minute interactive story time on Zoom on Sunday each month. Each month will have a different theme! All participants will receive a craft in the mail ahead of time to use during the program. The zoom link will be provided to registered families each Monday ahead of the program. To receive your craft in the mail please register a week in advance of each program. Please consider making a donation to PJ Library. Your gift of \$18 will help us continue to make this Shavua Tov Story Time a free program to our NH community and beyond Visit <https://jewishnh.org/ways-to-give/donate-online-new> and make your gift under PJ Library. Thank you!

The History of Jewish Ceremonial Objects at Temple Beth Abraham

10:30AM – 12:30PM Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua
For some, Jewish ceremonial objects are an essential part of life's rituals, while others simply like displaying items like a mezuzah, a menorah, or a spice box for its aesthetic beauty. Renowned Judaica artist and metalsmith, Frann Addison will explain the cultural history behind some of the ritual objects and how they evolved in different countries. Her 50-minute presentation with photographs will help you connect to a rich Jewish heritage where rituals are celebrated around family and the home. A light brunch will be served before the presentation. Registration required with a suggested donation of \$10.
<https://tbanashua.shulcloud.com/event/history-of-jewish-ceremonial-objects.html>

SFY: Little Women at the Palace Theatre

2:00PM – 5:00PM Palace Theatre 80 Hanover Street, Manchester
Cost \$30/pp
Join us for a production of "Little Women: The Broadway Musical." Transportation no included. Registration required by February 12th. Optional Dinner after the show not included. Please call the office at 603-627-7679 to register.

Thursday March 16

Baby Playgroup at JFNH

10:00AM – 11:00AM, JFNH Community Room, Bedford
Meet other families with young children and grow your community! Be part of our monthly playgroup! Open to families with children 0-5. Registration at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe0dsx00MgxU8cY_Zp1Sbc9QC3lgJdzXXeuPHzJ46_1CKAHRw/viewform

Friday, March 17

Girl Scout Shabbat at Etz Hayim Synagogue

7:15PM – 8:30PM, Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry and Zoom
Etz Hayim Synagogue welcomes all Girl Scouts to celebrate Girl Scout Shabbat. All Girl Scouts who attend will be able to participate in reciting the Girl Scout Promise, lighting candles, and other portions of our Shabbat service. This service will be using our normal Zoom link for Friday night services as well as being an in-person event. All Girl Scouts who attend will be given/sent a Girl Scout Shabbat patch created by National Jewish Committee on Girl Scouting, Inc. To obtain the Zoom link or directions, please contact Isabel Danforth idanforth@gmail.com. Girl Scout Shabbat occurs at the end of the week than include March 12th, the birthday of Girl Scouts in America.

Saturday, March 18

PJ Library Tot Shabbat Hop

10:00AM – 11:00AM, Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua
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. Registration required. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-dbXvT9QMAZo9whbWbnsq95xWq_rkLDqvJ_eu9MZbkPHllw/viewform

Sunday, March 19

TAY Brotherhood Deli Night- to Go!

12:00PM – 2:00PM, Temple Adath Yeshurun, Manchester
A pickup Deli event at TAY. Order form on taynh.org website homepage. Deli sandwiches and sides to go. Raffle and prizes available too!

PJ Library goes to the Movies.

2:00PM – 4:00PM, Jewish Federation of New Hampshire Office, Bedford
Join us at the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire for a special "Film Festival" just for 0-8 year olds! We'll design our own box cars and then enjoy an episode of "Shaboom!". Free program in collaboration with the New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival. Snacks provided. Registration required. <https://2023nhjff.eventive.org/schedule/63b4b02fb66dc10037b945c5>

Parenting through Jewish Lens

8:00PM – 9:30PM, Zoom
Cost \$72.00
Join a group of fellow parents of newborns through nine-year-olds in New Hampshire to explore Jewish values that can enrich your family! Topics of discussion include: Simcha! Towards Joyful Parenting, Integrating Meaningful Rituals, Shalom! Peace in Our Homes, Shabbat: A Time to Reconnect and Recharge Facilitated by Temple Beth Abraham member and child development specialist and parent coach, Stefanie Paige Wieder, M.S.Ed.
A four-part Zoom Session on the following Sundays, February 19, March 19, April 16, and May 21. Sponsor: Temple Beth Abraham and Hebrew College Adult Learning. Register at <https://tbanashua.shulcloud.com/event/PTJL-SP-23>

Saturday, March 25

My Son the Waiter – A Jewish Tragedy

7:00PM – 9:00PM, Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry
Cost \$35/pp.
Brad Zimmerman brings his hilarious and inspiring story about the grit and passion it takes it "make it" as an artist and the sweet rewards that come from never giving up. Brad has received many accolades, including "Delicious! Distinctly Original...Powerfully Poignant. Great Comedy!" – The New York Times; "A Must See. It's Hysterical, Heartfelt, Timely and Poignant. I Cried. I Laughed, I Forgot Where I Parked." – Brad Garrett (Everybody Loves Raymond); "I've Had Three Great Opening Acts In My Lifetime: Billy Crystal, Garry Shandling, and Brad Zimmerman." – Joan Rivers; "You'll Laugh Your Tuchas Off!" –Huffington Post.
Our Opening Act will be Off Our Rockers, a group of seniors from Londonderry, NH who entertain folks in Senior Centers and 55+ communities. Refreshments

continued on page 5

continued from page 4

will be available for purchase. Doors open at 6:00PM, followed by Havdallah 6:15PM – 6:25PM. Please register at <https://www.etzhayim.org/myson-the-waiter>
Sponsor: Jewish Federation of New Hampshire

Thursday, March 30

How Israeli PBS Changed Israeli Public Television

SFY: Lunch and Learn Passover
10:30AM – 12:00PM, JFNH Community Room, Bedford
\$8.00/person
“Charoset Around the World” with Mark Berch. Charoset Bar provided. Registration requested. Zoom link available upon request. Please call JFNH office to register 603-627-7679.

Keeping you connected

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Hate Crimes Forum with JFNH Director Allyson Guertin and Restaurateur Miriam Kovacs

On February 9, 2023, the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Attorney General’s Office, and the United States Department of Justice’s Community Relations Council hosted a Hate Crimes Forum in Manchester that provided an overview of federal, state, and local hate crimes laws as well as a forum for community leaders to discuss the challenges faced by their communities. JFNH Director Allyson Guertin spoke about rising antisemitism in New Hampshire, the importance of diverse communities speaking up on behalf of each other, and the need for greater education against hate and prejudice in our schools.

Miriam Kovacs also spoke: she is the chef and owner of Broken Spoon, a unique culinary fusion experience in Franklin, New Hampshire, that combines flavors from Miriam’s Hungarian Jewish and Sri Lankan background. After supporting a protest against a group of white nationalists who staged a demonstration at the Kittery Trading Post supporting



segregation and white supremacy, Miriam — an artist who wants “people to taste the love in their food” — found herself the victim of hateful social media attacks. For example, her restaurant received a one-star review from a user identified as Rudolf Hess, the name of a leading member of the Nazi party in Germany. One post showed a railroad to Auschwitz. Another commented, “Wanted 6 million cookies, only got 300k. Biggest scam.” Eventually, Miriam became instrumental in her town’s



Hate Crimes continued on page 6

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Bonding with Jewish New Hampshire – and enjoying the Film Festival!

Shalom, everybody!

As part of my process of writing my article, I looked back at my article last year to make sure not to repeat myself. Last year at this time, I wrote, “I just recently realized I’m 25% into my time here. Time went by so fast!” Using my very limited math skills, I calculate that that means I have less than 25% left – less than 6 months. Wow.

I think that if I start summing things up, it’ll start becoming too real, so I’ll just say that I would like to take full advantage of my time left and get to form long-lasting bonds with as many of you as possible! If you’re up to meet for coffee, dinner, or a fun activity I’d love that. This past year was hard, with a lot of my programs being on Zoom and some of the programs that were in person being canceled because of low attendance. But over the past few months I have seen a huge rise in in-person pro-



Ra'anan de Haas
JFNH Shaliach

SPOTLIGHT
ON ISRAEL



gramming with great attendance both from kids and adults.

Last month, I got together with 12 other people to watch the new season of Israeli hit series *Fauda* (and if you haven’t seen it, yet it’s a must!). Our Tu BiShvat program brought 10 kids to the office for STEAM-themed activities, and the Taste of Israel program was a huge success, with over 30 people at-



tending. With more in-person programs coming soon, I’m really excited to see you all attend.

Last year, when I just came to NH, I was asked to sit on the Film Festival prescreening committee. I felt like a fish out of water, I was never a film buff and I rarely watched movies that weren’t comedies or action-packed. I followed my “fake it till you make it” mantra and had a great time listening to the other screeners give their “pro-



fessional” opinion while my “film critic vocabulary” was limited to either “It was good” or “I didn’t like it.” This year, when asked if I would sit on the committee once more, I was excited. The success in the past year’s festival with my new confidence in being able to look at a film in a more critical way made my experience with this year’s committee much more enjoyable.

I think that the line-up for this year’s festival is great, with films that will make you laugh, think, shed a tear, and have deep post-film conversations on what you just saw. I’m looking forward to talking to you at the opening night (and potentially at other in-person screenings as well).

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.

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

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

Harold Grinspoon
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Ages 6 mos. through 8
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Ages 9 through 11
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Hate Crimes

continued from page 5

passage of a resolution condemning hate speech and “those who use such speech or attacks anyone via any means based on their race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin,” and explicitly condemning “white supremacists who have attacked our citizens based on an ideology that is in opposition to our country’s and our state’s founding documents.”

Miriam is now a member of JFNH’s Antisemitism and Diversity Committee, and the committee is excited for her input (as well as a group trip to Broken Spoon). The organizers of the forum stated that similar programs would be offered around the state. Persons interested in receiving notification of future programs should email kathryn.desrochers@usdoj.gov.

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Help Us Meet our Goal: We are \$48,780 Short!

By Judith Jolton

We are short \$48,780 from the outstanding gifts we received last year, but have not received this year. A pledge card is attached to this page, and you can fill it out and mail it in—or just call the Federation and someone will take your pledge over the phone. Thank you for helping your Federation.

I want to express my sincere thanks to all of those who answered their phones on Super Sunday and made a pledge for the 2022/2023 campaign. This year we exceeded our goal for Super Sunday, but we still are not there yet—at this time, we are \$48,780 short. Super Sunday was a great time, particularly with everyone being together after not being with each other due to Covid-19 for over three years, and it was our intent to call as many people as possible. We now have over 2000 people who we have been unable to reach, and we need your help!

I am so sorry if we did not reach you personally. Our volunteers were calling from home as well as the Federation office, and many hours we spent trying to raise as much money as possible for our budget this year. We were fortunate to have raised \$22,832 on Super Sunday. Meanwhile, our 15th Annual Jewish Film Festival is going to take place March 16th to 26th, so get your tickets and get ready for some fantastic films.

One might ask, what does JFNH do with the money raised every year? Here are programs that your donation supports:

- Antisemitism and Diversity Committee
- Campership Grants
- Early Education Initiative
- New Hampshire Film Festival
- Hebrew School Allocation
- Holocaust Remembrance

- Israel Education and Engagement Committee
- Israel Experience Grant
- MOMentum
- New Hampshire Jewish Cemeteries (Manchester and Claremont)
- P J Library
- Seniors Forever Young
- Shaliach (Israeli Emissary)
- Social Services
- The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter
- Grants for Temple and Synagogues

This year the Federation sponsored a Shabbat Dinner at Dartmouth, and it was delightful to see so many young adults involved in services and enjoying a Shabbat meal. Every month of every year, everyone looks forward to their PJ Library books, and JFNH also loves to entertain children with our once a month story time program. 10 times a year, we publish *The NH Jewish Reporter*, and ev-

ery known Jewish family in the state receives a copy.

Did you know that the Holocaust is taught in every high school in our state? Our high school students need to understand what the Holocaust was, and how many Jews were impacted. Along with the Holocaust studies, there are programs throughout the state for teens to get a better understanding of how they can deal with antisemitism when faced. There are camperships—scholarships paid by the Federation—so please call us if you would like to send your child to a Jewish Camp. The Federation also gives grants to temples and synagogues throughout the state for programming.

I have been a volunteer of the Federations, here and in other cities for over 50 years and it gives me great pride to see what all the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire achieves. Thank you to all who continue to make our Federation so vibrant.

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Jewish Federation OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

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Please mail donations to: Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, 273 S. River Rd., Unit #5, Bedford, NH 03110

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Fridge Flyer




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. All participants will receive a craft in the mail ahead of time to use during the program. 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/9qdWUVrPTG4Hivzx9>.



September
18 Theme: Rosh Hashanah 

February
19 Theme: Tu B'Shevat 

October
9 Theme: Sukkot 


March
12 Theme: Passover 


November
20 Theme: Shabbat 

April
16 Theme: Israel 

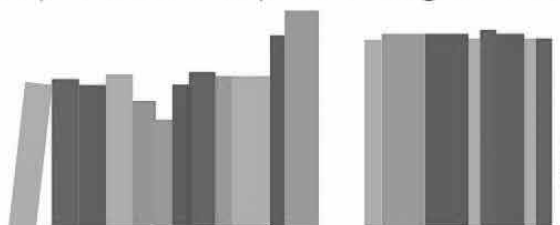
December
18 Theme: Chanukah 

May
21 Theme: Shavuot 

January
8 Theme: Mitzvot 

June
18 Theme: Family 

No Shavua Tov Story Time July or August for Summer Vacation



Jewish Federation OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Visit <https://jewishnh.org/community-calendar> to register or email alane.sabel@jewishnh.org with questions

Update from the New Hampshire Jewish Museum

By Stephen Soreff, MD

The New Hampshire Jewish Museum (NHJM) had its very successful and moving grand opening ceremony in February, featuring the life and times of Doctor Benjamin Bronstein, while also honoring all the New Hampshire Jewish veterans past and presently serving in the United States Armed Forces. Since that opening, the NHJM has installed a nameplate to its centerpiece display cabinet: this has greatly helped visitors to better identify and appreciate the items inside. In addition, on the adjacent wall to the display case, there is now a sign informing and directing folks to the NHJM Gallery, which is just around the corner. In the gallery, there are four huge framed pictorial storyboards telling the history of Manchester's Young Men's Hebrew Association (YMHA) and the Jewish Community Center. (JCC). Jay Madnick, Board Member, earns our thanks for expertly positioning and hanging those frames.

If you haven't yet had an opportunity to visit these displays, please make an appointment! The next NHJM exhibit will feature New Hampshire Jewish contributions to medicine and healthcare.

The NHJM's Gallery

The Museum continues its mission to collect, preserve and display the Jewish history of our state. It was funded in part by a grant from the New Hampshire



Charitable Foundation. It is free and open to the public by appointment only. To visit the NHJM, please contact its Director, Stephen Soreff, MD, either by email at soreffs15@aol.com or phone at 603 895-6120. Furthermore, if you wish to donate items to the NHJM—such as photographs, objects from closed New Hampshire synagogues, or any other relevant material pertaining to the story of the Jews in New Hampshire—please also contact Dr. Soreff. Financial donations to NHJM can be made through the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire.

Question from the NH Jewish Museum: Who are the these folks?

By Stephen Soreff, MD

After a successful opening ceremony on Tuesday, November 15 that featured Dr. Bronstein and New Hampshire Jewish veterans, the New Hampshire Jewish Museum (NHJM), has continued its mission to collect, preserve and display the Jewish history of our state. It has developed a system of receiving, cataloging, and preserving items from synagogues and individuals from throughout the state. If you have NH Jewish material and wish to donate it to NHJM, please contact Steve Soreff, email soreffs15@aol.com, or call 603 895-6120 to make arrangements.

Meanwhile, the NHJM already has collected some items and a large number of pictures of NH Jewish community members and events. Unfortunately, many of the folks in these pictures are unidentified.

The NHJM asks for your help:



specifically, who are these folks in the pictures? See the captions for more information. If you know the who, where, and when of these two pictures, please email them to Steve Soreff, soreffs15@aol.com. Thank you!



Who is with Rabbi Arthur Starr? Do you recognize these children (now adults)? When and where was it taken?



The man is Sheldon Krensky. Who are these two women, and when and where was this picture taken?



On January 22, 2023, JFNH's Holocaust Survivors and Remembrance Committee hosted a program on the Intergenerational Consequences of the Holocaust. The program was a huge success with over 50 community members joining us in a community-wide chat. Pictured here are most of the members of the planning committee. Top row, from left to right: Elliot Eisenberg (child of Holocaust survivors), Dina Michael Chaitowitz (member, JFNH Board of Directors), Reb. Rosalie Gerut, MA (facilitator for the program). Bottom row, from left to right: Ra'anan de Haas (JFNH Shaliach and "tech guy" for the program), Michel Adler (Holocaust survivor and child of Holocaust survivors), and Dr. Kate DeConinck of the Cohen Center for Holocaust & Genocide Studies. Thank you for joining us!

According to the ADL's 2021 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents

According to the ADL's 2021 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents:

"Antisemitic incidents [...] reached an all-time high of 2,717 in the United States last year – an average of more than seven incidents per day and a 34 percent increase year over year, including assaults, harassment and vandalism. This is the highest number on record since ADL began tracking antisemitic incidents in 1979 [...] Harassment: Of the total, 1,776 incidents were categorized as harassment, defined as cases where one or more Jewish people (or people who were perceived to be Jewish) were harassed verbally (or in writing) with antisemitic conspiracy theories, slurs or stereotypes. Acts of harassment increased 43%, up from 1,242 in 2020."

A complete audit for 2022 has not yet been released, but I don't think any of us will be surprised if the numbers are even higher. Perhaps a sign of things to come is a survey released last month,



covering September through October of 2022, in which the ADL discovered that, "Over three-quarters of Americans (85 percent) believe at least one anti-Jewish trope, as opposed to 61 percent found in 2019. Twenty percent of Americans believe six or more tropes, which is significantly more than the 11 percent that ADL found in 2019 and is the highest level measured in decades." Among these antisemitic tropes is the charge of dual loyalty—that we Jews are more loyal to the State of Israel than we are to the United States. While the notion of dual loyalty

appeared only after 1948, the idea that we Jews were not trustworthy citizens of the countries in which we lived is perhaps the oldest lie told by antisemites, an untruth repeated far too often in the last 2000 years. In Exodus 1:9 -10, the new pharaoh says to his people "Look, the Israelite people are much too numerous for us. Let us, then, deal shrewdly with them, let them increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies in fighting against us and gain ascendancy over the country'..." Pharaoh made it clear that our ancestors weren't viewed as Egyptians, they were still, after 400 plus years, foreigners and viewed as potential traitors. And so, they were enslaved, because they weren't good Egyptians.

Fast-forward through the Tannach to the Book of Esther, in which Haman says to Ahashverus, "There is a certain people, scattered and dispersed among the other peoples in all the provinces of your realm, whose laws are different from those of any other people and who

do not obey the king's laws, and it is not in your majesty's interests to tolerate them..." (Esther, 3:8)"

Once again, we are different from our neighbors, and as such, couldn't be tolerated. At this time Persia was made up of 127 provinces, so the likelihood was great that there were different ethnic and religious groups, some with their own ritual laws, but that didn't matter to Haman, or to the king. And so the story of Purim unfolds, based on a lie told by an antisemite.

This year, as we celebrate Purim, the Megillah is going to play a little differently for me. Haman's shrewd plan and the king's uncritical acceptance of what he is told feels like an ancient version of our modern-day antisemitic conspiracy theories and antisemitic tropes. The lesson, I think, is that we can't wait for Esther. We need to speak up and speak out when confronted by our Hamans, whether they are elected officials, talk show hosts, musicians, or sports figures. We can't afford to be quiet in the face of antisemitism.

PJ Library Goes to the Movies!

Join us at the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire for a special "Film Festival" just for 0-5yos! We'll design our own box cars and then enjoy an episode of "SHABOOM!". Free program | Registration required | Snacks provided.

Jewish Federation of New Hampshire,
273 South River Road,
Unit #5, Bedford, NH

March 19, 2023
Time: 2:00 PM

Register by scanning the QR Code below or go to <https://bit.ly/PJLNHmovie>



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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.

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- **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

Climate Action Tu BiShvat Celebration at Temple Israel Portsmouth

By Erik Martin, Head of School

On February 5, congregants and friends of Temple Israel Portsmouth had a wonderful time celebrating Tu BiShvat, the Jewish New Year for trees, also known as the Jewish Earth Day. Children learned more about how we can fight climate change, via fun STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math)

activities. These included making edible greenhouse gas molecules, plastic bottle gardens, and carbon dioxide balloons.

Later, families enjoyed a Tu BiShvat seder led by Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman. Attendees sampled delicious fruits, nuts, cocktails, and mocktails brought to us through the gifts of trees, then sang and danced with special musical guests Lisa Jane Lipkin and Jay Hitt.



Photographs by Ron Sher.



Tu BiShevat at Etz Hayim

Our Tu BiShevat event was a massive success!



Our Tu BiShevat Seder plate, containing fruits with pits, with inedible skins, and those you can fully consume.



Students from our Hebrew school decorated flower pots. Then, they planted parsley seeds which should sprout just in time for Pesach.



Participants take part in a dramatic reading of *The Lorax* while seated around tables meant to represent trees.



We lead our Seder with a spirited sing along of Debbie Friedman's "Plant a tree for Tu BiShevat." Hands up, everyone!

Etz Hayim Synagogue Presents *To Tell the Truth - Shushan Style*

The Etz Hayim Never Ready for Prime-Time Players invites you to "To Tell the Emet (Truth), Shushan Version," using the format of the classic and present-day TV game show. For each segment, a famous/infamous character from the story of Purim will be questioned along with two imposters.

Audience members will interview and vote for the real character. Between each segment, we'll sing, of course!

The free performance takes place on Saturday, March 4 at 7:00 PM at Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH. For more information, contact rabbi@etzhayim.org.

Etz Hayim Presents: Purity, Eugenics, and Lethal Medicine by Thomas White – March 9, 2023

Etz Hayim will present "Purity, Eugenics, and Lethal Medicine," from Thomas White, MA, at 7pm on Thursday, March 9, 2023 both in-person and by Zoom at Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1 1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH 03038.



Thomas White

White is the Coordinator of Educational Outreach for the Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies. He will explore the origin and context of eugenic thinking, beginning with Francis Galton and ending in Nazi Germany. He addresses the following questions: How did an elitist, antidemocratic, race-based ideology become popular and get implemented in the U.S. before Hitler came to power in Germany? How did Jim Crow influence Nazi Germany? What is the connection to (and impact

of) Nazi race policy and mass murder? What are the connections and differences between American and Nazi German eugenics practices? How was Nazi race law, marriage law, forced sterilization, the Nuremberg Laws, children's euthanasia, the T4 Euthanasia program, and the Holocaust, a

byproduct of eugenic ideas and American precedents? How can eugenics history help to confront the threat of racism and white supremacy?

The talk is free and open to the public. This is part of Etz Hayim Synagogue's Adult Continuing Education Program's Hot Topics and Cool Contemporary Stuff series. For more information, please contact: Stephen Soreff, MD, at soreffs15@aol.com or 603-895-6120.

Help Wanted!

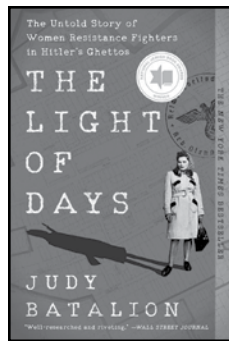
Do you live in Keene, Laconia, Bethlehem, Hanover, or another NH community and want to help produce the Jewish Reporter?

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

To get involved, contact thereporter@jewishnh.org

Annual Holocaust Remembrance Day Event on April 18 Commemorates Victims' Lives and Survivors' Spirit

In collaboration, Temple Beth Abraham and Rivier University welcome Judy Batalion, author of *The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters in Hitler's Ghettos*. The event will be held at Rivier University on Tuesday, April 18, at the Dion Center at 7 p.m. Batalion's book, *The*



Light of Days, tells the story of Jewish women who risked their lives as couriers, smuggling weapons between locked ghettos, assassinating Nazis, forging documents, and rescuing Jews. Many of these women, still in their teens, were part of organized youth movements that promoted collectivism, socialism, intellectualism, and peace. When the war broke out, these movements transformed into underground militias in the ghettos. Batalion has worked as a university



NEW HAMPSHIRE
humanities

lecturer, stand-up comic, MC, moderator, storyteller, actor, Yiddish street performer, and talking head for TV, radio, and podcasts. She is the granddaughter of Holocaust survivors, and the author of *White Walls: A Memoir About Motherhood, Daughterhood, and the Mess In Between*.

In addition to Batalion's presentation

and a question-and-answer session, a candle-lighting ceremony will be held memorializing Holocaust victims. Temple Beth Abraham's Zimria Choir will perform with the Nashua Community Interfaith Choir at this observance. This project is made possible with support from New Hampshire Humanities, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Humanities. Additional information is available at www.nhhumanities.org. The event is free and open to the public.

The History of Jewish Ceremonial Objects with Frann Addison at Temple Beth Abraham: Sunday, March 12 at 10:30 am

For some, Jewish ceremonial objects are an essential part of life's rituals, while others simply like displaying items like a mezuzah, a menorah, or a spice box for their aesthetic beauty. Renowned Judaica artist and metalsmith Frann Addison will explain the cultural history behind some of these ritual objects and how they evolved in different countries. Her 50-minute presentation with photographs will help you connect to a rich Jewish heritage where rituals are celebrated around family and the home.



In 1977, as a graduate student at Cranbrook Academy of Art, Frann began creating Jewish ritual objects. She fabricates her unique Judaica in pewter, brass, and copper, often combining unique elements. Her work has been featured in 11 books, *The NY Times*, *The Boston Globe*, calendars, and greeting cards. She was a 2015 NICHE Award Finalist, a 2016 NICHE Award Winner, and was the 2018 "Handmade Business Magazine" runner up for their Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Frann's work is in the collection of the Museum of Jewish History in Philadelphia, the Bernard Museum of Judaica of Temple Emanu-El, NY, the Mizel Museum in Denver, and the Oregon Jewish Museum in Portland. She holds a BA in Art History from Skidmore College and an MFA in metalsmithing from the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan.

This event will take place at Temple Beth Abraham in Nashua on Sunday, March 12. A light brunch will precede the presentation. For more information and to register for the event, please visit TBANashua.org and go to the "events" page.

About Boston-based artist Frann Addison

Menuchat Ha-Lev: Jewish Mindfulness Meditation With Beth Abraham - Led By Laura Hegfield

Did you know? Our meditation group has been ongoing since 2012! All are welcome! Feel free to invite a friend. No previous meditation experience required. Open to anyone!

Join us on alternate Shabbat mornings via Zoom only, from 9:00 – 9:30am, to explore wisdom and inspiration found in the weekly Torah portion, engaging our bodies, minds, hearts, and souls. Jewish rituals and Torah offer us a map for practicing mindfulness. Living mindfully assists us in cultivating patience, holy listening, peace, and wholeness as we learn to see the truth of each moment, just as it is. By observing the inner workings and habits of our hearts and minds, we can see more clearly and make wiser choices that impact all of our relationships; with ourselves, with other people, the earth, and the Holy Blessed One dwelling with and within us.

We typically start with a chant related to *parashat ha-shavua*, the weekly Torah portion, followed by a D'var Torah. Then, Laura offers some gentle guidance, and we sit in mindful awareness for 10 more minutes; allowing whatever we have learned to soak in. Our practice is then sealed with a reprise of the chant and a blessing.

We start promptly at 9:00am and purposefully end by 9:30am, so that people who can attend Shabbat services at Beth Abraham or anywhere they may be walking or driving to. Laura will ask you to mute yourself once we get started,

to afford everyone a more peaceful experience.

For upcoming sessions and the Zoom link, visit: <https://tbanashua.shulcloud.com/event/shabbat-meditation-with-laura-hegfield.html>

Laura Hegfield has served Temple Beth Abraham in Nashua, NH as an educator since 2001. She grounds her teaching in Torah, compassion, and wisdom, often informed by living her life with Multiple Sclerosis; weaving her various interests and skills together in a unique way. She is a graduate of Philadelphia College of Textiles and Sciences, with a BS in textile design. She has continued her education through the Institute for Jewish Spirituality, for many years, completing the Teen Educators cohort through IJS, is a certified Yoga & Jewish Spirituality Teacher, an IJS certified Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Teacher, and a Reiki Master Practitioner. Laura infuses her life with Torah, and has studied twice weekly with her two longtime chevrotal study partners, for over 20 years. She leads Healing Services at Temple Beth Abraham, throughout the year, and serves as a lay-leader, creating contemplative Holy Day services that she co-facilitates during the Yamim Noraim. Laura incorporates original liturgical compositions into her offerings, lifting her voice in prayer, song, and love, whenever possible.

Keeping you connected



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Film Festival

continued from page 1

jeweler who arranges for his family to leave and for his non-Jewish employee Mercier to temporarily take over the store, Haffmann eventually realizes he must rely on his assistant for other protection. What ensues is quite the bargain that will forever change Haffmann and Mercier. Sponsored by the state's own Monadnock International Film Festival (MONIFF) and selected as the Audience Award for several other Jewish Film Festivals, including San Francisco's, you will not want to miss this piece with performances that have been called "impeccable" and "superb" by critics.

Tuesday, March 21: Take Me Out To SNHU for a film about Israel's Baseball Team!

While you wait for the Red Sox (or your MLB team of choice) Opening Day at the end of March, enjoy a night out at SNHU for something almost as good: a baseball movie!

There won't be peanuts or Cracker Jack for our viewers, but on Tuesday, March 21 at 7 PM, *Israel Swings for Gold*, the sequel to our 2019 Festival closing film *Heading Home*, will make its New England debut at the Mara Auditorium at Southern New Hampshire University in Hooksett. Like its predecessor, this documentary follow-up traces Israel's baseball team as they compete in the 2021 Olympics for the first time.

The players record their own experiences in Tokyo because no media is allowed in the Olympic village. While the film does focus on their time on the field, they also chronicle their own experiences with antisemitism and anti-Zionism, especially as countries from all over the world compete for the gold. If you enjoyed watching the team compete for the World Baseball Classic in the previous film and are a baseball fan, this is the perfect night out for you to welcome spring! Join us after for a discussion with Seth Kramer, one of the film's directors.

Thursday, March 23 and Sunday, March 26: The Jewish Film Festival returns to Red River Theatres in Concord

Our Festival concludes with a return to

Red River Theatres, a premiere independent arthouse cinema in downtown Concord who have sponsored and partnered with us since we began in 2009.

We begin on Thursday, March 23 at 7 PM with the New Hampshire Premiere of *The Man in the Basement*, a French drama that has attracted a lot of attention from other Festivals throughout the globe. When a Jewish couple sells the room in the unused cellar of their Parisian flat to a former history teacher, his private life emerges at the forefront through his antisemitic conspiracy theories. Their teenage daughter takes an interest in the stranger while the couple tries to cancel the sale despite challenges. At a time when conspiracy theories, antisemitism, and Holocaust denial are major issues on the rise worldwide, this film will surely create fascinating conversation centered around remembering our past and reconciling with the horrors of oppression. Also sponsored by our friends at MONIFF, *The Man in the Basement* was selected for the Atlanta, Chicago, Philadelphia, and UK Jewish Film Festivals, as well as the 2022 Jewish International Film Festival in Australia.

To close out our in-theater events, we will show two films on Sunday, March 26 at Red River. Making its New Hampshire premiere at 1 PM will be the Israeli film *America*, directed by the renowned Ofir Raul Graizer. The film tells the story of an accomplished swimming coach named Eli who has lived in the United States for several years. Upon learning of his father's death, he returns to his childhood hometown in Israel where past scars come back to haunt him as new ones form after he reconnects with a childhood friend and his fiancée. What unfolds is a film that is deeply rooted in human emotion and relationships, as well as colorful and beautiful imagery through its focus on flowers. Awarded the Best Actress Prize at the Jerusalem Film Festival and selected at Miami and the UK's Jewish Film Festivals, *America* is Graizer's second feature length film following the hit 2018 movie *The Cakemaker*, which won seven Israeli Academy Awards.

At 3:30 PM, our final in-theater film of the Festival will be *Dedication*, which makes its debut to New England audiences. A documentary by Roger Peltzman, who has transformed his one-man play into a deeply poetic and musical journey for the big screen, *Dedication* is a



highly personal story about family, trauma, and healing. Peltzman, whose family fled Berlin for Brussels in 1933, centers the story around his uncle Norbert, an accomplished pianist in Belgium until his murder in Auschwitz at age 21. Of equal focus is Peltzman's second-generation survivor trauma and the role that music has played in managing the wounds that never fully heal. Following the film screening, Peltzman himself will be on hand for a post-film discussion about his work and music. We will have a Festival Wrap Party immediately following with a spread of food made by our volunteers.

Five films available to screen virtually from March 16 to April 16

Our virtual platform, Eventive, once again allows folks to access our films from all over the state. As before, each of the five virtual films will be available to start streaming at any point during the Festival's duration. Once you begin screening a title, it must be finished within 48 hours. Our website also provides details about geographic restrictions and how to navigate the Eventive platform.

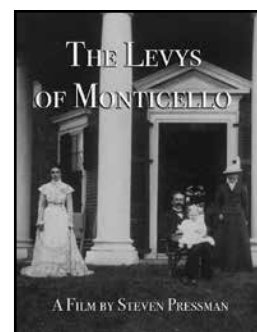
Here is a bit of information about each of the five virtual films:

Making its New Hampshire premiere is the Israeli film *Barren*, which tells the story of Feigi and Naftali, a young, childless, ultra-Orthodox couple who live with Naftali's parents. While traveling to Ukraine, Naftali prays for a child. During his absence, a guest who introduces himself as Rabbi Eliyahu the barren healer convinces Feigi to undergo treatment. Questions of faith and trust arise when Naftali returns to a crisis.

Karaoke is another Israeli title making its debut in the Granite State. Nominated for 14 Israeli Academy Awards and the winner of two for its lead male and female performers, the film follows Tova and Meir, an aging couple with 46 years of marriage and two grown daughters. When their new neighbor Itzik invites them to his penthouse for a karaoke

night, Tova and Meir fall for his energetic lifestyle and enter into a competition with their other neighbors and one another for Itzik's attention.

The documentary *The Levys of Monticello* will also be available virtually. Trac-



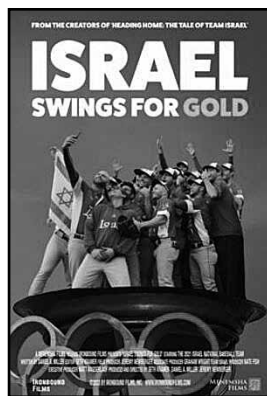
ing President Thomas Jefferson's mountain of personal debt that caused his heirs to sell his beloved Monticello home and possessions following his death in 1826, this film tells the little-known story of the Levy family. Preserving Monticello for almost a century with care and precision and far longer than

Jefferson or his descendants, this remarkable story also intersects with the rampant antisemitism that runs throughout the course of American history. We are also pleased to have the film's director Stephen Pressman join us for a post-film discussion on Zoom on Wednesday, March 22 at 7 PM. I have the good fortune of being able to moderate what is bound to be an enriching and lively chat.

Some slightly lighter fare can be found in *Our (Almost Completely True) Story*, a dramatization of Hollywood's Mariette Hartley as she struggles finding meaningful work and a decent date. When she meets a Jewish comic named Jerry Sroka who has been dealing with some of the same challenges, they eventually fall for each other. When things get more serious and new challenges face the couple, Mariette wonders if it's too late for love. With Hartley and Sroka playing their real-life selves alongside a cast of other familiar faces from their era, this film beautifully portrays the themes of aging and searching for love later in life.

Acclaimed documentarian Roberta Grossman's latest film *Reckonings* rounds out our virtual selections. Chronicling the secret meetings of compensation for

Film Festival continued on page 16



Seth Kramer



Stephen Pressman

Etz Hayim Synagogue Hosts: *My Son the Waiter, a Jewish Tragedy*

Thanks in part to a generous donation by the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, on Saturday, March 25, 2023, Etz Hayim Synagogue is able to bring to Derry, NH Brad Zimmerman and his hilarious and inspiring story about the grit and passion it takes to “make it” as an artist and the sweet rewards that come from never giving up. Brad has received many accolades, including:

“DELICIOUS! DISTINCTLY ORIGINAL... POWERFULLY POIGNANT. GREAT COMEDY!”
– The New York Times

“A MUST SEE. IT’S HYSTERICAL, HEARTFELT, TIMELY AND POIGNANT. I CRIED, I LAUGHED, I FORGOT WHERE I PARKED.” – Brad Garrett (Everybody Loves Raymond)

“I’VE HAD THREE GREAT

OPENING ACTS IN MY LIFETIME: BILLY CRYSTAL, GARRY SHANDLING, AND BRAD ZIMMERMAN.” – Joan Rivers

“YOU’LL LAUGH YOUR TUCHAS OFF!” – Huffington Post.

Our Opening Act will be Off Our Rockers, a group of seniors from Londonderry, NH who entertain folks in Senior Centers and 55+ communities. Doors open at 6:00 PM (Havdallah 6:00-6:15). Show begins at 7:00 PM. Ticket prices are \$30/pp Etz Hayim Synagogue members; \$35/pp Friends of Etz Hayim. General Seating. Location: Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH. Snacks and beverages will be available for purchase. Pay by check, or visit www.etzhayim.org/my-son-the-waiter to pay by credit card or PayPal (incl \$2 processing fee).

Film Festival

continued from page 15

Holocaust survivors, this film explores the true story set in the aftermath of World War II. Through tense negotiations between Jewish and German leaders, challenging work was accomplished. Grossman recounts these monumental talks in vivid detail through interviews with those connected to this major step toward healing, including Ben Ferencz, an accomplished lawyer who turns 103 on March 11.

Short films program

Five short films will be available to viewers at home in our program this year. The titles include *A Kaddish for Selim*, which recounts the story of a young British Jew who died for his adopted country; *Give it Back*, an Israeli short about a 12-year-old immigrant girl from New York who forms a bond with an Ethiopian boy; *Ismail’s Dilemma*, which tells the largely unheard story of Nazi occupied Albania and the theme of protecting guests at any cost; *Pops*, a Jewish comedy-drama about a brother and sister who honor their father’s unusual last wish; and *Space Torah*, an inspiring story about Jewish-American astronaut Dr. Jeff Hoffman, who brought numerous Jewish objects to space during his missions.

This wide array of offerings in our shorts program shows just how extensive the breadth of our titles remain, year to year.

Bonus weeks from March 27 to April 16

Additionally, we are offering “bonus weeks” from March 27 to April 16, during which four of the in-theater films will be available to stream virtually for those



who were unable to attend in person: *Farewell Mr. Haffmann*, *Israel Swings for Gold*, *The Man in the Basement*, and *America*. Our opening film *Out of Exile* and closing film *Dedication* are not available to screen virtually. All of our short films, as well as the five titles that are only screening for virtual home viewing, will remain available until April 16.

Join us!

See our “Schedule at a Glance” on the back page in this edition of *The Reporter* to make plans for attending our Festival. Our box office is open! You can still purchase Festival tickets for all screenings. For ticket information and movie trailers, visit www.nhjewishfilmfestival.org. We encourage you to extend the invitation to friends as well! If you’ve been wondering how you can donate to our Film Festival, we are glad to invite you to become a Friend of the Festival! We welcome any donation no matter the size. You may donate online at www.jewishnh.org. We cannot wait to see you at the movies!

COMING SOON TO ETZ HAYIM SYNAGOGUE!



Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Doors open at 6:00 PM (Havdallah 6:15-6:25)
\$30 Per Person – Etz Hayim Members
\$35 Per Person – Friends of Etz Hayim
General Admission
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Or visit etzhayim.org/my-son-the-waiter to
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“Great Comedy!”
– The New York Times

“A MUST SEE. It’s HYSTERICAL, HEARTFELT,
TIMELY and POIGNANT.
I cried, I laughed, I forgot where I parked.”
– Brad Garrett (Everybody Loves Raymond)

“You’ll laugh your tuchas off!”
– Huffington Post

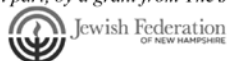
“I’ve had three great opening
acts in my lifetime:
Billy Crystal, Garry Shandling,
and Brad Zimmerman.”
– Joan Rivers

“This is easily the funniest show to hit
an off-Broadway stage since ‘Old Jews Telling Jokes.’
What makes this SUPERIOR is that it isn’t just jokes. It’s a life.”
– The Jewish Daily Forward

DON’T MISS OUR OPENING ACT *Off Our Rockers*, a group of local seniors who entertain folks in Senior Centers and 55+ communities, starring our very own Sam & Leslie Kirshman, and Carl & Martha Tomanelli!

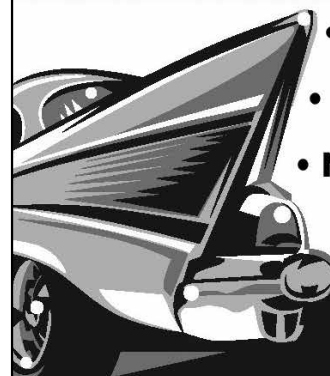


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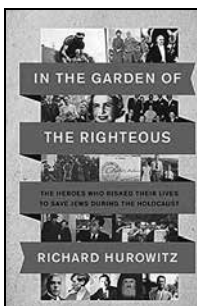
Book Review

Reviewed by Merle Carrus

Remember the Holocaust: Two Book Reviews

Having recently observed International Holocaust Remembrance Day, and in advance of Yom HaShoah in the spring, I would like to recommend two books that are very informative with new and different context to consider as we look back at history. We hear many Holocaust survivor stories. It's very important to hear and know what happened to the many Jewish people who both lived through and died in the concentration camps, hidden in the woods, or were saved. These two books give us personal insight into what some of the citizens were thinking and doing through the war.

In the Garden of the Righteous, The Heroes Who Risked Their Lives To Save Jews During the Holocaust, written by Richard Hurowitz, is an account of the extraordinary acts of moral courage against accepted behavior and passive apathy. Risking immense personal

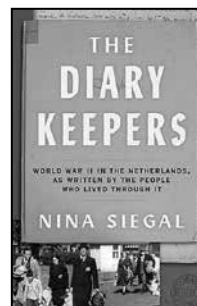


threat, they provided hiding places, participated in underground networks, and secured safe passage to help save their neighbors. This book includes stories of the circus ringmaster, Adolf Althoff, and his wife, Maria; the Italian cycling champion, who smuggled messages in his bicycle and rode miles; Polish social worker Irena Sender; and even young German students who were a part of the White Rose group, who tried to inspire resistance to the Nazis.

Another interesting new perspective on the Holocaust comes from a book whose author read through and compiled diary entries from a variety of people whose lives were changed by the Holocaust. That book is *The Diary Keepers: World War II in the Netherlands, as Written by The People Who Lived Through It*, written by Nina Siegal.

Siegal takes the reader through the

war—from occupation, starting in May 1940, to persecution and deportation, to liberation in May 1945. Using the diary entries of average people who lived in the Netherlands, the voices representing the Jews, the persecutors, and members of the resistance, she tells the story of how it felt to live through the war from various perspectives. In this collection, three of the diarists are Jewish: one who lives in hiding, one who writes from a concentration camp, and one is a member of the Jewish Council and lives for a while in the open in Amsterdam. A police agent in Amsterdam, and the wife of an aspiring Nazi official who is a socialite in The Hague, write from the Nazi supporter perspective. One diarist



writes about his experience as a member of a resistance organization, and one writer is a 17 year old factory worker who has no political affiliation.

As Siegal is reminded by Judith Cohen, director of the photography archive at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, “[It] is important not to read history backwards.” That is what we can learn by reading through this book, that the people who lived through the horrors of the Holocaust and WWII were living and writing in the moment. They did not know what the ending would be, they did not have the ability to know how long it would last, how bad it would get, or how it would finally end.

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

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VERONICA

Veronica Ava Conley, ©2023

Temple B'nai Israel Practices Tzedakah at Home

Temple B'nai Israel has a long history of practicing Tzedakah in the Lakes Region community. The Social Action Committee provides meals for the Salvation Army lunch program, and Laconia's Isaiah 61 café, which is a place for the less fortunate in Laconia to have access to food and shelter when needed. TBI's own We Care initiative has raised over \$150,000 for Lakes Region non-profits. This small synagogue of some 70 families has become the gold standard for caring for those who need help in the community. Sometimes, however, you have a need to turn that focus inward and help those who help others within your own organization.

The New Hampshire Jewish Food Festival at Temple B'nai Israel is in its 26th year. It has grown from its modest beginnings to a juggernaut of festivals. It

once was a local event that sold dozens of hot dogs and it grew into a statewide festival selling thousands of blintzes and the best homemade Jewish foods. All through the years, the cooking teams have used a jumble of secondhand freezers and refrigerators. This equipment was scattered throughout the Temple's building including several in the basement at the bottom of some less than friendly wooden stairs.

This all changed in January 2023, when an unused room on the first floor was cleaned out, rewired, and repurposed to accommodate all the cooling equipment in one central location. In addition, the older equipment was replaced with up to date, energy-efficient freezers and refrigerators. This consolidation in a single location on the first floor will significantly impact the amount of work

the Food Festival cooking teams will have to incur, not to mention the energy savings to the temple and the elimination of dozens of trips up and down those basement steps.

So, what does this have to do with Tzedakah, you ask?

In an act of solidarity and support for all the work that these congregant-based teams do to produce hundreds of pounds of the best Jewish Food in New Hampshire, members of TBI came together and donated all the costs of the equipment and electrical work that was necessary. "This little temple that could" once again brought an act of Tzedakah to life. This time to honor the hardworking Food Festival teams within the temple. As the donations came rolling in to support the purchase of new equipment it was clear that many congregants wanted to honor a single

individual for her life-long contributions to the Food Festival. That one person is Irene Gordon, the matriarch of the Food Festival. Irene was instrumental in the beginnings of the festival, and she had the vision to see the potential by expanding the menu every year with new offerings. Irene stepped down from running the festival several years ago, but she is well-known for her continued contribution of blintzes and chicken soup.

The countdown to the 2023 New Hampshire Jewish Food Festival has begun. The temple website will be open for online orders from June 11 to July 9. Orders placed during this period will be ready for pickup, by appointment, on July 21 and 22 at the temple on Court Street in Laconia. Mark your calendars now as quantities are limited and are sure to run out before the end of the ordering period.

Jewish Journeys

A New MOMentum Journey Begins!

On Sunday, January 29th, a new group of twelve Momentum women met in Durham for their first pre-Israel gathering. These women, who will be traveling together in April, came from all over the state and many were meeting each other for the first time. To help get to know each other better, each woman was paired up in advance to research, plan and execute a fun Israeli dish for a wonderful evening of food and fun. Israeli salad, hummus, falafel, shakshuka, tahini cookies, and an Israeli cocktail were all on the menu and the pairs did a spectacular job finding interesting recipes and then showing off their culinary prowess in the kitchen. Group leader Amy Lester generously provided a well-appointed kitchen which left many participants commenting that they felt they were the "next Iron Chef."

While the group ate, they discussed packing lists, potential places to eat in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, and other details about the trip. The group will be traveling at a very exciting time of the year, and will be in Israel for both the somber holiday of Yom HaZikaron, as well as Yom Ha'atzmaut, Independence Day—75 years, this year. While any trip to Israel is special, the timing of this particular trip is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our twelve women from New Hampshire.

This year's Momentum group includes



Susan Friedburg (Bedford), Amy Hyett (North Hampton), Julie Iszak (Bedford), Liz Jacobs (Hampton), Gail LePage, Izzi Lieberman (Portsmouth), Beth Lieberman (Newfields) Beth Sakelarios (Hampton), Emily Sheff (Bedford) and Rachael Wizwer (Newmarket). Amy Lester (Durham) and Becky Abrams (Londonderry) are serving this year as the Community Leaders for the group. The women will meet again a few more times for other fun and informative pre-trip programming before their trip. The purpose of these get-togethers is to create bonds before such a transformative experience, as well as gain information both about themselves and their relationship with Israel before going there. Future pre-trip meetings include celebrating Shabbat with last year's Momentum group, a learning session about the current geo-political climate, and a session for logistics and last-minute questions and needs. All of the women in the group are extremely grateful for their opportunity to experience Israel with Momentum Unlimited and each other, with the support of JFNH.





Remembering Oren

By Pamela Englander

It is with profound sadness that I reflect on the passing of our dear friend, Oren Kantor. A partnership established in late 2004, Oren was the driving force in the relationship between New Hampshire and the Hof Hacarmel, our sister city region in Israel.

A fine man of generous spirit and a large personality, Oren endeared himself to many during his multiple visits to New Hampshire, and by NH folks visiting the region. No visit was ever inconvenient or not worth his time, devoting full days to



guests touring the region and introducing its people.

As related by Adam Solender, former Executive Director of the NHJF and initiator of the NH-Hof HaCarmel connection, "From the moment I met Oren, I knew that he was a giver. For him, it was always about creating relationships. His legacy is his family and those with whom

he connected in Hof HaCarmel and New Hampshire. I can't imagine going to Israel and not seeing Oren."

Many interpersonal relationships were initiated and nurtured by Oren. Networks were established with local leaders in education and politics from which cooperative projects grew. Letters were written to Israeli soldiers and school age pen pals facilitated; relationships developed with artists from the Ein Hod, the artist village in the region. Yom Ha'atzmaut events were greatly enhanced by Israelis visiting NH. Fran Berman, a co-chair of the Connection 2010-2013, had this to say: "Oren

was indeed a major presence who impacted our NH Jewish community and strengthened our connection to Israel."

Funny, articulate and deeply knowledgeable about all things Israel—and Hof HaCarmel in particular—Oren shared with us his love and passion for Israeli history, its politics, and its people. Many of us became close friends over the years.

A deeply caring family man, Oren is mourned by his many friends and family members in Israel and abroad: he was a proud and loving father to his three children, Paz, Yoav, and Yotam. He remains forever young.

Hadassah Pushes Medicine into the Future

By Michele Bank

Members of the Manchester Chapter of Hadassah have begun working on the next annual Membership/Ad book. This is their biggest fundraiser of the year, raising valuable money to help fund all of Hadassah's commitments in the United States and Israel. You can support Hadassah with a personal or business ad. "Jewels" are only \$10 each for listing your loved ones, "Tag Lines" are \$25 for sponsoring a page, "Memorials" and "Greetings" are \$10 and \$18 respectively. Larger messages and ads may be placed in a block of space starting at \$40. Please contact michele.bank@gmail.com for additional information and forms.

As reported by Hadassah, researchers at Israel's Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) are the first in the world to derive human male and female cells with the same genetic code from the same person that differ only in sex chromosomes. This breakthrough opens the path to new discoveries in the investigation of sex differences and the development of gender medicine. The results of the study, "Modeling Sex Differences in Humans Using Isogenic Induced Pluripotent Stem

Cells," appear in the latest issue of Stem Cell Report, the journal of the International Society of Stem Cell Research.

Since stem cells can mature into any cell in the human body, the new model allows for a clear laboratory demonstration of gender differences. This will make it possible to study differences between the sexes in all types of cells and to understand whether the cause of a difference is the composition of the sex chromosomes or the difference in the hormonal profile.

The study's lead researcher was Benjamin Reubinoff, MD, PhD, a pioneer in the field of embryonic stem cell research. Dr. Reubinoff is Director of the Sidney and Judy Swartz Stem Cell Research Center at The Goldyne Savad Institute of Gene Therapy at the HMO in Jerusalem and Senior Physician in the medical center's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. According to Dr. Reubinoff, "This is a breakthrough in the field of gender medicine. The world of medical science today recognizes the great importance of the differences between women and men. The National Institutes of Health in the U.S. has changed its policy in recent years, now requiring that all

medical research that it funds be conducted on both sexes equally." He continued, "The unique stem cell system we have developed will lead to new discoveries about gender differences, can help compare the efficacy and toxicity of drugs and can contribute to the development of better medicine adapted to men and women."

In recent years, there has been a growing understanding that gender differences can affect health by determining the risk of developing certain diseases as well as the course those diseases will take. For example, women have a higher risk of developing autoimmune diseases, such as multiple sclerosis and rheumatoid arthritis, while men are more likely to have more significant morbidity when infected with COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. There are also differences in cardiac morbidity and various psychiatric disorders and between the efficacy and side effects of drugs for men and women.

Increasingly, medical researchers, pharmaceutical companies and health authorities have been dealing with gender variance and the need to adjust treatments and drug dosages to a patient's

gender. Research in the field of gender medicine has been challenging because there are no genetically identical twins where one is male and the other female. Large numbers of women and men have needed to be tested to overcome the natural genetic variance between humans, which masks the differences between the sexes. When differences have been found, it has been impossible to know whether they are due to sex chromosomes or to the different hormonal composition of women and men. The new model overcomes these challenges.

Pluripotent stem cells are able to develop into different types of cells needed for therapeutic purposes; isolated stem cells can mature into any cell type and are therefore ideal for developing cellular models for studies of sex-related differences in all human cell types. In addition, the stem cells enable the study of the differences between males and females, in the absence as well as the presence of sex hormones, and distinguish between genetic and hormonal influences on gender differences.

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

Israel: Did You Know?

By Evelyn Miller

I was recently reminded that March was my month to submit something to *The NH Jewish Reporter* about Israel. What to write? Well, after an abysmal year in world politics, a winter storm that saw severe power outages, air travel going down the tubes, a war in the Ukraine, and heightened tensions in the east, I thought it might be uplifting to look at

some fun facts about Israel. So here are some lesser-known facts about Israel to make you proud (or at least scratch your head in wonder!)

- You can buy hummus-flavored ice cream in Jaffe, Israel.
- Israel has more trees today than 50 years ago.
- Beersheva has the largest number of chess masters per capita of any city in the world.

- Israel has one of the highest concentrations of bird traffic in the world – 500 million migrating birds cross its airspace each year.
- Israel was the first country to ban the use of underweight models on the catwalk.
- Israel Linor Abargil won Miss World in 1998. She went on to campaign against sexual violence.
- One million notes are left in the Ko-

tel (Western Wall) each year. They are cleaned out twice a year, before Passover and Rosh Hashanah.

- The glue on Israeli stamps is kosher.
- Israeli Rabbis, with the help of scientists, have ruled that giraffe milk is kosher.
- Animals in the Jerusalem Zoo are fed kosher food for the Passover holiday.

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Facing Up to Growing Antisemitism

By Richard England

A 2022 survey sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League found that a growing fraction of Americans believe at least one anti-Jewish trope — 85 percent now, compared to 61 percent in 2019. A quarter of those surveyed, for example, believe that Jews have “too much power in the business world.” Forty percent of respondents believe that Israelis treat the Palestinians like the Nazis treated the Jews. Before we can face and resist these and/or other anti-Jewish beliefs, it is necessary to clearly define what we mean by “antisemitism.”

Clarifying “antisemitism” is the focus of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), a coalition of 35 member nations that includes the United States, United Kingdom, Israel, and Germany. At its 2016 meeting in Romania, the IHRA adopted a working definition that begins as follows: “Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred of Jews [either verbally or physically]...” This definition is obviously very general and covers various forms of Jew hatred. During past centuries, many Europeans believed that “the Jews” had murdered Christ and used the blood of Christian

children to bake matzo. More recently, followers of Hitler believed that Jews were an inferior racial minority. The IHRA definition points to a new and dangerous mutation of antisemitism: hatred of Israel and its supporters.

The authors of the IHRA definition are careful to say that criticism of Israeli policies and behavior is not antisemitic — as long as the same standards are used to judge Israel as would be used to judge any other nation. However, contemporary examples of Jew hatred linked to Israel include:

- Denying the right of the Jewish people to self-determination, that is, denying the right of Israel to exist.
- Claiming that the existence of Israel is a racist endeavor or that Israel is a Nazi regime.
- Applying a harsh double standard to Israel by requiring its government and citizens to meet standards of behavior that other nations are not expected to meet.

This understanding of antisemitism has now been adopted or endorsed by the governments of 38 nations. In addition, the governors or legislatures of 30 American states have given their approval. These states include New Hampshire,

Maine, and Massachusetts. In January 2021, over fifty major Jewish organizations in the US endorsed the IHRA definition. These supporters include Hillel, Union for Reform Judaism, and the Jewish Federations of North America. Several large German corporations including Lufthansa and Volkswagen have also joined the list of IHRA supporters. Support by the US government is a work in progress. The US State Department issued a statement in November that the IHRA definition is “integral to the fight to eliminate this scourge [of Jew hatred].” However, the US Department of Education has postponed implementation of civil rights guidelines based on the IHRA definition until the end of 2023 at the earliest. This means a delay in federal protection of Jewish students who face discrimination or harassment on university and college campuses.

What can we do as private citizens to resist Jew hatred? The Federation’s Israel Engagement & Education Committee is committed to fighting antisemitism by defending Israel’s right to exist and by circulating accurate information about Israel’s achievements. The Combat Antisemitism Movement is a global coalition that includes the Jewish Federations of North America and that seeks to counter the growing threat of antisemitism. Its advisory council includes notables such as former US Senator Joe Lieberman, human rights activist Natan Sharansky, and retired Harvard Professor Ruth Wisse. For more information, go to <https://CombatAntisemitism.org>.

Richard England is a member of the Federation’s Israel Engagement & Education Committee. He lives in Durham and loves to visit friends and family in Israel.

Did You Know?

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- The Mount of Olives in Jerusalem is the world’s oldest “continuously used cemetery”
- Israelis who observe Shabbat can buy car insurance that doesn’t cover Saturdays.
- Israel has more museums per capita than any other country in the world.
- Israel has the most # of technicians and scientists per capita in the world plus they produce more scientific papers per capita in the world.
- Israel has the highest # of university degrees per capita of any country.
- Israel has the highest rate of entrepreneurship among women in the world.
- More than 9 out of 10 Israeli homes use solar power for their hot water needs.
- Relative to its population, Israel has absorbed more immigrants than any other country, with newcomers com-

ing from more than 100 countries.

- Israeli humanitarian aid workers are often the first to respond to disasters around the world.
- Israel is home to the world’s only theater company comprised entirely of deaf and blind actors.
- Israel’s Save a Child’s Heart organization performs heart saving operations for children worldwide, including Palestinians, free of charge.
- Israel, a very young country of 74 years with a population of 8,991,617, is ranked 34th in the world in GDP per person. There are 193 countries in the world.
- Israel ranks 9th in the World Happiness Index that was released on March 18, 2022!

There you have it—a bunch of trivia that I hope you found fun, interesting, and uplifting to read. I have always enjoyed my visits to Israel, where ethnic, cultural, and religious diversity are seen everywhere... and the place is almost devoid of McDonald’s hamburger joints!

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PURCHASE TICKETS

Advance purchase for ALL screenings suggested:

- Online at <https://2023nhjff.eventive.org/welcome>
- Online at www.nhjewishfilmfestival.org
- By phone at 603-627-7679, Jewish Federation office, Monday-Friday, 9 AM-3 PM

*Additional tickets for in-theater screenings may be available at the door prior to the show.
**Tickets for virtual screenings are per household

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

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In-Theater Events

Thursday, March 16, 7:00 PM
Out Of Exile: The Photography of Fred Stein
Post Film Discussion
with Filmmaker Peter Stein
The Rex Theatre, Manchester, NH

Sunday, March 19, 2:00 PM
Farewell, Mr. Haffmann
3S Artspace, Portsmouth, NH
The Showroom, Keene, NH

Sunday, March 19, 2:00 PM
PJ Goes to the Movies
Shaboom
FREE EVENT
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire,
Bedford, NH

Tuesday, March 21, 7:00 PM
Israel Swings for Gold
SNHU, Webster Hall, Mara Auditorium
Hooksett, NH

Thursday, March 23, 7:00 PM
Man in the Basement
Red River Theatres, Concord, NH

Sunday, March 26, 1:00 PM
America
Red River Theatres, Concord, NH

Sunday, March 26, 3:30 PM
Wrap Party
Dedication
Post Film Discussion
with Roger Peltzman
Red River Theatres, Concord, NH

Virtual Screenings

Thursday, March 16 – Sunday, April 16
All films will be available for 30 days.
After film is unlocked you have 48 hours to screen.

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Karaoke
Levys of Monticello
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Love Story
Reckonings
Shorts Program

- **A Kaddish for Selim**
- **Give It Back**
- **Ismail's Dilemma**
- **Pops**
- **Space Torah**

Virtual Post-Film Discussions
Wednesday, March 22, 7:00 PM
Levys of Monticello
Zoom Discussion with filmmaker
Steve Pressman



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