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A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

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APRIL 2017 | NISAN-IYAR 5777

A "Day" in the Life of our **JCC**

6AM
Swimming



8AM
Early Childhood



10AM
Camp Centerland



12PM
Fitness



2PM
Adult Classes



4PM
Kids Place



6PM
Hebrew High



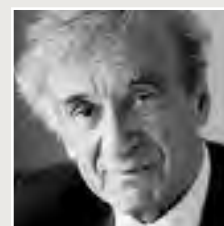
8PM
Cultural Arts



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Standing With The JCC

March 5, 2017

These people were among the hundreds of community members of every religion, color, and ethnicity, who stood together—hand in hand—and encircled the Jewish Community Center, Holland Family Building with their support.



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Editor's Note




Ellen Goldstein, Editor

It is April—time for spring, Passover, Holocaust Remembrance, Israel Independence Day; a time to celebrate our freedom, rejoice with Israel, and remember the Six Million. But here in my office in the beautiful Benderson Family JCC Building, it has been difficult to focus on the joys and pleasures of this season and the upcoming holidays with the pervasive aura of hate in the air. As you probably know, our JCC buildings were the target of bomb threats on President’s Day, February 20. Just one incident among 165 bomb threats (as of March 17, 2017) received at JCCs, synagogues and Jewish organizations around North America since January 2017. The response from around Western New York and all over the country has been overwhelmingly positive, and life-affirming! In fact, the day following the bomb incident, my husband led his lunchtime Holland JCC class spinning to songs like “We’re Not Gonna Take It,” “Fight Back,” and more in that “not in our JCC” vein.

Our Buffalo Jewish and non-Jewish community responded with a loud and strong “**we stand with the JCC!**” That is why this issue of the *Jewish Journal* is devoted to our Jewish Community Center. You’ll find several pages with interfaith and government statements of support for the Center and for the Buffalo Jewish Community, including photos of the March 5 community rally at the Holland Building, organized by New York State Assembly Member Sean Ryan, and the WNY Muslim Community’s visit to the Benderson Building March 7. You’ll see on the cover and read the story about a “day” in the life of the JCC on page 3 where activities, programs and spirit abound. The Center continues to be a vibrant, exciting place for everyone, a place where “community is our middle name!” And please read Rick Zakalik’s story on the Benderson Family on page 48.

If all of this wasn’t enough, April heralds a project that’s been in the making for over a year—the inaugural “Made in Buffalo” Event featuring marketing guru Seth Godin April 27. Read about the Buffalo Jewish Federation’s gift to Buffalo via “Made in Buffalo” on page 6. And finally, as Federation President Steven J. Weiss urges on page 8, let’s use this holiday to put ourselves and our world into perspective. Wishing you a zissin Pesach!


Ellen Goldstein - Editor

On The Cover



Cover design by Kim Miers. Photos of the JCC courtesy of the Jewish Community Center, Laurie Greenspan, Camp Centerland, Ellen Goldstein. Photo of Seth Godin by Brian Bloom. Photo of Elie Wiesel courtesy of the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo. Photo of Nathan Benderson courtesy of the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies

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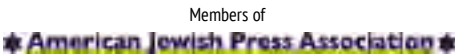
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A “Day” in the Life of Buffalo’s Jewish Community Centers



6:00am Swimming

In the early morning, members are lined up and ready to get a head start on their day either in the pool or in the fitness center. Each week at the Holland Family Building pool, 350 children learn to swim and 60 adults attend aqua group exercise classes.” The Benderson pool boasts similar numbers.



6:00am Yoga

Ohhhm begins early at the JCC. Teacher Carol Timmerman-Yorty welcomes Yoga students at 6:00 am weekdays at the Holland Family Building for challenging, yet rewarding and relaxing yoga classes.



8:00am Early Childhood Program

Our NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) accredited Early Childhood Centers serve families with children from infancy through pre-K, and school is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 6:00 pm, year round. The children participate in developmentally appropriate educational activities, enrichment classes (gym, swim, music, dance, and more), and play under the careful supervision of our wonderful faculty.

*By Laurie Greenspan, JCC Staff Members
and Ellen Goldstein*

The Jewish Community Centers in Buffalo are a central address in Buffalo’s Jewish and general community. The Holland Family Building, built in 1948, has seen generations of children, teenagers and seniors pass through its nursery school then Early Childhood program, BBYO, basketball and swim teams, campers and actors, artists and folks coming for companionship and to learn new skills, a new language like Yiddish, about literature and about Judaism. The Benderson Family Building, built in 1973, is the hub of community activity in the Northtowns—from fitness for all ages to learning, summer camp, cultural arts and theatre, pre-school and after-school care for everyone regardless of religion, race or ethnicity.



10:00am Camp Centerland

Camp Centerland, the JCC’s summer day camp on the grounds of the JCC on North Forest Road begins its 2017 season July 3. Camp is open to children entering Kindergarten through 10th grade teens.



12:00pm Fitness

Our long-term members arrive at their regular times throughout the day at both buildings and continue to invest in their healthy lifestyle. Our group instructors continue to motivate and inspire through their group classes, such as our Tues/Thurs 12:15 pm Cycling which is taught by Mitch Flynn, the founder of the Ride for Roswell.



2:00pm Adult Classes

Each week, the JCC adults meet and discuss the world events, and politics in the news. Beside current events we find our adults in a *New Yorker* Magazine discussion group, a class in Law and Courtroom Drama in Film, a short story Reading group, an art class or our wonderful Yiddish Club. And don’t forget the card groups and Mah Jongg games any day of the week.



4:00pm Kids Place

Afterschool at the JCC is Kids Place, where kids can do homework, make new friends and hang with old friends, participate in enrichment activities such as swimming, gymnastics and more. And kids can attend from 1-5 afternoons per week in a safe and nurturing environment.



**6:00pm Hebrew High
Bureau of Jewish Education**

Teens at Hebrew High describe it as “the one place during the week where we can just slow down for a minute and really get to be ourselves.” Hebrew High, located in the Benderson Family Building, is designed to help Jewish teens connect deeply to a peer community, find adults in their lives who support them, and understand more about who they are, what they believe, what they value, and how they treat themselves and others.



8:00pm Cultural Arts

Cultural arts happen at the JCC all year round! The Jewish Repertory Theatre, located right in the JCC’s Benderson Family Building produces three plays a year, the Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival brings films from around the world to the JCC theatre as well as the Amherst Dipson Theatre, the JCC Book and Arts Fair brings author, music and educational events to the community annually and our two art galleries, located at each JCC building, showcases rotating exhibits of work of local professional artists all year round.



We Stand With The JCC

A Joint Statement from the Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo and the Buffalo Jewish Federation to thank Gov. Cuomo's Recent Actions to Fight Anti-Semitism and Hate Crimes.

The Jewish Community across the United States and in Canada has recently been plagued by bomb threats to 59 Jewish Community Centers since early January. Most recently, Buffalo's Benderson JCC building was the target of such a threat this past week. None of the threats were carried out. No one in any of the buildings was hurt or injured.

Following this week's events, The JCC and Federation received an outpouring of messages of solidarity from friends in our community. Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced new actions to combat hate crimes and anti-Semitism across New York State after meeting with some 50 Jewish community and interfaith leaders at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Manhattan Thursday. The measures include a \$25 million grant program for additional security training needs, cameras, and other related needs to boost safety and security at religious schools and daycare centers. The state will also expand its toll-free hotline to include text message capability to report incidents of bias and discrimination.



From Left: NYS Assembly Member Sean Ryan speaking at the JCC Rally he organized March 5; Federation CEO Rob Goldberg, Federation President Steven Weiss, Dr. Khalid Qazi, JCC Exec Rick Zakalik, JCC President Susan Freed-Oestreicher, FJP Exec Peter Fleischmann and NFJC President Lana Benatovich at the WNY Muslim visit to the JCC March 7; Senator Tim Kennedy (center) and Hon. Sean Ryan (right) at the March 5 JCC Rally with Grant Golden, Irene Sipos, Deborah Goldman, Steven and Ellen Weiss.

"New York is blessed to have more Jewish people in New York than any other place outside of Israel. Yes, I am a New Yorker. But I am Jewish... When you attack a Jewish Community Center, you attack me, and you attack each and every one of us," Cuomo said, in solidarity with our community.

The Jewish Community Center of Buffalo and the Buffalo Jewish Federation, whose offices are in the JCC Benderson Building, thank Governor Cuomo and his staff for their quick action to step up protection for our buildings, our members and our community. "When times are tough, you quickly find out who

your friends are," said Richard Zakalik, JCC Executive Director, who attended Thursday's meeting in New York City. "In addition, we appreciate the support and assistance in bringing this critical issue to the front of the Governor's agenda by Lt. Governor and WNY native Kathy Hochul, Empire State Development Corporation Regional President Sam Hoyt here in Buffalo and David Lobl, the Governor's liaison to the Jewish Community," said

Buffalo Jewish Federation President Steven J. Weiss, together with Federation CEO Rob Goldberg.

"Our doors remain open to the entire community every day," reiterated Zakalik, along with Susan Freed Oestreicher, JCC President. "Both JCC buildings in Buffalo are important pieces of Buffalo's diverse and warm community," they added.

This joint statement was issued February 24, 2017.

Ahmadiyya Muslims Stand with Jews

On behalf of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, I would like to extend my deepest concerns and sympathies for the anti-Semitic sentiments and actions taken by heartless people in different parts of our nation, including right here in our backyard. As children of Abraham, we must stand together in the face of hatred and bigotry, and as Americans, we must defend and protect the precious constitutional safeguards of religious freedom for all.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, which has enjoyed long-standing bonds with our Jewish brothers and sisters locally & all over the world, remains deeply committed to peace building, and as such, we stand with you during this difficult time.

The fifth and current spiritual head of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, His Holiness Mirza Masroor Ahmad, has advised us: "You know your creator when you love his creation. If everyone practices this teaching, there will not be any enmity in anyone's heart. That is how you create peace in the world."

Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Salaam/shalom alaikum,

Lovingly yours,

Dr. Nasir Kahn

WNY Religious Network Supports Us

STATEMENT ON BOMB THREATS AT JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTERS
Unanimously adopted by Network of Religious Communities Board of Governors
the evening of February 23, 2017

The Network of Religious Communities and its member organizations wish to express our concern and support for the Jewish Community in light of the recent bomb threat at the Jewish Community Center in Getzville.

We are aware that this is not an isolated incident. Rather, sadly, it is part of a recent wave of threats to Jewish Community Centers and organizations across America. While the authorities have declared these call-in threats hoaxes, they are in fact, malicious attacks on psyche and sense of security of all Jews living in Western New York and across America. They remind us once again that anti-Semitism is alive in our midst.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with the appropriate members of the Jewish Community to discuss ways that we can be supportive and helpful in this time and circumstance. We are open to suggestions for things that we might do within each of our religious communities, and as a religious community as a whole, to let you know that you do not stand alone and that we will work with you to eradicate anti-Semitism, as well as all forms of religious persecution, in Western New York and beyond.

In concern and solidarity,

Network of Religious Communities Board of Governors

A message from New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo

"This week brought yet another series of bomb threats directed at our state's Jewish community. Make no mistake: When you attack our Jewish community, you attack all New Yorkers. And I vow that we are doing everything in our power to catch those responsible for these anti-Semitic attacks. In an effort to combat the rise in these attacks and other bias-related discrimination, my administration is investing \$25 million to boost safety and security at New York's religious schools and daycare centers. Children should not be



Congressman Brian Higgins at the March 5 Rally.



Rick Zakalik, NYS Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul, Early Childhood students, Asst. JCC Director Patty Simonson and JCC President Susan Freed- Oestreicher

under threat because of their school's ideology, beliefs or mission. There is no place for hate or discrimination in New York. We need to stand together and remain vigilant against these attacks on our communities."

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced new actions to combat hate crimes and anti-Semitism across New York State. The measures include a \$25 million grant program to boost safety and security at New York's schools and day care centers at risk of hate crimes or attacks because of their ideology, beliefs or mission. The grant program will provide funding for additional security training needs, cameras and state-of-the-art technology, door-hardening, improved lighting and other related security upgrades. The Governor made the announcement following a roundtable with over 50 religious leaders from across the state, including members representing the Christian, Jewish and Muslim faiths. At the Governor's direction, the state will also expand its toll-free hotline to include text message capability to report incidents of bias and discrimination. A \$5,000 reward is also being made available for any information leading to an arrest and conviction for a hate crime.

MPAC: In Solidarity with Jewish Friends

The Executive Board and the membership of MPAC-WNY, as well as the wider Muslim community, is dismayed and distraught with the recent desecration of Jewish cemetery in St. Louis and dozens of threats and attacks on Jewish Community Centers across the country, including the Jewish Community Center in Getzville in our own community.

We condemn such cowardly acts and stand in solidarity with our Jewish brothers and sisters. We stand ready to assist them in any way they wish. MPAC, nationally and locally, is very concerned with the rapidly rising anti-Semitism across our country. This, coupled with Islamophobia, Homophobia, Xenophobia and Racism is tearing our country apart.

It must be stopped. At a time like this, we need vision from the President and unwavering leadership from the elected officials to nip such evil in the bud.

The diversity and the individual freedoms, including the freedom to practice one's faith, enshrined in the US Constitution has made this Nation the best in the world and a beacon of light for all. We appeal our civic, political and religious leaders and our fellow citizens to rise against bigotry, sexism and all types of racism so that our country can overcome the divide we face today.

We need time to heal and each and every one of us has a part to play in that healing.

With our best wishes and prayers.
MPAC-WNY Executive Board

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Seth Godin Kicks Off Made in Buffalo Series, Launched By Buffalo Jewish Federation, April 27

Marketing Guru Seth Godin Comes Home to Buffalo for One Night Only!

Entrepreneur, author and one of the most influential marketers of our time, Seth Godin, will return to Buffalo on Thursday, April 27, 2017 to kick off Made in Buffalo, a transformational new speaker series made possible by the Buffalo Jewish Federation. Godin will present **“Dancing on the Edge of a Revolution”—living and working at the dawn of the new economy** that evening at 7:00pm in the auditorium of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. Tickets are \$70 per person, and seating is limited. Doors to the Albright-Knox Art Gallery will open at 6:00 pm for open seating, and Seth’s talk will begin at 7:00pm.

Those who call Buffalo home, whether or not they still live in the community, know the sense of pride and closeness that makes Buffalo special. Made in Buffalo, a speaker series originated and made possible by the Buffalo Jewish Federation, will shine a spotlight on those famous Buffalonians who cut their teeth right here in our backyard. Godin, who spent his formative years in Buffalo, will kick off the speaker series in memory of his parents, the late Lenore and Bill Godin.

The purpose of Made in Buffalo is to celebrate a personality who can lay claim to being made in our region and allow the Buffalo Jewish Federation to provide a dynamic program as a gift to the greater community. There is a deep connection and love of this place, and the Buffalo Jewish Federation thinks that it should be celebrated.

Seth Godin is son of the late Lenore and Bill Godin, who lived and worked in Buffalo, helping to enrich Buffalo’s culture and contribute to the Jewish and general communities in many ways that made a difference—beginning in the 1960’s, and continuing through today. Together with his sisters Marjorie Godin Bryen and Emily Godin Epstein, the Godin children have chosen to honor their late parents by working with the Buffalo Jewish Federation to establish this exciting new speaker series, Made in Buffalo, which will invite engaging speakers who were in some way made in our community, back home to share their talents. All three are pleased that Seth Godin is the inaugural speaker for this series.

The Godin / Buffalo story began in 1964 when Bill and Lenore Godin moved their family from New York to Buffalo for a job in Niagara Falls. They moved here and raised their three children, Seth, Marjorie and Emily. Bill, initially an engineer, went on to get his MBA and eventually PhD from UB and began working in Finance. He was the CFO at Moog, was an adjunct professor at UB Business School, and then purchased Hard Manufacturing, a manufacturer of pediatric hospital beds and cribs used worldwide, which daughter, Marjorie Godin Bryen now runs from Buffalo. Along the way, Bill Godin coached hockey, chaired the United Way Campaign, was president of Studio Arena Theatre, was active at the Jewish Federation, chiefly with the Finance committee. He chaired the Federation’s Community Relations Committee shortly before his death.

Lenore Godin made her mark on Buffalo through the Albright-Knox Art Gallery initially as a docent and member of



Seth Godin; photo by Jill Greenberg

the Junior Group and then as a driver of change in the way the Gallery collection was made accessible to the public through its products. She ran the Gallery Shop for more than 18 years, creating a “go-to” destination for gifts, books not found elsewhere (no Amazon at the time), and helping to enhance the reputation of the Gallery.

Seth left Buffalo after graduating from Williamsville East, attended Tufts University and Stanford Graduate School of Business. He was a computer engineer and began working on computer-based educational software. He married his wife of 30 years, Helene, a lawyer, turned owner of gluten-free bakeries. Seth has always been a “change maker” said his sister, Marjorie. Seth began several entrepreneurial ventures and sold one of his largest businesses to Yahoo. He changed the general thinking about marketing with his ground-breaking book **Permission Marketing**. He believed we could use the internet for good, to help society move forward. Marjorie explained that when Seth sees a gap or need not being met, he thinks about how he can play a role in filling that need—whether making money at it, or making money for not-for-profits. He is the author of 18 books that have been bestsellers around the world and have been translated into more than 35 languages. He writes about the post-industrial revolution, the way ideas spread, marketing, quitting, leadership and most of all, changing everything. You might be familiar with his books **Linchpin**, **Tribes**, **The Dip** and **Purple Cow**. He has been called “America’s greatest marketer” by *American Way Magazine*.

In addition to his writing and speaking, Seth founded both Yoyodyne and Squidoo. His blog (which you can find by typing “Seth”

into Google) is one of the most popular in the world. He was recently inducted into the Direct Marketing Hall of Fame, one of three chosen for this honor in 2013.

Recently, Godin once again set the book publishing industry on its ear by launching a series of four books via Kickstarter. The campaign reached its goal after three hours and ended up becoming the most successful book project ever done this way. His newest book, **What To Do When It’s Your Turn**, is already a bestseller.

Marjorie Godin Bryen further explained that Seth has always been interested in “giving back”, something the three Godin kids learned from their parents. Which brings us back to “Made in Buffalo” and the Lenore & Bill Godin Made in Buffalo Fund.



Lenore & Bill Godin

Tickets for Made in Buffalo featuring Seth Godin are \$70 for the 7:00 pm Albright-Knox Art Gallery talk and can be purchased at madeinbflo.org. Each ticket includes a copy of Godin’s book, **What to Do When it’s Your Turn (and it’s Always Your Turn)**.

Seth Godin’s appearance in Buffalo on April 27 is being sponsored by the Lenore & Bill Godin Made In Buffalo Fund, Buffalo Jewish Federation, The Albright-Knox Art Gallery, the University at Buffalo Center for Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness and Telesco Creative Group.

For more information, contact Miriam Abramovich at mabramovich@jfdbflo.com.

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On Passover

By Steven J. Weiss

Passover is upon us and it is one of the most beloved and celebrated Jewish holidays in America and across the globe. That is certainly true for me and my family. When I was a kid, my family would often travel to New York City to see my Grandparents. I remember walking up the stairs to my Grandparents' apartment, and awaiting my brother Bruce and me on a coffee table in their small living room was a plate of colorful half-circle sugar-rind jelly fruit candies. As the door swung open, we would give a quick hello to our Grandparents, and immediately proceed to nudge each other out of the way and devour nearly half the candy before someone intervened and took it away from us. As an adult, it seems kind of ironic to me now that this is one of my fondest Passover memories, considering I'm pretty much off of sugar and mindful of almost everything I eat. However, I identify those candies with what they symbolize - my heritage, the holiday I love, the time I spent with my family and what I remember as part of my meaningful childhood experiences

Fast forward 45 years and here I am sitting in my apartment thinking about the upcoming holiday, all that I have learned about it since I was a mere 7 years old and more importantly, why Passover is so significant to my Jewish journey. What strikes me as being one of the more central aspects of Passover observance is the notion that we are supposed to search for and burn *chametz*. While this is not something we did in our home when I was growing up nor do we search through our home today with a candle and feather looking for crumbs, I do contemplate the spiritual purpose behind this tradition and embrace its significance.

Taken literally, *chametz* is that which rises, and as the story goes, the Jews left Egypt so quickly, they didn't have time to let the dough rise, so they baked thin crackers instead. So we search for and destroy any *chametz* and then we eat matzoh during Passover in remembrance of our Jewish ancestors' hasty exit from Egypt.

The religious requirement to search for *chametz* before the holiday begins is based on a biblical passage in Deuteronomy (16:4): "No leavening

agents of yours may be seen throughout your domain or under your control for seven days." As mentioned, the literal interpretation leads some people in the active mitzvah of searching for crumbs and leavening and otherwise clean thoroughly in anticipation of the upcoming religious holiday. Another lesson from this concept is to look inward at ourselves, our homes and our businesses to search for those aspects of our lives where leavening symbolizes haughtiness, false pride, and inflation of the ego, and attempt to rid or cleanse ourselves of these traits.



Steven Weiss

A sense of pride that serves to give us value and a feeling of self-worth can be a healthy attribute if it reflects a balance of humility and the positive aspects of ego. A healthy ego can be a powerful motivator, resulting in standing up for what's right or possessing the courage to pursue one's dreams. Pride in the right context and in the proper amount is an important attribute. Maybe this is why *chametz* is otherwise allowed to be consumed throughout the rest of the year!

Haughty pride and arrogance, however, where we take credit for our own accomplishments rather than giving credit to G-d or where we ascribe labels for ourselves which are more aptly bestowed upon us by others, such as "expert" or "successful" or "mensch," are hurtful to us even if we don't see it. Other verbal or non-verbal statements can be hurtful to others like "this is my country, you don't belong here - get out". These messages can be read as, "I am better than you are" and this kind of "leavening" is a self-possessed haughtiness that makes

one think we're irreproachable. False pride comes in a variety of flavors and forms, but an inward search for *chametz* may result in a discovery of the trait of humility and a conclusion that such pride is a barrier to a humble view of who we really are, what G-d wants for us and to the creation of healthy relationships. It has been said that true spiritual growth begins with total humility

Passover is referred to as the season of our liberation, and reminds us not only of the freedom of our ancestors from Egyptian bondage, but it also inspires us to strive for a greater measure of self-liberation from all limitations and distractions which impede us or hold us back from freely exercising what we want out of everyday life. This may be one interpretation of what the Haggadah means when it says: "In every generation a Jew should see herself/himself as though s/he personally has been liberated from Egypt", pertaining more to our inner selves than to outside factors which are often beyond our individual control. Passover is a time to recognize and acknowledge those individual constraints which we allow to get in the way of our own goals and then, to set our minds to limit these impediments to meet the challenges and opportunities in front of us.

If leavening represents our ego, then it is each one of us who prevents ourselves from truly being "free," and our inability to attain "freedom" comes from within. It is up to us to search our minds and our souls, and remove and destroy that which holds us back. We need to find that part of our ego that keeps us from being free. This effort will allow us to tell a much more meaningful story of personal freedom and redemption at the Passover table.

As we purge our homes from all traces of *chametz*, let us strive to rid ourselves of destructive pride, and may G-d bless each us all with a truly meaningful and liberating Passover.

Steven J. Weiss is the current President of the Buffalo Jewish Federation.

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Happy Passover!

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A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

Community Seders Around Town

Chabad

Monday, April 10 8:30 pm
Tuesday, April 11 8:30 pm
2450 North Forest Road
For reservations, call 688-1642

Congregation Beth Abraham

Tuesday, April 11 6:00 pm
1073 Elmwood Ave
\$30/person
info@congregationbethabraham.net

Congregation Shir Shalom

Tuesday, April 11 6:00 pm
Buffalo Marriott Niagara
1340 Millersport Highway
For reservations & prices by 4/3/17- call 633-8877

Jewish Discovery Center

Monday, April 10 8:00 pm
Tuesday, April 11 8:00 pm
757 Hopkins Road
For reservations, www.JewishBuffalo.com

Temple Beth Zion

Tuesday, April 11 6:00 pm
Brookfield Country Club
5120 Shimerville Road, Clarence
For reservations & prices by 4/4/17- call 836-6565

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Buffalo's 2017 Oscar Connection



Buffalo photojournalist and attorney Mickey Osterreicher shot this photo of O.J. Simpson riding in limo on his way to be inducted into the Bills Wall of Fame at Rich Stadium in 1980. This photo, along with about 30 others which Osterreicher shot, were part of the 2016 ESPN documentary *O.J.: Made in America*. The limo photo was also used to promote the film in such places as the *New York Times* review of the film. The film was just awarded an Oscar in 2017 for best documentary. It was created as part of the ESPN Network's **30 For 30** Series, which has evolved into a production that has both revitalized and revolutionized the art of the sports documentary through a diverse range of filmmakers telling specific stories that touch on larger themes beyond sports.



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What To Do When It's Your Turn (And It's Always Your Turn)

Entrepreneur, author, and quite possibly one of the most famous marketers of our time, Seth Godin presents "Dancing on the Edge of a Revolution"—living and working at the dawn of the new economy. Hear his thoughts on being remarkable, raising the bar, and doing work that matters. Seth, who spent most of his formative years in Buffalo, is proud to kick off the Buffalo Jewish Federation's **MADE IN BUFFALO** speaker series in memory of his parents, Lenore and Bill Godin.

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The Legacy of Elie Weisel Highlights Yom HaShoah April 23

This year's Yom HaShoah Commemoration will pay tribute to Holocaust Survivor, teacher, humanitarian and leader, Elie Wiesel z"l. and his strong legacy to be an inspiration to other community Upstanders. The commemoration, organized by the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo, will be held Sunday April 23 at 10:00 a.m. at Temple Beth Tzedek.

Elisha Wiesel, son of Elie Wiesel z"l, will share a special written message just for Buffalo. Six individuals who have made a strong difference in Greater Buffalo will be featured as the six candle lighters in memory of the Six Million Jews killed in the Shoah. Honorable Lisa Rodwin and Honorable Penny Wolfgang will narrate the biographies of the candle lighter.

Judge Rodwin will also share how her

family story of fleeing Nazi Germany impacts her work with refugees and acculturation programs in Buffalo today. Several University at Buffalo Hillel students and Hebrew High and Synagogue and Temple grade school students will be participating in the Commemoration. "The perpetrators of the Shoah (Holocaust) systemically murdered 6 million Jews, including 1.5 million children. This day is dedicated to remembering their legacy, the resilience of the Survivors and the next generation of Upstanders," said Rachel Kranitz McPhee.

The Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo is dedicated to Teaching the Lessons, Remembering the Events and Honoring the Survivors and Victims of the Holocaust. The HRC is grateful for the sponsoring support of the Buffalo Jewish Federation and Temple Beth Tzedek.

The Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo invites you to the

2017 YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION

(HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY)

Our Community Upstanders – The Legacy of Elie Wiesel z"l

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2017 10:00 A.M.

FEATURING:

- A TRIBUTE TO ELIE WIESEL z"l
- A SPECIAL PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM HIS SON, ELISHA WIESEL
- HONORING 6 BUFFALO COMMUNITY UPSTANDERS
- HON. LISA BLOCH RODWIN AND HON. PENNY M. WOLFGANG

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Karen Gutierrez

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Dr. Helen Cappuccino

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COMMUNITY

Rabbi Heschel Greenberg Publishes 4 New Books

The Jewish Discovery Center announces the publication of four new books by Rabbi Heschel Greenberg, bringing the total number of books he has authored to 26. Three of the volumes, entitled *Ma'aseh Yisroel* are part of a series of scholarly works on the Talmud and Maimonides. The fourth book, *Light from the Future*, Volume Three, contains essays on the weekly Torah portion.

In addition, Rabbi Greenberg recently also published a translation of and commentary on a Chassidic discourse by the Lubavitcher Rebbe.



Rabbi Heschel Greenberg

To purchase these books, or subscribe to the Rabbi's syndicated, weekly e-light essays on the Parsha, participate in the Institute for Jewish Studies, spend a Shabbos meal with the Greenberg family, for counseling, or to participate in other JDC programs please contact Rabbi Yehoshua Greenberg at 716- 400-1550.

Join us as we celebrate Israel's birthday!

**Sunday, April 30, 2017
JCC/ Benderson Building
11:30am – 2:30pm**

Programs and activities include:

- Goldie and Moshe Monzon – artwork, jewelry and items from Israel for sale
- Israeli food – for purchase
- Free activities for families and children
- Plant pots to take home
- Community "Mosaic" artwork
- Picture this – have your picture taken "in Israel"
- Story time in the Bedouin tent
- Climb "Masada" in the gym
- Music
- Face Painting
- GaGa
- Bounce House
- Re-Enactment of the signing of the Declaration of the State of Israel
- Kol Rina Choir performing at the Weinberg Campus



A Treat for Passover

by Robin Kurss

Here is one of my favorite flourless chocolate desserts...Wishing you a very Happy and Sweet Pesach!

Flourless Chocolate Torte

Flourless Almond Cake:

- 1 1/4 c. margarine
- 1 1/4 c sugar
- 9 eggs, separated...easier to do when room temp!
- 10 oz. Wegmans brand semi-sweet chocolate chips (they are pareve), melted and cooled...
- 2 3/4 c finely ground almonds (you can buy readymade "almond flour" or almond meal)

Chocolate Ganache:

- 24 oz. Wegmans brand semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 3 c Coffee Rich or Unger's non-dairy heavy cream substitute
- 4 Tbsp. margarine
- Strawberries, blackberries and raspberries to garnish

For the cake:

1. Preheat oven to 350
2. Grease a 1/2 sheet pan (13 x 18) and line with parchment paper.
3. Cream margarine, sugar, egg yolks together until light and fluffy.
4. Add the almond meal and cooled, melted chocolate chips...mix on medium for 2 minutes.
5. In separate bowl, beat egg whites until stiff.
6. Gently fold 1/3 of the egg whites into the chocolate mix, add remaining egg whites and fold till combined.
7. Pour batter evenly into pan and bake for 20 minutes. Test with toothpick to make sure it is baked and toothpick comes out clean. Cool in the pan.
8. Make ganache: Heat "cream" in saucepan until it is warm but not boiling. Off heat, stir in chocolate and margarine and stir till chocolate and margarine have melted to combine.

Assemble the cake: Turn cake onto a piece of parchment on counter. Spread with 1/3 of the ganache...cut cake into 3 equal pieces along the long side of the cake, stack the 3 layers together, then cut the stack in half and place one on top of the other, you will now have a 6 layer cube. Pour remaining ganache over the top and sides of the cake and serve with berries sprinkled over the top.



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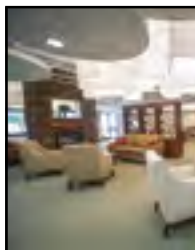
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COMMUNITY

Zusha and the Buffalo Renaissance

By Rabbi Joshua Strosberg

If there were a soundtrack to accompany the Buffalo Renaissance taking place near Canalside and downtown, it would be the up and coming Jewish band called Zusha. Named after the 18th century Chassidic master Reb Zusha of Hanipol, Zusha the band blends the old and the new, the traditional and the cutting edge. Like the Queen City, which is seeing a fresh hipster scene emerge alongside the Erie Canal and architectural masterpieces from the early 20th century, Zusha is a mix of modern reggae and folk rhythms built on the familiar architecture of Old World *niggunim*, or chassidic wordless melodies.

The lead singer has a long beard with *peyos* and a black *kippa*, but at the same time he has a voice which is a cross between Cab Calloway



Rabbi Joshua Strosberg

and Michael Buble. There are tunes named “Mashiach” and “Tzion” but you also have “The FDR *Niggun*” and even “Darth Vader’s *Niggun*.” There is the timeless “Oi Oi Oi!”

Do you have a tot? Want to celebrate Shabbat?

Tot Shabbat Hop!

Join other PJ Library families each month for a Tot Shabbat or Havdalah experience around the Buffalo area. Enjoy the company of families you already know, or meet new ones!

UPCOMING HOPS:

April 21st - 6:00 pm
Tot Shabbat Service followed by a complimentary pizza dinner at Congregation Shir Shalom

May 12th - 10:00 am
Shabbat morning program at Kadimah Academy, complete with singing, dancing, crafts and of course, challah and juice

May 19th - 5:45 pm
Complimentary pizza dinner followed by a Tot Shabbat Service at Temple Beth Zion

See Full Event Details:
facebook.com/PJLibraryBuffalo

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BEETHOVEN'S PASTORAL
Sat. Apr. 8, 8pm | Sun. Apr. 9, 2:30pm
John Axelrod, conductor
Joyful, poetic beauty is resonant in Beethoven's Symphony No. 6. Benjamin Beilman performs Saint-Saëns' Violin Concerto No. 3.

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NATASHA PLAYS BEETHOVEN
Fri. Apr. 21, 10:30am | Sat. Apr. 22, 8pm
JoAnn Falletta, conductor
Electrifying pianist Natasha Paremski lends her virtuosity to the popular Concerto No. 3.

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Sat. Apr. 29, 8pm
Stefan Sanders, conductor

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energy that is standard in any niggun, but it is a muted energy that whispers and hums as well as yells and shouts; Zusha makes just as much use of the space between the notes as the notes themselves.

Zusha's debut LP reached #2 on Billboard's World music chart and they have played to sold out audiences in New York, Jerusalem, London, and Russia, but is *The Jerusalem Post* exaggerating when it calls them the "future of Jewish music?"

I'm inclined to say no. The first time I listened to Zusha on YouTube, it was a track called "Jump." My first thought when I hit play was: "Interesting title but I know where this is going. These types of *niggunim* are a dime a dozen." When the musical bridge came along, however, there was a subtle melodic shift here, a surprising rhythm there, and I thought: "Wow, that's new! I didn't know a *niggun* could sound quite like that."

One of the keys to a healthy, vibrant Judaism is the ability to say "Wow, that's new!" To pick up a siddur and say "I've been saying this prayer for years and I never thought of that interpretation before!" or to grab your credit card and say "I've always given tzedaka to that cause, but I'm going to give to this new one as well." Maybe most important is the ability to say:

"I didn't know a Pesach seder could be quite like that!"



Pesach night, more than any other night, challenges us to pull a "Zusha": to create something new and fresh and still be rooted in our solid tradition. We need to tell a story that we've heard many times before and make it feel brand new.

So to prepare for seder night this year, turn up Zusha on your device, open your haggada, and come up with **five** questions that you haven't asked before. Jot down your thoughts and be prepared to ask and discuss the questions at your seder. Be part of the Buffalo Jewish Renaissance.

Rabbi Joshua Strosberg is rabbi at Kehillat Ohr Tzion.

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5 THINGS YOU CAN DO in April to repair the world

- 1» Join us for "Help a Horse" Day** in conjunction with the ASPCA on Saturday, April 22nd, from 11:00 am- 4:00 pm at Spruce Meadow Farm & Phoenix Rising Equine Rescue, 10333 Keller Road, Clarence. This event raises awareness for the plight of the rescue horses and various ways individuals and business can assist. **For more information call 716.741.2346. www.helpsavehorses.org**
- 2» Join the ASPCA and Phoenix Rising Equine Rescue for "Do You Believe in Magic"** featuring a magic show, wildlife presentation, pony rides, face painting, craft table, basket raffle, 'Quidditch Match' and more on Saturday, April 22 from noon to 4:00pm. Free Admission at Spruce Meadow Farm, 10333 Keller Road, Clarence, NY 14032. **For more information: www.HelpSaveHorses.org**
- 3» Attend a fundraiser for The Food Bank** sponsored by Congregation Shir Shalom, Andreozzi Bluestein LLP and Michael & Joanne Berger on Saturday, April 29th at 6:30pm. Join your friends at Fiero, 408 Evans Street in Williamsville for a buffet dinner, dessert & coffee. \$40 per person includes dinner, live music, cash bar, raffle & art sale. Seating is limited. **RSVP to Joanne at Fiero 631-4090 or Gary at Andreozzi Bluestein at 633-3200.**
- 4» Tour of the new 2017 Decorator's Show House**--the August Feine House--at 766 Ellicott Street in Buffalo, sponsored by The Junior League of Buffalo.. This house is the future site of the Russell J. Salvatore Hospitality House on the Kevin Guest House Campus. Tours are from April 29th thru May 21st, Tuesday 6:00pm-8:30pm, Wednesday-Friday 10:00am-12:30pm and 6:00pm-8:30pm, Saturday & Sunday 9:00am-4:30pm. **For more information www.jlbuffalo.org/show-house**
- 5» Come to meet some rescue horses on the beautiful historic grounds of Eveningside Vineyards for "Wine & Withers"** on 4794 Lower Mountain Road, Cambria, NY 14094 on Saturday, April 29th from 1:00-4:00pm. Learn how these majestic horses are given a second chance at life through the dedicated efforts of Phoenix Rising Equine Rescue. Free wine tasting with a \$5.00 donation. **For more information: www.eveningside.com**

**April 1**

Visionaries from the Western Galilee
10 am. Shabbat services at Temple Beth Tzedek, followed by Kiddush Conversation "Perspectives on Today's Israel"
12:15 pm-1:00 pm.

April 2

"The Rich Tapestry of the Western Galilee"
featuring 3 Israeli educators, plus all you can eat vegetarian/ Mediterranean buffet at Fiero Ristorante,
408 Evans Street, Williamsville,
\$15/person, \$25/couple. **RSVP to Joan Kwiatkowski at Federation- 204-2242.**

April 9

TBZ's Achim Program at Weinberg.
10:00 am. Weinberg Meadows Lounge, featuring Mark Criden. Free and open to the public.

Jewish Jazz @ Burchfield. with Steve Loew-clarinet & Dan Weiser-piano.
2:00 pm. Burchfield-Penney Art Center.
1300 Elmwood Ave. Special exhibition of paintings by Dr. Milton Weiser. \$
Call 716-878-6011 or burchfieldpenney.org for tickets or info.

April 10

Passover begins at sundown
through April 18.
First Seder at many sites (see pages 8-9).

April 11

Passover continues.
Second Seder at many sites. (See page 8-9).

April 19

Identity Politics: An Interfaith Workshop.
7:00 pm. Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst, 6320 Main Street.
Presented by Congregation Havurah.
Contact Jane Jacobson- glassroots@juno.com or Andre Toth- Tmatoth@hotmail.com.

April 21

PJ Library presents Tot Shabbat Hop.
6:00pm. Congregation Shir Shalom.
Contact Mandy Weiss at mweiss@jfedbflo.com or Facebook.com/PJLibraryBuffalo.

April 22

Celebrate Earth Day at Temple Beth Zion
services at 10:30 am - 805 Delaware Ave and at Congregation Shir Shalom 6:00 pm.
Contact Shir Shalom at 633-8877.

April 23

Yom Hashoah commemorated in Buffalo.
10:00 am. Temple Beth Tzedek,
621 Getzville Road, Amherst.
Free and open to the community.

April 27

Ready, Set, Go Pink! Hadassah Breast Cancer Luncheon and lecture. 11:30 am.
Brookfield Country Club.
5120 Shimerville Rd., Clarence.
Call Hadassah at 688-5260 for more information (see page 12).

April 29

Congregation Shir Shalom's Special fundraiser for The Food Bank of WNY.
6:30 pm. Fiero Restaurant,
408 Evans Street, Williamsville.
\$40/person.
RSVP to Joanne at 631-4090 or Gary at 633-3200.

April 30

Yom Ha'atzmaut- Israel Independence Day—celebrated.
11:30 am- 2:30 pm. JCC/Benderson Family Building. Family fun and activities, including food and games. **Also Kol Rina Concert at Weinberg Campus. Call 688-4033.**

WHERE IN JBFLO ?

**Where is this found in WNY?**

The first 5 people to correctly identify the location and the person will win a \$10 lunch to the JCC's Tel Aviv Café.

E-mail your answers to egoldstein@jfedbflo.com

In March, no one correctly identified the photo of a wooden sculpture which is near the lobby of the JCC/ Holland Building on Delaware Avenue. The photo to the right is the plaque, which describes the sculpture in honor of Gretchen Gross, and hangs on the wall near the sculpture.





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Conducted by Rabbi Alex Lazarus Klein and Cantor Arlene Frank

Complete Seder Dinner includes gefilte fish, chicken soup with matzoh balls, salad, roasted chicken, broccoli, roasted potatoes, matzoh, wine, juice, hot beverages, fruit salad, cookies and cake.

Seder plates sponsored and prepared by CSS Sisterhood, gefilte fish sponsored by CSS Men's Group and dessert sponsored by Shir Shalom.

Join in the 2nd seder.

Call CSS office at 633-8877 for prices.
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Welcome to Rabbi Eliezer Marcus

by Annette M. Magid

Rabbi Eliezer Marcus, the new congregational rabbi of Young Israel of Greater Buffalo, has been sharing his considerable knowledge with the Jewish community since the fall. During the weekdays, Sunday through Thursday, forty minutes before Mincha, late afternoon prayers, he heads Daf Yomi, a special Talmud study class. Also Sunday through Thursday, between Mincha and Maariv, evening prayers, he shares details of Chalacha, Jewish laws. Every Shabbat, thirty minutes before Shacharit, morning prayers, Rabbi Marcus leads the discussion of the Parasha, weekly portions of the Torah. Also, every Shabbat following Musaf, afternoon prayers, Rabbi Marcus presents thoughtful droshim, speeches, filled with fascinating stories, some relating to his illustrious family. On Sunday morning following Shacharit, during a morning repast of bagels and coffee, Rabbi Marcus



shares his knowledge of the Interface of Jewish Laws of Medicine.

In addition to the aforementioned classes and lectures, Rabbi Marcus also conducts a traditional Gemara Shiur on Monday evening at 8:00 p.m. and on Wednesday evening at 8:00 p.m., he conducts a class and leads discussion on the Kuzari, the classic text of Jewish philosophy.

Rabbi Marcus was born in Toronto and studied under the guidance of Rabbi Dovid Soloveitchik. Rabbi Marcus, whose father was Rabbi Raphael Marcus, z"l, is related to the famous Soloveitchik dynasty of rabbinic scholars. Rabbi Ahron Soloveitchik, z"l, was his grandfather and Rabbi Dr. Joseph Ber (J.B.) Soloveitchik, z"l, was his great uncle. Rabbi Eliezer Marcus studied in the Toronto Kolel for seven years before he moved to Williamsville to serve as the rabbi for the congregation of Young Israel of Greater Buffalo.

His wife, Baila is also from Toronto. She studied in the Yavneh Teacher's Seminary in Cleveland and has a B.A. in special education from Tal Piot in Toronto. Rabbi Eliezer and Baila have four children.

Young Israel of Greater Buffalo welcomed Rabbi Marcus at an Installation Brunch held in the historic Wilcox Mansion, the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site on Sunday, March 5, 2017.

Havurah Members shared a toast while enjoying fruit for Tu B'shevat

By Margo Sue Bittner

What better place to celebrate Tu B'shevat than on a fruit farm? Members of Congregation Havurah traveled to Niagara County for their celebration. Fellow member and owner of Bittner-Singer Orchards and The Winery at Marjim Manor, Jim Bittner provided the commentary. Joined by his son Kevin, the two explained the history of the farm, what is planted on the farm, how they determine what is planted and where agriculture is heading into the future. Members brought questions ranging from the science involved in the orchard to labor issues to crop protectants.



CONGREGATION SHIR SHALOM YOUTH GROUP

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Saturday, April 15, 2017 @ 4:00pm

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Fear and anxiety are spreading across the nation, as our new President threatens the most fundamental of our religious and civil liberties. We reject the bigotry and inhumanity of his words and actions. But what are we to do about it? Let us deepen our own respect and understanding for people of different faiths and ethnicities by coming to know one another on a personal level. We invite members of all communities to gather together, not to hear a panel of speakers sitting in front of us (the usual case at interfaith events), but to talk directly with one another!

We plan to create an interfaith "workshop" (don't worry, it's not work, just enjoyable conversation) by presenting a series of questions for our participants to explore. After a brief introduction, we will ask audience members to write down some initial impressions and then break into small groups of four (by turning to their neighbors, as it were), so that each person can share personal insights with others. Finally, we will ask a representative from each group to inform everyone in the larger audience about anything significant, curious, or insightful that its participants learned. We encourage all faiths to join us: Jews, Muslims, Christians, and any other folks who might wish to attend. We will wrap up by sharing some desserts and refreshments.

Contact: Jane Jacobson, Congregation HAVURAH, Sponsor, Glassroots@juno.com or Andre Toth Tmatoth@hotmail.com for more info

Scout Shabbat @ Beth Abraham

Boy and Girl Scouts from WNY celebrated Scout Shabbat at Congregation Beth Abraham on Friday, February 17, in what has now become an annual tradition. Scouts Noah and Adam Beiter delivered a thought provoking D'var Torah while others were recognized for their accomplishments over the past year. For information about WNY Jewish Scouting, please contact Congregation Beth Abraham at www.congregationbethabraham.net



Back row: Alexis Boos, Zoe Coutu, Anthony Seefried, Adam Beiter; Middle Row: Ryan Coutu, Connor Lovern, Tyler Boos, Michael Romeo; Front Row: Ava Romeo; Matthew Romeo. Eli Coutu, Noah Beiter



Boy and Girl Scouts from WNY Scouting making a motzi with Cantor Irwin Gelman at the Scout Shabbat oneg at Congregation Beth Abraham, Friday February 17.

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Materials provided but lunch is not.

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Temple Beth Zion Celebrates 50 Years at 805 Delaware Ave. - April 21

In the days from April 19th to 23rd of 1967, Temple Beth Zion and the Buffalo Community officially dedicated the 805 Delaware Synagogue Building Complex. Through the tireless efforts of the men, women and children -- not just from the Temple Beth Zion congregation-- but many across the Buffalo community, these buildings became the spiritual home of Temple Beth Zion.

Please come together with the TBZ family of today for a special Shabbat Service on Friday, April 21st at 7pm to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Temple Beth Zion buildings at

805 Delaware Ave and honor the individuals that had a part in the building of this spiritual home.

President miriam treger honig noted, "Our buildings come alive and community grows stronger when we share the stories of our celebrations, experiences and history. Help us ensure these memories live on for the next generation as part of the TBZ history." *If you have a personal or family memory you'd like to share with the TBZ family, please contact Amy Schaefer at amyschaefer@tbz.org or 716-835-6565 ext 135.*

New TBZ Bereavement Support Group

Members of Temple Beth Zion are assembling a Bereavement Support Group. The group will be lay-led by members of the group in an informal and warm setting. The first meeting will take place Tuesday, April 18, at 7 p.m. in the Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Road. There is no cost, and all members of the community are welcome.

If you have questions or would like further information, contact Carol Caserta at (716) 873-2836.

Beth Zion Sisterhood Offers Two Sylvia Morris Theater Bus Trips

***Me and My Girl* in Niagara-on-the-Lake**
Tuesday, June 27 • Festival Theatre

This delightful comic romp from the '30s follows the fortunes of Bill Snibson, a proud Cockney who is amazed to learn that he's actually the 14th Earl of Hareford. But if he wants to claim his title, it looks as if he will have to shed his old life—and love! With well-loved classic songs updated in 1986, this play won many awards, including Tonys. The bus will leave TBZ Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Road, at 10:15 a.m. The cost of the trip, which includes the bus, buffet lunch and play, is \$130.

***Beautiful* in Toronto**
Wednesday, July 26 • Ed Mirvish Theatre

The smash hit "Beautiful" is the inspiring true story of Carole King's rise to stardom, featuring a stunning array of beloved songs. The luxury motor coach bus departs from the TBZ Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Road, at 10:30 AM. Bring a lunch and drink to eat on the bus. After the matinee we will enjoy a delicious dinner at nearby Joe Badali's Ristorante. The cost, which includes the bus, play and dinner, is \$168.

For both trips, all participants must have proper identification to cross the Canadian border: You MUST have either an enhanced license or a passport. Space is limited, so call Marilyn at 716-832-4787 with questions or for reservations as soon as possible.

Achim to feature Mark Criden

Temple Beth Zion Brotherhood's April Achim program will be Sunday, April 9, at 10:00 a.m. in the Meadows Lounge, located on the second floor at the Weinberg Campus, 2650 North Forest Road, Getzville, NY 14068. The featured speaker will be Mark A. Criden, speaking about wine in a talk entitled "Do Not Smell the Cork".

Mr. Criden is well known as the recently retired Executive Director of Temple Beth Zion and previously was a tax attorney, a writer and business professional. He also has become a

maven on wine, serving as the Chair of the International Wine and Food Society in the 1990s and was the wine columnist for Buffalo Spree magazine until 2012. There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion. Achim is a monthly program for the benefit of the residents, and their guests, at the Weinberg Campus and is open to the public at no cost. **For further information, please contact Ken Graber at 681-9885.**

Summer PALS 2017

Registration is now open for Summer PALS, an early childhood program at Temple Beth Zion. Plans for the summer include weekly cooking, art projects, music and field trips. Six weeks of Monday/Wednesday/Friday camp are available for 3, 4 and 5 year olds. Tuesday/Thursday camp is available for children ages 18–24 months. The first week of Summer PALS begins July 10.

Call Melissa Milch at (716) 836-6565 for complete details.



The doctor is in! PALS February theme included ways to be healthy and stay healthy.



Mimi Shainbrown from Amherst Dental Group visited the PALS kids to talk about their teeth and good dental habits.



Classroom visitor Sydney Bluman reads to the PALS kids.

Earth Day, 47 Years Later

By Peter Simon

After 47 years, Earth Day has lost its edge. Worse yet, advocates for a clean, healthy planet are convinced that such indifference signals a larger complacency about the dangers of global warming. That's why at least two local synagogues are planning special Earth Day events on April 22.

Interfaith services will be held on the 22nd at 10:30 a.m. at Temple Beth Zion's downtown facility and at 6 p.m. at Congregation Shir Shalom, 4660 Sheridan Dr., Amherst. In addition, a "science march" is in the planning stages.

The surge of activities was sparked by the efforts of Joe Morris, chairman of Shir Shalom's recently formed Green Committee. Morris, a retired aerospace engineer, said he was attending a High Holiday service with his family when he began to wonder how today's adults could explain to their children and grandchildren how they allowed global warning to become a worldwide menace.

Morris and the Green Committee are beginning to understand first-hand the difficulties of battling global warming. The committee is seeking about \$2,800 to contract for a thorough and unbiased review of Shir Shalom's energy efficiency. Government funds used to be available for such studies, but



Joe Morris

budget cuts have severely limited those efforts, Morris said. In addition, replacing inefficient heating, cooling or refrigeration units is very expensive for fiscally-pinched religious institutions. The efforts of Morris to work around such obstacles has focused Shir Shalom on conservation possibilities, and should lead to more ecology-minded practices down the road, said Shir Shalom Rabbi Alexander Lazarus-Klein. "Joe has been instrumental in driving the process both at Shir Shalom and with the wider community," he said. "He single-handedly got the Green Committee off the ground, and his overall leadership has been invaluable."

Temple Beth Zion 23rd Annual Second Seder

Tuesday, April 11 at 6 PM

Brookfield Country Club, 5120 Shimerville Road, Clarence

All members of the community are welcome to come for the second night of Passover. **Call the TBZ office at (716)836-6565 for more information or to place your reservation by April 4.**

Women's Health Program

Sunday, April 30, at 1 p.m.
Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Rd.

The Sisterhood of Temple Beth Zion is pleased to present a special Women's Health Program for the women of the community. The best way for all of us to be as healthy as possible is to eat right and stay active. Our two speakers, Brandi Freiman and Audrey Pike, will be on hand to talk and answer our questions about being our healthiest selves.

Brandi Freiman, MS, RD, is a nutrition expert. She has been a registered dietitian for more than 20 years and has worked for Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, the National Institutes of Health in Washington and taught nutrition classes

at the University at Buffalo, co-authored a book for Reader's Digest and currently counsels private patients. We will talk about how to eat healthy as we age and review some of the most recent ideas about how to stay healthy and prevent disease through food and nutrition.

Audrey Pike is a certified yoga instructor and trainer who owns a studio in Williamsville. She considers herself to be a movement practitioner. Audrey uses a variety of methodologies to help people become stronger and live a better life. She will address issues of balance and others that affect us in our daily life. This program is free and open to all women.

If you have any questions, contact Halli Glina at (716) 553-8883.



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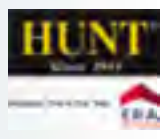
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Two art shows on display at JCC Buildings

HOLLAND BUILDING

An art exhibit by Wendy Caldwell Maloney will be on display at the Jewish Community Center, 787 Delaware Avenue, March 10 – April 28, 2017.



Wendy Caldwell Maloney is a native Buffalonian whose interest in art began with a broad foundation in studio art and ceramics at The Park School of Buffalo, and continued at Alfred University where she earned a BFA in Art & Design with concentrations in drawing, printmaking and photography. As sole proprietor of Current Design, she served the WNY business community for two decades, at which time a yearning to return to the fine arts led her to study watercolor with the late Margaret M. Martin. A new passion was discovered, and within a year she was showing and selling her work in WNY and New England with considerable success. Inspired by rich textures, vibrant colors, and exciting line qualities of the natural world, her work ranges from organic and botanical images to rugged and arresting features of the eastern seacoast. Her abstract works reflect a love for music and dance, and the exploration of repeated shapes and light-play.

BENDERSON BUILDING

An exhibit of photography by Bonnie Gentner will be on display at the Jewish Community Center Benderson Building, Bunis Family Art Gallery, 2nd floor, 2640 North Forest Road, Amherst, NY, March 10 – April 28, 2017.

In May of 2011, Gentner began taking photographs every day and posting them on to Facebook. Her photographs have been on exhibit in several locations, including Lord of Life Lutheran Church – Oasis Café, Spot Coffee on Main St. in Williamsville, Jewish Community Center Benderson Family Building – Bunis Family Art Gallery, the Town of Amherst Supervisor's Office, and Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo – Holland Family Building.



The exhibit includes an artist's reception Sunday, April 23, 1-3 p.m. in the Bunis Family Gallery, located on the 2nd floor, at the Jewish Community Center, 2640 North Forest Road in Getzville, NY. Guests are invited to view the exhibit and meet the artist. Gallery admission is free and the gallery is open during JCC business hours, 7 days a week.

For more information visit jccbuffalo.org.

JRT PRESENTS THE GREAT GOD PAN, BY AMY HERZOG



APRIL 27 – MAY 21, 2017

The Jewish Repertory Theatre continues its 2016/17 season with THE GREAT GOD PAN, the third of three productions in a season of Amy Herzog plays. THE GREAT GOD PAN runs from April 27 – May 21, 2017, and is directed by Saul Elkin, starring Kelly Beuth, Jordan Louis Fischer, Darleen Pickering Hummert, Amelia Scinta, Steve Vaughan, Lisa Vitrano and Adam Yellen.

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The Jewish Repertory Theatre of Western New York is a program of the JCC of Greater Buffalo. For more information on JRT productions, dates and tickets, visit www.jewishrepertorytheatre.com. Tickets are available at 688-4114, ext. 391, through Showclix at 1-888-718-4253 (Monday-Friday, 9am-9pm EST) or at either JCC reception desk.



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Kadimah Annual Dinner: Celebrating Buffalo's Bright Future

By Alan Rosenhoch

For the first time in decades, Western New York as a whole is on the move. We're building up our skyline, bringing new companies and jobs to the region, and investing billions of dollars in our community's future. A host of medical professionals, lawyers, academics, business leaders and others are coming for new opportunities in the Queen City.

Even more, the population of young professionals - once a continual outflow in search of jobs elsewhere - is growing again, as college students stay after graduation, expatriates return to start families and "new Buffalonians" begin to call our community home. There's a buzz around Buffalo, and the city is winning national attention and admiration for what is happening. Buffalo is seizing its chance and capitalizing on the momentum.

Now it's our turn. We at Kadimah Academy see this as a monumental opportunity for Jewish Buffalo as well. Our Jewish community must take its place in this larger renaissance around us, by ensuring not only that we benefit from it but that we support and encourage it.

Kadimah Academy will play a leading role in meeting the challenge of Jewish education in this new economy, providing not only a safe and nurturing environment for advanced 21st-century learning, but also a climate in which our students can blossom as Jews while succeeding in a secular world. Whether newly arrived or returning home, everyone wants a vibrant and thriving community in which to live and raise their families. They want entertainment and activities. They want restaurants. They want to be part of a special environment. And they want high-quality educational options.

The same is true, and perhaps even more so, for those new arrivals who are Jewish. They seek a city with a strong and lively Jewish community - one that is unified, one with aspirations, one that supports an array of synagogues and services, in keeping with our core values. A broad-based community Jewish day school is a key component of that choice. For many, it's even a requirement, a mandatory minimum that is non-negotiable. If there's no community day school, they won't even consider Buffalo, and we will all lose.

In light of Buffalo's resurgence and the opportunities it presents for us all, Kadimah Academy proudly announces

our Annual Dinner theme this year: Celebrating Buffalo's Bright Future. We also are thrilled to announce that our Featured Speaker will be Douglas Jemal, Founder and President of Douglas Development Corp, the Washington, DC-based development company that recently purchased One Seneca Tower, the jewel of Buffalo's skyline.

Mr. Jemal, who is Jewish and of Syrian descent, is the perfect representation of the new potential waiting for Buffalo, and Jewish Buffalo. This is his first-ever investment in upstate New York, where he will spend over \$100 million to redevelop the iconic 38-story skyscraper. Imagine that: A major national developer who has

no previous ties to Buffalo investing in our city's future in a monumental way, and proclaiming his own excitement in what he sees.

Of course, even as we look forward to the future, we also know the importance of knowing from whence we came, by always striving to honor those who continue to show dedication to our school. We are also therefore pleased to honor Avy Sterman for his many years of dedicated commitment to Kadimah Academy.

So please mark your calendars and join us on Monday, June 12 - this year, at Aqua Restaurant along the Niagara River, under Va'ad supervision. Please join Kadimah and Jewish Buffalo as we move Forward, Together.

For more information, visit: www.kadimah.org. To make a contribution by phone, please contact Marci Wiseman, Director of Community Engagement and Relations at 716-836-6903 or marci.wiseman@kadimah.org.



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The drawing will take place on **Thursday, June 29th**,
during the JCC's Annual Meeting at the **Benderson
Family Building in Getzville**. All ticket sales must
be issued and received by **June 22nd** to be entered
in the drawing. **The Grand Prize Winner** receives
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Sunday, April 30, 2017
11:30^{am} – 2:30^{pm}

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- Israeli food – for purchase
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- Plant pots to take home
- Community "Mosaic" artwork
- Picture this – have your picture taken in Israel
- Story time in the Bedouin tent
- Climb Masada in the gym
- Music
- Face Painting
- CaGa
- Bounce House
- Re-Enactment of the signing of the Declaration of the State of Israel
- Kol Rina Choir performing at the Weinberg Campus

HAPPY PASSOVER



Monday, April 10
Center Closes @ 3:30^{pm}
Aquatics until 3:00^{pm}

Tuesday, April 11
Center CLOSED

Wednesday, April 12
Fitness/Aquatics/KP/EC Open
Business Offices CLOSED

Monday, April 17
Fitness/Aquatics/KP/EC Open
Business Offices CLOSED

Tuesday, April 18
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JCC Hours

Sun 9:00^{am} - 4:00^{pm}
Mon/Thurs 9:00^{am} - 4:00^{pm}
Friday 9:00^{am} - 3:00^{pm}
Sat 9:00^{am} - 6:00^{pm}

www.iccbuffalo.org

The Butterfly Sculpture On Display @ JCC



The Butterfly Sculpture, by Youngstown artist Susan Geissler, now on permanent display at the Jewish Community Center

The Butterfly, a new sculpture, by Youngstown artist Susan Geissler, has been donated to the Jewish Community Center at 2640 North Forest Road, and was dedicated at a special ceremony last fall --November 8-- on the anniversary of Kristallnacht.

The Butterfly is a gift from a group of generous community donors, coordinated through the efforts of Buffalo photographer Milt Ehrenberg. When Milt learned about the sculpture, he travelled to Geissler's Youngstown gallery, where he was, in his own words, overcome with emotion. "I knew this sculpture should have a home at the JCC where members of the community could see it and appreciate its beauty as well as everything it stands for, and so I became determined to raise the money to purchase it as a permanent display," says Ehrenberg.

The sculpture was commissioned by the Jaffe Family, who discovered Geissler's studio and gallery in 2007 while visiting the area from Maryland. After spending a day working in clay and learning about the process by which Geissler creates bronze sculpture, Joe Jaffe asked the artist to take on the commission of the sculpture, inspired by the poem, "The Butterfly", as a way honor his father, Warner, who was a survivor of Gurs internment camp.

The sculpture includes barbed wire from the farm of Warner Jaffe, who moved to Fonda, New York after the war. Strong hands tell the story of a determined man, destined for survival. The black marble base from which the hands rise, show the dark experience from which he rose; the frayed barbed wire represents the people breaking free from their torment; while the connected piece of wire serves to remind

that the memory of the Holocaust must be kept alive. The butterfly, which is the inspiration for the poem, glows in gold, strong in its delicate form.

Upon learning of the donation to the Jewish Community Center, Joe Jaffe expressed appreciation for having the sculpture on display. "This art work has meant so much to me and to my family. It has been my personal wish, and that of my father and grandfather, to keep alive the memories of those most terrible days, so that each new generation may learn the lessons of the past, to never allow this to happen again, not only to Jews, but to any people of the world. Though my father has now passed, I know he would be proud of the work your community is doing...as am I," said Jaffe.

Jaffe's father, Warner, was born in Berlin where his family had lived since the end of WWI. Jaffe recalls his father's memories, which included the great Synagogue of Berlin being burned down during Kristallnacht. "This was the final warning for my father's family to leave Germany, and move to Brussels, Belgium where they felt that Hitler and the Nazis would never dare or be able to invade. On May 10th of 1940, Germany overran the lowland regions of Europe, and Jewish men were ordered to local schools and train stations to register. My father, who was 14, went with his father and uncle to keep them company when they registered. They were later informed that they were to stay overnight and be released in the morning; instead, overnight, they were loaded on passenger trains and sent to Nazi occupied France. From Paris, they were moved onto cattle trains for a three day voyage to their

first internment at St. Cyprian. After nearly six months, and being struck by illness, they were marched to trains for the voyage to the Pyrenees, and to a Camp named Gurs. My father described deplorable conditions, including hunger, and death, and living in barracks constructed from planking and tar paper. Finally, The Red Cross had connected them with family in New York, and provided visas and passage on a Dutch freighter to the United States. They were liberated from Gurs, and sent to Drancy internment camp to await deportation. On the voyage aboard the Dutch freighter, a British war ship captured the Dutch ship and forced it to the British coast, where my father and family, as German citizens were once again imprisoned, this time on the Isle of Man. After nearly a year in that camp, they sailed to Ellis Island, and because of bug bites all over them, due to their tents situated near the water, they were turned away due to medical concerns. They spent 6 weeks in Trinidad recovering from the bites and sickness, finally being allowed into the United States."

"The wire within the sculpture represents the barbed wire that surrounded the camp at Gurs," explained Jaffe. "My father described the wire, and that it was not impenetrable, but they had nowhere to go outside of the fence; escape was pointless. There were towns nearby, but all taken up by Nazi sympathizers, or camp workers. My father's hands, particularly because he had

This is the poem that inspired the sculpture, as requested by Joe Jaffe who commissioned the work for his father, Warner Jaffe, a survivor of Gurs.

"The Butterfly"

*The last, the very last,
So richly, brightly, dazzlingly yellow.
Perhaps if the sun's tears would sing
against a white stone....*

*Such, such a yellow
Is carried lightly 'way up high.
It went away I'm sure because it wished to
kiss the world good-bye.*

*For seven weeks I've lived in here,
Penned up inside this ghetto.
But I have found what I love here.
The dandelions call to me
And the white chestnut branches in the court.
Only I never saw another butterfly.
That butterfly was the last one.
Butterflies don't live in here,
in the ghetto.*

- Pavel Friedmann

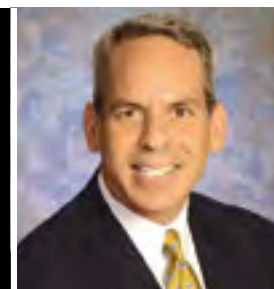
worked a dairy farm throughout his adult life were strong, and rugged like the hands in the art piece; and he always kept a positive look on life, hope, right to the end of his life. The statement he said to me that will always stay with me, and comforted me when he died, was: "Life is a gift, and each day that we live is a bonus and should be lived as such". This from a man who saw the inside of evil as the world has never known; lived through two open heart surgeries, Cancer, and a stroke...felt even then, that life is a gift."

The Butterfly sculpture at the JCC is one of five identical bronze sculptures made by Geissler. It now has a permanent home in the Lippman Lounge, located on the second floor of the Jewish Community Center at 2640 North Forest Road. Donations are still being sought to cover the cost of the stand and case that protect the sculpture.

To contribute to this beautiful piece of art, please contact Jordana Halpern at 204-2255 or jhalpern@jccbuffalo.org.

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Yad B'Yad Annual Fashion Show May 7

Yad B'Yad is hosting its 5th Annual Fashion Show May 7, a fashion event showcasing our participants! This event is Yad B'Yad's premier fundraiser of the year and will be held at Park Country Club, 4949 Sheridan Drive in Williamsville. All proceeds from this event will be used to provide programs and services to people with disabilities in Western New York.

Fashion Show models range in age and ability and will feature some of Yad B'Yad's participants. Guests will enjoy a beautiful buffet brunch, basket raffle and gift card and wine walls. We are excited to work with TT New York, an upscale dress boutique with a custom design and tailoring shop, located in the Boulevard Mall, to outfit the women. Tuxedo Junction will provide the latest fashion for the men for the 5th year in a row. Tickets are \$36.00 per person until April 28/ \$40.00 per person after. A table of ten can be purchased for \$360.00 until April 28 (\$400 after April 28). Seating for this event is limited, so please reserve early to make sure you have a seat!



Fun at last year's stylish fashion show at Park Country Club

Yad B'Yad is a program of the Bureau of Jewish Education that provides outreach, advocacy and program support to assist people with disabilities in achieving full participation in Jewish life in Western New York.

For more information about the

upcoming Fashion Show, to join us in our programming, or to volunteer, please visit our website at www.yadbyad.org. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/yadbyadbuffalo, or contact Cindi Mikulik at (716)204-5380 or yadbyad@bjebuffalo.org.

In the Trenches: Israel on Campus

By Joel Finkelstein

We often see videos on Facebook of students at pro-Israel events on campuses being harassed for their Zionist views, with groups such as Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) bombarding the speakers and attendees with hate speech. We see constant articles showing masses of students calling for their campuses to boycott Israel, with anti-Semitic rhetoric and violence to follow. The reality is that the situation for the pro-Israel community at the University at Buffalo isn't nearly as bad.

Fortunately, our university has a multitude of Jewish organizations on campus; many of whom contribute to the Israel discussion through various events emphasizing the cultural, political, and religious aspects of the only true democracy in the Middle East. Most notably, there's UB for Israel (UBI), a pro-Israel organization recognized through the UB Student Association. Founded in 2014, the organization has made its presence well known, and has hosted very prominent speakers through their various partner organizations. Along with Hillel, Aish, and Chabad, these organizations proactively shape Israel sentiment on campus.

When assessing our opposition, it's important to keep in mind just how few in number they are. While there is an SJP, they are a small club considering how many students attend UB. There is faculty support however. From my experience, though, their hateful actions are muted by the countless faculty members who are found openly supporting Israel in classrooms in numerous departments, including history and political science.

Our students don't feel the need to hide their Zionist views and Jewish Identity at all. When roaming the halls you'll see plenty of hamsas, stars of David, and even IDF sweatshirts. Here at UB, we actually receive a lot of support from other students, organizations, and the local community. Rather than dealing with the incivility we're so conditioned to seeing on the internet, here we can have constructive dialogue about our beloved Jewish state with the most of the general student populace.

Joel Finkelstein is a Senior at UB. A history major, Jewish Studies minor, he hails from West Hempstead, NY, and is the Vice President of UB for Israel (UBI) and the Israel Intern at Hillel of Buffalo.



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APRIL – A MONTH OF ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS

By Ethel Melzer,
*Director of Adult Education,
Bureau of Jewish Education*

April at the Bureau of Jewish Education's Adult Department means that three excellent courses will either be winding down or will have ended, and two new opportunities for adult education will begin! The very popular Introduction to Judaism course will be presenting Certificates of Completion to the current students in the class co-sponsored by the BJE and taught by the Buffalo Board of Rabbis. The ending of this course will mark 166 individuals who will have completed the curriculum since the collaboration began in 2012.

Michal Shmuel-Lewis will also be handing out Certificates of Completion to her first and second year students who have finished their 26 week courses of studying Hebrew. These two courses are geared towards individuals who wish to make their synagogue's religious services more meaningful, as they learn to follow, read and participate with the rest of their congregation as prayers are recited. Professor Ted Steinberg will also distribute completion certificates to his students after his 22 weeks of teaching Yiddish. His class, Keeping Yiddish Alive has transformed non-Yiddish speaking students into individuals who are now able to read and translate articles written entirely in Yiddish. It was an amazing feat to watch!

Two programs that will begin in April consist of the fourth Lecture in the series **An Exploration of JUSTICE in Jewish Thought and Tradition**. Professor Alex Green will speak on Monday, April 3 in

the Lippman Lounge of the Benderson Family Building at 7:00 – 8:30 PM. His topic will be: "Is G-d Just – The Challenge of the Book of Job." The five-part lecture series is a collaborative effort on the part of the BJE and the Department of Jewish Thought at the University of Buffalo. All lectures are free, light refreshments will be served, and the community is invited.

And finally – following Passover, the long-awaited 8 week: **East Side/ West Side – All around the Town** course taught by Dr. Chana Kotzin: Community Historian and Archivist, will begin in the Community Board Room of the Jewish Center on North Forest Road. This course will take students back in time to explore the history of the Jewish community of Buffalo from its beginning until today. Houses of worship, community institutions and Jewish business establishments will be followed from their beginning on the East side of Buffalo to their current locations. Thursday afternoons, from 1:00 – 2:30 PM on April 27, May 4, 11, 18, 25 and June 8, 15 & 22 will find classmates exploring the "Images of Jewish Buffalo" as a textbook and guide for the course.

Tuition is \$90 and community members can register online at www.bjebuffalo.org/adulted or contact Ethel Melzer, Director of Adult Education at ethel@bjebuffalo.org or call the Bureau of Jewish Education at 716-204-5380.

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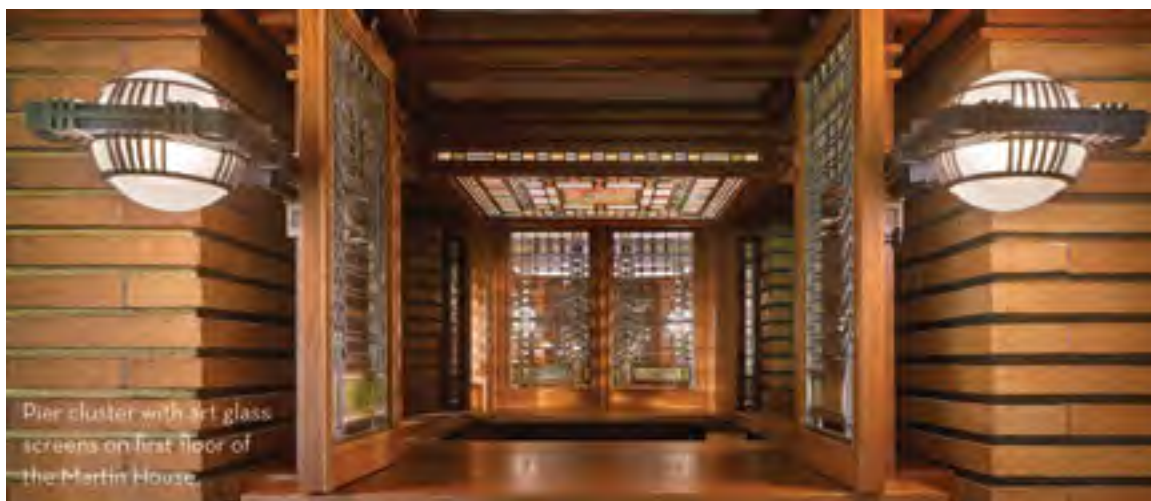


For parking information and updates visit www.jlbuffalo.org. Ticket price does not qualify as a Charitable Donation. Proceeds from the Decorators' Show House will be used to support a significant community project. Visit the Wegmans Boutique. Infants & children under 10 not permitted. House is wheelchair accessible.

SHOW HOUSE HOURS:
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Tues: 6 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. (not tour hours)
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and 6 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. (not tour hours)
Sat & Sun: 9 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

\$20 advance sale tickets until April 28
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online at www.jlbuffalo.org
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Foundation Offers Academic Scholarships to College Students

Lenore J. Levy, Chair of the Academic Scholarship and Financial Assistance Committee of the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, has announced that a limited amount of scholarship funds will be available to provide financial aid to undergraduate and graduate students to help meet the escalating costs of higher education.

The Foundation administers a number of endowment funds which have been established by donors for this special purpose. The following funds are the primary source of scholarship assistance for Jewish students:



Lenore J. Levy

Some scholarships are awarded in the form of interest-free loans and some in the form of outright grants. Eligibility is generally limited to students who have attended high school in Western New York and scholarships are awarded on the basis of documented financial need.

For applications and information, please contact the Foundation office at 204-1133. The deadline for submission of applications for the coming academic year is June 1st. Applications are processed and reviewed by the Career Services Department of Jewish Family Service. The Foundation's Academic Scholarship and Financial Assistance Committee will determine the nature and amount of any assistance offered, and students will be notified by August 15th.

Sidney & Jeanette Birzon Memorial Fund

Raymond & Sara Ehrenreich
Scholarship Fund

Isadore & Bessie Federman
Scholarship Fund

Rose H. Frank & Leonard H. Frank
Academic Scholarship Fund

Anna E. & Bernard I. Gross
Scholarship Fund

Isaac Hoenig Memorial Fund

Dr. Martin & Edith L. Horowitz
Scholarship Fund

Jewish Liberal Arts Club

Edna, Lillian P. and Beatrice J. Kohn
Scholarship Fund

Knights of Pythias – Jonathan David Lodge
Scholarship Fund

Dr. Harold J. and Arlyne Levy Award
in Jewish Studies

Dr. Louis Sklarow Award Fund

Maimonides Medical Society Fund

Sarah & Nettie Nathan Scholarship Fund

Dr. Meyer & Ann S. Riwehchun Scholarship Fund

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To learn more about leaving a legacy and to arrange a personal and confidential consultation, contact Peter Fleischmann, Foundation Director at (716) 204-1133 or send an email to peter@jewishphilanthropies.org



The Foundation
FOR JEWISH PHILANTHROPIES

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Meet The JFS Board: Juliana Teibel – *Moving the Agency Forward In Real Time*



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Stylish and savvy, Juliana Teibel is sure Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County has a support service for everyone. "We probably have a service for everyone, from your grandmother to your granddaughter. The strength of the agency is that it can help a Jewish person or any person in Western New York transition through life," says Teibel, who has been a board member for just under a year.

Born and raised in Buffalo, Teibel's role as an Account Executive at WGRZ-TV brings a unique, "marketing-minded" perspective to JFS leadership. She joined the board at the invitation of friend and fellow board member Zabrina Reich – intrigued initially by the work the not-for-profit organization was mounting on behalf of Western New York immigrants and refugees.

"The work that Jewish Family Service does with refugee resettlement really appealed to me because that's what's been going on here in Buffalo. It's very interesting and I wanted to be a part of that. And as I learned more about the agency, I really aligned with the JFS 'lifeline for all' mission and found there was a natural connection to my own Jewish identity."

That core message reflects a solid foundation on Jewish tenets and values and extends to anyone in need in multifaceted ways, Teibel says. "It's part of the tikkum olam concept of repairing the world. Jewish Family Service does that in droves and it's something they should be proud of. It's the Jewish way to help people. That's what the 'lifeline for all' relates to."

Teibel also says that working on the JFS board has strengthened her ties with her own Jewish community. "The work that we do has really emboldened and invigorated



JFS board member Juliana Teibel (center) with (l. to r.) Mayor Byron Brown, Hope Harle-Mould, Congressman Brian Higgins and JFS Volunteer Coordinator Anna Sharpe at the February 5 No Wall, No Ban Rally at Columbus Park.

so many people in our community to help others and give back. People come to me every day with ideas they have to partner with JFS. I don't always see that with the other community work I do," she explains.

She is deploying her marketing experience to help broaden the awareness and use of the many JFS counseling and support services by the Buffalo Jewish community—and to reinvigorating the agency's presence in Western New York community. Part of this challenge, she projects, will be to get people as engaged and excited about changing behavior and attitudes toward mental health challenges: One in five people in the U.S. has a mental health challenge.

In addition to comprehensive mental and behavioral wellness counseling and immigrant and refugee resettlement services, Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County provides career planning support and care management and Health Home services for seniors, families, children, individuals and people with disabilities who are enrolled in Medicaid.

Like much of her generation, Teibel shies away from age labels but concedes that Jewish Family Service is right now among the most exciting agencies for young Western New York Jews.

"I think that out of all the Jewish agencies in Buffalo right now, JFS connects the most to the up-and-coming Jewish millennial," she says, thanking both Nickel

City Jews and the Jewish Federation for their partnership with the agency.

She also cites JFS president and CEO Marlene Schillinger as her mentor and credits Blaine Schwartz for his leadership as board chair. "We are kind of a 360 agency. Jewish Family Service is involved in politics, in the media, in what's happening in real time. And that makes it intriguing... but also what helps connect us back to our roots," Teibel says.

When asked the one thing she wants her community to know about the agency she is now helping to steer forward, she says it is that JFS is connected to the Jewish community in so many ways.

"We're completely open-minded and compassionate and provide a non-judgmental space where everyone from the Jewish mom to the deaf refugee can find support. We treat everyone the same by extending the same value system that makes us Jewish," she says.

"We're just a really warm place to find help or volunteer. Call us...or come in and see."

Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County is located at 70 Barker Street, above Temple Beth Zion. For more information about services, volunteering and social action opportunities, call 716-883-1914 or email generalinfo@jfsbuffalo.org. Visit JFS online at www.jfsbuffalo.org and join on Facebook at "jfsbuffalo."



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HEBREW HIGH FINAL SESSION AND GRADUATION

*By Melissa Schreiber,
Assistant Principal*

Hebrew High is in its final session, and we are ending the school year with incredible classes. This session, students are taking, Jewish Cooking: Shabbat and International Cuisine with Chani Labkowski, For the Love of Israel with Aaron Pieri, War and Memory with Eillen Angelini and Confirmation Classes.

Our graduating seniors are enrolled in Senior Seminar with David Gordon as their final class, and it is bittersweet. All of the Seniors are very anxious to start the next chapter of their life, but are concerned about leaving the familiar faces they have come to expect every Wednesday night.

At the end of this session, we will be celebrating all of our Seniors' accomplishments during our graduation ceremony on May 3, 2017. We welcome everyone from the Jewish Community to join us in recognizing their accomplishments and wishing them well in their future endeavors. We will also be showcasing our other students' accomplishments throughout the year. Our students have been taking classes and studying our six core values (Jewish Living, Jewish Text, Jewish History, Jewish Values, Israel and Hebrew/Language) and in doing so, have created meaningful connections and pieces. We hope that you will join us!

For more info, visit www.bjebuffalo.org/hebrewhigh, contact us at 716-204-5380 or email melissa@bjebuffalo.org.

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JEWISH JAZZ: *Two generations mark the role of Jews as jazz pioneers*

The Burchfield Penney Art Center at SUNY Buffalo State it will present Jewish Jazz, a multi-media happening featuring music and art by two generations of the Weiser family of Buffalo. The event, which takes place on Sunday, April 9 at 2 pm, kicks-off with a performance by clarinetist Steve Loew and pianist Daniel Weiser. The concert will be accompanied by an exhibition of paintings by Milton Weiser, former chief of gastroenterology at the University of Buffalo and the Buffalo General Hospital. General Admission is \$20; Burchfield Penney members are \$10. Advance tickets can be purchased online at www.burchfieldpenney.org.

The program will highlight the symbiosis between “Klezmer-style” Jewish music and American Jazz. As waves of Eastern European immigrants flocked into New York City in the first decades of the 20th century and met the flow of African-American migrants moving up from the South, the two musical idioms meshed and a distinctly American sound began to develop. Many of the early white Jazz musicians were Jewish and several had received their early training at the

Synagogue. Just as The Great American Songbook was largely a product of Jewish songwriters (Berlin, Kern, Rodgers), instrumental jazz also became strongly influenced by Jewish composers and performers such as George Gershwin, Benny Goodman, and Artie Shaw.

Dr. Daniel Weiser will tell this fascinating story with quotes and anecdotes about the lives of the composers as well as contemporary accounts of this intermixing of musical

Cafe JDC Passover food

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Former Federation President Jordan Levy is seen here in Florida with Pedro Martinez, one of the greatest pitchers of all time in the history of baseball, and both are wearing the hat of the Israeli National Baseball team, which was making headlines in March during the World Baseball Championships. “Pedro says Israel is the surprise of the world baseball championships and he’s pulling hard for them to make it to the finals,” Levy said, before Team Israel lost to Japan.

Hall of Famer Pedro Martínez is a Dominican-American former starting pitcher in Major League Baseball who played for five teams from 1992 to 2009, most notably the Boston Red Sox.





Steve Loew and Dan Weiser

styles, including one written by noted anti-Semite Henry Ford, in which he decried the rise of what he called "Jewish Jazz." Weiser, who grew up in Buffalo and graduated from City Honors School, attended Columbia University and one year at Harvard Law School before earning his doctorate in piano from the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. He was the 1996 U.S. Artistic Ambassador of Music, for which he was sent on an

eleven-country tour of the Middle East and Southeast Asia.

Weiser will be joined by clarinetist Steve Loew on this program. Loew is a former member of the U.S. Marine Band and White House Orchestra, who has played for four different Presidents. A graduate of the Juilliard School of Music, Loew has also played with the New York Philharmonic and the National Symphony and has collaborated with such artists as Marvin Hamlisch, Doc Severinsen, Johnny Mathis, and Meatloaf. Mr. Loew was born in Brooklyn, NY and now lives in Asheville, NC.

Dr. Milton Weiser, a longtime patron of the Buffalo arts scene along with his wife, Helen, retired from medicine almost 20 years ago and has devoted much of his time since then to art, painting over 200 works, often with Jewish themes, that are filled with expressive color and intense passion. He had a studio at the Tri-Main Center for many years until being slowed in the past few years by Parkinson's disease. Several of these paintings will on be on display at the concert, including his "Genesis" series, a group of nine paintings based on the first nine letters of the Hebrew alphabet and depicting powerful scenes from the Book of Genesis.

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AGENCIES

TBZ SISTERHOOD BAKES CHALLAH WITH MISS RIVKY

An incredible afternoon was had by all, as Rivky Greenberg hosted and taught a Challah baking class/workshop for Temple Beth Zion Sisterhood at her home. Rivky explained the Mitzvah of Challah, its meaning and background and how this Mitzvah symbolizes awareness and gratitude to G-d for our daily sustenance. The group discussed the three special Mitzvot given to women and how they apply to the modern woman in 2017. They studied the life messages to be learned from each one of the seven Challah ingredients- according to Kabbalah- such as adding sweetness in our relationships with others (sugar) or asking G-d to help us *rise* above our daily challenges- the lesson we learn from the yeast- the rising agent. Prior to baking, they each put a coin in the Tzedakah box to train themselves to always think of those who are less fortunate before baking and satisfying their own needs with delicious food. At the end of the class, all went home with beautifully braided challot in hand, ready to bake, a wonderful Challah booklet "The Art of Making Challah" that Rivky prepared, a recipe card and most importantly, huge smiles on their faces! The program was sponsored by TBZ Sisterhood. It was an afternoon filled with friendship, meaning, unity and Jewish pride.



JCC Community Rally @ JCC March 5

Hundreds of people gathered at the Holland Family Building at the Rally to support the JCC organized by NYS Assembly Member Sean Ryan.



Rev. Ellen Brauza,
St. Andrews Episcopal Church



Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown



WNY Muslims' Dr. Faison Haq



Father Francis Mazur, NRC and
Buffalo Catholic Diocese



WNY Episcopal
Bishop William Franklin



Pastor George Nicholas, Lincoln
Memorial UMC



Congressman Brian Higgins



Rev. Justo Gonzalez, Pilgrim/ St. Luke's UCC



NYS Senator Tim Kennedy



Cantor Penny Myers, Rev. Dr. Stan Bratton,
Mayor Brown, Fr. Mazur



County Executive Mark Poloncarz



Rabbi Jonathan Freirich, TBZ



Rick Zakalik, JCC Executive Director



Vickie Ross, WNY Peace Center



NYS Assembly Member & organizer Sean Ryan



Sue Tannehill, President- Network of Religious
Communities

WNY Muslims Visit JCC March 7



Jewish and Muslim community members at the JCC Benderson Family Building



Lana Benatovich, President of NFJC



Dr. Khalid Qazi, past President of MPAC



Rob Goldberg, CEO of Buffalo Jewish Federation

These two pages feature Jewish Community members from all over WNY at Purim parties, carnivals and events.





(NOT) THE LAST WORD

THE BENDERSON FAMILY: A CARING & GENEROUS HERITAGE

By Rick Zakalik

Unquestionably, the most consistent and generous donor to the Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo has been the family of Nathan Benderson. Gifts from this generous family have enabled the JCC to prosper for many decades. They have given to every fundraising effort, capital campaign and difficult period that the JCC has endured. While they shun recognition for their generosity, they are eager donors. Nate, of blessed memory, was fond of asking, “So what are you waiting for?” after agreeing to fund a project. When asked which was more enjoyable—making money or giving it away he responded “Giving it away gives me the most pleasure.” He enjoyed seeing worthy institutions serve people from every corner of our community.

We asked Ron Benderson, one of Nate’s three sons and vice-president of the JCC, for some of the reasons he and his family continue to support the JCC in such an exemplary fashion and we’re happy to share some of his thoughts.

“The JCC is the one institution

where all Jewish people, whether Reform, Conservative, Orthodox or non-affiliated can feel at home. It is also the face of the Jewish community to the non-Jewish community. Because we are a welcoming place for everyone, whether or not Jewish, it’s one way in



Nathan Benderson

which the Jewish community gives back to all of Buffalo. By bringing Jews and non-Jews together it has done more than any other institution in ‘taking the horns off’ the Jewish people.”

Ron and his family have long supported JCC programs including Camp Centerland, our “Au-some” Swim program, which serves children with Autism, programs for seniors, early childhood education, after-school and more. He and his son, Brett, are active board members whose advice and

assistance is greatly valued. Ron’s brother, Randy, continues to help us achieve new levels of high-quality programming and services in state-of-the-art facilities. Randy and Ron’s ability to “think outside the box” is a valued challenge to our board and our professional staff. They welcome the partnerships of others who will assist the JCC fulfill its mission of building communities and improving lives.

Very shortly, we at the JCC will be announcing revised and expanded plans for additional space as well as repurposing of existing space to enable us to serve more children in our nationally accredited, acclaimed childcare programs at the Holland Family Building. While Ron and Randy and their families will fund 50% of the project, they are seeking partners for this essential endeavor. Naming and endowment opportunities are available through the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies. We look forward to welcoming more partners.

Rick Zakalik is the Executive Director of the JCC of Buffalo. You can reach him at rzakalik@jccbuffalo.org.



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— Helen Coris, painter

2. Get inspired



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— Robert Stromberg,
Academy Award-winning production designer

3. Enjoy with everyone in your family, from 5 years old to 94 years old



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4. Help children experience multi-culture



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An extraordinary experience for us and the children."

— Cate Blanchett, Academy Award-winning actress

5. Discover hope



"I was uplifted, I was filled with hope.

The world is a better place because of Shen Yun."

— Richard Swett, former U.S. Congressman

6. Fill yourself with positive energy



"You get this amazing energy transmission... It was very energetic and very powerful."

— Priyanka Chopra,
Actress, model, and Miss India International

7. Get in touch with your spiritual side



"This show was dramatic, dynamic, energetic and very creative, I was very, very impressed by all the energy on the stage and also the beauty of the great stage and also the beauty of the great Chinese tradition... It touches something beautifully spiritual in all of us."

— His Eminence Cardinal Donald Weir

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"This is my 6th time. This is the greatest thing I've ever seen on stage. For people who haven't seen this show..... They have no idea what they're missing until they come here and see the show."

— Joe Heard, former White House Photographer