

# THE CENTERPIECE

www.ReadingJewishCommunity.org

For Programming of the Jewish Cultural Center & Lakin Preschool news  
1100 Berkshire Blvd., Suite 125, Wyomissing PA 19610 (610) 921-0624

MARCH 2017



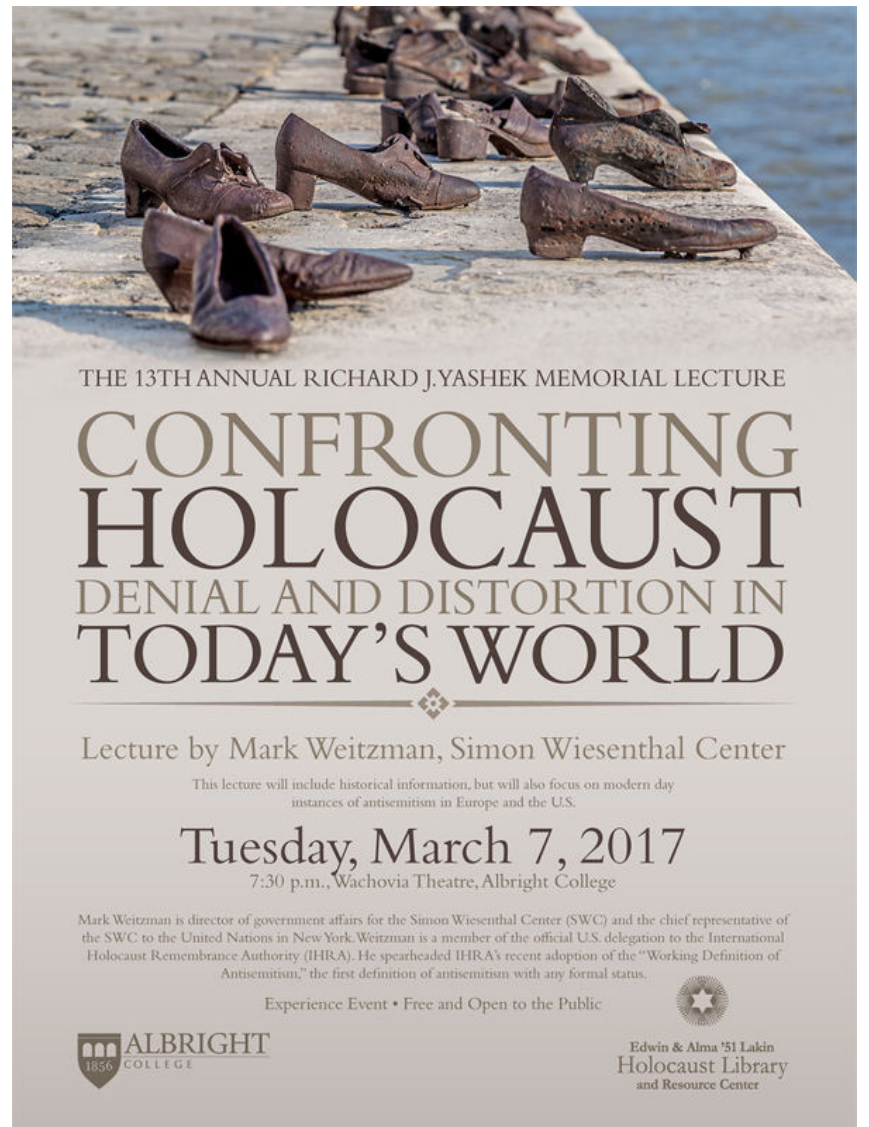
**Purim Masquerade Party**

*Saturday, March 4th*  
**7-11 p.m.**  
**Stokesay Castle**  
141 Stokesay Castle Lane, Reading

*Featuring live music from Noelle and Jeff Band*

Heavy Hors d'Oeuvres • Drinks • Dessert • Dancing  
*Cocktail Attire ~ Masks Encouraged*

\$40 per person or \$75 per couple  
RSVP with payment by March 1, 2017 to 610-921-0624  
*Open to all community members 21 and older*



THE 13TH ANNUAL RICHARD J. YASHEK MEMORIAL LECTURE

**CONFRONTING HOLOCAUST DENIAL AND DISTORTION IN TODAY'S WORLD**


Lecture by Mark Weitzman, Simon Wiesenthal Center


This lecture will include historical information, but will also focus on modern day instances of antisemitism in Europe and the U.S.

**Tuesday, March 7, 2017**  
7:30 p.m., Wachovia Theatre, Albright College

Mark Weitzman is director of government affairs for the Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC) and the chief representative of the SWC to the United Nations in New York. Weitzman is a member of the official U.S. delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Authority (IHRA). He spearheaded IHRA's recent adoption of the "Working Definition of Antisemitism," the first definition of antisemitism with any formal status.

Experience Event • Free and Open to the Public

 ALBRIGHT COLLEGE

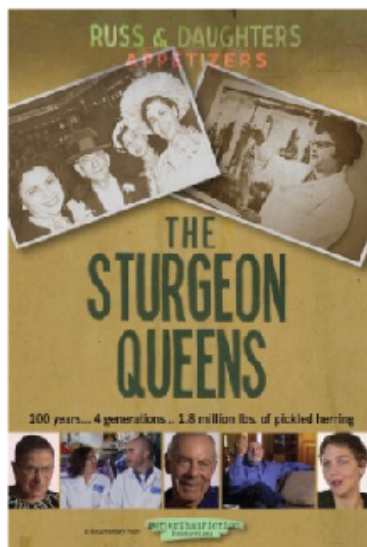
 Edwin & Alma '51 Lakin Holocaust Library and Resource Center

KZ's minyan on March 7th will take place in the Pushman Cottage (Alumni Relations) living room at 7 p.m. For questions or directions please contact the KZ office.

**READING JEWISH FILM SERIES 2017**

The Jewish Cultural Center is proud to announce the third season of the Reading Jewish Film Series, co-sponsored by the Rubin Educational Fund of the Jewish Federation of Reading and Fox Theatres. Admission is \$5 per film or \$30 for the series of seven films. All films will be shown on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm at Fox East 4350 PERKIOMEN AVENUE, READING. Tickets can be purchased at the theater beginning at 6:30pm on the day of the screening or series tickets can be bought at the JCC. Cash and checks are accepted.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1 — 7:00 PM  
**THE STURGEON QUEENS**  
USA | 2014 | Documentary | 54 Minutes | English  
Director: Julie Cohen



100-year-old Hattie Russ Gold and her sister 92-year-old Anne Russ Federman have life stories that hit all the key notes of the Jewish immigrant experience: hard work, humor, romance, and a little tsuris. Hattie and Anne are the two surviving daughters from the famed lox and herring emporium Russ & Daughters on the Lower East Side. They are also the stars of The Sturgeon Queens. This documentary traces four generations of Russ family history, from patriarch Joel Russ, who immigrated to the US from Austria-Hungary with little more than the shirt on his back, to Josh Russ Tupper and Niki Russ Federman, Joel's great grandchildren, now in their 30s, who run the store today.

Wednesday, April 5 at Fox East Theatre  
*In Search of Israeli Cuisine and Women in Sink*  
with Islamic Center of Reading

## Alita Abruzzese Art Exhibit "Escape"



Opening reception Thursday, March 9 from 5-7 p.m at the JCC . Light refreshments. Show runs through May 26.

Sunday, March 26 at 2 pm at the WCR Center for the Arts (140 N. 5th St. Reading)

**Hammel Music Fund Spring 2017 Concert**

Chamber Music with the Atar Trio  
Direct from Jerusalem

The Atar Trio is a leading Israeli chamber ensemble known for its original and adventurous musical projects.

## LAKIN PRESCHOOL



## Lakin Kingdom Dance



Wednesday, March 8  
(Snow date: Thursday, March 9)  
5:30 - 7:30pm at the RCOS Social Hall  
\$5 per child (children under age 2 are FREE)  
\$10 per adult with pizza (optional)



Advance registration and payment is required

Speak with Judy or your child's teacher to register by Friday, March 3

Children (with their parents) ages newborn to 12 are invited to join in a celebration of The Lakin Kingdom at a "just for kids" dance party! Locally renowned DJ Mike Kindlich from Jam on Sound will have the kids hopping with his energetic mix of kid's music and interactive games (prizes, too!)

Children are encouraged to dress up in royal attire or costumes.

Pizza, beverages and desserts will be provided.

We request that parents please stay with their children.



## Children's Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 12  
at JCC

Eddy Ray Magic Show at 4pm  
followed by kid-friendly dinner of  
hot dogs and carnival treats!

The magic show is FREE; you can purchase tickets for food that night. Children who come in costume will receive a free food ticket! RSVP to amandah@jfreeding.org by Friday, March 10.

Saturday, March 25  
10 a.m. at the Highlands

**PJ Library** and TOT Shabbat

Program with Seniors!

Highlands residents and grandparents are invited to Tot Shabbat and PJ Library at The Highlands! Join us for the pint size Shabbat fun and Oneg in the Cultural Center at the Highlands. All are welcome!

Sunday, April 9 at 10 a.m. at Reading Public Museum

Join your friends from PJ Library for a special kids story time and tour of the Thomas and Friends: Explore the Rails exhibit at RPM! Our group will have a special tour of the exhibit, story time and craft...before the museum opens!

## FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

1:00 pm -- Luncheon catered by Boscov's Ala Carte\*

1:45 pm -- Program/Speaker. Varied programs are informative, educational and fun.

\*Optional luncheon (\$7). RSVP to Carole at the JCC by Monday.

## FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE MARCH PROGRAMS

- 2: "Plant a tree in Israel" and welcome an early spring with a Tu B'Shevat Seder, rescheduled from February due to snow.
- 9: Join Keshar Zion Synagogue Rabbi Matt Abelson to celebrate Purim.
- 16: Thursday Film Festival "The King and I." Have your taxi pick you up at 4:00.
- 23: Meet the artist, Alita Abruzzese. Alita will discuss her art and also demonstrate her creative process through "live" painting.
- 30: Author Barb Walter will share her book "Kindness Grows." It features real stories about random acts of kindness.



**Thursday Film Festival**  
March 16, 1:45 pm  
**"The King and I"**

This visual and musical masterpiece features Academy Award winner Yul Brynner and a Rodgers and Hammerstein score. It tells the true story of Englishwoman Anna Leonowens (Deborah Kerr) who comes to Siam as schoolteacher to the royal court in the 1860's. Over time, Anna and the King (Brynner) stop trying to change each other and begin to understand one another. (133 min).

92Y

DVD presentation of an  
earlier live satellite broadcast

Monday, March 20 at 2 pm  
at Highlands Cultural Center Side B

• Bernard-Henri Lévy with Charlie Rose:  
**Why Judaism Matters**

The rock-star French philosopher sits down with Charlie Rose to explain how his ideas are shaped by the wisdom and beauty of Judaism, why Judaism and Jewish peoplehood is important to the world — and why the global resurgence of anti-Semitism poses an existential threat to us all.

Left vs Right:  
The Battle for Israel's Soul

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

7:00 pm

at the JCC

Is Israel locked in a tragic dispute between two peoples claiming the same land — or a global conflict between Western democracy and Islamist terrorism? Is partition into two states the only way to ensure Israel's survival — or is it the surest path to ever-increasing bloodshed and possibly even endangering Israel's survival? Special guests Jonathan S. Tobin and J. J. Goldberg, will debate these and other critical issues concerning the State of Israel.

**Jonathan S. Tobin** (senior online editor and chief political blogger of Commentary magazine and a frequent commentator on domestic politics, Israel and Jewish affairs) argues that Israel stands on the front line of a global conflict between Islamist terrorism and Western democracy.

**J.J. Goldberg** (editor-at-large of The Forward Jewish American newspaper and former U.S. bureau chief of the Israeli news magazine The Jerusalem Report. He is the author of Jewish Power: Inside the American Jewish Establishment) contends that Israel could enter a regional alliance with moderate Sunni states, if it accepted the Saudi-led Arab Peace Initiative leading to a Palestinian state.

After a moderated discussion there will be time for questions from the audience.

Free program but RSVP is requested to  
BrendaS@jfreeding.org or 610-921-0624.

## GREAT DECISIONS

Meeting at the JCC

Monday mornings 10:30 am until Noon

March 6 through May 1 (NO class April 17 due to Passover)



Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD and meeting in a discussion group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today.

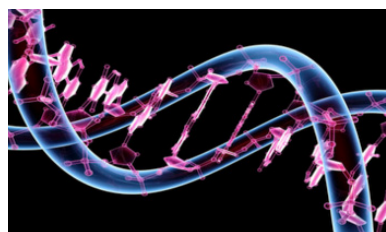
**PREPARE TO DISCUSS THE WORLD**

\$35 one person, one book or \$40 two persons, one book  
To register for Great Decisions and to order a copy of the Great Decisions Briefing Book contact Amanda Hornberger

## Learn to Play Canasta!



Friday, March 3 at 2 pm at JCC. Gather your friends and learn how to play this fun card game! Game is played in pairs so we need a group of 4, 8 or 12 to learn! Instructor is Sue Wessner. RSVP to Amanda by February 17 at amandah@jfreeding.org.



Two events featuring  
Speaker:

**Melissa K. Rosen,**  
Director of  
National Outreach  
at Sharsheret

**'What's Jewish about Breast Cancer and Ovarian Cancer'**

a one-hour program for  
Medical/Healthcare  
Professionals  
Sunday, April 2, 10:30am  
Penn State Berks Campus

**'Cancer Genetics in the Jewish Family'**  
Sunday, April 2 at 2 PM  
Jewish Cultural Center