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FEBRUARY 28!

THE JEWISH JOURNAL

A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

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FEBRUARY 2018 | SHEVAT-ADAR 5778

Buffalo Rocks Purim! (9)



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ISRAEL
EXPERIENCE
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REMEMBERING
IRV WEINSTEIN
(8)



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FEBRUARY IS JEWISH
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(29)

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February 2018

Editor's Note



Ellen Goldstein, Editor

Welcome to our 60th issue—5 full years—of *The Jewish Journal of WNY*! I am so pleased to report that this publication, a joint venture between Buffalo Jewish Federation and Spree Publications, continues to flourish, especially with support and assistance from you, our cherished readers. In my first Editor's Note of March 2013, I said that the paper would prosper if you shared your lives with us, and you have for 5 wonderful years! This magazine is dedicated to Jewish Buffalo and exists because of your compelling, timely, engaging stories, poems, photographs, insights and lives.

February's highlights include details and a sign-up opportunity for the Community Israel experience this coming October, where we will journey with at least 70 Buffalonians to Israel for her 70th birthday (pages 1, 4 and 7). There's ample opportunity to see how much fun we all had this Hanukkah with photos from many local parties. We also pay tribute to the late Irv Weinstein, a Buffalo television legend, through the eyes of three of his colleagues—Rich Newberg, Rich Kellman and Mickey Osterreicher (page 8).

We are also excited to share the news of Buffalo Jewish Federation's new website at www.buffalojewishfederation.org (page 10), and our staff members have new email addresses, too. For example, you can find me at ellen@buffalojewishfederation.org. And finally, 2018 is fast becoming "The Year of the Woman." We will be featuring some of our Buffalo heroines in the months to come. If you know of a woman you admire and would like us to feature, let us know.

Don't forget Purim, which is at the end of this month! There are plenty of spiels and parties around town. Hope to see you at one of them!

Ellen Goldstein - Editor

On The Cover



Early Childhood students and faculty of the PALS/Kadimah School had a lot of fun dressing up in costumes for Purim and singing songs. Photo by k.c.kratt

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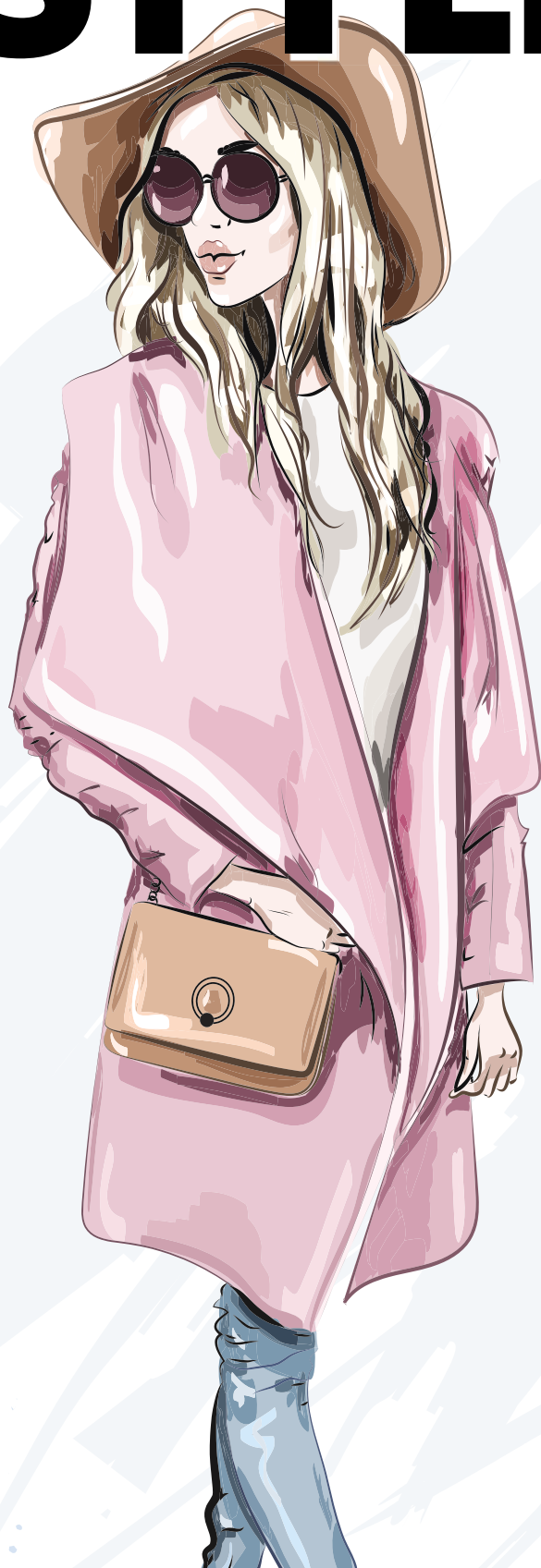


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Spring STYLE



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Nickel City Minyan

By Sheri Rodman

Early last year, together with Nickel City Jews and two other volunteers—Anna Gossin and Aaron Pieri—we launched Nickel City Minyan, a new initiative in the community that created a space for young professionals and young families to experience Shabbat with their peers in a fresh, welcoming environment. Congregation Beth Abraham generously welcomed us into their home on Elmwood Avenue, and we have been tremendously grateful for their hospitality.

Our volunteer-led, summer camp-style Friday night services are the perfect transition from a busy work week to a reflective, relaxing weekend. Every month, the minyans are intimate and warm, as we connect with some of our regulars and welcome a few new faces each time. This initiative was the perfect way for us to experiment with the service and begin to develop a community.

Inspired by the joint Shabbat service we held in November in collaboration with Congregation Beth Abraham, we are excited to implement some changes for 2018. Starting with our service last month, all of our monthly minyans are open to the entire community. The short, 45-minute service includes a mix of Hebrew and English prayers and all are welcome to join, and even help lead. We seek to support the ever-evolving Jewish lives of our friends in an environment that will welcome and enrich participants from all backgrounds, and with all levels of familiarity with Jewish texts and ritual. Our hope is that this young community will provide an inviting space for the members of the Buffalo community to share themselves, and their prayers.

We are also starting to partner with local synagogues on a quarterly basis to host a joint service in order to bring different circles of our community together and learn from one another. We are excited to start this later this month's at Congregation Shir Shalom on Friday, February 16th.

As a volunteer-led community, Nickel City Minyan derives its strength and its warmth from those who join us. We are looking forward to continuing to grow and learn in 2018 and hope to see you at an upcoming minyan to welcome Shabbat. Contact me at sherirodman@gmail.com with questions, or for more information, go to www.nickelcityminyan.org/.

Sheri Rodman is the Immediate Past Co-Chair of Nickel City Jews.



Check out the Federation's new website at buffalojewishfederation.org for a gallery of Nickel City Jews photos.

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3 pm

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Buffalo Chamber Players at the AK

A Woman's Work

February 22, 2018
7:30 pm

Visit www.albrightknox.org/buffalochamberplayers.

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 in association with Tony Zambito and organized by the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. It is supported by Hunt Real Estate.



Honoring the memory of Irv Weinstein (1930-2017)

Editor's Note: Irv Weinstein, the legendary WKBW-TV (Channel 7) news anchor, died at age 87 on December 26 in Irvine, CA. after a battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease.) What you may not know is that Irv, a Rochester native who was the son of Lithuanian immigrants, and his wife, Elaine, were members of Temple Sinai, which merged with Temple Beth Am to become Congregation Shir Shalom.

He made several generous charitable donations in Buffalo, notably to the Buffalo JCC, to the Western New York MDA Association, which honored him in October, and to Kadimah School, which also honored the Weinstains several years ago. In addition to Elaine, Irv is survived by two daughters, Beth Krom of Irvine, CA, and Rachel Lloyd of suburban Pittsburgh, PA.; a son, Marc, of Los Angeles; and three grandchildren. A graveside service was held December 28 at Harbor-Lawn Cemetery in Costa Mesa, CA. May his memory be a blessing for all of us.

What follows is recollections of Irv by three of his Jewish television colleagues—Rich Newberg, Rich Kellman and Mickey Osterreicher.



My friend, Irv

By Mickey Osterreicher

What can I say about Irv? A year ago Thanksgiving I emailed that I would like to visit. Irv wrote back "don't wait too long." So glad that Steve Boyd and I went in January when we were able to have a conversation and laugh with him. I am so blessed to have been able to work at Channel 7 for so many years (as a videographer) with so many wonderful people. Irv was the heart and soul of the newsroom. He exemplified what it meant to have journalistic integrity and be number one without demeaning his competitors. Those of us who worked with Irv and the entire Western New York community mourn his passing but our lives were enriched by his presence and spirit.

So glad we got to spend this time together almost a year ago. Knowing of Irv's love for life, the theater and the news ... And finally tonight ... Exit Laughing. Love you Irv!



What's in a name?

by Rich Kellman

He wasn't always Irv Weinstein on the air. In his early days on radio, Irv was "Adam Story" in one town, "Marc Roberts" in another. "I stole that name from our son," he told me two years ago, "Marc Robert Weinstein."

But it was in Buffalo that Irv became who he really was. "I thought, what the heck, let's try 'Irv Weinstein.'" And so he was Irv Weinstein, first on WKBW Radio, then on Channel 7 for 34 years. His sound was unmistakable, his style was as unique as his name. "Everybody knew my name was Weinstein, everybody knew I was Jewish, and the happy thing about that is, in a city that was overwhelmingly Catholic, it didn't make a bit of difference," he said. "The thing that mattered was, did I seem to know what I was talking about."

Over a 40-year career in Buffalo, Irv became the city's longest running and best-known news anchor. He attributed any success he might have had to more than his style on the air. His ties to the Buffalo community, and especially the ethnic neighborhoods, helped him stand out over the years. "I became intertwined with the fabric of the community," he said.

In retirement at his home in Irvine CA, he and wife Elaine showed me photos of their families going back generations, and of their two daughters and son Marc and their grandchildren. "I thank God for my parents for teaching me Jewish values, and my rabbis," he said.

Elaine and Irv were married in 1955, she says, "...and we still like each other." "She was my beacon of light," he said, and then glancing back at the family photos, "I'm a lucky guy." A pause. "I'm a lucky guy."

Should you wish to send a condolence note to his family, you can write to his wife:
Elaine Weinstein
27356 Bellogente #271
Mission Viejo, CA 92612

For those wishing to make a donation in Irv's memory, the family requests it be made through:
Buffalo Rochester MDA Assn
1425 Jefferson Road
Rochester, NY 14623

Remembering Irv

by Rich Newberg

During the last couple of weeks of Irv Weinstein's life, he could only communicate through his eyes. His daughter Beth told me he never lost the twinkle. "Everything revolved around my dad," she said. "He was the patriarch who guided and directed things. Now there is a void. We are left to our own devices now." I sense that's how many Buffalonians feel, those of us whose lives he touched.

As a competitor, I could never touch him. His Eyewitness newscast was perfectly branded in his powerful image and delivery. The newscast revolved around Irv and his writing style, which he once described as having "sizzle and alliteration." An example: "pistol packing punks." He had a strong sense of self, including his Jewish roots.

Irv taught us there is something liberating about being yourself and taking pride in your heritage. "I felt very proud of the fact that in a heavily Polish Catholic town, that I was accepted," Irv once told me, adding that "people took me into their hearts and homes."

A unique camaraderie developed between Irv, Rich Kellman and me. All three Jewish anchors had journeyed to Poland. In fact, my first real feelings



of connection to Irv came during his report at the Auschwitz Concentration Camp. He made a personal statement saying he could have ended up there, had his parents not left Europe. It was Buffalo's good fortune, and in a strange twist, my good fortune as well, that Irv ended up here.

When I landed a job at Channel 4, I dreamed of earning the kind of respect he had won from viewers. Like Irv, I also yearned for a city I could wrap my arms around. I knew Buffalo was special among news markets because I had watched the master of alliteration periodically while on my own career path. The opportunity for me at WIVB-TV was even sweeter because Irv had once turned me down for a job!

Irv, once a boy actor on Rochester radio, always considered Buffalo "a glowing and toddlin' town." How he loved the notoriety and the interaction with his fans, even when they interrupted his meals at Chef's.

They would say "Hey Irv! How ya doin'?" What have you been up to?" And that was ten years after he delivered his last newscast.

When closing that final newscast in 1998, he saved his last thank you for his viewers. "We connected on and off the air, you and me. I can never thank you enough." Fighting back tears, he told them "You have made all of my dreams come true. May all of yours come true as well."

When my wife Lori and I visited Irv in California last March, his loving and devoted wife Elaine was by his side, as was his son Marc and his family. Irv could no longer speak, but we saw in his eyes a man at peace with himself and still able to smile. We connected with Irv one final time. We were lucky to be in his presence.

PURIM EVENTS IN JEWISH BUFFALO 2018

Sunday, February 25
Temple Beth Tzedek
 Purim Party with TBT's
 Outstretched Arm
 10:15 am



Wednesday, February 28
Temple Beth Tzedek
 Macaroni & Megilla
 5:30 pm Pasta Bar
 6:30 pm Megillah Reading
 RSVP 838-3232



Kehillat Ohr Tzion
 Megillah Reading
 7:00 pm
 Contact oribergman@gmail.com
 for more information

Congregation Shir Shalom
 A Country Purim-
 The Nashville Megillah
 7:00 pm

The CSS Purim Players and Tizmeret House Band will perform this lively production at 7:00pm. Come in costume for a Gran' Ole Tyme. Live band and good old country hospitality. Open to everyone.

Thursday, March 1
Kehillat Ohr Tzion
 Megillah Reading
 AM
 Party at Rabbi's home
 PM
 Contact oribergman@gmail.com
 for more information

Chabad of Buffalo & Knesset Center
 Purim at
 the Delicatessen
 500 Starin Ave
 5:30 pm Megilla Reading
 6:00 pm Deli Dinner
 RSVP at
 www.chabadofbuffalo.com
 or call 688-1642



Jewish Discovery Center
 Purim in the Shtetl
 5:30 pm
 RSVP www.jewishbuffalo.com
 or 639-7600



Friday, March 2
Temple Beth Zion
 Purim Time Machine...
 Back to the 80's
 Potluck Dinner and
 Shabbat Service
 Broder Center- 700 Sweet
 Home Road
 6 pm Potluck dinner
 7 pm Shabbat Service
 To sign up for the potluck dinner
 call 836-6565.



Sunday, March 4
Congregation Shir Shalom, Temple Beth Zion, Temple Beth Tzedek
 Community Purim
 Carnival
 11:00 am

CSS will host this year's festivities including games, music, bounce house and more. This is a great opportunity for families to have fun together. There will be activities for children through age 13.

Robin's Orange Poppy Seed Cake for Purim Gifts

By Robin Kurss

On Purim, it's our tradition to send gift baskets of baked goods to friends and family. This is an easy and delicious coffee cake that you can bake in a loaf, a bundt or a 12 portion mini loaf pan... for easy gift giving.

Orange Poppy Seed Cake



CAKE:

- 1 1/2 c sugar
- 2/3 c oil
- 3 eggs
- 1 1/2 c OJ
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 Tbsp Orange Liquor
- 2 Tbsp orange zest
- 1/3 c poppy seeds
- 3 c flour
- Pinch salt
- 4 tsp baking powder

GLAZE:

- 1/2 c OJ
- 1/4 c brandy or orange liquor
- Zest of 1 orange
- 1/2 c sugar

- 1) Preheat oven to 350.
- 2) Grease either (2) 8 1/2 x 4 1/2" loaf pans or 1 bundt, or a 12 portion mini loaf pan.
- 3) In mixer, blend sugar and oil. Beat in eggs, stir in OJ, vanilla, orange liquor, zest and poppy seeds till combined.
- 4) Add flour, salt and baking powder, stir till smooth.
- 5) Pour into desired pan type.
- 6) Bake 50 minutes for loaves and mini loaves, 60 for bundt.
- 7) Cool 10 minutes and turn out onto cooling rack.

Glaze:

- 1) In small saucepan, mix all ingredients and stir over low till sugar is dissolved.
- 2) Drizzle over cake.

What's the Point?

By Rabbi Heschel Greenberg

Hamantashen are the staple of Purim, yet as Purim itself has been relegated, incorrectly, to the status of a minor holiday, so too are Hamantashen misunderstood and frequently maligned.

A Hamantash is simply a piece of pastry—about 300 calories worth for the average size and recipe, give or take a few hundred calories—that is supposed to remind us of Haman, who unsuccessfully tried to annihilate all the Jews.

But what does this innocuous piece of pastry have to do with Haman?

The “traditional” explanation that the Hamantash represents the pockets, hat or ears of Haman is hardly satisfying. Where did the notion that Haman had triangular ears, hat or pockets come from?

A more plausible theory about Hamantashen is that they are actually “poppy seed pockets,” and have nothing to do with Haman (unless it is a plot of our enemies to get us to ingest tons of more calories, carbs and cholesterol). In Yiddish, the word for poppy seeds is *mon* and pockets are *tashen*, hence *mon-tashen*.

But, why do we eat poppy seed pockets on Purim?

According to the Midrash, Esther maintained her kosher diet in the palace of the King Achashveirosh, by eating seeds. Hence, it is customary to eat seeds on Purim. Since seeds are not the most appetizing holiday food, someone took those tasteless poppy seeds and



Rabbi Heschel Greenberg at the Kotel

converted it into a delectable pastry. Eating Hamantashen is our way of remembering Esther's devotion to her religion even as she served as Queen of the Persian Empire.

A Hamantash is supposed to have a filling and it must be triangular.

The entire miracle of Purim was one that was hidden within the natural order of events. Esther was in the right place at the right time and the Jews were saved.

We know, of course, that the confluence of all these events was part of a Divine plan to save the Jews that was couched and concealed within the natural order.

To symbolize the hidden nature of G-d's presence during that period it is customary to eat foods wherein the main ingredient is contained and concealed within another ingredient. This is represented by the Hamantash that conceals the presence of its filling. As we eat our Hamantashen we should reflect on the mysterious way G-d works within the confines of nature.

The reason for the three points: commentators explain that we attribute the miracle to the merit of our three Patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Our Patriarchs were historical figures whom we revere and look towards as our role models. However, they are also figures of the present and are—as Kabbalah teaches us—present in the soul of each and every Jew. Legendary Jewish kindness and philanthropy we

“inherited” from Abraham; Jewish reverence and devotion we inherited from Isaac, and Jewish compassion was bequeathed to us by Jacob. The three Patriarchs are truly the stuff that fills our being even if it is not visible on the surface.

There is another reason for the three pointed Hamantashen offered by a contemporary scholar Rabbi Mordechai Zaks in his work *Mili D'Mordechai*.

According to Jewish law, one is forbidden to plant two kinds of grain together unless there is sufficient distance between them. One exception to the rule is if one species is planted in a triangular fashion into the area of the other species. This creates a clear demarcation between them.

This is the secret of Purim and our survival as a people:

No matter how much we are part of society we have always retained our distinctiveness. We never lose our connection to our forebears and our people.

Thus, the innocent Hamantash is the symbol of Jewish inner strength and continuity that will lead us to the Messianic Age to be ushered in by Moshiach who inspires us to reach into our inner soul to access our innate goodness and realize our special role of making this world a G-dly world.

www.buffalojewishfederation.org

Buffalo Jewish Federation is proud to launch our brand new website. New e-mails, too. Here's how to reach us at the Federation offices:

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Local Playwrights Work @ New Phoenix Theatre Feb 2-23

Way Back When, a trio of Biblical farces, will take the stage at the New Phoenix Theatre (95 Johnson Park, downtown) in February. These three one acts, written by local playwrights Grant Golden and the late Rebecca Ritchie, take a decidedly different look at stories and characters drawn from the Bible. Golden reimagines the Creation, and the Binding of Isaac, with Mrs. God trying hard in both cases to keep her husband in line!

Ritchie's work deals with an Eve/Lilith confrontation long after Adam's passing. All three pieces take a lighthearted, warmly humorous approach. They are all a bit silly, but surprisingly thoughtful! Golden, who has written scores for a number of locally produced shows, has provided



Grant Golden (inset) Rebecca Ritchie

a signature song ("Ages Ago") for the evening.

Betsy Bittar directs a cast of six: David Lundy, Pamela Rose Mangus, Kathleen Rooney, Jon Summers and Todd Fuller.

Way Back When runs Thursdays through Saturdays, from Feb 2nd through the 24th. General admission is \$30, with a special \$20 rate for students, seniors and theater professionals. Admission is only \$10 for groups of 20 or more. Thursdays are "Pay What You Can" nights, a New Phoenix staple, sponsored by the M&T bank.

Rabbi Jonathan Freirich of Temple Beth Zion will lead an after-show discussion on Saturday, February 3rd.

Buffalo, Rochester JCCs Honored by Governor Cuomo in January

JCC Executive Director Rick Zakalik and his wife Karen joined Rochester JCC Executive Director Arnie Sohinki and his wife Jo for the State of the State Address in Albany on January 3rd. They were invited by Governor Andrew Cuomo, along with four other New York State JCC Executive Directors, to represent their staffs and members who were affected by a series of bomb threats last February at each of the



Buffalo's JCC Executive Director Rick Zakalik in Albany with Rochester's JCC Executive Director Arnie Sohinki

JCC buildings. At the Governor's request they stood and were recognized by the large crowd in attendance. Buffalo's JCC has applied for and is hoping to receive special funds from Albany, which will further enhance the security measures employed at both buildings.



Top: Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul
Bottom: Gov. Cuomo



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P2G Members from Budapest Met with Local Leaders in Buffalo

The Buffalo Jewish Federation is proud to be a part of the Partnership2Gether program, which connects Jews in the diaspora, specifically smaller mid-sized communities such as Buffalo, with those living in the Western Galilee region of Israel and our European partner city, Budapest, Hungary.

In early January, two representatives from the Budapest Jewish Community, Hedi Pusztai and Marton Tordai traveled to Buffalo for a two-day visit and cultural exchange. Both Hedi and Marton work at the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) in Budapest, Hungary. Budapest has the largest post-war Jewish population in all of Central Europe. As professionals at JAFI in Budapest, they are at the forefront of revitalizing Jewish life in Central Europe for the next generation.

Hedi was born in 1986, at the end of Communism, as the first child of a non-



religious young couple. As with many young Hungarians, it was a long journey to find her Jewish identity. Marton was also born into a Jewish family that didn't celebrate any Jewish holidays. It was only at the age of 13 that he discovered his Jewish identity. Both Hedi and Marton discovered Israel and had a chance to strengthen their Jewish identities on Birthright. Hedi and Marton were accompanied

by Megan Maurer, a lay leader with JAFI and the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis (JFGI) and Avital Ben Dror from Nahariyya, Israel who also works for JAFI and P2G in Israel.

During their time in Buffalo, January 7th and 8th, Hedi, Marton and Megan spent time with small groups including a dessert reception with Nickel City Jews, a program with PJ Our Way families, and a brunch with various Federation and community leaders. Time together was well spent, and focused on intimate conversations about similarities and differences between Jewish life in North American and Jewish life in Europe, and of course fostering new relationships.



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The Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies and the Buffalo Jewish Federation will again be visiting Buffalonians in Florida in March.

EAST COAST
Sunday, March 4
Brunch in Boca

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Tuesday, March 6
Lunch in Sarasota

For more information, contact Randi Morkisz at 716-204-2245.

Thursday Afternoons with Herman Stone

By Dick Hirsch

In the beginning there was a group. They were members of the Ritual Committee of Temple Beth Zion who had voted to establish a weekly prayer service each Thursday afternoon at 5:30. It provided another opportunity for members to join in prayers and say prayers for loved ones who have died. The committee members took turns leading the service. After a period of time, the group dwindled. Eventually, there were just a handful. Finally there remained just one participant: Herman Stone.

Adhering to the same schedule established by the Ritual Committee, Herman Stone, usually accompanied by his wife, Peggy, is still the reliable volunteer, on the job at the Bimah for the weekly 30 minute service at the Broder Center.

Neither Herman nor Peggy can recall exactly how long it has been since he began the weekly service. They estimate it was 15 years ago. He was retired from his work as an organic chemist at the time. At age 93 he is still retired and active; he occasionally wonders whether the service will continue when he changes his classification to “retired and inactive.” But he currently has no plans to quit.

Those who have become aware of his schedule and attended a Thursday service use terms like “amazing” and “wonderful” to describe his ability to conduct the service and his longevity in that role. “I’m hoping there will be people interested, because people have come to depend upon the service when they cannot attend either of the regular Friday night or Saturday morning services at the Temple,” he said.

The Stones have been active members of Temple Beth Zion for years, except for periods when they relocated as he became an internationally recognized authority on the development and production of polyurethane foam. He worked in New Jersey at the corporate headquarters of National Aniline, then moved to Hazleton, Pennsylvania in the mid-’70s. He remained there until he retired, returned to Buffalo in 1997 and began working as a consultant in his specialized field.

There were few Jews in Hazleton, and when some anti-Semitic remarks were reported in one of the schools, Herman was recruited by the school department to



speak about the Holocaust to students and civic groups, becoming a kind of one-man speaker’s bureau on the Holocaust.

In Buffalo he rejoined Beth Zion, becoming an active member, and was appointed to the Ritual Committee, eventually serving as chairperson. That appointment led to his long run officiating at the Thursday service. He also became active in the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo.

Born in Germany, Herman was Bar Mitzvah in March of 1939 as the Nazi murderous persecution of Jews intensified. The family fled Germany first to England and then to the United States. At the age of 14, he arrived in Buffalo and became a freshman at Fosdick-Masten High School (Now City Honors School). He learned English, graduated and won a scholarship to Bethany College in West Virginia.

He later studied at Ohio State University, earning a doctorate in chemistry in 1951. Widely recognized as a pioneer in the field, he has 22 patents and has written many scientific journal articles. He was elected to the Flexible Polyurethane Hall of Fame in 2007 and still is called upon as a consultant.

Attendance at the Thursday service includes mourners and those who cannot attend either of the other services at the temple. Never very large, it has been bolstered with students from the TBZ Religious School attending after classes. Herman has never been concerned with the size of the turnout.

“I have never worried about the size of the congregation,” he said. “It is a service the Temple provides for whoever may be interested.”

Dick Hirsch claims to be the most youthful veteran journalist at work in Buffalo. He has written the weekly “BfloTales” column for Business First for 33 years, and is the author of eight books, most recently “A new bathtub for the White House.”



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New Oshei Children's Hospital Showcases Work of Local Artists

The brand new Oshei Children's Hospital (OCH) opened in November on the Buffalo-Niagara Medical Campus to kudos and excitement. On each of its floors, artists have been chosen to display their work. Four of the artists, Ellen Steinfeld, Susan Copley, and Linda Gellman and Bill E. Myers of CLICK, have had some of their pieces selected for the Hospital's permanent collection. One of Terri Katz Kasimov's large art works is hanging in the new Conventus Building, also on the Medical Campus.

Ellen Steinfeld was thrilled to have some of her work chosen. "I feel the mission of public art in a health care setting is to create a sense of comfort and hope while welcoming people of all ages. The art should be exciting and stimulate visitors' imaginations. Representatives of the Oishei Children's Hospital Healing Arts team, Scott Propeack, Associate Director and Chief Curator of the Burchfield Penney and Cynthia Ciminelli, visited my studio and selected three large watercolors. The paintings were selected for the floor with the theme of music and dance. Images related to these themes are evident in the work. The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and a private donor were the sponsors. I feel honored that they selected me as one the "Signature Artist". Steinfeld's large scale sculptures and two-dimensional works are in the permanent collections of hospitals, museums and private collections throughout North America.

Susan Copley has two painting in the hospital. "City Gardens" is a painting from my "Banner" series. This work represents a downtown view of a city of tall structures and the little city gardens in between them," She said. "The abstraction, "Water View" refers to a city perched alone the edge of a lake and the vast sky above it. Though not of a specific place, these abstract paintings symbolize a relationship between nature and our environment, and contrast hard and soft, light and dark, and the bright colors of nature."

Linda Gellman explained that her art work, from the "illuminated Energy" series is a piece of "healing art" that is displayed on the Labor & Delivery or Water floor. "This piece is called "Beacon of Light. It represents the four elements we live with which sustain our lives—water, fire, earth and air." Linda will also be discussing this piece at CEPA Gallery's "Pop-Up" Art Talk Sunday, February 25 at 2:00 pm at the Hotel Henry. And another piece will be in the CEPA Biennial Art Auction March 24.



Terri and Jerry Kaimov with some of Terri's newest works



Fan Dance by Ellen Steinfeld



A Ribbon-Cutting for the CLICK/Gellman/Myers piece was held before the Hospital opened. Attending were (from left) L. Allegra Jaros, President of OCH, Linda Gellman-Artist, Bill E Myers- Artist, Cynthia Ciminelli, Community Engagement Consultant for Oishei Children's Hospital Healing Arts, and McKenzie Mattino, Manager of Volunteer Services



Ellen Steinfeld



Green Leaves by Ellen Steinfeld



Flux by Ellen Steinfeld



"City Gardens" by Susan Copley



Susan Copley



"Water View" by Susan Copley

Israel MK Yoel Razvozov to Speak on Anti-Semitism and Sports February 1

As we approach the Winter Olympics later this month is South Korea, we have been paying more attention to the politicization of sports around the world, most particularly with Israel.

Yoel Razvozov, an Israeli Member of Knesset (MK) will be in the US this winter, and will be speaking on the topic “Anti-Semitism in Sports” at Temple Beth Zion, Thursday, February 1 at 7:30 PM. The program is free and open to the public. MK Razvozov is a member of Yesh Atid, (“there is a future” in Hebrew), a centrist Israeli political party founded by Yair Lapid in 2012.

This program is sponsored by the Buffalo law firm of Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP, Buffalo Jewish Federation and Temple Beth Zion. Thanks go to Andrew Shaevel for bringing the opportunity to meet MK Razvozov to Buffalo and also to Temple Beth Zion.

Razvozov, an Olympian and renowned Judo champion, has become an outspoken advocate for Israeli athletes who too often have to deal with sports boycotts against Israel. The headlines have become commonplace: Israel’s judo team is denied entry into Morocco to compete in an event held in Marakesh; Israeli judo athletes Yarden Gerbi and Sage Muki, who took home medals in a world tournament. are forced to appear under the World Judo Federation flag and not under the Israeli flag. And just last December, Saudi Arabia barred 7 Israeli professional chess players from participating in the World Chess Federation tournament.

In the 2003 Judo World Championships, Razvozov finished seventh. He finished second at the European Championships the following year, and represented Israel at the 2004 Summer Olympics. In the final of the European Championships in 2005, he won a silver medal in the 73 kilogram weight category.

Razvozov said:“ I have been further honored to represent Israel in my capacity as an Olympic Athlete, where I have done my best to ensure that our Flag is proudly waived and our Anthem is loudly heard at international sporting events all over the world.”



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5 THINGS YOU CAN DO in February to repair the world

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- 2» February is Jewish Disability Month.** Support Yad B'Yad with a donation to strengthen local programming for our Jewish Disabled. www.bjebuffalo.org or 716-204-5381.
- 3» Register your child or grandchild for Camp Centerland's 2018 season** at a special program at the JCC February 4 at 12:30-2:30 and receive 2017 Camp pricing plus a special gift.
- 4» Attend Chabad Knesset Center's program "A Shrek of a Trek"** with Hollywood screenwriter David Weiss Sunday, February 18 at 7:00pm, **500 Starin Ave. in memory of Rebbitzin Shaina (OBM) Charitonow.**
- 5» Attend a Buffalo Purim Spiel or party** February 25, 28, March 1, 2 or 4 at a local Synagogue. **See page 9 for details.**

WHERE IN JBFLO?



Where is this found in WNY?

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egoldstein@jfedbflo.com**

In January, Lois Blaustein, Irwin Burstein, Karen Wiseman, Linda Boxer, Michael Paskowitz, Marsha Goldberg, Andrea Strosberg correctly identified the photo of Nathan Benderson in the Benderson Board Room at the JCC/ Benderson Building on North Forest Rd.

A "Christmas" Mitzvah



By Ellen Goldstein

Last January (2017), I had the privilege to travel to Israel on a Geo-Political Tour with Buffalonians from Temple Beth Zion, Congregation Shir Shalom, Westminster Presbyterian Church and North Presbyterian Church with support from Buffalo Jewish Federation. This December, on the 6th night of Hanukkah, I held a Hanukkah party for that group of travelers and now friends.

While planning the party, I read a post on Facebook from Linda Gellman (see her artwork on page 14) about children newly arrived from Puerto Rico due to 2017 hurricane damage who were now attending the Herman Badillo School in Buffalo. Linda wrote that she was collecting toys, clothes and gift cards for these elementary school and their families, who needed everything for winter, school and homes. I decided to ask my Hanukkah Party guests to bring Christmas gifts for the school children. And did they deliver. More than \$300 in gift cards arrived, as did toys and some clothing. Linda then took the gifts over to the Herman Badillo School. What follows is letters from the teacher who was collecting items for the children and families. Thanks for the open hearts and many mitzvot from my friends and travel companions!



From Teacher Kim Messenger at the Herman Badillo Bilingual Academy:

Dear Linda:

"I am a teacher at School 76, who lives on the West Side. My school has welcomed about 25 new students from Puerto Rico these past 4 days, 20 prior to that. These kiddos have been living in third world country conditions for the past month. They are coming with a suitcase. They are here because some long lost relative has taken them in.

I spent today delivering Christmas gifts to families. When I asked this one Mom what her pre k daughter wanted, she said a doll house. I didn't have a doll house. I assumed it was a barbie doll house. So yesterday I went out shopping. Well, it was all slim pickings. I took pictures of what I could find, and mom said, a doll house. So I used a \$25 Target gift card and bought a Disney Happy Places doll house, and then found the doll at KOHL's. Today, I dropped off the presents for Sara, and her brother. This family has been here about 7 weeks. Spent 4 weeks in a shelter, in an apartment for about two. Apartment is on Koons, in the middle of nowhere, sparsely furnished, no Christmas tree, no toys, no tv. Mom, and her Mom, a pre k girl, and a 1st grade boy. They are all sick because of the drastic change in climate. And this family was helped by an agency I hope you and your group of friends approve of the way I chose to use this first gift card.

p.s. The socks were all gone within an hour.

Thank you, and Happy Holidays!"

Yours Truly, Kim Messenger

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This month, the classes together listed the lessons that the children feel are very important for us all to remember.

- ✓ Be kind to animals
- ✓ Be nice to all people- even purple people
- ✓ Cover your sneeze
- ✓ Pick up garbage
- ✓ Be respectful
- ✓ Make sure that people who come from other places are warm when it is cold outside
- ✓ Love your family
- ✓ Listen to other people
- ✓ Give hugs
- ✓ Say, "I'm sorry" when we make a mistake and don't do it again.
- ✓ Give gifts to other people who don't have toys or food or books
- ✓ Just be nice!

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Attention Snowbirds!

Due to postal regulations, the *Jewish Journal of Western New York* will no longer be forwarded to "temporary change" addresses.

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

Broadway Night with Shir Delight

Saturday, March 10, 7 p.m.



Broadway is back at 805 Delaware Ave! Mark your calendars for Broadway Night with Shir Delight! This year's edition will feature tributes to two more Jewish legends of musical theater—composer Leonard Bernstein and lyricist Dorothy Field. Cantors Penny Myers and Irwin Gellman, Susan Schwartz, Michael Harris and Grant Golden will serenade you with hits from ON THE TOWN, WEST SIDE STORY, WONDERFUL TOWN and SWEET CHARITY, to name just a few!

Call Temple Beth Zion at 716-836-6565 to RSVP. \$10 suggested donation at the door.

TBZ's Purim Time Machine takes us back to....the '80s

Friday March 2
Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Road



6 PM Potluck dinner • 7 PM Service and Homemade Megillah
by our own Cantor Penny Myers

Come for an epic Purim Celebration! Temple Beth Zion clergy and congregants will be the players in this rad Megillah. Special Photo Booth - so dust off your leg warmers, get your jelly bracelets, wear your acid washed jeans because...YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS SPECIAL PURIM.

RSVP for dinner by calling the Temple office at 836-6565.



Buffalo Jazz Collective Concert: The Music of George Gershwin featuring Rebecca Filsinger

Thursday, March 15, 7 p.m.

805 Delaware

Gershwin's compositions spanned both popular and classical genres, and his most popular melodies are widely known. Among his best-known works are the orchestral compositions *Rhapsody in Blue* (1924) and *An American in Paris* (1928) as well as the opera *Porgy and Bess* (1935).

Call Temple Beth Zion at 716-836-6565 to RSVP. \$10 suggested donation at the door.



TBZ Achim is Feb. 11

The Brotherhood of Temple Beth Zion will offer its February Achim program at 11:00 a.m. Sunday, February 11 on the second floor of the Meadows Lounge, located at the Weinberg Campus, 2650 North Forest Road in Getzville. Our featured speaker will be Allan Harris, Traffic and News Reporter for WBEN Radio.

Harris is a well-known local news reporter to whose voice many of us awake every morning on the radio. After growing up in North Buffalo, he attended Bennett High School and developed a love for broadcasting at UB. He later studied radio and television on the West Coast. He returned to New York State where he worked in Oneonta and Utica before heading for Rochester, where he spent thirty years as a reporter and talk show host. He returned to Buffalo about ten years ago to be near his family.

During his years in broadcasting, Harris has had the opportunity to interview many political figures, entertainers and athletes; including Senators, Members of Congress, Golda Meir, Danny Kaye, Mickey Mantle, Cal Ripken and numerous Buffalo Bills. He will be discussing his profession and experiences. There will be an opportunity for discussion and questions.

Achim is a monthly news and educational program for the benefit of the residents, and their guests, at the Weinberg Campus and is open to the public, at no cost. For further information, please contact Ken Graber at 681-9885.

TBZ/CBA "Jeans" Shabbat

Friday, February 2, 7 PM

Happy Half Hour begins
at 6:30 PM

TBZ Broder Center,
700 Sweet Home Road

Join Cantor Penny Myers of Temple Beth Zion and Cantor Irwin Gelman from Congregation Beth Abraham for a unique musical Shabbat service. Cantors Gelman and Myers will also provide a presentation on their recent Interfaith Clergy Mission to Israel along with a picture show on the big screens. Wear your Jeans, be comfy and settle in for a moving worship experience.

This service is open to everyone!



Mindy Weinman – A Leader of Excellence

By Peter Simon

When the history of Congregation Shir Shalom is written, Mindy Weinman's name will be all over it. Mindy's longevity and dedication as a Temple leader are remarkable. She has served on the Executive Committee, the Temple's highest level of lay leadership, almost continuously for about 25 years, and was President of what was then Temple Beth Am in 2000-2002. But Mindy's contributions to Temple are measured in accomplishments and demeanor, and not by the calendar.

Temple Beth Am was in turmoil during portions of her most active years. While other key congregants backed off or even resigned from Temple, Mindy—determined to restore stability and unity—led with an upbeat and encouraging style. She also served on at least seven search committees; was deeply involved in crafting liturgical and educational policies; played a key role in the creation of Congregation Shir Shalom through the 2012 merger of Temple Beth Am and Temple Sinai, and, last year, advocated successfully for holding one, rather than two, Yom Kippur services during the day.

Mindy, who attended Conservative and Orthodox shuls on Long Island as a youth, said she was "enthralled" by the open, inclusive approach she found at Beth Am, where she later became an adult Bat Mitzvah. That same comfortable, caring feeling, she said, drives her continued involvement at Shir Shalom. "It's a nice place," she said. "I've had a great life, and this is my way of giving back."

Shir Shalom Rabbi Alexander Lazarus-Klein said he relies heavily on Mindy's sound judgment, respect for differing opinions and deep connection to



Mindy Weinman

"Mindy is my rock at the Temple," said Rabbi Lazarus-Klein.

congregants. "Mindy is my rock at the Temple," said Rabbi Lazarus-Klein. "With Mindy as the chairperson of the Ritual and Liturgy Committee the past few years, she and I have had to tackle many complicated issues. Knowing that Mindy is behind me has made all the difference. She is diplomatic, kind, pragmatic and, most importantly, effective. I know if I give Mindy a project, it will get done, and it will get done well."

Blaine Schwartz, Chairman of the Board of Jewish Family Services, said he frequently sought out Mindy's advice when he was president of Temple Beth Am. "Mindy is a true leader," Schwartz said. "She has a way of bridging the gap and bringing together different segments of

the Temple community. She knows what she wants to do and she knows how to get there."

Mindy, whose maiden name is Paticoff, came to Buffalo in 1977 to attend UB's Dental School, and married David Weinman, a classmate, in 1981. Mindy and David, who have practiced dentistry together since 1984, have two daughters. Amy, 33, is a kindergarten teacher on Long Island. She and her husband have two children. Sara, 29, is a speech pathologist in New Orleans.

As Shir Shalom's Vice President of Worship, Mindy has major responsibility for another on-going and sensitive policy question -- consideration of the role of non-Jews in Shir Shalom religious services. "This is an issue that hits people in their kishkes, and Mindy is up to the challenge," Rabbi Lazarus-Klein said. "I'm not sure what the final outcome will be, but I know it will be done in the right way."

Peter Simon, a former Buffalo News reporter, is a member and past president of Congregation Shir Shalom.

Winter Kulanu Service at TBZ

**Friday, February 9,
7 p.m.
805 Delaware**

All are invited to join the circle of light and warmth, and to take that light and warmth back into the winter night with them. This year's service will feature Kulanu liturgy prepared by Mat'an Schwartz, in partnership with members of Jewish Pride of Western New York.

Kulanu ("all of us") is Temple Beth Zion's group committed to making the Congregation an embracing and supportive home for LGBTQ members of all ages. TBZ is proud to partner with Jewish Pride of WNY to help make the entire community equally supportive and welcoming for all Jews.

For more information, or to join, please contact Rabbi Scheldt at 836-6565.

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CSS PURIM SPIEL

**"A Country Purim-
The Nashville Megillah"**

Wednesday, February 28th

7:00 pm

02.28.18 PURIM SPIEL AT 7:00PM: The CSS Purim Players and Tizmeret House Band will perform this lively production at 7:00pm. Come in costume for a Gran' Ole Tyme. Live band and good old country hospitality. Open to everyone.

03.04.18 COMMUNITY PURIM CARNIVAL AT 11:00AM: CSS will host the festivities including games, music, bounce house and more. This is a great opportunity for families to have fun together at Temple. There will be activities for children through age 13.

Congregation Beth Abraham: Celebrating Hanukkah & Creating Better Access for Congregants



In addressing the needs of those in our community with impaired or limited mobility issues, Congregation Beth Abraham has embarked on a major handicapped access initiative. The synagogue recently installed a stair lift down to the social hall as well as outside hand railings, contributed by Grant Golden and Deborah Goldman (pictured). The synagogue is currently exploring the options of either adding another stair lift to the sanctuary, platform lift, or an enclosed elevator to all floors, as well as an outside ramp. Stay tuned for further details.

**Grant Golden &
Deborah Goldman at
Congregation Beth
Abraham**



Service With Yonina Foster



Celebrating Hanukkah




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with DAVID N. WEISS

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An evening honoring the 5th yartzeit of Rebbetzin Shaina O.B.M Charitonow on the 14th of shvat

Ohr Tzion Celebrates Chanukah

On the last night of Chanukah, guests and members of Kehillat Ohr Tzion (KOT) gathered together at the synagogue for a menorah lit catered dinner. A five foot chanukiah was lit by Rabbi Ori Bergman as everyone sang the blessings. Each table was beautifully decorated and adorned with special chanukiahs belonging to Beth and Steven Weiss. Beth is the chairperson of Fun and Fundraising events at the synagogue. She received a great deal of help from committee members Karen Marks, Cheryl Stein and Laura and Steven Weiss.

The three course dinner was catered by Adina Tapp. Before dinner was served, Rabbi Bergman presented a well received drash about how the light of Chanukah would be another way to bring more Jews to see the beauty of their heritage.

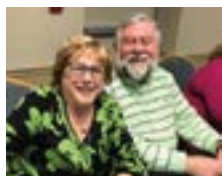
The week before Chanukah, KOT's Social Action Committee began collecting hats, scarves and gloves for children who go through the family court system. The project was started because of the need seen by Judge Lisa Bloch Rodwin. On the invitation for the Chanukah dinner, attendees were asked to bring new items for these children. By the start of the dinner, two huge boxes of warm gloves, hats and scarves were overflowing.



At the KOT board meeting, it was decided that every year a similar collection would take place so that the warmth of Chanukah could be shared with those in need. The Rabbi offered to include the project on the shul calendar of events. The Purim collection of pasta "groggers", which are then donated to soup kitchens, is already on the yearly calendar.

In addition to the menorah lit dinner, there was also a special Chanukah celebration held for the children at KOT on Saturday evening. There were different activities in each of the upstairs rooms of the synagogue. The party was planned by members of the Children's Committee: Chairperson Shoshana Zucker Freundel, Marni Marciano and Karen Marks.

For more information about services, learning opportunities and social events contact Rabbi Ori Bergman at oribergman@gmail.com.



Havurah Christmas @ A Soup Kitchen

Rich and Sandy Bisesi were among the members of Congregation Havurah who prepared and served holiday lunches at the soup kitchens at Good Shepherd Community of Faith in South Buffalo and at Durham Memorial AME Zion Church in Buffalo. Havurah has had a long tradition of community service, volunteering for soup kitchens in numerous local churches, the Salvation Army, and the Buffalo Mission as well as preparing and serving Thanksgiving meals in the spirit of Tzedakah to feed the hungry and needy among us.



TBZ Choir



Temple Beth Zion's youth choir entertained Weinberg residents at Hanukkah.

Join us for the
Third Annual

Macaron AND Megillah

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018

come for a spectacular, complimentary
PURIM PASTA BAR
macaroni & cheese, fettuccini alfredo, Lasagna,
whole grain pasta salad, Israeli salad
at 5:30 PM

Stay for the
MEGILLAH READING
at 6:30 PM

Join us for an
EXTENDED CELEBRATION
following the megillah reading
please RSVP to the synagogue office at 838-3232
so we can make sure we have enough food



Temple Beth Tzedek
621 Getzville Road, Amherst, NY 14226

Torah & Tea with Miss Rivky

A lovely group of Buffalo women enjoyed an inspiring gathering on the last night of Hanukkah, hosted by Rivky Greenberg. They explored some of the powerful messages of the Hanukkah candles, such as the duty and responsibility to shine our light onto others and illuminate our surroundings, and about going outside one's comfort zone to do good even when the situation seems bleak and hopeless. They started the evening with Rabbi Levi Greenberg and his children lighting the menorah, and Rivky wrapped up the evening with a beautiful song about the power of a thousand candles burning bright-- in unity. Women got to schmooze, discuss, enjoy delicious desserts and enjoyed an uplifting evening.

Rivky hosts a monthly "Torah & Tea" get together for women, a program of the Jewish Discovery Center. A different topic is chosen every month and women are welcome to participate in one or any number of gathering. **You may email Rivky at TorahandTea@gmail.com or contact her at (716) 906-8890 to learn more about this program.**



Canalside with Chabad



Temple Beth Zion



The Knesset Center

All photos by Alex Kleyman



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SCHEHERAZADE
Sat. Feb. 10, 8pm
Sun. Feb. 11, 2:30pm
JoAnn Falletta conducts the mesmerizing music depicting the storyteller's allure cast over an evil sultan, and Finnish violinist **Elina Vähälä** performs Sibelius' exhilarating concerto.
M&T Bank Classics

GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA
Fri. Feb. 16, 10:30am | Sat. Feb. 17, 8pm
Nick Hilscher, conductor
One of the greatest bands of all time returns to Kleinhans for another fantastic concert.
The annual Sweetheart Dance featuring the Katy Miner Quintet follows the Saturday performance.

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Garden of Eatin' presented by Elderwood

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Fri. Mar. 2, 8pm
The Rock and Roll Hall of Famer embarks on a journey to continue his music with a full orchestra.
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**XAVIER FOLEY
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with Kelly Lin, piano
Sunday, March 25th at 3 pm
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Program includes works by
Bach, Franck, Sperger & Foley
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CALENDAR



February 18

A Shrek of a Trek
Talk in Memory of Rebbetzin
Charitonow (OBM)
Chabad Kneset Center
7:00 PM
500 Starin Ave

February 25

Outstretched Arm Purim Program
Temple Beth Tzedek 10:15 AM
621 Getzville Road

February 28

PURIM BEGINS

TBT Dinner & Megillah Reading
Dinner 5:30
Megillah Reading 6:30
838-3232

February 1

"Anti-Semitism" in Sports

Member of Kneset Yoel Razvozov
Temple Beth Zion 7:30 PM
805 Delaware Avenue
FREE

February 2

TBZ/ CBA "Jeans" Shabbat

Temple Beth Zion's Broder Center
7:00 PM

February 9

Winter Kulano Inclusion Shabbat

Temple Beth Zion
7:00 PM

805 Delaware Ave

For info call

Rabbi Adam Scheldt- 835-6565

February 11

TBZ Achim Program
with Broadcaster Allen Harris
Weinberg Campus 11:00 AM
Meadows Lounge
FREE Open to all

Kehillat Ohr Tzion
Megillah Reading 7:00 PM

Congregation Shir Shalom
A Country Purim 7:00 PM

March 1

Kehillat Ohr Tzion
Megillah Reading 7:30 AM
Party @ Rabbi's House 4:00 PM

**Chabad of Buffalo
& Kneset Center**
500 Starin Ave
Megillah Reading 5:30 PM
Dinner 6:00 PM

JDC
Megillah Reading
& Dinner 5:30 PM

March 2

Temple Beth Zion/Broder Center
Purim Potluck 6:00 PM
& Service 7:00 PM

March 4

Community Purim Carnival
Congregation Shir Shalom
11:00 AM

Purim^{at the} Delicatessen

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THURSDAY NIGHT, MARCH 1, 6:00
MEGILLAH READING 5:30

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Finding Meaning through Mussar

By Susan Goldberg Schwartz, Director of Adult Learning

Do you ever find that your life is overwhelming? Do you ever feel impatient? Are you quick to judge? Mussar may be an answer. Mussar, a Jewish path of character development, can provide the tools to guide you on a spiritual and personal growth journey leading to self-awareness, understanding and transformation. Through a series of middot/character traits, Mussar challenges an individual to ask themselves where these traits show up in their relationships and in their everyday lives. Rabbi Elya Lopian defined Mussar as “making the heart understand what the mind knows.”

The Mussar Institute has created materials that are rich, accessible and engaging, and have trained facilitators to guide the learning and conversations. What is unique to Mussar is that study is done in pairs and small groups, not just

alone. From my own experience, Mussar participants put into practice the famous quote from Pirkei Avot, “find yourself a teacher and make for yourself a friend.”

The Buffalo Jewish community has been recognized nationally for the Mussar programming we are doing in partnership with The Mussar Institute. We are on the cutting edge of program growth, developing and implementing curriculum and piloting new Mussar initiatives, including Mussar groups with teens, college students, young professionals and parents. Evie Weinstein, former Executive Director of the Bureau of Jewish Education, and I have been trained as Mussar facilitators and are both actively involved with The Mussar Institute.

This past December, Evie and I attended the 15th annual Mussar Kallah, with over 125 other learners. We were also asked to facilitate a group of 10 participants over the course of the 3 days. The theme of the Kallah was “The Holiness of Engagement,” a timely and relevant topic.

During the Kallah, we focused on the middot of Trust, Responsibility and Justice leading to Holiness. We learned from amazing Mussar scholars, who showed us:

- how the simple task of finding a parking spot on a busy street shows the need to have trust that a space will open up;
- that we were put on this planet for a unique purpose, and that living with purpose means there is work to be done that we are responsible for;
- that sometimes we need to employ



Susan and Evie at the Kallah, enjoying a Shabbat walk

strict justice and at other times, a mix of justice with compassion and mercy.

We closed the Kallah by asking the question “how would we bring holiness into our lives and into the world?” The resounding answers in our small group were through kindness, by honoring every soul and by helping to mend our broken world.

We are looking to begin new Mussar groups, but need a minimum number of participants to get a group started. *If you would like to know more about Mussar, please contact me. While in person learning is preferred, I encourage you to check out The Mussar Institute’s website and their on-line course options too.* <http://mussarinstitute.org/>



The Adult Learning Department at the BJE will also be offering:

Beginning March 7 for 4 weeks

Session 3 of **Jewish Life Through the Movie Lens**, Wednesdays, 1:00 – 2:30pm, in collaboration with the Jewish Film Festival

On March 27, 2018

What if Everyone Read the Same Book? This month we will focus our discussion on the holiday of Passover and the Mussar trait of Tzedek/Justice.

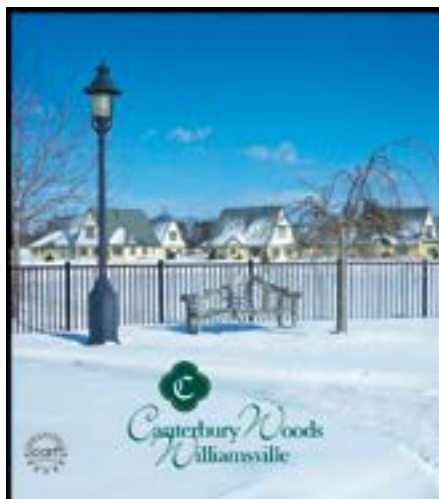
On April 14, 2018

Part 2, **Power and Powerlessness in Jewish Life and Thought**, conversations with faculty from the UB Department of Jewish Thought with Professor Noam Pines, in conversation with Professor Sergey Dolgopolsky on the topic of: “Jews won’t Replace Us”: Charlottesville as a Challenge to Jewish Thought

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 program details, times and locations along with registration information on our website www.bjebuffalo.org/adultlearning.



Learning from Alan Morinis, Dean and founder of The Mussar Institute




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CANTERBURY WOODS GATES CIRCLE
1 Gates Circle, Buffalo, NY
716-929-5817
www.cwgatescircle.org



Yad B'Yad

FEBRUARY IS JEWISH DISABILITY MONTH

February is officially known as Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month (JDAIM). Yad B'Yad is proud to join together with Jewish organizations and communities around the world in this unified effort to raise awareness and champion the rights of people with disabilities. In observance of JDAIM, Yad B'Yad had the month of February officially recognized by the Town of Amherst with a proclamation. Yad B'Yad is also sponsoring an artwork contest for students that will culminate with awards given out at a family reception.

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

For more information about the upcoming Artwork Contest, to join us in our programming, or to volunteer, please visit our website at www.yadbyad.org, find us on facebook at facebook.com/yadbyadbuffalo, or contact Cindi Mikulik at 716-204-5380 or yadbyad@bjebuffalo.org



YAD B'YAD ARTWORK CONTEST

**IN RECOGNITION OF JEWISH
DISABILITY AWARENESS AND
INCLUSION MONTH**

Students are encouraged to be creative in designing a project that promotes inclusion of people with disabilities. This project can be, but is not limited to the following formats:

Poster | Cartoon | Children's Book | Legos | Sculpture | Paper Mache
Any Creative approach will be accepted

Artwork should be based on the theme:
"HENEINI" - HERE I AM
Entries will be judged and eligible for prizes.

Projects are due by February 14 and can be dropped off at the front desk of the JCC
2640 North Forest Rd, Getzville, NY 14058
Please include name of artist, grade, phone number and email

**PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED AT A FAMILY RECEPTION
MONDAY, MARCH 5 - 7-9 pm
JCC, 2640 NORTH FOREST RD. GETZVILLE, NY 14058**

For more information or questions contact Cindi Mikulik, Yad B'Yad Director
716.204.5380 or yadbyad@bjebuffalo.org

Yad B'Yad is a program of the Bureau of Jewish Education and a proud partner of the Buffalo Jewish Federation

HAPPENINGS AT HEBREW HIGH

By Melissa Schreiber, Assistant Principal

As you can read on the opposite page, the practice of Mussar is taking root in Buffalo, including at Hebrew High. Every Wednesday night from 6:30 – 8:30 PM at the JCC during Session 3, teens will have the opportunity to take Hebrew High's brand new Mussar class - Challenges and Choices.

Mussar is the practice and learning of how to be a mensch (good person). During this class, teens will learn and practice different traits that we all have, including, humility, honor, envy, responsibility, lovingkindness and much more. Challenges and Choices, facilitated by Melissa Schreiber, will help teens learn about their own traits and how to find balance. Through discussion, journaling, and weekly mantras, teens will be able to find their balance among the hectic world we live in.

"[Teens] will encounter Jewish teachings



on the soul and its journey that are meant to have practical – and, ultimately, transformative – impact." - The Mussar Institute. This course was developed by The Mussar Institute (www.mussarinstitute.org) and the project was made possible through the support of a grant from the John Templeton Foundation.

Hebrew High Session 3 begins on February 14 and is for any Jewish teen in grades 8 - 12, regardless of affiliation. If you are interested in taking this class, or any other of the other classes offered, please register at BJEBUFFALO.ORG/HEBREWHIGH.

For more information call 716-204-5380 or email Jill Komm (Principal) at jill@bjebuffalo.org.

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Dramatization by **FRANCES GOODRICH** and **ALBERT HACKETT**
Newly Adapted by **WENDY KESSELMAN**

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FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS AT 7:30 PM, SUNDAYS 2:30 PM

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(students must be present to pick up tickets at will call, any student 18+ must also present valid student I.D.)

(716) 683-1776 or LancOpera.org

Kadimah Academy Awarded 100K Matching Grant

By Marci Wiseman,
Kadimah Director of Community Relations & Engagement

Kadimah Academy is the recipient of a \$100,000 matching grant through its participation in the PRIZMAH Governance and Fundraising Academy (GFA). Last year, Kadimah Academy was accepted into the GFA in partnership with Prizmah: Center for Jewish Day Schools. One of a small number of schools nationwide accepted into the program, Kadimah participated in national conferences with renowned experts, received customized coaching and training, and raised matching grant funds exceeding \$100,000.

Upon Kadimah's acceptance, Helen F. London, Prizmah's GFA Program Director, said, "The 18-month program will increase Kadimah's financial stability

by strengthening its governance and fundraising programs (with the goal of creating) a school and community with a strong culture of philanthropy, combined with best practices in governance, professional leadership and fundraising."

Thanks to generous funding from The AVI CHAI Foundation, an anonymous Jewish day school advocate, and Buffalo Jewish Federation, Kadimah was able to take part in this program.

Kadimah has used this training to strategize and broaden fundraising efforts with the launch of the Annual Campaign in December, which surpassed its targeted goals before the month's end, and



First and second generation Kadimah alumni (1st row, L-R) Ava Green, Gabriel Epstein, Deborah Brown, David Brown, Emily Weed, Rozie Herman; (2nd row, L-R) Shelley Hirsch, Hailey Epstein Talula Enis, Jane Ablove, Sara Ablove, Renee Herman; (3rd row, L-R) Joseph Enis, Ozzy Enis, Robyn Marcus-Weed, Talia Berkowitz

through its BRIGHT FUTURE Initiative which has generated over 50 new major donors, thus far.

"Our participation in the GFA has been a game-changer for our fundraising and development strategy," said Alan Rosenhoch, alumnus and Board President. "I have been thrilled and energized by Jewish Buffalo and the dedication shown for our community day school."

Kadimah has been working with Pearl Learner Kane of the Connecticut based non-profit consulting firm PLK Consulting Group LLC. Kane, who has three decades of experience in the nonprofit business field with a concentration on Jewish communal organizations, is the professional advisor to the Charter Oak Challenge Foundation and co-chair of the Jewish Consultants' Group.

Kadimah Academy's core GFA team includes Rosenhoch; Jonathan Epstein, Immediate Past President and Development Chair; Einav Symons, Head of School; and Marci Wiseman, alumna and Director of Community Relations and Engagement.

Other areas of expanded effort stemming from participation in the GFA include recruitment and alumni development, including Kadimah's 60th Anniversary Reunion to be held in Buffalo, November 24, 2018.

For more information, visit www.kadimah.org or contact Marci Wiseman at 716-836-6903.

SPECIAL GUESTS ARE THE HIGHLIGHT OF HILLEL OF BUFFALO SHABBAT

By Rabbi Sara Rich

Shabbat dinner is a key moment for relaxation and reflection upon the week that has passed. The students of the Hillel of Buffalo desire to share the warmth that comes from a leisurely communal meal at the end of a busy week, and were delighted to welcome many new guests to Shabbat dinner last semester. Highlights of the "guest list" from the fall semester include:

Members of the Yad b'Yad community, who joined Hillel for services and dinner.

Sisters from the Alpha Epsilon Phi Sorority at Buffalo State College. This sorority has Jewish roots, and its members, some Jewish and some not, seek to incorporate Jewish customs and educational experiences into their programming.

A group of international students who are studying at the University at Buffalo. These students come from countries such as Poland, Vietnam, Ecuador, and Indonesia, and were delighted to experience the foods and rituals of Shabbat dinner for the first time.

Students in their own homes. In November, Hillel offered Shabbat



UB Hillel students on Birthright in Israel



Across Campus, which gave students the opportunity to host a Shabbat meal in their apartments. Upperclassmen serving homemade mac n' cheese, a group of UB Medical Students, and participants in the JLF learning fellowship each enjoyed Shabbat meals with their peers. These smaller, more intimate meals sparked deep conversations and gave students

the chance to unwind and connect with one another.

The Hillel students feel greatly enriched by having the chance to share Shabbat with friends and guests, and they look forward to additional opportunities to extend Shabbat hospitality in the spring semester.

Buffalo Frontier Post #25
Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.
PO Box 866
Williamsville, NY 14221

An open letter to all congregations and the Jewish community:

Around 1927 the Jewish War Veterans Post 25 began service to veterans and the Jewish community. For 90 years the efforts of Post 25 benefited all veterans, fought anti-Semitism and benefited the community through various charitable works, such as conducting services at the VA hospital for Jewish veterans, assisting the poor, holding holiday parties for the community, and providing scholarships.

To the Jewish veterans that have not joined or not considered joining, you are being asked to reconsider. While there are many reasons, some valid, here are several reasons why you should join: If you are a Jewish veteran, continue the proud tradition of Jewish American patriots; continue affirming Jewish military service to our country; continue to fight anti-Semitism at home and abroad.

In order for Post 25 to continue to provide these benefits to the Jewish veteran, the Jewish community and the community-at-large, we urge you to become a member.

For additional information please contact:

Don Barish, Commander, at 716 - 632-7688.
Bert Hoffman, Adjutant at 716 - 688-4681
Bruce Messenger, First Vice Commander, at 716 - 689-2777

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LESSONS OF THE HOLOCAUST:

HOW DIALOGUE CAN PREVENT
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March 20, 2018

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

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Dr. Michael Dobkowski
Hobart and
William Smith Colleges



Dr. Christian Sandvig
Michigan University

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Certain Jewish foods have magical powers. For some, it's a piece of egg challah. For others, some flaky rugelach, sweet hamantaschen, or a savory brisket. Magical foods might taste good, but they get their power from the memories they bring us — memories of home, community, heritage, and love. When you leave a Jewish legacy, you're setting a table for the future, ensuring that what you cherish about Jewish life continues to sustain, nurture, and delight the generations to come. To learn more about leaving a legacy and to arrange a personal and confidential consultation, contact Peter Fleischmann, Foundation Director at (716) 204-1133 or email peter@jewishphilanthropies.org

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Samuel Golden Honored at HBLA Annual Meeting

The 119th Annual Meeting of the Hebrew Benevolent Loan Association (HBLA), Buffalo's Jewish Free Loan Society, was held November 5th at Temple Beth Tzedek. President Linda Boxer opened the meeting with her annual report highlighting the organization's many accomplishments of the previous year. She acknowledged the work of the HBLA committees, comprised of dedicated volunteers who serve on the Board of the organization. She also honored HBLA life members for their on-going support and commitment, recognizing new life members as well as remembering those who passed away in the previous year.

David Williams, Chair of the HBLA Loan Committee, reported on loan activity which has more than tripled in the past five years. Interest-free loans are granted for a wide variety of purposes including personal needs, higher education expenses, and small businesses.

Elections of directors and officers were held. The following current Directors were re-elected to serve additional three-year terms: Linda Boxer, Peter Fleischmann, Tom Moscato, Leonard Saran, Barbara Sitrin, and Irving Sultz. Edward Case, Joseph Enis, and Ezra Rich were elected to join the Board for new 3-year terms. The newly elected slate of officers are: Judith Katzenelson Brownstein, President; Lloyd Gerbush, 1st Vice President, Irving Sultz, 2nd Vice President; Peter Fleischmann, Treasurer; Mitchell Steinhorn, Secretary; and Stephen Yonaty, Legal Counsel.

The highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the 2017 HBLA Exemplary Service Award to Samuel L. Golden, in recognition of his dedicated service to the organization. In his capacity as Development Officer for the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, Mr. Golden shepherds the loan applications through the process and carefully manages a variety of responsibilities to keep HBLA operating smoothly.

Peter Fleischmann, Executive Director of the



Sam Golden being presented with the 2017 Hebrew Benevolent Loan Association's Exemplary Service Award for his many years of work at the HBLA by Peter Fleischmann. Other photos on this page include family and friends of Sam as well as HBLA officers.

Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies and the first recipient of this HBLA award in 2010, introduced Golden

and presented him with a beautiful handcrafted tzedakah box, symbolizing the mission of the HBLA. Fleischmann also announced a generous gift to the HBLA from the Benderson Family, establishing a named fund in honor of Sam Golden, for the purpose of increasing the loan capacity of the HBLA.

The meeting concluded with remarks from the new HBLA President, Judith Katzenelson Brownstein, who announced new efforts to increase HBLA's loan capacity, given the increased loan activity. She announced there would be a life member event on April 22nd.

For more information about loans available from the HBLA, please consult the agency website, www.wnyhbla.org or call 716. 204. 0542.



Buffalo Hadassah Celebrates Together

Buffalo Hadassah gave members two opportunities to celebrate at the end of 2017. In November the program celebrated the new Hadassah Leadership Team, and in December the program celebrated the miracle of Hanukkah. A large group of Hadassah members attended each program, and of course both programs included wonderful food and time to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones.

In November, attendees gathered at Sean Patrick's restaurant where the four leaders for 2018-- Elaine Kellick, Annette Magid, Mickey Savit, and Rhonda Wise-- were introduced. Also introduced were Jan Presser, Secretary and Sue Bergman, Treasurer. The Program Committee will be chaired by Marlene Katzel and Maxine Seller. In addition to announcing the new leaders, guest speaker Jill Bronsky spoke about keeping active and independent as we age. Her advice and humor were well received by everyone in attendance.

The Hanukkah party in December was held at Judi Stern's house and was planned by Rhonda Wise, Sherri Davis, Judi Stern and Marla Robinson. In addition, Jan Presser, Elaine Kellick, Marlene Katzel, Frima Ackerhalt and Ellen Capell helped with the food preparation. A white elephant gift exchange helped with the levity of the afternoon gathering.

Several exciting programs are being planned for 2018 including a video and talk about the The Glory Days of Buffalo Shopping with David Bunis and a live performance by the Lehrer Dance Company.

Nationwide Hadassah has more than 330,000 members, donors and associates among its participants, making it the



largest women's Zionist membership organization in the United States, with members in every congressional district.

To find out more about the Buffalo chapter, email nangrnborg@gmail.com.



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THE JEWISH JOURNAL

A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation



The March issue features

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EXPERIENCING THE NOSTALGIA OF 1950'S JEWISH BUFFALO AT CHABAD'S PURIM CELEBRATION

By Debbie Bokobza

Chabad of Buffalo is pleased to invite the community to a Purim party and festive meal on Thursday March 1 at the Knesset Center Synagogue, 500 Starin Avenue in Buffalo. The megilla reading will take place at 5:30 pm followed by a delicious dinner and party at 6:00pm.

Our Purim party will be a nostalgic evening remembering the Hertel Avenue delicatessens of the 1950's and 60's. Join us to relive the special atmosphere reminiscent of Jewish life in North Buffalo during those glory years.

We will be honoring our beloved congregant, Mr. Nathan Kornmehl and his wife, Frances, of blessed memory, who operated a classic deli on Hertel Avenue for many years. Their iconic butcher shop and deli had a great impact on every person who stepped through the doors to experience their kind and welcoming natures and the delicious foods.

Kornmehl's Meat Market was famous for its signature roll beef, a product that if tried even once was remembered for a lifetime. Since this deli closed, it has been impossible to obtain this homemade delight in Buffalo. For one magical evening, the wait will be over as we attempt to recreate that signature taste and experience one more time.

Other highlights of the evening will feature Klezmer music by Buffalo's maestro Moshe Shulman, an exceptional meal featuring typical Jewish deli

cuisine, a balloon artist ,arts and crafts for the children, and beer on tap. We will also be celebrating the rebirth and renaissance of the city of Buffalo.

The Chabad Purim party at the Knesset Center Synagogue is highly anticipated every year for the fabulous and fun atmosphere, the outstanding food and the warm and welcoming community waiting to greet everyone there.

Please join us as this evening will be exciting and memorable for adults and children alike! Early bird prices of \$18 an adult, \$10 a child, and \$60 a family are available to those who pre-register by February 22 at chabadofbuffalo.com/Purim. Please call 716-688-1642 for questions and additional information.

Prices will be \$25 an adult, \$15 a child, and \$75 a family for those without preregistration. Looking forward to celebrating a festive Purim with you!!! Come in costume if you like, to make the occasion even more fun!



GRYPHON TRIO

Two concerts in collaboration with
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Tuesday, March 13th at 8 pm
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Tickets: \$25 / Students free

Wednesday, March 14th at 7:30 pm
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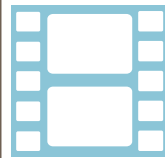
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Shea Akers (Getzville): 688-4114 x303 or
Christine Dusher (Buffalo): 886-3172 x420



Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival



March 9-15, 2018
Amherst Dipson Theatre
3500 Main Street, Buffalo
Visit www.bijff.com for details

DON'T MISS OUR KICK-OFF PARTY/FUNDRAISER!



Saturday, March 3, 7:00-10:00pm (Film begins at 8:00pm)

Taste of India, 3192 Sheridan Drive, Amherst, NY 14226

Limited Space – Book Today

Party includes: screening of Shalom Bollywood: The Untold
Story of Indian Cinema, full buffet dinner (with vegetarian
options), henna tattoos, basket raffle, cash bar, 1 free ticket
to any other film during the BIJFF, March 9-15 and more!

Program guides and tickets available at both JCC Member Services Desks



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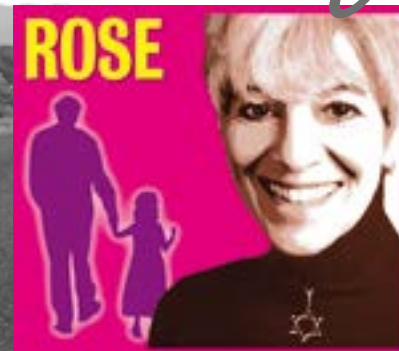


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Friday 5:30am-7:00pm
Sat 8:00am-6:00pm

JCC ART EXHIBIT BY TERESA ALESSANDRA THROUGH FEBRUARY 28



An exhibit of acrylic paintings by Teresa Alessandra will be on display in the Bunis Family Art Gallery, 2nd floor at the JCC of Greater Buffalo, 2640 North Forest Road through February 28.

Teresa Alessandra is a local artist as well as an aspiring writer and entrepreneur, who has lived in Buffalo all her life. She graduated summa cum laude from Canisius College in 2013 with Bachelor's Degree in English and Creative Writing, as well as a Minor in Studio Art.

Her artwork can be recognized from various galleries, cafes, and festivals around the city (Including Spot Coffee, Ashker's Juice Bar and Cafe, Parables Gallery, and the Glen Park Art Festival)-and she is very thankful to add The Jewish Community Center to that list! Her current collection of work utilizes a specialized acrylic paint, which is poured and layered on a perfectly flat, level canvas, and then left to dry for four to six weeks (a technique which she has been developing and perfecting for the past several years). Her inspiration for these pieces is the feelings of spontaneity, freedom, and joy which she feels while



Teresa Alessandra

she is creating them. She hopes those who view them feel the same way!

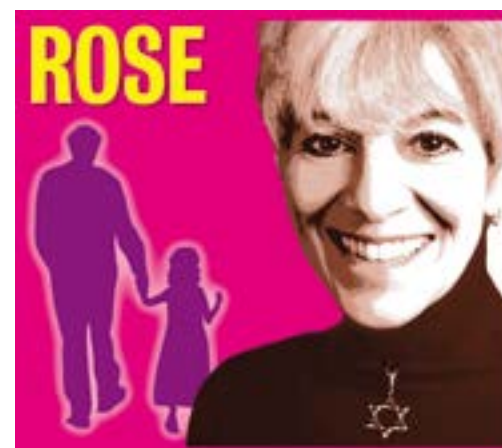
Gallery admission is free and the gallery is open during JCC business hours, 7 days a week. For more information, visit jccbuffalo.org.

Jewish Repertory Theatre presents:

A SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY

ROSE, by Martin Sherman

February 1 – 25, 2018



Join JRT for the chronicles of a remarkable woman who traveled from a tiny Russian village to the Warsaw Ghetto, to a ship called The Exodus, and finally to the boardwalks of Atlantic City, the Arizona Canyons, and salsa-flavored nights in Miami Beach. ROSE, by the author of Bent and played by Olympia Dukakis at the Royal National Theatre in London and at New York's Lincoln Center, is a vivid portrait of a feisty Jewish woman, and a reminder of events that shaped the 20th century.

Directed by Saul Elkin. Starring Tina Rausa.

Laurence Olivier Award nomination 2000!

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33rd Annual Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival March 9-15

The 33rd annual Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival (BIJFF) – the third longest running festival of its kind in North America – will present 12 award-winning and critically acclaimed films from around the world including Australia, Austria, Denmark, Hungary, India, Israel, Poland, Sweden and the United States.

“One of the most important elements of Judaism celebrated in film by the Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival is diversity,” says festival chair Michael Silverman. “Jewish stories and culture appear in the most unlikely places. In the coming edition from March 9-15 at the Amherst Dipson Theatre, the Festival endeavors to take viewers to a place not visited before - India. And not once, but twice, with Shalom Bollywood and My Hero Brother.”

Additionally, the Festival features films produced in Denmark and Hungary, with others partially-produced in Sweden, Poland, and Austria. One of the Israeli feature films - A Tale of Love and Darkness - marks the directorial debut of Natalie Portman, a film in which she also stars, while a film from the United States – Menashe - is made entirely in Yiddish.

The BIJFF also kicks off with a fundraising dinner on Saturday, March 3, 7-10 p.m. featuring Shalom Bollywood, and a full buffet dinner at Taste of India, newly relocated at 3192 Sheridan Drive in Amherst. The event will feature dinner, screening of the film, henna tattoos, a basket raffle and everyone who attends will receive a free ticket to any of the films presented during the film festival, March 9 - 15. Presale tickets are \$45. Tickets may also be purchased at the door for \$50.



2018 FILM FESTIVAL OVERVIEW

The following films will be included during the festival, March 9-15, at the Amherst Dipson Theatre, 3500 Main Street/Buffalo, (716) 834-7655. The schedule will appear in next month's Journal or at www.bijff.com.

A TALE OF LOVE AND DARKNESS

A Tale of Love and Darkness is based on the memories of Amos Oz, growing up in Jerusalem in the years before Israeli statehood with Arie, his academic father and Fania, his dreamy, imaginative mother. They were one of many Jewish families who moved to Palestine from Europe during the 1930s and 40s to escape persecution. Unhappy in her marriage and intellectually stifled, Fania would make up stories of adventures and read poetry to cheer herself up and entertain her 10-year-old son Amos. This would become an influence on his writing for the rest of his life.

Director: Natalie Portman
Nominated for Golden Camera Award at Cannes Film Festival

ACROSS THE WATERS

Unsure of whom they can trust, a Jewish musician and his family make a frantic escape from Nazi-occupied Denmark, in ACROSS THE WATERS,

a gripping story of survival and rescue. Enjoying the nightlife of 1943 Copenhagen, jazz guitarist Arne Itkin is seemingly immune to the hardships of war, as the Danish government opts for a compliant relationship with Nazi Germany. He is initially skeptical when his terrified wife Miriam hears rumors of the round-up and deportation of Danish Jews. However, an overnight raid forces the couple to flee their home with five-year-old son Jakob. Aided by a church pastor and underground resistance, they set out on a journey for the fishing village of Gilleleje, where refugees await passage to Sweden by boat. Amidst lurking danger from the Gestapo and their collaborators, the family puts its fate in the hands of strangers whose allegiance and motives are not always clear.

Based on true events, ACROSS THE WATERS is directed and co-written by Nicolo Donato, whose own grandfather was among the courageous Danish fisherman to ferry war refugees to safety.

FEVER AT DAWN

In 1945, after having been freed from a concentration camp, a 25-year-old Hungarian man, Miklós, is being treated at a Swedish hospital in a displaced persons center. The doctors diagnose him with a severe lung disease and tell him that he has no more than six months to live. But he refuses to give up, and wants to find a wife with whom he can start a new life. He sends letters to 117 Hungarian girls who are also being treated in Sweden. One of the girls is 19-year-old Lili, who likes Miklós's letter, and they start corresponding.

Based on the novel *Fever at Dawn*.
Winner of Best Feature at Cinequest San Jose Film Festival and Golden Violet award at the Parma International Music Film Festival.

HARMONIA

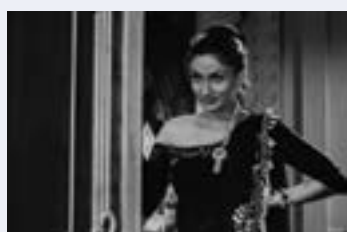
A childless Israeli musical couple seeks to form a family in HARMONIA, a contemporary adaptation of the biblical tale of Abraham and Sarah set inside the inner sanctum of a symphony hall. The beautiful harpist Sarah is married to Abraham, the charismatic conductor of the Jerusalem Philharmonic Orchestra. With no children, their melancholy

life revolves around their music. Enter Hagar, a young horn player of French-Arab descent from East Jerusalem, who joins the orchestra and forms a close personal relationship with Sarah. Their bond gives way to something more fraught, when Hagar offers to carry the couple's baby. Two rival prodigies are born—one Jewish, one Arab—leading to a metaphoric and multi-generational clash of cultures that can ultimately be reconciled only through music.

Nominated for five Israeli Academy Awards, and winner of the Best Cinematography and Lia Van Leer Jewish Heritage awards at the Jerusalem Film Festival.

HOW TO RIDE AN ELEVATOR ON SHABBAT

Buffalo filmmaker Salvatore Natale produced this short about the conflicted life of a gay Hassidic Jewish man while he was participating in the Jerusalem Film Workshop last summer. Salvatore Natale graduated in Spring 2017 with a bachelor's degree in media study from UB. He created Film Lyfe to help people learn filmmaking through an online youtube community. Natale says he learned most of his filmmaking tips and



tricks during his undergrad degree from YouTube creators.

MENASHE

Menashe, a widower, lives and works within the Hasidic community of Borough Park, Brooklyn. Since his wife passed away a year before, he has been trying hard to regain custody of his nine-year-old son, Rieven. But the rabbi (and all the community behind him) will not hear of unless he remarries, which Menashe does not want. A tender drama performed entirely in Yiddish, the film intimately explores the nature of faith and the price of parenthood.

Winner of the Terry Porter Visionary Award at the Sarasota Film Festival and Nominated for the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival

MY HERO BROTHER

A group of remarkable young people with Down syndrome embark on a demanding trek through the India Himalayas, accompanied by their 'typical' brothers and sisters. Unresolved conflicts and the complexities of growing up with a child with Down syndrome in the family come to surface, while a heart-warming and special closeness develops among the siblings as they deal with formidable physical and emotional challenges. The difficult trials and poignant relationships, set against the richly colorful backdrop of India, open new horizons and greatly deepen our

understanding of special needs people and their families.

Winner of DocEdge Award at Documentary Edge Festival, Audience award at Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival, and Audience Choice Award as well as Jury Award at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival.

RAISE THE ROOF

Inspired by images of the magnificent wooden synagogues of 18th century Poland, the last of which were destroyed by the Nazis, artists Rick and Laura Brown of Handhouse Studio set out to reconstruct a replica of the stunning, mural-covered Gwozdziec Synagogue. Working with a team of 300 artisans and students from around the world, using only period hand tools and techniques, the Browns finally realized their dream. Filmmakers Yari and Cary Wolinsky's beautifully photographed and rendered film Raise The Roof tells the story of this remarkable 10-year project against the backdrop of the 1000 year history of Jews in Poland.

Winner of the Audience Choice Award at the Seattle Jewish Film Festival

ROSENWALD

Aviva Kempner's Rosenwald is the incredible story of Julius Rosenwald, who never finished high school, but rose to become the President of Sears, Roebuck & Company. Influenced by the writings of the educator Booker T. Washington,

this Jewish philanthropist joined forces with African American communities during the Jim Crow South to build more than 5,300 schools during the early part of the 20th century. Inspired by the Jewish ideals of tzedakah (charity) and tikkun olam (repairing the world) and a deep concern over racial inequality in America, Julius Rosenwald used his wealth to become one of America's most effective philanthropists. Because of his modesty, Rosenwald's philanthropy and social activism are not well known today. He gave away \$62 million in his lifetime.

SHALOM BOLLYWOOD: The Untold Story of Indian Cinema

When Australian filmmaker Danny Ben-Moshe read an obituary of renowned Hindi film actress Nadira in 2006, he discovered that her real name was Florence Ezekiel. Further research revealed that Nadira was part of a long tradition of Jewish women and men who changed their names after entering the movie trade in Bombay, India, - later to be celebrated as Bollywood. Many of the actors were Baghdadi Jews, who traced their origins to Iraq. These women were the first to act in Indian films, at a great risk to their reputation, at a time when the participation of women in performing arts was taboo. During the silent era, most of India's film stars were Jewish. Ben-Moshe's exhilarating documentary Shalom Bollywood: The Untold Story of Indian Cinema revisits this fascinating chapter in Indian film history.

THE LAST LAUGH

Humor is tragedy plus time. -Mark Twain

Using the scope of the Holocaust, filmmaker Ferne Pearlstein examines what subjects are "off-limits" in comedy. Includes famous comics Mel Brooks, Rob Reiner, Carl Reiner, David Steinberg, Sarah Silverman, Judy Gold, and Gilbert Gottfried. The Last Laugh takes a fresh - and unexpectedly funny - approach to sensitive subject matter, uncovering affecting insights about the nature of comedy along the way.

THE TESTAMENT

Yoel, a senior Holocaust researcher, is in the midst of a widely publicized legal battle with powerful forces in Austria, concerning a brutal massacre of Jews that took place toward the end of WWII in the village of Lensdorf. An influential family of industrialists on whose land the murder took place is planning to build a real estate project on the very same land. Yoel suspects that their aim is to bury the affair for good, but has trouble finding the conclusive evidence that would stop the project. During his investigation, he also hears classified testimonies of Holocaust survivors, and to his shock and surprise, his mother is among them. A mystery about a man who is willing to risk everything to discover the truth.

Winner of the Full Length Feature Film Award at the Haifa International Film Festival

TICKETS & PASSES

Tickets and passes may be purchased in advance at either JCC member services desk, www.bijff.com or at the theatre door ½ hour prior to each film.

General Single Film Tickets \$10

Flex Pass \$50 – Six tickets for the price of 5!

Pass may be shared.

Children 18 & under FREE with parent to all films except Shalom Bollywood (March 3 special event screening)

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For information about schedules, film trailers or donation opportunities for the Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival, please visit www.bijff.com or contact Katie Wzontek at KWzontek@jccbuffalo.org

JFS INSIGHT: SIBLING RELATIONSHIPS & CAREGIVING

By Jessica Thorpe

If you have a brother or sister – or brothers and sisters – you probably have memories of fighting about who gets the last cookie, who rides in the front seat, or even who Mom likes best. Sibling relationships generally change as we grow into adulthood and forge individual life paths, but childhood dynamics may reemerge when it comes to defining care for aging parents.

And while people may be living longer, long sunset years often come with poor health – and adult children increasingly have to manage care of their aged parents for many of these years. Disagreements among siblings about who will take on the role of primary caregiver, which can be a full-time job, or how care should be provided, are common.

“Coming to terms with the encroaching frailty of parents who once seemed invincible can be brutal. Managing the spectrum of emotions and responsibilities that



come to the forefront is complicated, and old sibling rivalries and conflicts can mean an additional source of stress,” JFS President and CEO Marlene Schillinger explains.

In many families, members tend to slip into unspoken stereotypes when they come together, and such pre-defined roles and assumptions affect planning for care giving. But open, clear communication is critical in meeting the challenge of any difficult human dynamic, so talking together about family history and relationships can help smooth the way to effective, shared decision making.

“A family meeting is a good way to help everyone clarify the situation and consider who is the most able, willing, skilled and emotionally prepared to fill the role of primary care-giver, and what other family members can contribute in terms of time or money,” says Schillinger. Meeting face-to-face is best, but if physical distance prevents this, Skype or Go-to-Meeting technology can be useful. Make sure to set an agenda and then stick to it. Try not to fall back into past or unrelated issues, and remember to share feelings without making accusations.

Remember also that your brother and sister may have different perceptions about the level of care that is needed. Adult children sometimes have difficulty accepting that anything serious is wrong. The one who sees the parent most often is usually aware of the indicators – the lapses in memory, faltering balance or multiple prescription containers – that signal it is time to make a change.

Before the meeting, be sure to get as much concrete information as possible about medical status and financial issues. Both are crucial to defining a plan for care – that is, whether living independently at home, with family or paid outside support is manageable; or moving to an assisted living or long-

term care facility is possible. Oversight of paying the bills and navigation of Medicare and other health care entities is also a job in itself. Once everyone agrees about how primary, hands-on care will be provided, other important responsibilities such as these can be delegated.

“If you are the one planning the meeting, whether it is in person or through the use of technology, remember to accept your siblings for who they are, figure out beforehand what you really expect them to do, and be aware of how you ask them for help. Anger and frustration will come through in your voice, and tension won’t help to resolve the issues at hand,” Schillinger says. “When you do meet, listen quietly to what everyone, including your parents, has to say. Be willing to try different solutions as long as no one’s safety is jeopardized.”

Finally, if you think the meeting may be particularly contentious, consider inviting a mediator, social worker or geriatric care manager to help navigate through emotional roadblocks, controlling behaviors and other issues that interfere with successful resolutions. Once you come to a consensus, keep communication lines open with email, conference calls or additional family meetings to keep everyone on track.

“Jewish Family Service stands ready to provide mental and behavioral health counseling and Aging Well / Aging in Place support to families facing the challenges of defining care for their eldest members,” Schillinger said. For more information about Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County well aging support for families and seniors, call 716-883-1914 or email info@jfsbuffalo.org.



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My inspiring moments in Poland with Chabad at UB

By Hanna Sulcov

The Holocaust is something I've been learning about for years now. I have gone to museums and memorials throughout America, Europe, and Israel. I have taken a five-month course on it. I have written papers on it. I have watched documentaries and movies on it. Yet after all of this, it was still the one thing in history I could not wrap my mind around. The Holocaust is something no words could ever describe to me.

Going to Poland this past December with Chabad at UB put everything about the Holocaust for me into a new perspective. Over the seven days, I walked side by side in Auschwitz holding hands with a Holocaust Survivor. It's important that the youth of our generation gets a chance to speak to these Survivors and learn from them first-hand about the Holocaust. We are the generation that is going to keep their stories alive.

I was lucky enough to get to see and hear first-hand what this Survivor went through right on the grounds of Auschwitz. We also proudly lit Chanukah candles in front of a pile of ashes to celebrate, honor, and remember our ancestors at Majdanek. I saw hundreds of thousands of Jewish graves. I entered many vacant synagogues. Our group brought Jewish life back into Poland by singing and dancing to the songs of our ancestors.

This Chabad on Campus program through Chabad at UB, was an eye opening experience. I am so thankful to Chabad at UB, and to our Rebbetzin Rivka Gurary, who joined us on this trip, for the opportunity to be a part of this inspiring experience. Now, more than ever, I will never forget. I will always remember."

Hanna Sulcov is a Communications Major and a member of UB's Class of 2018.



The Big Fry - Hanukkah with Nickel City Jews



Community Hanukkah Party at Kadimah



Jewish Discovery Center/ Kosher Mini-Chefs Celebrate Hanukkah



(NOT) THE LAST WORD

Musings on my Interfaith Clergy Trip to Israel

By Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein

Paul Simon once sung, "these are the days of miracles and when wonders." And indeed they are. To walk the land of our ancestors, as I have been doing the past week, is to feel as if anything is possible. Our group of clergy from all different Christian denominations, as well as a smattering of Jewish leaders, almost all from Western New York, is not only learning about our ancient past, but gaining trust and love for one another to work toward bettering our region and world in the near future.



Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein here with Rev. Dr. G. Stanford Bratton in Israel, taken in December

I have seen and experienced many miracles on this trip - an Arab/Israeli School where kids study side by side in Jerusalem, a brand new city called Rawabi in the West Bank with every amenity in the world, religious settlers talking with their Palestinian counterparts, and Israel bustling with tourists from China, from Africa, from Singapore, even in the dead season. One of our participants, Rev. Al Warner from the Tabernacle in Orchard Park, who is here with his wife Deb, calls these God Winks, moments when God's presence enters our life unexpectedly. Our group has had many of these moments. Indeed just being together is bit of a miracle, our last interfaith clergy trip from Buffalo was almost thirty years ago. How wonderful to be here a week before Hanukkah, in a time when everything and anything is possible.

A DOVE FLIES OUT OF A BUSH

A dove flies out of a bush
Right over a grove of olive trees
Will it rest to pick up a branch?



We are in the vicinity of Ararat
The landscape shines with dew
It's not hard to imagine the flood has dissipated

I hear at the front of the bus
the call of someone spotting a rainbow
I see it too
Flickering in the mist
Over the hills of Northern Israel

And yet we are caught in traffic
On the way to Nazareth
The news in the world is not good
It's raining again
And all I want to see are the grapes of Noah's vinyard
Where he rests, sated
In blissful ignorance
Of human hatred
In this beautiful world
We have been left by God
To tend

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The Words of Hatikvah Sounded as if They Were Coming From Heaven

The words of Hatikvah sounded as if they were coming from heaven

Technically it was from the upstairs balcony

But for those gathered at Mayer Dizengoff's house

Erev Shabbat on May 29, 1948

It may as well have been heaven

There David Ben Gurion officially declared
the state of Israel

The rabbi stumbled through the blessing

Golda Meir cried

And the Jews celebrated

The guide shows us the white circle

Marked for the international city of Jerusalem

The ceremony was held in Tel Aviv

Because Jerusalem was under siege

The British would leave the following day

War would come

And this people nearly wiped out by the Nazis now faced
destruction again

Here, seventy years later, anxiety creeps in the room

The US may be moving its embassy

War looms

And on these meager chairs

Brought in from the cafe next door

We pray

We laugh

We live

All the while humming the old Polish melody

Letting it rise up to the rafters

As we leave the building

These words were written by Rabbi Lazarus -Klein in Israel on his most recent visit in December with the Buffalo Jewish Federation-sponsored Interfaith Clergy Trip. Rabbi Lazarus-Klein is rabbi at Congregation Shir Shalom in Amherst, NY.

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