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# THE JEWISH JOURNAL

A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

BUFFALO, ISRAEL & THE JEWISH WORLD | WWW.BUFFALOJEWISHFEDERATION.ORG

APRIL 2018 | NISSAN-IYAR 5778

ISRAEL@70



April 15-22



**DON'T MISS:**  
YOM  
HASHOAH  
(4)



**LOOK:**  
ENGAGEMENT  
CONFERENCE  
(6)



**INSIDE:**  
ISRAEL  
PARTY  
(11)



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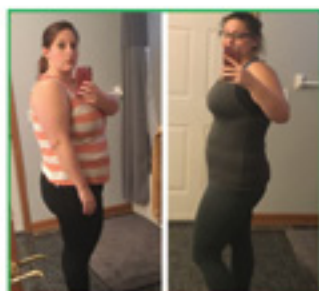


*Your Gift Improves Lives Every Day*



My childhood friend suggested the JCC's early childhood program for our daughter. From sitting at the dining table to eat, to sitting in my lap to read a book, to playing with her toys joyfully by herself, to facial expressions of happiness and even learning to clap, she has learned so much here!

-Early Childhood Parent:

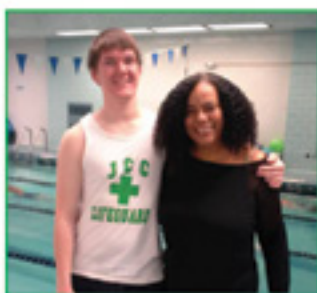


Since joining 4 months ago I've lost more than 40 lbs! I'm loving the CXWorx and BodyPump classes which are helping me achieve my goals and I really appreciate the support of the staff and members. My husband Mike enjoys strength training and our boys love hanging out in babysitting, and ask to come to the gym, so they're building healthy habits at a young, impressionable age.

- Vanessa, JCC Member

I didn't expect the profound changes that would improve my health, career and personal life. I've lost 30 pounds, halted the progress of arthritis, toned my body and dramatically increased my endurance, flexibility and strength. Inspired, I became a JCC certified water aerobics teacher, and I just celebrated my five year anniversary teaching! Joining the JCC improved my health, gave me a new career and expanded my circle of friends. The JCC is a special place that changes lives...it certainly enriched mine!

- Gail Wells, JCC instructor and member



Adventure Camp, a ropes course and wilderness program, teaches campers how to safely belay their friends while climbing the rock wall. Emie took to learning the new skill like a fish to water. Watching Emie as she stepped into her own self-confidence was powerful. JCC programs promote self-esteem, leadership and empowerment in young people. We can't wait until Emie is a little older and can become a challenge course staff member herself.

-Jason Palevsky, Outdoor Center Coordinator



Children learn, play, grow, explore and discover new talents and skills, interests and values all summer long at Camp Centerland on the Irving M. Shuman Campgrounds featuring 19 acres of athletic fields, wooded nature trails, adventure challenge courses, activity shelters, and much more!

-Michael Garcia, Director, Camp Centerland



Kids Place After School program creates safe space for children to explore and interact. We've been inspired lately by a young girl who struggles with a genetic disorder. Working with her family, we adapted our program and have watched her make wonderful friends, and participate in recreational games. She is learning that even with her challenges, she can join many activities, and it's been life changing for her.

-Shea Akers, Director, Kids Place Program

**ALL  
FOR  
ONE**  
FUNDRAISING  
CAMPAIGN

[illegible]

# Family Friendly

Please join our 2018 **All For One Fundraising Campaign**

Your support helps the JCC provide programs that help community members of all ages live longer, healthier, happier lives. Funds raised will help support community programs including Early Childhood, Health and Wellness, Fitness for Children and Adults, Scholarship for Afterschool and Summer Camp, Adult Education, Cultural Arts, the Jewish Repertory Theatre and more. Donation forms may be found at the Member Services Desk at both JCC locations.



**Benderson Family Building**  
**Bb Amherst**  
 2640 North Forest Road  
 adjacent to UB North  
 688-4033

**Holland Family Building**  
**Hb Buffalo**  
787 Delaware Avenue  
at Summer Street  
886-3145

**DONATE  
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JCCBuffalo.org

Editor's Note



Ellen Goldstein, Editor

**Chag Pesach Sameach! Happy Passover!** This month's *Jewish Journal* is jam-packed with cool stories reflecting how much is happening in Jewish Buffalo. And is there a lot going on! First, the Yom Hashoah commemoration, slated for the morning of April 15th, will honor talented members of *The Buffalo News* for their exceptional coverage of Survivors in the News last spring, and also feature BPO cellist Robert Hausmann performing a piece which he played last month in Auschwitz (see page 4).

In honor of Israel's 70th birthday, our community is celebrating in many different ways (see pages 3, 8,11,15,16, and 17) There will be journalist Gil Hoffman on April 15th, a showing of "Exodus" on the 16th, a Kadimah party, a solidarity rally and a knock-your-socks-off party at Acqua on the 19th, a special PJ Library Tot Shabbat on the 20th, a fun family parade and BBQ on the 22nd, other special events at shuls and agencies during the month, and an Israeli artist-in-residence at the JCC throughout the month.

Make sure you check out the Engagement Conference information on page 6 to see if you should attend this first-time-ever event. And if that's not enough, places are filling up fast for the Buffalo- Israel Experience in Israel October 24-November 2. Close to 80 community members have already signed up. The only one missing... is YOU!

Finally, even as we build community, create meaningful experience and share friendships in 716, the larger world lumbers on, sometimes spinning out of control. High school junior Madeleine Weinman shared her response to the recent Parkland, Florida gun tragedy with us in "Not the Last Word" (page 48). She is speaking to all of us—as Jews, as Americans, as Buffalonians, as

humans when she says "enough is enough." Don't miss it. Happy spring! After Pesach, I'll be busy planting those early vegetable crops!

Ellen Goldstein - Editor

On The Cover



Revelers wave Israeli flags in celebration of Israel's 70th birthday. Israel @70 logo designed by local artist Amir Cohen [amir@buffalo-boosters.com](mailto:amir@buffalo-boosters.com).

Cover art by Kim Miers from Buffalo Spree Publications.

3	On The Cover: Celebrating Israel@70!
4	Yom Hashoah 2018
5	Leslie Kramer is Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award Winner
6	Engagement Conference April 29 & 30
7	Campaign for Jewish Buffalo: Where Your \$ Goes
8	Rabbi's Column: Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein
9	Passover Sabra Cake by Robin Kurss
10	Join Us for Buffalo Israel Experience by Leslie S. Kramer
12	Istvan: Heroes Stop Nazis, Not Join Them by John Donsky
13	Purim with Nickel City Jews
14	Foundation & Federation in Florida
15	Israel@70 by Dr. Stuart Fischman
16	70 Reasons to be Optimistic about Israel: April 15
17	Israeli Artist-in-Residence Asaf Elkalai
18	5 Things You Can Do to Repair the World in April
	Where in Jewish Bflo
19	Special Advertising Supplement: Dining Guide
20-21	Special Advertising Supplement: Jewish Authors
22-23	Organizations & Synagogue Listings
24-25	Synagogue Happenings
26	April Calendar
27-33	Special Advertising Supplement: Passover
34-43	Agency Events
44-47	Jews in the News
48	Not The Last Word: Madeleine Weinmann

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Submit editorial stories, photos, and calendar items by the 1st of the preceding month of issue to [ellen@buffalojewishfederation.org](mailto:ellen@buffalojewishfederation.org).

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# ISRAEL@70 EVENTS

**APRIL 15**

## An Evening of Israeli Dance

5:30 - 6:45 PM Dancing

6:45 - 8:30 PM Potluck Dinner  
Unitarian Universalist Church  
695 Elmwood Ave.

\$5 donation. Call 816-5049 for info.

**APRIL 15**

## Jerusalem Post journalist Gil Hoffman

7:30 PM

Temple Beth Tzedek  
621 Getzville Road, Amherst  
"70 Reasons to be Optimistic  
about Israel's Future."

FREE

( SEE PAGE 16 )

**APRIL 16**

## Screening of "Exodus"

7:00 PM

North Park Theatre  
1428 Hertel Avenue, Buffalo  
\$10.50/person

**APRIL 19**

## Kadimah Celebrates Yom Ha'atzmaut

10:00 AM

Kadimah Academy  
1085 Eggert Rd., Buffalo  
4 Stations- wax museum, Kotel, Beach,  
and a timeline memory game. Shuk will  
have falafel & schnitzel and drinks,  
followed by songs and dances.  
\$6 for lunch. RSVP to: (716) 836-6903  
*Food under supervision of BVK.*

Starting  
**APRIL 10**

We are happy to welcome  
Asaf Elkalai, Israeli Artist-  
in-Residence to Buffalo  
throughout April.

( SEE PAGE 17 )

ISRAEL@70



**APRIL 19**

## Community Israel Rally in Niagara Square

4:00 PM  
FREE

**APRIL 22**

## Family Israel Parade with Israeli dancing / Israeli BBQ

All at Clearfield Park, Hopkins at Klein, Williamsville

10:00 AM- Hatikvah and parade around  
Clearfield Park

11:00 AM- Community-wide Israeli dancing

11:30-12:15- Nickel City Reptile and  
Exotics Show featuring exotic desert animals

12:15-1:30- Family Barbecue and Fun Fair  
(bounce houses, games, and more)

Contact Keren Green at 204-2250 or  
keren@buffalojewishfederation  
with any questions.

\$5 all you can eat.

Children under 5 years - FREE  
*Food under supervision of BVK.*


( SEE PAGE 11 )

**APRIL 20**

## Tot Shabbat to Celebrate Israel

5:45 PM

Temple Beth Zion/Broder Building  
700 Sweet Home Road, Amherst  
Shabbat services, Israel celebration and  
complimentary dinner with PALS-Kadimah

 Facebook.com/PJLibraryBuffalo



**APRIL 19**

## Israel@70 Celebration & Party at Acqua

6:00 PM

Featuring Israeli food, wine, beer and LIVE Israeli band  
2192 Niagara Street, Buffalo  
\$70/person

Tickets: [www.eventbrite.com/e/israel-70-celebration-tickets-43451762391?aff=es2](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/israel-70-celebration-tickets-43451762391?aff=es2) or contact  
Joan@buffalojewishfederation.org  
*Food under supervision of BVK.*

( SEE PAGE 11 )

# Yom HaShoah – Memories of Courage

The Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo's Yom HaShoah Commemoration will pay tribute to the Liberators and Righteous among the Nations who stood up to save the Jews during the Holocaust. The commemoration will be held Sunday April 15 at 10:30 a.m. at Temple Beth Tzedek, 621 Getzville Road in Amherst.

Six individuals will be lighting one candle each in memory of the Six Million Jews killed in the Shoah (Holocaust). The six individuals being honored included Stephan Lewy (Survivor and Liberator), Kurt Klein (Liberator), Tibor Baranski (Righteous among the Nations), Raoul Wallenberg (Righteous among the Nations), Oskar Schindler (Righteous among the Nations) and Aleksandra Drzewecka (Righteous among the Nations). Honorable Penny M. Wolfgang and Drew Kahn will narrate the biographies of the honorees.

Following on the theme of memory, *The Buffalo News* staff that created the 2017 special newspaper insert, *Survivors of the Holocaust*, will also be honored



Robert Hausmann

and will give a brief presentation on how the project was created and its impact. *The Buffalo News* honorees include Cathaleen Curtiss, director of photography; Mark Mulville,

photographer; Mark Sommer, reporter; and Gene Warner, reporter.

Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Cellist Robert Hausmann will be performing two pieces as part of the commemoration. One will be "Kaddish" by Composer Maurice Ravel. Mr. Hausmann performed this on a recent BPO trip to Poland at Auschwitz-Birkenau in memory of his great-grandmother who was killed there.

"The perpetrators of the Shoah systemically murdered 6 million Jews including 1.5 million children. This day is dedicated to remembering their legacy, the resilience of the survivors and gratitude to Liberators and the Righteous among the Nations," said Rachel Kranitz McPhee, Esq., Executive Vice President of the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo.

The Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo (HRC) is dedicated to Teach the Lessons of the Holocaust, Remember the Survivors and Victims, and to Promote Social Justice, Civic Responsibility, and Human Rights. The HRC is grateful for the sponsoring support of the Buffalo Jewish Federation and Congregation Shir Shalom.

## Community Seders

### Chabad

Friday, March 30 8:00 pm

Saturday, March 31 8:00 pm

2450 North Forest Road

For reservations, call 688-1642

### Jewish Discovery Center

Friday, March 30 8:00 pm

Saturday, March 31 8:00 pm

757 Hopkins Road

For reservations, [www.JewishBuffalo.com](http://www.JewishBuffalo.com)

### Temple Beth Zion

Friday, March 30 6:00 pm

Brookfield Country Club

5120 Shimerville Road, Clarence

For reservations by 3/12/18, call 836-6565

### Congregation Beth Abraham

Saturday, March 31 6:00 pm

1073 Elmwood Ave \$30/person

[info@congregationbethabraham.net](mailto:info@congregationbethabraham.net)

### Congregation Shir Shalom

Saturday, March 31 6:00 pm

Buffalo Marriott Niagara

1340 Millersport Highway

For reservations, call 633-8877

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# Leslie Shuman Kramer is national Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award Winner

The Buffalo Jewish Federation will honor Leslie Shuman Kramer as a 2018 Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award Winner of National Women's Philanthropy of the Jewish Federations of North America. This distinction, named for Lion of Judah founders Norma Kipnis-Wilson and Toby Friedland z"l, honors the most inspiring women in our North American communities and will be awarded at the International Lion of Judah Conference in Miami next January.

"I am honored to be receiving this beautiful award," said Mrs. Kramer. "I know I share it with many other deserving women, for whom I have so much respect. I feel blessed to be able to spend much of my time involved in the Jewish world, for which I have always had a passion."

Leslie Shuman Kramer is currently Vice President of the Buffalo Jewish Federation and is a member of Jewish Federation of North America's National Women's Philanthropy Board, where she holds the portfolio of Vice Chair of Community Engagement. She chaired the 2016 and 2015 Campaigns for Jewish Buffalo, the 2010 and 2009 UJF Women's Philanthropy Campaign, and has been a longtime member of Buffalo Jewish Federation's Campaign Cabinet, where she co-chaired a number of divisions, including Lion of Judah.

At the Buffalo Jewish Federation, in addition to serving as Vice President, she has been a member of the Board of Governors since 2006, and sits on the Federation's Executive Committee, chaired the Federation's recent Education Task Force and was a member of the Federation Community Strategic Planning Task Force.

Over the years, her interest in Education was expressed by serving as President of the Buffalo Bureau of Jewish Education, a volunteer for the Buffalo Jewish Coalition for Literacy, a volunteer at Buffalo's Vive La Casa, and a member of the Amherst Central School District Board of Education from 2010-2013. She also previously served as a board member of Temple Beth Tzedek as Education Co-chair.

Having visited and lived in Israel as a youth and young adult, Leslie has continued to visit Israel frequently. Along with her husband Jim, Shira and Rob Goldberg and Ellen and Steven Weiss, she co-chaired Buffalo's 2012 New Leadership



Leslie Shuman Kramer

Mission to Israel and has co-chaired the NWP Heart to Heart Mission. She participated in Buffalo's 2008 Menorah Mission, and has visited Poland, Tbilisi

Georgia, and Israel on several national missions including JFNA Campaign Chair and Directors Missions and NWP's Machar Mission. She is currently co-chairing the Buffalo Israel Experience which will bring a group of nearly 80 people to Israel in October.

Leslie has co-chaired Federation's Leadership Development program and the Leadership Power program for Women and has served on the Community Relations Committee.

An attorney, Mrs. Kramer practiced law in Chicago and Buffalo. While in Chicago she was a member of the Chicago Federation Young Leadership Board.

Mrs. Kramer graduated from Cornell University, spending her Junior year at Tel Aviv University, and the University of Buffalo Law School. She was the 2000 Ruth and Milton Kahn Young Leadership Award winner. Mrs. Kramer and her husband Jim have three children and lives in Amherst.

**April 16:**  
UB Dept. of Jewish  
Thought & BJE  
Lecture series

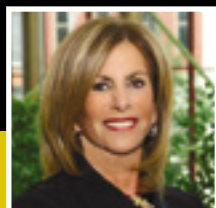
**"POWER AND  
POWERLESSNESS IN  
JEWISH THOUGHT  
AND LIFE"**

**"Jews Won't Replace  
Us: Charlottesville as  
a Challenge to Jewish  
Thought"**

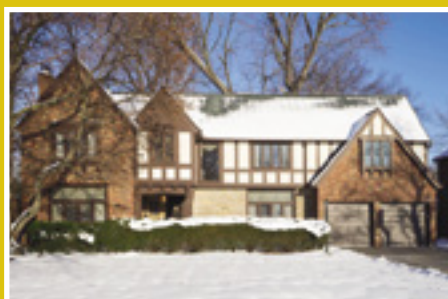
Speaker: **Noam Pines,**  
in conversation with  
**Sergey Dolgopolski**

7:30-9:00pm  
Jewish Community Center  
2640 North Forest Road, Getzville

Contact **Susan Schwartz, Director  
of Adult Learning, at (716) 204-  
5380 or [susan@bjebuffalo.org](mailto:susan@bjebuffalo.org) for  
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# engagement conference

April 29th & 30th, 2018

**The Engagement Conference** is for current volunteer and professional leaders of Jewish organizations – and for individuals who want to lead or create, using Jewish values.

## Let's Engage

Together we will gain a foundational understanding of Jewish Engagement – why we need it and how to do it – we will workshop engagement skills, listen to a panel conversation with engagement practitioners from throughout Buffalo, and put what we have learned into practice.

Featuring Keynote Speaker:  
**Rabbi Mike Uram**



Rabbi Mike Uram is the Executive Director and Campus Rabbi for the Hillel at University of Pennsylvania and the author of the new book

entitled, *Next Generation Judaism: How College Students and Hillel Can Help Reinvent Jewish Organizations*, which recently won a National Jewish Book Award. He is a sought-after speaker and consultant on the changing nature of the American Jewish community, Jewish innovation, cutting-edge engagement and how legacy organizations can reinvent themselves in the age of millennials.

**Sunday,  
April 29th  
1:30 PM -  
8:30 PM**

Murchie Family Football  
Center at UB Stadium

**Monday, April 30th 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Lippman Lounge at the JCC Benderson Family Building



## Jewish Engagement

is the cultivation of **Relationships** to support people  
in building a relevant form of **Jewish Life**  
that places the **Person** - not an  
**Organization** - at the **Center**.

### How to Register:

Register at [www.buffalojewishfederation.org](http://www.buffalojewishfederation.org)

Cost: \$18 / Person

Questions: Contact Nicole Bard  
[nicole@buffalojewishfederation.org](mailto:nicole@buffalojewishfederation.org)

**BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION**

# The Campaign for JEWISH BUFFALO

## How your investment strengthens Jewish Buffalo

One Shabbat Dinner  
for Nickel City Jews..... \$150

Passover meals for  
one student at Chabad  
for the entire holiday .....\$180

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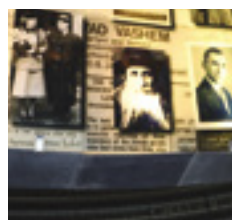
Student Leadership  
Training Retreat at Hillel.....\$800

Training for one WNY  
high school educator  
to teach the lessons  
of the Holocaust .....\$1000

Four weeks at  
Camp Centerland  
for one child .....\$1339

A trip to Israel  
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## How your investment supports Jews Worldwide

A five-month Hebrew  
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in the FSU .....\$600

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One year of home care for a  
bedridden person in Romania ...\$4000

85 winter-relief packages—blankets,  
fuel, clothing—in the FSU .....\$5000

A year's rent & basic expenses for one  
new immigrant family .....\$7500

**A huge Thank You to our investors who support  
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## Did You Know?

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and benefiting Buffalonians.

The Buffalo Jewish Federation has recently earned a coveted **4-star rating** from Charity  
Navigator, America's premier independent charity evaluator.  
Receiving four out of a possible four stars indicates that  
Buffalo Jewish Federation adheres to good governance  
and other best practices that minimize the chance of  
unethical activities and consistently executes its mission in  
a fiscally responsible way.



# Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein

Thursday is one of my favorite days of the week, because every Thursday morning, I get to spend time with a group of women from Weinberg Campus, where we gather in the game room to study Torah and talk about life. One of the members of this illustrious group is Ruth Merlin, who regales us with stories of her life in Israel, pre-1948. She was born in Tel Aviv, just a decade or so after the city was founded. It was at a time when Meir Dizengoff still rode on his horse down the newly-formed streets of the city and where a State of Israel was still just a pipe dream.

In those days, Dizengoff's house was at the center of town on Rothschild Boulevard. When his wife died in 1930, Dizengoff transformed their house into an art museum where paintings by Chagall and other Jewish artists lined the walls. But, it was not until 1948 that his house took on a new level of importance. On Friday, May 14 of that year, just before sundown, a group of Zionist leaders filled the small building. The event was supposed to be a secret, but word quickly got out that something important was about to happen. The next day, British troops would be leaving Palestine, and all the Jews living there at the time would suddenly be vulnerable to attack.

Instead of living in fear, David Ben Gurion and the others gathered that day to announce to the world their intentions. Ben Gurion's voice boomed into the microphone as he read the Declaration of Independence in just seventeen minutes time:

"ERETZ-ISRAEL (the Land of Israel) was the birthplace of the Jewish people," Ben Gurion began, in a transmission that went out to the world via the radio. Continuing a few minutes later, "accordingly we, the People's Council, representatives of the Jewish Community of Eretz-Israel... hereby declare the establishment of a Jewish State in Eretz-Israel, to be known as the State of Israel."

Unbeknownst to those in attendance, Ben Gurion had arranged an orchestra to



Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein

play "Hatikvah" in the upstairs balcony. Pandemonium erupted, with everyone singing in unison the words of the new national anthem: "As long as the Jewish spirit is yearning deep in the heart, with eyes turned toward the East, looking toward Zion, then our hope - the two-thousand-year-old hope - will not be lost: to be a free people in our land, the land of Zion and Jerusalem."

This past December I had a chance to visit Independence Hall during the Interfaith Clergy trip sponsored by our Buffalo Jewish Federation to hear Ben Gurion's words in the exact space he gave his address. The building itself is now lost among the immense buildings of modern Tel Aviv. What was barely a sand dune when Ruth Merlin was a child is now one of the top tourist destinations in the world.

On Thursday, April 19th we will celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Hebrew date of that important gathering. Seventy in the Talmud is the age of "gray hairs," so I guess that means we have finally arrived. The Jewish community will be having a number of important events that day starting with a 4 PM gathering at Niagara Square to publicly declare our love of the State of Israel and then it's time to party at Acqua later that evening. We will also be showing the movie Exodus that Monday at the North Park Theater at 7 PM. Hope to see you at any or all of the events.

*B'Shalom, Rabbi Alex*



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· Hon. Penny M. Wolfgang and Drew Kahn

The Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo

BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION



# Chocolate Sabra Cake Perfect for Pesach!

By Robin Kurss

April is a busy month with both Passover and Yom Ha'atzmaut....Here's a birthday cake that fits the bill to celebrate Passover as well as Israel's 70th birthday.



## Chocolate Sabra Cake

- 1/2c almond meal
- 1/2 c matzo cake meal
- 2 lbs. semi sweet chocolate chips
- 12 Tbsp. butter or margarine
- 3 eggs
- 1 ½ c sugar

1/4 c Sabra liqueur (Sabra liqueur is an orange chocolate liqueur made in Israel, and can be found in local liquor stores.)

2 Tbsp. grated orange peel

Preheat oven to 350°.

Grease (2) 9" cake pans.

Combine butter or margarine and chocolate chips in microwave safe bowl and heat until chocolate is melted. Cool. Beat eggs for 1 minute. Add sugar and Sabra. Beat until thick and yellow—5 minutes. Gently fold in chocolate mixture and orange peel and then stir in almond meal and cake meal, being careful to not deflate the eggs too much.

Place in cake pans and bake about 45 minutes. Cool 5 minutes and remove to cooling rack.

### Ganache Frosting:

- 1/2 c heavy cream or Rich's Whip
- 1/2 lb. semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 Tbsp. Sabra liqueur

Heat cream and chips in microwave until chocolate melts, stir till smooth. Add Sabra. Cool until slightly thickened.

### Whipped Cream:

- 1 c whipping cream
- or Rich's Whip
- 3 Tbsp. Confectioners sugar
- 1 Tbsp. Sabra

Whip until stiff peaks form.







### Assembly:

Place one cake layer on plate. Spread 1/2 ganache over top, ok if it spills over sides a bit.


Layer 1/2 whipped cream over top. Repeat with 2nd layer.

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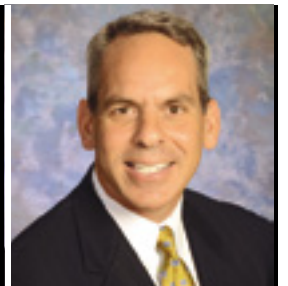
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# BUFFALO ISRAEL EXPERIENCE

OCT 24 - NOV 2, 2018

## Why we want to explore Israel with you in October

By Leslie Shuman Kramer

One early morning last month, while staying in Tel Aviv, I went for a run along the Mediterranean on the *tayelet*—the path that runs from northern Tel Aviv all the way past Jaffa to Bat Yam. The sun was just rising as I shared the path with runners, bikers and people heading to work. Running through Jaffa, I marveled at the Arab fishermen already out on the sea, the workers building the latest luxury hotel, beautiful apartments old and renovated, the old shuk, new trendy restaurants and thriving upscale stores. But it was when I headed back to my hotel on the path that I teared up. For I saw a miracle: there were those like me grabbing an early workout on the path, there were surfers and Stand Up Paddlers already in the water. And in the midst of all this activity, as the sun rose, I saw planes—that's MANY planes—approaching Israel from above the sea with their lights leading through the dawn, approaching the land, heading for Ben Gurion Airport. And I thought, *These are the flights coming from North America, Europe, Asia—from everywhere.* And then it struck me. There were so many planes, and they come every day, and they are bringing visitors from all over the world who are CHOOSING to experience Israel, work with Israel, and love Israel. EVERY DAY.

A short 70 years ago, Israel was declared a state and began her fight for survival. And now, in the blink of an eye, Israel is not only a homeland for Jews but a place where so many people from all walks of life can't wait to come! Israel is not only a religious experience for Diaspora Jews—she is a vacation destination, a business center, a fascinating place to discover—for people of all religions from all around the world. These flights arrive EVERY DAY in



Leslie Kramer and Buffalo women in Israel at last year's Heart2Heart mission.

Israel, with people who seek her out, who want to discover her magic. I took in the incredible view: surfers, runners, the beach, and the headlights shining from those incredible airplanes.....and I felt so grateful to witness this miracle.

And I can't wait for more.

Right now, nearly 80 people have already registered to participate in the Buffalo Israel Experience, from October 24-November 2, 2018. Whether you've never been to Israel or you've been there many times, Israel is constantly growing and changing, so each visit brings something new and surprising. The size of New Jersey, Israel has deserts, mountains, seashore and more. It is the home of ancient history, religiously critical to Judaism, Christianity, Islam and more. It is a world leader in technology, cuisine, tourism and social equality. It is beautiful, dynamic, creative, outspoken, politically messy, artistic and emotionally invigorating. And it is much more.

We would love to experience Israel with you. We will explore the land with its people, culture, history, geography and industry. We will stay in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa, and from there we will travel North and South. We will visit Buffalo's partnership region in the spectacular Western Galilee where we will meet our Israeli counterparts—community members just like us—who want to connect, share and learn from the greater Jewish world.

We Buffalonians will break bread, travel, tour and explore together,

strengthening existing friendships and creating new ones as we share an experience of a lifetime.

I am thrilled to be part of an energetic team planning this trip, where we hope to return home with a deeper understanding of Israel, a stronger tie to our own community, and all this while having an exciting, unique and fun experience.

I am particularly excited about this trip because we are offering many options so participants can plan some of their own activities. I am looking forward to hiking and biking some of the days—something that Jim and I love to do (and I know many of you do too). There will be winery tours, the option to visit Masada, and much more. I love the food in Israel and look forward to the fresh guava, persimmons, kiwi and olives that will be in season. Not to mention the cheeses, breads, tomatoes—all those delicious vegetables—and the desserts! And of course, there's nothing like spending Shabbat in Jerusalem, gathering together joyfully at the Western Wall as the sun begins its descent in the sky, welcoming a day of rest and peace from the energy of the work week.

The Buffalo Jewish Federation is committed to building communities. I know from my own experience that spending time together as a group in Israel creates a special community, and that is what our Buffalo Israel Experience (BIE) team plans this trip's outcome to be. More than visiting, biking and eating in Israel, I know it is the community building, the relationships, the friendships, and experiencing it as a group that will make this trip so special.

I'm excited to travel with all of you—I can't wait to share adventures, funny moments, and, yes, tears—with friends old and new in October.

**See the ad on this page to register today!**

## INFO & REGISTRATION:

[www.buffalojewishfederation.org/bie](http://www.buffalojewishfederation.org/bie)

# Israel@70 Party April 19

“LET’S REJOICE AND BE HAPPY”

Bob Dylan sang the song. Chubby Checker also sang it. So did the Smothers Brothers. Harry Belafonte considered it one of the two “stand out” songs he would sing. The song calls for us to “rejoice!” It tells us to “sing and be happy.” It calls for us to “awake with a happy heart.” We will celebrate Israel’s milestone 70th Independence Day, as one big community, following those instructions from that song: “Hava Nagila.”

The party at Acqua on April 19 at 6:00 PM will be a joyous party you will not want to miss. Live nostalgic and contemporary Israeli music performed live on stage, for us to translate to our feet on the dance floor at Acqua.

The 10 person food and tasting committee designed a custom Israeli menu with the chef at Acqua. You will have an excellent taste of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem right here in Buffalo. It will not disappoint. Come hungry.

Schmaltz Brewery will sponsor the beer. Come thirsty.

Israeli wines will be served. Come ready for some Israeli “fruit of the vine.”

Dancing to a LIVE Israeli band “Let’s rejoice and be happy” as Hava Nagila teaches us to celebrate this wonderful milestone in our history.

**Tickets are \$70 per person and available at EventBrite: <https://goo.gl/uYLPmD>. For further information, contact Joan Kwiatkowski at the Federation: 204-2242.**

## Parade & Party for Israel @70

A family parade and party for Israel @70 takes place Sunday, April 22 at Clearfield Park (corner of Hopkins and Klein in Williamsville) starting at 10:00 am. The parade around Clearfield Park begins at 10:00 am with Hatikvah, followed by Israeli dancing at 11:00am. Then, you can enjoy a fun show with Nickel City Reptiles and exotic desert animals at 11:30, followed by a BVK supervised Kosher Israeli BBQ with games and fun runs from 12:15-1:30.

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# Istvan: Heroes Stop Nazis, Not Join Them

by John Donsky

Today Neo-Nazis are stepping out of the anonymity of the internet and out into the streets. Let's take a look back 70 years at the archetype to see how men of reason and courage put their lives on the line to stop these mass-murderers, not join them. Here is one example with which I am very familiar.

Born in Hungary in 1895, Istvan Vasdenyei, known as Stephen Vasdenyey, was the Commandant of an internment camp near Budapest, Hungary during World War II. He was also my grandfather, married to my widowed grandmother, and lived with her in Kenmore until he died in 1984. My grandmother-Mary "Mimi" Donszky- and Istvan were friendly in Hungary before the War. She owned the cigarette and lottery franchise, and Istvan used to walk her home over one of the bridges to Budafolk. For his actions in saving Jews during World War II, he was awarded the title of "Righteous among the Nations" by Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem, and a tree bearing his name grows the Avenue of the Righteous at that hallowed site.

## Hungary: 1920- 1940

During 1920 in Hungary, Admiral Horthy became the Regent, and Hungarians passed laws restricting the right of Jews with quotas to schools, occupations and even restrictions on marriages to Christians. Istvan Vasdenyei was a chief superintendent of police before the War. After November, 1940, the Hungarians joined the Axis, and he was moved to Kistarsca, the internment camp on a railroad line 15 or so kilometers outside Budapest. Before the War the camp held mostly political rabble rousers against the Horthy regime. During the War, it housed Jews, Gypsies, newspapermen, politicians, priests and nuns. But mostly Jews.

## 1944

Vasdenyei continued to work in Kistarsca, and found the state actions against Jews unconscionable. He repeatedly outwitted the Nazis during the War to save Jewish lives. In 1944, when Jews were rounded up and loaded into cattle cars in Hungary, Vasdenyei let them escape out a back door, some to receive passports out of Hungary from Raoul Wallenberg. When "hostages" under 12 years of age were allowed to leave a Kistarsca "safe house," he disguised young

adults as children—men in short pants and women with cropped hair to gain them passage. Vasdenyei was captured by the Russians at the end of the War, sent first to Georgia and then Siberia, spending 14 years in Soviet Prisons and detention camps. When he was old enough to collect a pension, officials let him leave Hungary.

## The United States

Grandpa came to Buffalo in 1964, lived on Kenmore Ave across from the Colvin Theater, then around the corner on Colvin Ave. and is buried in Orchard Park. He kept the books for Custom Made Draperies, a fixture on Kenmore Ave. for decades. On November 11, 1969, he was honored by Yad Vashem at a ceremony in New York City. In attendance were my parents, my grandmother Mary Vasdenyey, Albert Meyer-architect and city planner, and his wife Dr. Marion Preminger-author, lecturer, humanitarian and disciple of the late Albert Schweitzer. There was a reception at the Albert Meyer mansion.

In 1994, the *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle* wrote a story on Oskar Schindler's List with a picture of my then-five-year-old son Stevie holding his great grandfather's Righteous Gentile medal. My



11/11/69. Istvan Vasdenyei (white hair) standing right next to the flag at the ceremony in New York where he received the Righteous among the Nations Award from Yad Vashem for saving Jews in Hungary during WWII.

grandfather had no way of knowing that his great grandson, named after him, would be considered Jewish by the Third Reich, as I am married to Tammy, a Jewish woman.

I now have the medal my grandfather was awarded in 1969, and I am so proud that his heroic deeds while a commandant in the Kistarcsa Hungarian Command were recognized by Yad Vashem before his death in 1984. I did not know about his heroism before the Yad Vashem award. In the mid 70's I asked him to tell me some stories about the War. He looked at me sadly as he shook his head and spoke in Hungarian, "the Gestapo wasn't playing games, Johnny. They weren't playing games." I had promised my Grandfather for a very long time that his story would not be forgotten.

*John Donsky lives in Rochester. He attended Canisius High School with my husband, Mitch Flynn, and found out about The Jewish Journal through high school friends and Buffalo connections. John's story about Istvan is much more complex than this short precis, and comes from the transcripts of the Adolf Eichmann trial, Yad Vashem, a translation of a Voice of America broadcast, and Raoul Wallenberg: Hero and Victim; His Life and Feats by Jill Blonsky. He continues to research his grandfather's life. Ellen Goldstein*



# Brian Higgins at Auschwitz

Rep. Brian Higgins, a Western New York Congressman, and five other Members of Congress recently made a trip to Hungary and Poland to strengthen diplomatic and legislative ties with that nation. The Members of Congress toured the Auschwitz Concentration Camp and participated in a solemn memorial program outside the Auschwitz-Birkenau extermination camp. Highlights of the trip included

a meeting with Hungary Minister of Defense Istvan Simicsko, a tour of the NATO Counterintelligence Center, and a visit to the Jewish Community Centre of Krakow. Members were also briefed on cybersecurity programs, regional security cooperation, trade and current United States European Command (EUCOM) and United States Special Operations Command (SOCOM) operations in Eastern Europe.



Clockwise from top left: 1. Congressman Higgins at Auschwitz; 2. Piles of shoes left by murdered victims at Auschwitz; 3. Following the ceremony at Auschwitz, with 6 candles lit for the Six Million; 4. Rep. Higgins and other Members of Congress signing the remembrance book;

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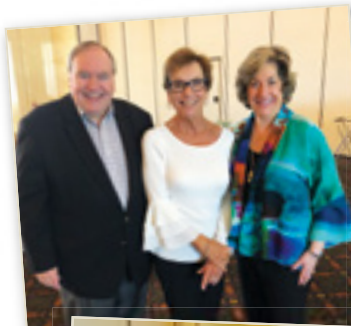
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# Jewish Buffalo Visits Florida

The Buffalo Jewish Federation and Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies organized several gatherings in Florida last month for those from our community who winter in the South. At each event, Peter Fleischmann, Director and CEO of Philanthropies, addressed our community's "Assets and Liabilities" and Rob Goldberg, CEO of Federation, spoke about the milestone of Israel's 70 anniversary as an inspiration for the work of community building in Buffalo. These photo memories are from a brunch that was held at the Chabad Boca Central on Sunday, March 4.



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**BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION**

# Israel at 70—As I See It

By Stuart L. Fischman, DMD

**Israel will be 70 this year and I'll be 83 in November. I'm "bar mitzvah age" older than my country—a perfect time to reflect on Israel, as I see it.**

The first visit Jane and I took to Israel was in 1977. Colleagues in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem agreed to complement the usual tourist sights on tour itinerary. I was astonished at Tel Aviv, having recalled the photograph of the halutzim planting a flag on the sand dunes of the first "Jewish" city in Israel! By the time we got to Jerusalem, I was enamored of the country and began planning for my 1981 sabbatical. The "rest is history." We bought our apartment in Mevaseret in 2006, then made aliyah in 2008.

For sure, Israel has changed since 1981! Our country is now economically sound, our friends are more prosperous and perhaps more materialistic. The country has gone from "pre World War I" to "high tech." Telephones, which seldom worked, useful only as table decorations, are now replaced by ubiquitous smartphones. One thing has not changed: many of Israel's neighbors still aim to destroy this country. The descendants of the Biblical Amalekites abound in the twenty-first century.

## A few examples of Israel at 70, from my perspective:

Israel is now energy self-sufficient and soon to become an exporter of energy. Discovery and development of the huge natural gas fields under the Mediterranean Sea have transformed the country, once dependent on coal from South Africa and oil from unreliable "local" sources, to a sought after supplier of natural gas. Agreements are said to be in process for exporting liquefied natural gas to Egypt, Cyprus, Greece, and Turkey.

Traditionally, access to water was a source of contention and conflict in the Middle East. In the early days of our country, drip irrigation technology was developed and enabled crops and plants to thrive with minimal amounts of water. However, that was not sufficient for this arid region. I remember installing flow-limiting devices in our faucets and showers. Water from air conditioners was to be saved for use in the garden and house plants. At one point, importing water from Turkey via tanker was under consideration. Now we are self-sufficient in water and exporting to Jordan.

How did this happen? At present 90% of our waste water is recycled for agriculture and industrial use (although it is safe for consumption). When you travel around the countryside, you'll see the blue pipes and valves indicating that recycled water is being transported. Desalination plants have been built in earnest. Using reverse osmosis technology, 2/3 of our drinking water is via desalination. Foreign governments have sent delegations to Israel to study our procedures. Technology is a notable export!



Unlike Buffalo, we live in a subtropical zone with abundant sunlight. It is to be expected that solar energy should be put to use. Solar panels and storage tanks are ubiquitous on the roofs of private homes and the source of much of our domestic hot water. The Negev Energy Project consists of gigantic thermo-solar plants in the Negev desert. In addition to plants generating electricity from the sun's heat, the plants will also produce a total of 70 megawatts of electricity from sunlight using photovoltaic panels. This combination of technologies in one spot is unprecedented in the world.

These are only a few examples of the "high tech start up nation." One of our most important exports is intellectual property—not sensitive to tariffs!

No survey of Israel at 70 would be adequate without addressing security. We feel safe here, although we are surrounded by the most hardened terrorists in the world: Hezbollah on the Lebanese border, ISIS and Al-Qaeda on the border with Egypt, Hamas in Gaza and the West Bank. We also share a border with Syria and the Iranian Revolutionary Guards. Having fought to keep Assad in power, Iran is now extending a corridor of Iranian-Shia dominance from its own borders through



Dr. Stuart Fischmann

Iraq and Syria to Hezbollah- dominated Lebanon on the Mediterranean coast.

As for Judea and Samaria—what is the future? As I see it, a two-state solution is the best alternative. The contours of such a solution have been clear for years: Israel withdraws from over 90% of the

West Bank, with land swaps for the remainder; Jerusalem is divided along its ethnic lines, with a special regime for the Old City and holy sites; Palestinian refugees are allowed to return to the Palestinian state, but not Israel; the Palestinians recognize Israel as the Jewish state. Let's see what Kushner has in mind!

Here in Israel, we look forward to the joyous celebrations on our 70 years as a sovereign nation. Our prayers are of thanksgiving and for peace—may it come speedily and in our time! CHAG SAMEACH!!

*Dr. Stuart Fischmann, a native Buffalonian and a dentist and former Professor at the UB School of Dental Medicine, currently lives outside of Jerusalem with his wife, Dr. Jane Fischmann. They made Aliyah in 2008.*



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\*April 20-23 only. A \$10 deposit per camper, per week is required for day camp. A \$50 deposit per camper, per session is required for resident camp. YMCABN.org | (716) 565-6000

## COMMUNITY

# Jerusalem Post reporter Speaks in Buffalo 4/15

Celebrating Israel@70 will be highlighted as *Jerusalem Post* journalist Gil Hoffman comes to Buffalo to talk about 70 reasons to be optimistic about Israel's future. The event takes place Sunday night, April 15 at 7:30 PM at Temple Beth Tzedek, 621 Getzville Road. The program is free but reservations are requested by contacting [joan@buffalojewishfederation.org](mailto:joan@buffalojewishfederation.org).

Gil Hoffman is the chief political correspondent and analyst for The Jerusalem Post. Well-connected to Israeli and Palestinian leaders, he has interviewed every major figure across the Israeli political spectrum, has been interviewed by top media on six continents and is a regular analyst on CNN, Al-Jazeera and other news outlets. Called "The most optimistic man in Israel" by Israel Television, Hoffman provides a behind the scenes look at the intrigue and humor in the Israeli political arena. He was raised in Chicago, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Northwestern University's School of Journalism, and wrote for the Miami Herald and Arizona Republic before moving to Israel. A reserve soldier in



Gil Hoffman

the IDF Spokesman's Unit, he has lectured in every major English-speaking country in the world, more than half the Canadian provinces, and recently made history in Hawaii when he became the first speaker to lecture about Israel in all 50 US states.



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Photograph courtesy of the artist



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Buffalo Chamber Players concerts are made possible by a grant from the Cullen Foundation, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, the support of Buffalo Chamber Players donors, and the generosity of Albright-Knox Art Gallery patrons. We thank ABC-Amega, Inc. for its generous corporate support. | Art of Jazz is produced by Bruce Eaton in association with Tony Zambito and organized by the Albright-Knox Art Gallery. It is supported by Hunt Real Estate.



# Israeli Artist-in-Residence in Buffalo this month

The Jewish Community Center and Buffalo Jewish Federation are collaborating to host Asaf Elkalai, an Israeli artist, for a three-week artist in residency program this month. Asaf Elkalai was born in Kerem Ben Zimra, and is currently based in Tel Aviv. He holds a BA in Photography from Bezalel Academy of Art and Design Jerusalem, MFA at Bezalel Academy of Art and Design and Art Education at The Hebrew University. Currently, he teaches at Ashdod Museum and works as a Social Projects Coordinator at Bezalel Academy of Art and Design.



He will be in Buffalo for three weeks (starting April 10) to lead interactive art workshops, participate in community events surrounding Yom Ha'Atzmaut and present lectures and slide shows about his work which includes a current exhibit at the Tel Aviv Museum called "Current Affairs and Contemporary Israeli art." Here are a few of his programs:

## April 12, 2018

10:30- 11:30 am *Maxine and Robert Seller Theatre at the JCC Benderson Family Building*  
**Limud –Asaf will give a lecture presentation of his work.**  
 Free and open to the Community

## April 24, 2018

12 – 1:30 pm *Board Room in the JCC Benderson Family Building*

**Lunch and Learn –Asaf will be visiting for a special Lunch and Learn, sponsored by the BJE.**

There is no cost to attend, but RSVP's are required, no later than Friday, April 20.

Please RSVP to Susan Schwartz, BJE Director of Adult Learning at [susan@bjebuffalo.org](mailto:susan@bjebuffalo.org) or 204-5380.

## April 29, 2018

7:00-9:00 pm *Congregation Shir Shalom*

**Workshop .**

*For details about the program or to RSVP please contact 633-8877.*

*Space is limited to 15 participants.*

Asaf will also be teaching workshops to students at Kadimah Academy of Buffalo, students in the afterschool program at the JCC and CEPA Gallery, and members of the Adult Art class at the JCC.

**For more information about Asaf Elkalai visit: <https://www.asafelkalai.com/>. For Community Events Asaf will be participating in, please contact Katie Wzontek at 204-2084.**



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## 5 THINGS YOU CAN DO in April to Repair the World

- 1» **Witness "Memories of Courage"–the 2018 Yom Hashoah Community Commemoration** Sunday, April 15 at 10:30 am at Congregation Shir Shalom, and continue to remember those who perished in the Holocaust and those who survived and continue to tell the story.
- 2» **Hear *Jerusalem Post* journalist Gil Hoffman** talk about 70 reasons he is optimistic about Israel@70, Sunday night, April 15 at 7:30 pm. Temple Beth Tzedek. **Free, but reservations requested through [joan@buffalojewishfederation.org](mailto:joan@buffalojewishfederation.org)**
- 3» **Enjoy a "Taste of Ghana"** Wednesday, April 18 at St. John Ukrainian Catholic Church, 3275 Elmwood Ave in Kenmore, and help build a computer lab at a school in Ghana. Tickets \$25- pre-sale / \$30 at the door. **Call 913-9835 or visit [www.hosikids.org](http://www.hosikids.org) for more information.**
- 4» **Celebrate Israel April 19th!** Begin with a rally in Niagara Square at 4 pm. Then, move on to Acqua Restaurant at 6 pm for the Israel Party Community Celebration featuring live music and food at Acqua – \$70/person. **For tickets, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/israel-70-celebration-tickets-43451762391>.**
- 5» **Celebrate Israel as a family** Sunday, April 22 at the Clearfield Park Rec Center. The family friendly event includes a parade, Israeli dancing and an Israeli-style BBQ. **Contact Keren Green at [keren@buffalojewishfederation.org](mailto:keren@buffalojewishfederation.org).**

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In March, Fran Paskowitz identified the photo as a seder plate belonging to the collection at the Temple Beth Zion's Cofeld Judaic Museum on Delaware Avenue.

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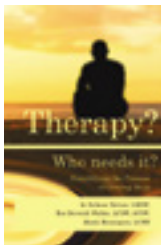
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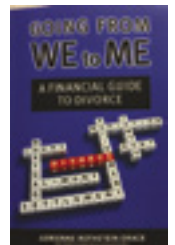


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Zoe Goldman is the psychiatrist in this Buffalo-based psychological thriller series. In Little Black Lies, an International Thriller award finalist, Zoe discovers the truth about her birth mother. She helps a girl with amnesia in The Girl Without a Name. In The Secret Room, someone is killing her patients in prison.....is she next? Lisa Scotto-line is "a forever-fan of Zoe Goldman" and the NYT Book Review says Zoe's "quick wit.....shines in unexpectedly wicked ways."



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**SUSAN NUSSBAUM**

Good Kings Bad Kings takes place in a Chicago neighborhood called Back of the Yards, known for its proximity to the infamous stockyards that once flourished there, in a nursing home for disabled teenagers. The situation is grim, yet the kids housed inside are vibrant, funny and more streetwise than sheltered. All of them struggle with demons, inside and out. Nussbaum, also disabled and the recipient of the 2012 PEN/Bellwether Prize for Socially Engaged Fiction, lets the characters tell their own stories without being filtered through a non-disabled perspective.



**susannussbaum.com**



**GUNILLA THEANDER KESTER  
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On February 12, 2009, Flight 3407 crashed near Buffalo, NY. Fifty people and one unborn baby lost their lives. Published a year later, The Empty Chair: Love and Loss in the Wake of Flight 3407, contains the stories of those left behind. Written by family members, friends, and community members, the book includes memories, poems, prayers, and photos. A second volume, The Still Empty Chair, was published a year later, also edited by Gunilla Kester and Gary Earl Ross.



**Lulu.com**  
**gunilla@thekesters.net**



**CHANA REVELL KOTZIN, PHD**

This rich pictorial history, Jewish Community of Greater Buffalo, begins with Buffalo's first synagogue and traces an increasingly complex and diverse Jewish community over 150 years. The collection was compiled and researched by Dr. Chana Revell Kotzin, director, archivist and historian. Many of the photographs were obtained from the Jewish Buffalo Archives Project, a Jewish community-university partnership with University Archives at SUNY Buffalo under the auspices of the Bureau of Jewish Education and the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies.



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#### MURRAY LEVINE

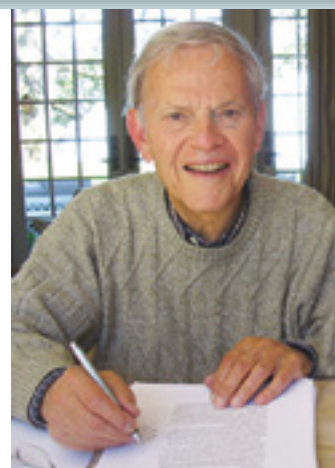
New Beginnings is a midlife romance story. Julia, a headstrong rising executive, was betrayed in a previous love affair. She meets fellow parishioner, Henry, a recent widower and staid retired accountant who seeks to resume a career as an artist. Just as their romance develops emotionally and sexually, she receives an offer for professional advancement. Can they maintain their relationship and overcome obstacles? Can they develop a deep feeling for each other by solving life's problems together?



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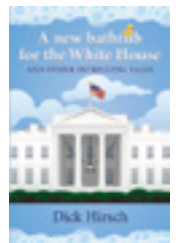
A devoted husband and family man, Michael Franklin Ellis was a poet, comedian, business man and community leader. His humorous outlook led him to see the lighter side of life, which is captured in his poetry. He always had time to raise the spirits of his fellow man. This compilation of versifications, selected and compiled by Joan Ellis Shatkin and Darcy F. Wallen, exemplifies the fascinating Torah-like parallels of Chassidic philosophy that view life's circumstances from a positive angle.



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#### MARK GOLDMAN

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**Lulu.com**  
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#### GUNILLA THEANDER KESTER

If I Were More Like Myself; Poems from America, Sweden, and Ghana is a collection of poems exploring the poetic in ordinary relationships. A wife and mother responds to her husband and children, a daughter and sister to her family, a friend to her dead and living friends, a teacher to her students, some as far away as West Africa. Love grows and changes as it changes us! The book includes beautiful photos by Shiri Kester.





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[www.buffalojewishfederation.org](http://www.buffalojewishfederation.org)  
Rob Goldberg - CEO & Executive Director  
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### Bureau of Jewish Education

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miriam treger honig - President  
TEL 716-836-6565  
www.tbz.org

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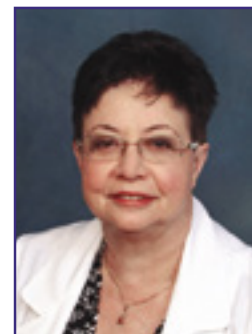
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## Attention Snowbirds!

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 Joan Kwiatkowski at 716-204-2242 to give us your "temporary" address. Thank you!

## Kehillat Ohr Tzion

When Kehillat Ohr Tzion celebrated Purim, the name of Haman was blotted out with the shaking of pasta boxes. After the reading the Megillah the pasta was collected and was donated the following week to Hearts for the Homeless. In addition, juice boxes have been collected all month and were also donated to HH.



Following the Megillah reading, members and guests of KOT had a light supper and then enjoyed a Purim spiel, which consisted of a parody of songs from *Fiddler on the Roof*. The lyrics were written by Ted Steinberg and the singers were Zahava Fried, Hannah Freundel and Brian Joseph.

Bags of *mishloach manot* were also collected and delivered to residents at the Weinberg facility the next day by Jeff Schapiro. The annual collection is coordinated by Marian Arbesman.

*For more information about all the activities and learning opportunities at KOT contact Rabbi Bergman at origbergman@gmail.com.*

## The Music of the Middle East Ethan Fox Quartet

**Saturday, April 7, at 7 p.m.  
805 Delaware Avenue**

Come for the concert debut of the Jewish World Music Series. This will be a celebration of Jewish music of the Middle East, focusing on classical, folk and fusion musics of various countries such as Israel, Syria and Egypt. We will explore unique rhythmic and melodic aspects of this music. We will also discuss many historical aspects to this music.

Ethan Fox Quartet includes Ethan on percussion, Anna Bush on clarinet, Zack Steinberg playing bass and Mark Tobin on violin.

**RSVP by calling (716) 836-6565. A \$10 donation at the door is appreciated.**



## Mark Criden at TBZ Achim April 8

The Brotherhood of Temple Beth Zion's April Achim program will feature Mark A. Criden, who will talk about the history and complexities of wine. It will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 8 at the Meadows Lounge, located on the second floor at the Weinberg Campus, 2650 North Forest Road.

Criden is well known as the recently retired Executive Director of Temple Beth Zion and previously was a tax attorney, a writer and business professional. He also has become a maven on wine, serving as the Chair of the International Wine and Food Society in the 1990s and was the wine columnist for Buffalo Spree Magazine until 2012. There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion. Achim is a monthly program for the benefit of the residents, and their guests, at the Weinberg Campus and is open to the public at no cost.

**For further information, please contact Ken Graber at 681-9885.**



## TBZ Volunteer Opportunity

Temple Beth Zion will coordinate volunteers to serve at Friends of Night People on the second Tuesday of each month. No need for volunteers to cook the meal, only serve it. Ten volunteers are needed from 4 to 7:15 p.m. (Minimum age is 14 - minors must be accompanied by parents.)

**Due to limited availability of parking, carpooling is necessary. Call Leslie at 839-0079 or email Ann Marie at annmarie@tbz.org for more details and/or to put your name on the list of volunteers. You can volunteer once or on multiple Tuesdays.**

## Joint Liberal Passover Service to be held at Shir Shalom April 6

The Joint Liberal Passover Service will take place Friday, April 6 at 10:30am at Congregation Shir Shalom. The service will be led by the clergy from Congregation Shir Shalom, Temple Beth Zion, Congregation Havurah and Temple Beth El of Niagara Falls. A complimentary luncheon will follow.

**Please RSVP to the Temple Office at 633-8877. Everyone is welcome.**

## Save the Date

Anne Bernstein Memorial Shabbat Speaker Series  
**“Human Sexuality and Relationships”**

**At Congregation Shir Shalom**

Presented by Andre Toth

**Saturday, May 26th 12:00pm Luncheon 1:00pm Speaker**



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## Kulanu @ TBZ

The Annual Kulanu Winter Service was held at Temple Beth Zion February 9. Daniel Dobies, a life-long TBZ member spoke eloquently on the theme "Kulanu Echad - All of Us are One." The service, crafted by Mat'an Schwartz, incorporated elements of a spirituality service into the Kulanu liturgy. The mission of Kulanu is to create a "sukkat shalom" - a shelter of peace and community.



## Shabbat Evening Service and Chametz Fest at TBZ



**Friday, April 6 at 6 p.m.  
Service**

Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Road

### Pizza dinner to follow

Tired of matzoh? Then come join your friends at TBZ for dinner as we end Passover together. Pizza, soft drinks and beer (for those over 21) will be served.

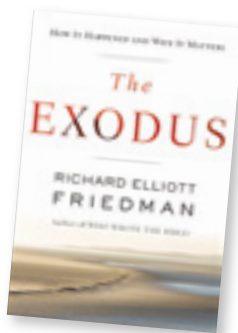
**Please RSVP by Thursday April 5, at 836-6565. Cost: \$5 per person.**

## Rabbi Lazarus-Klein to lead new class at Canterbury Woods at Gates Circle

Join Rabbi Alex from Congregation Shir Shalom for a new class, "The True Story of the Exodus from Egypt" based on the book by Richard Elliot Friedman, *The Exodus*. The class will delve into the current archeology and critical biblical study to discover what we know today about the Israelite journey from slavery to freedom thousands of years ago. And, most importantly why it matters.

*The class will meet on 4/4, 4/11, 4/18 and 4/25 at 2:00pm in Canterbury Woods at Gates Circle.*

**Call 633-8877 for more info.**



## Join the Shir Shalom Youth Group in celebrating Passover with a Chocolate Seder

**Sunday, April 1st 5:00pm at Congregation Shir Shalom**

All 7th-12th graders are welcome to attend! There will be tons of delicious chocolate treats as we journey together through the story of Passover.

**If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by March 27th to our Youth Group Advisor, Shiri Kester, at shirikester@gmail.com.**



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

### Upcoming Hops:

**Friday, April 13th - 6:00 pm**

Tot Shabbat Service followed by a complimentary pizza dinner at Congregation Shir Shalom

**Friday, April 20th - 5:45 pm**

Come celebrate Israel's 70th birthday at this special Israel-themed Tot Shabbat! Service followed by a complimentary dinner at Temple Beth Zion's Broder Center with PALS-Kadimah

### See Full Event Details:

[Facebook.com/PJLibraryBuffalo](https://www.facebook.com/PJLibraryBuffalo)



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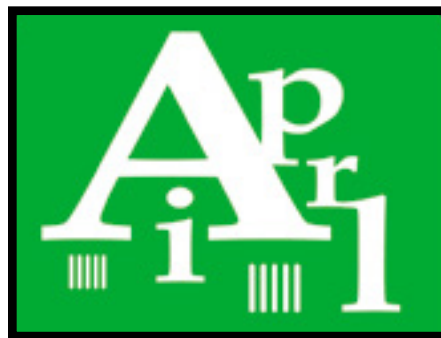
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## CALENDAR



### March 30

**Passover Begins - First Seder**

**COMMUNITY SEDERS taking place at:**

**Temple Beth Zion**

6:00 pm, Transit Valley, 836-6565

**Jewish Discovery Center**

8:00 pm, 757 Hopkins Road,

[www.jewishbuffalo.com](http://www.jewishbuffalo.com)

**Chabad of Buffalo**

8:00 pm, 2450 North Forest Road,

688-1642

### March 31

**Start counting the Omer tonight**

**COMMUNITY SEDERS taking place at:**

**Congregation Shir Shalom**

6:00 pm, Buffalo Marriott,

1340 Millersport Highway, 633-8877

**Congregation Beth Abraham**

6:00 pm, 1073 Elmwood Ave, 633-8877

**Jewish Discovery Center**

8:00 pm, 757 Hopkins Road,

[www.jewishbuffalo.com](http://www.jewishbuffalo.com)

**Chabad of Buffalo**

8:00 pm, 2450 North Forest Road,

688-1642

### Through April 7

**Passover is celebrated**

### Through April 30

**Israel Artist-in-Residence Asaf Elkalai  
in Buffalo**

Call the JCC at 204-2084 for information.

### April 13

**Tot Shabbat**

6:00 pm, Congregation Shir Shalom

### April 15

**Yom Hashoah Commemoration**

10:30 am, Temple Beth Tzedek

**Jerusalem Post Journalist Gil Hoffman**

Speaking at Temple Beth Tzedek

at 7:30 pm

*"70 Reasons to be optimistic about Israel's  
future."*

### April 16

**Screening of "Exodus"**

At the North park Theatre

7:00 pm, \$10.50/person

### April 16

**Jews Won't Replace Us: Charlottesville as  
a Challenge to Jewish Thought**

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*Speaker: Noam Pines, in conversation with  
Sergey Dolgopolski*

7:30-9:00 pm, Jewish Community Center  
2640 North Forest Road, Getzville

Contact Susan Schwartz, Director of Adult  
Learning, at (716) 204-5380 or

[susan@bjebuffalo.org](mailto:susan@bjebuffalo.org) for more information.

### April 19

**Community Rally for Israel@70**

in Niagara Square, 4:00 pm, Free

**Community Celebration of Israel@70**

6:00 pm, Acqua Restaurant

\$70/person, [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/israel-70-celebration-tickets-](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/israel-70-celebration-tickets-43451762391?aff=eac2)

[43451762391?aff=eac2](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/israel-70-celebration-tickets-43451762391?aff=eac2)

**Jewish Repertory Theatre**

**Opening Night-Sight Unseen**

7:30 pm, Seller Theatre,

JCC/Benderson Family Building

Call 652-7626 for Tickets

### April 20

**PJ Library Celebrates Israel@70**

Temple Beth Zion - Broder Center

5:45 pm

TBZ with PALS/Kadimah. Guests welcome

### April 22

**Family Program for Israel@70**

Israel Parade, Israeli dancing, Israeli BBQ

10:00 am-1:30 pm

All at Clearfield Park,

Hopkins and Klein Rds.

Contact Keren Green at

[keren@buffalojewishfederation.org](mailto:keren@buffalojewishfederation.org)

### April 26

**Jewish Women's Connection**

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7:00 pm-9:00 pm, Private Home,

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to reserve your space

### April 29-30

**Federation's "Engagement 101"**

Sunday April 29 - 1:30 pm-8:30 pm

Gicewicz Club @ UB Stadium

Monday, April 30 8:00 am-12:00 pm

JCC Lippman Lounge

Contact [Miriam@buffalojewishfederation.org](mailto:Miriam@buffalojewishfederation.org)

org for more information

# Happy Passover



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Barry M. Epstein, MD  
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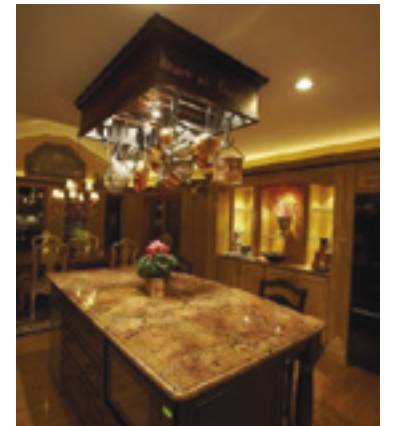
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Candidate for  
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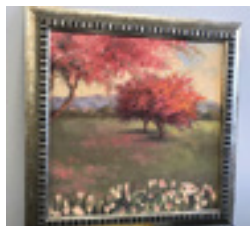


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## Exhibit of Donated Art Work at Bunis Family Art Gallery, JCC of Greater Buffalo, Through April 30

Jewish Family Service and the Jewish Community Center are collaborating to present an art exhibit of donated art from those within our community. "This is a very special exhibit in that it comes from members of the community. Proceeds from sales will be donated back to two agencies that serve the community and any art not sold will be donated to new members of the community," said Richard Zakalik, Executive Director of the JCC, home to the Bunis Family Art Gallery, where the exhibit will take place, March 1 – April 30, 2018.



Some of the art that is for sale.

Art in the exhibit includes work by Israeli artist A. Elgi, Buffalo artists Irving Mink and Walter Prochownik, American abstract artist Clinton Hill, German artist Herbert Schneider, and more including original paintings, prints, needlework, drawings and photographs.

"The JCC often get calls from people who are looking for places to donate artwork, typically because a family member is downsizing and while the family doesn't want to keep the art, they don't want to throw it away and are looking for a place where the art can be enjoyed and appreciated," said Jordana Halpern, who curates the gallery as Cultural Arts director at the JCC. "We wanted to create an exhibit that would benefit the community, including new members of the community who have relocated with the help of Jewish Family Service, which has been helping families and individuals make the challenging transition from Sudan, Iraq, Nepal, Somalia, Burma, Bhutan and other strife-torn areas of the world."

"We're excited to be working with the JCC on this program," said Marlene Schillinger, President and CEO of Jewish Family Service. "Our agency provides a broad range of services including resettlement, health services, counselling and advocacy for people

who need support during times of challenge and personal change. This program will serve to connect new residents in WNY to families with long histories here. It's an opportunity to forge connections and extend warm welcomes through sharing of art. Without being formal about it, we'll be giving people a chance to share their history, adopt some history and hopefully share and promote Buffalo's city of good neighbors."

Gallery admission is free and the gallery is open during JCC business hours, 7 days a week.

**For more information, visit [jccbuffalo.org](http://jccbuffalo.org) or contact Jordana Halpern at 716-204-2255 or [jhalpern@jccbuffalo.org](mailto:jhalpern@jccbuffalo.org).**

## JEWISH REPERTORY THEATRE PRESENTS *SIGHT UNSEEN*, BY DONALD MARGULIES, APRIL 19 – MAY 13, 2018

The Jewish Repertory Theatre completes its 2017/2018 season with *SIGHT UNSEEN*, the third production in a season called *A Sentimental Journey*. "This season we are bringing back a couple of "old" friends – VISITING MR. GREEN and ROSE - who helped us start our JRT journey as well as *SIGHT UNSEEN*, which will be the third Donald Margulies play we have produced," said Saul Elkin, JRT Founding Artistic Director. "These are productions that we first presented in other Buffalo theatres before we had a home of our own. Revisiting these wonderful stories and characters in our own theatre space is an exciting venture which we are pleased to offer our audiences."

*SIGHT UNSEEN*, JRT's third play of the season, is Donald Margulies' play about Jonathan Waxman, a superstar artist, so popular that collectors will buy his work "sight unseen." In London for a major retrospective, Jonathan decides to call his former girlfriend, Patricia, whose influence became a turning point in his early career. Patricia is now married to Nick; they live in the English countryside, where they excavate ancient Roman ruins. When Patricia invites Jonathan to spend the night, tensions arise among the threesome. The scenes in the countryside are intermingled with scenes of an interview with a German journalist, Grete, who questions Jonathan's motivations for his art and his self-promotion. Throughout *SIGHT UNSEEN*, questions about art, money, love and inspiration, their co-dependency and the ways in which they are inextricably entangled, are brought to the surface.



The play is directed by JRT Artistic Director Saul Elkin and stars Constance Caldwell, Josie DiVincenzo, David Lundy and Peter Palmisano. Brian Cavanagh is Lighting Designer, Kari Drozd is Costume Designer, Tom Makar is Sound Designer, David Dwyer is Set Designer, Amelia Scinta and Christina Serio are Stage Managers, Mike Benoit is Property Master and Jessica Lake Mason is House Manager.

***The Jewish Repertory Theatre of Western New York is a program of the JCC of Greater Buffalo. This season's original artwork is created by artist Eta Rottenberg. For more information on JRT productions, dates and tickets, visit [www.jewishrepertorytheatre.com](http://www.jewishrepertorytheatre.com). Tickets are available at 716-650-7626, through Showclix at 1-888-718-4253 (Monday-Friday, 9am-9pm EST) or at either JCC reception desk.***

## STAGE RIGHT THEATRE PROGRAM BEGINS APRIL 4 AT THE JCC

Calling all thespians! Join others with an exploration into the wonderful world of acting. Enjoy a variety of theatrical forms including theatre games, mime, reader's theatre, live radio drama, story theatre, and performance art. No experience necessary!

**April 4 – June 6, (10 weeks)  
Wednesday mornings, 10:30 – 12 pm  
\$136/general, \$110/JCC members**

**All classes take place at the Jewish Community Center, Benderson Family Building, 2640 North Forest Road, Getzville, NY**

Instructor Gail Golden has a BFA in Theatre from Ithaca College and an MA in Theatre and English from SUNY at Buffalo. Gail has performed at Walt Disney World, Sea World, and Universal Studios and in more than 1,000 TV and radio commercials and since 2006 has played the role of Mrs. Claus in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

**To register, contact Karla Wiseman Adult Services Supervisor, at 716-688-4114, ext. 366 or [kwiseman@jccbuffalo.org](mailto:kwiseman@jccbuffalo.org). Registration also available at either JCC Membership Services Desk or at [www.jccbuffalo.org](http://www.jccbuffalo.org)**

# Hadassah

By Phyllis Steinberg

This year Buffalo Hadassah formed a new leadership format with four co-presidents, each of whom will preside over three meetings a year. Annette Magid led the March meeting where upcoming programs were discussed as well as ideas for fundraising. Twenty members attended an informal luncheon get together in February where the attendees got a chance to get to know some new members, several of whom have been welcomed into the Buffalo chapter this year as reported by Membership chairperson Nancy Greenberg. The Mitzvah Committee, chaired by Jan Liebowitz, is still collecting juice boxes for Hearts for the Homeless and household items to donate to Jewish Family Services.

Plans were also made for writing and distributing the next bulletin where registration forms will be included for the next two Hadassah programs. On April 18, Dr. Gale Burstein, Erie County Commissioner of Health, will speak at a luncheon at the Lenox Grill on North Street. She will address a variety of health concerns based on her expertise and extensive experience, not only as Health Commissioner but also as a Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at UB Jacobs School of Medicine and a Research Professor at the UB School of Public Health. There will be a Q and A



Co-president Annette Magid hands over key and gavel to Elaine Kellick, the incoming co-president



Hadassah members and friends

following her presentation. **For more information about the program email [phyllismksteinberg@gmail.com](mailto:phyllismksteinberg@gmail.com).**

The registration and details about the May 13 'Glorious Days of Buffalo Shopping' program will also be included in the bulletin. David Bunis, former Vice-Chairman of the Sample Stores and Marvin Frankel, from L. L. Berger will be the guest speakers at the kosher brunch event, which will be held in the Lippman Lounge at the JCC. Rich Kellman will present a video of memorabilia from

shopping at these stores. Following the brunch at 2:00 pm the Jewish Repertory Theatre will be presenting the last performance of *Sight Unseen* by Donald Margulies in the Robert and Maxine Seller Theatre.

The Buffalo Hadassah Chapter is proud to contribute thousands of dollars every year to the Hadassah Medical Organization in Jerusalem, where over one million patients a year are treated without regard for race, religion or nationality.



## The TELL Fund Cordially Invites You To Join us Sunday, April 22nd, 2018

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\*Malka and her illustrious husband, Rabbi Eliyohu Touger have authored or translated over 50 books.

Joan Ellis Shatkin, o.b.m., birthday is being commemorated at this event.

For information, sponsorships, or to R.S.V.P. for Sunday program, please contact:

Rus Devorah Wallen - 917-584-0440 OR [TELLFund@gmail.com](mailto:TELLFund@gmail.com)

To pre-register for either event, go to: [www.tellfund.org/events.html](http://www.tellfund.org/events.html)

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# Stepping Away to Step Forward: Hillel's Leadership Retreat

By Daryl Rosh

26 hours. 8 student leaders. One team. Hillel of Buffalo is constantly growing and improving through passion, teamwork and perseverance. Rabbi Sara Rich, Executive Director, and Logan King, Coordinator of Jewish Student Life and Ezra Fellow, recently added eight new student leaders. The student leadership team consists of four Engagement Interns: Gabi Silverstein, Marie Meltzer, Sasha Shapiro, and Jen Seidman, Social Interns Daniel Levy and Elizabeth Roth, and Israel Interns Shaya Kalmanofsky and Blake Lobel.

In order to form cohesion as a group, Rabbi Sara and Logan organized a Leadership Retreat for the team at the start of the spring semester. The goal was for the interns to start to set expectations of how they want to work as a group and create a vision of how they want Hillel programming to be portrayed. "I've never experienced such a productive form of enjoyment," remarked Gabi Silverstein.

The program began with an activity in which each person delivered an eight minute speech about their "Soul Story." The Soul Story is a reflection on everyone's own personal histories with Judaism. Sharing these stories encouraged each individual to find their comfort zone within the team by sharing happy, funny, surprising or even sad reflections. "That activity was the beginning of our group's current deep connection," Gabi said. "It was a chance to dive deeper into questions such as: 'What is a key experience that has impacted your Jewish identity?' and 'Has anything surprised you in college, relating to how you felt about Judaism before you came?'"

Marie also found the Soul Story activity to be valuable. She remarked, "The Soul Story was my favorite activity. Going into the retreat with little expectations, I was able to learn and understand how every story is different, which is a big part of Judaism, is that we are all different." Marie continued to discuss how holding this position became helpful academically as a freshman studying political science at the University at Buffalo. As an Engagement Intern, it is crucial to be good at talking to people, and trying to understand their stories. These same tools allow students to grasp different views and analyze stories of all sorts of people, and the retreat helped teach the students to do this in an open-minded and confident way.

Another powerful team bonding activity during the retreat is called Boundary Breaking. The students and staff sat in a circle, and the staff took turns asking a question that everyone in the circle had to answer, like "Who is your biggest role model?" and "What would you like to smash?" Before they knew it, it was 1:15AM and a new family was formed. Team work and cohesion are qualities that are very often overlooked in many work or organizational settings. Rabbi Sara and Logan knew that focusing on group dynamics would make a huge impact on how the interns will work as a team and help contribute to the Hillel of Buffalo. We are very excited to see how the team of interns will continue to succeed.

**Daryl Rosh serves as a Marketing and Public Relations Intern at the Hillel of Buffalo and is a Business Administration Major at UB.**

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## SCHOOL'S OUT, THE J IS IN



### VACATION CAMP

Grades K-6 | 8:00am-6:00pm

When school's out for holidays or conference days, the JCC is in! Daily activities typically include a field trip, gym, crafts, drama, cooking, and other games. Bring a lunch, sneakers, swim suit and towel each day.

Full Member Gym/CP  
\$55 \$65

Hb  
Buffalo

Conference Day  
Buffalo Public Schools  
Thursday, April 19  
class#19355  
Thursday, May 10  
class#19362



### SATURDAY NIGHT OUT

Grades: K-5 | 6:00-10:00pm

As parents enjoy a night out, kids will have a blast during after hours at the J. Swim, play, enjoy kid friendly treats and watch a movie.

Full Member Gym/CP  
\$25 per child \$30 per child

Hb  
Buffalo

April 14  
class#19400

Bb  
Amherst

May 5  
class#19209



### EARLY DISMISSALS

Grades: K-6 | 11:00am-6:00pm

When schools dismiss early for Parent/Teacher Conferences, the JCC is just getting started. Current Kids Place:

Full Member Gym/CP  
\$20 \$27

Non Kids Place:

Full Member Gym/CP  
\$32 \$42

Hb  
Buffalo

Buffalo Public Schools  
Wednesday, April 18  
Current KP  
class#19401  
Non KP class#19402  
Wednesday, May 9  
Current KP  
class#19300  
Non KP class#19349



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Apr. 19 - May 13 2018



## Join us as we welcome Asaf Elkalai

Meet Israeli artist Asaf Elkalai, a graduate of the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in Tel Aviv. For community workshops and programs visit [www.jccbuffalo.org](http://www.jccbuffalo.org).



## HAPPY PASSOVER

Friday, March 30

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Saturday, March 31

Center closed

Friday, April 6

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

# Why we chose Kadimah for our children

By Fran Paskowitz

My background, as a public school teacher and administrator, has given me a deep respect for public school education. Yet, for my children and now my grandchildren, I strongly support and believe in the value of a Jewish Day School. Research has shown that a Jewish Day School education is most closely aligned to Jewish children remaining Jewish, seeing themselves as knowledgeable and committed Jews, serving as leaders in their community, engaging with a synagogue, volunteering, and donating to Jewish causes-- all very important facets of our religion.

My husband Michael and I are proud to see our own children's commitment to Judaism, their Jewish pride, which began in our home and was nurtured by their excellent Kadimah Hebrew and Judaic teachers. Knowing that their stellar Kadimah secular education provided a strong foundation for their academic success, in high school, college, graduate school, and in their current career paths makes us even more indebted to Kadimah Academy.



PASSOVER SEDER AT KADIMAH: L-R front row: Rozie Herman, Mrs. Naomi Cowen, Ava Green. 2nd row: Talula Enis, Gabriel Epstein, Nessa Grol-Norris

Fast forward to Kadimah Academy of 2018, where I find myself, post-retirement, assisting teachers with curriculum, observing teachers in action,

reflecting upon educational practices with the Head of School, meeting with parents, visiting enriching classes, coordinating staff meetings, etc. I am filled with fond memories of Kadimah imbued in my now adult children, and the exciting promise it holds for our current students.

I see lots of individualized and differentiated instruction by highly dedicated teachers in our small class sizes. I see bi-lingual instruction at early ages, primed for the stimulation this supplies to the brain. I hear the beautiful, proud voices of all students, K-8 joining in pledging allegiance to our flags and singing the national anthems of our countries (America and Israel). I spend time praying with our children as they join together in song for Ashrei, for Hallel, for Aleinu, or in silent, respectful reciting of the Shemonah Esrei. I see students reading many varied books, discussing their reading, and writing in-depth research projects. We learn about our history as Americans as well as our history as Jews and are proudly Zionist! We are highly computer literate and are learning advanced math and science. Our 8th graders graduate with three Regents' credits (Hebrew, Algebra, and Earth Science). Best of all, in addition to the outstanding, rigorous, individualized academic program, I see a love of school, an interest in learning, few discipline issues, respect for adults

*"Passover is one of my favorite holidays because of all the traditions, and the really awesome Seder that we have at school, so you will know what to do when you have a Seder of your own. These are just some examples of the many things that Kadimah helps you with."*  
Ozzy Enis, 5th grade

and for each other. I see older students assisting younger ones daily, at lunch, during recess, with computer tablets, and even when visiting our PALS-Kadimah early childhood program to perform or study with the 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

Here, at Kadimah, I see Tikun Olam (acts of caring and kindness to repair the world) daily when the children give tzedakah (charity), respect, and sometimes help our developmentally disabled neighbors at the school we share, or in their compassionate care of our school pet hamster, Oreo. I see love and pride in our Judaism and knowledgeable Jewish children who are the future keepers of our faith, our traditions, and the ethical, moral compass of our lives.

Please join me, or our Head of School Einav Symons, for a visit. Call us at school: (716)836-6903 or Mrs. Symons directly at (716)574-6016 to arrange a meeting and hear more about our jewel, Kadimah Academy!

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

*Fran Paskowitz is Director of Educational Services, Kadimah Academy, Former Principal of Hoover and Hamilton Elementary Schools, Professor of Educational*

*"This year, I will have been at Kadimah for five years, and I have loved every one of them. When I first came to Kadimah, I was very nervous but that soon melted away as I was welcomed into the Kadimah family with open arms. Here, I have gone into great depths of Jewish knowledge about holidays, customs, laws, etc. One of my favorite holidays is Passover...The Passover story was one of the first stories that I learned more thoroughly about. I loved hearing and writing about the tales of bravery and kindness; I loved learning the customs and participating in my own Seder. The story really helped me connect with my new friends, and left me eager to learn more about my religion. I love Kadimah, and I love being a Kadimah kid."*  
Jane Ablove, 8th grade



PASSOVER FIT FOR A KING: L-R Nadav Netter, Aaron Herman

**Kadimah Academy wishes you and your family a warm and wonderful Passover holiday, l'chaim!**

# LEARNING TOGETHER ENGAGES A COMMUNITY!

*"The purpose of learning...is growth, and our minds, unlike our bodies, can continue growing as we continue to live."  
(Mortimer Adler, philosopher and educator)*

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

We are so fortunate that Jewish Buffalo is part of the Partnership2Gether, a program through Federation which connects Jews in the diaspora (we are part of a Mid-West consortium) with those living in the Western Galilee region of Israel. While attending the Annual Summit of the Partnership last June, I was introduced to a new adult learning program, Learn2GETHER, which was in the early stages of development. Buffalo and Indianapolis have been asked to pilot this exciting program which will connect our two American communities with members of the Western Galilee.

A select group of adult learners that we hoped would be intrigued by this learning opportunity were invited to meet with Avital Ben Dror, a professional from the Jewish Agency for Israel Partnership2Gether program who visited Buffalo in January. Avital shared additional information about Learn2GETHER as well as provided a taste of the Limmud (learning) that participants will engage in throughout the program.

The Learn2GETHER Program is a unique opportunity, allowing adult learners from our community to connect, study and get to know their peers from Indianapolis and the Western Galilee, while exploring the beauty of the Jewish calendar through Jewish-Israeli literature, rich cultural texts and traditions. The program consists of 10 sessions, including video-conference group and chevruta (partner) learning, meeting from March – October 2018 and includes an optional seminar in Jerusalem in June. Some of the Buffalo participants are planning on travelling to Israel on the Buffalo Israel experience in October, and plans are being made for them to meet with their study partners.

As this pilot program continues over the next few months, we will hear from our local participants, and hopefully, this will be the first of many Learn2GETHER cohorts!

The Bureau of Jewish Education's Adult Learning Department is also pleased to offer classes and other learning opportunities, in collaboration with Jewish agencies and local organizations throughout the year! Most programs and classes will be held at the Jewish Community Center, 2640 North Forest Road, unless otherwise noted:

## **\*\*NEW\*\* Course for Spring 2018!! Probing the Prophets**

*Instructor: Dr. Ted Steinberg, Retired  
"Distinguished Teaching Professor"  
in the English Department at SUNY  
Fredonia*

**Thursdays, 1:30–3:00 pm  
April 11, 18, 25 May 2, 9, 16  
\$72/6 week session**

The Prophets, the Nevi'im, the "n" in Tanach, comprise the second section of the Hebrew Bible. The literary prophets—Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, as well as the twelve so-called "minor" prophets—spoke out about the conditions in their society.

What they said between two thousand and three thousand years ago is as relevant now as it was then. However, the teachings of the Prophets are often overlooked in our time, perhaps because they make us uncomfortable. This class will give us a chance to look at these essential Jewish texts and decide what role they should play in our lives.

## **Jewish Life through the Movie Lens, in collaboration with the Annual Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival ([www.bijff.com](http://www.bijff.com))**

*Instructor: Eileen M. Angelini, Ph.D.*

**Wednesdays, 1:00-2:30 pm**

**Fee: \$48/per 4 week session**

**Session 4: April 11, 18, 25 and May 2**

### **The Holocaust & the 70th Anniversary of Israel's Independence**

Films to be discussed: La France Divisée, Sarah's Key, La Rafle, Fever at Dawn, Barriers, Cohen on the Bridge: The Entebbe Rescue, Hannah Arendt

## **Part 2, Power and Powerlessness in Jewish Life and Thought, conversations with faculty from the UB Department of Jewish Thought**

**Monday, April 16, 7:00pm**

**JCC Benderson, Lipman Lounge**

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

Join 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.

The conversation will deal with the question of how Jewish Thought in its intellectual, ethical, and political dimensions prepares us to think about and respond to the challenge of the recent Charlottesville events. Drawing on literary examples that involve Jewish thinking about, or involvement in, historical catastrophe, we will focus on the appeal of Nazism as a revolutionary consummation of history (too often dismissed as "mythical" in contemporary culture), and suggest

possible modes of resistance provided by the victims themselves.

Moderated by Prof. Sergey Dolgopolski, this discussion with Professor Noam Pines will address these questions and more in light of Prof. Pines' most recent research.

## **What if Everyone Read the Same Book?**

**Monday, May 7, 7:00 pm**

**JCC Benderson Building**

This session will conclude our ongoing conversations on the book, *My Jewish Year: 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew*, by Abigail Pogrebin. Our last meeting will focus our discussion on the holiday of Shavuot and the Mussar trait of Emet/Truth. Space is limited!

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



## YAD B'YAD'S 6TH ANNUAL FASHION SHOW AND GOLD SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Yad B'Yad is hosting its 6th Annual Fashion Show – a fashion event showcasing our participants! This event is Yad B'Yad's premier fundraiser of the year and will be held on May 6, 2018 at 4949 Sheridan Drive in Williamsville. All proceeds from this event will be used to provide programs and services to people with disabilities in Western New York.



Models from the 5th annual Fashion Show in 2017

Fashion Show models range in age and ability and will feature some of Yad B'Yad's participants and Hebrew High Students. Guests will enjoy a beautiful buffet brunch, basket raffle and gift wall. We are excited to work with upscale local retailers that will provide our models with beautiful, custom clothing. Tickets are \$36.00 per person until April 27. After April 27, tickets are \$40.00 per person. A table of ten can be purchased for \$360.00 until April 27 (\$400 after April 27). Seating for this event is limited, so please reserve early to make sure you have a seat!

This year, Yad B'Yad is making a limited number of GOLD SPONSORSHIPS available. For \$18.00 a family or an individual can sponsor one of the Yad B'Yad models. This will enhance and expand programs for Yad B'Yad participants.

**For more information, or to purchase tickets or a sponsorship, contact Cindi Mikulik at (716) 204-5380 or [yadbyad@bjebuffalo.org](mailto:yadbyad@bjebuffalo.org).**

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

**For more information about the upcoming Fashion Show, to join us in our programming, or to volunteer, please visit our website at [www.yadbyad.org](http://www.yadbyad.org), find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/yadbyadbuffalo](https://www.facebook.com/yadbyadbuffalo), or contact Cindi Mikulik at (716)204-5380 or [yadbyad@bjebuffalo.org](mailto:yadbyad@bjebuffalo.org). We look forward to having you!**

## Please join us for the 72ND GRADUATION CEREMONY OF HEBREW HIGH

**Wednesday, May 2, 2018 | 7:00 PM  
Weinberg Campus - Meadows Entrance**

**Recognizing five incredible seniors:**

Seth Blum, Drew Boehnlein, Jordan Grubea, Charlotte Long & Elliot Snitzer

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*Dessert reception to follow.*

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Sat. Apr. 21, 8pm  
Sun. Apr. 22, 2:30pm  
**Lawrence Loh, conductor**  
Road Less Traveled Productions  
Dvořák's New World Symphony and  
Peter Boyer's Ellis Island: The Dream  
of America celebrate the American  
immigrant experience featuring actor  
portrayals and projected images  
from the Ellis Island archives.

M&T Bank Classics

**Fire and Rain:  
Songwriters of the 70s**

Fri. Apr. 27, 10:30am | Sat. Apr. 28, 8pm  
**Stefan Sanders, conductor**  
Rich harmonies and beautiful melodies, featuring  
the songs of James Taylor, Joni Mitchell,  
Jackson Browne, Carole King, Neil Young, and more.

**AJ Swearingen and Jayne Kell**  
**KeyBank POPS**  
Coffee Concert series  
presented by **Elderwood**

**Brass Transit**

**The Music of Chicago**  
Fri. Apr. 13, 8pm  
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# JFS: Social Isolation, Loneliness Can Be A Serious Health Risk For Seniors

People are statistically living longer, thanks in great measure to spectacular advances in science and health care. But with longer life spans come challenges that, for some, can tarnish the glow of Golden Years and actually shorten life itself. Among these, loneliness and social isolation are now considered a life-threatening epidemic among the elder population.

“At JFS, we address the whole person, especially in the support we provide to elders in our community. Providing quality care requires talking and listening compassionately to clients to learn about their individual concerns, and to hear what is not necessarily verbalized but that may be connected to issues of loneliness and isolation. Then we work with each person to develop an individual plan that will help to mitigate or minimize circumstances that may contribute to these damaging

states,” JFS President and CEO Marlene Schillinger says.

It is generally acknowledged that the rapidly growing elderly population faces physical, psychological and social role changes that may challenge their sense of self and personal happiness. The increased risk of loneliness and social isolation can reasonably be attributed to universal aging processes. These can include loss of a spouse or significant other; shrinking social networks due to the death of close friends, reduced



Juliana Teibel and her grandmother

mobility resulting from illness, disability and sensory impairment (such as hearing loss and vision changes); economic instability; or separation from children and grandchildren who have moved away.

While loneliness and social isolation are often used interchangeably when addressing aging in particular, they are not necessarily the same. Social isolation is objective, and generally occurs when people do not have enough people with which to interact. Loneliness is the subjective experience of distress over not having enough social relationships or enough contact with people. Both pose serious mortality risks to the elderly.

The American Association of Retired Professionals (AARP) recently commissioned a national survey of the 45+ population to examine relationships between loneliness and health, health behaviors, involvement in a social network and use of technology for social communications and networking. Key findings include, among others, that lonely respondents were less likely to be involved in activities that build social networks such as attending religious services, volunteering, participating in a community organization or spending time on a hobby; and that loneliness was a significant predictor of poor health.

A separate AARP source equates the health risks of prolonged isolation with smoking 15 cigarettes daily, and reports that, according to U.S. Census data, more than 25 percent of U.S. households now consist of only one person, which suggests that Americans in general are becoming less socially connected and experiencing more loneliness.

“Being connected to others socially is widely considered a fundamental human need — crucial to both well-being and survival. Yet an increasing portion of the U.S. population now experiences isolation regularly,” Julianne Holt-Lunstad, professor of psychology at Brigham Young University, writes in an AARP website article.

It is important to note that although challenges associated with aging may lead

to feelings of loneliness, loneliness should not be mistaken for depression in older adults, who may experience loss of a spouse, siblings or close friends.

“Research shows that elderly depression is a common, widespread problem. Symptoms of depression can understandably be confused with the normal aging process, but depression is not a normal part of getting old. For example, my grandmother experienced deep sadness after the loss of my grandfather, but she was not clinically depressed,” JFS Development Director Juliana Teibel says.

Depression is a serious clinical illness, for which JFS provides diagnosis, comprehensive counseling, treatment and support for families and individuals of all ages. The agency also provides comprehensive support for elders through its health home and care coordination services, family counseling for both elders and caregivers, and mental health assessment.

“A founding part of the JFS mission is to enable older adults to live with dignity and purpose in their homes and our community, and JFS helped my grandmother cope during a time of immense life change. She was grieving the loss of my grandfather, her partner and best friend of 60 years, while also dealing with her move to Weinberg Campus,” Teibel explained. “We work hard at Jewish Family Service to educate our community to the nuances of mental illness, and to extend a compassionate lifeline for aging well and aging in place. This support includes connection and referral not only to our comprehensive JFS programs, but to any outside services that will reduce the risk and repercussion posed by loneliness and social isolation among our precious elder population,” Teibel adds.

**Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County is located at 70 Barker Street, Buffalo, NY 14209, above Temple Beth Zion. For more information about JFS support for seniors, families and individuals call 716-883-1914. Visit us online at [www.jfsbuffalo.org](http://www.jfsbuffalo.org) – J. Thorpe**



## Employment Opportunity



**Jewish Community Care Manager & Engagement Specialist**

Jewish Family Service of Buffalo and Erie County is seeking a Jewish Community Care Manager & Engagement Specialist to assist members of the Jewish community and their families/caretakers with navigating the healthcare and social services system in a patient-centered and culturally sensitive manner - educating, enrolling, and managing the health care and social needs of members. The successful candidate will work closely with medical providers, social service providers and other patient services and agencies to improve care and outcomes and facilitate cultural and linguistic access as needed. This position requires familiarity with the Jewish community, customs, traditions, values and norms as well as knowledge and understanding of community and health promotion resources. A Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field and experience in direct client service, preferably in health and human services is required. Apply online at [www.jfsbuffalo.org](http://www.jfsbuffalo.org)



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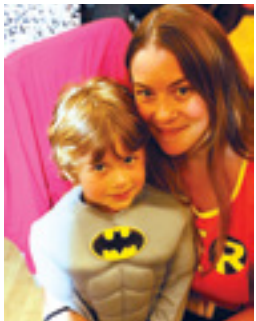
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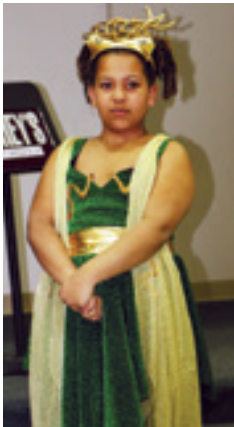
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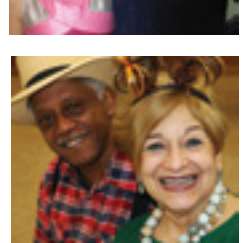
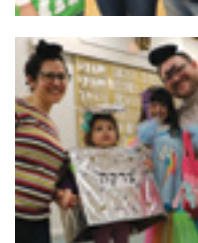
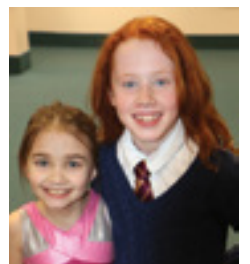
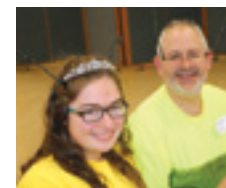


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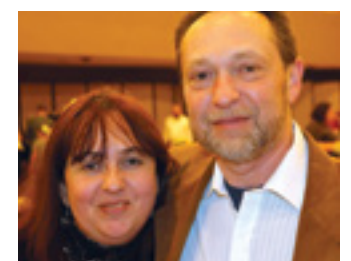
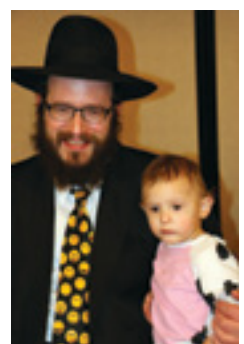
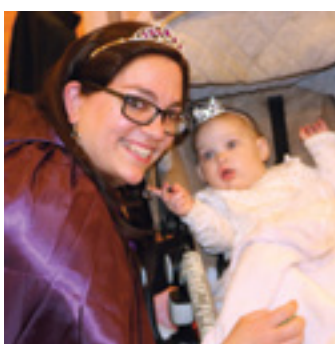
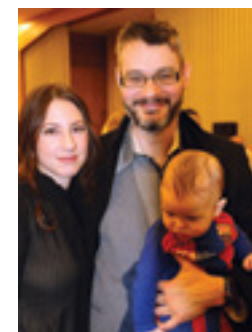
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# (NOT) THE LAST WORD

## Gun Violence Prevention: A Teenager's Point of View

By Madeleine Weinmann

Amidst all the words that were written about the February Parkland, Florida high school shooting, I came across a beautiful poem written by a girl named Sam. She went to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14th, her birthday, expecting nothing out of the ordinary except birthday wishes from her friends. Instead, what she experienced was a horrific tragedy that will resonate with all of us for a long time. After reading Sam's poem on Twitter, I curiously tapped on her account. I was glancing at her bio, and I immediately saw something that made my stomach turn. Ignoring the name of her cheer team, my eyes landed on 4 letters. "NFTY."

To many people, this may just be alphabet soup, but to me, those letters

mean the world. They stand for "North American Federation of Temple Youth," and I am a member of this organization through Temple Beth Zion's youth group, TBaZY. Through NFTY I have had the opportunity to meet Reform Jewish teens from all over the country, and have been able to create some of my most memorable experiences. My NFTY region may be 1,000 miles away from Sam's, but NFTY is my family, and this heartbreaking event just hit too close to home.

Gun violence in the US is growing rapidly, and needs to be addressed immediately. Kids shouldn't be scared to attend school and receive their education. I shouldn't have to wonder in fear if I'll be able to see my friends at the next national NFTY event. Gun violence



Madeleine Weinmann

is an issue the US needs to tackle, and it all starts with a voice.

Many NFTYites across the US, including myself, have been advocating and lobbying for gun violence prevention, and it is important to hear the voices of these teens. Our generation is erupting with new ideas from young growing leaders, so the presence of youth in reform is critical.

This generation differs drastically from the last, and the teens and youth of the current generation are the only ones who have true experience with the effect gun violence has on students. 25 years ago, it never would've crossed anyone's mind to practice lockdown drills in schools. Now in 2018, lockdown drills are a monthly routine for students of all ages, and recently, many have not been just drills.

We need to take action now, because although thoughts and prayers are nice, they aren't making this issue any better. Teens speaking up and advocating for gun violence prevention is incredible and inspiring, but we shouldn't have to be put in danger in order to speak up. Safer schools and a safer public is the goal, and until we accomplish this, we won't quiet down. We need to make our voices heard. Enough is enough.

*Madeleine Weinmann is a junior at City Honors. She is president of Temple Beth Zion's youth group, TBaZY, and is active in her NFTY region, NEL (Northeast Lakes). She has lobbied for topics she is passionate about in both Albany and Washington DC, and hopes to continue making positive changes.*

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