

**Witness:
Buffalo's
Holocaust Era
Stories**
HRC/Buff State
Exhibition
(4)



**LOOK:
KICK-OFF EVENT
PHOTOS
(6-8)**



**DON'T MISS:
HOLIDAYS WITH
HURRICANE HARVEY
(10-11)**



**INSIDE:
HBLA HONORS
SAM GOLDEN
(33)**

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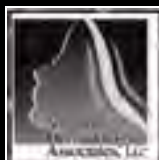
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November 2017

Editor's Note



Ellen Goldstein, Editor

Picture this: it's Thanksgiving and you are waiting for your turkey to cook. You are looking at Facebook (whether you look at it or not) and you see a post I just put up — photos of people and things I love and am grateful for this year. I imagine this is what you will see, in no particular order of importance:

- Me with my husband Mitch, my sister Amy, and her husband Kurt enjoying a wonderful birthday celebration at Hurd Orchards
- Celebrating my mother-in-law Carolyn's 95th birthday with family
- Holiday lunch with Rob Goldberg and all my other colleagues from Buffalo Jewish Federation
- Larry and Sharon Levite and the Buffalo Spree staff, especially Cynthia Oppenheimer
- Photos of my gigantic tomato plants in the driveway and white Casablanca lilies in my backyard garden
- The extended Zakalik Family, including Mordy, at Sam and Rachel's wedding this summer
- The group of Buffalo-Israel interfaith travelers on the walkway at the port of Jaffa this January. Please note Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein, Rev. Tom Yorty and Rev. Bill Hennessy. I am hugging them all!
- The first Passover Seder at our house with our guests. Everyone is singing "Eliyahu Hanavi" and Mitch is opening the door for Elijah.
- The glorious women in my book club
- An overview of my city neighborhood in the Elmwood Village at our Block Club party with every drawing pictures in the street and waving

Here it is, in short: I love my family, my job, my friends, my work, the Buffalo Jewish community and Israel. And I love you for being an important part of the *Jewish Journal*, sending in your photos and stories, and helping create our magnificent Jewish community, which, as always, is a work in progress.

Please join me in counting our blessings.
Happy Thanksgiving!

Ellen Goldstein - Editor

On The Cover



Artifacts from the "Witnesses: Buffalo's Holocaust-Era Stories" exhibit at Buffalo State's Butler Library: Mark Solarz' papers from Auschwitz and photo, Stephan Lewy's wooden shoes he wore in France, the late Joseph Diamond's papers from Czechoslovakia and photo, Stephan Lewy's dog tags from the US Army, and Anna Post's photos taken on arrival at a concentration camp.

Photo by k.c.kratt.

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Welcoming Guests as a Mitzvah

By Steven J. Weiss

The hospitality of Abraham and Sarah in *Parashah Vayeira* is the quintessential moment that defines how Jews ought to welcome their guests. The moving scene of their hospitality to three messengers (really, angels sent by G-d) who visit during their temporary stay in Mamre, while Abraham is recovering from his circumcision, contains all the key elements of the best hospitality. Abraham and Sarah ran to meet them and offered their guests a friendly response on their arrival during the hottest time of the day, washed their feet, took them into the shade, ran to specially prepare food and drink, helped them to relax, recline, and enjoy the afternoon, referred to them respectfully, and focused on their guests' comfort at all times.

The obvious lessons relate to welcoming guests and how to



Steven J. Weiss

perform this mitzvah. We learn from Abraham the importance of extending hospitality to guests and the symbolism of Abraham's tent being open on all sides emphasizing having an 'open house'. We also learn that Abraham "ran" to serve his guests. This teaches us that when we perform a mitzvah it should be done with "joyous enthusiasm" and that the manner of performing the mitzvah is a critical ingredient to how we make people feel. Finally, it is written that when the angels left, Abraham walked with them to escort them, teaching us that not only is it a mitzvah to invite guests to our homes but when they leave we should walk them to the door or to the elevator or to their car.

Further on in the Parashah, chapter 21:33, the verse says that Abraham planted an 'Eshel' in Be'er Sheva and proclaimed the

name of G-d. In an article by Allan Katz, I learned that the word 'eshel' is made up of the 3 Hebrew letters - alef, shin and lamed, and that the rabbinic interpretation reflects the 3 basic services a host should provide for his guests. The alef stands for a'chilah = eating, shin = shti'yah = drinking, and lamed = li'viah = escorting.

Ultimately, the quality of the hospitality is dependent on the third element - 'escorting the guests.' I learned this lesson from my father, Norman Weiss. To this day, when we visit, and as far back as I can remember, my Dad doesn't just walk us to the door when we leave, but he will come outside with us, and stand there until we pull away. I love this about my Dad, and now that I understand the Torah connection, I appreciate it even more. Happy hosting.

Steven J. Weiss is president of the Board of Governors of the Buffalo Jewish Federation.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Meeting & Celebration of Difference Makers Thursday, December 7

Amy Marks Shaevel & Andy Shaevel - Chairs

A Celebration Honoring Jewish Buffalonians

- Honoring all the Difference Makers who have been profiled in 2016 and 2017 in *The Jewish Journal*
- Special Award Ceremony • Buffalo Jewish Federation Business Meeting • Jewish Federation Apartments Nominating Report
- Kosher Dessert Reception under BVK supervision

Thursday, December 7

6:30PM Private Tour of Museum & special exhibition
7:00PM Program. Dessert Reception to Follow

Buffalo History Museum

Nottingham Terrace & Elmwood Avenue

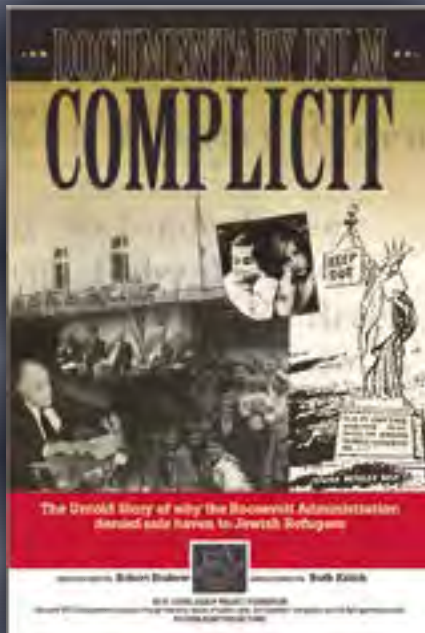
Watch for the invitation and further information.

Call Ellen Goldstein for more information. 716-204-2243. Free but reservations preferred at 716-204-2242

BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION

In Commemoration of Kristallnacht, Night of Broken Glass

The Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo, SUNY Buffalo State Museum Studies and Hillel of Buffalo invite you to a viewing of



Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.
Bulger Communication Center at Buffalo State College | Reception to Follow



BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION



The Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo

HRC and Buffalo State College present “Witness: Buffalo’s Holocaust Era Stories”

The Holocaust Resource Center (HRC), in conjunction with the Buffalo State College Museum Studies Program, will be presenting a month-long exhibition utilizing HRC’s archive collection. “Witnesses: Buffalo’s Holocaust-Era Stories” was made possible by the E.O. Smith Arts and Humanities Development Fund through Buffalo State College thanks to Dr. Cynthia Conides, director of the Museum Studies Program. With the leadership of the Museum Studies Faculty, Dr. Conides and Noelle Wiedemer, the graduate students, Kim Bruckman, Kelsey Reed, William Scherer, and Kristen Teeling researched and identified nine stories highlighted in the exhibition.



Clockwise from left: Stephan Lewy's dog tags from the US Army; Anna Post's photos taken at a concentration camp; Joseph Diamond's (z"l) photo as a child and his Czechoslovakian repatriation papers; Mark Solarz' photo and Auschwitz certification

“Witnesses: Buffalo’s Holocaust-Era Stories” will tell the stories of Dr. Joseph Bolinsky, Julius “Joe” Diamond, Bill Eisen, Henry Joseph, Stephan Lewy, Dr. Sol Messinger, Anna Post, Mark Solarz, and Sophia Veffer. Their stories will be told through the lens of Anti-Semitism, journey to freedom, their resilience, assistance from gentiles, and finally their arrival in Buffalo. Thanks in part to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Survivors’ families, and the Survivors themselves the exhibit will also have various documents and physical artifacts. This includes birth certificates, Concentration Camp inmate lists, Army dog tags, Nazi buttons, and family photographs.

The exhibit will also be launched with a Kristallnacht commemoration event to screen the documentary film, “Complicit”

– the untold story of why the Roosevelt Administration denied safe haven to Jewish Refugees. The film’s director Robert Krakow and Dr. Sol Messinger, a passenger on the SS *St. Louis* will hold a Q&A session after the film. The event is Wednesday November 8 at 4:30 p.m. at Bulger Communication Center at Buffalo State College. A reception will be held after the screening. This is being sponsored by Holocaust Resource Center, Buffalo State College Museum Studies Program and Hillel of Buffalo. HRC is a partner with the Buffalo Jewish Federation.

The exhibition will be open November 1-30 in the front of Butler Library at Buffalo State College: 1300 Elmwood Ave, Buffalo, NY 14222. Library hours do change, for current times visit <http://libcal.buffalostate.edu/hours/>

Latke and Cocktail Pairing Party

Saturday, December 16
6:30 - 9:30 PM

Artisan Kitchen and Baths, Buffalo, NY
\$25 pre-sale, \$36 after Dec. 9th

Event Details and RSVP:
[Facebook.com/NickelCityJews](https://www.facebook.com/NickelCityJews)

Special Film Screening at Buff State November 8 to Commemorate Kristallnacht

November 8 at 4:30 p.m.

The Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo (HRCOB), Buffalo State College, Hillel of Buffalo and Buffalo Jewish Federation will be presenting the award-winning documentary film "Complicit," Wednesday, November 8, at 4:30 PM in Bulger Communication Center on the Buff State Campus, 1300 Elmwood Avenue. The film tells the untold story of why the Roosevelt Administration, entangled in its own isolationist, anti-Semitic politics, denied safe haven to the 937 mostly German Jewish refugees aboard the *SS St Louis*.



Dr. Sol Messinger

Photo courtesy of Mark Mulville, *Buffalo News*

"Complicit" is a fascinating blend of drama, survivor interviews, and actual footage retelling the story of the *St Louis*, a German luxury ocean liner that set sail from Hamburg to Cuba in 1939 whose passengers were attempting to escape Nazi persecution. Denied access to Cuba and then thwarted by American authorities, the doomed ship had no choice but to return to the shores of anti-Semitic Europe where it is estimated that one quarter of its passengers perished in concentration camps. More than an indictment against the political motivations of FDR, "Complicit" delivers a poignant message about the world's current immigration crisis.

The Hollywood Reporter, in reviewing the film, observed that "A shameful piece of WWII history is recounted firsthand" and a critical history lesson—not found in students' textbooks today—is laid bare by the filmmaker: the film seeks to dig deeper into the U.S.' failure to act on this case," not unlike the world's

current response to genocide in Rwanda and Darfur or Sudan and Somalia or the refugee crisis in Afghanistan, Syria and Kosovo.

"Complicit" is much more than another Holocaust film. It is a film with a relevant message for the world today, and the HRCOB showing of the film offers the audience the opportunity to meet filmmaker/director Robert Krakow as well *St Louis* survivor and Buffalo resident Dr. Sol Messinger, who was a child on the ship. The two will discuss the film's journey and conduct a Q&A session with the audience. The event is free and open to the public.

Correction from the October Issue

In October on page 7 of the Jewish Journal, the people in the photo were incorrectly identified. They are Curtain Up Co-Chair Jonathan Dandes, Betsey Ball—Deputy Mayor of the City of Buffalo and her husband, Peter Cutler. Curtain Up Co-Chair Marcy Dandes is not seen in the photo.

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Lech L'cha—Go Forth...and Join us in Israel in 2018

By Miriam Abramovich
and Nicole Bard

Each of us, as Jews, is given an extraordinary gift at birth. The gift of Jewish history, values, a calendar that shapes and enriches our lives, and, we are all given Israel. For the last 70 years Israel has been a treasured tool in our Jewish toolbox for life. We are forever connected to this land and the people. However, that does not mean that we cannot disagree and question; it does not prevent us from having frank and honest conversations about the reality of the land and our relationship with it and its people.

The land embodies the hopes and dreams of millions of Jews the world over from more than five millennia. But today there is even more. Israel is an amazing modern nation that contributes a disproportionately large amount (compared to its population and size) to the world's knowledge about science, the arts, medicine, history and culture. With



this in mind, Leslie Kramer and Steven J. Weiss, Co-Chairs of the Buffalo+Israel Experience 2018, invite you to join them next fall in Israel with members of the Buffalo Jewish Community for the trip of a lifetime.

This all-inclusive journey, which will include visiting our Partnership2Gether sister city of Akko, Jerusalem and Tel Aviv will cost \$3,600 per person, based on double occupancy. The price includes round-trip air from Toronto, 8 nights in a hotel and most meals. Spouses, life partners



and friends of all faiths are welcome. More details about trip dates, incentives, potential extensions, and details of our itinerary will be available after the 1st of the year. There will also be a series of incentives available to lower the cost of the trip.

Leslie Kramer said "traveling to Israel-whether it's your first

or 100th time-is always magical. I love exploring new things and places every time I go and learning more about the complex country that is our homeland. Our community trip will give every person the opportunity to explore his or her interests--travel, community, history, spiritual, culinary and all other sensibilities. It's going to be a blast and I can't wait to experience it with the Buffalo community! I'm especially looking forward to traveling with old friends and making new ones. I know there will be amazing shared moments and look forward to the excitement of it all."

Steven J Weiss said "If you want memories that'll last a lifetime, join us on our Buffalo + Israel Experience. You won't be disappointed".

For those who have never traveled to Israel, for those for whom a trip to Israel feels out of reach, we encourage you to reach out to us and consider joining the Buffalo + Israel Experience for an exploration of our relationship with Israel. All of the good and all of the complex parts. Each of us has been imbued with the holy charge that was given Abraham – Lech L'cha "go forth from your land, from your birthplace, and from your father's home, to the land that I will show you." Come, join us on this journey. We will bring Buffalo with us –take the step, come with us, to the land that we will show you. **For more information, contact Nicole Bard at nbard@jfedbflo.com.**

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More Info: Nicole Bard at nbard@jfedbflo.com
Full details will be available in January 2018

HEART TO HEART

A Women's
Journey to
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February 4-8, 2018

Forum Club Anniversary



Pictured in 2017 (from left to right) are Joseph Zackheim, Financial Secretary; Robert Joseph, Treasurer; Robert Ackerhalt, First Vice President; Gerald I. Brownrout, President; David Essrow, Sergeant-at-Arms; Joel Brownstein, Recording Secretary; David Norman, Second Vice President; Alan Bernstein, Trustee; Milton Ehrenberg, Trustee Photo credit: Milton and Grace Ehrenberg

The Forum Club celebrated its 90th Anniversary with a Gala Dinner and Installation of Officers in September. Begun in 1927, it was formed by six Jewish teenaged boys

During the depression years, the club served the purpose of providing a focus for the young men as they were coping with growing up, their family's individual pressures and the overall anxiety of the times. The guys would play games, talk about their future aspirations and generally just 'HANG OUT' on the local streets. Much of their time was spent at the local Jewish Community Center Building being together as a group.

**Do you have a few free hours each week?
Do you like reading to children?**



If you answered "yes" to these questions, why not consider becoming a volunteer with the Buffalo Jewish Coalition for Literacy? This Federation-sponsored program takes place at Buffalo Public School #80, where you would work with children in grades Pre-K- 4th grade.

Interested? Call Ellen Goldstein at 716-204-2243 or egoldstein@jfedbflo.com.



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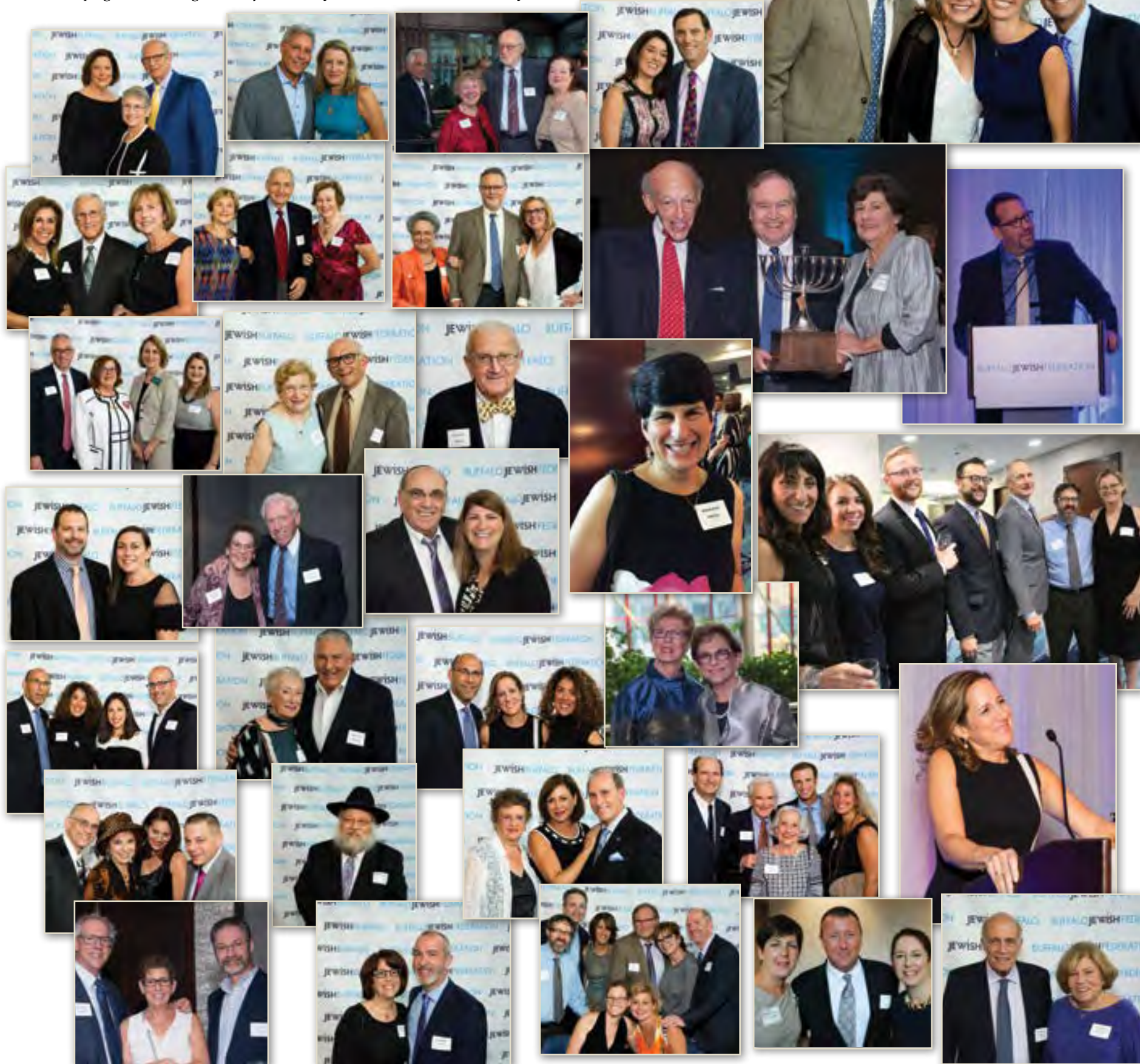
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2018 Campaign for Jewish Buffalo

The 2018 Campaign for Jewish Buffalo Kick-Off Event was an exciting, vibrant evening. Nearly 500 members of the community came to the Hyatt Regency Buffalo to see old friends, celebrate the New Year, hear speaker Abigail Pogrebin, honor Janet and Wayne Wisbaum and display heartfelt generosity. Dinner Co-Chairs Jessica and Frank Altman and Julie and Michael Weinberg were gracious and welcoming hosts. Campaign Co-Chairs Kim and Stephen Yonaty inspired event attendees to support the Campaign with their generosity. *Photos by CLICK/ Linda Gellman/Bill Myers.*



Kick-Off Event



High Holidays in Houston with Hurricane Harvey

*By Steven Schwartz,
Red Cross Volunteer & BJSC member*

“Hurricane Harvey TX, DR397-18, hit Texas hard from Corpus Christi all the way up the coast to the Louisiana state line, and inward as far north as Austin in some areas. Flooding in some areas was as much as 8 feet, and in the Corpus Christi area, more structural damage than flooding occurred.”

(Sarah Perkins, Red Cross Disaster Assessment Lead)

When Hurricane Harvey made landfall as a Category 4 Storm in Texas early this past August, more than one-half million residents were evacuated and 34,000 stayed in 240 Red Cross and partner shelters. On September 22, I deployed to Texas, joining 160 Red Cross volunteers from Western & Central New York.

I have been a Red Cross volunteer for over seven years, during which time I have deployed to tornadoes in Alabama, storms in Connecticut, wildfires in Northern California, Superstorm Sandy in NY, Hurricane Matthew in North Carolina and “Snowvember” here at home in Western New York. These efforts to help people in need in those storm-struck



Jai Lev Dravitch and Steven Schwartz at Kol Nidre services in Houston

“The synagogue had been completely flooded, and although Torah scrolls and other books and materials had been saved, the building was totally unusable. Joel Osteen had then offered his Lakewood Church to Beth Yeshurun for their High Holiday services.”

areas literally fulfill the commandment of “Tikkun Olam,” repairing the world.

In Houston, I served as the Lead in Staff & Volunteer Relations, helping to



Red Cross truck set up in Houston



The Bimah on Kol Nidre at Congregation Beth Yeshurun's services at Lakewood Church in Houston

anticipate and resolve problems between and among volunteers. With thousands of volunteers traveling to a place most had never been, doing things they might not have done, with people they didn't know, and under difficult circumstances, the major problems were relatively few. Volunteers worked 12-14 hour days, 7-10 days in a row without a day off. Many lived in staff shelters. Despite these hardships and stresses, quality services were delivered and local residents responded gratefully, both personally and in cards and letters.

I had wanted to attend Yom Kippur services while in Houston. I met Diane Levine, Red Cross Spiritual Care Lead on the disaster, who referred me to Rabbi Steve Morgen from Congregation Beth Yeshurun, the largest Conservative synagogue in the U.S.

Jai Lev Dravich, from Santa Cruz, CA, with whom I had worked during Hurricane Matthew in North Carolina, and I attended this remarkable Kol Nidre service. The huge arena (formerly a pro-hockey stadium) seated thousands of worshippers. Images of the synagogue's



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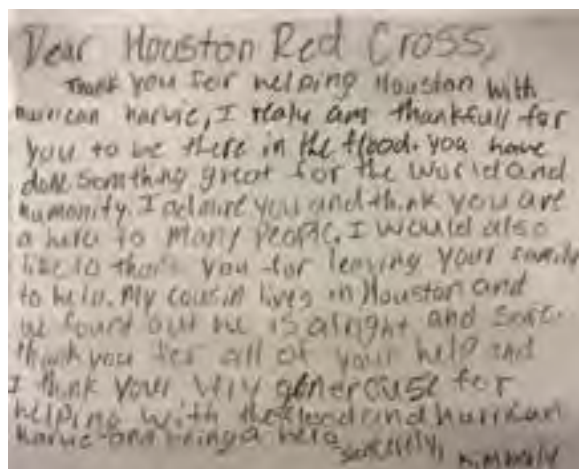


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A child's thank you letter to the Red Cross in Houston

beautiful tapestries were projected on the sides and back of the bimah. This was also Rabbi David Rosen's last Kol Nidre service before his retirement after 22 years as Senior Rabbi. After his sermon, in an emotional tribute, he was lauded for his wonderful work, and it was announced that the new entrance to the rebuilt synagogue would be dedicated in his honor. His inspirational words engaged the entire congregation in the efforts to reclaim the synagogue from the flood waters as a physical act of Teshuva, the returning of Beth Yeshurun on Beechnut Street to the congregation. *(To view the devastation and to help, see the website: www.bethyeshurun.org).* We returned

to our duties knowing we had witnessed an historical event.

As of mid-October, the Red Cross had provided over \$200 million in direct cash assistance to a half million households in Texas alone. Millions of meals, snacks and relief items were delivered and over 100,000 health and mental health services were provided. Six weeks from landfall, only two Red Cross shelters remained open, serving 700 residents. Over 1000 Red Cross disaster volunteers remained in Texas at that time. Additional efforts for Harvey extended into Louisiana.

Overall, 16,000 Red Cross volunteers opened shelters in eight states, Puerto Rico and the U. S. Virgin Islands in response to Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria and Nate. They were joined by

over 6,000 spontaneous volunteers. Your voluntary donations supported these efforts. The average cost of deploying a volunteer is \$1650, and my friends and family raised nearly that amount.

To respond to local disasters, the Federation helped to establish the Buffalo Jewish Service Corps (BJSC). Over 70 members of the Buffalo Jewish community have received training in preparedness, psychological first aid and sheltering in preparation of a local response. The last training also included members of the local Muslim community. If you are interested in being a part of BJSC, or becoming a Red Cross volunteer, please contact Steven Schwartz (stevens@localnet.com) for more information.



Emergency supplies ready to go at Red Cross HQ in Houston

Albright-Knox Kabbalah Concert November 16

The Buffalo Chamber Players present a concert entitled "Dreams and Prayers" Thursday, November 16 at 7:30pm at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. In *The Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind*, Argentinean-born composer Osvaldo Golijov channels the spiritual life and writings of Isaac the Blind, the 12th-century Kabbalist rabbi of Provence. Scored for klezmer clarinet and string quartet, the work presents Golijov's musical language that seamlessly blends various styles into a unique, evocative composition that is both contemporary and timeless. The program also includes Johannes Brahms's late masterpiece for the same instrumentation, the *Clarinet Quintet in b minor, Op. 155*.

Individual concert tickets are \$20 general admission, \$15 for Members, and \$5 for students. Tickets can be purchased online, by phone at 716.270.8292, or in person at the Albright-Knox Admissions Desk. Concerts often sell out in advance of each performance, so please order tickets early to avoid disappointment.

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Gratitude

by Rabbi Adam Scheldt

November is quite possibly the very best of months. As home to Thanksgiving, how could it be anything else? Gratitude is one of those things in life that is not only delightfully self-sustaining, but also is guaranteed to give a good return on investment. Think about it. When you offer your sincere thanks to someone, don't you feel a little better yourself? Every time you offer your sincere thanks to someone, you not only brighten their day, but you also increase the goodness in your own. And as the Kabbalists of the 15th century teach us, such goodness put into the lives of others translates into goodness in the greater world, and in turn, invites the Divine presence to draw all the more near to us. In short, gratitude is the best!

Admittedly, to say a quick 'thank you' or 'thanks' is often just perfunctory. We say it almost as a reflex—a passing moment in our otherwise busy days. We may not pay very much attention to even saying



Rabbi Adam Scheldt

it. It is a general response that our parents and school teachers worked to instill in us (thankfully!) But there is also a deeper sort of gratitude—an experience of deep, heartfelt thanks that we tend to experience with less frequency. This kind of “thanks-giving” tends to come from within ourselves and also tends to be spontaneous or triggered by something meaningful.

To be sure, no matter where it comes from, a sincere “thank you” is always a good thing. But wouldn't it

be wonderful if we could learn to cultivate greater depth—to somehow infuse more of our gratitude with that special sense of emotion and meaning? Wouldn't it be great if we could actively increase the goodness and benefit the greater world?

It's actually easier than you think. The best way to start is to simply make a point to consciously express gratitude for something for something every day (try a reminder in your smartphone or calendar.) Find something or someone for which you are thankful and kindly make your gratitude known. It may seem a little artificial at first, but with a little time and persistence, you will find the rewards are very real.

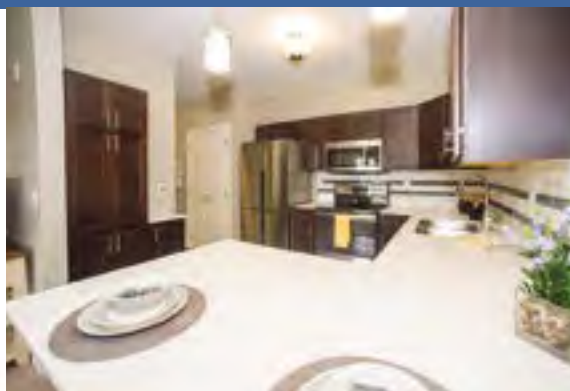
And if that practice works well, a great next

step is to mentally notice every time you say “thank you” as a mere common courtesy. Simply notice what it is you're doing and think a little bit about how that feels. Often times, just bringing a bit more awareness into such exchanges helps to deepen the experience. Trying these two techniques will definitely start to flex your “thanks-giving” muscles, but if you try it out long-term, you will begin to notice a shift in yourself and the world around you.

Long-time gratitude practitioners consistently report brighter outlooks on life. They are more apt to have “good days” and they report fewer instances of depression and anxiety. So, instead of just one Thanksgiving Day per year, why not try and entire Thanksgiving month? Try it; see what happens. It doesn't cost a dime, and you can improve your life, the lives of those around you, and you'll make the world that much better. And, if our Kabbalists hold true, you might just put a smile on the face of the Divine, as well.

Rabbi Scheldt of TBZ is the chair of the Buffalo Board of Rabbis and Cantors, and is the Director of the Jewish Spirituality Center of WNY.

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Art in Craft Media 2017

at the Burchfield Penney



Anne Currier, Anamorphosis Diptych(Rust), 2016, glazed ceramic_14h x 32w x 15d. inches. High resolution furnished upon request.

The Burchfield Penney Art Center at SUNY Buffalo State is pleased to present Art In Craft Media 2017. Presented by the Sylvia L. Rosen Endowment for Fine Art in Craft Media, the 14th juried biennial exhibition celebrates and explores the contemporary work of 48 fine artists of the region working with glass, wood, fiber, clay and metal. The exhibition is on view at The Center through January 21, 2018.

Israeli Artists on display @ CEPA

CEPA is excited to present the survey exhibition *Place Relations: Identity in Contemporary Israeli Avant-Garde Art*.

Place Relations: Identity in Contemporary Israeli Avant-Garde Art features a shifting roster of artists from Israel whose rotating work will be placed in a series of conversations with one another. By providing audiences with an array of diverse individual perspectives shaped by varied and unique experiences, CEPA's goal is to elaborate upon, broaden, and humanize the unique historical, political, and cultural atmosphere of the Israeli diaspora.



Yael Bartana

through November 25, 2017

Yael Bartana is a video artist who explores the imagery of cultural identity. In her photographs, films and installations Bartana critically investigates her native country's struggle for identity. In 2011, Bartana represented Poland in the 54th edition of the Venice Biennale.

Tamy Ben-Tor & Miki Carmi

through December 16, 2017

Longstanding collaborators in life and art, performance artist Tamy Ben-Tor and painter Miki Carmi, excavate and analyze human archetypes through their philosophically oriented practice. Tamy's performances and Miki's painting are made in a shared space through constant dialogue, and fuse into singular projects through video works.

For more information, contact CEPA Gallery @ 716-856-2717. CEPA Gallery is located in The Market Arcade Building, 617 Main Street in downtown Buffalo.




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Two Desserts for Thanksgiving

By Robin Kurss

When Thanksgiving rolls around, the last thing my family wants is for me to experiment with a new recipe. For this one holiday, everything has to be the same as in year's past--Nanny's sweet potato and marshmallow casserole, my challah stuffing etc. But, when it comes to dessert, everyone is cutting back, doesn't have room, you name it. So this year, we are trying something new, something everyone will have a little room for--Miniature Desserts! Here are two that will be on our table.

Pumpkin Truffles

makes 14

- ¾ c ginger snap crumbs
- ¾ c graham cracker crumbs
- 4 oz. cream cheese
- 2 ½ c white chocolate, melted
- ½ c pumpkin puree
- 1 tsp pumpkin pie spice and pinch salt
- 1 tbsp. coconut oil
- ¾ c white wine



In small bowl, combine crumbs and set aside 2 Tbsp. for decoration. In large bowl, beat cream cheese till fluffy. Add ½ c of the melted white chocolate, pumpkin puree, pumpkin pie spice and salt. Beat until the mixture combines. Stir in crumbs. Scoop mix into Tbsp. size balls and freeze for 30 minutes. Mix remaining 2c melted white chocolate with coconut oil. Dunk truffles to coat and place on parchment-lined cookie sheet. Sprinkle truffles with remaining crumbs. Keeps in fridge for days.

Mini Apple Pies

makes 12

- 1 pastry crust (can be ready made)
- ¼ c butter or margarine
- 4 granny smith apples, peeled and diced
- ¾ c brown sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 c walnuts, chopped

Topping:

- 2 Tbsp. melted butter or margarine
- ¼ c oats
- 1 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 1 tsp flour

Set oven to 425. Line each cup of a 12 c muffin tin with cut out dough. It's ok if it hangs over a tad. Bake in the oven for 10-12 minutes until pastry is slightly cooked but not browned. Remove from oven and turn oven down to 350. In a saucepan, melt butter or margarine. Add all filling ingredients except nuts and simmer for 3 minutes. Then add nuts and simmer 2 minutes more. Place a little filling into each tin, pressing it down to fill pastry shell. Mix topping ingredients and sprinkle evenly over mini pies. Bake 25-30 minutes until golden brown.



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JCC fitness instructor a national SilverSneakers® Leader!



Kathleen Rogers, a group fitness teacher at the JCC since 1986, and a SilverSneakers® instructor at JCC Holland Family Building since 2011, has been selected as one of the finalists for the national SilverSneakers® Instructor of the Year award. Kathy is currently teaching step/cardio and core classes at the JCC and is AFAA Group Fitness Certified, as well as certified in several versions of SilverSneakers® classes.

Her classes are so popular at the JCC that participants need a ticket to get into classes on Mondays and Wednesdays, which usually pulls in about 30-40 participants. During one of the group's quarterly BYO Lunches, class members surprised her with a special party to celebrate her award. She received a 'laurel' wreath for her head and they presented her with a cake topped with her photo. They also read some of their personal thoughts and poems, and they gave her a scrapbook with cards and notes.

"I teach them about the muscles they are working and why," said Mrs. Rogers. "I emphasize core strength for balance. This is an extremely fulfilling class for me as well as for the



SilverSneakers® students honored instructor Kathy Rogers for her national recognition. This honor "takes the cake!"

students," she said. "Along with the laughter, jokes, and teasing, the participants see results from their hard work in class when doing such physical activities as gardening, hiking, walking up stairs and much more," she added. Mazel tov Kathy Rogers! Here's to many more years of SilverSneakers® classes at the JCC!

Temple Beth Tzedek Breaks Ground for New Building

Temple Beth Tzedek broke ground last month on a new 10,000 square foot sanctuary building at 1641 North Forest Road in Amherst, at the site of the former Congregation B'nai Shalom, which merged with Temple Beth Tzedek earlier this year. This will mark the start of construction on the first new synagogue building built in Western New York in a generation. The existing building on the property will continue to be used and will be connected to the new building.



From left: Cantor Mark Spindler, Hon. Steven Sanders, TBT President Lisa Wallenfels, Harvey Sanders, Hon. Dr. Barry Weinstein, Hon. Tom Loughran, Gus Lima of Cannon Construction Services, and Moe Finegold of Finegold Alexander Architects



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This transformative musical shatters the myth of Jews being immune to addiction. Interweaving a Passover Seder with personal stories of addiction, Freedom Song poses the question, "What are you a slave to?" and offers both audience and cast members the opportunity to answer. Cast members are all in recovery from addiction and come to Buffalo from Beit T'Shuvah, the renowned treatment center in Los Angeles. Appropriate for adults and high-school age youth, Freedom Song illuminates the real-life struggle against the bondage of self that we all fight.



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Freedom Song Musical addresses Jews & Addiction

November 6 • Free Admission

Freedom Song, a musical about Jews struggling with addiction, comes to Buffalo Monday, November 6 from 7-9PM at The Park School, 4625 Harlem Road in Buffalo. Erie County Health Commissioner Gale Burstein will open the program with welcoming remarks, and a dessert reception will follow the program. **The program is free.**

The cast of *Freedom Song* is not a cast of actors; they are actual addicts that are breaking the shackles of drugs, alcohol, gambling, and other destructive behaviors.

By performing *Freedom Song*, the cast members have an opportunity to answer questions from the audience and to share their experiences on how best to break free from a lifestyle of addiction. Using song, dance, and an intense post-show discussion with the case, *Freedom Song* will open your eyes to the real life struggle against the 'bondage of self' that addicts in recovery fight every day.

The *Freedom Song* initiative of Beit

T'Shuvah in Los Angeles brings to life Judaism in a way that is meaningful to Jews from all walks of life. It brings Judaism to life by making the story and experiences of Passover seder a metaphor for the struggles families face in recovery, and therefore brings a new contemporary meaning to tradition that is thousands of years old. It makes both Judaism relevant and the message that recovery is attainable in a language that speaks to the Jewish Community.

This event lead sponsor is Jewish Family Service, and its co-sponsors are Buffalo Jewish Federation, The Bureau of Jewish Education and The Park School. The dessert reception is sponsored by Congregation Shir Shalom, Kehillat Ohr Tzion, Temple Beth Tzedek and Temple Beth Zion.

The program is free and open to the community, but seating is limited, and reservations are requested. To make reservations, contact Mindy Ponivas at 716-204-5380 or mindy@bjebuffalo.org.



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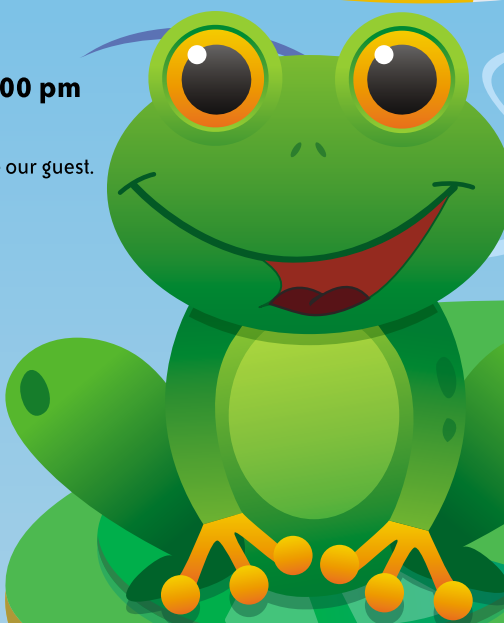
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Gnizah at Elmlawn Cemetery

*By Mitchell B. Steinhorn
President, Amherst Memorial Chapel*



This past June, members of our Jewish Community gathered at Elmlawn Cemetery to participate in the ritual of burying religious prayer books and other holy items, commonly known as “Gnizah,” which are no longer able to be used. A vast amount of Gnizah was delivered by members of all the local synagogues in the Buffalo area. The first Gnizah burial took place in September 2016.

A hearty “Thank You” goes to Michael Austin and his staff from Elmlawn Memorial Park Cemetery for donating the graves that we were able to utilize. We also wish to thank Leon Komm & Son Monument Co. for donating a beautiful foot marker showing

the location of the buried items. We anticipate making this an annual tradition. Future Gnizah burials will be announced by Amherst Memorial Chapel.



AZA & BBG Alumni Reunion Planned for Fall 2018

All AZA, BBG & BBYO members are invited to a Fall 2018 Reunion in Buffalo. This event will take place over Columbus Day Weekend of October 5, 6 & 7, 2018. This 50+ year reunion will be your opportunity to reconnect with old friends and to explore the new Buffalo.

Since many of the most active former AZA & BBG members have not seen each other since 1968 to 1972, plans are now underway for a Friday Night Happy Hour Meet & Greet to reconnect with long lost friends. Other adventures like a Boat Ride, an Architectural Tour, a Scavenger Hunt and a Saturday Night Social Event are now being explored to make this a fun interactive event.

All current and former members of AZA & BBG from the Southern Ontario Region and the Upstate New York Region from Buffalo and Ontario, Canada are being asked to share their full contact information, so a complete Alumni Directory can be created. Please share your name, full address, phone, chapter, year

of high school graduation and your email address. There is an extra special focus to reunite the alumni who graduated from high school from 1965 to 1971.

The reunion is spearheaded by Keith Frankel, Eileen Weingarten, Larry Oskin, Kenneth Rogers, Ira Schwartz, Burt Feuerstein, Marcia Feuerstein, Myra Green, Steve Chernoff, Renee Ryback Brownstein, Ruth Berger Goldston, Mark Schwartz, Diane Shoot Dusek, Jo Ann Balsom Grunbaum and Penny Frankel Frankhouser, they are still open to more volunteers to help.

Register Now! For more information, to get registered for free on the AZA-BBG Alumni Directory, contact Larry Oskin at 407-395-9007, 703-508-6800 or email your information to LOskin@MktgSols.com. And look for us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1774221929262474/>



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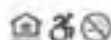
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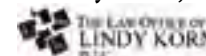
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- 1» Don't miss "Buffalo's Holocaust Stories," an exhibit of photos and artifacts presented by the Holocaust Resource Center and Buffalo State College from November 1-30 at front of the Butler library on the Buffalo State Campus. *For times the library is open, go to <http://libcal.buffalostate.edu/hours/>.*
- 2» Looking to learn more about Judaism? The Jewish Discovery Center's Institute for Jewish Studies begins 2 new classes Nov. 12. Go to www.jewishdiscovery.org or call 400-1550. And the Bureau of Jewish Education's adult education program continues this month with several offerings. *Check it out on page 30, or contact Susan Schwartz at susan@bjebuffalo.org.*
- 3» Looking to show your gratitude this Thanksgiving season? Why not give back and make a gift to the Jewish Federation's 2018 Campaign for Jewish Buffalo. *Go to www.jfedbflo.com.*
- 4» Have you heard that the URJ's Camp Newman in Northern California was recently destroyed in the spate of wildfires? If you loved your Jewish summer camp and want to make a donation to help rebuild this camp, which is one of the Reform Movement's gems, *go to <https://campnewman.org/support-newman/newmanstrong/>.*
- 5» Thanksgiving project for the needy. Join Congregation Shir Shalom, Temple Beth Zion and North Presbyterian Church Saturday, November 18 at 9:00 am at North Church in Williamsville to assemble Thanksgiving baskets for the needy. *Call CSS with questions at 633-8877.*

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In October, only one person—Joan Alexander—correctly identified the historic plaque at Bestor Plaza on the grounds of The Chautauqua Institution.

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www.hillelofbuffalo.org

Holocaust Resource Center

336 Harris Hill Road, Suite 302
Williamsville, NY 14221
TEL: 716-634-9535
www.hrcbuffalo.org
Mara Koven-Gelman - Executive Director
Pieter Weinrieb - President

Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo, Inc.

Benderson Family Building
2640 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
TEL 716-688-4033
Richard Zakalik - Executive Director
Susan Freed-Oestreicher - President

Holland Family Building

787 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
TEL 716-886-3145
www.jccbuffalo.org

Jewish Discovery Center

757 Hopkins Road
Williamsville, NY 14221
212 Exeter Rd.
Williamsville, NY 14221 (office)
TEL: 716-639-7600
TEL: 716-632-0467
Rabbi Heschel Greenberg
Rabbi Laizer Labkovski
www.jewishdiscovery.org

Jewish Family Service Of Buffalo And Erie County

70 Barker Street
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www.jfsbuffalo.org
Marlene Schillinger - Executive Director
Blaine Schwartz - Chair

Jewish Federation Apartments

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TEL 716-631-8471
www.jewishfederationapartments.org
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Karen Greenspan - President

Jewish Federation Cemetery Corporation, Inc.

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TEL 716-204-2246
www.jfedbflo.com
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Charlotte Gendler - President

Kadimah Academy

1085 Eggert Road
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TEL 716-836-6903
www.kadimah.org
Einav Symons - Head of School
Alan Rosenhoch - President

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www.ohrtemimimschool.com
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www.yadbyad.org
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(unaffiliated)
2450 North. Forest Rd,
Getzville, NY 14068
TEL 716-688-1642
www.chabadbuffalo.com

Congregation Beth Abraham

(Conservative)
1073 Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
www.congregationbethabraham.net

Congregation Shir Shalom

(Reform/ Reconstructionist)
4660 Sheridan Drive
Williamsville, NY 14221
TEL 716-633-8877
Rabbi Alexander Lazarus-Klein
Cantor Arlene Frank
Joanne Marquisee - Executive Director
Todd Sugarman - President
www.shirshalombuffalo.org

Congregation Havurah

6320 Main St., Williamsville, NY 14221
Bernard Schenkler, President
Annette Pinder, Membership Chair
TEL 716-689-2256
www.congregationhavurah.org
info@congregationhavurah.org

Kehillat Ohr Tzion

(Modern Orthodox)
879 Hopkins Rd
Williamsville, NY 14221
Rabbi Ori Bergman
Jeff Schapiro - President
http://ohrtzion.org/kot

Knesset Center

(Orthodox)
500 Starin Avenue
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TEL 716-832-5063
Rabbi Shmaryahu Charitonow
www.chabad.org

Saranac Synagogue

(Orthodox)
President - Shmuel Rashkin
Vice President - Reuven Alt
Gabbai David Kunkel
85 Saranac Avenue
Buffalo New York 14216
TEL 716 876 1284
www.SaranacSynagogue.org

Temple Beth Tzedek

(Conservative)
621 Getzville Road
Amherst, NY 14226
Cantor Mark Spindler
Lisa Wallenfels - President
TEL 716- 838-3232
www.btzbuffalo.org

Temple Beth Zion

(Reform)
Sanctuary: 805 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
Religious School and Offices:
700 Sweet Home Road
Amherst, NY 14226
Rabbi Jonathan Freirich
Rabbi Adam Scheldt
Cantor Penny Myers
Amy Schaefer - Temple Administrator
miriam treger honig - President
TEL 716-836-6565
www.tbz.org

Temple Beth El

(Reform)
720 Ashland Avenue
Niagara Falls, NY 14301
Rabbi Ellen Franke
Cantorial Soloist Barry Rose
William Bell - President
TEL 716-282-2717
www.niagarafallstemple.com

Temple Emanu-El

(Reform)
124 Bank Street
Batavia, NY 14020
TEL 585-343-7027
Stan Schumann - President

The Family Shul

(Unaffiliated)
757 Hopkins Road
Williamsville, NY 14221
Rabbi Heschel Greenberg
Rabbi Laizer Labkovski
716-639-7600

Young Israel of Greater Buffalo

(Orthodox)
105 Maple Road
Williamsville, NY 14221
Rabbi Eliezar Marcus
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Due to postal regulations, the *Jewish Journal of Western New York* will no longer be forwarded to "temporary change" addresses.

If you plan to be away from your permanent address and will have your first class mail forwarded to your temporary address and would like to continue to receive the *Jewish Journal* over the winter or the summer, please call Nadine Ryback at 716-204-2248 to give us your "temporary" address. Thank you!

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Federation Sponsors Synagogue Receptions

The Buffalo Jewish Federation will be sponsoring the Oneg Shabbat and Kiddush receptions at the following synagogues this coming fall. In October, Federation was delighted to sponsor Kiddush luncheons at Kehillat Ohr Tzion and Jewish Discovery Center. Our November and December schedules include receptions with these congregations:

Temple Beth Tzedek	Saturday, November 4
Knesset Center	Saturday, November 11
Congregation Shir Shalom	Friday, November 17
Temple Beth Zion	Friday, December 1
Young Israel	Saturday, December 9

Congregation Beth Abraham to host joint Kabbalat Shabbat service with Nickel City Minyan, November 17

Congregation Beth Abraham and Nickel City Minyan will be joining forces for Kabbalat Shabbat services on Friday, November 17 at 6:30 PM. Nickel City Minyan, a program of Nickel City Jews, is a small egalitarian group that gathers for monthly Friday night Shabbat services and community. Their services are geared toward young Jewish Buffalonians, primarily folks in their 20s, 30s, and 40s including young professionals and young families.

Sheri Rodman, one of the group's leaders, said, "We seek to support the ever-evolving Jewish lives of our friends in an environment that will welcome and enrich participants from all backgrounds, and with all levels of familiarity with Jewish texts and ritual." Monthly services are held at the historic Congregation Beth Abraham building, 1073 Elmwood Avenue. "The folks at Congregation Beth Abraham have been so welcoming and have generously shared their beautiful building. We feel fortunate to have an opportunity to experience Shabbat with our peers in a way that is meaningful to us and our community," she said.

Services will be led by Cantor Irwin Gelman, with participation from members of Nickel City Minyan and musical accompaniment from the "CBA House Band." After services, there will be a potluck Oneg in the CBA social hall. The entire community is welcome.

For information about Congregation Beth Abraham and the November service, please go to www.congregationbethabraham.net. For information about Nickel City Minyan, please visit their website at www.nickelcityminyan.org. Hope to see you on the 17th!

TEMPLE BETH TZEDEK'S

Rabbi Isaac Klein

Scholar-In-Residence Weekend
presents

A SHABBAT with Rabbi Jonathan Porath

November 10th, 11th, & 12th, 2017

Rabbi Jonathan Porath comes to Temple Beth Tzedek from Israel, where he has lived with his family for the past 33 years. He has a deep connection to Temple Beth Tzedek as he studied with Rabbi Isaac Klein while at the seminary, and is the nephew of Rabbi Samuel Porath of the former Temple Beth EL. Porath recently published the memoirs of his late father, "LOVING MEMORIES OF TZVI: The Life of Rabbi Tzvi H. Porath." Rabbi Porath specializes in conveying Jewish pride and passion. He always speaks from the heart and inspires. He comes by it naturally as he is the 18th generation of Rabbis in his family.

Rabbi Porath will offer four presentations over the course of the weekend: Friday night, 6:00pm during Kabbalah Shabbat: "Nurturing Jewish Hearts and Jewish Souls"; Saturday morning, 9:00am during services: "The Torah and Teaching of my Friend and Mentor Elie Wiesel"; Saturday evening Mincha services begin at 4:15pm & his presentation during Seudah Shlishit: "How to Be Even More Jewish in Buffalo"; Sunday morning following morning services at 9:45am: "How the Jews of America Saved Some of the Jews of Europe During the Holocaust" a multimedia presentation.

Reservations are a must by November 6th for Friday night dinner and Sunday morning breakfast. Shabbat Kiddush and Seudah Shlishit are open to the community at no cost. Friday Shabbat dinner costs are Adults: \$22.00 per person; Teens 14 - 16 yrs: \$12.50; Youth 5 - 13yrs: \$7.50 and under 4 years old are free. Brunch on Sunday morning is \$6.00 per person.

Please may your reservations by emailing Kim at kjones@tbtbuffalo.org or by calling the Temple Office at 716 - 838-3232 by November 6th, 2017.

CONGREGATION SHIR SHALOM

Thanksgiving Basket Project

Saturday, November 18, 2017
at 9:00am

North Presbyterian Church

Join Congregation Shir Shalom, Temple Beth Zion and North Presbyterian Church to assemble Thanksgiving Baskets for needy families. With your help, we prepare over 500 baskets of food annually for agencies that feed local families. Everyone is welcome to help. Share the joy of Thanksgiving with those in our community who are hungry and need our help.

Questions? Call 633-8877.

CSS Men's Group Breakfast

Join the Shir Shalom Men's Group for a bagel, lox and cream cheese breakfast Sunday, November 19 at 9:15am and hear speaker Alan Gellin, who will show photos and talk about his extensive world travels. During his photo presentation, "Traveling on the Roads Less Traveled," Al will discuss his experiences visiting faraway places such as the Amazon, Africa, Australia, Easter Island, Antarctica, and the Arctic. Please RSVP to Dan Kester, Men's Group President, at 536-5628.

CSS Religious School Family Pot Luck Dinner & Slime Shabbat!

Come to a Family Potluck Dinner Friday, November 17 at 6:00pm at Congregation Shir Shalom! Temple will be providing pizza and beverages. Please bring an appetizer or side dish. (No items with meat please.) Come and make your favorite color of slime! Parents and kids will be there to help! Temple will be providing Slime supplies. Erev Shabbat Services will begin at 7:00pm followed by a festive Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Buffalo Jewish Federation! Please RSVP to the Temple Office at 633-8877 by November 14th.

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Sukkot Around WNY

Sukkot 5778 was a festive holiday! The photos below are some of sukkot celebrations throughout our community this year. The people pictured represent Congregation Havurah, Jewish Discovery Center, Kehillat Ohr Tzion and Temple Beth Zion.



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Steven Sanders @ Achim 11/12

The Brotherhood of Temple Beth Zion is pleased to announce that its next Achim program will be held Sunday, November 12, at 10:00 a.m in the Meadows Lounge, located on the second floor at the Weinberg Campus, 2650 North Forest Road.

The featured speaker will be the Hon. Steven Sanders, Town Councilmember for the Town of Amherst. Mr. Sanders, who is well known in the community, will be discussing the 2017 local election results. There will also be comments on national and state politics. There will be an opportunity for discussion with questions and answers being encouraged. This is expected to be an enlightening and invigorating program.

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.

Spirituality Center Classes

The Jewish Spirituality Center of Western New York is offering a new class during the month of November. In the very month where we celebrate Thanksgiving, the JSCWNY's new class, "A Month of Mindfulness: Cultivating Gratitude," will help us to focus and develop an inner practice of gratitude to foster greater peace, happiness, and deeper connections in our lives. Whether you have a current mindfulness practice, would like to start one, or are just curious about it all, "A Month of Mindfulness" will help you explore yourself and the way you move through your day.

The class is completely free of charge, and will meet at Temple Beth Zion's Broder Center for Jewish Education at 700 Sweet Home Road on the 9th, 16th, and 30th from 6:30 pm until 8:00pm. The class even includes an online component for learners to engage on their own. Anyone can register online at www.jscwny.org.

TBZ Sisterhood Holds Annual Games Galore

Tuesday, November 7, at noon
TBZ Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Road

Bring your game and your group for a fun afternoon. Mahjong, Scrabble and cards are some of the games enjoyed during this annual Election Day event.

In addition to games, there will be a delicious lunch, including dessert, raffle prizes and more!

The cost per person is \$15 and reservations are due by November 1. For reservations and information, call the Temple Office at 836-6565.

Jazz Concert at Temple Beth Zion: The Music of Stan Getz

Thursday, November 16, 7 p.m.
805 Delaware Avenue,

The next concert in a four-concert series at Temple Beth Zion will feature the Buffalo Jazz Collective playing music of saxophone legend Stan Getz. Getz first came into prominence in the 1940s as a featured soloist with Woody Herman's big band. He is well known for popularizing the Bossa Nova in America with songs such as the 1964 hit "The Girl from Ipanema."

For Jazz Concert Series reservations, call the Temple Beth Zion office at (716) 836-6565. A \$10 donation at the door is appreciated.

Spirited Jewish Chats with TBZ

Regular opportunities to dine and discuss. Looking for something that's not here? Let us know by emailing Rabbi Jonathan Freirich (rabbifreirich@tbz.org). Rabbi Jonathan will hold the Jolt of Judaism open forum on any topic you suggest.

Talmud Talk

Thursday, November 16, Wednesday, December 20

Noon – 1 p.m.

Milos, 5877 Main St., Williamsville

All our Judaism, especially Reform Judaism, starts in the Talmud.
Everyone welcome – we are all beginners in the ocean of Jewish learning.
Materials provided. No host lunch.

Jolt of Judaism

Thursdays, November 9, December 14 • Noon – 1 p.m.

The Daily Planet, 1862 Hertel Ave.

Have a burning Jewish question and a midday need for caffeine?
Join the Jolt of Judaism and discuss any and all topics from a Jewish perspective over wake-up beverages and light lunches.
Send questions and topics for discussion to Rabbi Jonathan.
Open to all. No host refreshments.

Deli Judaism

Wednesdays, November 1, November 29, January 3 • Noon – 1 p.m.

Joe's Deli, 534 Elmwood Ave.

What does Judaism say about...?

We start with Torah and Talmud, and we end up in the ethics and politics?
Could happen!
Have an opinion? Bring it!
No prerequisites – everyone welcome.
Materials provided. No host lunch.

Chanukah Bazaar at TBZ starts 11/27



Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Road

The Annual Ruth Fernandez Sisterhood Judaic Shop Chanukah Bazaar will begin November 27 and run through mid-December. The Bazaar will include everything you need for Chanukah - menorahs, decorations, gifts, cards and wrap. *For a complete list of hours, go to www.tbz.org*

SHABBAT ALIVE! Service

Friday, November 3, at 7 p.m.
Happy Half Hour begins
at 6:30

**Temple Beth Zion
Broder Center,
700 Sweet Home Road**

Keep calm and Shir (sing) on! Our musicians and choristers will lead the music for this energetic and lively Shabbat Service.

TBZ Holds Service Honoring Veterans and Military Personnel Friday, November 10 at 7 p.m. 805 Delaware Avenue



On Shabbat Evening Service Nov. 10, TBZ will proudly honor all those who serve or have served in our nation's military. Any veterans, reservists or active-duty service people are invited, so that you can be thanked for the commitment and sacrifices that you have made to keep us free and safe. Servicemen and women will be offered a special blessing during this worship service.

Kesher Outstretched Arm Celebrates Chai!

By Janet Gunner

With 5778, the Kesher Inclusion Outstretched Arm programming of Temple Beth Tzedek enters its 18th year. Outstretched Arm's inclusive programs are adapted to ensure that Jews with special needs can actively participate in the Jewish community. Over these years, as Temple Beth Tzedek has experienced profound changes with mergers, moves etc., the commitment to advancing inclusion and to being a caring community remains strong and enduring.

Early on the morning of October 1, the day after Yom Kippur, Outstretched Arm participants gathered at Temple Beth Tzedek and began preparations for "THE CHAG"--SUKKOT. The Sukkah was set up to hold a robust turnout of Outstretched Arm guests along with many of their caretakers and family members, USY (high school youth group) volunteers, The Gesher School faculty and students, parents, as well as the many dedicated TBT volunteers. All arrived ready to join together to create the transition from Yom Kippur to the joyful holiday of Sukkot.

The success of all Outstretched Arm programs is dependent upon the support of volunteers of all ages and abilities. At TBT, volunteers do what resonates with them-- whether it is making music, helping in the kitchen, keeping the Gift Shop open for shoppers or snapping photographs, etc. Some of our "guests" also help as valued volunteers. All participants contribute to making a rich and hospitable environment. The well-loved Klezmer band--West of Odessa (Alan Sisselman and Roberta Levine) joyfully welcomed folks into the sanctuary and then later filled the Sukkah with Klezmer music. Andy Symons led the crowd in a Sing-A-Long with his guitar. Singing with Andy is always a highlight of Outstretched Arm events.

USY participants arrived extra early to



Clockwise from top: Keren Green, Cantor Spindler and students in the Beth Tzedek sanctuary; Alan Sisselman, Roberta Levine playing music and Andy Symons leading a sing-along during Sukkot 2017.

decorate the Sukkah, greet guests and help with the Torah service--They brought a wonderful "ruach" to the morning. For many years now, The Gesher School participation has been vital to each Outstretched Arm program. During the Sukkot program, students hosted guests and participated in the Torah Service. The student participation was guided by Gesher faculty-- Keren Green, Fern Bernstein and Aaron Blum. Rabbi Perry Netter broadened the Jewish experience with his explanations, and helped to incorporate additional meaning into the rituals. Once again, Cantor Mark Spindler led a beautiful

Torah Service, making sure that everyone who wanted an Aliyah was called to the Torah. Participating in this Sukkot celebration was an opportunity for every individual, regardless of age or ability, to grow in knowledge and compassion.

While this morning was filled with Torah, music and traditional foods, this Sukkot program was also intentionally multi-sensory to be engaging and adapted in many ways. For instance, in an effort to increase accessibility, the Torah was brought down from the Bimah to a table on the main level of the sanctuary to be read and Aliyot

were offered to all participants. The Torah was carefully marched throughout the sanctuary so that each participant would have the opportunity to touch it. A ramp was placed at the entrance of the Sukkah so that individuals using wheelchairs could enter along with individuals who were ambulatory or using canes or walkers. Special attention was paid to the foods served. While the menu included delicious traditional foods prepared by TBT caterer, Sparkey, careful attention was given to accommodating to food allergies and appropriate texture requirements of some individuals. Volunteer Linda Steinhorn prepared alternative activities during mealtime for those individuals who do not eat by mouth.

After services in the sanctuary, a festive lunch of traditional fare (think kugel, honey cake and babka) was enjoyed in the freshly decorated TBT Sukkah accompanied by the Klezmer music. Lunchtime also offered everyone time to socialize with friends. Foods tasted extra delicious in the shade of the Sukkah. For some folks, especially those Western New Yorkers living at a distance from Buffalo, the Outstretched Arm programs may be their only access to traditional Jewish foods. Loaves of challah went home with guests to enjoy at their own tables during Sukkot. Alternatively, plants went home as Sukkot decorations for those who could not eat challah.

In addition, for the last several months, a new Kesher Inclusion program has been piloted at TBT. A Lifelong Learning Program for Jewish adults with special needs was developed by chairman Marian Lustig with strong support from many lay leaders. Through individualized instruction, this program has been offering individuals the opportunity to develop synagogue skills and to broaden their general knowledge of Judaism. Three students-- Nancy Ackerman, Eric Lehrman and Taylor McLanahan--have been studying since early June with teachers Larry Boxer, Bernie Weinstein and Bev Schiller. Their studies culminated with a Havdallah Service and celebration at Temple Beth Tzedek Saturday, October 28.

Going forward, Temple Beth Tzedek continues to be committed to maintaining an inclusive Jewish community. Mark your calendars for the next Kesher Inclusion Outstretched Arm program for Chanukah on December 17.

If you would like to participate as a guest and/or a volunteer or would like more information on the Kesher Inclusion Outstretched Arm programs, contact Janet Gunner, Sharla Bleichfeld or Sharon Serota through the Temple Beth Tzedek office ~716-838-3232.

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November 5

HBLA Annual Meeting.
10:00am. Temple Beth Tzedek.
621 Getzville Rd.

Call 204-0542 for reservations

November 6

"Freedom Song" program- addiction & Jews
7-9:00pm. The Park School of Buffalo
4625 Harlem Road. Free

November 8

"Complicit" film screened at Buffalo State to commemorate Kristallnacht.
4:30pm. Bulger Communication Center.
Buffalo State College. Free

November 10-12

Rabbi Isaac Klein Scholar in Residence
Weekend at TBT. 621 Getzville Rd.
See page 24 for services, dates, times and prices

November 10

PJ Library's Tot Shabbat Hop
6:00pm. Congregation Shir Shalom

November 11

Federation-sponsored Kiddush
at Chabad Kneset Center
following services

November 12-14

Jewish Federations of North America General Assembly in Los Angeles

November 12

Jewish Discovery Center's Institute for Jewish Studies classes begin.
See page 40 for information or call 400-1550

November 14

BJE "Power and Powerlessness in Jewish Life and Thought" begins
7:30pm. JCC Benderson Building

November 16

Jazz Concert The Music of Stan Getz.
7:00pm. Temple Beth Zion.
805 Delaware Avenue.
\$10 at the door or call 836-6565 for reservations

November 17

Federation-sponsored Oneg Shabbat
Congregation Shir Shalom
following services

November 23

Thanksgiving
celebrated in the United States



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Character Day at Camp

By Melissa Schreiber,
Program Director,
Bureau of Jewish Education

The sun was shining and it was unseasonably warm for a Sunday in September as families filed into Camp Centerland for Character Day. Months prior, the Educator's Council of WNY had developed a community event called, Character Day inspired by the national program, where families experience five different activities that helped to bring out the best traits in their children. The five chosen character traits, or *Middot*, were kindness, honesty, justice, enthusiasm and gratitude.

After the families had taken time to explore these traits and activities, there was one final stop, The Character Day Quilt. Each family and child made a quilt square based on what they had learned that day. This quilt will be traveling to all of the partners of this program where it will proudly be put on display. So keep an eye out at your local school or synagogue for The Character Day Quilt!

For more information on how to get involved in community programs for your family, contact Melissa Schreiber at 716-204-5380 or melissa@bjebuffalo.org.



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Living with joy, resilience, and spirit

By Susan Goldberg Schwartz,
Director of Adult Learning, Bureau of Jewish Education

These years are indeed formative years, rich in possibilities...to deepen understanding and compassion, to widen the horizon of honesty, to refine the sense of fairness...

- Abraham Joshua Heschel, *To Grow in Wisdom*

In early June, I received an email from a friend wondering if I might be interested in learning about a new program from the Institute of Jewish Spirituality, *Wise Aging*, which celebrates the collected wisdom and experiences of aging through a Jewish context. Using the book *Wise Aging, Living with Joy, Resilience and Spirit* authored by Rabbi Rachel Cowen and Dr Linda Thal, the program focuses on the challenges and benefits of growing older and utilizes interactive discussions, mindfulness practices and exercises and gentle movement. Wise Aging programs have been successfully conducted throughout the US and Canada for the past 8 years.

Janet Shalwitz, with whom I had reconnected through our mutual Mussar practice, is formally from Buffalo, now

lives in Phoenix, and spends her summers here to be closer to her sons and their families. She participated in the Wise Aging facilitator training program in early 2017 and wanted to know if she could pilot a 4-week course. Here, Janet and I met with Rabbi Adam Scheldt, and through a collaborative effort of the BJE and the Jewish Spirituality Center of Western New York, a group of 11 women, ranging in age from 61 – 91, came together this summer for 4 weeks of meaningful learning and conversation. Although Janet has returned to Phoenix, the group wanted to continue, and will be meeting through December.

While the book is easy to read, and offers exercises and questions to contemplate, it is the group conversations that truly make this a meaningful experience. Learning

from and with each other, this group has become a safe space to share stories, memories, worries and challenges, helping each of us to explore where we have been

in our lives and how we can celebrate the years ahead.

We are in the process of forming new Wise Aging groups and are looking for participants. If this is something that resonates with you, please let me know!

Email me at Susan@bjebuffalo.org.

What if Everyone Read the Same Book?

You are invited to read the book, **My Jewish Year: 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew**, by Abigail Pogrebin and join in community conversations being held throughout the year. After hearing from author Abigail Pogrebin in person in September, many people were inspired to read the book themselves, hoping to add depth and meaning to their own Jewish observances. Our first community discussion took place in October, where we discussed *Simchat Torah* through the Mussar lens of Enthusiasm. **On December 5**, we will focus our discussion on the holiday of *Chanukah* and the Mussar trait of Gratitude. We will be meeting at 7:00pm at the Audubon Library in Getzville. **Space is limited! Please RSVP to susan@bjebuffalo.org**

Additional conversations will take place on the following dates:

Thursday, January 25, 2018

Chapter 13 Tu B'Shevat Chesed/Loving-kindness

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

Chapter 16 Passover Tzedek/Justice

Monday, May 7, 2018

Chapter 22 Shavuot Emet/Truth

Adult Learning Opportunities

The Bureau of Jewish Education's Adult Learning Department is also pleased to offer additional learning opportunities to encourage group conversations along with personal reflection and self-discovery.

Power and Powerlessness in Jewish Life and Thought

A series of three conversations with faculty from the UB Department of Jewish Thought, (<http://jewishstudies.buffalo.edu>) co-sponsored by the Bureau of Jewish Education will take place, Fall 2017, Spring and Summer 2018. With great power comes great responsibility. What does it mean to have power? Is power different from physical force? What are the ethical connotations? How does power relate to innovation?

Conversation #1, featuring Professor Richard Cohen, in conversation with Professor Ken Dauber:

"Why Fascism Again and Now?"

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

7:30 – 9:00pm

JCC Benderson Building

Despite the devastating defeat of fascism in Germany, Italy and Japan in World War II, it seems to be having something of a revival in contemporary America. Upon this background, we will discuss the surprising new political force of popular discontent in America, as evidenced by the Trump and Sanders campaigns.

Jewish Identity in Film,
Wednesdays, 1:00-2:30pm,
JCC Benderson Building

Instructor: Eileen M. Angelini, Ph.D.

Session 2 (11/29 – 12/20): Jewish Life in America and Jews in Sports

What are some of the best films that accurately depict Jewish life, history, art, sports and values? Taught in an interactive and collaborative format where clips from feature-length and short films are examined and discussed, specific themes will be addressed and explored.

GPS: A Guide to the Pages of the Siddur, Thursdays, 12:00-1:30pm

JCC Benderson Building

Instructor: Dr. Ted Steinberg

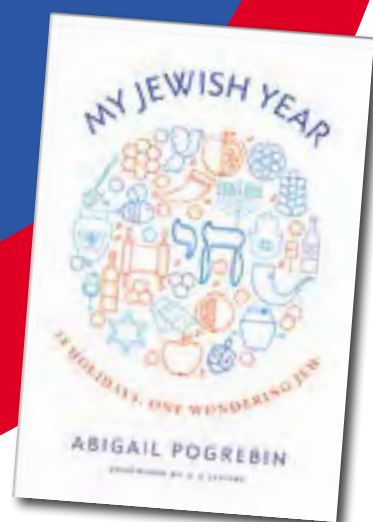
October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 30, December 7, 14, 21

The Siddur is not just a prayer book. It is arguably the most important anthology of Jewish literature, with writings ranging from antiquity to modern times! This course will serve as a guide to the history, organization, meaning, and significance of this central Jewish book by looking at that core and then at those differences and will include visits to a number of local synagogues.

For more information, contact Susan Schwartz at 204-5830.

What if Everyone Read The Same Book

Join in community conversations throughout the year. With guiding questions from the author, **Abigail Pogrebin**, along with corresponding Mussar texts, we will ask what makes these holidays so relevant today.



December 5: Chanukah / *Hakarat Hatov* — Gratitude
JCC Holland Family Building, 787 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo

January 25: Tu B'Shevat / *Chesed* — Lovingkindness

March 27: Passover / *Tzedek* — Justice

May 7: Shavuot / *Emet* — Truth

Events are Free and Open to the Community

All meetings will be held @ 7:00 pm at different locations throughout Buffalo

For more information or to register, contact: Susan Schwartz, susan@bjebuffalo.org

BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION



BJE TEEN LEADERSHIP RETREAT

*By Melissa Schreiber,
Program Director, Bureau
of Jewish Education*



Over the last four years, teens from all over Western and Upstate New York Jewish communities have gathered at Camp Seneca Lake for one last taste of summer at the Teen Leadership Retreat. This year's retreat theme focused on Israel, and was the largest Buffalo Teen retreat since the program began, with 26 students attending. Teens learned about new technology developments and different aspects of Israeli culture, while engaging in leadership workshops for the weekend. Many thanks to the Wolk Foundation for funding this special project.

Beyond teaching skills for becoming leaders in their community, there was a focus on helping the Madrichim/Teaching Assistants prepare for the school year. At the retreat, all of the

Madrichim/Teaching Assistants discussed openly what their experiences have been, and what hurdles they might encounter during the school year. Teens took this one step further by discussing what the big overarching questions are that come from these hurdles, and how they impact their ability to be the best Madrichim/Teaching assistant they can. Teens left the workshop feeling empowered and having guidance on how they will flourish as a Madrichim/Teaching Assistant.

Every year during this retreat, teens explore and develop their leadership skills, Jewish Identity and expand their greater Jewish community. As each year passes, the retreat evolves and teens grow, learn and develop themselves before the school year begins. **For more information on teen programming, please contact Melissa Schreiber at 716-204-5380, melissa@bjebuffalo.org, or visit www.bjebuffalo.org.**

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What does it mean to have power?
Is power different from physical force?
What are the Ethical connotations?
How does power relate to innovation?

Three conversations with faculty from
the IJB Department of Jewish Thought
(Spring & Summer 2018 to be scheduled)

Tuesday, November 14, 7:30-9:00PM (Conversation 1 of 3)
Jewish Community Center / 2640 North Forest Road, Getzville

"Why Fascism Again and Now?"
Professor Richard Cohen, in conversation with Professor Ken Dauber

Despite the devastating defeat of fascism in Germany, Italy and Japan in World War II, it seems to be having something of a revival in contemporary America. Upon this background, we will discuss the surprising new political force of popular discontent in America, as evidenced by the Trump and Sanders campaigns.

Reservations recommended at www.bjebuffalo.org/adultlearning or contact Susan Schwartz, Director of Adult Learning at (716) 204-5380 or susan@bjebuffalo.org for more information.

Co-sponsored by the Bureau of Jewish Education and the
University at Buffalo's Department of Jewish Thought
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Department of Jewish Thought
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TICKETS ON SALE NOW



Buffalo Chamber Players at the AK Dreams and Prayers

Thursday, November 16, 2017
7:30 pm

Visit www.albrightknox.org/buffalochamberplayers or call 716.270.8292.

artofjazz17/18

An Evening with Bill Frisell & Thomas Morgan

Sunday, December 2, 2017
8 pm



Visit www.albrightknox.org/artofjazz1718 or call 716.270.8292.



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Buffalo Chamber Players concerts are made possible by a grant from the Cullen Foundation, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, the support of Buffalo Chamber Players donors, and the generosity of Albright-Knox Art Gallery patrons. We thank ABC-Amega, Inc. for its generous corporate support.



Art of Jazz is produced by Bruce Eaton and organized by the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. It is supported by Hunt Real Estate.



We Are Everyone Who We've Ever Met

By Cindi Mikulik,
Director of Yad B'Yad

Over the summer, Yad B'Yad Buffalo Aspies (Aspergers) Group members ventured out to see an art exhibit given by one of the group members. It was a private showing in a small, beautiful gallery. Shortly after entering the building, the owner told us that it had once been a synagogue. He pointed to a small, round stained glass window on the second floor, depicting a Magen David. Behind the wall at the front of the room, was the original Bimah—now being used as an art studio. We viewed the artwork in the upper floor balconies that had once been seating for women. From there, it was easy to see the Magen David window and imagine the women following the prayer service below. When listening carefully, it was almost possible to hear the chanting. Being in the gallery/synagogue lent a certain spirituality to the artwork, while surrounding it with the echoes of countless prayers that had been chanted there. We had come full circle—celebrating the accomplishments of one of our Yad B'Yad members in the same room as our predecessors had commemorated many life cycle events nearly one hundred years earlier.



We celebrated the beautiful work of our Buffalo Aspies artist; we celebrated newly formed friendships among the group members; we celebrated the courage that it took for these individuals to gather in a new, unfamiliar place. Before we left, the gallery owner pulled me aside and said: "The woman that lives across the street told me that when the sun is very bright and at the perfect angle, it shines through the stain glass and the Jewish Star is reflected on her front porch." Amazing, we have the ability to shine light even after we are gone.

The Yad B'Yad Buffalo Aspies group is a support group for adults with Aspergers or Aspergers-like tendencies. It meets monthly and is always open to new members. If you are interested in joining the group, or if you know someone who might be interested, please contact Cindi Mikulik, Director, by phone: 716 204 5380, or e-mail: yadbyad@BJEBuffalo.org.

This work by a Yad B'Yad Buffalo Aspies Group member, titled: "We Are Everyone Whom We've Ever Met" truly captured the mood and spirit of the exhibit and historic gallery. It was gifted to the Yad B'Yad Director after the show and is currently in the Yad B'Yad office.



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Tickets: \$25 / Students free

Info: 716-462-4939 www.bfiochambermusic.org

SAM GOLDEN TO BE HONORED AT HBLA MEETING NOVEMBER 5

The Hebrew Benevolent Loan Association (HBLA), Buffalo's Free Loan Society, is proud to honor Samuel L. Golden at its 119th Annual Meeting Sunday, November 5. Mr. Golden will receive the 2017 HBLA Exemplary Service Award in recognition of his outstanding service to the organization. Sam is the public face of HBLA in our community, guiding borrowers through the loan process and overseeing all HBLA loan activity. A dedicated HBLA Board member and HBLA liaison to the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, he carefully manages a myriad of responsibilities to keep HBLA operating smoothly.

The HBLA Exemplary Service Award, established in 2010, honors individuals whose extended and sustained service has contributed significantly to the continuity and viability of the organization. The recipient receives a beautiful *tzedakah* box, signifying the mission of the organization.

The Annual Meeting will be held at 10am at Temple Beth Tzedek, 621 Getzville Rd. in Amherst. The meeting will include the election and installation of board members and officers. The slate of officers for the coming year includes Judith Katzenelson Brownstein, President; Lloyd Gerbush, First Vice President; Irving Sultz, Second Vice President; Peter Fleischmann, Treasurer;



and Steven Yonaty, Legal Counsel. A complimentary brunch will be served, under supervision of the Va'ad HaKashrus of Buffalo. The entire community is invited to attend to honor Sam Golden and celebrate another successful year for HBLA.

To make reservations, contact the HBLA at 716.204.0542 or info@wnyhbla.org. To learn more about the HBLA, visit our website at www.wnyhbla.org.

HADASSAH HAPPENINGS

The Buffalo Hadassah Program Committee met in early October to finalize its plans for the next few events. The committee has been active all year, planning at least one program each month. The co-chairs of the committee are Rhonda Wise and Phyllis Steinberg, and the members are Sheri Davis, Nancy Greenberg, Ann Kellman, Jan Presser, Marlene Katzel, Elaine Kellick and Maxine Seller.

Don Paul, well-known Buffalo meteorologist, spoke to members and guests about climate change at a luncheon at Milo's Restaurant in October.

A Leadership Luncheon is planned for November 14 at Sean Patrick's restaurant. The guest speaker will be Jill Bronsky, owner of Forward Fitness, whose topic will be Keeping Active and Independent.

Buffalo Hadassah has been trying out various leadership models over the last few years. For 2018 there will be three leaders, Annette Magid, Mickey Savit and Rhonda Wise, each coordinating and running meetings for a three month period. They will be installed at the luncheon on November 14. To make a reservation contact Nancy Greenberg at nangrnb@gmail.com

On December 15 members will gather at the home of Judi Stern to celebrate Chanukah. In addition to enjoying a lunch that will include potato latkes, attendees can view the Stern's extensive collection of dreidels. New members to the Buffalo chapter will be honored guests.

There are many exciting programs planned for the coming year, including one with the Lehrer Dance Company.

For more information or to join Buffalo Hadassah, contact Nancy Greenberg at nangrnb@gmail.com.

PLACE RELATIONS:
IDENTITY IN CONTEMPORARY ISRAELI AVANT-GARDE ART

A unique survey exhibition of Israeli artists including:

- R'im Aharoni
- Yael Bartana
- Guy Ben-Ner
- Tamy Ben-Tor
- & Miki Carmi
- Keren Cyttter
- Dor Guez
- Adi Nes
- Barak Zemer

Don't miss the final leg of this groundbreaking exhibition featuring:

- Yael Bartana
- Tamy Ben-Tor
- & Miki Carmi
- Keren Cyttter
- Dor Guez

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HRC ADOPTS NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

The Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo's board of directors has adopted a new strategic plan announced President Pieter G. Weinrieb recently. The organization's name will remain the same, but its mission has been expanded to include teaching the lessons of the Holocaust by connecting to today's events and genocides. The impetus for the process is that we are losing our aging WNY Holocaust Survivors, who have for decades presented their eyewitness testimonies to classrooms. Our expanded mission seeks to develop new partnerships and opportunities in order to connect the lessons of the Holocaust to current genocide issues," said Weinrieb.

Pieter credits the success of the nine-month long process to the chair, Dr. Irwin Gelman and a diverse, committed task force. The Strategic Planning Task Force conducted five focus groups with the help of Deborah Goldman, and best practice research with the help of Ann-Marie Carosella. The Task Force used these data to develop a list of priority goals for the short-term (1-2 years) and longer term (3-5 years) that add promoting social

justice, civic responsibility and human rights to the existing goals of teaching the lessons of the Holocaust, and remembering and honoring Holocaust Victims and Survivors.

New HRC Mission Statement:
Teach the Lessons of the Holocaust.
Remember the Survivors and Victims.
Promote social justice, civic responsibility and human rights.

The task force members included: Eve Everette, Drew Beiter, Eileen Angelini, Nurit Fischer Shemer, Ben Schiller, Holly Levy, Mary Lou Wyrobek, Dr. Larry Jones, Marilyn Toth, Ann Marie Carosella, Rev. Stan Bratton, Vilona Trachtenberg, Stephan Lewy, Sophia Veffner, Dr. Gail Goodman, Marnie Benatovich-Cerrato, Rachel Kranitz McPhee, and Dr. Herman Stone. It was staffed by Mara Koven-Gelman, HRC Exec. Director.

Note: HRC is also conducting a logo competition open to WNY graphic art students. For guidelines please contact mara@hrcbuffalo.org or check www.hrcbuffalo.org.

RYAN ANNOUNCES \$25,000 FOR JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE OF BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY



At the announcement of New York State funding for Holocaust Survivors through JFS were Stephan Lewy, David Schlein, JFS Executive Director Marlene Schillinger, Assembly Member Sean Ryan, Rachel Kranitz McPhee, HRC Executive Director Mara Koven-Gelman and Cantor Penny Myers.

New York State Assemblyman Sean Ryan announced a statewide package of funding to assist Holocaust survivors, and that he has secured \$25,000 in state funding for Jewish Family Service (JFS) of Buffalo and Erie County. The funding, which was included in the state budget passed earlier this year, will be used to provide financial assistance to Holocaust survivors for a variety of unplanned expenses, as well as counseling and community outreach. The total funding statewide is \$240,000.

JFS will use a portion of the funding

to hire a part-time social worker to assist with outreach to Holocaust survivors in Buffalo and Erie County. JFS will also use the funding to assist survivors with purchasing medical equipment and devices, air conditioners, and home improvements for disability access. Funding for this program will be administered through the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, Office for the Aging, the New York State Education Department, and the City University of New York.

HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS' OFFSPRING: The Next Generations Continuing the Research and Education of the Holocaust's Effects.

- Were your parent or parents survivors of the Holocaust?
- Were you born between 1945 and 1965?

If you answered YES to these questions, and are interested to participate in a study about the experiences of children of Holocaust survivors you can contribute to the understanding of the long-term effects of the Holocaust to the subsequent generations.

The purpose of this study is to explore the experiences of growing up in the United States with Holocaust survivor parent(s). Participants will engage in a one-time 1-2 hour interview in a location of their choice.

This study is being conducted By Nurit Fischer-Shemer, a PhD candidate, School of Social Work, UB.

For more information email nf24@buffalo.edu or leave a message at 716.380.1473

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JCC Hours

Thanksgiving Hours

Thursday, November 23
Fitness Open 8:00am-3:00pm Aquatics until 2:30pm
Business Offices, Kids Place, Early Childhood closed

Friday, November 24
Kids Place, Early Childhood closed

Regular Hours

Sun 8:00am - 6:00pm
Mon-Thurs 5:30am - 9:30pm
Friday 5:30am - 7:00pm
Sat 8:00am - 6:00pm



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ART EXHIBIT BY GEORGE GRACE AND NANCY CLARKE MARIANI AT THE BUNIS FAMILY ART GALLERY, NOVEMBER 4 – DECEMBER 29

An exhibit of original paintings by George Grace and Nancy Mariani will be on display at the Bunis Family Art Gallery, JCC of Greater Buffalo, Benderson Building, November 4 – December 29. The two local WNY artists, and the co-owners of the former Meridan West Art Gallery on Hertel Avenue in Buffalo, are combining their talents and sharing exhibit space, on display at the Bunis Family Art Gallery, JCC of Greater Buffalo.

George Grace is a former four-time President of the Buffalo Society of Artists. He has exhibited in many regional and national exhibitions, written articles for Pastel Journal and Art Calendar, and juried and curated numerous festivals and exhibitions, including Allentown, East Aurora, Lancaster, Evans, and Williamsville. His other endeavors in the arts include three books of published

poetry (two more in the process); playwriting (six plays written; five staged) and several published short stories. In 1984 he started what is now the second-longest-running reading program in WNY, the Circleformance Literature/Music series. He is currently writing the history of the Buffalo Society of Artists, now in its 126th year.

Mr. Grace practices neorealism in his art. Drawing from the major influences of the “Civilized Landscapes” of George Inness, and tracing an aesthetic lineage through Hopper and early Burchfield, Grace, in 1996, coined the term “technoluminism,” or light of technology, to describe much of his work. He believes that the blend of the fixed and exacting light of technology (incandescent; fluorescent; mercury/sodium vapor; neon), intermingled with the evanescent light of the sun and moon, plus the precise lines of human construct against a flowing or amorphous background of natural shapes, carries the potential to not only create great compositional drama, but also mark the time in which the art was conceived.

Nancy Clarke Mariani is a Lancaster, New York, High School Art Teacher and the K-12 Art Department Chairperson for the Lancaster School District. She is a Signature member of the Pastel Society of America and has participated in several international & national Pastel Exhibitions. Mariani mainly works in Soft Pastel, her niche is everyday working people as her subjects and her work is primarily photo-realism. She



will be exhibiting a variety of figurative, landscapes and still-life work in this show, along with a few oil paintings.

An exhibiting member of the Fine Arts League of Buffalo and an exhibiting member of the Buffalo Society of Artists, Mariani also holds the office of Educational Chairperson on the BSA board and is a proud member on the board of the Lancaster Opera House, in Lancaster, New York.

An artist's reception will take place on Saturday, November 18, 2-4 pm in the Lippman Lounge (2nd floor), next to the Art Gallery. Gallery admission is free and the gallery is open during JCC business hours, 7 days a week. For more information, visit jccbuffalo.org.



Art Donations Being Sought!

Jewish Family Service and Jewish Repertory Theatre are presenting an exhibit of donated art from Western New York families. If you have a piece of art and a family story to accompany it, please consider donating to this exhibit.

All proceeds from sales will benefit JFS and JRT. All artwork not sold will be donated to new immigrant families who have relocated to the Buffalo area. All donors will receive a tax deductible receipt.

For more information, contact Jordana Halpern at jhalpern@jccbuffalo.org or at 716-204-2255.



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Chart a New Year Working-Life Course with JFS Career Counseling

By Jessica Thorpe

With the Jewish New Year under way – and December 31 not far behind -- now is an ideal time for Jewish Family Service (JFS) Career Services to help chart a progressive working-life course for the months ahead. Parents of a high school student undecided about choosing a college major or vocational path, who has decided not to pursue a college education, or decided not continue in college, will find support through affordable JFS Career Services.

People who are under-employed, unemployed or laid off, who are struggling with challenges in their current work environment, or are returning to the workforce after a long absence also may benefit from JFS vocational counseling. “Our caring and committed Career Services staff has been working hard to help people in ways that are personal, innovative and evidence-based. We have

always taken pride in the quality of our evaluations, and recently upgraded our career assessment program with new state-of-the-art applications,” JFS Career Services Manager Lisa August says.

Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County has provided individualized and accessible career counseling to people of all ages, backgrounds and experience



levels for more than 50 years. “Our counselors have expertise in evaluating qualifications and transferrable skills, and in assessing individual abilities, interests and other factors that are critical in defining personal marketability and a viable career path. We are skilled in helping people make major, productive life changes,” JFS President and CEO Marlene Schillinger explains.

This year, the JFS Career Services staff identified vocational programming and established collaborations to better serve those with special needs, including Buffalo’s deaf refugee community. The component also assists the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies with administration of its Academic Scholarship Program, managing the application process and interviewing each candidate on behalf of the committee. “It is so exciting for our staff to meet each candidate and hear about their hopes, aspirations, successes and challenges. As we finish this process annually, we are continually impressed

by the volunteers and the donors we meet, and most specifically by the student applicants. Each shows active engagement and pride in their Jewish heritage, and expresses a commitment to give back to our community, which never fails to remind us all that despite some difficult circumstance in these times, there is great hope for our future,” says August.

JFS has expertise in working with people from diverse backgrounds and all levels of experience, from the high school student to the corporate executive, Marlene adds: “We are working to launch initiatives early next year that improve career advancement for underserved populations.”

Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County is a nonsectarian, not for profit, community-based health and social service provider that has served its community since 1862 and believes that everyone should have access to a lifeline of new hope and compassionate care when they need it. Every staff member maintains the highest level of professionalism in the delivery of services that include, in addition to Career Services, Mental/ Behavioral Health Treatment, Care Management/ Health Home Services, Jewish Community Support and Immigrant and Refugee Services.

JFS accepts most health insurance and offers affordable sliding scale fees for individuals without insurance. Our services are available to all residents in the JFS service area regardless of age, sex, race or religious affiliation. For more information call 716.883.1914, email generalinfo@jfsbuffalo.org or visit us online at www.jfsbuffalo.org.

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HILLEL OF BUFFALO & “WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH TO ME”

By Nicole Bard UB'17

“What it means to be Jewish to me” is a concept that has been explored recently in Hillel of Buffalo. As we brought in the Jewish New Year, it was a delight to hear from a few different Jewish voices on campus. Dr. Philip Glick, Professor of Surgery and Management at the University at Buffalo, spoke on Erev Rosh Hashanah about a time in his life when he was truly tested. Dr. Glick was the first speaker of a new annual sermon in memory of the late Hillel Director Rabbi Shay Mintz. The dilemma centered around the question of whether or not he would perform his newborn son's circumcision?

8 days after his son was born, Dr. Glick made his decision and prepared for the brit milah. In the moment, he said to himself, “This is a test. You have a great opportunity here to fulfil the lord's covenant; get it right!” All in all, it went well, and then, 30 years later, Dr. Glick was given the privilege of performing his grandson's circumcision as well, allowing him to relish another beautiful Jewish experience.

On Yom Kippur, we heard a few students speak about what being Jewish means to each of them. Rebecca Loring, a first-year dental student at UB, spoke about her Jewish Journey – venturing from a Hebrew School dropout to becoming an active member in Hillel during her undergraduate career at Binghamton University, so that by graduation, she realized Judaism was something that she wanted to keep close to her. Fast forward to this past June, Loring went on Birthright to Israel and by chance, met students from UB on her flight back from Israel, allowing for a first introduction to Jewish life in Buffalo.

Up next was David Vollweiler, a freshman at UB. “Being Jewish to me means that one should be an involved member of the community and work to foster that sense of community,” Vollweiler explained. His Jewish experiences include, but are not limited to Hebrew school, becoming a Bar Mitzvah, and joining his temple's Youth Group. Vollweiler



Above (top): UB Students and Rabbi Rich at the Kick-Off Event. (below): Putting up a Sukkah with Yad B'Yad.

is continuing his Jewish Journey, exploring what it means to be Jewish, as a college student by participating in Hillel of Buffalo's Jewish Learning Fellowship. Looking forward, he is excited to learn and grow during his college years in the Buffalo Jewish community.

What being Jewish means to you might differ from the next person you ask. In Hillel of Buffalo, we celebrate all of the different ways to be Jewish. Some choose to celebrate at the High Holiday services and meals. At the Buffalo Jewish Federation Annual Kick-Off Event, Abby Fain, Daniel Levy, and Yossi Levy, three UB Sophomores, saw how throughout Jewish Buffalo, there are many people with many different ways of being Jewish, but all come together and create a welcoming community. Some Hillel students chose to partner with Yad B'Yad to build sukkahs in honor of the festival of Sukkot this year, as well.

At Hillel of Buffalo, we celebrate community and togetherness, but we also celebrate individuality and every piece of our mind, body and spirit that makes an individual unique. Now it's your turn to answer the question - “What does being Jewish mean to you?”

Nicole Bard is the Buffalo Jewish Federation Engagement Intern.



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MY VISIT TO MOLDOVA

by Vilona Trachtenberg

Ahava (love), *ruach* (enthusiasm), and *simcha* (joy). Those are the emotions I experienced in the Chabad House on my recent trip to Moldova, as well as the beautiful feeling of belonging that any religious place should exude.

My parents were born and raised in Moldova, a small Eastern European country nestled between Ukraine and Romania, and they left their marks there. My father immigrated to America in 1980. My mother left in 1979 to go to Israel, and then later made her way to America in 1988. Though they left years ago, my father still had many ties to Moldova, and has visited a few times since 2008. And because my father has been back to visit many times, I decided this was the year I would go, too. I felt that I needed to experience the place that shaped my parents as people, and thereby shaped me, as well.

Walking through the streets of Moldova, it was easy to see my father's enthusiasm about his homeland and the reasons for it. The buildings are beautiful, many made of marble with eye-catching details, especially the train station. The greenery is abundant, and there is plenty to look at. I was surprised to learn that Moldova is a large wine exporter with award-winning products. The theatres are beautiful, and we were lucky enough to see a concert in one of them.

My father worked in construction while he lived in Moldova, and showed me the various buildings he had a part in building, as well as the restaurants in which he celebrated his birthday, the amphitheaters where he watched concerts, and the parks where he would celebrate life with his friends, who we still keep in touch with today. In fact,



Vilona representing Buffalo In front of the Parliament Building in Chisinau, Moldova

he showed me the houses where they used to live, as well as the apartment my dad and grandparents lived in right before they came to America. The apartment still has the green roof that my father put on the building nearly 40 years ago.

Throughout my days in Moldova, I put on my "observation goggles" and realized that Moldova does have similarities to America, and more western influences are sneaking in. The few McDonald's locations are always busy, and there are also some pizza shops. Some of the clothing worn is adorned with baseball and football logos; it's common to see people wearing Nike, UFC, Miami Dolphins and New York Jets hats. I observed a family-friendly atmosphere, with playgrounds and swing sets readily available for children to enjoy. Moldovans love their coffee too, with pop-up shops and cafes next to each other.

There are also differences. Looking throughout the country, the way in which people live in the little Republic of Moldova is also vastly different from how people live in America. While grocery shopping, I was surprised to see an entire wall full of lockers upon entering a supermarkets, learning later that in order to shop in a grocery, patrons needed to lock up their belongings, as a precaution against having them stolen. English is virtually non-existent in Moldova. Christian portraits and statues proudly sit on every other street corner. Goods and services are much cheaper too. If people need a bus ride, 12 cents gets them a seat on the bus, and they can ride it all day if they want to.

Despite the similarities and differences between Moldova and America, the one thing which transcended boundaries and was experienced in the same beautiful and spirited manner for me was my experience with Judaism. When I realized my father, cousin, and I were going to Moldova, I learned that it would occur during Rosh Hashanah, and I knew we had to do something extra special. In the weeks leading up to the trip, I talked to Rabbi Moshe and Rebbetzin Rivka Gurary of Buffalo Chabad about it, and they suggested I celebrate the New Year at Chabad House in Moldova. They gave me the address, and I decided staunchly that I wanted to go—no, needed to go.

From the moment I stepped into the Moldova Chabad House to celebrate Rosh Hashanah, I was welcomed warmly, and soon, the forty strangers

surrounding me didn't seem like strangers anymore. There was a diverse group of people at Chabad – religious and more liberal people flooded the two floors of the synagogue. The Rebbetzin in charge of the Moldova Chabad, along with her daughter, treated me like they had known me for years.

As soon as the service started, I realized my siddur was in Hebrew and Russian. Although I had practiced my broken Russian before my trip to Moldova, it was taking me too long to try and read the Russian translation, as well as translate it in my head to English during the service. The Rebbetzin could sense my frustration and disappeared for a little while. She came back with a siddur that contained Hebrew and English, which she went to look for just for me, so I could partake in the service.

For me, that moment truly symbolizes Judaism – no matter how difficult a situation might seem and how different we are from each other, everyone gets to partake, and everyone helps each other partake. Everyone takes away certain feelings and events from Judaism, and we all help each other become more spiritual. I am grateful for my experiences in Moldova. Not only did I connect with my family roots and see what forces shaped my life, but I was able to see the Jewish influences in my life as well, and because of that, my spirituality has been strengthened.

Vilona Trachtenberg is a fulfillment planner at Rich Products in Buffalo. She was profiled in the August 2017 issues of The Jewish Journal.

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