



HIGH HOLIDAYS



Image credit: Anthony Coles, Unsplash

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Shanah Tovah U'Metukah

As we prepare to welcome Rosh Hashanah and the beginning of a new Jewish year, I want to wish our entire New Hampshire Jewish community a Shanah Tovah U'Metukah—a happy, healthy, and sweet New Year. The High Holidays give us an opportunity to reflect on where we have been, appreciate the people and communities that sustain us, and look ahead with hope to what we can build together in the year to come.

For the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, this new year begins with a great deal of excitement. Over the past year, we have continued working to strengthen connections across our statewide Jewish community, support our congregations and partner organizations, stand up against antisemitism, deepen our relationship with Israel, and create more opportunities for Jewish life

Erik Martin

**JFNH
Executive
Director**



to flourish throughout New Hampshire. As we enter 5787, we are excited to build on that work.

One of the most exciting additions to Federation this year is the arrival of our new shaliach, Elad, who will be joining our staff and community from Israel. A shaliach is much more than an Israeli emissary or educator. Elad will serve as a bridge between New Hampshire and Israel, bringing Israeli culture, stories, perspectives, and experiences directly into our communities while also learn-

ing about the unique Jewish life we have built here. Throughout the year, Elad will travel across the state, visiting synagogues, Hebrew schools, community organizations, college campuses, and gatherings large and small. Our hope is that people of every age will have opportunities to meet him, learn with him, celebrate with him, and develop a more personal connection to Israel. At a time when conversations about Israel can often feel complicated or distant, those genuine person-to-person relationships are more important than ever.

His arrival is also part of a larger goal for Federation in the year ahead: to continue making statewide Jewish community feel truly statewide. New Hampshire's Jewish community is spread

Shanah Tovah U'Metukah
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CONGREGATIONS

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

BETHLEHEM

BETHLEHEM HEBREW CONGREGATION
Rabbi Hazzan Jeremy Lipton - Summer & High Holidays
39 Strawberry Hill Road
PO Box 395, Bethlehem
Unaffiliated-Egalitarian
(802) 284-8890
www.bethlehemsynagogue.org
Weekly services from July through Simchat Torah with Zoom services and Torah study from November to June. Please check our website for service times and event information.

CONCORD

TEMPLE BETH JACOB
Rabbi Robin Nafshi
67 Broadway, Concord
Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 228-8581
www.tbjconcord.org
office@tbjconcord.org
Services: Friday night - 7:00 PM
Saturday morning - 9:30 AM

DERRY

ETZ HAYIM SYNAGOGUE (URJ)
Rabbi Lisë Stern
1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry
Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 432-0004
www.etzhayim.org
office@etzhayim.org
Services: Fridays 7:15 PM
Saturday 9:30 AM
Torah Study - Saturday 10:45 AM
Check the website for updates
Monthly Family Pizza Shabbat at 5:30 PM
Please visit www.etzhayim.org/calendar for optional Zoom link.

HANOVER

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

KOL HA'EMEK UPPER VALLEY JEWISH COMMUNITY

Rabbi Mark Melamut
Roth Center for Jewish Life
5 Occom Ridge, Hanover
Nondenominational, Unaffiliated
(603) 646-0460
www.uvjc.org
office@uvjc.org
Services: Friday night Shabbat service at 6:00 PM
Saturday morning Shabbat service at 10:00 AM

KEENE

CONGREGATION AHAVAS ACHIM
Rabbi Dan Aronson
84 Hastings Avenue, Keene
Nondenominational/Unaffiliated
(603) 352-6747
www.keenesynagogue.org
rabbida@keenesynagogue.org
office@keenesynagogue.org
Services: Regular Friday night services at 7:00 PM
Weekly Shabbat Torah study at 9:30 AM.
Shabbat morning services on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:30 AM.
Meditation and Pirkei Avot study on the 4th Saturday of each month at 10:30 AM.
All services are in-person and online.
Check the website for schedule changes and Zoom links.

LACONIA

TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL
Rabbi Andy Bachman
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

BERNICE AND IRVING SINGER CHABAD CENTER FOR JEWISH LIVING
Rabbi Levi Krinsky
1234 River Rd., Manchester
Orthodox, Chabad
(603) 647-0204
www.chabadofnh.com
rabbi@chabadofnh.com
Services:
Shabbat morning at 10:00am
Sunday morning at 9:00am

TEMPLE ADATH YESHURUN
Cantor Harriet Dunkerley
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 6:00 PM
All other Friday nights at 7:00 PM with some exceptions.
Alternating Shabbat services or Torah study Saturday mornings at 10:00 AM

TEMPLE ISRAEL MANCHESTER
Rabbi Rafi Kantor, interim
66 Salmon Street, Manchester
Conservative Affiliated USCJ
(603) 622-6171
office@templeisraelmht.org
www.templeisraelmht.org
Shabbat Services: Every month we offer one Friday night Shabbat with a catered community dinner (rsvp required), and two Saturday Shabbat services followed by a light kiddush (no rsvp necessary).
Every Wednesday, we offer a 7:00 AM in

person morning minyan and a 6:30 PM Torah study via ZOOM. Please check our website www.templeisraelmht.org, call our office at (603) 622-6171 or email office@templeisraelmht.org for information on specific service dates and times.

NASHUA

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

NEWINGTON

UNH & SEACOAST CHABAD JEWISH CENTER
Rabbi Berel Slavaticki
2299 Woodbury Avenue, Newington
Orthodox, Chabad
(603) 584-4111
Rabbi@JewishSeacoast.com
www.JewishSeacoast.com
Services:
Saturday morning at 10:00am
followed by Kiddush.

NORTH CONWAY

KEHILAT HAR LAVAN
Hazzan Marlana Fuerstman
PO Box 474, Bartlett
(207) 256-0060
harlavancommunity@gmail.com
Services: Wed. mornings 9:00 AM online via Zoom
Enter meeting ID https://zoom.us/j/381930069
Holiday service times, locations TBA.

PORTSMOUTH

TEMPLE ISRAEL
Rabbi Marc Hersch
200 State Street, Portsmouth
Conservative, Affiliated USCJ
(603) 436-5301
www.templeisraelnh.org
templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org
Services: Friday, 6:00 PM
Saturday, 10:00 AM
Tues. minyan 5:30 PM
Temple Israel has a fully licensed M-F preschool.

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Please send all materials to:
thereporter@jewishnh.org

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

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Shabbat Candle Lighting Times: (Manchester)

September 4 6:57 PM
September 11 6:45 PM
September 18 6:32 PM
September 25 6:20 PM



The High Holiday Survival Guide I Wish I'd Had All Along

High holidays, as a parent, are filled with a certain amount of sticky existential dread. Schools need to be bargained with, appropriate clothing needs to be negotiated, the whole family must be informed of the expectations for performative observance (and threatened appropriately with Consequences). The choreography (or perhaps battle plan) must be exact. Kira's shoes and fidgets, Cayden's permitted reading materials and honey rations, Rayna's nap schedule and snacks—this is all carefully managed by my over-caFFEinated and under-medicated, anxious and slightly obsessive brain. All so that my family, for three hours, can exist in a sacred space alongside the *alte kackers* without (God forbid!) disrupting their *kavanah*. The lengths I will go to avoid stinkeye from that imaginary Bubbie Fayge or Zayde Irv!

Underneath all that overthinking is always the nagging feeling that I'm supposed to be doing this *right*: raising good kids, being a good parent, and somehow

Dinah Berch

**JFNH
Program
Coordinator**



also being a good Jew—while determining what that even means. That's about when I wish I had recorded my grandfather's tune to the High Holiday kiddush, at the very least.

For years I gathered resources, bookmarked websites, collected crafts and recipes, and tried to make my own survival guides. The real salve for my anxiety is a guide that came out in 2022: *A Time to Grow: A PJ Library Family Guide for Starting the Jewish New Year*.

A Time to Grow isn't an answer to "How do I do Judaism correctly?" It doesn't hand you a checklist and send you off to earn your Good Jewish Family badge. It does something much more use-

ful: it reminds you that you don't have to figure everything out yourself.

Contributor Lisa Rachlin described why the PJ Library Family guides are needed: "I often felt it was a struggle to create a meaningful holiday experience while juggling naps and meals and activities for kids of different ages. I felt strongly that parents needed accessible, child-friendly resources that also incorporated meaningful content for adults. ... for busy parents stretched thin, it is helpful to have a print resource you can pull off the shelf and use."

Sound familiar? Right there. She's talking about me.

A Time to Grow offers preparation tips (no fish head? Use gummy fish!), rituals, activities, recipes, conversation starters, and family-friendly explanations of High Holiday prayers (with links to listen to recordings!). It gives families choices: pick what feels right and leave the rest. I love the guide's Positive Ashamnu, for example, a celebration of what we want to carry into the new year: *we loved, we grew, we explored, we created, we laughed, we helped, we forgave, we kept trying*.

Children might recognize the illustrations; characters from the PJ Library Haggadah, *In Every Generation*, travel through the guides, accompanying families through the Jewish year. *A Time to Grow* is just the beginning: *A Time to Grow* covers Rosh Hashanah through Simchat Torah; *A Time to Hope* explores Sigd, Hanukkah, Tu B'shevat and Purim; *A Time to Gather* covers Passover, Mimmouna, Yom Ha'atzmaut, Second Passover, Lag B'Omer, Yom Yerushalayim and Shavuot; and *A Palace in Time*, an interactive two-book set about Shabbat, is coming out soon.

These guides intentionally expand the picture of Jewish life. Through "win-

dows" and "mirrors," children—and the adults reading alongside them—encounter traditions and stories from Jewish communities around the world.

And while these are family guides, they aren't only for parents of young children. Grandparents, interfaith families, educators, adults exploring Jewish life, and anyone looking for a place to start can find something useful.

The first two guides and the Haggadah are available in paperback, and here is where I have a little dream: I'd love to see these guides sitting on shelves in synagogues, preschools, religious schools, libraries, and Jewish community spaces across New Hampshire—places where someone can pick one up and think: "Oh. Someone has already made this easier for me."

If you're connected to a Jewish organization that could use copies for families and community members, please reach out to me. I'd love to help make that happen.

In the meantime, download a copy. Open it. Pick one thing. Ask one question. Eat something involving an unreasonable amount of honey. Maybe a Swedish fish. I'm assuming the Maccabees or Six13 musical remix is being saved for the next guide. Find *A Time to Grow* at pjlibrary.org/grow, along with PJ Library's High Holiday resources at pjlibrary.org/highholidays.

This year I'm going to try harder to drop the performance, loosen my jaw and relax the choreography. We don't have to do parenting, Judaism or parenting Jewishly perfectly—or figure it all out alone. We can find our *havurah*, create our own *kavanah-dik* atmosphere, and slide into 5787—not perfectly, probably not quietly, but meaningfully.

Shana Tova.

Bake
Along!



DINAH'S ROSH HASHANAH HONEY CAKE

adapted from Epicurious: "Majestic and Moist New Year's Honey Cake" by Marcy Goldman

MATERIALS:

Stand mixer & bowl with paddle attachment OR bowl and wooden spoon
measuring cups & spoons
loaf pans

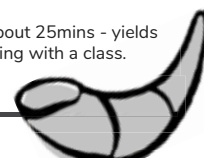
INGREDIENTS:

3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
4 tps ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp ground cloves
1/2 tsp ground allspice
1 cup vegetable oil
1 cup honey
1 1/2 cups granulated sugar
1/2 cup brown sugar
3 eggs
1 tsp vanilla extract
1 cup warm coffee or strong tea
3/4 cup fresh orange juice
optional: fresh orange zest

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease pans.
- 2 Prepare strong coffee or tea and set to cool. Tip: If you don't want to use instant coffee, try any black tea - especially "orange & spice"!
- 3 In a large bowl or mixer, gently mix together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, and spices. Make a well in the center and add the oil, honey, sugars, eggs, vanilla, coffee, and orange juice. If adding zest, add that in now.
- 4 Using a strong wire whisk or an electric mixer on slow speed, combine the ingredients well to make a thick batter, making sure that no ingredients are stuck to the bottom of the bowl.
- 5 Spoon the batter into the prepared pan(s). Bake until the cake springs back when you touch it gently in the center - approximately 45mins depending on size of cake. This is a liquidy batter and, depending on your oven, it may need extra time.
- 6 Let the cake stand for 15 minutes before removing it from the pan.

Makes a lot! Try in mini muffin pans baked for about 25mins - yields around 48 mini muffins. Great for gifting or sharing with a class.



UneTaneh Tokef

I trust in the magical algorithm that governs my phone's music app. Somehow, with no real insight into how I'm feeling, it always seems to know just the right songs to play. So it wasn't surprising that, as the Jewish High Holy Days approach, it began serving up Leonard Cohen's "Who by Fire." Cohen, the Canadian poet laureate of rock, based the song on the thousand-year-old UneTaneh Tokef prayer recited on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

The UneTaneh Tokef prayer, attributed to author Rabbi Amnon of Mainz, Germany, explains that God is like a shepherd

Jessie Mocle

**JFNH Director
of Community
Advocacy**



with their flock, and just like a flock of sheep, all of humanity is passed under their staff for inspection. The prayer continues with some of the most poignant lines in liturgy:

Unetaneh Tokef... continued on page 6

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.

Wednesday, September 1

Beyond Apples and Honey: Reimagining Rosh Hashanah Rituals for Grandparents

7:00 PM, Jewish Grandparents Network via Zoom
As grandparents, we want our family—and especially our grandchildren—to find meaning and joy in our Rosh Hashanah celebrations. Rabbi Vanessa Ochs, Ph.D., author and Professor Emerita in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia, will guide us in ways to reimagine our Jewish New Year observance by adapting old traditions and brining in new rituals. Zoom presented by the Jewish Grandparents Network. Send questions to Terry Kaye at terry@jewishgrandparents.org. Register for the Zoom webinar at jewishgrandparentsnetwork.org/event/beyond-apples-and-honey-reimagining-rosh-hashanah-rituals-for-grandparents/

Thursday, September 3

Hadassah September Chapter Meeting

1:00 PM, Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, 273 South River Road Unit #5, Bedford
Please join us at the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire for the September Chapter Meeting of Hadassah Manchester. Contact Michele Bank at (603) 488-5657 or at michele.bank@gmail.com for questions.

White Mountain Jewish Film Festival

6:00 PM, Colonial Theatre, Bethlehem, NH
SAVE THE TIGER (1973): Jack Lemmon won an Oscar for this dramatic performance, considered by many to be his finest. Lemmon plays Harry Stoner, a man caught in violent collision with his past and present life. He believes there is nothing significant in his life except survival, and that instinct pushes him beyond moral conduct. But Harry is frightened to break away from the emptiness of his seemingly successful life. The guest speakers are Laurie Heineman, Emmy Award winning actress, teacher and art therapist, and Rick Winston, film programmer, historian and author. As always, your ticket includes our festival's famous patio party beginning at 6PM with complimentary refreshments and an assortment of beverages. The guest speakers will introduce the film and then stay for a Q&A as the houselights go on afterwards. Movie Time – All Films: Box office opens: 5:30PM/ Patio opens: 6:00PM/ Guest Speaker: 6:30PM/Film: 7:00PM. General Admission \$10; BHC and JFNH Members: \$9. Tickets are sold at the door or can be purchased online. Please visit our website for more information: www.bethlehemsynagogue.org.

Sunday, September 6

The Anat Cohen Quartet

2:00 PM, Colonial Theatre, Bethlehem, NH
Bethlehem's historic Colonial Theatre, in partnership with Sounds in the Sanctuary and

Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation, presents a special performance by Grammy-nominated, Israeli-American jazz clarinetist and saxophonist Anat Cohen. Come up to beautiful Bethlehem for the day, enjoy the mountains, poke into the boutiques on Main Street, attend the concert, and enjoy a meal at one of our top-notch restaurants. For more information, please visit: www.bethlehemcolonial.org. Sponsor: Sounds in the Sanctuary and Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation

Wednesday, September 9

Jewish Holiday Story Time

10:30 AM, Minot-Sleeper Library, 35 Pleasant Street, Bristol, NH
Join Dinah Berch, PJ Library Program Coordinator for New Hampshire, for a special story time all about the Jewish High Holidays and Fall Festivals! Dinah will bring books and a small craft project. Free Program! No registration, affiliation or membership required. Questions? Contact Dinah Berch at dinah.berch@jewishnh.org. Sponsor: Minot-Sleeper Library, Temple B'nai Israel, Jewish Federation of New Hampshire and PJ Library New Hampshire.

Thursday, September 10

Schmooze and Brews with Jews

5:30 PM, meet up location displayed on keenesynagogue.org
Join us for these after-hours to get together at a location in Keene. Casually hang out to Schmooze with Jews over Brews! No registration is required. Just check out our website to see where the current meet up location will be and just show up. Go to www.keenesynagogue.org for more up to date information or contact Daniela Yitzchak at 603-352-6747 or at office@keenesynagogue.org.

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, begins at sundown on Friday, September 11th.

Yom Kippur, the Jewish day of atonement, begins at sundown on Sunday, September 20th and ends after nightfall on Monday, September 21.

See our Service Times listings for more information about High Holiday services and opportunities around the state of New Hampshire.

Wednesday, September 23

Workshop for Educators: Teaching the Holocaust Through and at Museums

8:00 AM, Keene State College, Keene, NH
This half-day workshop explores museums as carefully constructed memorial environments that are at once commemorative spaces and pedagogic tools. Focusing on exhibitions at sites of atrocity as well as institutions at a geographical distance, the workshop examines how curatorial choices shape public understanding of the Holocaust. Building on these themes, a practical session will model a lesson titled "Teaching the Holocaust Through Digital Museum Spaces." Participants will engage with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's online collections through a structured, multi-part activity designed for classroom use. Educators will leave with concrete strategies and adaptable materials to help students critically and ethically read both physical and digital museum spaces, deepening their historical understanding while fostering reflective, responsible engagement with Holocaust memory. This workshop will be facilitated by Dr. Steven Cooke (the Cohen Institute's 2026 Holocaust Memorial Lecturer) and

Dr. Sandra Grudi (Coordinator of Educational Outreach). Additional Information: This workshop will take place fully in-person on campus at Keene State. Breakfast and workshop materials are provided to participants at no cost. Workshop attendees will receive a certificate of completion listing the number of professional development hours completed. There is no cost to attend this workshop; however, space is limited and advanced registration is required. The hard deadline to register for this workshop (if spaces still remain) is 5:00 pm ET on Monday, September 14, 2026. Learn more and register here: <https://www.keene.edu/news/events/detail/23523/>. Sponsor: Cohen Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College.

2026 Holocaust Memorial Lecture: "Fragile Witnesses: Holocaust Sites in an Age of Climate Uncertainty"

6:00 PM, Mabel Brown Room at Keene State College or via Livestream
The Cohen Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College will feature Dr. Steven Cooke as the 2026 Holocaust Memorial Lecturer. His lecture is entitled "Fragile Witnesses: Holocaust Sites in an Age of Climate Uncertainty." Holocaust memorial sites face an uncertain future. Now over 80 years since the end of the Holocaust, the generation of survivors who experienced the events firsthand is passing, Holocaust denial and distortion is growing, and climate change is adding new threats — storms, floods, and rising sea levels accelerating the physical decay of sites that bear witness to genocide. These pressures create dilemmas both conceptual and practical. How do we understand the role of these sites as 'witnesses' when the witnesses themselves are gone? And for those responsible for managing them, the options are uncomfortable. Expensive restoration is often out of reach, but allowing sites to decay raises serious ethical problems — the physical fabric of these places is frequently legally protected and serves as evidence of historical crimes. There are no easy answers. This lecture examines case studies from Europe and Australia to explore what managing Holocaust heritage means in practice, and what is at stake for their role as sites of memory. Registration: This event is free and open to everyone, but advanced registration is required. It will be hosted in person on the campus of Keene State College and will also be accessible via livestream. The hard deadline to register for in-person attendance is 5:00 pm ET on Tuesday, September 15, 2026 (unless seating fills sooner). We will not be able to register any additional guests for in-person attendance after that time. Registration Link: <https://www.keene.edu/news/events/detail/23221/>. Doors will open to registered attendees beginning at 5:30 pm. Photography and videography are prohibited at this event. The lecture is made possible through donor funding as well as support from the Keene Endowment Association. If you would like to make a gift to support this lecture or other Institute offerings, please visit our website. Sponsor: Cohen Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College

Sukkot begins on September 25th and continues for seven days.

Sunday, September 27

PJ Library Stuffies in the Sukkah: A Sukkot-themed Story time and crafts

10:00 AM, Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation, 39 Strawberry Road, Bethlehem, NH

Bring your favorite stuffie and join us in the sukkah! We'll read a few PJ Library books about Sukkot and make some sukkah decorations together to beautify the BHC Sukkah. Then stay to enjoy the Congregational Sukkot Potluck! Stuffies in the Sukkah begins right at 10am. Potluck to follow at 11am. FREE PJ Library program in partnership with Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation. Non-members welcome; no affiliation or membership required. PJ Library events are geared towards families with children ages 0-8; siblings, grownups and grand friends encouraged! Email dinah.berch@jewishnh.org with questions. Sponsor: JFNH, PJ Library NH, Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation.

Tuesday, September 29

Archives Open House, Holocaust & Genocide Special Collection: "Mementos 2026: Recent Donations to the Holocaust and Genocide Special Collection"

3:30 PM, Mason Library at Keene State College, Keene, NH
Join the Keene State College Archives and the Cohen Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies for the opening of a new exhibit based on the Holocaust and Genocide Special Collection! Drop in anytime during the hour to explore materials that have recently been donated to this collection and learn about ongoing fundraising and plans to support archival work. Prof. Rodney Obien, KSC Archivist, and Dr. Kate Gibeault, Director of the Cohen Institute, will offer brief words of welcome and framing. Student staff from the Archives will also be on hand to answer questions and highlight important information about these materials. Light refreshments will be served. This event is free and open to everyone. Advanced registration is requested but not required. REGISTER HERE: <https://keenestate.wufoo.com/forms/pf6863c15rs5ku/>. Sponsor: Cohen Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College; Keene State College Archives

Thursday, October 1

A Treasured Yiddish Book That Stayed Hidden for 75 Years

7:00 PM, Virtual via Yiddish Book Center
Yiddish writer Chava Rosenfarb is now celebrated in Canada, her adopted home, and Poland, the country of her birth. But in 1949, as a young Holocaust survivor and refugee, she faced an uncertain future. One evening in London changed everything. Invited over from Belgium to launch her new book, Rosenfarb was feted by London's Yiddish writers and hailed as a promising new voice in Yiddish poetry. Rosenfarb's daughter, Goldie Morgentaler, has just found her mother's treasured copy of that book, signed by everyone present that evening. Goldie and Yiddish Book Center chief curator David Mazower will share stories of Rosenfarb's and London's Yiddish writers and discuss what this tribute evening meant to the young writer. Contact the Yiddish Book Center for more information at programs@yiddishbookcenter.org or visit www.yiddishbookcenter.org.

Shemini Atzeret beings at sundown on Friday, October 2nd followed by Simchat Torah on October 3rd.

See our High Holiday Service listings for service offerings around the state of New Hampshire.

Federation Voices

Shanah Tovah U'Metukah *continued from page 1*

across many towns, congregations, organizations, and regions, each with its own traditions and personality. Federation is at its best when we help connect those individual communities into something larger. Creating opportunities to learn from one another, celebrate together, and respond together when challenges arise.

In the months ahead, you will see Federation continue expanding programs and partnerships that bring people together. We will create opportunities to celebrate Jewish life, strengthen our connection to Israel, support families, confront antisemitism, and help our synagogues and community institutions collaborate in new ways. Some of those programs will be familiar favorites, while others will represent new ideas and new partnerships that we look forward to sharing with you.

Of course, none of this happens without you. Federation is not simply an office or a staff; it is a network of people across New Hampshire who care deeply about Jewish life and about one another. Every volunteer, donor, partner organization, lay leader, program participant, and community member plays a role in creating the vibrant Jewish future we hope to build. As we begin this new year, I hope you will find new ways to connect with Federation and with Jewish communities throughout our state.

The sweetness of a new year comes not only from apples and honey, but from the possibilities that lie ahead of us. May 5787 bring renewed connection, meaningful friendships, joyful celebrations, greater understanding, and moments of sweetness to you and your loved ones. On behalf of everyone at the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, Shanah Tovah U'Metukah. I look forward to all that we will accomplish together in the year ahead.

A gift from the
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire



SIGN UP Ages birth through 8
pjlibrary.org
Ages 9 through 12
pjourway.org

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Shavua Tov Story Time

A program for families with children ages 2-5

Join us for a 20-minute interactive story time on Zoom one Sunday each month from 8:30am to 9:00am. Register once for \$18.00 per family to receive monthly crafts in the mail for the year! The zoom link will be provided to registered families each Monday ahead of the program. Grandparents and grandfriends welcome too! Scan QR code to register or go to bit.ly/shavuatov26.



August 30 Theme: Rosh Hashanah	February 14 Theme: Mitzvot
October 11 Theme: Fall Festivals	March 14 Theme: Purim
November 8 Theme: Shabbat	April 11 Theme: Passover
December 6 Theme: Hanukkah	May 16 Theme: Israel
January 24 Theme: Tu B'shevat	June 6 Theme: Shavuot

No Shavua Tov Story Time in September for the High Holidays, or in July or August for Summer Vacation

Visit <https://bit.ly/shavuatov26> to register or email PJ Library Program Coordinator Dinah Berch at dinah.berch@jewishnh.org with questions.

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Unetaneh Tokef

continued from page 3

On Rosh Hashanah they are inscribed, and on the fast day of Yom Kippur they are sealed: How many shall pass away and how many shall be born; who shall live and who shall die; who shall live out his allotted time and who shall depart before his time; who [shall perish] by water and who by fire...

The listing of all the ways one might meet their end is beautiful and haunting, and it's no wonder that Leonard Cohen had the inspiration to write his own version. The song itself has a storied history. From Wikipedia we learn that Cohen arrived on the battlefield in the Sinai Peninsula and performed for a small group of soldiers in the 1973 Yom Kippur War. Singing with a band of four Israeli musicians, Cohen said: "I am joining my brothers fighting in the desert," adding "I don't care if their war is just or not. I know only that war is cruel, that it leaves bones, blood and ugly stains on the holy soil." The first verse of the song reveals:

*And who by fire, who by water
Who in the sunshine, who in the nighttime
Who by high ordeal, who by common trial
Who in your merry, merry month of May
Who by very slow decay
And who shall I say is calling?*

In Cohen's adaptation, he ends each verse with the question: "And who shall I say is calling?" Cohen leaves the answer deliberately ambiguous. Is God calling to us? Are we calling out to God? Or is it mortality itself that calls each of us in its own time? That uncertainty gives the song

much of its enduring power. In my understanding, on the day we are written and the day we are sealed, we are the ones calling out to God to add us favorably to the Book of Life.

In the case of Unetaneh Tokef, however, we're not left with a question, but a directive: **"But Repentance (Teshuvah), Prayer (T'fillah), and Charity (Tzedakah) avert the severity of the decree."** It's in this sentence that we regain our agency in a world that often rolls along, leaving us to sometimes stride ahead, and sometimes fall behind.

The brilliance of Unetaneh Tokef is that it refuses to leave us powerless. While so much of life remains beyond our control, we are reminded that we always retain the ability to change ourselves, deepen our relationships with God and one another, and care for those around us. Teshuvah, T'fillah, and Tzedakah restore our sense of purpose in an uncertain world.

I want to thank all of you who have helped us by giving tzedakah to my beloved Jewish Federation of New Hampshire. We wouldn't be able to do the good and hard work of representing the Jewish communities of New Hampshire without your caring donations of time, effort, and heart. Tzedakah takes many forms. It can mean volunteering on a committee, serving on our Board of Directors, sorting hundreds of PJ Library books, checking in on a neighbor, or making a financial contribution that allows this work to continue.

In our busy lives, we may sometimes underestimate or forget altogether the good that we do. That special tingling feeling in our souls when we've made a mitzvah fades in the overwhelming tumult we occasionally find ourselves in. But once again, Unetaneh Tokef reminds us that, "[God] remember[s] all things that are forgotten. [God] open[s] the Book of Remembrance and it reads itself; every man's signature is in it."

So keep smiling at strangers in the grocery store, build your friends up when they feel down, and take time to be kind to yourself. Please continue to look to the Jewish Federation for connection, support, inspiration, and a place where you belong. Shana Tova Tikatevu - On this New Year and Day of Atonement, may you be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life.

Work Cited:

Kehot Publication Society. "Unetaneh Tokef Hebrew/English Text." Chabad.org. https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/2701114/jewish/Unetaneh-Tokef-Hebrew-English-Text.htm#lt=both. Accessed 4 August 2026.

Help Your Community Receive PJ Library Family Guides! Donate to PJ Library New Hampshire Today



Scan QR Code and donate \$36 and PJ Library Family Guides A Time to Grow and A Time to Hope will be sent to the Jewish community or synagogue of your choice. Email Dinah at dinah.berch@jewishnh.org with questions.



PJ Library is brought to New Hampshire through the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire. Questions? Email Dinah Berch.

Jewish Heritage Night Brings New Hampshire's Jewish Community Together

On a beautiful summer evening at Delta Dental Stadium, more than baseball was on display. Jewish Heritage Night with the New Hampshire Fisher Cats brought together hundreds of community members from every corner of the Granite State for a celebration of Jewish life, community, and pride. Families, congregations, camps, and community organizations gathered to enjoy America's pastime while demonstrating the strength and vibrancy of New Hampshire's Jewish community.

The evening served as a reminder that while our Jewish communities may be spread across the state, we are strongest when we come together. It was wonderful to see members of nearly every congregation, campers and staff from our Jewish summer camps, and individuals of all ages connecting with old friends, making new ones, and celebrating what unites us.

One of the evening's highlights came before the first pitch, as **Cantor Harriet Dunkerley** delivered a beautiful rendition of both **Hatikvah** and **The Star-Spangled Banner**. Her performance set the tone for an evening that celebrated both our Jewish heritage and our place within the broader New Hampshire community. We were also honored to welcome **Consul General Benni Sharoni**, whose attendance underscored the close relationship between New Hampshire's Jewish community and the State of Israel. Consul General Sharoni had the privilege of throwing out the ceremonial first pitch, a memorable moment that was warmly received by fans throughout the stadium.

A special thank you also goes to **Rabbi**

Levi Krinsky, whose efforts made it possible for attendees to enjoy a **fully kosher concession stand** throughout the evening. For many families, having kosher ballpark food available transformed the experience and allowed even more members of our community to participate fully in the event. It was a wonderful addition to Jewish Heritage Night, and one that we hope will become a tradition in the years ahead.

Throughout the concourse, community organizations helped showcase the many ways people can engage with Jewish life in New Hampshire. Congregations, camps, agencies, and community partners hosted information tables highlighting their missions, upcoming programs, educational opportunities, and volunteer initiatives. Together, they created a vibrant "Jewish Community Village," demonstrating the remarkable diversity and vitality of Jewish organizations serving our state.

Events like Jewish Heritage Night don't happen without dedicated partners, and we are deeply grateful to the **New Hampshire Fisher Cats** organization for embracing this event and helping make it such a success. From the earliest planning stages through game day, the Fisher Cats staff enthusiastically partnered with the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire to create an evening that was welcoming, meaningful, and enjoyable for everyone in attendance. Their commitment to celebrating the diversity of our community helped make this one of the highlights of the summer.

As the game unfolded and the sun set



over the stadium, what stood out most wasn't the score on the field—it was the sense of connection in the stands. Friends reconnected, children played together, conversations flourished, and our community was proudly visible to thousands of fellow New Hampshirites. Jewish Heritage Night reminded us that when we come together, we not only strengthen our own community but also share the richness of Jewish life with our neighbors across the state.

The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended, volunteered, partnered, and helped make the evening possible. We look forward to building on this year's success and welcoming an even larger crowd to Jewish Heritage Night in the years to come.



JFNH and ADL Meet with Senator Hassan's Office

By Jessie Mocle, JFNH Director of Community Advocacy

On August 5, representatives from the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire (JFNH), the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), local clergy, and community members met with Senator Maggie Hassan's regional staff to advocate for stronger federal protections against antisemitism and to share personal stories about its growing impact in New Hampshire.

Representing JFNH were Executive Director Erik Martin and Director of Community Advocacy Jessie Mocle. They were joined by ADL representatives Samantha Joseph and Michael Weilheimer, Cantor Harriet Dunkerley, and community members Debbie Berger and Dina Michael Chaitowitz. The group met with Senator Hassan's Regional Director, Justin Troiano.

During the meeting, Samantha Joseph urged Senator Hassan to support the

Jewish American Security Act (S.4576/H.R.9211), bipartisan legislation designed to strengthen the federal government's response to antisemitism. Among its provisions, the bill would significantly expand funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP), increase support for law enforcement protection of religious institutions, strengthen Title VI enforcement and education regarding antisemitism in schools, establish an Antisemitism Coordinator at the U.S. Department of Education, and require greater transparency from social media companies regarding antisemitic content.

The delegation also discussed the Safeguarding Access to Congregations and Religious Establishments from Disruption (SACRED) Act (H.R.8239), which would establish 100-foot safe access zones around houses of worship, allowing congregants to enter and leave without harassment or intimidation while preserving First Amendment rights to



peaceful protest. Although the legislation has been introduced in the House of Representatives, participants encouraged Senator Hassan to consider supporting a Senate companion bill.

Much of the meeting centered on personal experiences with antisemitism. Cantor Harriet Dunkerley described both the financial and emotional costs of strengthening security at Temple Adath Yeshurun, outlining the extensive work already completed and the challenges that remain.

Debbie Berger shared the difficult experience of discovering antisemitic content in her daughter's ninth-grade curriculum, while Dina Michael Chaitowitz emphasized the importance of ensuring that schools teach from reliable, well-vetted educational resources.

Erik Martin spoke about the impact of online antisemitism on his teenage daughters, and Jessie Mocle described recent online harassment surrounding the New Hampshire Fisher Cats' Jewish Heritage Night, including calls on social media to boycott the event.

Michael Weilheimer reflected on the broader implications of rising antisemitism, observing that attacks on Jewish communities have often served as an ear-

ly warning sign of increasing intolerance toward other minority groups.

Troiano listened attentively throughout the discussion, expressing particular interest in the personal stories shared by participants. He also offered a personal perspective, explaining that his Jewish wife has felt increasingly uncomfortable publicly identifying as Jewish in recent years and has stopped wearing her Magen David necklace. He assured the group that he would share the concerns raised during the meeting with Senator Hassan and that the information would receive careful consideration.

The meeting concluded with participants thanking Senator Hassan for her support of the Pray Safe Act (H.R.5645/S.2947), recently passed by both the House and Senate. The legislation establishes a central hub within the Department of Homeland Security to help nonprofits and houses of worship access safety, security, and preparedness resources.

As incidents of antisemitism continue to rise across the country, participants said meetings like this provide an important opportunity for elected officials to hear directly from those affected and to better understand the challenges facing Jewish communities today.




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- 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 through the JFNH Office at 603-627-7679



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Seniors Forever Young Annual Garden Party



On Thursday, July 16, Seniors Forever Young gathered for our annual Garden Party at the beautiful home of our gracious hosts in Manchester. It was a wonderful afternoon of delicious food, beautiful flowers, great company, and lovely music from Caterina Yetto of the Manchester Community Music School. Even a surprise summer downpour couldn't dampen our spirits—we shared a few laughs, made the best of it, and enjoyed a memorable afternoon together. Thank you to our host for once again opening her home and gardens to us for this special tradition!



Splish Splash Shabbat



What a wonderful afternoon! On Friday, July 31, PJ Library New Hampshire partnered with Temple Israel in Portsmouth and the Early Learning Center Preschool for **Splish Splash Shabbat** at the fantastic Aqua Land Splash Pad in Newmarket. As children laughed, played, and cooled off in the splash pad, families came together to celebrate Shabbat in a fun, relaxed summer setting. Families creating clothespin butterflies and other crafts with Tammy Roberge, Director of the Early Learning Center Preschool, received free PJ Library beach bags, and browsed our hugely successful PJ Library Book Refresh—donating gently loved books and taking home exciting new-to-them titles. A special welcome to Rabbi Marc Hersch, Temple Israel's new rabbi, who led us in the Shabbat blessings, followed by joyful Shabbat songs with Abby Halpern, Temple Israel's Head of School. It was wonderful to meet so many new families, reconnect with old friends, and celebrate Shabbat together on such a gorgeous day. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make this event such a success! Interested in learning more? For information about Temple Israel or the Early Learning Center Preschool, contact templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org. For PJ Library New Hampshire, reach out to dinah.berch@jewishnh.org.



Jewish Federation Provides Holiday and Antisemitism Resources to NH Schools

By Jessie Mocle

This July, the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire (JFNH) sent correspondence to school superintendents

and heads of school throughout New Hampshire with two important resources: a practical guide to the upcoming Jewish High Holidays and a collection of resources to help educa-

tors recognize and respond to antisemitism in schools.

Each July and December, JFNH reaches out to school leadership across the state with an up-to-date calendar of

major Jewish holidays. The goal is to help schools avoid inadvertently creating conflicts that could prevent Jewish students or employees from fully observing important religious holidays or place them at a disadvantage.

JFNH asks superintendents to share the calendar with school administrative units and principals so that it can be considered when planning major activities, including exams, assemblies, tryouts and auditions, field trips, sporting events, school dances, and graduations. The Federation deeply appreciates school leaders' efforts to be mindful of the needs of students, parents, faculty, and staff when scheduling these activities.

This year's outreach also included a letter providing educators with resources for addressing antisemitism and other forms of bias. Schools across the country have increasingly been called upon to respond to incidents involving hateful language, harassment, bias, and vandalism while maintaining learning environments in which every student feels welcome and respected.

The resource letter offered free, practical guidance for educators, including age-appropriate classroom resources, lesson plans, professional development opportunities, strategies for responding to bias incidents, and tools for creating safe and inclusive learning environments.

Among the resources highlighted were the Anti-Defamation League's Antisemitism in the Classroom materials; teaching materials on antisemitism and racism from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; and educator resources from the Cohen Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College.

JFNH is committed to supporting New Hampshire schools in this important work. Educators face the challenging task of addressing difficult subjects and responding to bias in ways that are educational, thoughtful, and appropriate. By providing practical resources and raising awareness, JFNH hopes to help schools create environments where Jewish students and all students can learn and participate fully and safely.

The Federation will continue this outreach throughout the state as part of its commitment to strengthening understanding of Jewish holidays, traditions, and experiences and supporting schools in addressing antisemitism.



Shana Tova!

Dip a slice of apple in some honey and say:

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech
ha-olam, borei p'ri ha-eitz.

Blessed are you God, Ruler of the Universe,
Creator of the fruit of the tree.

ברוך אתה יי אלוהינו
מלך העולם בורא פרי העץ

Then eat it!

Rosh HaShana Song
to the tune of 'Clementine'

Dip the apple in the honey
Make a bracha loud and clear
Shana Tovah U'Metuka
Have a happy, sweet new year!

Sing along and watch Shaboom! at
BimBam.com/apples

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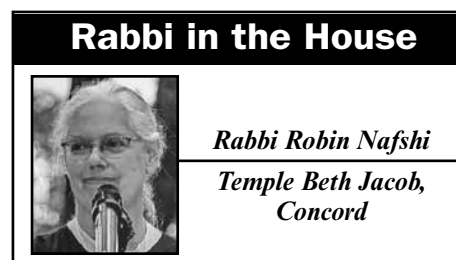
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Preparing for the High Holy Days

When I lived in Israel, one of the most memorable services I attended took place in a Sephardic synagogue beginning around 4:30 am. Usually, the *shacharit* (morning) services at this synagogue begin around 6:00 am. But we visited during the month of Elul, the month that precedes the High Holy Days. In the Sephardic Jewish community during Elul, extra time is spent praying special *s'lichot* prayers before the regular morning service. Why then? Jewish mystics consider the end of the night, just before the morning, to be the time we are closest to God. *S'lichot* means "forgiveness." Thus, if we are asking God to forgive us for our misdeeds of the previous year, we want to offer those prayers when, according to tradition, God is most likely to feel a connection to us.

For thousands of years, we Jewish people have used the month of Elul to put ourselves in the mood of the High Holy Days. For Sephardic Jews, the Jews of Spanish descent, prayers of forgiveness, almost a mini-Yom Kippur, are recited every morning of the month of Elul, starting on the second day. For Ashkenazi Jews, the Jews of German descent, *s'lichot* prayers are added to the service on the Saturday night or the Sunday morning immediately preceding Rosh Hashanah. (If Rosh Hashanah falls on a Monday or Tuesday, the *s'lichot* prayers are added a week earlier.) This year, *S'lichot* will be observed on September 5-6.

Maybe it was the hour of the day, but I still remember the service from the fall of 2001. The melodies were unlike anything I had ever heard before. The shofar was constantly sounded throughout the service, a uniquely Sephardic tradition. And members of the



congregation passed cups of hot tea through the pews, perhaps giving one another a needed caffeine jolt for the daily early morning service.

To prepare ourselves for the High Holy Days, in addition to observing *s'lichot*, our sages encourage us to study different texts during the month of Elul. One is Psalm 27, in particular verse 4, which many of us know as Achat Sha-alti, one of the most familiar of our High Holy Day prayers. The words mean: "One thing I ask of God, only that do I seek: to live in God's house all the days of my life, to gaze upon God's beauty, to meditate in God's Temple." The melodies with which I am familiar are stirring, even haunting, and most

definitely sound like a plea. No question, when I hear Achat Sha-alti, I close my eyes and see myself in a sanctuary for the Days of Awe.

Another text recommended to study is the Thirteen Attributes of God (also called the Thirteen Attributes of Mercy), and are the foundational traits of the Divine revealed to Moses in Exodus 34:6-7. They include:

- Adonai (first mention): Interpreted as God showing compassion before a person sins.
- Adonai (second mention): Interpreted as God showing compassion after a person sins, if the person repents.
- El (another word for God): Interpreted as the mighty and compassionate God who provides for all creatures.
- Rachum: God is merciful, easing distress.
- V'chanun: God is gracious, helping

the undeserving.

- Erech apayim: God is slow to anger and patient.
- V'rav chesed: God is abounding in love and kindness.
- Ve-emet: God is truth and faithful to keep promises.
- Notzer chesed la-alafim: God maintains lovingkindness for thousands of generations.
- Nosei avon: God forgives intentional iniquity/guilt.
- Vafesha: God forgives willful rebellion/transgression.
- V'chata-ah: God forgives inadvertent error/sin.
- V'naekih: God cleanses or pardons those who return.

May we all find connections to the Divine during Elul and the High Holy Days; and may the New Year provide us with an abundance of opportunities to connect with God and one another. *Shanah Tovah!*



Jewish Holidays Story Time

Join Dinah Berch, PJ Library Program Coordinator for New Hampshire, for a special story time all about the Jewish High Holidays and Fall Festivals! Dinah will bring books and a small craft project.



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High Holidays

High Holidays in New Hampshire

Service Times by Synagogue

Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation

We want to let the Jewish community of New Hampshire know that we will be offering a full schedule of High Holidays services and activities, free and open to all with advance registration. Although we do not expect any disruptions, due to heightened security concerns we have decided to not publish the dates and times of the services in The Reporter. Please visit our website at <https://www.bethlehemsynagogue.org/high-holiday-rsvp> to obtain more information and to register. Thank you for your understanding.

Chabad Center for Jewish Living, Manchester

- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:** 7:30pm
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day:** 10:00am
- **Tashlich:** 9/13 at 5:30pm (Stark Park / Merrimack River)
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 2nd Day:** 10:00am
- **Kol Nidre:** 6:45pm
- **Yom Kippur Morning Service:** 10:00am
- **Yom Kippur Afternoon Service:** 5:30pm
- **Ne'ilah:** 6:45pm
- **In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid:** In-Person only
- **Additional Services:**
 - Community Rosh Hashanah Dinner at Chabad following services: September 11, 2026. Register at chabadofnh.com/dinner.
 - Yizkor: September 21 at 12:30pm
 - Fast ends 7:27pm followed by Havdalah and Break-Fast Buffet
 - Sukkah Party: Tuesday Sept 29 5:30pm
 - Simchat Torah Hakafot: Saturday October 3 7:00pm
- **Additional Information:** [ChabadofNH.com/services](https://chabadofnh.com/services)

Congregation Ahavas Achim, Keene

- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:** 7:00pm
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day:** 9:00am
- **Tashlich:** 9/13 at 4:00pm (Ashuelot Park in Keene)
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 2nd Day:** 9:00am
- **Kol Nidre:** 6:00pm
- **Yom Kippur Morning Service:** 9:00am
- **Yom Kippur Afternoon Service:** 4:45pm
- **Ne'ilah:** 6:00pm
- **In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid:** Hybrid
- **Additional Services:**
 - Yizkor: September 21 at 1:00pm
 - Guided Meditation: September 21 at 4:00pm
 - Community Break Fast Potluck: September 21 following Havdalah
 - Erev Shabbat Service in the Sukkah: Friday, September 25 at 7:00 pm
 - Sukkot - Festival Morning Service with Yizkor: Saturday, September 26 at 9:30 am
 - Shemini Atzeret - Festival Morning Service with Yizkor: Saturday, October 3 at 9:30 am
 - Simchat Torah - Simchat Torah Celebration: Saturday, October 3 at 5:00 pm
- **Additional Information:** www.keenesynagogue.org

Congregation Betenu, Amherst

- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:** 7:00pm
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day:** 10:30am
- **Kol Nidre:** 7:00pm
- **Yom Kippur Morning Service:** 10:30am
- **Yom Kippur Afternoon Service:** 4:00pm
- **Ne'ilah:** 5:45pm
- **In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid:** Hybrid
- **Additional Services:**
 - Yizkor: September 21 at 5pm
- **Additional Information:** office@betenu.org. Zoom links will be sent to members and those who contact us about attending services. All in-person services will be held at Temple Beth Abraham in Nashua.

Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry

- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:** 7:15pm
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day:** 9:30am
- **Tashlich:** 9/12 at 12pm (Immediately following morning service at Hood Pond Park, 4 Rollins St, Derry, NH)
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 2nd Day:** 9:30am
- **Kol Nidre:** 7:15pm
- **Yom Kippur Morning Service:** 9:30am
- **Yom Kippur Afternoon Service:** 4:00pm
- **Ne'ilah:** 4:00pm
- **Additional Services:**
 - Selichot/Shabbat Service: Saturday, September 5 at 8:00pm
 - Family Service: Saturday, September 12 at 2:00pm
 - Discussion Group: Monday, September 21 at 1:00pm
 - Family Service 2: Monday, September 21 at 2:30pm
 - Community Break-Fast: Monday, September 21 at 6:30pm.
 - Selichot/Shabbat Service: Friday, September 25 at 7:15pm
 - Selichot/Shabbat Service: Saturday, September 26 at 9:30am
 - Sangria in the Sukkah: Sunday, September 27 at 7:00pm
 - Simchat Torah: Saturday, October 3 at 6:00pm
- **In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid:** Hybrid
- **Additional Information:** All services are free. Contact office@etzhayim.org to pre-register for Zoom. We will have babysitting. Contact office@etzhayim.org to reserve a spot.

Kol Ha'Emek Upper Valley Jewish Community, Hanover

- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:** 6:30pm (at Rollins Chapel, Dartmouth College)
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day:** 9:00am (Rollins Chapel, Dartmouth College)
- **Tashlich:** 3:00pm (Occum Pond)
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 2nd Day:** 9:00am (Roth Center)
- **Kol Nidre:** 6:30pm (Rollins Chapel, Dartmouth College)
- **Yom Kippur:** 9:00am (Rollins Chapel, Dartmouth College)
- **Additional Services:**
 - Monday, September 21st - Yom Kippur Family Service – 10 am (Roth Center)
 - Study Session, – 2 pm on September 21 (Rollins Chapel)
 - Yizkor Service – 4 pm on September 21 (Rollins Chapel)
 - Mincha Service – 5 pm on September 21 (Rollins Chapel)
 - Ne'ilah Service – 6 pm on September 21 (Rollins Chapel) - break the fast at 7:15 pm)
 - Sukkot Day 1 Service, 10 am on September 26 (Roth Center)
 - Sukkot Day 2 Service, 10 am on September 27 (Roth Center)
 - Shemini Atzeret and Yizkor Service, 10am on October 3 (Roth Center)
 - Simchat Torah Service, 10 am on Sunday October 4 (Roth Center)
- **In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid:** Hybrid
- **Additional Information:** Please visit www.uvjc.org/jewish-spiritual-life/high-holidays for the updated schedule. Visit uvjc.org/jewish-spiritual-life/high-holidays for Zoom instructions. To borrow High Holiday books email Chris at office@uvjc.org or call 603-646-0460.

Seacoast Chabad Jewish Center, Newington

- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:** 6:30pm
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day:** 10:00am
- **Tashlich:** 9/12 at 5:00pm (Piscataqua River)
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 2nd Day:** 10:00am
- **Kol Nidre:** 6:30pm
- **Yom Kippur Morning Service:** 10:00am
- **Ne'ilah:** 6:00pm
- **In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid:** In-Person only
- **Additional Information:** <http://jewishseacoast.com/5787>

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High Holidays

High Holidays in New Hampshire

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Temple Adath Yeshurun, Manchester

- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:** 7:30pm
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day:** 10:00am
- **Tashlich:** 9/12 at 4:15pm (Dorr's Pond)
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 2nd Day:** 10:00am
- **Kol Nidre:** 7:30pm
- **Yom Kippur Morning Service:** 10:00am
- **Yom Kippur Afternoon Service:** 4:00pm
- **Ne'ilah:** 6:15pm
- **In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid:** Hybrid
- **Additional Services:**
 - Sukkot Service: Friday, September 25th, 6pm
 - Yizkor: Saturday, October 3rd, 9:15am
 - Simchat Torah Service: Sunday, October 4th, 6pm
- **Additional Information:** office@taynh.org. If you SEE something SAY something. Enter on Ash Street and exit onto Beech Street. Security will be at the front door. Note all exits upon entering. Have your name tag/ticket ready at check in. The Cardiac AED device is on the left wall as you walk up the stairway to the upper lobby. All guests MUST be registered in advance. If you need assistance please arrive early. The elevator holds two people maximum. The wheelchair ramp is on the right side of the building. Babysitting is available during RH and YK morning services (sign-up in form). Booklets are sent to the printer by the deadlines given, late entries cannot be accommodated. Forms are due in on August 7, 2026. Parking will be in our lot and on the street. We may have times when we can use the Currier and/or Montessori lot. If so, we will send out an email in advance.

Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua

- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:** 8:00pm
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day:** 9:00am
- **Tashlich:** 9/12 at 1:45pm (Nashua River on Front St.)
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 2nd Day:** 9:00am
- **Kol Nidre:** 6:15pm
- **Yom Kippur Morning Service:** 9:00am
- **Yom Kippur Afternoon Service:** 5:15pm
- **Ne'ilah:** 6:15pm
- **In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid:** Hybrid
- **Additional Services:**
 - Rosh Hashanah Day 1:
 - Family Service for Ages 5-13: September 12 at 9:45 am
 - Tot Service for Ages 0-5: September 12 at 11:15 am
 - Young Adult Study and Discussion With Aki Yonekawa: September 12 at 9:45 am
 - Song Circle With Aki Yonekawa: September 12 at 12:00 pm
 - Rosh Hashanah Day 2:
 - Family Service for Ages 5-13, 2nd Day: September 13 at 9:45 am
 - Tot Service for Ages 0-5, 2nd Day: September 13 at 11:15 am
 - Teen Discussion With Aki: September 13 at 9:45 am
 - Discussion, Sing, and Study With Aki -- How to Prepare a Prayer for Yom Kippur: September 13 at 12:00pm.
 - Sukkot:
 - Shabbat and Sukkot 1st Evening Service: September 25 at 8:00 pm
 - Shabbat and Sukkot 1st Day Morning Service: September 26 at 10:00 am
 - Sukkah Lunch Celebrating Keter Shem Tov Honoree Elli Schwartz: September 26 at 12:15 pm
 - Sukkot 2nd Evening Service: September 26 at 7:30 pm -- location TBA
 - Sukkot 2nd Day Morning Service: September 27 at 10:00 am
 - Shabbat and Shmini Atzeret Morning Service: October 2 at 8:00 pm) Shabbat and Shmini Atzeret Morning Service: October 3 at 10:00 am
 - Simchat Torah Evening Service With Hakafot: October 3 at 7:30 pm
 - Simchat Torah Morning Service With Hakafot: October 4 at 9:30 am
 - Simchat Torah Family Celebration: October 4, time to be announced
- **Additional Information:** We welcome everyone, whether you have been a member or are new, whether you have a High Holy Day routine and familiarity or whether you are exploring and searching-- or both! In the month of Elul leading up to Rosh Hashanah, we have many opportunities to prepare through study sessions and resources online.

Some of the details, schedules, and offerings may change, so keep up through our website or sign up to be on our e-mail list. Our main services are always accessible on Zoom. See our website for more details. During Sukkot Beth Abraham's "Traveling Sukkah" with food and minyan is at homes around our area. Contact us for more details! We welcome all people even if you are not a member! If you are new and think you might come or if you are bringing any guests, please do register on our website or contact us. See our website or call us for more details about accessibility, parking, Zoom access and more. Please register online at www.tbanashua.org so we can share up-to-date information and schedules. Contact Rebecca White at rebecca@tbanashua.org or (603) 883-8184 with questions.

Temple Beth Jacob, Concord

- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:** 7:30pm
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day:** 9:30am
- **Tashlich:** 9/12 at 2:15pm (Everett Boat Ramp)
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 2nd Day:** 9:30am
- **Kol Nidre:** 7:30pm
- **Yom Kippur Morning Service:** 9:30am
- **Yom Kippur Afternoon Service:** 3:30pm
- **Ne'ilah:** 6:00pm
- **In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid:** Hybrid
- **Additional Services:**
 - Rosh Hashanah Youth Service: RH Day 1, 10:00 am in TBJ classrooms)
 - Kiddush sponsored by Sisterhood at the end of morning service: RH Day 1, approx. 12:30 pm.
 - Rosh Hashanah Family Service: RH Day 1, 1:30 pm (for families with children 7 or younger) at grass by Everett Arena boat ramp
 - Alternative Rosh Hashanah observance with Tachlich: RH Day 1, 1:30 pm (offsite; free but registration required - email TBJconcord.org)
 - Yom Kippur Youth Service: YK Day, 10:00 am (TBJ classrooms).
 - Yom Kippur Family Service: YK Day, 1:30 pm - for families with children 7 or younger (TBJ backyard).
 - Alternative Yom Kippur observance: YK Day, 1:30 pm (offsite; free but registration required - email TBJconcord.org).
 - Ark open in Sanctuary for quiet sitting: YK Day, 2:15 pm.
 - Afternoon-Yizkor-N'ilah Services: YK Day, 3:30 pm (Yizkor at approx. 5:00 pm, N'ilah at approx. 6:00 pm)
 - Break-Fast community dairy/parve potluck organized by Sisterhood at the close of N'ilah: approx. 7:00 pm).
 - Erev Shabbat Sukkot Family Service: Friday, September 26 at 6:30pm
 - Sukkot Yizkor Service: Friday, October 2 at 9:30am
 - Simchat Torah Family Service & Consecration of New Kadimah Students: Friday, October 2 at 5:00pm
- **Additional Information:** <https://www.tbjconcord.org>. Childcare available RH1 and YK (9:30 am - 12:30 pm)

Temple B'Nai Israel, Laconia

Please contact Temple B'nai Israel in Laconia, NH for information on High Holiday services at info@tbinh.org or by phone at 603-524-7044.

Temple Israel, Manchester

- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:** 6:00pm
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day:** 9:30am
- **Tashlich:** 5:00pm (Livingston Park)
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 2nd Day:** 9:30am
- **Kol Nidre:** 6:30pm
- **Yom Kippur:**
 - Annual Visit to Manchester Hebrew Cemetery: September 20 10:00
 - Mincha: September 21 at 4:45pm
 - Blowing shofar/Break-Fast: September 21 at 7:30pm
- **Additional Services:**
 - Sukkot: September 26 10:00
 - Sukkot Services-Dinner September 27 6:00 PM
 - Shemini Atzeret with Yizkor October 3 10:00
 - Simchat Torah October 3 6:00 pm
- **In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid:** Hybrid

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High Holidays

High Holidays in New Hampshire

continued from page 13

- **Additional Information:** <https://templeisraelmht.org/> . Please visit our website for more details. We'd love for you to come join us! If you have any questions, please contact our office administrator at 603-622-6171

Temple Israel Portsmouth

- **Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:** 6:30pm
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day:** 9:00am
- **Tashlich:** Temple Israel has multiple Tashlich locations:
 - Portsmouth - Prescott Park 1:00pm
 - Exeter - Swasey Park Boat Launch - 3:30pm
 - Dover - Henry Law Park - 3:30pm
- **Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 2nd Day:** 9:00am
- **Kol Nidre:** 6:00pm
- **Yom Kippur Morning Service:** 9:00am
- **Yom Kippur Afternoon Service:** 4:30pm

- **Ne'ilah:** 4:30pm
- **Additional Services:**
 - Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Family Service: 9:30am, Social Hall. The signup for family services is available as apart of our regular service sign up link.
 - Community Break-Fast: September 21 at 7:15am. Available to all who sign up through our regular High Holidays RSVP form.
 - Erev Sukkot Potluck and Tisch at Strawberry Banke: September 25, 6:00pm
 - Sukkot Yom Tov service: September 26 at 9:30am
 - Hoshana Rabbah: October 2 at 10:00am (event will not be held in case of inclement weather)
 - Shemini Atzeret: October 3 at 9:30am
 - Simchat Torah: Celebrate with Klezmer! – Live music by the Klezwoods on October 3:
 - 5:00pm light dinner
 - 5:45pm Family Simchat Torah program
 - 6:30pm Simchat Torah service and hakafot with live music
 - 7:30pm Ice cream dance party
- **In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid:** Hybrid.
- **Additional Information:** Templeisraelnh.org. Please RSVP via our Temple Israel Website.

L'Shana tova u' metuka!

Happy New Year!

A Healthy and Happy New Year ~The Kalik Family

Sending my sincere wishes for a happy and healthy New Year! ~Roberta Gordenstein

As we welcome the High Holy Days, Temple Israel Portsmouth extends warm wishes for a Shanah Tovah U'Metukah—a happy, healthy, and sweet New Year. May this season of reflection, renewal, and hope bring peace to you and your loved ones, and may we all be inscribed for a year of health, joy, and blessing. We look forward to celebrating together and strengthening the bonds that unite our Jewish community.

~ Temple Israel Portsmouth

Bob and I wish all in the Community a sweet and warm New Year.

~ Carol and Bob Sternberg



We wish you good health, happiness, and peace in the New Year 5787.

Shana Tovah.

~ Ed Schoen and Gail Ellis

Shanah tova umetukah – a happy and sweet New Year!

~Rabbi Robin Nafshi, Cantor Shira Nafshi and the Temple Beth Jacob Community

גמר חתימה טובה

- May the year ahead renew compassion and joy!

~Rabbi Seth & Deana Linfield

L'shana Tova to all. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy new year.

~Marc Rubenson

L'Shana Tovah

~The Lindner Family

May these Days of Awe become your year, 5787, one of awe and wonder. May you, in good health, experience discovery and amazing things and moments.

~Peggy Tucker and Steve Soreff

Prayers for a sweet, healthy, and happy new year for all!

~Hannah & Michael Boyd

L'shana Tova from Kol Ha'Emek the Upper Valley Jewish Community

~ Kol Ha'Emek, the Upper Valey Jewish Community

Shana Tova to all our Federation friends.

~Barrie and Barbara Ann Paster

Best wishes for a sweet, healthy, and peaceful New Year.

~Linda Rockenmacher

L'shanah tova tikateivu v'teichateimu and may peace embrace the world.

~ Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation

May 5787 bring you the joyful sound of the shofar as it welcomes in the New Year with Peace, Health, Happiness, Laughter, and Love! Shana Tovah

~ The Jolton Family

Happy New Year! Wishing all our PJ Library and PJ Our Way families and beyond a sweet start to 5787. May your year be filled with joyful simchas, meaningful mitzvot, and just the right amount of bedtime balagan. Here's to stories that connect us, traditions that ground us, and a community that grows with every page.

~ Shanah Tovah from Dinah & Joshua Berch, Kira (12), Cayden (9), & Rayna (2)

Wishing the community a healthy, meaningful and sweet New Year.

~Michele and Michael Bank

Wishing the community a happy and healthy New Year!

~Daniel, Tiffany, Skylar, Flynn, William and Arabella Cohen



WELCOME ELAD!

Please join us for a **roundtable discussion** to welcome and get to know our newest shaliach, **Elad Aharoni**! Join us at 2:30PM at the federation office. Light refreshments will be served. In-person only. Free program; donations appreciated.

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High Holidays

Jewish Trivia

If anyone were to identify the most famous Jewish celebrities from New Hampshire, the first two names to come to mind would certainly be Adam Sandler and Sarah Silverman. Both of them grew up in Manchester and are friends to this day, but the connections don't end there: It just so happens that Sandler's mother, Judy Sandler, was Silverman's nursery school teacher!



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High Holidays

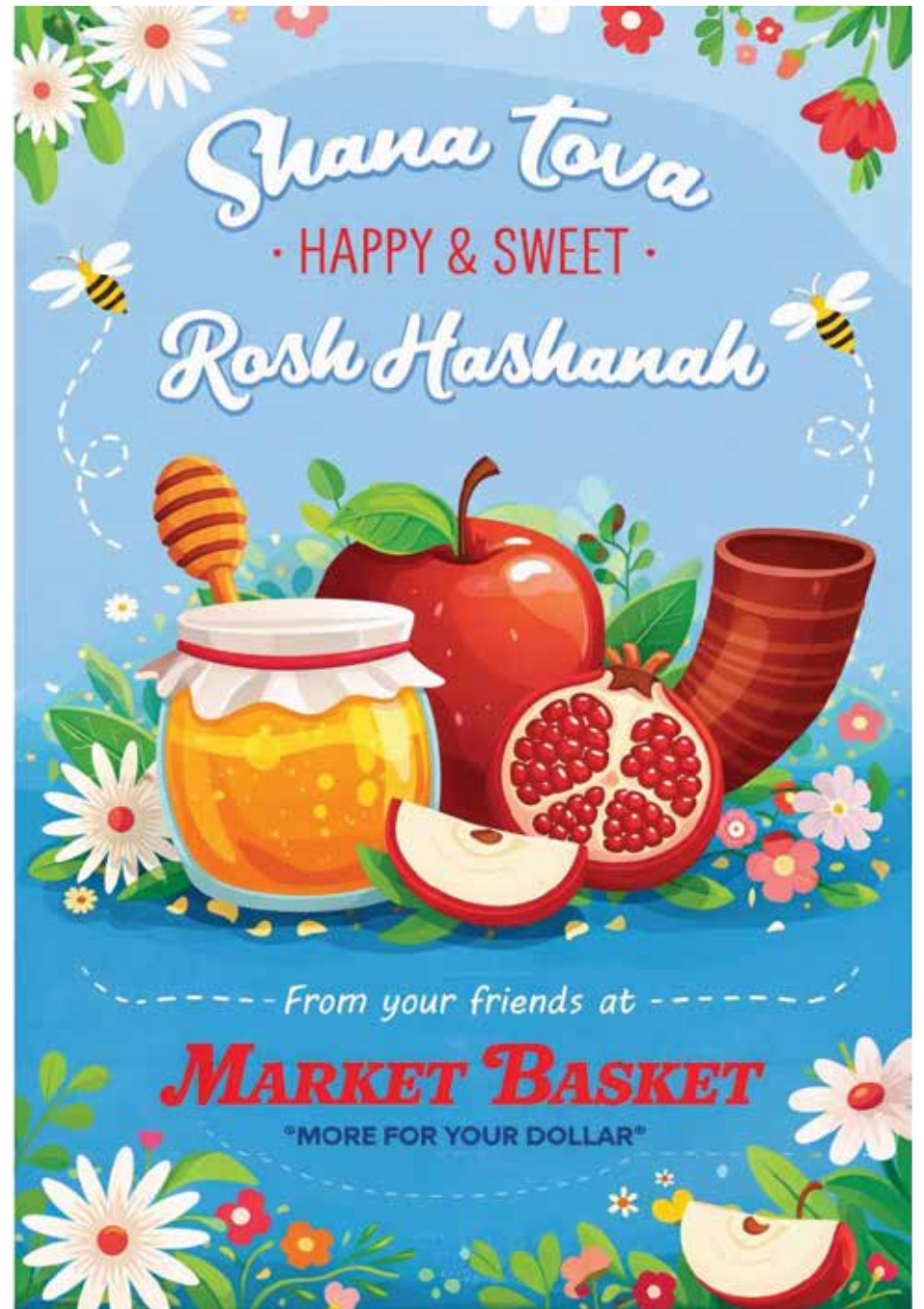
Jewish Humor: The Night Before (The Night Before) Rosh Hashanah

By Joshua Kail

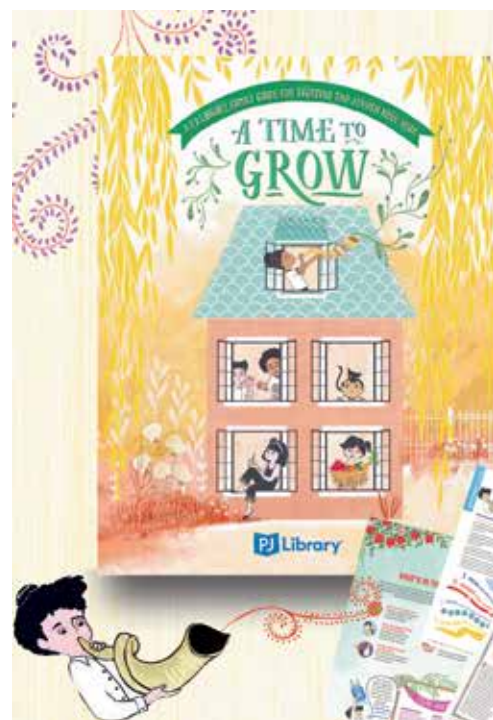
Twas the night before the night before
Rosh Hashanah and all through the
land, the rabbis were schvitzing, were
their services all planned?
Were the sermons long enough to make
people know that it was not Shabbos
they were there sitting through?
Had the shofar been oiled (or whatever
you do) Could they remember the
name of every twice a year Jew?
And I, the rebbitzman, fearing in bed,
if I fell asleep now, will she tap on my
head?
When up in the office there was such a
clatter
I sprang from my bed to see what was the
matter.
Away in a flutter, I flew like a flash
I opened the door to see sermons in
trash!
Light on the crest of a deep furrowed
brow
Gave rise to a voice, "I must rewrite these
all NOW!"
When what to my wondering eyes did I
divine?
But an inspiration struck Rabbi (and an
empty bottle of mid-priced red wine).
With a flurry of typing so lively and fast
I knew in that moment the rewrites were
vast.
And she whistled and shouted and called
them by name
Now Hillel! Now Buber! Now Heschel!
And Ramban!
On Sacks! On Akiva! On Ha-Nasi, and
Rambam!
To the bottom with footnotes for all she
had wrote
Now find segways, SEGUES, SEGUES,
SEGUES, FOR ALL OF THOSE
QUOTES!!!!
As words before context flop all about
When they meet with a scholar, add
meaning and clout

So into the sermon the vocabulary flew
With double meanings and inspirations
for each Jew
And then with a whisper I heard a short
yawn
Could it be that the sermon crises was
gone?
As I drew in my head and was turning
around
"One down, 6 to go!" was the sound.
These deadlines were looming when what
do I say?
"Go to sleep dear, you still have another
day."
Its 3 in the morning, you've done what
you could, you are acting as nervous as
during yichud.
You've dusted your tallis, the Torah's
been rolled
That part about Chelm you'll just have to
hold.
If it doesn't work out, you could always
just wing it
Shanna Tova to All.....on second
thought, just make the cantor sing it!

Joshua Kail is a Jewish humor writer and America's Rebbitzman. He has been featured in outlets across the US, including The Jewish Fiction Journal, Chabad News, JNS, and several other non-Jewish outlets. He currently resides in Los Angeles with his Rabbi wife and two children. It is important to note that nothing he has written has not been approved by any rabbi, alive or dead, especially if he is married to her. More of his writing can be found on his Medium page, Ask The Rebbitzman



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Healthy
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PJ Library is brought to New Hampshire through the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire. Questions? Email Dinah Berch.

The 5th New Hampshire Jewish Festival: Jewish History Is Made in New Hampshire

More than 600 gathered at Hampton Beach as Seacoast Chabad brought Jewish life, unity and pride to the shores of New Hampshire.

"I never imagined we would see something like this in New Hampshire."

That sentiment was heard again and again as more than 600 people poured into Hampton Beach State Park on Sunday, August 2, for the 5th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Festival—an afternoon that became far more than a festival. It became a powerful statement about Jewish life in the Granite State.

Created and organized by the Seacoast Chabad Jewish Community Center, the festival brought together Jews from across New Hampshire and throughout New England. People traveled from Keene, the Lakes region, White Mountains, and even greater Boston to be part of an afternoon filled with Jewish music,

culture, tradition and an extraordinary feeling of togetherness.

And from the moment you entered, you could feel it.

Music was pumping. Children were running from activity to activity. Vendors filled the festival grounds. Friends were embracing. Strangers were introducing themselves. And in front of the Atlantic Ocean, children, college students, parents and grandparents were dancing together.

Internationally celebrated violinist Yaeko and her band opened the celebration, followed by the first-ever New Hampshire performance of acclaimed American-Israeli Jewish rapper Nissim Black, who brought the crowd to its feet.

But amid all the excitement, something deeper was happening. At a time when Jewish communities around the world are confronting rising antisemitism, and many Jews have wondered whether it is safer to

become less visible, the message at Hampton Beach was exactly the opposite: We will not hide. We will come together. We will celebrate who we are. That feeling was palpable throughout the crowd.

"A few years ago, I never would have believed there were this many Jewish people here," one young attendee remarked while looking across the packed festival grounds. Another attendee summed up the emotion simply: "This is exactly what we needed right now."

The festival offered something for every generation, with food, vendors, crafts and interactive Jewish experiences throughout the afternoon. One of the most meaningful attractions was a sofer—a traditional Jewish scribe—who wrote guests' Hebrew names on parchment with traditional ink and a quill. Participants received their names as keepsake keychains, carrying home a personal connection to a Jewish tradition stretching back thousands of years.

The celebration also received recognition from New Hampshire's leaders. Jeremy Berger, Chair of the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, read a special letter from Governor Kelly Ayotte, while Evelyn and Michael Miller shared greetings from Congressman Chris Pappas.

A Vision Brought to Life

Behind the music, dancing and seemingly effortless celebration were months of tireless work.

The New Hampshire Jewish Festival is an initiative of the Seacoast Chabad Jewish Community Center, brought to life through the dedication of Rabbi Berel and the entire Seacoast Chabad team, together with an extraordinary group of volunteers, donors, sponsors and community partners who worked tirelessly to

make the day possible.

From planning and fundraising to security, food, entertainment, vendors and countless behind-the-scenes details, the festival was a tremendous community effort. Special appreciation was extended to the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation, Hampton Beach State Park and its manager Lucille, as well as the Hampton Beach Police Department, whose support helped create a safe and welcoming environment for hundreds of attendees.

For Seacoast Chabad, however, the goal was never simply to draw a large crowd. It was to create a moment when a Jew living anywhere in New Hampshire could look around and realize: I am not alone. I am part of something vibrant, joyful and strong. And on August 2, that vision came alive.

More than 600 people. Generations dancing together. Jewish music echoing across Hampton Beach. Hebrew names being carefully written on parchment. Old friends reconnecting and new friendships beginning. Against the backdrop of the ocean, the message could not have been clearer: When faced with darkness, the Jewish response is not to disappear. It is to add light. When faced with hatred, we don't hide our Jewish identity—we embrace it. And when the world tries to divide us, we come together.

Five years after Seacoast Chabad launched the New Hampshire Jewish Festival, what began as a vision has become something much larger. As one attendee looked across the crowd and said: "This is Jewish New Hampshire."

And judging by the hundreds of smiling faces dancing along the shores of Hampton Beach, this is only the beginning.



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ADMIT ONE

Cantor Harriet Dunkerley Named New Spiritual Leader of Temple Adath Yeshurun

Temple Adath Yeshurun in Manchester, New Hampshire, is pleased to announce that Cantor Harriet Dunkerley has joined the congregation as its new spiritual leader. Her appointment marks an exciting new chapter for TAY as the congregation looks to build on its deep history, strengthen its sense of community, and welcome new energy, creativity, and growth.

Cantor Dunkerley quickly emerged as a standout candidate during the search process. She impressed the search committee and congregants alike with her warmth, thoughtfulness, knowledge, and engaging presence. The committee was especially drawn to her energy, creativity, fresh ideas, deep Jewish commitment, and the ability to connect meaningfully with people of all ages.

She also brings significant experience as a solo clergy leader. Most recently, Cantor Dunkerley served as Sole Spiritual Leader and Director of Education at Temple B'nai Chaim in Georgetown, Connecticut, where she helped guide the

congregation through the COVID pandemic, introduced new programs and initiatives, increased engagement, and helped grow young family membership. That experience, combined with her background in music, education, pastoral care, and community-building, made her especially well-suited to lead TAY at this moment in its history.

TAY stood out to Cantor Dunkerley for its strong traditions, rich history, "deep yearning for expansion and growth," and commitment to inclusion. During her visit, she experienced TAY as a community marked by warmth, sincerity, joy, and possibility. "There's so much going on here and so much possibility," she said, noting that the strong turnout and open conversation during her visit reflected what Jewish community is meant to be.

As she prepares to lead the congregation, Cantor Dunkerley says her vision is to help re-energize TAY, build on its traditions, and invite more people into Jewish life in Southern New Hampshire. "My vi-



sion is really to re-energize and awaken, to invite and to bring TAY to a place where we are the center of Jewish life in Southern New Hampshire," she said.

At the same time, she emphasized that meaningful growth must happen collab-

oratively. She wants congregants to know that her door is open, that she is eager to listen, and that she hopes to hear what members love about TAY as well as what they hope to see in the future.

"I love being Jewish," Cantor Dunkerley said. "I think it's a blessing." She brings that love of Judaism, along with a belief in community, inclusion, music, learning, and spiritual connection, to her new role at Temple Adath Yeshurun.

The congregation looks forward to welcoming her and beginning this next chapter together. Please reach out to Cantor Dunkerley to say hello, drop in for a 'soul-nourishing' Friday night Shabbat service or spend an hour studying Torah together on Saturday morning – Cantor would love to meet you and welcome you to an event at TAY: cantordunkerley@taynh.org

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L'Shana Tova

Wishing you and your loved ones a sweet and joyful New Year. May the year ahead bring peace, good health, happiness, and many blessings to you and your family.

As we celebrate Rosh Hashanah, I am proud to stand with New Hampshire's Jewish community.

Thank you for all you do to strengthen our communities and make the Granite State such a special place to call home.

Best Wishes,

Governor Kelly Ayotte



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Join us. Get involved.

L'Shana Tova, New Hampshire!

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In the Community

Temple B'nai Israel of Laconia Celebrates Another Successful Food Festival

The 29th Annual TBI New Hampshire Jewish Food Festival is now in the record books. Once again, it was an outstanding success and we sincerely thank all who supported the festival by purchasing some very, very delicious food.

The impressive results do not happen without thousands of hours of effort by an entire team of dedicated volunteers. One cannot make, market, process orders for, and distribute in two days over 1000 blintzes, 1000 knishes, 750 potato latkes, 100 quarts of matzoh ball soup, and over 175 pounds of rugelach without strong leadership and hardworking volunteers. Special thanks to the leadership team, chaired by Stu Needleman, without whom the Food Festival would not be a success:

- **Sue Needleman** led the food preparation teams and all things related to food- recipes, menus, and processes.
- **Barbara Katz, Eytan Wulfsohn, and Steve Sherry** provided all the systems support from on-line ordering to picking and distribution tools and information.
- **Karen and Joe Lukeman** have been responsible for all customer interaction from the days of sit-down meals under the tents to today's on-line pick-up and distribution processes. The distribution team handled up to 40 customers per hour to pick-up their orders.
- Not only did this team provided leadership in 2026, but most of them have been doing this for more than a decade.
- There are dozens more that have contributed to the success of the Food Festival and like the leadership team have participated for many years. Especially of note are Cooking Team captains: **Leslie Aronson, Lois Kessin, Heather Needleman, Judi Rogato, Paula Chambers, and Judy Crosley.**



The entire team deserves a giant thank you.

In addition to raising significant funds for temple operations, the Food Festival builds a sense of camaraderie and community among all the volunteers. The hours spent preparing food, picking items, and delivering orders provide opportunities for many members, who may not really know each other, a chance to learn about one another. That strengthening bond amongst the members is one of the foundations that allows Temple B'nai Israel to continue to prosper. In turn, the temple provides for the community through We Care concerts, and other social action initiatives.

If you don't currently receive emails about the Jewish Food Festival and the We Care Concerts, please send an email to info@tbinh.org to subscribe to those emails. We appreciate your support!



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.

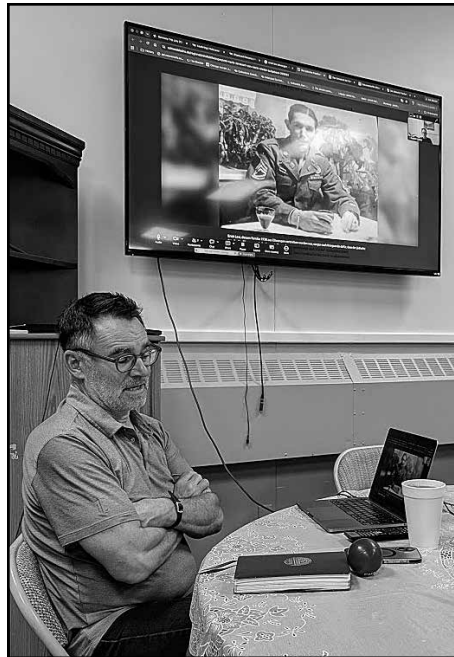
To get involved, contact thereporter@jewishnh.org



Rabbi Andy Bachman of Temple B'nai Israel of Laconia Shares Insights from Trip to Southern Germany

At Temple B'nai Israel on Saturday, August 1, Rabbi Andy Bachman presented an amazing interactive talk entitled "Paths of Memory and Reconciliation" about his recent trip to Southern Germany, where he and his partner Yael visited Gunzenhausen, Ellwangen and Landsberg and met with local historians and teachers who remain committed to researching and preserving the memory of destroyed local Jewish life more than 80 years after the Holocaust and the defeat of Nazi Germany in the Second World War. Through this presentation, attendees explored the historical and cultural landscapes of the country, deepening our understanding of Jewish heritage and the complexities of its past. Through engaging with local communities and visiting important sites, Rabbi Bachman reflected on the lessons learned and the importance of remembrance in fostering dialogue and healing.

Per Rabbi Bachman, "This trip is a profound one, to be sure. And the most heartening and important part of it is that despite the unimaginable devastations and dislocations of the Holocaust, we are learning from individuals and leaders who made incredible sacrifices to save others and help people survive. The glimmers of humanity amidst an historic catastrophe demonstrating "man's inhu-



manity to man" are necessary reminders, ballasts for our existence, that there is no greater principle, as Rabbi Akiva taught, than 'to love thy neighbor as thyself.'"

Welcome the New Year at Temple Israel

Temple Israel of Portsmouth welcomes the Seacoast Jewish community to join us as we celebrate the High Holidays and welcome the year 5787. Whether you are a longtime member, new to the community, or simply looking for a meaningful way to mark the season, all are welcome.

Rosh Hashanah begins Friday, September 11, with Erev Rosh Hashanah services from 6:30–7:30 p.m. Services continue Saturday, September 12 and Sunday, September 13, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Family services and activities will be available for children, and Tashlich will be offered at locations in Portsmouth, Exeter, and Dover on Sunday afternoon.

Yom Kippur begins Sunday, Septem-

ber 20, with Kol Nidre at 6:00–7:30 p.m. On Monday, September 21, services begin at 9:00 a.m., with Yizkor at 11:45 a.m. Afternoon services resume at 4:30 p.m., followed by Neilah at 5:45 p.m. and the final shofar blast and Havdalah at 7:24 p.m. A community break-fast will follow at 7:30 p.m.

High Holiday services will be led by **Rabbi Marc Hersch and Cantorial Soloist Abby Halpern**, with both in-person and Zoom options available. Family programming, childcare, and holiday activities will also be offered.

For complete schedules and registration information, visit templeisraelnh.org.

L'shanah tovah from Temple Israel!



Temple B'nai Israel of Laconia says Todah Rabah & Lehitra'ot to longtime board member Suzanne Appleton who has relocated to the Northwest to be closer to family.



Stuffies in the Sukkah

Bring your favorite stuffie and join us for story time in the sukkah! Then enjoy a craft project before the Congregational Sukkot Potluck.

PJ Library events are geared towards families with children ages 0-8; siblings, grownups and grandfriends welcome!



Sunday, September 27th
10:00 AM
Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation

Registration Required

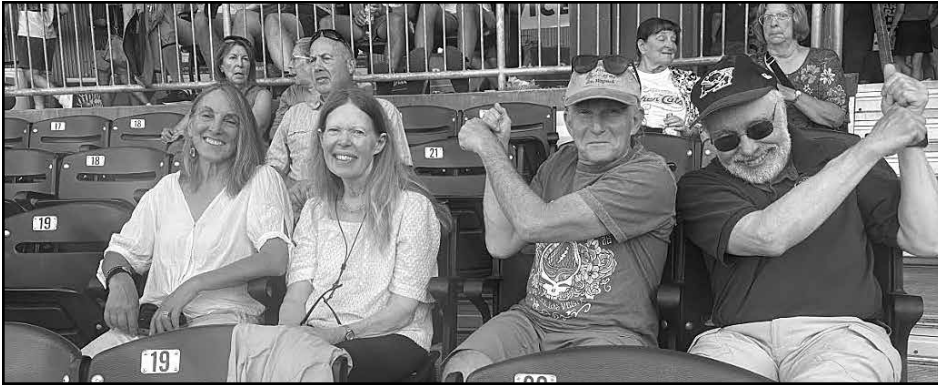
Scan QR code or visit <https://forms.gle/BZ2iZ9vqLcvNPw9M6>



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

In the Community

Jewish Heritage Night with the New Hampshire Fisher Cats



Temple Adath Yeshurun was proud to participate in Jewish Heritage Night with the New Hampshire Fisher Cats on August 4. Alongside other Jewish organizations from across the state, we hosted an information table to introduce visitors to our congregation, share upcoming programs and events, and celebrate the vibrancy of Jewish life in New Hampshire. A special highlight of the evening was TAY's Cantor Harriet Dunkerley, who had the honor of singing both "Hatikvah" and the "Star-Spangled Banner" to open the game. It was a wonderful evening of community, connection, and baseball, bringing people together both on and off the field. Photos by Mandy Frank.



TAY's Cantor Dunkerley is pictured leading spectators and players singing Hatikvah and the National Anthem at Jewish Heritage Night at Fisher Cats Stadium August 4th. Photo by Dr. Alan D. Kaplan.

Temple B'nai Israel of Laconia's Sisterhood Garden Brunch



TBI's Sisterhood had a fantastic garden brunch at a member's home, filled with delicious food, great chats, and plenty of laughter. Everyone is excited for the next gathering in September!



Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS
Tell Them You Saw Their Ad in The Reporter!



New
Hampshire
Jewish Adult
Field Trip



October 25, 2026
Burlington, VT

Lost Mural & Little Jerusalem

An unforgettable heritage tour of an historical Jewish neighborhood and an international treasure.

Join this round-trip journey to Burlington, VT on Sunday, October 25th from any of our three participating partner synagogues. Watch the PBS Documentary **Little Jerusalem** on the bus. Enjoy a **Kosher lunch** at Ohavi Zedek Synagogue followed by a presentation by Aaron Goldberg and Jeff Potash about the **Lost Mural Project**. Then enjoy a guided walk or bus trip around the historic **Little Jerusalem neighborhood**, with plenty of time for questions. Return the same day.

This program is brought to you in partnership with:



Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



Temple Israel
An Engaging, Diverse Jewish Community
Falmouth, New Hampshire



Ohavi Zedek
Where Every Jew
Is Welcome

Photo Courtesy Lost Mural Project & Eric Bessette. Funding in part by The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, The Ben and Zelma Dorson Fund, The Maurice Foster Fund, The Saul Sidore Fund, The Paul and Fran Gordon Fund and The Singer Family Trust Fund

REGISTER NOW

Scan QR Code to register or call the JFNH office at 603-627-7679. Email Dinah at dinah.berch@jewishnh.org with questions.



Kids' Corner Coloring Page



Wishing you a sweet
New Year!



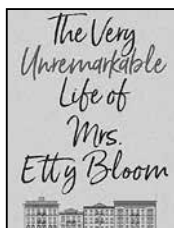
Book Review

Reviewed by Merle Carrus

The Very Unremarkable Life of Etty Bloom by Talya Jankovits

Author Talya Jankovits has written a very endearing first novel, *The Very Unremarkable Life of Etty Bloom*. As the title indicates, the novel takes a slow stroll through the life of Etty Greenberger as she grows up in the Hasidic neighborhood of Williamsburg, Brooklyn. We watch her grow from the child of Holocaust survivors to a grown woman, getting married, becoming Etty Bloom, and struggling to have children. We follow her life through to old age and find her not only growing old in age, but slowly growing smarter as she ages.

Growing up in a time of great superstition following the Holocaust, Etty's parents are overprotective and the social norms are constraining. The goal of every parent is to see their daughter married, taking care of a husband and many children. Etty is headstrong and has



other interests. She has trouble fitting into the accepted society she was born into. Her mother tries really hard to fit into the small world they live in and works hard to

make Etty fit the role she is meant to play. However, Etty never seems to be happy. She is not able to see the positive side of her life and experiences. As her friends all quickly make matches, marry and start building families, Etty has trouble accepting any of the young men she is offered in marriage. When she finally marries, she has trouble conceiving a child. Then following the same mistakes her mother made, she imposes on her own daughter some of the same pressure to fit in, marry and raise a family. Pushing her

daughter to follow the accepted social practices of the Hasidic community, that she herself did not favor.

However, this is also a story of how the world changes from one generation to the next. Etty's daughter, Sarala, is very similar to Etty, but is stronger than her mother and fights the pressure of the community to stand strong in her beliefs. She is satisfied with her life even if it is not the prescribed pattern of the women in the neighborhood.

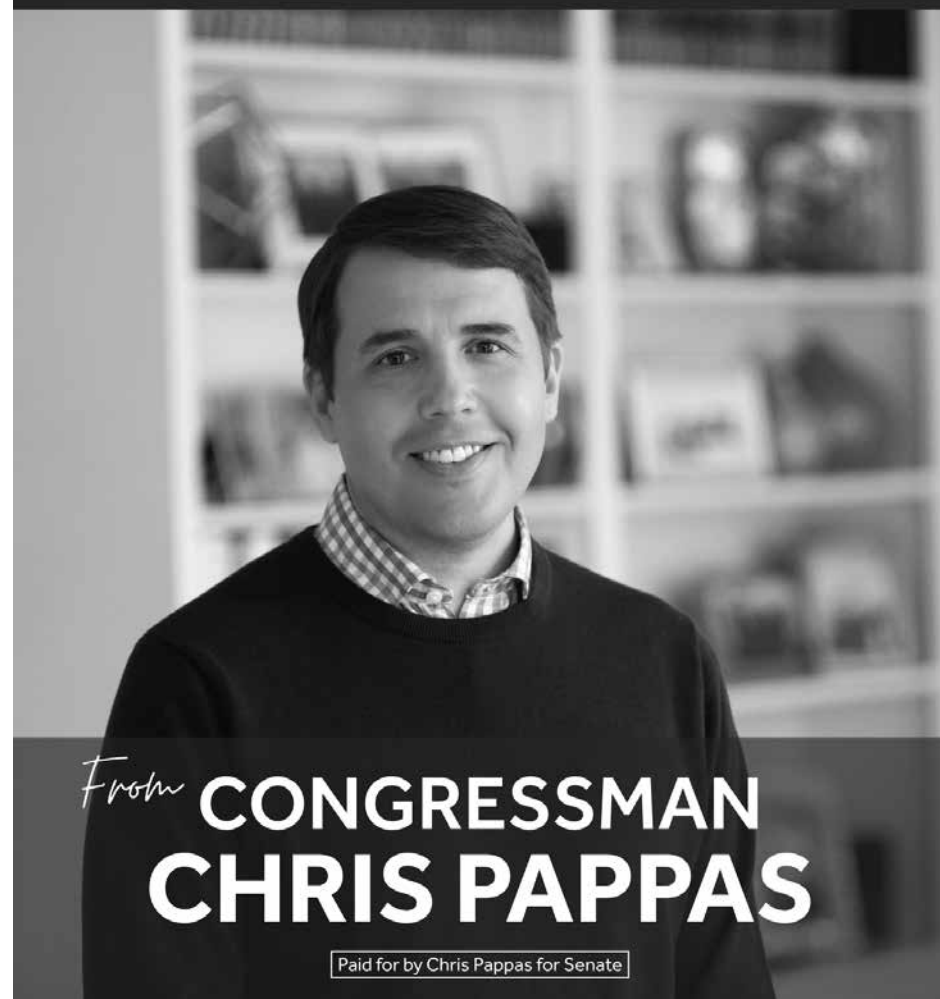
Though Etty Bloom's life seems unremarkable, author Talya Jankovits has captured the voice of the NY immigrant Jewish community very well—the smells of the traditional foods, the superstitious beliefs of the time period, and all the little details that transport the reader into the Lower Eastside of New York and the life of the immigrants who came to America.

The plot keeps you engaged until the end, always hoping maybe that Etty will find clarity and become a better person.

It will take Etty a lifetime but maybe she will finally realize that her unremarkable life is really rather remarkable. In the end, it is a wonderful lesson in humility, tzedakah, and being your best self.

Talya Jankovits is the author of the novel *The Very Unremarkable Life of Mrs. Etty Bloom* and the poetry collection *girl woman wife mother*, which received First Place in Contemporary Poetry in the 2024 Bookfest Awards. Her essays, fiction, and poetry have been widely published. She is a multiple Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net nominee. She holds her MFA in Creative Writing from Antioch University and resides in Chicago with her husband and four daughters.

L'SHANAH TOVAH לשנה טובה



From **CONGRESSMAN
CHRIS PAPPAS**

Paid for by Chris Pappas for Senate

**Thursday, October 15, 2026
7:00PM**

**Temple Adath Yeshurun
152 Prospect St
Manchester, NH**

*Israel Symphony
Orchestra String Trio*

Suggested Minimum Donation:
\$27 for adults
\$18 for students

Community Partners & Sponsors:

Temple Adath Yeshurun
Hadassah
Temple Beth Jacob
The New Hampshire Dance Collective

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

Religious Response to Hunger 2026

By Judith Jolton, Chair Religious Response to Hunger at Temple Adath Yeshurun

As we prepare to welcome the New Year, we pause to reflect on the many blessings in our lives and on the responsibility to care for those who are struggling. The High Holy Days remind us that true repentance is not only found in prayer and reflection, but also in acts of kindness, compassion and generosity.

For more than 40 years, Temple Adath Yeshurun has observed this sacred tradition through our Religious Response to Hunger. Once again, we are proud to partner with Temple Israel as they help stock their food pantry for individuals and families throughout Manchester and surrounding communities.

Every day, parents are forced to make a decision: Should they pay the rent, or put food on the table? Seniors living on fixed incomes often make similar choices. These are our neighbors, hardworking families, veterans, children and older adults whose circumstances have made even the most basic necessity - food - uncertain.

As we gather around our own holiday

tables, we have an opportunity to think about those who do not know where their next meal will come from. One simple act of generosity can bring comfort, hope, and dignity to someone in need.

Our Religious Response to Hunger begins on Rosh Hashanah, September 11th, 2026, when grocery bags so generously donated by Whole Foods Market in Bedford will be distributed after services and made available at the Temple for those unable to attend. We invite you to take a bag home and fill it with non-perishable foods your family might have enjoyed during the High Holy Days. If you are able, please consider adding a few extra items.

Please return your filled bags to the Temple on Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur, September 20th and 21st, 2026. All donations will be delivered to Families in Transition - New Horizon on September 22nd where they will help replenish pantry shelves at a time when the need is especially great. A suggested grocery list will be attached to each bag for your convenience.

Last year, through your extraordinary generosity, we collected an impressive

amount of food. This year, my goal is to exceed 2,500 pounds of donations. Working together, we can make that happen.

I also want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the clergy and congregations throughout Greater Manchester who have faithfully supported this effort for so many years. Your generosity and partnership continue to make this project a remarkable success. Simply put, we could not do it without you. Please bring your donations to Temple Adath Yeshurun on September 22nd at 152 Prospect Street at 10:00am.

Lauren Bombardier, Vice President of at Families in Transition- New Horizon said:

"Community food drives like this are essential to helping us keep our food pantry shelves stocked and running for local families in need. Today, more than 1,300 households assess this program each month, scoring the growing need in our community. Service and goodwill play a vital role in addressing food insecurity and ensuring local families have access to the basic necessities they need. We are deeply grateful to everyone who donates, volunteers and supports these

efforts. Your generosity helps strengthen our community and makes a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals and families facing challenging times."

On a personal level, this topic has special meaning to me. For more than 15 years, I have been committed to helping those who are less fortunate, motivated by compassion and by the Jewish values of tzedakah (righteous giving) and tikkun olam (repairing the world). I believe that caring for others is not simply an act of charity but a responsibility that reflects our shared humanity. I am so grateful that Temple Adath Yeshurun recognized this need and has continued to do so every year at the High Holy Days.

The Hebrew word mitzvah means more than a good deed - it is a sacred obligation. As we begin a new year, may we answer that call with open hearts and generous hands. Every can, every box, every bag makes a difference.

Thank you for helping us transform compassion into action.

L'Shanah Tovah - may you and your loved ones be inscribed for a year of health, peace and blessing.



***"Wishing you
and your loved
ones a healthy
and sweet
New Year."***

- Senator Maggie Hassan

PAID FOR BY MAGGIE FOR NH

Holidays Cards 4 Our Military Challenge – Back for 2026!

By Laura Landerman-Garber

TWO MILLION CARDS! I have (almost) no words when I think of this number but as you may know by now, I am like that “Little Engine That Could” — always plowing forward, always talking about the Card Challenge, and always surrounded by an amazing volunteer community that keeps us all going. In the next month, the Holiday Cards 4 Our Military Challenge Team will be sending out our 2,000,000th card, one of your messages of cheer and support to our troops, veterans, and military families. How did this come to be, you may ask? And trust me, I ask myself that same question daily!

It all started at my family's Thanksgiving table 23 years ago when my husband and I recognized how fortunate we were to have all of our chairs filled with family and friends. We knew that in other homes, there were empty chairs. Some of those chairs were left empty because of family members being deployed or veterans living at care centers, or G-d forbid, because of the anguish of being a Gold Star Family (meaning that a family member was wounded or died in service). We also were determined to raise our young daughters to embrace volunteerism, community service, tzedakah, and tikkun olam. And so, it started with a “Ticket for Turkey” — a bribe, of sorts, for family and guests to write five cards for turkey. It worked! And for 14 years, we did exactly that with some expansion to our neighborhood, then faraway family and friends, signing about 5,000 cards in total. In 2017, it all changed with our decision to send cards to a friend aboard an aircraft carrier. The CHALLENGE was thrown out NH statewide. I confess I made many cold calls to groups, NH leaders, and our DC Congressional Delegation. My simple “ask” was to please spend a few minutes writing a holiday card to our cherished troops, and the answer was almost always yes. The result was 17,000 cards coming in six weeks. Our nonprofit was formed and from there we have sent 2,000,000 cards to all branches all over the Globe.

Today, the Card Challenge is about connecting with others, offering a simple gift of your heart to support someone you will never meet, to provide a “bridge to home” to those far away, and most of all, to embrace the concepts of tikkun olam, tzedakah, and being a mensch. It is a combination of promoting unity, charitable giving, and being a good person doing

a good thing (and okay, so I collapsed together three of my favorite values into one, but if you think about it... sending a caring supportive message to someone who is currently defending or previously defended our freedoms does fit these definitions, and it says something when there are 2,000,000 cards from all 50 States, Europe, Canada, and Mexico—something about the hearts of humanity, something about the wish to do the right thing, and something about a passion project that includes EVERYONE, no matter their political party, race, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, age, location... you get my point?)

I wake each day and marvel at how this all evolved, how my life ended up on this journey and where it all came from. Perhaps it is my own lifelong wish to never have anyone sit alone in the school cafeteria. Maybe it stemmed from my childhood love of writing and receiving mail. I did and still do have two pen pals that have continued to write letters for over five decades. Is it due to my 40+ years of being a clinical psychologist whose focus is on connecting with others with a goal to have my patients find resilience and a comfort in learning how to connect themselves? Or does it run deeper than all of those possibilities and reflect something much larger than me. Perhaps fate — *b'shert* — placed this project in my lap? I don't know the answer, but I do know that my life is immensely richer because of it, and the opportunities I have had to grow are profound. I know that the people that I have met along the way, some now lifelong friends have enriched my life more than I can ever say. I also know that I have been so fortunate to have a band of brothers and sisters, all veterans, who surround me with love and support. And I want to add that this amazing newfound family have joined in to support the Temple Beth Abraham veterans by honoring them with flags and grave markers at our cemetery. Like I said, this has brought together people who might not have otherwise connected.

I am hoping that this more personal narrative might motivate you to consider joining us again or for the first time. Even if you do not embrace our project, perhaps it will remind you, especially as the High Holidays approach, to simply reach out to someone that you may not have known before whether at Temple, or at the grocery store, or in your neighborhood

Each year I choose a new theme. This year's theme is #smallactsbigimpact. Whether you write a card for the Card



Challenge or you chat with someone next to you in a line or at work, it does matter. It does make a difference. It may just be a momentary smile or it could be the connection that someone so dearly yearns for and needs

If you would like to join us, we would absolutely love to have you on our team. Maybe your card will be the 2,000,000th card (which will, by the way, go to a New Hampshire military member and his unit!). Imagine that your card amongst cards from all over the country will be traveling the globe to reach one of our deployed warriors. We make it easy, fun, and meaningful. Please go to **HOW TO SEND** on our website for all the info that you will need militaryholidaycardchallenge.com. Also if you, your family, congregation, friends, and/or business want to volunteer, we certainly would love to have you on our team and there is much to be done! Reach out to me at holidaycardsnh@gmail.com

Wishing you and yours a healthy, safe, and peaceful year ahead. May we all be beautifully inscribed in the Book of Life in the new year.

There are drop boxes all over NH, many with free cards. Go to the website for more information. You can also mail them to Holiday Card Challenge 5 Hutchings Drive. #103 Hollis NH 030349. To become a donor partner, go to Givebutter.com

Laura Landerman-Garber PhD
President
COL JJ Johnson USAF VP Military & Veteran Affairs
HOLIDAY CARDS 4 OUR MILITARY CHALLENGE
501c3 Nonprofit
5 Hutchings Drive #103 Hollis, NH 03049
holidaycardsnh@gmail.com
militaryholidaycardchallenge.com
Facebook & Instagram: Holiday Card Challenge



September Hadassah Update

By Michele Bank

The next meeting of the Manchester Chapter of Hadassah will take place on Thursday, September 3 at 1PM. Looking ahead, the following meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15 at 1 PM. All are invited to come.

On Thursday, October 29, the chapter is having a fundraiser, "The Art of Hebrew Letters." This enjoyable, interactive presentation celebrates the beautiful letters that make up our ancient (and very modern) written language: their shapes, names, sounds, and even their personalities. The address will be given upon registration.

The Hadassah Northeast Walk for Women's Health will take place On Sunday, October 18. We are coming together in Chestnut Hill for an inspiring afternoon filled with community, connection and purpose. Bring your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers and

leashed dogs, and walk with us as we work toward our biggest goal yet: raising \$100,000 to help advance Hadassah Medical Organization's (HMO) lifesaving work in women's health.

Every person who registers to walk in Chestnut Hill or to walk virtually, raises funds, becomes a sponsor, or makes a donation helps fuel world-class patient care, groundbreaking medical research, and advances in women's health in the United States and Israel.

There are many reasons to support women's health through Hadassah: Gynecologic Cancer Research and Care - HMO has developed a highly respected program in gynecologic cancers, including ovarian, cervical, and uterine cancers. The department combines advanced surgical techniques, immunotherapy, biologic therapies, genetic testing, and clinical trials while conducting groundbreaking research. In 2026, HMO's Fellowship Program in Gynecologic Oncology re-

ceived international accreditation from the European Society of Gynecological Oncology—a significant recognition of its excellence and leadership in the field.

Women's Cardiovascular Health - HMO also established the Linda Joy Pollin Cardiovascular Wellness Center for Women at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. The center is dedicated to improving women's heart health, increasing awareness of heart disease in women, conducting research, and addressing gender inequities in cardiac care.

Personalized Maternity Care - In 2023, the Rady Mother and Child Center opened at Hadassah Mount Scopus, providing personalized maternity care that emphasizes comfort, dignity, and individualized support. Women and families are encouraged to discuss their birth preferences with midwives, creating a more tailored and empowering experience. Midwives oversee 90% of deliveries, and only 13% of maternity pa-

tients undergo cesarean sections—reflecting the center's commitment to patient-centered care.

Registration is now open for the 2026 Hadassah Northeast Walk for Women's Health. Register by Labor Day, Monday, September 7, 2026, and receive an Early Bird registration rate of \$30. Beginning Tuesday, September 8, registration will increase to the regular rate of \$35. Children 12 and under are free

For the fifth consecutive year, Hadassah has received the Gold Seal of Transparency from Candid, the world's largest source of information on American nonprofits. Only 5 percent of the 1.9 million charities registered with the IRS receive Candid's Gold Seal.

Manchester Hadassah members wish the Jewish Community a healthy, sweet and peaceful New Year

For additional information about Hadassah, or the above events, please contact michele.bank@gmail.com.

Jewish Journeys

Betty Lauer: A Life Lived with the Past

By Thomas Cochran

"Not on my track, no, not on my track." By the time Betty heard these words on a winter evening in Krakow, Poland 1942, she had been living in fear of arrest for more than three years. Earlier in the day, she had come face to face with that fear in the form of a Gestapo agent who was certain that her identity papers were false and that she was in fact Jewish. Finding herself alone and with nowhere to hide, she knew what she had to do: end her life on her own terms. She headed to the nearest railway line, waited for a train to arrive and then lay down on the tracks. But, just before the train ran over her, a Polish railway worker, who happened to see her on his "track," pushed her off it, telling her, "Not on my track" and offered her a safe place to stay for the night.

When I read Betty's book, *Hiding in Plain Sight*, for the first time fifteen years ago, this episode made a deep impression on me. Since then, I have struggled to reconcile myself to the thought that Betty, who passed away recently at the age of 101, might have left us so long ago.

To those who knew her, she was a vital presence. Friendly and outgoing, she knew people from all walks of life and seemed to



Betty: 2024 in Warsaw, Poland. She returned to Poland at the invitation of Hillel at Dartmouth College.

run into a familiar face wherever she went. Her friendliness, she told me, was a real source of concern for her parents after Hitler came to power in 1933. Fearing that she might talk to the "wrong person," they made Betty's older sister accompany her whenever she went out in public.

But Betty's friendly nature was also a benefit. During the war, while she was living as a Christian in Poland, she made several friendships that contributed to her survival. One of these friendships led to her involvement in the Warsaw Uprising, an experience that she recalled with fondness because, for the first time since the war had begun, she felt free from fear. "Overnight," she observed, "all the vicious Poles, the collaborators who had

wanted to hunt me down and denounce me, had disappeared. There was no one around who threatened my existence. I felt safe and protected among people beaming with goodwill for each other."

Even at an advanced age, Betty was a force to be reckoned with. At the beginning of the pandemic, I remember seeing her go into our local grocery store unmasked, and I was alarmed because of the danger she was putting herself in. When I expressed my concerns to her son, who was the only person who might have had any influence on her, he responded: "You know how she is." Yes, I knew how she was. I knew that she was fiercely independent and that she lived her life on her own terms, so much so that she was still driving her own car until the end of her life.

Living on her own terms had its rewards, but it also had its risks. In the winter of 2020, Betty fell and broke her right foot and left ankle. Not wanting to inconvenience anyone at night, she dragged herself to bed and called for an ambulance in the morning. Upon her return home some two months later, she refused, as one might have expected, to have overnight caregivers.

Betty embraced life so fully that it is hard to imagine that she had, as it were,

another life, a life of faces and places that were destroyed long ago. And yet, I knew that she was a survivor of the Shoah. I knew that her adolescence had been shaped by traumatic experiences and unimaginable personal loss and that she was the guardian of a vast private world of what Primo Levi called "ferocious memories."

Betty rarely spoke about her experiences in Poland during the war. Whenever someone asked about them, she responded with characteristic frankness: "Have you read my book?" I had read her book, but I never dared to ask sensitive questions. It was better to listen for the clues that surfaced spontaneously. From my many conversations with her, I understood that she had written her book so that she didn't have to answer questions. Her book was as much an account of what she had experienced as it was a shield that protected the very personal memories that she carried inside her. One of the most personal and painful memories was that of her older sister, Eva, who was arrested on the streets of Krosno, Poland in September, 1942 and deported to the Belzec killing center, where she was murdered by gas. Eva was 19 years old.

Betty Lauer continued on page 30

Standing Up to Jew Hatred

By Richard England

Since the October 7 Hamas invasion of Israel, a shocking wave of anti-Jewish rhetoric and violence has engulfed various parts of the globe. Dozens of Australian Jews celebrating Chanukah on Bondi Beach were murdered or wounded by two shooters last December. Synagogues in North America and Europe have been vandalized and firebombed. Jewish students on U.S. campuses have been harassed and even assaulted.¹

Standing up to Jew hatred requires clarity of thought about the nature of the threat. One approach has been offered by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. The IHRA working definition of antisemitism has been adopted or endorsed by 42 nations and over three dozen U.S. states. The State of New Hampshire joined this list in 2024 with bipartisan legislative support.

The IHRA definition is surprisingly simple: "Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews." What gives this brief definition its practical force are the examples that accompany it: allegations that Jews control the media or government, accusations that Jews killed Christ, accusations that Jews invented the Holocaust,

denials of the Jewish right of self-determination in Israel, comparisons of Israeli policy to that of the Nazis, etc. But the sheer variety of these examples suggests that "antisemitism" alone cannot be used to describe all forms of Jew hatred.

A recent effort to sharpen our understanding of Jew hatred has been developed by the Movement Against Antizionism, co-founded by the anthropologist Adam Louis Klein.² MAAZ has identified three distinct versions of Jew hatred. The first, and oldest, version is hatred of Jews because of their refusal to convert to Christianity or Islam. This version, sometimes called anti-Judaism, fueled the massacre of Jews by early Muslims and the Christian persecution of European Jews during the Inquisition. A second, and distinct, version of Jew hatred arose during the 19th century as nationalisms began to replace multicultural empires in Europe. Jews were sometimes portrayed as a disloyal minority that sought to subvert the dominant nationality of a country. Germany's Nazi party represents the most extreme and deadly example of this type of Jew hatred. This is the classic case of "antisemitism."

Klein's research suggests that a new form of Jew hatred has surfaced during

recent decades, namely "antizionism." This form turns Israeli and Diaspora Jews into targets of abuse and violence by making three false claims about Israel: that its Jews are "settler colonists" who have no historical connection to the Land of Israel, that its Jews are racists who practice "apartheid," and that the State of Israel pursues "genocide" against Palestinian Arabs. Klein argues that these are libels that circulate widely in academia and the media. Antizionism has even penetrated some public-school districts.³

But what can be done to combat anti-Jewish discrimination? One approach is to seek protection and remedies through the legal system. For example, the Center for Jewish Legal Studies has filed a brief in federal court supporting the claim of two MIT students that the antizionism of pro-Hamas protesters violated Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.⁴ Another approach is to resist anti-Jewish activity in one's professional association. At the recent annual conference of the National Education Association, for instance, a motion accusing Israel of "genocide" in Gaza lost badly, in part because of organizing by the NEA's Jewish Affairs Caucus.

Resisting Jew hatred also requires speaking up and reporting anti-Jewish

activity. If you are aware of incidents here in New Hampshire, please inform JFNH staff (jessie.mocle@jewishnh.org). You can also report incidents to national organizations that maintain online databases documenting vandalism, harassment and violence directed at Jews. The AMCHA Initiative, for example, has created an extensive database of incidents on U.S. college and university campuses. Recognizing Jew hatred in its various forms and taking appropriate action will help ensure a better future for our Jewish community.

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

¹ <https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-787895>

² <https://www.movementagainstantizionism.org/learn>

³ <https://brandeiscenter.com/california-schools-to-revise-ethnic-studies-curriculum-over-alleged-antisemitic-content/>

⁴ <https://www.timesofisrael.com/legal-brief-asks-us-supreme-court-to-consider-anti-zionism-potential-discrimination/>

OBITUARIES

Robert Selig July 19, 2026

CONNECTICUT — Robert J. Selig, 89, passed away in Bloomfield, CT on Sunday, July 19, 2026.

Born in Massachusetts in 1936, Bob's family moved to Laconia in 1940. He graduated from Laconia High School in 1954 and earned his baccalaureate degree with honors in Economics from Brown University in 1958.

Within days of graduation Bob joined his beloved father Irving and his uncles, Eugene Brindis and Edward Paris in growing the family business, Laconia Shoe Co. In its heyday, the company employed 1100 people and manufactured 10,000 pairs of shoes a day. Bob became President of Laconia Shoe in 1972.

He married his wife, Joyce Hyman Selig, in 1961, and they had three sons Mark, Eric, and Scott.

He was awarded two American Shoe Designer Awards by the Leather Industries of America. In 1986 he became CEO/President of Weinbrenner Shoe Co. in Merrill, WI. In 1989 he returned to

NH and was Chairman of Selig Executive Search from 1989-2005.

Bob lived by the teaching of Rabbi Tarfo, "It is not your duty to finish the work, but neither are you at liberty to neglect it." His work as Chairman of the Board of Lakes Region General Hospital, Taylor Community, Laconia Public Library, NH Jewish Federation as well as serving on The Governor's Commission for the Protection and Expansion of Shoe Manufacturing in NH, director of the 210 International Footwear Foundation and as President of Temple B'nai Israel many times attested to this motto. He led many of these organizations through their building renovations and reorganization.

He believed in creating a better world... a better community... a better nation.

He joined the board of Jewish Broadcasting Services, "the place for all things Jewish" at its inception. JBS was created by Rabbi Mark S. Golub who had been the first student Rabbi hired by Temple B'nai Israel in the early 1970s. This was an innovation in finding rabbinical leadership which Bob instituted and which brought many, many young Rabbi's to serve in La-

conia over decades as part-time clergy.

After living in WI, Manchester NH, and Laconia again, Bob's later years were spent living in St. Augustine, FL, Amelia Island, FL and Bloomfield, CT, but Laconia, NH was always "home". This is where he created roots, where there was family and there were dear friends with whom he could enjoy golf or tennis or time on Lake Winnepesaukee.

Bob was predeceased by his parents Irving and Frances Brindis Selig and his brother Steven Selig. He is survived by his beloved family: wife Joyce, sons Mark (Marjory) Selig, Eric (Kimberly) Selig, and Scott (Rebecca) Selig, 10 grandchildren: Alexandra (Skyler) Harris, Julia (Dominic) Infanzon, Edward (Sonaira) Selig, Dena Selig, Eliana Selig, Carly Selig, Victoria (Joshua) Khonstamn, Ab-

igail Selig, Nicole Selig, and Jillian Selig, 5 great-grandsons: Adam and Liam Infanzon, Malcolm and Landon Harris and Weston Kohnstamn, sister Peggy Selig, and sisters-in-laws Jeanie Selig and Marilyn Shlank.

For those who wish, the family suggests memorial contributions in Bob's name be made to the Laconia Public Library, 695 N. Main Street, Laconia, NH 03246 or to the Rabbi Discretionary Fund, Temple B'nai Israel, 210 Court Street, Laconia, NH 03246.

Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home & Cremation Services / 603Cremations.com, 164 Pleasant St., Laconia, NH, 03246, is assisting the family with arrangements. For more information and to view an online memorial, please visit wilkinsonbeane.com.

How to submit an obituary

The Reporter publishes obituaries for any member of the community, past or present, for a \$36 fee. Please send obituaries and one photo, if desired, as a separate jpg attachment to thereporter@jewishnh.org or to the office along with payment at: JFNH, 273 S. River Road Unit 5, PO Box 10041, Bedford, NH 03110



JFNH Tributes

Received by August 10, 2026

Annual Campaign

Mazel tov to Nancy on receiving the Shem Tov Award! ~Geoffrey, Jessica & Jason, Benjamin & Alicia, Pamela & Robert, and Michael

Mazel Tov! You have always been our Shem Tov!!! ~Jessica & Jason, in honor of Nancy Fages

Mazel tov Alyse! ~ Bettinger Family, in honor of Alyse Bettinger Shem Tov Award

Congratulations to all our Shem Tov honorees—particularly Nancy Fages of BHC! ~Lucy Goodhart

Mazel tov, Nancy!!! ~Debra Simon & Jay Johnson

Mazel Tov to Deborah Hirsch Mayer, Rich LeSavoy and Richard David Grossman from all your friends at Temple Israel – Portsmouth! ~Mel Prostkoff and Helen Hanan

Mazal Tov, Nancy, for this well-deserved recognition and award! ~Rabbi Jeremy and Kay Lipton

Kushner-Tumen Family Children's Fund

In honor of Jeffrey Forgosh's special birthday ~ Norm & Andrea Kushner

In memory of Bob Selig ~ Norm & Andrea Kushner

In memory of Dr. Hatem Shoukeir's brother ~ Norm and Andrea Kushner

Wofchuck Gilbert Endowment Fund

In memory of Bob Selig ~ Robert Wofchuck and Heather Gilberg

Simchas

New! B'nai mitzvah, engagement, wedding or new baby in the family? Share your happiness with the community with a notice in the *Reporter's* new *Simchas* section. Your \$36 payment will support JFNH's nonprofit mission. Submit a short notice and photo to thereporter@jewishnh.org or JFNH, 273 S. River Road Unit 5, PO Box 10041, Bedford, NH 03110

Betty Lauer

continued from page 28

Not long ago, in the digital archive of Yad Vashem, I discovered a list of the Jewish residents of Krosno from 1942. Betty's name and that of her mother and sister appeared on the list. I hesitated to tell her about my find for fear that it would recall those terrible years and upset her. Contrary to what I expected, she was grateful to know about the document and the inclusion of her sister's name. In fact, she said, it brought her a degree of solace to know that there was written evidence of Eva's existence.

On several occasions, Betty observed that she was the last living person to have known her sister. She was, in fact, the last living connection to hundreds of friends and relatives who perished in the Shoah. And now she is gone.

In his book, *The Lost*, Daniel Mendelsohn endeavors to piece together the lives of six relatives who were murdered

in the Shoah. His book is first and foremost a search for his relatives, but it is also an acknowledgement that the specificity of an individual's life can never be fully recovered. We will never know the specificity of the lives that found their final resting place in Betty's memory. But we do know that they had names: Eva, Dolek, Regina, Jerzy, Menek, to recall just a few. And now it is up to us to remember them and to live, like Betty, in the present while watching over the past.

Betty Lauer was a longtime member of the Upper Valley Jewish Community in Hanover, New Hampshire. She passed away on July 13, 2026 at the age of 101.

She was born Bertha Weissberger, the second of two daughters, to Oskar and Ilona (née David) Weissberger, on March 1, 1925 in Hindenburg, Germany (now Zbraz, Poland). She was predeceased by her husband Lawrence Lauer. She is survived by two sons, four grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

May her memory be a blessing.

JFNH Tribute Cards: A Double Mitzvah

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

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

All tributes will be listed in The Reporter.

Amount of Contribution:

☐ \$10 ☐ \$18 ☐ \$36 ☐ Other \$ _____

Designated to the following fund:

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



Contribution: ☐ in honor ☐ in memory of ☐ on the occasion of

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Make your check payable to "Jewish Federation of NH" and mail with this form to: Jewish Federation of NH
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When submitting a Letter to the Editor, please include your name, town of residence, and contact information. Letters to the Editor must be under 300 words in length to be considered for publication. Send your letter by email to thereporter@jewishnh.org with "letter to the editor" in the subject line.

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