

The Award Winning

» NEW YEAR BEGINS
EVENING OF SEPT. 20

THE JEWISH JOURNAL

A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

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SEPTEMBER 2017 | SHANA TOVA 5778



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5778 Holds Much Promise!

By Steven J. Weiss

Our *Jewish Journal* evidences all that Buffalo Jewish Federation has to offer, and yet despite a wide variety of activity, we are singular in our purpose - to create a vibrant and caring Jewish community. Our Federation is no longer just a fundraising organization, although clearly our ability to provide quality programming and engagement opportunities, collaborate with our agencies and synagogues and help those in need couldn't happen without the support of our generous donors and the funds we raise. Our collective efforts strengthen our local Jewish community and will ensure that we remain healthy and pluralistic for years to come.



Steven J. Weiss

The Jewish year 5778 holds much promise for us. We will continue to raise and efficiently

deploy our financial resources and be a source of opportunities for Jewish engagement and be supportive of our People wherever we reside in the world. Much of our work is organized through a variety of committees and task forces, populated with diverse groups of volunteers, accessing various skills, and representing every sector of our community. You are welcome to join us. If you'd like to get involved, please contact Rob Goldberg or me.

Moses reminds us that our wanderings in the wilderness had a purpose: to teach humility – to instill compassion in our hearts – to know and appreciate what we have, and to remember that the greatest gift is the one that we give, not the one that we receive.

I hope the year ahead will

be another year marked by cooperation and collaboration among and between members of our Jewish community and those in the wider Buffalo community, so that together we can make Western New York and the world a better place. I invite you to renew your commitment to Federation's work in the New Year! As you begin your ten-day High Holy Day period of contemplation, I hope you will give thought to how you can help Federation build a strong and vibrant Jewish community, in Buffalo, Israel and around the world.

Wishing each of you and your family a healthy, peaceful and joyous New Year.

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

SHANA TOVA

We want to take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a sweet New Year—one filled with peace, joy and happiness

Steven J. Weiss, Board President

Rob Goldberg, CEO/ Executive Director

And the entire board and staff of the Federation.

BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION



September 2017

Editor's Note



Ellen Goldstein, Editor

Toward the end of August, we began the Hebrew month of *Elul*, a time of reflection about our lives, about our souls, about ourselves, and about our community as we near the High Holy Days, which begin the next month of *Tishri*. This *Elul*, I am thinking about Jewish unity, Buffalo community unity, speaking out and fighting against hate.

You will note on our cover this month the beautiful faces of Buffalo children who experienced Jewish summer camp covering the spectrum of Jewish practice. We can see children from Camp Gan Israel (Orthodox), Camp George (Reform), Camp Ramah (Conservative), Camp Seneca Lake and Camp Centerland (non-denominational), and a few other camps. Each beautiful child is part of our Buffalo community, no matter what stream of Judaism—or none—they represent. And as a community, we cherish each one.

In the days since the march in Charlottesville, reaction to the overt racism and anti-Semitism has been loud and clear around the country and in our own community. You can see from a few photos taken at an interfaith rally held at the Durham AME Church in downtown Buffalo (page 50) on August 16 in which our Jewish community was well represented, both on the podium and in the crowd. The next day, August 17, Congregation Shir Shalom held an intimate gathering to talk about the Charlottesville rally. Holocaust Survivor and Holocaust Resource Center representative Sofia Veffer spoke at Shir Shalom. Of all the video footage and speakers I saw on television and on Facebook and Twitter, Sofia's words were the most chilling. She said she has seen this before, as a child, when she was hiding from the Nazis in Europe. She was able to flee Europe to be safe in the United States. Now this is happening here. What can we do about anti-Semitism and racism in the United States? What will we, as a local community and as the Jewish People, do about anti-Semitism and racism? Do you want to be part of our answer to Never Again? At Buffalo Jewish Federation, our Community Relations efforts have been ramping up, and at many local synagogues, interfaith outreach is happening all the time. We will be featuring more in the October issue of *The Jewish Journal*. Feel free to call the Federation office if you want to talk.

Ellen Goldstein - Editor

Please accept warm wishes from Mitch and me for a sweet, reflective and meaningful New Year. Shana Tova!

On The Cover



Buffalo campers representing Camp Centerland, Camp Seneca Lake, Camp Ramah, Camp George, Camp Gan Israel, Camp Perlman and Camp JRF joined together at the JCC/ Benderson Family building's playground to enjoy the end of summer. Photo Credit: k.c.kratt.

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Abigail Pogrebin to Keynote Kick-Off 9/25

Acclaimed author Abigail Pogrebin will join the Buffalo Jewish Community at its Campaign for Jewish Buffalo Kick-Off Event Monday, September 25, beginning at 5:30 pm at the Buffalo Hyatt Hotel. Abigail Pogrebin is the author of the recently published book, *My Jewish Year: 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew*, (March 2017), *Stars of David: Prominent Jews Talk about Being Jewish* and *One and the Same: My Life as an Identical Twin and What I've Learned about Everyone's Struggle to be Singular*. A former producer for Mike Wallace at 60 Minutes and for Charlie Rose at PBS, she has written for numerous publications including *Newsweek*, *New York Magazine*, *The Daily Beast*, the *Forward* and *Tablet*, and has moderated conversations at the JCC in Manhattan, The 92Y, The Skirball Center, and The Shalom Hartman Institute. She currently serves as President of Central Synagogue in Manhattan.

The event is \$80 per person before September 8 and \$95 after September 8. Call 716-204-2241 to make your reservation or go to www.jfedbflo.com.



Abigail Pogrebin Photo :by Larin Klaris

This Year at the Kick-Off Event

For the second year, our cocktail hour and dinner will be together, with heavy hors d'oeuvres and food and drink stations on the ballroom floor (up the escalator) only. We are happy to make arrangements for you to be seated during the cocktail hour. Following the cocktail hour, everyone will be seated for dessert and the evening's program in the ballroom.

Please let us know if you want to be seated for cocktails/dinner when you return your dinner RSVP with payment by mail, or call Buffalo Jewish Federation at 716-204-2241.

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BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION

Wisbaums to Receive Benderson Award at Federation Kick-Off Event

Janet and Wayne Wisbaum, passionate and committed lay leaders in Buffalo's Jewish Community for more than 40 years, will receive the prestigious Nathan Benderson Community Service Award at the Buffalo Jewish Federation's Campaign for Jewish Buffalo 2018 Kick-Off Community Event Monday, September 25th at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. In announcing that the Wisbaums are this year's honorees, Buffalo Jewish Federation President Steven J. Weiss said that the award's presentation is very well deserved. The Nathan Benderson Community Leadership Award is given to "the person or persons whose extraordinary service and commitment to the Buffalo Jewish community exemplifies the leadership of Nathan Benderson."

Both Janet and Wayne have been involved and absorbed in many, many Jewish and general Buffalo community civic projects. When Janet and Wayne were honored by The State of Israel Bonds in 2001, they were described this way: "Without the work to which Wayne D. and Janet K. Wisbaum have dedicated their lives, Buffalo and Western New York would be a far poorer place to live. Through their advocacy and generous support of Jewish organizations, Israel, the arts, and philanthropic endeavors, the Wisbaums in a myriad of ways have helped to enrich their community."

Together, they received the Community Relations Award from the Buffalo Chapter of the AJC as well as the honor from Israel Bonds. They also together co-chaired one of the Federation's Campaign Kick-Off Dinner, and were honored by the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies in 2008 with its Legacies Award. Through funds they have established at the Foundation

for Jewish Philanthropies, the Wisbaums have channeled financial support to religious, educational, cultural and humanitarian causes locally, nationally and internationally.

Throughout their lives, they each have taken on leadership roles on the boards of numerous charities and continue to serve as role models for their active engagement in civic and communal affairs. Janet is a past chair of the Federation's Women's UJF Campaign and Federation's Community Relations Committee. She served on the Federation's board of Governors for many years. She also served on the boards of Jewish Family Service, AIDS Community Services, Family Planning Advocates of New York State, Buffalo Planned Parenthood, of which she was president as well as a national board member. Currently, she sits on the board of Planned Parenthood of Western & Central New York, the Women's TAP Fund, and Weinberg Campus. Janet is a



Janet and Wayne Wisbaum

recipient of the Award in Volunteer Service for the NFJC, The Women's Health Award from Planned Parenthood of Buffalo & Erie County, and the Jewish Welfare Board's (predecessor of the JCC Assn.) New Leadership Award. She will be honored October 4th by Planned Parenthood with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

Past Federation president Howard Rosenhoch recently profiled Wayne Wisbaum for the February 2017 "Difference Makers" issue of *The Jewish Journal*. Here is part of his story about Wayne:

"Wayne Wisbaum is a Harvard-educated lawyer who has practiced his profession in Buffalo for more than 55 years as a partner at Kavinoky Cook. Wayne's legal career has formed the platform for his years of community service. Emblematic of Wayne's selfless contributions, in 2003 the New York State Bar Association presented him with the coveted Root Stimson Award, recognizing his outstanding commitment to community and volunteer service and to the improvement of the justice system.

He was President of the Buffalo Council on World Affairs only 8 years after starting his private law practice. The number and breadth of community organizations that have benefited from Wayne's leadership-- as chair, officer and/or board member -- have been legion, including American Jewish Committee -- Buffalo Chapter, Jewish Family Service, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Artpark, Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, Burchfield Penney Art Center, Zoological Society of Buffalo, Buffalo State College Foundation, Temple Beth Zion, United Way and Catholic Charities Fund Drives, Buffalo and Erie County Public Libraries, Irish Classical Theatre Company, Buffalo Jewish Federation and Daemen College.

The many honors and awards conferred on Wayne in recognition of his community service stand as a testament

to his contributions. In addition to the Root Stimson Award, they include the Young Leadership Award of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Buffalo, the Abram Pugash Award from Jewish Family Service, the *Buffalo News* Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award, the Buffalo History Museum's Red Jacket Award, the Friends of Wildlife Award from the Buffalo Zoo, the National Endowment Achievement Award from the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies and, just this past year, the Inaugural Grosvenor Award from the Buffalo and Erie County Public Libraries. Among the many honors Wayne has received, two touched his heart most of all - the Community Relations Award of the American Jewish Committee and the Outstanding Community Leader Citation from the State of Israel Bonds. That's because Wayne shared those awards with Janet, the woman with whom he fell in love at first sight, his partner in life, and his wife of 57 years.

When Wayne served as president of the BPO in the early to mid-1980's, and then chaired Kleinhans Music Hall Management and its \$12 million restoration campaign throughout the 1990's, both the Orchestra and its home faced financial crises which Wayne managed and overcame. In the late 1980's, Wayne undertook to chair the Soviet Jewry Resettlement Committee, a joint committee of Jewish Family Service and the Buffalo Jewish Federation. Wayne and Janet led a 200 person Buffalo delegation, joining over 200,000 who marched on Washington in support of freedom of emigration for Soviet Jews."

Past recipients of the Nathan Benderson Award include: Nathan Benderson, Ann H. Cohn, Harold S. & Fanette Goldman, Gordon R. Gross, Irving M. & Marilyn C. Shuman, Ruth Kahn Stovroff, Haskell Stovroff, James Stovroff, Milton & Amy Zeckhauser, Rose H. & Leonard H. Frank, Donald S. Day, Shirley T. Joseph, Larry & Sharon Levite, Janet Desmon, Richard Zakalik, Jane Cole Godin, Harold M. Halpern, Dr. Howard Benatovich, Dr. Sol Messinger, Michael Joseph, Jordan Levy and Howard Zemsky, Sylvia Rosen, Stanford Lipsey, Marsha & Larry Dautch, and Gretchen Gross.

To attend the event on September 25, call the Buffalo Jewish Federation at 204-2241.



Best wishes for a
happy and
healthy New Year!

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Altmans, Weinbergs to Co-Chair 2018 Community Kick-Off Event 9/25

The Buffalo Jewish Community's annual Campaign for Jewish Buffalo Kick-Off Event will be co-chaired this year by Jessica & Frank Altman and Julie & Michael Weinberg. The event will take place Monday, September 25th at 5:30pm at the Buffalo Hyatt Regency Hotel and opens the 2018 Annual Campaign for Jewish Buffalo.



Jessica & Frank Altman

Jessica Meyers Altman is a science teacher by trade, a food blogger, food educator and Marketing Director for Altman Dental. She writes and photographs images for her food blog, which is devoted to healthy, in-season foods with a primarily plant based focus. As a volunteer, she has been a board member of Temple Beth Zion (TBZ), TBZ Mitzvah Day Coordinator and project captain. She served on the Jewish Federation's Women's Philanthropy board, and was Women's Special Projects chair, on the JCC's Israel Independence Day Celebration committee, the Clarence School District Going Green Building Representative, and is a Clarence Healthy Schools committee member.

Dr. Frank Altman, of Altman Dental has also been a TBZ Mitzvah Day Project Captain. He served on the Federation's Campaign Cabinet, and on the Board of the Bureau for Jewish Education. The Altmans also participated in the 2012 Young Leadership Mission to Israel.



Julie & Michael Weinberg

Julie Weinberg is a clinical social worker in private practice. She is past chair of the Buffalo Jewish Federation's Women's Philanthropy. She was a participant in the Federation's Community Leaders program, is a Federation board member, and has served on the Federation's Planning and Allocations committee. She is a member of the Board of Y'ad b'Y'ad, has been on the Temple Beth Zion board and serves as an officer there. She has co-chaired the Temple Beth Zion Kol Nidre Campaign with her husband. She has also served as on the boards of the Jewish Community Center and the Bureau of Jewish Education.

Dr. Michael Weinberg is an anesthesiologist and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center and Roswell Park Cancer Institute. The Weinbergs also participated in the 2012 Young Leadership Mission to Israel, and he serves on the board of the Holocaust Resource Center. He has also been a longtime Super Sunday volunteer.

The cost of the dinner is \$80 per person before September 8, and \$95 after.

A minimum gift of \$100 per person to the 2018 Annual Campaign is requested to attend. All the food served is under the supervision of the BVK.

You may make a reservation at www.jfedbflo.com or call 716-204-2250.

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Prof. Alex Green Interviews Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, former Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the British Commonwealth, was at the Chautauqua Institution this past July to give a morning lecture during a week which explores “a crisis of faith.” The Institution reached out to the Buffalo Jewish Federation for an interview with Rabbi Sacks. Dr. Alex Green of the UB Department of Jewish Thought conducted the interview with the man who was acquainted with his parents. Karen Green assisted with the interview.

An international religious leader, philosopher, award-winning author and respected moral voice, Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks served as Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the (British) Commonwealth for 22 years, from 1991 to 2013. Since 2013, he has held a number of professorships at several academic institutions, including Yeshiva University and Kings College London. He currently serves as a Distinguished Professor at New York University. Sacks is the author of more than 30 books, including his most recent, *Not in God's Name*, which was awarded a 2015 National Jewish Book Award. Sacks is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Jerusalem Prize in 1995 for his contribution to diaspora Jewish life. He was knighted by Her Majesty The Queen in 2005, and made a Life Peer, taking his seat in the House of Lords in 2009.

AG: In your newly acclaimed book, *Not in God's Name*, you suggest that the justifications of violence from religious texts are a misreading and abuse of our holy scriptures. You argue that “the use of religion for political ends is not righteousness, but idolatry.” In America, Israel and around

the world, we have seen religion used for purposes of exclusion and often violence. How can Judaism, Christianity and Islam be a force for good in a liberal and diverse society, or does openness and tolerance require banishing religion from the public sphere?

JS: My view is that all three faiths have both hard texts and histories of violence with peoples of other faiths, often histories of violence towards members of their own faith whether dissident or schismatic. Faiths are learning organizations and they do this through successive interpretations of their own texts. I have tried to show in the book how they did so, how Judaism rewrote its texts after the catastrophe of the first century and Christianity did so in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries after the catastrophe of the wars of religion. Clearly Islam will have to do so in the twenty first century. The thing that really makes religions wake up to the danger and harm to their own faith is when there is conflict within the faith itself. When you are killing your enemies, you can say this is God's work. But when you are killing your



Professor Alex Green

own, it becomes much harder. I think that is the basic and major challenge facing all the faiths in the twenty-first century. Most people at most times have been surrounded by people who are like them. Today we are in a world of inescapable interconnectedness with people who are very unlike us and it seems to me that is God's challenge to us in the twenty-first century. If Jews, Christians and Muslims can put their historic animosities behind them, it can be seen in the full retrospect of history to answer the challenge of today.

AG: You have been Chief Rabbi of the United Kingdom from 1991-2013 and have recently been teaching at New York University as the Ingeborg and Ira Rennert Global Distinguished Professor of Judaic Thought. Having spent more time in America recently after having finished your tenure as Chief Rabbi, what do you like about America and American Jewish life?

JS: American Jewish life has two things that are really remarkable. First, it has critical mass. It can do things on a scale that we can't do anywhere else in the diaspora. There is nothing quite like AIPAC, there is nothing quite like the General Assembly, there is nothing like the number of Jewish students at universities like NYU, University of Pennsylvania or SUNY. You go to one university in the States and there are more Jewish students than all the universities in the UK! That critical mass makes a huge difference. Second, it's very decentralized, which creates creativeness. Sometimes it looks a little chaotic to a guy from Britain, but it's creative chaos. I thought chaos theory was a description of the Jewish people!



Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

AG: You have been involved in communal leadership for the last 30 years. What advice do you have for those considering taking on positions of leadership? How can Jews and Judaism uniquely contribute to diverse communities like Buffalo?

JS: It's hard to be Jewish, so if you can do that, you can handle any challenge life throws at you. We say “the Lord is my Shepherd” but no Jew is ever a sheep! It's difficult. It's really challenging. It's thrilling. We are great at leadership. We are terrible at followership. And that makes it very challenging. You are tested in the Jewish community. That is enormous source of strength if you can come through it. Of course, in order to come through it you need: one, a very supportive family. Two, you've got to have wise friends who will say to you the most important word in any language, “no.” You need to have people who will stop you from making the big mistakes. And then the people who believe in you who will take you through the difficult moments. I was always blessed to have two or three people who always believed in me more than I believed in myself. That helped me through the difficult time. There will be difficult times, whoever you are, whatever your leadership position. Also, a good sense of humor. Make sure you stay faithful to your ideals. Make sure you have good friends.

AG: In Buffalo, we have a program called Nickel City Jews, which is a community platform for bringing together the people and events that make up Jewish Life in Buffalo for young adults in their 20s, 30s and early 40s. Nickel City Jews' mission is to create ongoing and varied programs that facilitate engagement of Jewish young adults

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with each other and with Jewish experiences. It has been very successful! What advice do you have engaging Millennials to be proud of their Jewish identity?

JS: Wow, big question! I think the twenty-first century is going to throw Millennials a lot of challenges. I don't mean specifically Jewish millennials or specifically Jewish challenges. I think we are heading to a period of great instability in every level of life. Jews are the world's experts in surviving instability and doing so while thriving personally and collectively and experiencing joy while so doing. Jews have this written into their DNA. I would make the whole world Jewish. It's the best thing for the universe. Look at what this lady from Silicon Valley said to me. Rabbi Sacks: the smartphones and tablets are doing terrible things for our kids. They are degrading their social skills, their attention spans, their ability to make eye contact. When we have family meals, they have their phone under the table and they are texting their friends. It was bad for them and bad for the family. You'll love what we decided to do: we decided to take one day a week and make it a screen-free day, no smartphones, no tablets. We've called it Shabbat. That is one more instance of when I tell non-Jews what Jews do to keep their values intact in an age of turbulent change, the non-Jews love it. One of the most powerful devices is Shabbat itself. It's terrific for family, community and for giving gratitude.

AG: Over the last few years, we have seen the resurgence of anti-Semitism. You spoke powerfully on this topic at the The Future of the Jewish Communities in Europe Conference at The European Parliament on September 27, 2016 in Brussels. What is anti-Semitism and where does it come from? How do we explain its persistence and mutation? What advice do you have to combat anti-Semitism?

JS: Anti-Semitism is a phenomenon of cognitive dissonance, when the way the world is, is just not the way you expected it to be. This happens when people feel left behind by the pace of events, the way Germany did after the first world war with the Treaty of Versailles and then hyperinflation. The mass of people feel that history has been unfair to them and the history that is not the way it ought to be. As I explain in my YouTube video "The Mutation of Anti-Semitism," there are two questions any culture can ask: either "what did we do wrong?" or

"who did this to us?" Whenever a culture asks the second question "who did this to us?" it looks for someone to blame. Usually Jews were the most convenient people to blame because a) they were around, b) there were enough of them to be a threat and they weren't going to retaliate if you blame them and c) there has been a pretty long tradition written into Christian and Muslim texts from the beginning. That's what anti-Semitism is. What you do about it, certainly in Europe. The first thing you need to do is to stop defining it as a Jewish problem. I always say is that the hate that begins with Jews never ends with Jews. The only way to defeat anti-Semitism is to get the public to realize that it's aimed at all of us. Britain was the first country, where we insisted on principle, that the fight against anti-Semitism is led by non-Jews. This was extremely well lead by the four prime ministers that I had the privilege of working with: John Major, Gordon Brown, Tony Blair and David Cameron.

AG: The recent decision in the Knesset to cancel the agreed upon compromise to negotiate and rebuild the egalitarian section of the Western Wall at Robinson's Arch has caused tension between Israeli and Diaspora Jewish leaders. What do you see as the proper role for the Kotel? How can Israelis and Diaspora Jews learn from each other?

JS: I sat with Natan Sharansky about four years ago and we solved the problem in two minutes. The problem is not the solution. The solution has been there for years. The problem is nobody wants the solution, they want the argument! You know Jews love arguing. If we keep talking to one another, we'll get closer to one another. There is a place in the Kotel for everyone. The solution was there from day one. There is a solution that is good for everyone. But first we need to make space in our hearts in a way that draws people together and not drives them apart.

Alexander Green is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Jewish Thought at the State University at Buffalo, and is director of Undergraduate Studies for the Department. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Toronto in the Department for the Study of Religion and his MA in Jewish Thought at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His research focuses on medieval Jewish philosophy, ethics, and the history of biblical interpretation. His first book is The Virtue Ethics of Levi Gersonides.



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- 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**

High Holy Days @ Hillel

The Hillel of Buffalo is honored that Dr. Philip Glick MD, MBA, will deliver the inaugural Rabbi Shay Mintz D'var Torah at Rosh HaShanah Eve services on Wednesday, September 20th at 6:30 pm in the Student Union, Room 145. This annual sermon, to be delivered by a leader of the UB faculty or administration, will be an opportunity to honor the intellectual and spiritual legacy of Hillel's beloved former Director, who passed away in June. Rabbi Mintz directed Hillel from 1986-2000 and served as an educator in Buffalo for over 40 years.

Dr. Glick is a Professor of Surgery, Pediatrics and Management at the University at Buffalo and is the Presiding Officer of the UB Faculty Senate. He also serves on the board of Temple Beth Zion and is involved in Israel advocacy. We invite anyone who was touched by Rabbi Mintz's wisdom to join us to hear Dr. Glick's words.

For more information about the High Holy Days on on campus, please contact Rabbi Sara Rich: rabbisara@hillelofbuffalo.org.



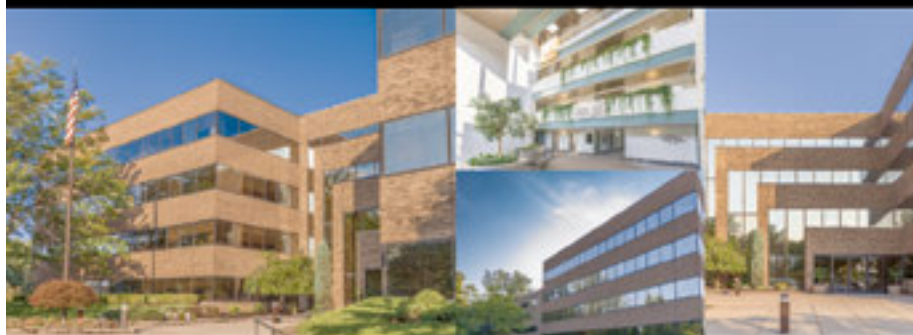
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An Exciting New Partnership Begins This Month



Temple Beth Zion and Kadimah Academy are thrilled to announce the collaboration between the Play And Learn School (PALS) with the Kadimah Ganon program.

This partnership seeks to create a community pre-school for families looking for access to flexible, full time childcare with a values-based curriculum exceeding the educational standards to meet today's kindergarten readiness expectations.

"Our PALS-Kadimah collaboration perks include new friends and families creating community together; teachers with Judaic studies, Hebrew, and music backgrounds; and the option to participate in additional age appropriate Jewish practices through song and prayer," Melissa Milch, Assistant Director of PALS said. "We are confident that our commonality of mission, objectives, teacher standards, values and communal programming will build a strong PALS-Kadimah partnership. We are so excited about this opportunity and look forward to an exciting year in our community," she concluded.



with music, art, dramatic play, and physical movement, following NAEYC standards for excellence in early childhood education," said Kadimah Academy Head of School Einav Symons. "A love of Jewish traditions conveyed through weekly Shabbat programs, holiday festivities, and by learning about Torah and Israel will be the foundation for all curricular planning. Hebrew will continue to be integrated throughout the classroom every day and will be enhanced



All children will benefit from individualized attention and low student-to-teacher ratio, nurturing PALS-Kadimah staff members who are qualified and experienced early childhood educators, fun and experiential learning which balances developmentally appropriate practice with kindergarten readiness, and age-appropriate Hebrew and Judaic curriculum.

"Our toddlers and preschoolers will continue to experience the building blocks of education through an integrated Hebrew and Judaic curriculum taught

through guidance of the primary classroom teachers," she said.

Classes will be held at the Temple Beth Zion's Aaron and Bertha Broder Center for Jewish Education in Amherst, less than 2 miles from Kadimah Academy. For further information and tuition schedule, contact Melissa at 716-836-6565 or Einav at 716-836-6903.



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A Father-Son Collaboration: Sull Family Brings *Buffalo Jewish Review* into The Digital Age

By Ezra N. Rich

Since its founding in 1918, the *Buffalo Jewish Review* has been covering Jewish life in Western New York. Over the decades, the weekly newspaper has reached generations of readers. For most of its history, the publication was owned by local Jewish families, notably the Jacobs family from 1921 to 1971, and the Weiss family from 1971 to 2015. Today, it is edited and published by the Sull family; Father Nathan Sull is the publisher with his son, Aaron Sull, who is editor-in-chief. Nathan's brother, Kenneth Sull, is a consultant for the publication.

The Sulls acquired the paper from Micaela Ben Abraham in October 2016. Ben Abraham purchased it from the Weiss family in 2015. While the outlet was always more about capturing Buffalo Jewish life than generating profits, its print-based business model was becoming unsustainable. "As one can imagine, the



Nathan Sull



Aaron Sull

cost of printing a paper for a small base of subscribers wasn't there," explains publisher Nathan Sull. "We could either die or continue. [Our] passion keeps it alive. My career as a Registered Nurse translates into being a publisher as it's about assessing lives and stories. I want to bring passion to this [publishing] business. This is the story of our Jewish community," he adds. In addition to donating the paper's back-issues to the local archives, the Sulls have chosen to reinvent the publication online for today's digital age.

The Sull family came to Buffalo in the 1950s. Nathan has many

warm memories growing up in North Buffalo, then home to many synagogues, kosher butchers, and Jewish establishments along Hertel Avenue. The family is eager to celebrate the community's past with an eye to documenting its current vibrancy, including its local synagogues, schools, and community organizations.

Led by Editor-In-Chief Aaron Sull, a Buffalo native who now resides with his wife and children in Israel, the *Buffalo Jewish Review* launched its website, buffjreview.com, in March 2017. The Sulls encourage the community to visit the website and sign up for its weekly emails.

"We're not losing a paper. We are becoming more timely, especially regarding events," says editor Aaron Sull. "It's a new adventure. There is so much potential to represent a one-stop shop for all of this." In particular, the Sulls are proud of how the publication's "Dearly Beloved" section provides more timely information regarding the passing, funeral, and shiva details of the recently deceased. It also features insights on the weekly parsha (Torah portion) from Buffalo rabbis from across the denominational spectrum.

The Sulls are now uploading previous issues to its online archive and reaching out to local organizations to help the *Buffalo Jewish Review's* readership. They are grateful to their board of directors, whose monetary support has made the digital migration possible, as well as those who are visiting the website and signing up for its emails.

Ezra N. Rich is a marketing communications professional.

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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.



ESSEN 'N FRESSEN

Chicken with Apples. Shana Tova!

By Robin Kurss

I'm always looking for a new chicken recipe...here's a sweet one for Rosh Hashanah.

Wishing you all a very Happy, Healthy and Delicious New Year!



Roast Chicken with Apples

- 1 chicken cut into 8 pieces
- 1 red onion, cubed into 1" pieces
- 2 carrots, peeled and cut into 1" pieces
- 1 turnip, peeled and cut into 1" pieces
- 3 granny smith apples, peeled, cored and cut into 8 chunks each
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1 T cinnamon
- 2 T honey
- 2 T balsamic vinegar
- 1 1/2 c white wine
- 1 1/2 c chicken broth
- Preheat oven to 375

Layer veggies on bottom of roasting pan and place chicken pieces on top. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and pour over wine and broth. Roast uncovered for 45 minutes.

Place apples, sprinkle cinnamon, drizzle the honey and balsamic over chicken, baste with pan juices and roast another 45 minutes, or until chicken is cooked through.

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Joys of Jewish Summer Camp

For many Jewish children, summer means Jewish summer camp, a wonderful and meaningful experience for children and teenagers. Research tells us that Jewish summer camp can help our children develop and/or reinforce their Jewish identities, customs and practice. Please enjoy the photos on this page of Buffalo campers at Camp Centerland, Camp Seneca Lake, Camp George, Camp Gan Israel and others. We are proud to support Jewish camping in our community and hope you continue to send your children and grandchildren to Jewish camps –whether in Israel, Canada or the US to help build a vibrant and caring Jewish community in Western New York.



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Relationships Renewed

By Rabbi Sara Rich

I was informed by Facebook, that in the month of July I made 100 new friends. Thank you Facebook! I am certain that if I include new people that I only met in-person this summer, but have not yet connected with over social media, I have made at least another 100 connections. And what is unique about this group is that they all live here in Buffalo!



The Rich Family

The rate at which I have met new people underscores what is special about Buffalo. I'm new to town and moved this summer with my husband, Ezra, and our two young daughters, Miriam and Sivan to begin my new position as Executive Director of Hillel of Buffalo. As we start this exciting new chapter in our lives, we have been deeply touched by the warm reception and extension of friendship that we have received here, and we are honored to be a part of this community. If we are not friends yet, either online or in person, then I hope we will have an opportunity to meet very soon.

Before moving to the Nickel City, I served as the Director of Education at the Hillel of Princeton University, where I taught extracurricular classes, offered pastoral care, and supported students in leadership development and community-building initiatives. It is through the formation of relationships with students, and among students, that these initiatives were successful. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to expand the capacity of the Hillel of Buffalo into a hub for building relationships between students and with the greater Buffalo Jewish community.

It is during this time of preparation for the High Holy Days that we direct special attention to our own relationships. We take stock of our actions from the past year and seek to identify the people whom we have wronged. The medieval philosopher and commentator Rabbi Moses Maimonides teaches in his Laws of

Repentance (2:9) that the atonement that we seek during this time of repentance is only attainable if we reach out directly to those whom we have hurt. The approach is two-pronged: one must make restitution for any physical damage, such as theft or injury, and one must ask for forgiveness. Until both are completed, atonement has not taken place. It is therefore the responsibility of the injured party to receive repayment, and to accept the apology, so that the wrongdoer can move forward. God cannot grant forgiveness on behalf of a person – this exchange must take place directly between the two people.

We learn from this teaching that relationships are primary, and must be treated with the highest of care. Nurturing a relationship is so sacred a task between people that even God cannot intercede. Repairing a relationship takes humility and a willingness to listen. By rebuilding our connections with others, we open up new possibilities for sharing experiences, lending and receiving support, and expanding community to others.

This year, Hillel of Buffalo seeks to build hundreds of new relationships in our community. We aim to facilitate relationships between freshmen in a dedicated Jewish learning cohort; we plan to send a group of 40 students to Israel on Birthright this winter, where relationships will be forged while walking the Old City of Jerusalem and floating in the Dead Sea. We are seeking opportunities to partner more with the University at Buffalo and its graduate programs, and to create new relationships with Buffalo State and other colleges in the area. We want to build bridges between the campus and the greater community; we desire to be in closer relationship with the Buffalo Jewish community, which will open up a world of possibilities for UB's Jewish students through community service, mentorship, and joint learning ventures.

I am personally looking to build new relationships with anyone with a connection to Jewish student life in Buffalo. If you know incoming students, family members of current students or alumni, I would be delighted to meet them and help connect them to our efforts. My email address is rabbisara@hillelofbuffalo.org.

Best wishes for a Shana Tova – a sweet, good New Year. May it be a year of dedication to our relationships and community.

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JCC/Seller Theatre

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- Sanofi Genzyme- makers of treatment for Gaucher's Disease

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PJ Library Survey: WOW



The Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF) recently released the results from the 2016 Triennial PJ Library Family Study. HGF first launched PJ Library in 2005 to distribute free, high-quality Jewish children's books every month to families with children ages 6 months through 5 years old. Buffalo became a PJ community in 2014. While the program began just in the US and Canada, it has expanded to 12 countries around the world and offers books for children now through age 8, plus through the PJ Our Way program, providing books for older children through age 12 to select cities, including Buffalo.

In our community, we had over 60 individuals respond to this survey, nearly a 25% response rate (higher than other communities). Below are some interesting facts to note about our Buffalo PJ Library community.

Close to 40% of our respondents identify as intermarried (just one parent identifies as Jewish), slightly higher than our counterparts in other similar size communities as well as those across the US and Canada. Interestingly, every single one of them reports that PJ Library has increased their confidence to engage with their children regarding Jewish traditions, values and/or customs.

Nearly 25% of our respondents fall on the low end of the spectrum of Jewish engagement (over 10% higher than others across the US and Canada), meaning that PJ Library is even more important in Buffalo for our families.

Just over 80% of our respondents know that the Buffalo Jewish Federation is the local community partner (almost double that of other respondents) and 65% of these individuals have interacted with us in the last year (also nearly double that of other respondents).

Of the respondents that attended one of our programs in the last year, **over 80% of them** report that they connected socially with other adults during the event (over 10% higher than other respondents across the US and Canada). Therefore, it is critical that we not only maintain but continue to improve upon the varied calendar of events that we offer for families and parents throughout the year as these in-person connections are crucial and very meaningful.

Along these lines, we offered not only our first summertime Tot Shabbat, but our first Tot Shabbat in the city, this summer at Temple Beth Zion on Delaware Ave. We had a great crowd and received a lot of positive comments from families who were new to a PJ Library program. We also hosted another program downtown, the first-ever Summer Shabbat Storytime at the Elmwood-Bidwell Farmers Market. We are also in the process of finalizing a great calendar of PJ Library events for the coming year...stay tuned!

If you are interested in seeing more information from the study overall, or have any questions about PJ, please contact Mandy Weiss, mweiss@jfedbflo.com for details.

Do you have a Tot?
Want to Celebrate Shabbat?
Tot Shabbat Hop!
 All events are free and open to the public

Upcoming Hops:

September 8th - 5:45 pm
 Complimentary pizza dinner followed by a Tot Shabbat Service at Temple Beth Zion's Broder Center (Amherst)

October 7th - 6:30 pm
 Tot Havdalah Experience in the Sukkah at the Benderson Family JCC (Getzville)

October 13th - 6:00 pm
 Tot Shabbat Service followed by a complimentary pizza dinner at Congregation Shir Shalom

October 20th - 5:45 pm
 Complimentary pizza dinner followed by a Tot Shabbat Service at Temple Beth Zion's Broder Center (Amherst)

See Full Event Details :
 Facebook.com/PJLibraryBuffalo

PJ Library
 JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES AND SONGS
 www.pjlibrary.org

HRC Sponsors Cemetery Service 9/24

In keeping with *KEVER AVOT V'IMOT*, the tradition of visiting the graves of our parents and loved ones between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo will once again sponsor a memorial service for the six million Jews killed in the Shoah, the Holocaust.

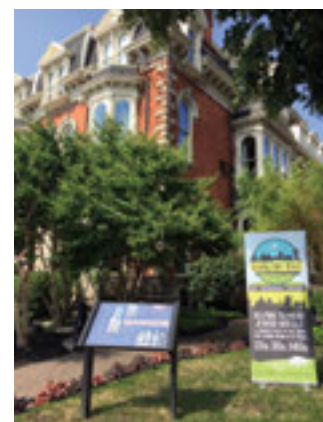
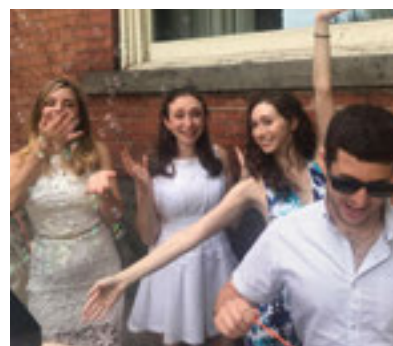
The service will be held on Sunday September 24th at 10:00 AM at the Holocaust Memorial at B'rith Shalom Cemetery on Pine Ridge Road in Cheektowaga, NY. The service normally lasts one-half hour. Entrance to the site will be marked by flowers. Parking is on the side of the road.

NCJ Blue & White Party

By Miriam Abramovich,
Engagement Director

Buffalonians, natives and transplants alike, all relish being outside in the summer. Our city comes alive at the waterfront, in backyards and on our city blocks. It is a time for sun, celebration, good food and drink. And of course, old and new friends! Last month, Nickel City Jews continued its tradition of hosting a large signature summer event at one of Buffalo's most stunning venues, The Mansion on Delaware Avenue. The Blue & White Party, Chaired by Juliana Teibel, embodied all that is fantastic about Jewish Buffalo and summer in our city. Music from the Ellen Pieroni Quartet, a premium open bar and brunch from the Tel Aviv Café set the tone for a lovely morning. Guests dressed in Blue & White to show their Israeli Pride and many added elements to their outfits from our favorite shop on Elmwood Avenue, and our event sponsor, Half & Half Boutique! In addition, guests reconnected with old friends, met newcomers to Jewish Buffalo, and swapped stories about their favorite moments from trips to Israel (or things that they hope to experience one day). The morning was capped with a farewell to David Lefkowitz, Co-President of Nickel City Jews, before he made his journey to Boston for graduate school, and a raffle drawing, where one lucky young adult won \$1,000 towards a trip to Israel!

The mission of Nickel City Jews is to help make Jewish Buffalo a vibrant place to call home for young adults in their 20s, 30s, and 40s. If you would like to meet someone from our team for coffee, attend an event or get more involved in a leadership capacity please contact Miriam Abramovich at mabramovich@jfedbflo.com.



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An Amherst resident, Mitch is a graduate of Kadimah School ('88), Williamsville North ('92) & alumnus of Buffalo State College. He earned his Funeral Director's license in 2003. He also has been a volunteer firefighter (Life Member) of the East Amherst Fire Department & certified Emergency Medical Technician. Mitch has served as a former Vice President and is a current board member of Temple Beth Tzedek, as well as being active with many other local synagogues.

To learn more about Amherst Memorial Chapel at 281 Dodge Road in Getzville, contact Mitchell Steinhorn at 716-636-4174 or visit www.amherstmemorialchapel.com.

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5 THINGS YOU CAN DO in September to repair the world

- 1» Would you like to unlock your child's learning behaviors, create independent learners and improve academic performance? **Come to a free community program presented by Carol Pratt, Connie Hanel and Laura Wexler of Independent Learning Systems, LLC at Santora's, 7800 Transit Road in Williamsville on Thursday, September 14 at 7PM.**
- 2» **Walk to End Alzheimer's WNY** is Saturday, September 16 at the Ring Road of Delaware Park behind the Buffalo Zoo. 8:30 am registration. 10:00 am ceremony. 10:15 walk begins. **Contact Paige Roseman at 716-626-0660 or proseman@alz.org.**
- 3» If it's a new Jewish year, the Kick-Off of the Campaign for Jewish Buffalo can't be far behind! And it's not! Join members of your Jewish Community Monday, September 25 beginning at 5:30 pm at the Buffalo Hyatt Hotel for the **Kick-Off Campaign for the Campaign for Jewish Buffalo**, featuring Abigail Pogrebin, author of *My Jewish Year: 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew*. **Go to www.jfedbflo.com to register or call 716-204-2241.**
- 4» The Hebrew month of Elul, which began August 23, is a traditional time to visit the graves of loved ones, right before the High Holiday season. **Why not make a gift to the Jewish Federation Cemetery Corporation** in honor of your parents, grandparents, or any other important person in your life. The Cemetery Corporation maintains and repairs several Buffalo Jewish cemeteries and your help is greatly needed. **Go to www.jfedbflo.com and click on "Federation Cemetery Corporation" or call 716-204-2246.**
- 5» Share your knowledge! **Become a volunteer for Buffalo Jewish Coalition for Literacy.** School starts in September and so does the 16th year of this mitzvah project. If you are an adult and can spare an hour per week to help elementary school children better their reading skills, **call Rise' Kulick or Ellen Goldstein at 716-204-2243.**

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Where is this found in WNY?

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E-mail your answers to egoldstein@jfedbflo.com

In August, Jeffrey Schapiro, Shari Reiner and Michael Paskowitz identified the plaque in memory of Sandra Drozen Braverman at Kehillat Ohr Tzion.



4

Labor Day Observed in the US

**Jewish Discovery Center
Labor Day BBQ**
1-3PM. JDC, 757 Hopkins Road,
Williamsville.

6

BJE Adult Learning classes begin
Contact Susan Schwartz at
716-204-5381 and check out
page 44 for listings/ times

8

**Buffalo Jewish Coalition for Literacy
Volunteers lunch.**
11:30 am. Federation offices.
Call Ellen Goldstein at
716-204-2243

10

TBZ Achim featuring Rob Goldberg
10 am. Weinberg Campus Meadows
Lounge.
Call 716-836-6565

TBT Jazz in the Garden
6:00 pm. North Forest Road location
(former Congregation B'nai Shalom)

KOT Art Auction
7:00 pm 879 Hopkins Road
Contact phyllismksteinberg@gmail.com

16

**Selichot Services
for the High Holy Days**

17

**Bagels Over Berlin film
with Alan Feinberg**

7:00 pm. TBZ Broder Building, 700
Sweet Home Road. FREE. RSVP by
9/15. Call 716-856-6565

20

Erev Rosh Hashanah

21-22

Rosh Hashanah 5778 celebrated

24

HRC services at the cemetery
10:00 am. Holocaust Memorial
at B'rith Shalom Cemetery on
Pine Ridge

25

**Buffalo Jewish Federation's Campaign
for Jewish Buffalo Kick-Off**
5:30 pm Hyatt Regency Buffalo.
There is a cost.
Call 716-204-2242 for information or
to register or www.jfedbflo.com

27

BJE Hebrew High Begins
Call 716-204-5381.

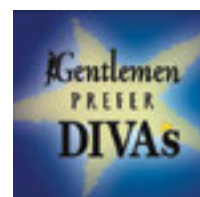
29

Erev Yom Kippur

30

Yom Kippur Observed

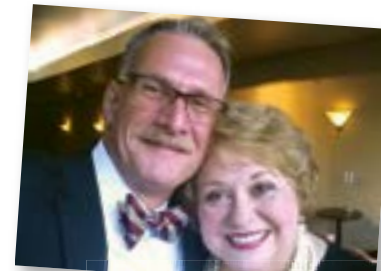
Jews in the News? Don't Miss Curtain Up's Gentlemen Prefer DIVAs



From Loretta Kaminsky to Bob Chick. From Stuart Gellman to Jordana Halpern to Ellen Goldstein. Those are just a few of the Jews who will be making news when O'Connell & Company presents GENTLEMEN PREFER DIVAS at the Curtain Up celebration September 15, 16 and 17 at Shea's Smith Theatre in Buffalo. "Doing DIVA BY DIVA has been a joyful experience each and every time," said Mrs. Kaminsky. "As a closet actress, it has given me a chance to shine even for a moment in time," she said.

The O'Connell & Company season wouldn't be complete without its record-breaking original productions, DIVA by DIVA: A Celebration of Women! or Gentlemen prefer DIVAS. The Award winning DIVA by DIVA: A Celebration of Women! is Western New York's longest running theatrical production. Mary Kate O'Connell, Artistic/Executive Director of O'Connell & Company, has created a fast-paced cabaret-style format of songs, readings, poetry, humor & quotes by, for, & about women. "DIVA by DIVA..." was originally scheduled to run for two weeks & now, 18 years later, audiences still flock to share in the "DIVA experience." The show is "gender specific" but not "gender exclusive" ... men enjoy it too!

The ever changing "DIVA by DIVA..." cast is drawn from all aspects of the Western New York community ... performing arts, the business & corporate arenas as well as the private & philanthropic sector - making this an extraordinary network of remarkable women. At any given performance the cast of "DIVA by DIVA..." can range in size from 7 to 27 and might include a politician, a singer, a teacher, an actress, an international banker, a cancer survivor ... a sister, a daughter, a mother, a friend. All of these women join together, giving their voice and talent to, as O'Connell puts it, "redefining the DIVA ... it's a happening, really." Over the years more than 300 women have been a part of the DIVA by DIVA..." cast and it has proven to be the perfect fund raising tool. DIVA performances have helped raise a great deal of money for women & children's charities in the WNY community.



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January 11 - February 11, 2018

I DO! I DO!

April 5 - May 6, 2018

**DIVA by DIVA: A Celebration
of Women & Gentlemen
Prefer DIVAs**

2017 Dates: 10/11; 11/8; 12/13

2018 Dates: 2/14; 3/14; 4/11;
5/9; 6/13

**For more information or to
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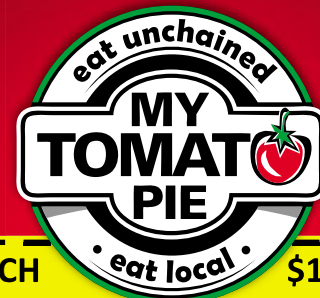
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Renewing the Shir Shalom Library

By Peter Simon

It upset Congregation Shir Shalom (CSS) congregant Robin Raphael to see books tucked away at her synagogue where they couldn't be displayed or read. At the same time, CSS congregant Rella Corris felt that Congregation Shir Shalom had the material for a quality library, but lacked the volunteers to make it happen. That's why Ms. Raphael and Ms. Corris, for the past two or three years, have been volunteering two hours a week to sort, catalog and organize hundreds of books with Jewish themes.

Now, they want their fellow congregants and the larger community to know that a quality library is quietly being put in place at Shir Shalom. "It's fascinating to find out what books we have here," Ms. Corris said. "The hope is to get people using them again."

When Temple Sinai and Temple Beth Am merged five years ago, the library took a back seat to other issues. The former Beth Am – which now houses Shir Shalom – had little order to its library

and even fewer users. Worse yet, Sinai packed its library books in boxes, where they remained untouched. "They sat in the closet for two years," Ms. Raphael said. "I couldn't stand it. We were determined to find good homes for the books."

Ms. Raphael, a retired school psychologist, started the library renewal by poring through the previously unopened boxes to determine which books should be cataloged and kept, and which should be donated or disposed of due to poor condition or lack of space. When Ms. Corris realized what a monumental task Ms. Raphael had launched, she offered her assistance. "I always volunteer here," said Ms. Corris, a member of the Shir Shalom Board of Trustees. "We are very pleased with how we've progressed."

The library, now in the final stages of completion, has more than 50 books on the Holocaust; works donated by the family of Susan Wehle, the cantor who was killed in a 2009 plane crash; and books autographed by Moshe Dayan, the Israeli military leader and politician, and by Mordecai Kaplan, the founder of the



Robin Raphael and Rella Corris at the CSS library

Reconstructionist branch of Judaism.

Hundreds of other titles were donated to a book sale organized by the UB branch of the American

Association of University Women, the Jewish Studies Department at UB and to a professor of religion at Canisius College. More than 100 books were left on a table in the Shir Shalom lobby and given to interested congregants.

Shir Shalom Rabbi Alexander Lazarus-Klein said consolidating libraries is "one of the toughest tasks" of merged congregations. "Libraries are so integral to temple life," he said. "We are, after all, the People of the Book. Robin and Rella have tackled this head on."

Now that the adult library is nearing completion, Ms. Raphael and Ms. Corris plan to reorganize the youth library down the hall. "I like to be useful," Ms. Raphael said of her willingness to revamp both libraries. "I like to learn. It's all good."

Peter Simon is a retired Buffalo News reporter and an active member of Congregation Shir Shalom.

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Ohr Tzion Plans Art Auction

Kehillat Ohr Tzion (KOT) will be holding an art auction Sunday, September 10 at 7:00 pm. The silent auction will feature beautiful signed and numbered lithographs of micro-calligraphy by two Israeli artists from Safed.

Micro-calligraphy is an ancient art form which creates images using very tiny Hebrew letters from biblical passages or prayers. This art form began in the 10th century in both Egypt and the land of Israel. Hebrew micrography was the creation of Masorah scribes in Tiberias as book forms of the Tanach were produced, often taking years to create each work of art. From the 13th to the 15th centuries many Sephardic scribes created beautiful Haggadot in Catalonia.

This art form became popularized in Israel after the 1948 War of Independence. Today, in Safed there are a few excellent artists who have revived this ancient art form and recreate entire books of the bible into scenes using micro-calligraphy.

The KOT art auction will include the signed and numbered lithographs of two of these artists. At the auction there will be two different representations of the Book of Ruth



created by different artists. The other lithographs are titled 'Shabbat', 'Havdallah', 'Ecclesiastes', 'The Ten Commandments' and 'Esther'.

The silent art auction at Kehillat Ohr Tzion (879 Hopkins Rd) will take place on Sunday, September 10 at 7:00 PM. There will be drinks and a dessert bar. There is a small entrance fee and the community is invited. For more information, contact phyllismksteinberg@gmail.com or bmweiss516@gmail.com.



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Erev Yom Kippur:	Fri. 9/29 -- 6:30 PM
Yom Kippur:	Sat. 9/30 -- 9:30 AM

All are Welcome - Tickets are not Required

www.congregationbethabraham.net

Fuel for Elul

Led by Cantor Barbara Ostfeld



Fridays, September 1 & 8
at 805 Delaware Avenue, 6pm

Friday, September 15
at the Broder Center, 6pm

During the month of Elul, we will have discussions and teachings led by Cantor Barbara Ostfeld that will expand our exploration of the new High Holy Day prayer book that was first used last year. These discussions will take place during regularly scheduled Shabbat Evening service.

The topics are:

September 1 - Keva, Kevana and Covfefe
(Duty, Devotion and Duh)
September 8 - Here I am
September 15 - Excuse Me!

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"Beauty of the Beast"

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Bagels Over Berlin

Special Program at TBZ

Sunday, September 17, at 7 p.m.
Temple Beth Zion Broder Center,
700 Sweet Home Road



The "Bagels Over Berlin" documentary celebrating Jewish veterans of the Army Air Forces in WWII has been described as moving, fascinating and an important part of our Jewish history.

In addition to the documentary, Buffalonian Alan Feinberg, the creator of the documentary, will speak at the viewing. For more information on the film, go to <http://www.bagelsoverberlin.com/>.

This event is free and open to the entire community.
RSVP appreciated by September 15

Call (716) 836-6565

TBZ & Women of the Book

Temple Beth Zion's Cantor Penny Myers is looking forward to embarking on another year of learning, connecting and noshing with Women of the Book. After Anat Hoffman's powerful visit to TBZ back in March, we are inspired to discover/study her *Women of the Wall Siddur*. Also as a supplement, a new publication is gaining tremendous ground and interest - *Pirkei Imahot*.

Women of the Book meets once a month at members' homes from 7 to 8:30 p.m., and the dates correspond as closely to *Rosh Chodesh* (the beginning of a Jewish month) as possible and as schedules permit. *Rosh Chodesh* is a traditional "women's holiday" that dates back to the episode of the Golden Calf (Parshat Ki Tissa, Book of Exodus). The rabbis interpret the Torah in a way that celebrates our Imahot, (matriarchal ancestors) who refused to surrender their gold rings and earrings (jewelry) for use in making the Golden Calf. Thus, as a reward, they were given this holiday, Rosh Chodesh, to be celebrated as a women's holiday.

Women of the Book will resume on October 10 at Cantor Myers' home. If you would like to come or have any questions, please contact Cantor Myers at 836-6565 or pennysmyers@tbz.org.

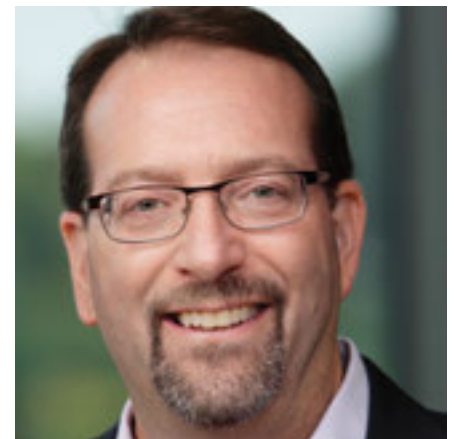
TBT Jazz in the Garden



Temple Beth Tzedek's Membership Committee will be welcoming it's newest members and perspective members at a special program Sunday, September 10th, 2017 at the North Forest Road location. **Jazz in the Garden** will begin the holiday season with a picnic and entertainment by Saxman Slim. Jazz' and dinner will follow minyan at 6pm.

Reservations are a must - call TBT office at 838-3232 or rsvp at www.tbzbuffalo.org

Federation CEO to Speak at Achim 9/10



Temple Beth Zion Brotherhood's Achim program will kick off September 10 at 10am with guest speaker, Rob Goldberg, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation. Please join the Brotherhood for an informative discussion and excellent breakfast. We meet in the Meadows Lounge at Weinberg Campus. Achim is a monthly program held for the benefit of the residents of Weinberg Campus, their guests and the entire community. Please join us!

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Shir Shalom Leads the Way in Record-Breaking Walk-Off Hunger

The 10th Annual Walk-Off Hunger for the Food Bank of WNY was the largest one yet – by far! This year's walk raised \$93,000 – enough to provide 558,000 meals for Western New Yorkers in need. Last year's walk set the previous record, at \$82,000. Walk-Off Hunger is co-hosted by Congregation Shir Shalom, which played a big role in the record-breaking total. CSS once again had the largest team in the walk, and at age 97, Jennie Pohl once again raised more money than any other participant. During opening ceremonies, the Food Bank recognized the walk's founder, Shir Shalom board member Gary Bluestein. And nine-year-old CSS member Hannah Block got the walk started by performing the national anthem. The Food Bank indicated that over the 10 years that Shir Shalom has done this walk, the walkers have raised enough funds to provide more than 3.4 million meals for needy families in our community. Thank you also to Buffalo Jewish Federation for being a Walk sponsor.



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Feb. 16-17

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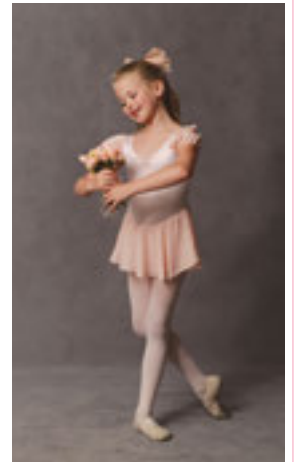
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TEL 716-204-2241
www.jfedbflo.com
Rob Goldberg - CEO & Executive Director
Steven J. Weiss - President

Bureau of Jewish Education

2640 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
TEL 716-204-5380
www.bjebuffalo.org
Jill Komm - Executive Director
Michael Berger - President

Chabad House of Buffalo

2450 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
TEL 716-688-1642
www.chabadbuffalo.com
Rabbi Moshe Gurary - Director

Chai Early Childhood Center

757 Hopkins Road
Williamsville, NY 14221
TEL 716 580-4600
www.chainursery.com
Chani Labkovski - Director

Department of Jewish Thought

712 Clemens Hall - University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY 14260
TEL 716-645-3695 Email: jewish-
studies@buffalo.edu
http://www.jewishstudies.buffalo.edu/
Dr. Sergey Dolgopolski, Chair

Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies

2640 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
TEL 716-204-1133
www.jewishphilanthropies.org
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Ray Fink - President

Hadassah

2640 North Forest Road
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TEL 716-688-5260
buffalohadassah@gmail.com
Marlene Katzel - Co-President
Maxine Seller - Co-President

Hebrew Benevolent Loan Association

2640 North Forest Road in JFP offices
Getzville, NY 14068
TEL 716-204-0542
Sam Golden - Loan Officer
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520 Lee Entrance/UB Commons
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TEL 716-645-8787
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www.hillelofbuffalo.org

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www.hrcbuffalo.org
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Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo, Inc.

Benderson Family Building
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TEL 716-688-4033
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TEL 716-886-3145
www.jccbuffalo.org

Jewish Discovery Center

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212 Exeter Rd.
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TEL: 716-632-0467
Rabbi Heschel Greenberg
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www.congregationbethabraham.net

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www.congregationhavurah.org
info@congregationhavurah.org

Kehillat Ohr Tzion

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http://ohrtzion.org/kot

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www.SaranacSynagogue.org

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www.tbz.org

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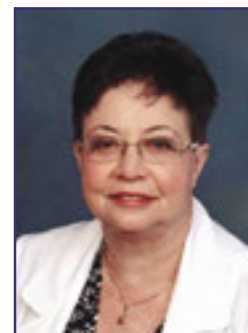
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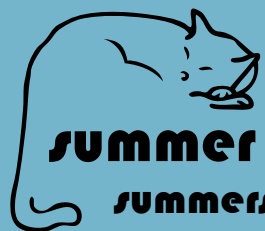


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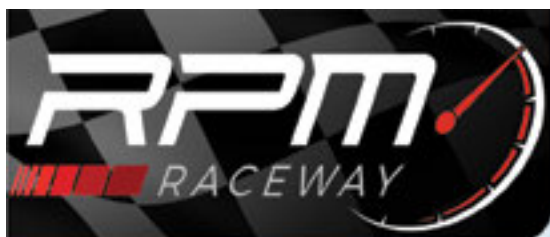
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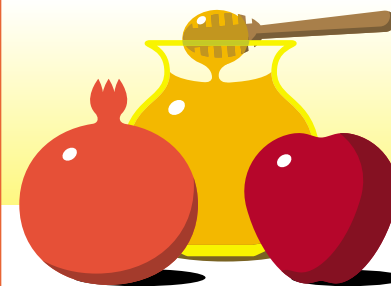


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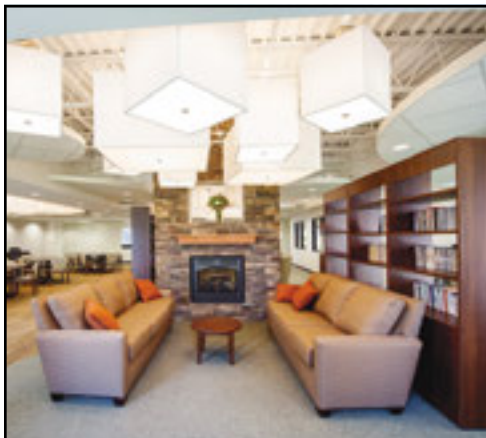
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HADASSAH HAPPENINGS

Buffalo Hadassah's Program Committee met on July 24 at the home of Phyllis Steinberg to plan the programs for the rest of the year. Co-chair Rhonda Wise ran the meeting. The committee plans a variety of different programs to appeal to the varying interests of Buffalo Hadassah's over 700 members.

There were two fundraising programs during the summer planned by Mickey Savit. In July, a successful card party and lunch was held at Canterbury Woods and in August a well-attended purse party was held at Amberleigh.

On October 17, Don Paul, a well-known Buffalo meteorologist, will be the guest speaker at a luncheon coordinated by Ann Kellman. Although the plans are not yet finalized, there will be a special luncheon in November to present the new leaders of Hadassah for 2018. Nancy Greenberg will be coordinating this event. This year's programs will conclude with a Chanukah

pot luck luncheon and gift exchange in December at the home of Judi Stern.

Throughout the year Buffalo Hadassah raises money to support the two remarkable Hadassah Hospitals. The hospitals are well known for their amazing diverse community of healthcare workers who provide excellent care to patients of all different religions and races. During the summer months, calls were made to all the members of the chapter by Hadassah volunteers to support the annual Hadassah Medical Organization Campaign.

Do you have a few free hours each week?

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Do you like children?



If you answered "yes" to all 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 help a child from pre-school-4th grade with reading skills.

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

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5778

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Rosh Hashanah

Maariv	7:45 PM	Sept. 20-21
Shachris	9:00 AM	Sept. 21-22
Blowing of the Shofar	11:15 AM	Sept. 21-22
Festive Meal	1:15 PM	Sept. 21

Yom Kippur

Kol Nidrei	6:55 PM	Sept. 29
Shachris	9:00 AM	Sept. 30
Yizkor	11:30 AM	Sept. 30
Neilah	6:30 PM	Sept. 30
Refreshments will follow		

Sukkot

Maariv and Refreshments	7:20 PM	Oct. 4-5
Shachris and Kiddush	10:00 AM	Oct. 5-6

Simchat Torah

Yizkor	11:30 AM	Oct 12
Maariv Kiddush and Dancing	7:05 PM	Oct 12

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By Carol L. Pratt, M.S.

Education in the last number of years has taken on new directions and the demands associated with the educational process have often led to confounding the parenting process. Many parents, in turn, have struggled with meeting these new expectations of the school system and many parents often find preparing their child for these demands a daunting task. Early education now often requires youngsters to come to school with skill sets and habits that were once taught, practiced and mastered during the school day. Independent Learning Systems, LLC has been on the cutting edge in helping parents navigate the educational demands with their child, while creating systems that foster independence for learning. The workshops, entitled Power-Up Parenting, are designed to empower parents while partnering with their child for success in school. This unique design empowers



parents to identify, learn, practice and adopt skills and strategies that support a child's academic growth throughout the grades. Parents learn how to target skills and set goals for academic improvement, while helping their child build healthy patterns of behavior, personal ownership and individual responsibility for learning. Parents gain an understanding of how to assess a child's performance, while playing a supportive role in launching their child to independence.

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Questions? Contact Melissa Schreiber at
The Bureau of Jewish Education: 716-254-6380 or melissa@bjebuffalo.org

Character Day is a program of The Bureau of Jewish Education, The Educators' Council of WNY, PJ Library and sponsored by the Buffalo Jewish Federation



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- SESSION 1: 9.27.17
- SESSION 2: 12.13.17
- SESSION 3: 2.14.18

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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24TH, 10 AM

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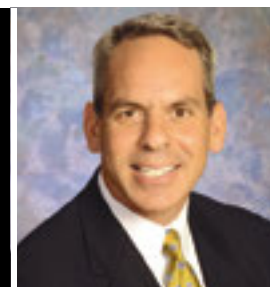
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2017 Buffalo Maccabi Team brings home Gold, Silver and Bronze

By Patty Simonson, Buffalo JCC

The JCC Maccabi Games® are an Olympic-style sporting competition held each summer in North America and is the second largest organized sports program for Jewish teenagers in the world. The first North American JCC Maccabi Games® were held in 1982 with 300 athletes. Due to overwhelming interest, Regional Games were added in 1985 to augment the even-year Continental Games. 1997 marked the first time that the Games were held simultaneously in six American cities with 4,400 participating athletes. Since their inception in 1982, the Games have grown from a small pilot project in one host community to an Olympic-style sporting competition held each summer in multiple sites throughout North America.



The 2017 JCC Buffalo Maccabi Team

Today, over 6,000 teens, ranging from 13 to 16 years of age, participate in the JCC Maccabi Games® each summer. The Games are co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Center Association of North America, Maccabi World Union, Maccabi Canada, and Maccabi USA/Sports for Israel.

I have been the delegation head since 1996 when Buffalo first participated in the games. I saw this as an opportunity to engage our Jewish teens into an invaluable program which combined athletic competition with Jewish values while fostering the Jewish identity in an informal setting. Teens had the chance to meet other Jewish teens from across the United States, Canada and international countries. I had made the commitment then to help foster the Buffalo program and took ownership to insure that we participated whenever we could.

Over the years I have worked with many incredible coaches, met wonderful families and athletes and have taken part in Maccabi Games throughout the country. I have always said how proud I was of our teams; the spirit of competition, their heart and desire to represent their community in the Games. Host communities love to house our kids because they know they are kind, polite and appreciate everything these families do for them.

This year the Buffalo delegation competed in Albany, New York August 6 to 11 and was

comprised of 14 athletes representing three (3) sports. The teams included:

Basketball – David Safir, Coach

Jacob Adelman
Zak Goodman
Noah Levine
Ethan Neu
Joshua Schechter
Gilad Symons
Finley Weinstein
Sam Zarkowsky

Golf – Randy Simonson, Coach and Maccabi Official Gabe Schulefand

Swimming – Inna Goldfarb, Head Coach, Julie Kingsley, JCC Staff

Isabella Rubin
Ben Chukhanenko
John Gorgush
Emma Wexler
Nikita Andriyets

Buffalo Maccabi Official Results

I am proud to say that Buffalo came home with 2 gold, 2 silver and 8 bronze medals. The results are as follows:

Golf

Gold Medal Winner – Gabe Schulefand, Low gross (172 two rounds)

Gold Medal Winner – Gabe Schulefand, Low gross two-man event (27 hole scramble 113)

Swimming

Bronze Medal Winner – 100 Yard Butterfly – Boys 12 – 14 – Veniamin Chukhanenko 1:06:66

Bronze Medal Winner – 50 Yard Breaststroke – Girls 12-14 – Isabella Rubin 42:16

Silver Medal Winner – 50 Yard Breaststroke – Girls 15-16 – Emma Wexler 38:82

Bronze Medal Winner – 100 Yard Breaststroke – Girls 15-16 – Emma Wexler 1:26:30

Bronze Medal Winner – 200 Yard Breaststroke – Girls 12-14 – Isabella Rubin 3:14:66

Bronze Medal Winner – 200 Yard Breaststroke – Girls 15-16 – Emma Wexler 3:06:14

Bronze Medal Winner – 50 Yard Freestyle – Boys 12-14 – John Gorgush 26:15

Silver Medal Winner – 50 Yard Freestyle – Boys 15-16 – Nikita Andriyets 24:63

Bronze Medal Winner – 200 Yard Freestyle – Boys 12-14 – John Gorgush 2:07:25

Bronze medal Winner – 500 Yard Freestyle – Boys 12-14 – John Gorgush 5:58:84

I personally want to thank Rob Goldberg and the Jewish Federation and Michael Berger, and the Louis S. and Molly B. Wolk Foundation for their generous support of the Buffalo Maccabi team. It is the generosity of individuals and organizations such as these that enable us to participate in these opportunities.

Next year the Games will be held in Orange County California. There will be limited spots for our teens to participate. We are looking for Jewish teens ages 13 to 16 (must be 13 before 8/1 and cannot be 17 before 8/1) to participate on our 16 and under boys basketball team, and boys and girls to participate in golf and swimming. The cost per athlete will be \$3000.

Interested individuals should contact Patty Simonson, Buffalo Delegation Head at pattysimonson@jcbbuffalo.org or (716) 204-2073 by September 18.

Patty Simonson is Assistant Executive Director of the Buffalo JCC.



Learning Together Strengthens the Community!

By Susan Goldberg Schwartz,
Director of Adult Learning/BJE

The Bureau of Jewish Education's Adult Learning Department is pleased to offer classes and other learning opportunities beginning this fall. Most classes will be held at the Jewish Community Center, 2640 North Forest Road, unless otherwise noted:

Intro to Judaism, a 14 week class taught by the members of the Board of Rabbis and Cantors, Wednesday evenings, 6:30 – 8:30pm

Hebrew Reading, taught by Michal Shmuel-Lewis, Wednesday evenings

Aleph-Bet/Beginning, 6:15 – 7:30pm and Intermediate/Advanced 7:40 – 8:45pm

Beginning September 6th

Jewish Identity in Film, Four 4 - week sessions taught by Eileen M. Angelini, Ph.D.,

Wednesdays, 1:00-2:30pm

What are some of the best films that accurately depict Jewish life, history, art, 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.

Beginning the week of October 23rd

Jews in the Arts and Entertainment
Session 1 (10/25 to 11/15)

Jewish Life in America and Jews in Sports

Session 2 (11/29 to 12/20)

GPS: A Guide to the Pages of the Siddur, an 8 week class taught by Dr. Ted Steinberg, retired "Distinguished Teaching Professor," English Department at Suny Fredonia, time and dates to be determined.

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.

Power and Powerlessness in Jewish Life and Thought, conversations with faculty from the UB Department of Jewish Thought.

November 2017, Spring & Summer 2018, location to be determined

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?

To Be Scheduled

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 a community conversation, throughout the year. Ms. Pogrebin will be sharing her personal journey of the exploration of her faith when she joins the Buffalo Jewish community on September 25th. Her book is inspiring and will provide us a context to begin our own exploration of why, as Jews, we live and do what we do. Meeting dates/times/location to be determined.

"The purpose of learning...is growth, and our minds, unlike our bodies, can continue growing as we continue to live." (Mortimer Adler, philosopher and educator) Let's make Jewish Buffalo an engaged and transformative learning community!

For more information about Adult Learning programs, please contact Susan Schwartz, Director of Adult Learning, susan@bjebuffalo.org or 716-204-5830. Please look for more details and registration information on our website www.bjebuffalo.org/adultlearning.

Save the Date

106th Annual Meeting & Awards Reception

Wednesday, October 18, 2017

Mary Seaton Room, Kleinhans Music Hall, Buffalo, NY

5:30 pm Reception with Stations • 7:00 pm Annual Meeting

Launch of Community Legacies Initiative

Special Recognition for Rabbi Shay and Lila Mintz

Community Service Award for Jewish Buffalo Archives Project to:
Dr. Chana Kotzin, Charlotte Gendler, Harold Halpern and Ralph Halpern



Free and open to the community

HEBREW HIGH STUDENT, MICHAEL SANDERS, WINS INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

By Melissa Schreiber – Assistant Principal, Hebrew High

Last school year, Hebrew High introduced a Jewish Photography class. The premise of the class was for students to explore their Jewish Identity through photography.

At the end of the course, each student submitted their best photograph to represent their Jewish Identity. Those photographs were then displayed in an art show at Hebrew High, and the rest of the Hebrew High students voted on which pictures they felt represented Jewish identity.

The top two photographs were then submitted to an international photography contest organized by *Beit Hatfutsot* - The Museum of the Jewish People in Tel Aviv. In July, Hebrew High received notice that one of our students, Michael Sanders had been recognized for his photo submission.

Michael shared his explanation that his photo, "Shows contrast and impact of light against darkness. In any and every circumstance, the smallest glimmer of light will stand out against darkness. And no matter how dark it may seem, there is always light there. One can't possibly exist without the other. As scientific as it may sound, the



figurative aspect expresses the strength of the Jewish people. We are the oldest living civilization in history. People have tried to wipe out our entire people several times throughout history. And they all came considerably close; the Egyptians, the Amalekites, the Nazis, and more. But no one has ever succeeded. Yes we are a minority. But no matter how small we may seem, we will always illuminate the darkness zoning in on the Jewish people."

Michael's photo, along with the other winning photographs, was on display in August at *Beit Hatfutsot* - The Museum of the Jewish People in Tel Aviv. His photo is one of the winning entries in "The Jewish Lens" at Beit Hatfutsot Photo Competition, in partnership with renowned photographer Zion Ozeri. Mazel Tov, Michael!

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Shea Akers (Getzville): 688-4114 x303

Christine Dusher (Buffalo): 886-3172 x420

Mazel Tov Betsy!



Betsy Abramson, is our new Early
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She believes that "there is nothing
more exciting than watching children
as they make friends with others,
develop new skills and grow to be
their best selves!"



JCC Buffalo
*Holiday
Hours*

Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 20
Center closes at 3:30pm
Aquatics until 3:00pm

Thursday, September 21
Center closed

Friday, September 22
Center closed

Yom Kippur

Friday, September 29
Center closes at 3:30pm
Aquatics until 3:00pm

Saturday, September 30
Center closed



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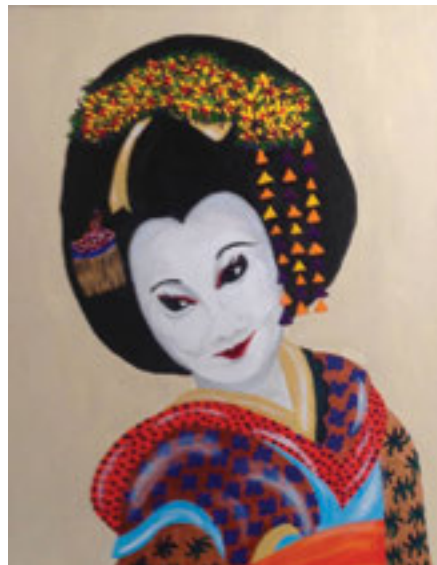
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Sun 8:00am-6:00pm
Mon-Thurs 5:30am-9:30pm
Friday 5:30am-7:00pm
Sat 8:00am-6:00pm

ART EXHIBIT BY REBECCA CAMHI

An exhibit of acrylic paintings by Rebecca Camhi will be on display at the Bunis Family Art Gallery, JCC of Greater Buffalo, September 12 – October 31. An artist's reception will take place on Thursday, September 14, 7-9 pm in the Lippman Lounge, next to the art gallery.



This remarkable series of artwork pays homage to the history, mythology and culture of Japan. Camhi's father served in General MacArthur's occupational forces there at the end of World War II and he brought home photos and gifts for family including hand painted porcelain featuring beautiful geishas in colorful kimonos. Camhi grew up hearing tales of her father's time in Japan and watching documentaries about the war with him.

"As an adult, I discovered a deeper interest in the country after reading novels like *Shogun* and *Memoirs of a Geisha* and, more recently, the wonderful biography of Louis Zamperini, *Unbroken*, by Laura Hillenbrand. Each book portrayed aspects



of a culture I found captivating, sparking an even deeper interest in all things Japanese," says Camhi. "This series is a tribute to that culture, incorporating everything from geishas to dragons, from sushi to haiku, from samurai to shinobi (ninja)."

Camhi holds a B.A. in English from Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio, and a M.L.S. from UB. "My first attempts at art were drawing and coloring clothes for my paper dolls when I was little. Over the years, my doodling helped me through many a boring class! Fortunately, I was required to take college courses in art appreciation and that began a genuine interest in fine art. When my daughter decided to major in art, her interest drew me into many a museum and gallery, deepening my appreciation. I have maintained this passion for art through years of travel that allowed me to see some of the great masterpieces in New York City, Athens, Paris, Rome, London, Madrid, Cairo, Dublin, Tel Aviv, and Jerusalem. As a retiree, I am finally taking my first art classes and finding a renewed love of art," says Camhi.

Gallery admission is free and the gallery is open during JCC business hours, 7 days a week. For more information visit jccbuffalo.org or call 716-204-2255.

Save the Date

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JEWISH REPERTORY THEATRE
of Western New York, a program of the JCC of Greater Buffalo
for our 15th Anniversary
Celebration!

Monday, October 2, 2017
6:00-8:00pm

Join us for fabulous food, amazing
desserts, drinks, free valet parking,
mini-tours of this historical landmark
and more!

Call 716-204-2084 to reserve your spot!
Tickets at www.jewishrepertorytheatre.com

\$118/guest – by Sept. 1

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Sunday, September 17th,
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Pre Rosh Hashanah



Sunday, September 17th,
4:30pm - 5:30pm
For kids 3 - 12



Usher in the New Year
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Taste the traditional flavors
and take home a four course meal.

Monday, September 18th,
7:00 - 9:00 pm

For more information visit us @ JewishBuffalo.com or call 716 639-7600

JOIN US FOR A TASTE OF JRT!

The Jewish Repertory Theatre is calling all soup chefs and soup tasters to join The JCC Super Soup Cook-Off, Sunday, October 15, at the JCC Benderson Building, 2nd floor, Lippman Lounge, 2640 North Forest Road in Amherst. Chefs - bring a pot of your favorite soup and a story to share about the history of the recipe. Is it a family secret? Has the recipe been passed down through generations? Does the soup have curative powers? Is there a funny or memorable story to be shared? Chefs will have a chance to tell their story with an audience of tasters who will sample all the soups and then vote for their favorites. The winning chef takes home 2 tickets to opening night of *VISITING MR. GREEN* at the Jewish Repertory Theatre, Thursday, October 19.

Registration for soup chefs: FREE

Deadline for chef registration: August 28, 2017

Register early to guarantee your place in the soup line as space is limited!

Please indicate whether you are bringing a cold or hot soup so we can plan for portable cooktops for those who require.

Why a soup contest? Here's a hint....it has something to do with *VISITING MR. GREEN*, the Jewish Repertory Theatre's opening show of its 15th season, starring Saul Elkin and Nick Stevens. Come join the food and fun and learn more about what soup and this play have in common!

Fee for tasting and judging: \$5 donation suggested – children free

This is a family friendly event – everyone welcome!

Register at jewishrepertorytheatre.com.

L'Shana Tova!



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This Rosh Hashanah, Reach Out To College Students Challenged By “Freshman Blues”

At once solemn and joyous, the sentence and ceremony of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur focus on reflection and definition of individual and spiritually viable response to life itself. “As we approach the Jewish New Year, we need to focus on why our lives matter, as an urgent wake-up call to our responsibility to live a life filled with meaning and purpose,” Rabbi Benjamin Blech counsels at www.aish.com

The celebrations of the Jewish New Year and Day of Atonement come at the time of year when many new college students are struggling to find meaning and purpose in their newly adult lives. Pangs of homesickness; and pressure to manage the demands of attending classes and completing coursework with getting to the cafeteria before it closes, connecting to new friends and sharing close quarters with relative strangers, may lead to what has become known as “Freshman Blues.”

When the emotional transition to college becomes more than just temporary sadness or anxiety, young adults sometimes develop serious mental health challenges, such as clinical depression, that requires professional help.

“Being away from home for the first time can be especially overwhelming during this meaningful holiday time of family and friends. JFS encourages all in our community to consider the teachings and traditions associated with Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur within the context of college students struggling to meet the challenges of their freshman year,” says Marlene Schillinger, president and CEO of Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County.

Take a little extra time to connect with your own children, or with young family members and friends who are away from their communities from the first time. Remind them that in our Jewish tradition, every person is charged with a unique purpose and that while they may find it difficult at the moment to find a comfortable space to fit in, their life purpose is as individual as their fingerprint, and that finding and fulfilling that purpose is the heart of life’s journey.”



Schillinger also encourages students, parents and the general community to “Join the Conversation” at www.letstalkstigma.org. Administered by the Erie County Anti-Stigma Coalition, of which JFS is a founder, the website is part of a multimedia campaign to help reduce discrimination that keeps people from reaching out for help for a mental health disorder.

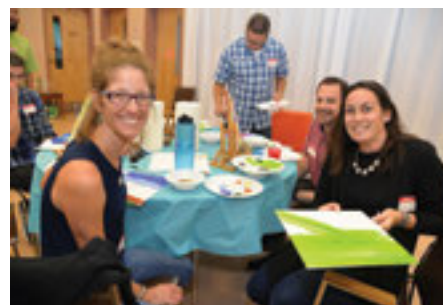
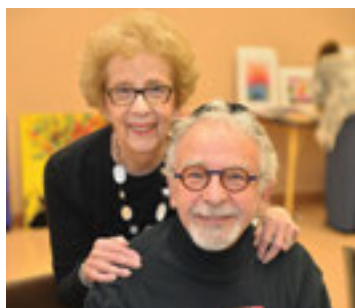
Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County provides mental health diagnosis and treatment for adults, seniors, children and teens at its outpatient clinic at 70 Barker Street, Buffalo, NY 14209. Compassionate JFS therapists have experience in treating anxiety and depression, bipolar disorder, PTSD, schizophrenia, eating disorders, problem gambling and a wide range of other mental and behavioral health disorders.

“We want people to know that mental health challenges impact many lives, that stereotypes are prevalent and need to change, and that you are not alone and recovery is possible,” Schillinger says. “In the broadest picture, we urge everyone to take the anti-stigma pledge at www.letstalkstigma.org and encourage anyone who thinks they or someone they love may be experiencing a mental health challenge to call us at 883-1914. Help is available and we can help.”

For more information about JFS mental health services or to schedule an intake appointment, call 716-883-1914. Visit JFS online at www.jfsbuffalo.org and join us on Facebook at “JFSBuffalo.”

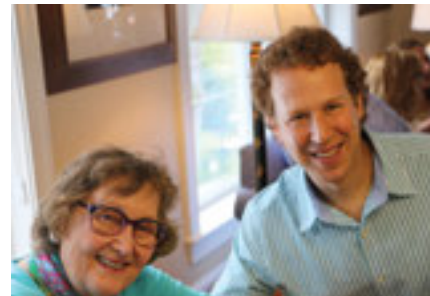
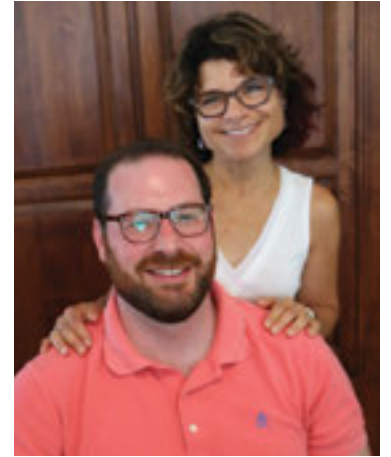
Pop Art with Rabbi Yitzchok Mouly

This interactive art program, which took place at in July at Ohr Temimim School was great fun! It was sponsored by the Jewish Women's Connection of the Jewish Federation.



Chautauqua with Federation

Following Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks' lecture at Chautauqua in July, Hannah and Norman Weinberg hosted a lovely lunch for many Federation attendees.



Interfaith Rally Against Hate

This rally at Durham AME church in August brought together many faiths to speak out against hate, Neo-nazis and anti-Semitism.



Buffalo Spree's 50th Birthday Party

Buffalo Spree Magazine celebrated its 50th birthday July 14 in grand style at the Hotel Henry. Some of the partygoers are shown in these photos.





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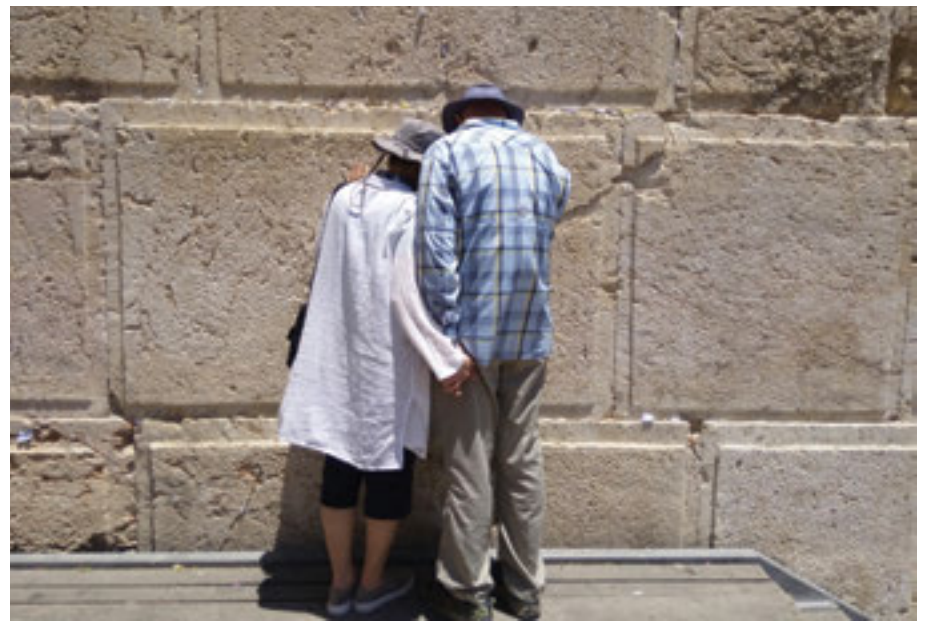
ONE WALL FOR ONE PEOPLE

By Philip L Glick, MD MBA

My wife Drucy and I have just returned from an amazing 8 day personal tour of Israel led by native Buffalonian Yonit Schiller, daughter of David and Beverly Schiller; for each of us it had been more than 40 years since our last visit. We had a 4 sea experience (Mediterranean, Dead, Galilee, and Red). We went from the Kinneret, to the Golan, to Eilat (and Petra), Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. The people were wonderful. The food amazing. And our guide oozed expertise and Israeli pride! We felt quite at "home" during our trip.

While in Jerusalem, we of course went to the Kotel. In the main area, it was quite busy and beautiful to see the spirituality, whether individuals in private prayer or families celebrating simchahs. Disappointedly but expected, the women had their own section, but the family simchahs were on the men only side; a bitter pill for many of us who believe in total equality for (Jewish) women. The women were hanging over the separation wall to participate in the family events!

Yonit offered us to pray at the Kotel separately and we declined. Drucy and I are proud Reform Jews and live our lives together as equals in every aspect of our marriage including religious, secular, professional and personal roles. Yonit then took us down some stairs, through a separate security gate and into a very



Drucy Botowitz and Philip Glick at the Kotel.
 Photo: Yonit Schiller



secluded area at the southern expanse of the Kotel called "the egalitarian section" which allowed Drucy and I to have a meaningful visit to the Kotel and pray together. Amazingly, we had this beautiful area to ourselves!

This area was created in January of 2016 by an Israeli government agreement, in a cabinet vote of 15 in favor and 5 against, after years of negotiations, that would allow non-orthodox men and women Jews to pray together at the Kotel. This agreement specifically allowed women to lead services, read Torah, sing aloud and wear tefillin and tallit. At the time of the affirmative vote, it was hailed as "historic," "groundbreaking," and "one wall for one people." At the time of our

early June 2017 visit, full implementation of this agreement, the fine print, had yet to be fully executed, but the site was fully functional.

Just weeks later on June 25, 2017, multiple Israel and American news sites reported "Israeli cabinet 'freezes' plan to create egalitarian prayer space at the Western Wall!" Drucy and I felt disappointed and betrayed. Our impression, during and after our visit to our religious homeland, was that Israel was on a more pluralistic path for non-Orthodox Jews and their rights to religious freedom. We were not alone. For example, Avigdor Lieberman, the defense minister and leader of the secular *Yisrael Beiteinu* party said, "today's cancellation of the decision is a severe blow to the unity of the Jewish people, the Jewish communities and the fabric of the relationship between the state of Israel and the Jews in the Diaspora." A plethora of American Jewish leaders immediately jumped on planes to personally lobby Netanyahu to reverse the freeze to derail the plan to create an egalitarian prayer space at the Kotel. As of now, there is no resolution to this internecine dispute.

Israel is an amazing country; we are already talking about a return visit. As Jews we need to support Israel as an existential homeland for the Jewish people, but they still have some work to do treating men and women equally! I hope this happens soon.



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