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A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

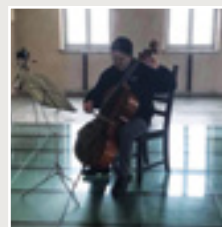
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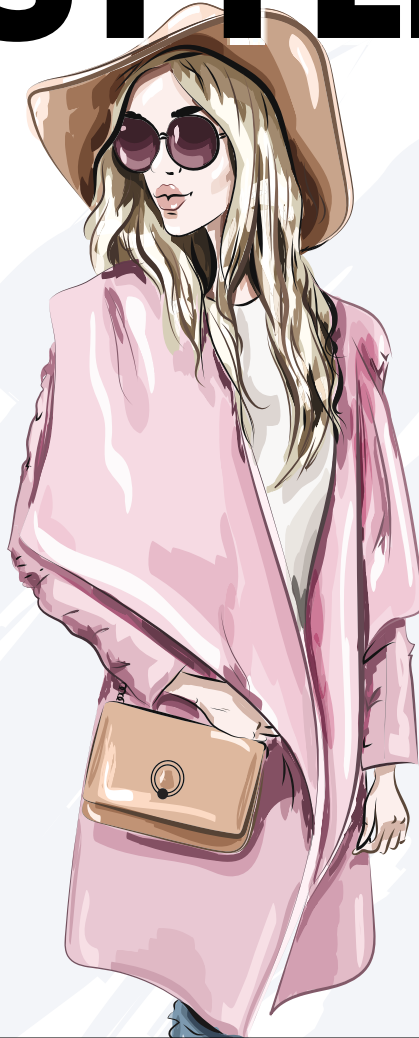
DON'T MISS:
CENTERLAND IS
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(13)



INSIDE:
JUDGE RODWIN
HONORED
(15)

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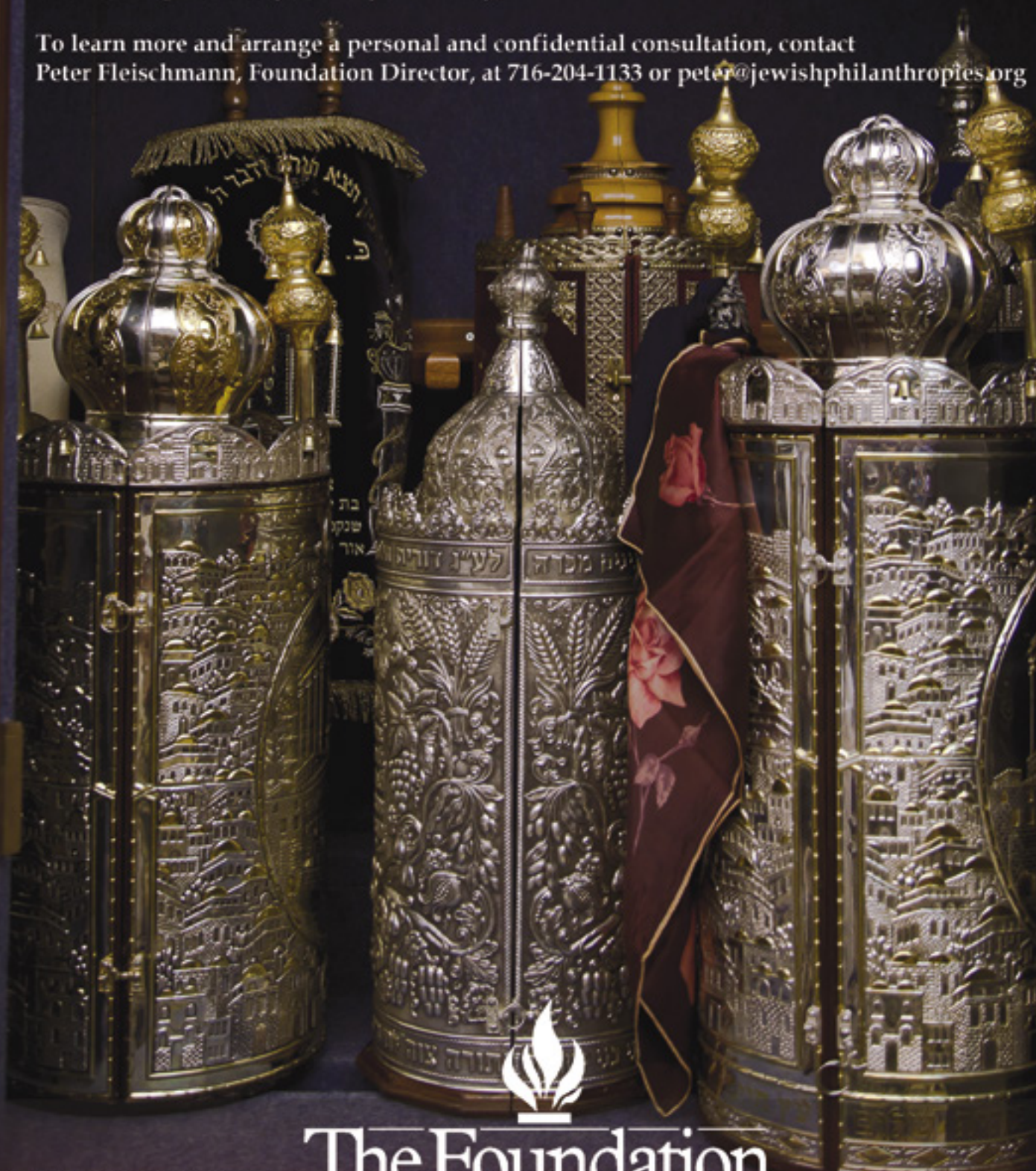


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Shavuot

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Editor's Note



Ellen Goldstein, Editor

Spring has finally arrived in the 716, and our community is celebrating...a whole lot of things! Take a look at **Jews in the News**, and you will see 4 solid pages of photos of Israel@70 celebrations, Holocaust Memorial Commemoration, the JCC's Film Festival and JDC's Challah Bake. As a community, there have been so many opportunities to engage, that I had to leave several pages of photos on the editing floor—as it were—but will use them in next month's **Jews in the News**—so stay tuned!

This month's issue is so rich with content. First, you can hear from a few of the 90+ folks who are participating in the Buffalo Israel Experience next October. You can learn about the International Lion of Judah program, the backbone of our Campaign for Jewish Buffalo. You can also meet some of our newest Jewish professionals who are making a difference in several of our agencies, including Federation.

And turn to pages 8 and 44 for two powerful stories. On page 8, Buffalo Philharmonic cellist Robert Hausmann, who recently returned from the Orchestra's trip and concerts in Poland, writes about his experience at Auschwitz, where members of his family were murdered, and he played the Kaddish melody in their memory. An incredible trip of a lifetime, he was kind enough to share this heartbreaking experience with us. Equally moving is Vilona Trachtenberg's story on page 44 about being a 3G—a 3rd Generation Holocaust Survivor. These stories enable us to remember who we are, where we come from and find a path to where we are going.

Enjoy the sunshine and flowers this month, as we work hand in hand (or gardening glove to gardening glove) to grow Jewish Buffalo. Happy Shavuot!

Ellen Goldstein - Editor

On The Cover



Riding into the Jewish future at Larkin At Exchange are (from left) Camp Centerland Director Michael Garcia, Federation Engagement Associate Nicole Bard, JFS Development Director Juliana Teibel, Holocaust Resource Center's Program Coordinator Kelsey Reed, JCC Development Director Jordana Halpern, and JCC Cultural Arts Director Katie Wzontek.

Photo by kc kratt.

3	The 2018 Buffalo Israel Experience
4	Buffalo Lions Roar
5	The Campaign for Jewish Buffalo
6	On The Cover: Jewish Buffalo Riding into the future
7	Campaign for Jewish Buffalo: Where Your \$ Goes
8	Playing Kaddish in Auschwitz by Robert Hausmann
9	Rob Goldberg, Hon. Sean Ryan Honored by JFS 5/16
10	Rabbi's Column: Rabbi Mendy Labkovski
11	NEW: HRC Upstander Award
12	Cheesecake or Carrot Cake for Shavuot? By Robin Kurss
13	Centerland Ready for Summer
14	Great Buffalo Jewbilee- August 19!
15	Judge Rodwin Honored with National Award
16	5 Things You Can Do to repair the world in May
	Where in Jewish Bflo
17	Special Advertising Supplement: Dining Guide
18	May Calendar
18-19	Agency & Synagogue Listings
20-24	Synagogue Happenings
25-26	Special Advertising Supplement: Gardening & Outdoor Living
27-39	Agency Events
40-43	Jews in the News
44	Not The Last Word: Vilona Trachtenberg

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Publisher/Chief Revenue Officer.....Barbara E. Macks
bmacks@buffalospree.com
Senior Vice President/Creative Director.....Chastity O'Shei
coshei@buffalospree.com
Vice President/Production.....Jennifer Tudor
jtudor@buffalospree.com
Lead Designer.....Kimberly Miers
kmiers@buffalospree.com
Senior Graphic Designers.....Josh Flanigan, Andrea Rowley,
Jean-Pierre Thimot, Nicholas Vitello
Traffic Coordinator.....Adam Van Schoonhoven
Assistant Sales & Marketing Manager.....Marianne Potratz
mpotratz@buffalospree.com
Sales Director.....Cynthia Oppenheimer,
coppenheimer@jewishjournalwny.com
Senior Account Executives.....Robin Kurss, rkurss@jewishjournalwny.com
Bruce Halpern, bhalpern@jewishjournalwny.com
Betty Tata, btata@jewishjournalwny.com
Proofreaders.....Sharon C. Levite, Amy Goldstein

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Reflections: The Buffalo Israel Experience

We are thrilled that over 90 individuals will be traveling together to Israel this October 24-November 2! We asked a few of those who will be a part of this experience to share what they are most excited about, what they are looking forward to, and the significance of marking the 70th anniversary of the modern State of Israel.



Marjorie Godin Bryen

Marjorie Godin Bryen grew up in Buffalo, settled in Detroit as an adult with her family, and has returned again to Buffalo to run her family business as president and owner of Hard Manufacturing.

"In college I was given the opportunity to go to Israel as part of a college leadership mission, targeting young leaders on campuses across the country. That was 1982. The trip was amazing and impactful. Unfortunately I have not had the opportunity to return to Israel since, despite my interest in doing so. The Buffalo-Israel Experience was announced and I knew it was time for me to return. The opportunity to visit Israel with others from Buffalo, traveling with some people I know well and making new friends, with first timers alongside regular visitors to Israel, was compelling. The exciting part for me is the chance to experience Israel differently— not as part of a mission, but instead combining fun adventures (like hiking, discovering galleries and going to the beach) with meaningful community connections. What a fantastic opportunity it will be to celebrate the country's 70th birthday."

Robin Raphael and Alan Gellin

Robin Raphael is a retired School Psychologist and her husband, Alan Gellin, is a communications specialist who works as an administrator in the Dean's Office of the University at Buffalo's Graduate School of Education

Alan

"Three years ago, Robin and I were part of the Congregation Shir Shalom/Temple Beth Tzedek/Temple Beth Zion community trip to Israel. This was Robin's second trip to Israel and she was in awe of how much the country has changed since her first visit in 1978. For me, it was amazing to see Israel for the first time and explore sites I've heard about my entire life. What made the trip especially meaningful for both of us was the opportunity to share the experience with the local Jewish community. We're excited about the upcoming Jewish Federation trip because it will provide another opportunity for us to strengthen bonds with our friends in the Jewish community, as well as develop new friendships, as all of us experience the wonder of Israel together."

Robin

"My husband and I love to travel and are slowly but surely beginning to cross many countries and continents off our bucket list. Why do I mention this in reference to the upcoming Israel trip? Why do I want to return to Israel for the third time when there are so many other places to go? Because there is something quite special about returning to this ever-changing, ever-growing country. When I first traveled to Israel in 1978, it was as a leader of a teen trip. We spent six magical weeks traveling all throughout the country (including the Sinai Desert). Upon my return in 2015 with the Buffalo synagogue trip, I was stunned to see how much Israel had changed. No longer the sleepy small-town feel. Now, we saw high-rise buildings and traffic jams. Now we saw many homes in Jerusalem in places I remember as fields. I look forward to being back in Israel in October and to the cultural and social sites that being on a Jewish Federation trip will afford us."



Dr. Gil Wolfe

Dr. Gil Wolfe is the Irvin and Rosemary Smith Professor and Chairman, a University at Buffalo Distinguished Professor in the Dept. of Neurology/UBMD Neurology at the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences/University at Buffalo/SUNY.

"I have been to Israel many times, usually in the context of visiting family and less commonly for a medical meeting. My mother grew up in Israel and that side of my family is there; my only sibling, my sister, made Aliyah with her family some 20 years ago. But I have never visited with a group and have always wanted to. I look forward to visiting Israel with this new perspective and sharing the experience with members of the Buffalo community who have welcomed me to the city and have helped it feel like home since I moved here 6 years ago. As a bonus, we are hoping to get a day or two of cycling in while in the Galilee region, something I have always wanted to do in Israel."

General registration for the Buffalo Israel Experience has closed, but if you would like to add your name to the waiting list for the upcoming trip, please contact Nicole Bard at nicole@buffalojewishfederation.org.

Women Investors in the Campaign for Jewish Buffalo: Hear Our Lions Roar!

Women have always played a vital role in our campaign efforts. Through their investments of time, money and expertise, women leaders fight domestic violence, improve women's health and nutrition, provide shelter to vulnerable children, protect at-risk seniors and so much more.



Women's Philanthropy of Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) – the Women's Campaign—has set forth a belief that the future well-being of the global Jewish community is inextricably linked to the power of women's philanthropy. JFNA's vision is inspired by *tzedakah* and *tikkun olam* and is dedicated to the continuity, connectivity and thriving future of North American communities, Israel and the Jewish people. As a direct link to this vision, 25 years ago JFNA created the Lion of Judah national donor program to enable women to invest, donate and make a difference in their communities and in world Jewry with their individual annual gifts of \$5,000 or more.

A Lion of Judah is an activist and philanthropist. Her passion drives her work and her giving. Women philanthropists are the change-makers and community-shapers of the world; they are sisters and daughters, mothers and friends, compassionate and committed women at every stage of life and career. In every community, they are building and supporting Jewish life for today and for generations to come.

In January 2019, JFNA will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Lion of Judah Endowment program (LOJE) at the International Lion of Judah Conference in Miami, and Buffalonians will be well represented there. We currently are proud to have 55 women who are Lions of Judah, 8 of whom have endowed their gifts (LOJE). Leading up to this important conference, *The Jewish Journal* wanted to introduce some of our Buffalo Lions and share why they are inspired to give, get and lead.

Kim Yonaty, Janet Wisbaum and Cantor Penny Myers are well known in our Jewish community. Kim, an attorney, currently co-chairs the 2018 Campaign for Jewish Buffalo with her husband Stephen, and has been an active volunteer in the Jewish and general communities throughout her life. Janet is a former Chair of the United Jewish Fund Campaign's Women's Division as well as Planned Parenthood in Buffalo. Penny Myers is the Cantor at Temple Beth Zion and is active in the Cantors Assembly and recently participated in Federation's Interfaith Trip to Israel. They represent the many faces of Lion of Judah.



Kim Yonaty

I became a Lion in 2015. Throughout my life, I have been surrounded and mentored by women who have committed themselves to the support of Jewish causes, both locally and around the world. As a parent, I thought it was fundamental to set an example for my children on the importance of showing commitment to the Jewish community, here and around the globe. I am part of a tradition of women who set the

nurturing and sustaining of the Jewish community as a priority in their lives. I am proud to be able to make this commitment.

Throughout history, women have taken on roles as activists—fighting for causes to bring about social justice, aiding the vulnerable, raising future generations. When I give in my own name, not just as part of my family's gift, I feel like I lend my voice and support to things that matter to me. I stand up and am counted as a woman. I have to think that the Susan B. Anthonys, Betty Freidans and Gloria Steinems of the world would be proud.

I stood at my son's bar mitzvah this year and told him that I felt as though the entire history of the Jewish people existed just to bring us to that moment. As we literally passed him the Torah and the traditions of our people, I wondered what was he going to do with it? My hope is that all our children continue to follow our faith, and carry on traditions of *tikkun olam*--not just in name but through their deeds and actions. And this is one way I can set an example.



Cantor Penny Myers

I became a Lion for the 2018 Campaign for Jewish Buffalo. I believe in philanthropy, and for me, becoming a Lion was part of joining a very important sisterhood. Just as I am a Life Member of Hadassah, making a leadership gift to Federation is a very deep value for me, a way to pay it forward. I want to be able to make an impact, not only as a clergy member or well known Buffalo leader, but also through *tzedakah* and philanthropy.

As a Jewish professional and as a professional Jew, I have often had to break down glass ceilings, gender barriers and stereotypes. Making this leadership gift allows me, in a concrete manner, to help women and the Jewish Federation make an indelible impact in the larger Jewish Federation outside of synagogue and community walls, and it helps crystallize my own personal identity by being part of this sisterhood. It my hope that other young women can embrace meaningful charitable giving, and that the visibility of *tzedakah* at this level will inspire them to do the same. "If she can do it, I can do it, too."

*All photos of Lions by
CLICK/Linda Gellman & Bill Myers*

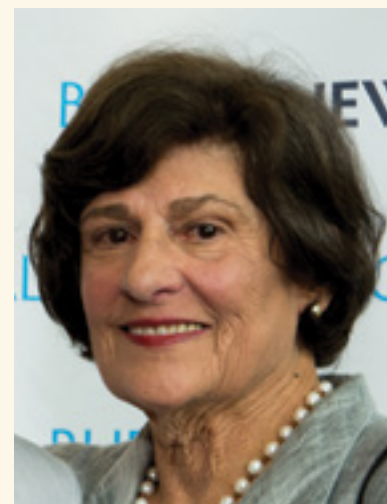
If you would like to become a Lion of Judah, or endow your Campaign gift, please contact Asst. Executive Director Randi Morkisz at 716-204-2254 or Randi@buffalojewishfederation.org.

Janet Wisbaum

I became involved as a volunteer at the Jewish Federation as a young bride. I believe I started by volunteering at a Super Sunday event. I "worked" and got trained by Lois Lansky! I'm a Buffalo gal and love Buffalo and this local community. I was happy to support agencies and activities here in this Jewish Community as well as in Israel.

Looking back I'm sure that the welcoming by Federation staff and volunteers helped me to become involved in the Jewish Community, and to continue to do more and more. Other young women were on board as well, and that was encouragement. I realized early on that my support also meant giving financially. I was able to become a Lion—and felt proud to do so—and still feel great pride.

I think that today there is much more emphasis on the importance and need of women to share a place at the table and to fully participate in their own name. Many more women now have careers which enable higher giving, but in the



1960's and 1970's, this wasn't the case. It is absolutely necessary for women to be recognized for their wise judgement and their input. Giving at this level or higher for me shows a commitment of care and support to our Jewish community. I'm proud to be a part of this Lion family, and that is why I have endowed my gift and am now a LOJE (Endowed Lion of Judah).

The Campaign for JEWISH BUFFALO

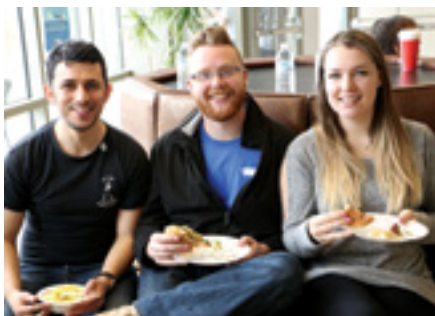
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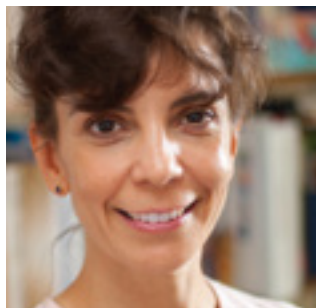


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New Faces Leading Jewish Buffalo

This month we are highlighting seven community professionals—some new to their jobs, some promoted in their agencies, who are working to make Jewish Buffalo a more vibrant and caring community.



Dr. Eileen M. Angelini has joined the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo (HRC) as Education Outreach Coordinator. Her responsibilities include supervising the New Generation Initiative (Holocaust educators and consultants), establishing the Joe Diamond Speakers Training Program (for 2nd and 3rd Generation family members of Survivors on how to present their families' stories), and facilitating outreach to Buffalo-area college and university professors who teach Holocaust and Genocide courses. She will also lead the annual Handel Teacher Trip to Washington D.C., which involves a competitive application process for five WNY teachers selected for an intensive professional development experience at the U. S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, United States Institute of Peace, and Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights.

Dr. Angelini is also an instructor for the Bureau of Jewish Education's Hebrew High and Adult Learning programs where she is able to utilize her background in researching Jewish-Christian relations and documentary filmmaking to teach the Holocaust from an interdisciplinary approach.

Her research and teaching have been recognized with numerous international awards, notably the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques in 2011, an award created by Napoleon Bonaparte in March 1808 as a reward for devotion and accomplishment in the realm of teaching. Dr. Angelini is inspired by her new role with the HRC. "In this position, I very much look forward to ensuring that Survivor testimony never becomes stagnant. My previous work of recording and filming Survivor testimony has reinforced to me the educational value of the impact of eyewitness accounts on students," she said. Dr. Angelini received her B.A. in French from Middlebury College and her M.A. and Ph.D. in French Studies from Brown University.



Kelsey Reed joined the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo as Administrative Coordinator in the fall of 2015 and has recently been promoted to Program Coordinator. She manages the Speakers Bureau, reaching over 7000 students and adults annually, and coordinates programming and planning for Kristallnacht, Yom HaShoah, the Arts & Writing Contest and advancement.

Kelsey oversaw and worked on the creation of the first HRC exhibit: *Witnesses: Buffalo's Holocaust-Era Stories*. This exhibit is both online and available to travel. She recently installed the exhibit at Nazareth College and gave a presentation there and at the Museum Association of NY, both in Rochester, NY. "I have great pride that my work can keep the Survivors stories from vanishing," she said. Kelsey graduated from Nazareth College with a B.A. in History with a minor in Religious Studies. She is currently a Museum Studies Graduate Student at Buffalo State College, graduating in the summer 2018. She has been recognized by Buffalo State College as Department Intern of the Year for the 2017-2018 Academic Year.



Nicole Bard holds the newly created position of Engagement Associate at Buffalo Jewish Federation. A 2017 University at Buffalo graduate with a major in Communications, she has served as student leader at Hillel of Buffalo. Nicole connected to Federation during her years as a student, when

she served in a variety of internships, and ultimately was an intern at Federation last summer.

My passion for building meaningful relationships that pivot around Judaism is continuing to grow through my work with the Buffalo Jewish Federation. With Nickel City Jews as a platform for engaging with individuals in and around Buffalo, I am constantly meeting people and learning about all of the gems that make Buffalo, Buffalo.

Recently, Federation put on Engagement Conference for about 120 people in and around Jewish Buffalo to explore that "Jewish Engagement" is all about, which Nicole worked on together with Miriam Abramovich and a dynamic team of lay leaders. "I helped pull together seven workshops for the two days of the conference, working with different presenters and organizers to make this the fantastic conference it was. I am also helping to staff the Buffalo Israel Experience taking place October 24- November 2, creating itineraries, attracting and registering people for the trip, and organizing programs here in Buffalo for the trip participants before we even go," she said. "If we haven't met yet, send me an email – let's grab coffee."

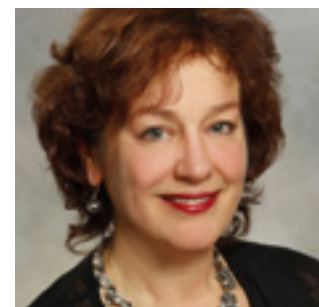


Juliana Teibel is the new Development Director for Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County, where she will engage in development and donor relations. Teibel, who was most recently an Account Executive at Tegna Inc. and who has played an active volunteer role in the Buffalo Jewish community, brings a deep commitment to advancing JFS's mission as this human services agency embarks upon its next stage of growth and impact.

"Juliana will be an integral part of our team as we increase the size of our agency to provide additional mental health

and social services along with continuing to assist the refugees we are privileged to resettle in Western New York," said Blaine S. Schwartz, Chair of the JFS Board of Trustees.

"As someone deeply committed to Jewish values and Western New York, I am grateful for this opportunity to partner with JFS's extraordinary staff, leadership and board, donors and volunteers," said Juliana. "Together we will create a compassionate community in which every person's dignity is respected and rights are upheld."

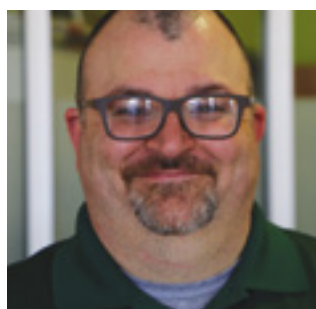


Jordana Halpern, who has been the Jewish Community Center's Director of Cultural Arts and the Managing Director of the Jewish Repertory Theatre since 2012, has been hired as the JCC's new Director of Development. In addition to developing new sources of funding as well as pursuing grant opportunities, she will maintain her role as Managing Director of the Jewish Repertory Theatre. "Our need for an individual who will develop potential donors into actual donors is obvious," said Richard Zakalik, Executive Director of the JCC. "Jordana's success in securing grants and other corporate and individual sources of funding for our cultural arts programs make her an outstanding choice for her new role," he said.



Katie Wzontek, who has been the JCC's Cultural Arts Associate and Assistant to the Executive Office since 2012, has been promoted to the position of Director of Cultural Arts and will assume responsibility for the Buffalo International Jewish Film Festival, the JCC Book and Arts Fair, JCC art galleries and other cultural arts programs including concerts, dance events and children's theatre.

"Katie's experience at the Julliard School, as well as her high-quality work with our Cultural Arts Department, makes her an outstanding choice for her new role, as well," Zakalik said.



Michael Garcia is the new Director at the JCC's Camp Centerland. He holds a BA in Human Services from Springfield College (MA), has worked in camping in the YMCA for the past 28 years, and has run small city camps all the way up to large outdoor day camps

"I am a camp guy through and through," he said. "I have been working with children my entire life. I believe it is important when working with children that you have a focus. I have three areas I like to focus on when working with children. 1. **Belonging: I believe that children need to create a sense of belonging in their community.** Every child this summer should say "this is MY CAMP." This will allow them to own their actions and be committed to creating a better world around them. 2. **Achievement – Children need to have a sense of real achievement in their lives.** Not the "everybody gets a trophy" philosophy but a true sense of being a success. We need to redefine success for them. Allowing them to set their own goals and helping them to achieve them. 3. **Relationships – I believe that children need to work on building relationships.** Not just with other campers but with the staff. If we can put a positive role model in the life of every child we will be better off," he said. "Feel free to come on by the Camp Office in the Benderson JCC and say hi!"

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Sara
Rich**



**"Honor Thy Parents:
A Commandment for
Kids and Parents of All
Ages"**

Rabbi Sara Rich is the Executive Director of the Hillel of Buffalo. She was ordained as a rabbi from the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in New York. Prior to moving to Buffalo, Rabbi Sara served as the Director of Education at the Hillel of Princeton University. Today, she resides in Williamsville with her husband, Ezra, and their daughters, Miriam and Sivan.

First Session -11:00 pm

Rabbi Adam Scheldt

Director, Pastoral Care, Hospice Buffalo
"Mindful Practices in Judaism "

Second Session —midnight

Rabbi Jonathan Freirich

Rabbi, Temple Beth Zion
"Rabbi Akiva—What do his stories teach us?"

Third Session —1:00 am

Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein

Rabbi, Congregation Shir Shalom
"The Birth of Monotheism-How We Killed Off the Gods (based on Richard Elliott Friedman's new book "The Exodus") "

Fourth Session — 2:00 am

Cantor Penny Myers

Cantor, Temple Beth Zion
"The Big 10" - Learn Torah trope with materials and innovative learning to fully receive the Torah.
"Uncover Aseret Hadibrot as we decode the 10 Commandments together"

Fifth Session — 3:00 am

Rabbi Laizer Labkovski

Rabbi, Jewish Discovery Center
"The Sinai Experience"

Sixth Session—4:00 am

Cantor/Dr. Irwin Gelman

Cantor, Congregation Beth Abraham
"Music and musical instruments in the Synagogue service"

Playing the Kaddish in Auschwitz

By Robert Hausmann

I have played cello with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra for 36 years and in that time have traveled with the orchestra on numerous tours. Each tour has been memorable and musically rewarding. The orchestra achieves a heightened level of musical cohesion when we are on tour, in large part due to multiple performances combined with being away from our everyday responsibilities. Together, we have traveled and played throughout the United States and major cities of Europe. Somehow, though, I felt our recent Poland trip would be different.

Personally, I felt this trip would have increased significance for me due to my family history. Both my parents escaped Germany just prior to World War II, my mother with her parents from Berlin and my father with his parents from Heidelberg. Many of their family members weren't as fortunate



and were among the Six Million killed in the Holocaust. At the time that plans for the orchestra's Poland tour became a reality, I was spending much more time with my parents due to my father's declining health. During this past year,

I've spent a lot of time talking with my parents about their family history and their relatives, and I have re-experienced stories I've heard many times, and some I'd not heard before. Before my father died, I told my parents I wanted to go to Auschwitz to play the Kaddish melody on my cello in memory of their murdered relatives. After my father died this past January, I was looking through old photographs, and a picture of my eight-year-old mother on my great-grandmother's lap stayed in my mind. Whenever I show that photo to my mother she says "I loved her." My mother is the last living connection to my great-grandmother, who was murdered at Auschwitz. I decided to play the Kaddish to honor her.

An orchestra tour is a highly organized and rigorous ordeal. It took much planning to figure out how I would carve out the time and actually get to Auschwitz with my cello. I knew it wouldn't be a good idea to just show up at the Concentration Camp, cello in hand. Mara Koven-Gelman of the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo found several contacts at Auschwitz for me, which proved most helpful in securing permission to play at Auschwitz. Performances of any kind are not allowed at Auschwitz. But my playing of the Kaddish was

viewed as a personal memorial or prayer and, after a great many emails back and forth, it was finally allowed. With permission granted, I now was faced with how I could squeeze the visit into a jam-packed week of concerts in Poland, and also get myself and my cello to Auschwitz.

A dear friend from my Eastman School of Music days, who recently moved to Poland, came to my rescue. My friend Edwin (actually Edward—for some reason I named him Edwin at Eastman) offered to drive from his hometown of Warsaw to Wroclaw and take me to Auschwitz on our only non-concert day. That relieved me of the anxiety of having to rent a car and navigate in a foreign country. Nancy Anderson, my fellow BPO cellist and long-time tour buddy, Edwin, and I arrived at Auschwitz after a three-hour early morning drive from Wroclaw. It was cold and windy, which didn't bode well for my original plan to play outside at the Monument to Victims of Birkenau. We then met our guide Pawel Sawicki, the press officer for the Auschwitz Museum. After finding the gate frozen shut, Pawel suggested I play inside in a place called "the Sauna," a room where prisoners were allowed real showers. The red brick building was stark with a concrete floor. A security officer loaned me a chair on which to sit, as a cellist isn't accustomed to playing standing up. I placed the photo of my mother on my great-grandmother's lap beside my music and began to play.

As I had been in the cold all morning, my fingers were stiff and not as comfortable as I would have liked the first time through, so I decided to play the Kaddish again. The second time through, I realized and experienced the resonant acoustic of the room, the same concrete floor and barren walls that countless victims had passed through and was filled with a profound sadness. I looked to the photograph on my music stand and found the emotional strength to continue. After playing, I took a few moments to regain my composure.

After I played, Pawel our guide led us on a tour of Auschwitz-Birkenau and tried to answer our many questions. Many times, his answer was, "that's complicated." For instance, when I asked if my great-grandmother would have stepped off the train on which she had been transported at one platform, he replied that it depended on the particular month in 1944 she had arrived, as later in 1944 the transports had been moved to platform closer to the gas chambers in order to speed up the Death Machine. Pawel's personal mission to share the horrors of Auschwitz-Birkenau was evident. When our tour ended, we started our four-hour drive to Warsaw to meet up with the orchestra. I have been gratified by my colleagues' great interest in my Auschwitz visit and by the support they've shown me, as well as the support of so many friends in our community here in Buffalo.

A promotional poster for Shavuot. At the top is a graphic of a rolled-up scroll. Below it, the word "Shavuot" is written in large, dark blue letters. Underneath "Shavuot" is the text "Pizza, Ice Cream & Cheese cake Party" in a red, cursive font. The date and time "Sunday, May 20, 2018 at 5:00pm" are in bold red text. To the right, there is a small graphic of an open book with the text "Reading of the Ten Commandments" below it. Further right, a list of food items is provided: "Sumptuous Dairy Dinner", "Cheesecakes * Blintzes", "Eggplant Parmesan * Quiche", "Mac & Cheese * Greek Salad", and "Pizza * Ice cream & more". The location "At Jewish Discovery Center 757 Hopkins Road" is listed. Below this, it says "No charge All are welcome". At the bottom, it says "More info: www.JewishBuffalo.com (716) 639-7600". The background of the poster features a close-up of a strawberry-topped cheesecake.

Shavuot
Pizza, Ice Cream & Cheese cake Party

**Sunday, May 20, 2018
at 5:00pm**

**Celebrate the Holiday of Shavuot
Comemorating the giving of the Torah
at Mt. Sinai 3330 years ago**

**Reading of the
Ten Commandments**

**Sumptuous Dairy Dinner
Cheesecakes * Blintzes
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**More info:
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Rob Goldberg, Hon. Sean Ryan Honored

Federation CEO Rob Goldberg and New York State Assemblyman Sean Ryan will be honored at JFS's 154th Annual Meeting Wednesday, May 16 at 12 noon in Temple Beth Zion, 805 Delaware Ave. Goldberg will receive the Abram and Ruth E. Pugash Family Award, and Ryan will receive the Community Partnership Award.

The Pugash Award is the highest honor bestowed by Jewish Family Service (JFS), and recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the agency and the community. "Since becoming CEO of the Jewish Federation, Rob Goldberg has energized the organization and the Jewish Community," said JFS Chair Blaine Schwartz. "He has been a major force in working to restructure and reimagine many of the Jewish organizations in this area that were desperately in need of a new and refreshing outlook and future. Rob has also been a prime facilitator in engaging and re-engaging members of the Jewish community in their religion and their heritage."

New York State Assembly Member Sean Ryan is being honored with the

JFS Community Partnership Award for his allocation of \$25,000 to JFS to support WNY Holocaust Survivors. The Community Service Award is given to the person or agency who has partnered with JFS to improve the lives of the people we serve. "Assemblyman Ryan secured 2 million dollars for upstate resettlement agencies to provide continued support for services. In January of 2017 the Federal government severely curtailed the number of documented refugees allowed into the US. Assemblyman Ryan was able to secure an additional 2 million dollars in the 2018 budget to be divided among resettlement agencies outside of New York City," said JFS President & CEO Marlene Schillinger. "Additionally, Assemblyman Ryan secured \$25,000 to provide additional assistance to survivors of the Holocaust in 2017. I am honored to work with Assemblyman Ryan and his staff in the best interest of the people we serve," Mrs. Schillinger added.

The Annual Meeting and luncheon is open to all. For Reservations by May 9, call 883-1914.

AN AFTERNOON IN THE PARK:

A Pre-Shavuot Celebration

Sunday, May 6th

Join us for:
 Nature Walks
 Scavenger Hunts
 Fairy House Building
 Arts & Crafts

3:00-6:00 pm
 Camp Centerland
 at the Irving M. Shuman Campgrounds,
 Getzville, \$5 Per Family

Bring a picnic dinner,
 Dairy (kosher) dessert will be provided



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www.buffalojewishfederation.org



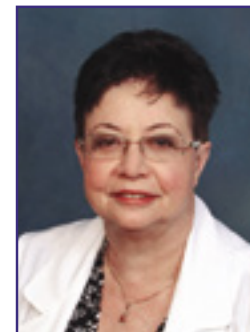


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Wednesday, May 23, 2018

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2:30-3:30 p.m., Housing, Insurance, Education, Benefits & More, presented by Linda Marie Corsaro and Ernest Roberson, Department of Veterans Affairs

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It's free! RSVP to (716) 639-3332
or rsvp@weinbergcampus.org



Rabbi Mendy Labkovski

Growing up in the vibrant Jewish community here in Buffalo, I witnessed my parent's tireless devotion, as emissaries of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, servicing the ever-growing needs of the Buffalo Jewish community. I always knew that someday I would like to do the same. So with incredible support from my family and friends, I embarked on the strenuous road to Rabbinical ordination. After much time and effort studying Jewish law, Talmud, Responsas, and mysticism, just a few short weeks ago I became a Rabbi.



Rabbi Mendy Labkovski

The literal translation of Rabbi is "teacher," however perhaps a more accurate meaning of the word is "educator." The reason is that it's no secret how today much of what we learn is outside of the classroom.

That is to say, becoming a rabbi, in my eyes, isn't just about now having the responsibility of passing on and teaching Torah knowledge. It is so much more than that. It is to show how Judaism's timeless wisdom is relevant to every single part of our lives. It is the ideal path to living a moral and upright life, filled with meaning and purpose. It is about being there for each other and recognizing the divine, infinite spark we each contain.

When we become more mindful of the G-dly soul's reality, it then challenges us to live a more holy, refined and selfless lifestyle. This, in turn, impacts all factions of our lives, warranting a spiritual upgrade, whether by giving a hot meal to someone in need or by educating children in our rich heritage, praying at the synagogue or giving charity. These are all G-dly ways of living.

In order to become a rabbi, much of what I needed to study is Jewish law. However, as a prerequisite to the so-called "letter of the law," there is also the "spirit of the law." I believe the following story conveys this very idea:

An Israeli Air Force war veteran once visited the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson. The Rebbe asked him, "Why is the heart of the human being on the left side? Everything good in Judaism is on the right side, the side which represents kindness. We put on tefillin with the right hand, we shake hands with the right hand, we hold the Torah scroll on our right side etc., so why is the heart on the left?"

The Rebbe then explained: "Because when you face another Jew, your heart

is opposite his right side and his right hand. For your heart beats not just for you but for the other, for the fellow whom you must love as yourself."

For me, this captures the essence of what Rabbinical ordination is in the Biblical imagination. Of course the text, law and book are the foundation, but without the heart, the heart that loves, the heart that feels, the heart that gives, Judaism then loses its passion and unfortunately turns into dry ritual.

In Hebrew, the word for Rabbinic ordination is "Semicha", dating back to the first leader of the Jewish people, Moses. Prior to his demise, Moses called for his prime disciple, Joshua, placing both his hands on Joshua's head, thereby passing on the mantle of Jewish leadership to him.

As Judaism would have it, this ceremony has repeated itself over thousands of years. It is, therefore, a tremendous honor, knowing that I am part of this powerful link, from Moses to Joshua to the Elders to the Prophets and so on, through to me.

On top of that, I feel so humbled and privileged to be able to continue my own immediate families unbroken chain of illustrious rabbis. Watching my father for the past 22 years, day in and day out, servicing our wonderful community, there was no doubt in my mind that I would like to be doing the same, and hopefully one day with the Almighty G-ds help, together with him.

Rabbi Mendy Labkovski is the son of Rabbi Laizer and Chani Labkovski. In addition to becoming a new rabbi, he will marry a young woman from Montreal in May.

Inaugural Holocaust Resource Center Upstander Breakfast

Monday June 11, 2018, 8:30 A.M.
Burchfield Penney Arts Center,
1300 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14222

Honoring The Sophia Veffler Upstander Award Recipient,
Dr. Katherine Conway-Turner, *President of Buffalo State College*

Dr. Conway-Turner will be introduced by
Buffalo State College Trustee Leslie Zemsky

The Sophia Veffler Award is given to an individual who passionately provides educational and leadership opportunities to young people based on the mission of the Holocaust Resource Center: Teach the Lessons of the Holocaust, Honor the Survivors and Victims and Promote, Social Justice and Civic Responsibility and Human Rights.

\$50 per person

RESERVE – www.hrcbuffalo.org/upstander-breakfast

Net proceeds of the Upstander Breakfast will fund Holocaust programs aimed at training and engaging teachers and community members in understanding the Holocaust and its lessons for today. HRC trains 150 teachers who touch 15,000 students a year—enough to fill the Key Bank Center in Buffalo, NY. Increasing knowledge and dialogue will decrease polarization, extremism and genocide.

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Thursday June 7, 2018
Congregation Shir Shalom

5:30 Annual Meeting
6:30 Arts & Writing Award Ceremony

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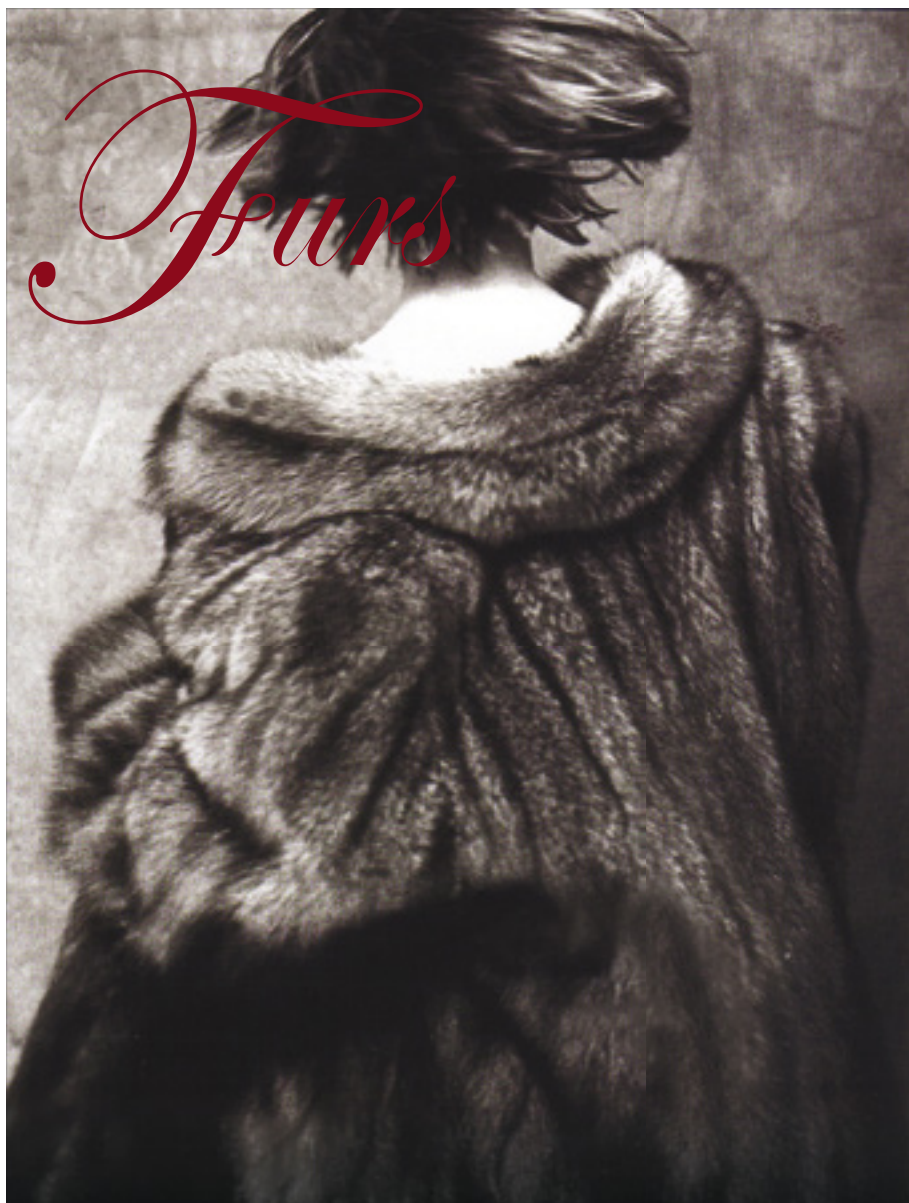
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Cheesecake or Carrot Cake for Shavuot?

By Robin Kurss

Shavuot is May 20 and 21, and traditionally, dairy foods are in order. My husband has two favorite desserts...cheesecake and carrot cake. Here is a fun mashup of both! Enjoy!

Carrot Cake Cheesecake

Cheesecake Mixture:

16 oz. cream cheese, softened
3/4 c sugar
2 1/2 tsp vanilla
1 Tbsp. flour
3 eggs

Carrot Cake Mixture:

3/4 c oil
1 c sugar
2 eggs
1 1/2 tsp. vanilla
1 c. flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
8 1/2 oz. crushed pineapple, drained well and reserve the juice
1 c. grated carrots
1/2 c. coconut
1/2 c. chopped walnuts or pecans



Pineapple Frosting:

2 oz. cream cheese, softened
1 Tbsp. butter, softened
1 3/4 c. confectioner's sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
1 Tbsp. of the reserved pineapple juice
1/2 c. crushed pineapple, drained well

Garnish:

1 c. whipping cream whipped with 3 Tbsp. confectioner's sugar and 1 Tbsp. pineapple juice

1. In bowl of mixer, beat cream cheese, sugar, vanilla until smooth. Beat in eggs and flour. Set aside.

2. In another large bowl, combine oil, sugar, eggs and vanilla. Mix well. Stir in dry ingredients till combined. Add pineapple, carrots, coconut and nuts and stir till combined.

3. To assemble the cheesecake, pour 1 cup of the carrot cake batter into the bottom of a greased 9" spring form pan. Drop spoonfuls of the cream cheese batter over the

bottom layer of the carrot cake, using 1/4 of the batter and reserving the rest for the top layer.

Top with large spoonfuls of the remaining carrot cake batter. Repeat with the remaining cheesecake batter and spread evenly with an offset spatula....Try not to marble it, if possible.

4. Bake in a preheated 350 oven for 50-65 minutes or until cake is set and cooked through. Cool to room temp and refrigerate.

5. Make pineapple frosting by beating all ingredients together until spreading consistency. Frost the top of the cake.

6. Make whipped cream. Garnish top of cake with swirls of whipped cream.

Camp Centerland is ready for Summer!

*By Michael Garcia,
Director- Camp Centerland*

Camp Centerland, located at the Irving M. Shuman Campgrounds, opens on June 25th. Being only a few weeks away, the camp is abuzz with preparations for the campers' return.

Camp enrollment is well ahead of 2017. As of mid-April, Camp is tracking 14% ahead of last year. This equates to about 250 camper weeks. Camp space is still open, but is filling up quickly. We have already created a wait-list for specific age groups for the summer.



This summer Camp Centerland has redesigned the swim lesson program. Jonathan Palma, our Camp Aquatics Director, has been working hard to make sure we can give the highest quality lesson available for your child. Weekly report cards will be given out on Fridays so parents can keep track of how their little fish are swimming!

Camp Centerland's staff training is extensive. With over 40 hours of training annually, we take pride in the high level of care we provide to your children. Topics such as "developmental levels of children," "how to play safe with children" and many more are included. We are looking for parents to join us this summer at staff training. If you are interested in volunteering for an hour or two, please email me at mgarcia@jccbuffalo.org.

If you need anything from Camp Centerland, have a question, or want to come in for a personal tour, please reach out to me or another camp staff member at any time.

Don't miss out on your chance to give your child the best summer of his or her life. Log on to www.campcenterland.org or call the camp office (716) 688-4033.

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Great Buffalo Jewbilee is August 19!

The *Great Buffalo Jewbilee* is just under 4 months away! On Sunday, August 19th, thousands of Jews and non-Jews, community members and those of all faiths will join together to celebrate the vibrancy that is Jewish Buffalo. An indoor and outdoor summer festival, Temple Beth Zion and the JCC Holland Family Building will host this first ever Jewish Cultural event, on historic Delaware Avenue. The inaugural Jewbilee will feature a weekend of celebration, kicking off on Thursday, August 16th with the *Jamboree to the Jewbilee*, an evening family celebration of food and entertainment to be held at Larkinville and co-sponsored with Temple Beth Zion and the JCC. More details to come. We are grateful to our *Jamboree* co-chairs Laurie and Mark Criden.

Sunday, August 19th will begin with an Oy Vey 5K Run/Walk sponsored by the Cantor's Assembly and organized by Cantor Penny Myers. And after a ribbon cutting and opening ceremonies, the

festivities will be bountiful, just like the food! Nearly a dozen food vendors will feature BVK supervised delicacies that represent Jewish culture, each serving for \$5 or less. Local vendors from our own Jewish community as well as those from surrounding cities have been invited and are signing on to serve their own unique dishes. Rick Recht, sponsored by PJ Library, and other local musicians, including an all new All Girls Band, will be performing throughout the day. There will also be an Israeli marketplace, krav maga, Israeli folk dancing, and an entire Children's Wing crafted by the Jewish Discovery Center. The *Jewbilee* will also feature a beer tent featuring Shmaltz Brewery and wine tasting by Tzafona Winery.

We thank Wegmans and Amherst Memorial for being our Sweet Honey Cake/Gold level partners. For more information, to be a vendor (food and art), to be a partner and advertise with us, or to perform at the Jewbilee, please contact Keren Green at 204-2250 or at keren@buffalojewishfederation.org.



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Yonina Foster – 301-452-7847, bflogalagain@gmail.com

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Erie County Family Court Judge Lisa Bloch Rodwin Receives National Award

Congressman Brian Higgins (NY-26) announced that Erie County Family Court Judge Lisa Bloch Rodwin has been chosen by the U.S. Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus to receive the "Lois Haight Award of Excellence and Innovation." Judge Bloch Rodwin accepted the national award at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. during National Crime Victims' Rights Week in April.



At the ceremony in Buffalo honoring Judge Rodwin were, from left: Congressman Brian Higgins, Judge Brenda Freedman, Judge Lisa Bloch Rodwin, JFS Executive Director Marlene Schillinger, Apple Domingo of JFS and Peter Weinmann

"For Judge Bloch Rodwin, the quest for justice isn't simply what she does, it's who she is," said Congressman Brian Higgins. "Throughout her lifetime of service, she has sought not only to resolve the immediate challenge facing an individual victim or a family, but also pursued improvements to fix the system, change the law, elevate support services and ultimately prevent future occurrences of crime and abuse."

Hon. Lisa Bloch Rodwin has served as Erie County Family Court Judge for a decade. Previously, from 1985 through 2008, she worked in the Erie County District Attorney's Office, where she served as Chief of the Domestic Violence Unit for 13 years. As a Judge she was chosen to be on the New York State Family Court Advisory Committee responsible for drafting and reviewing new family law legislation. She has also served on the NYS Advisory Council on Immigration Issues in Family Court, worked on a statewide committee responsible for drafting the Judicial Guide to Domestic Violence Risk Factors for Family and Supreme Court Judges throughout New York State, and directed a collaborative with the Department of Social Services focused on the reduction of the disproportionate number of minority children placed in foster care.

In addition to her professional experience, Judge Bloch Rodwin was the founder and first Board President of the Erie County Family Justice Center and the founder of the Alexa Foundation, which serves child abuse and sexual assault survivors. She served as State Director and Committee Chair of the New York State

Women's Bar Association and a board member of the YWCA and Child Advocacy Center.

The Lois Haight Award of Excellence and Innovation is presented to a professional whose efforts had a significant impact on local, state, national or international public policy development and implementation that promotes dignity, respect, rights and services for crime victims.

The award presented to Hon. Bloch Rodwin is named in honor of California Judge Lois Haight, who served as Chair of President Ronald Reagan's Task Force on Victims of Crime, and pioneered policies that promoted crime victims' rights and services.

"On behalf of Erie County Family Court and the court system's Eighth Judicial District, we are immensely proud of Judge Bloch Rodwin for her leadership in this important arena. She has brought much-needed awareness to domestic violence and child welfare issues, also working diligently to implement systemic reforms and enhance services to improve the life chances of vulnerable children and families in Buffalo and beyond," said Eighth Judicial District Administrative Judge Paula Feroletto.

The mission of the U.S. Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus is to elevate crime victim issues in a bipartisan manner without infringing on the rights of the accused. Since 2006 the Caucus has honored outstanding individuals, agencies and collaborative initiatives whose efforts directly benefit victims and survivors of crime, and promote individual and public safety.

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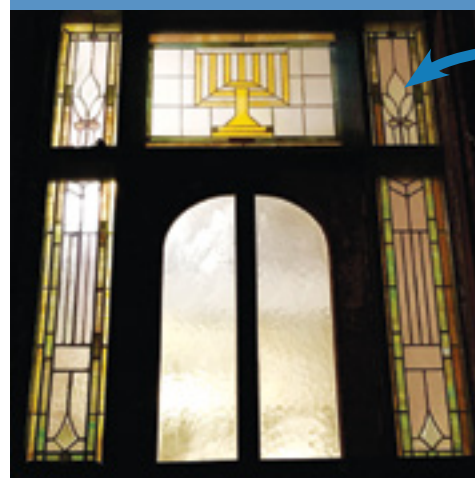
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- 1» **Yad B'Yad's 6th Annual Fashion Show is Sunday, May 6** at 4949 Sheridan Drive at 11:30 am. Fashions will be modeled by members of the community. All proceeds go to enhance and expand programs of Yad B'Yad for its participants. \$40 person. **Call Cindi Mikulik at 204-5380 or yadbyad@bjebuffalo.org**
- 2» **Attend Save the Pollinators – Bees & Butterflies poster contest May 7- May 18.** Sponsored by the Burchfield Nature and Art Center, WNY students' entries from grades K through 12 will be on display at the West Seneca Senior Center, 4620 Seneca Street. An Awards Reception on Sunday, May 20 from 2 -3:30 PM will provide 1st, 2nd, & 3rd prizes in each of four grade divisions. **Call 716-677-4843 for more information.**
- 3» **Volunteers are needed for the JFS J. Milton Zeckhauser International Garden** at 805 Delaware Avenue. Refugee clients and others work in the garden and receive the vegetables grown. **For more information or to volunteer, call JFS at 883-1914.**
- 4» **Welcome Spring with Spring Cleaning Donations.** Senior Transition Realtors are gratefully accepting collection of scarves, hats, socks and gloves for various charities in Western New York. All donations can be brought to Howard Hanna Real Estate at 5462 Sheridan Drive Williamsville, NY 14221. **Please call Connie Wheeler 716-864-4500 for more information.**
- 5» **Make a gift to the Jewish Federation Cemetery Corporation** in honor of your mother or grandmother, or any other important woman in your life for Mother's Day May 13. The Cemetery Corporation maintains and repairs several Buffalo Jewish cemeteries and your help is greatly needed. **Go to www.buffalojewishfederation.org and click on "Federation Cemetery Corporation" or call 716-204-2246.**

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May 6

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11:30 AM

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\$40/ person

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Jewish Discovery Center's Institute for Jewish Studies

10:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Call or text 400-1550 to register,
or email

info@jewishdiscoverycenter.org

Temple Beth Zion Achim Program

10 AM, Meadows Lounge

at Weinberg Campus

with Psychologist Amy Beth Taublieb

Temple Beth Zion Religious School Flower Sale

9 AM-Noon

700 Sweet Home Road

May 9

JCC Book & Arts Fair

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with Talking Leaves

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10 AM-6 PM

PJ Library Pre-Shavuot Program:

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May 11

Congregation Shir Shalom

Sisterhood Shabbat

7:00 PM in the Sanctuary

May 13

Jewish Discovery Center's Institute for Jewish Studies

10:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Call or text 400-1550 to register, or

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May 17

Temple Beth Zion Jazz

The Music of Richard Rodgers

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May 27

Jewish Discovery Center's Institute for Jewish Studies

10:00 AM and 11:00 AM

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SYNAGOGUES

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Jewish Community Organizations in Western New York

Buffalo Jewish Federation

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www.buffalojewishfederation.org

Rob Goldberg - CEO & Executive Director

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www.chainursery.com

Chani Labkovski -Director

Department of Jewish Thought

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www.jewishphilanthropies.org

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Getzville, NY 14068

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buffalohadassah@gmail.com

Elaine Kellick, Annette Magid, Mickey

Savit, and Rhonda Wise- Co-Presidents

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Getzville, NY 14068

TEL 716-204-0542

Sam Golden- Loan Officer

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Hillel of Buffalo

520 Lee Entrance/UB Commons

Suite # 210

W. Amherst, NY 14228

TEL 716-645-8787

Rabbi Sara Rich - Director

www.hillelofbuffalo.org

Holocaust Resource Center

336 Harris Hill Road, Suite 302

Williamsville, NY 14221

TEL: 716-634-9535

www.hrcbuffalo.org

Mara Koven-Gelman- Executive Director

Pieter Weinrieb- President

Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo, Inc.

Benderson Family Building

2640 North Forest Road

Getzville, NY 14068

TEL 716-688-4033

Richard Zakalik - Executive Director

Susan Freed-Oestreicher - President

Holland Family Building

787 Delaware Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14209

TEL 716-886-3145

www.jccbuffalo.org

Jewish Discovery Center

757 Hopkins Road

Williamsville, NY 14221

212 Exeter Rd.

Williamsville, NY 14221 (office)

TEL: 716-639-7600

TEL: 716-632-0467

Rabbi Heschel Greenberg

Rabbi Laizer Labkovski

www.jewishdiscovery.org

Jewish Family Service Of Buffalo And Erie County

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www.SaranacSynagogue.org

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Lisa Wallenfels - President
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www.tbzbuffalo.org

Temple Beth Zion (Reform)

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Buffalo, NY 14209
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Amherst, NY 14226
Rabbi Jonathan Freirich
Cantor Penny Myers
Amy Schaefer - Temple Administrator
miriam treger honig - President
TEL 716-836-6565
www.tbz.org

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Stan Schumann - President

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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!

New Furniture To Grace Congregation Shir Shalom's Bimah

By Peter Simon

Dr. Edward J. Fine and his wife Debra got a troubling surprise when they were called to the Bimah for an aliyah at Congregation Shir Shalom several years ago. They observed Rabbi Alexander Lazarus-Klein cautiously place the Torah on what Dr. Fine called a rickety, undersized reading table.

"You can only put four people around it," said Mrs. Fine. Additional participants, such as grandparents of Bar and Bat Mitzvah families, "couldn't get close enough to read the Hebrew," she said. In addition, deep scratches and stains caused by wine and candle wax marred the Shabbat table.

Shortly after that eye-opening aliyah, Dr. Fine made the first contribution to a newly-formed Bimah Furniture Fund, designed to replace Shir Shalom's 40-year-old Torah reading table, Cantor's lectern and Shabbat table. "I've always believed that if you live in a community, it's part of your duty to make it better," Dr. Fine said.

The committee, chaired by Mrs. Fine, talked with at least 25 craftsmen from both the U.S. and Israel who were interested in



Drawings of the new Bimah furniture at Shir Shalom

tackling the project. After reviewing each proposal, the committee—with the consent of Rabbi Lazarus-Klein and Cantor Arlene Frank - chose a plan submitted by Gary Keener, a master wood worker from the Ohio firm of Keener & Schultz. "Everybody liked it immediately," Mrs. Fine said.

The committee was also won over by the firm's "excellent workmanship, national reputation as builders of fine custom designed furniture and a reasonable bid," Mrs. Fine said. Keener's firm, she added, built furniture for a Frank Lloyd Wright restoration project.

The new items will be first used at a Shabbat service at 7:00 p.m. Friday, May 18th where Keener is slated to discuss the aesthetics and the functioning of the new furniture. The Torah reading table will be larger than the current one, will have a pull-out step for shorter people and will be easily mobile. The Shabbat table will be larger and stain resistant, and have a shelf to store ritual items.

The cantor's lectern will improve sound quality and allow Cantor Frank to be more flexible in the placement of musicians. Efforts are underway to fund a matching Torah stand, Dr. Fine said. The cost of the initial three items has been covered by donations.

CSS Scout Shabbat



Cub Scouts and Scout Leaders got together to celebrate Shabbat earlier this year at Congregation Shir Shalom

Anne Bernstein Memorial Shabbat Speaker Series

"Human Sexuality and Relationships"

presented by Andre Toth



Saturday, May 26th

12:00pm Luncheon

1:00pm Presentation

Examples of relationships and sexuality most often encountered in a therapeutic setting will be discussed. A Question and Answer session will follow based on participants' questions submitted on 3X5 cards distributed in advance.

Andre Toth is a psychotherapist specializing in couples' work and sexuality. He has taught at UB's Medical School as an adjunct Clinical Professor and at the Graduate School of Social Work.

The program is complimentary but reservations are required by May 23rd. Please call the Temple Office to RSVP at 633-8877.

*The Speaker Series is sponsored by
The Anne Bernstein Memorial Education Fund*



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Celebrating Kehillat Ohr Tzion

In March, Kehillat Ohr Tzion (KOT) members joined together with Menachem and Tami Tobias and their families and friends to celebrate the Brit Milah of Asher Mordechai Tobias. After the bris, people stayed around to visit with each other and to enjoy a delicious luncheon. The following Friday brought the members of the shul together again for a Shabbat Across America dinner. KOT has participated in this event every year since its inception. Then the next day a catered Kiddush luncheon was sponsored by Sue and Mike Chaskes to honor the naming of their granddaughter, Stella Madison.



KOT Kosher Dining Club

This spring, Rabbi Ori Bergman and his wife Nora hosted the KOT community in their home for a candid discussion about some future goals for the synagogue. Miriam Abramovich, Director of Engagement at the Federation, gave a brief presentation on the importance of the engagement model in shul development. The gathering was well attended and many positive ideas were shared with the group.

President Jeff Schapiro celebrated the anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah by reading his Haftorah and sponsoring a sit down Kiddush. Thanks to the efforts of Beth Weiss, Fun and Fundraising Chairperson, KOT has started The Kosher Dining Club, where catered dinners are delivered to the shul for a special dining event every six weeks. So far two very successful dinners have been held where KOT members and friends get together for a casual dining experience on Thursdays.

Although a lot of mention has been made about food in this article, we do more than just eat! There are many davening and learning opportunities at KOT. Rabbi Yehoshua Grunstein was a visiting scholar at KOT during April. He spoke about "Will Israelis and Judaism yet Celebrate Reunion? And "Why Jews like to have davened but dislike davening."

Other learning opportunities at KOT include a weekly women's class on Shabbat, and Sunday morning class at the shul led by Rabbi Bergman on The Building Blocks of Jewish Practice. On Tuesday afternoons, you can often find the rabbi meeting with individuals or small groups at Dash's and on Thursday evening the rabbi gives a Parsha class at his home. **For more information contact the Rabbi at oribergman@gmail.com.**

SISTERHOOD SHABBAT AT SHIR SHALOM

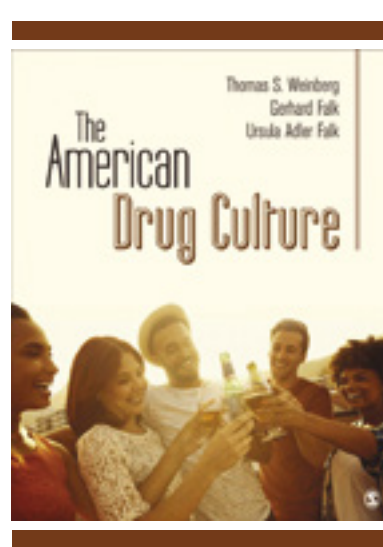
By Jill Hamilton

The month of May at Congregation Shir Shalom brings one of the most-loved Sisterhood events of the year, Sisterhood Shabbat, usually held on the Erev Shabbat of Mother's Day weekend. This year's Sisterhood-led service will take place on Friday, May 11th, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

The theme of the service is *Chai Mitzvah*, and will be a reflection of themes utilized throughout the year in the *Chai Mitzvah* Program. The Congregation Shir Shalom Sisterhood is one of the only local Jewish organizations currently participating in *Chai Mitzvah*, a national program designed to help adults reconnect to their Judaism. Some of the themes

studied include: **Tzedakah, Individual and Community** (importance of being part of a community), **Interpersonal Relationships** (maintaining good relationships with others), **Mindfulness/Conscious Living** (really hearing and noticing the world and others in it), **Gratitude**, and **Judaism and the Environment**. These themes will be distributed throughout the service.

Sisterhood members will participate in readings in both English and Hebrew, and share their thoughts on some of the above themes. The service is open to all, both men and women (Sisterhood members or not). After praying and celebrating together, all are welcome to a festive Oneg Shabbat in the social hall.



The American Drug Culture uses sociological and other perspectives to examine drug and alcohol use in United States society. The book is arranged topically rather than by drug categories and explores diverse aspects of drug use, including popular culture, sexuality, legal and criminal justice systems, other social institutions, and mental and physical health. It covers alcohol, the most widely used drug in the United States, more extensively than other books on the subject. The authors include case studies from their own field research that give readers empathetic insights into the situations of those suffering from substance and alcohol abuse.

Dr. Thomas Weinberg is Professor of Sociology at Buffalo State College, Dr. Ursula Falk is a Psychotherapist in private practice, and Dr. Gerhard Falk is Professor Emeritus at Buffalo State College.

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Temple Beth Tzedek's First Decade

June 3 Celebration 11 AM - 1 PM

Temple Beth Tzedek was formed on June 8, 2008, with the merger of Temple Beth El of Greater Buffalo and Temple Shaary Zedek. Just last year, Congregation B'nai Shalom became a part of the TBT family, too. In the past decade, we have integrated the synagogue membership while reaching out to the greater community with our own programming like **Outstretched Arms**, where we welcome Jews with disabilities to share in the various holiday activities, and serving as the site for community programs, like the observance of Yom HaShohah.

Membership co-chairs Linda Boxer and Beth Kassirer have planned a party to celebrate turning 10 on Sunday, June 3, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. While there will be ice cream and cake, they decided they wanted to reach out to the community by creating a *tikkun olam* (saving the world) event. Arrangements have been made for safe and secure recycling with Shred-It, bringing locking totes to collect personal papers, and Buffalo Computer Recycling LLC taking electronics for proper disposal (sorry, no televisions

or microwaves).

In support of TBT's Women's Network project, Save the Girls, bins will be available for the drop off of sanitary products and new and/or gently used bras for Haven House. "With thanks to the Erie County Sheriff's Department, we will collect expired and no-longer needed medications for safe disposal" said Linda Boxer. Of course, donations are always welcome for the Food Pantry of Western New York. Joshua Ribakove will help out with musical entertainment.

"So many times, recycling events are held on Saturday, when we are in shul," said Beth Kassirer, "that we decided to hold this event on a Sunday and open it to the community."

Final details are still being worked out and, once completed, will be posted on the website (www.btzbuffalo.org). Linda Boxer said, "We anticipate that there will be a small fee for Shred-It, to help defray our costs. The ice cream and cake will be free. We hope the entire Jewish community will join us, Sunday, June 3rd from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m."

CBA Kabbalat Shabbat Songs Now Available on YouTube and CD



Led by Cantor Irwin Gelman, Congregation Beth Abraham continues to offer Buffalo's Jewish community a highly musical and spirited monthly Kabbalat Shabbat service at the historic "little shul on Elmwood." Having now recorded CBA's Shabbat melodies and posted them on YouTube, the Congregation invites you to listen to and learn its full repertoire, in both Ashkenazi and Sephardic musical traditions. **Simply visit the website, www.congregationbethabraham.org.**

net and click on the "CBA on YouTube" link. In addition to Cantor Gelman's singing, the arrangements also include accompaniment by Marty Kerker, (keyboard/guitar) and Roberta Levine, (dumbek-an Israeli hand drum). You can also download and print English transliteration of the songs from the website, making it even easier for you to follow along with the melodies.

But wait...there's more! You can also order a CD to play in your car or home. To request a CD, simply visit the website and click on the Order CD link. Enjoy listening, learning and ultimately coming to Friday night services at Beth Abraham, where you can sing, clap and sway to your heart's content. For a schedule of upcoming services and other activities, please visit the CBA website where you may also request that you be put on the email list.

Temple Beth Tzedek Needs Help with Memorial Plaques

Temple Beth Tzedek is constructing a new spiritual home on North Forest Road. You can see photos of the construction on these two pages. One of the key pieces of the new building will be the display of our more than 3600 memorial plaques. As part of the process for deciding how to create a display that is tasteful and will meet the needs of the families that currently have plaques in the two current buildings, TBT members are working to identify plaques for whom there are no relatives in Western New York. The list below contains a list of names of people that may not have a connection to anyone in Western New York. If you recognize anyone on the list that has relatives in Western New York, please advise us at plaques@btzbuffalo.org.

Individuals who have plaques for family members at Temple Beth Tzedek or the former Congregation B'nai Shalom whose names do not appear on this list may be assured that those loved ones have already been identified as having family in this area.

We thank you for your help. If there are any questions you may e-mail plaques@btzbuffalo.org or contact one of the committee co-chairs: Ed Drozen, 636-6238 or Judy Davis, 837-6737.

Abramowitz, Albert	Brown, Ida	Diener, Pauline Borg	Freed, Burton	Green, Louis
Abramowitz, Bertha	Brownstein, Leigh	Dobosen, Abraham	Freed, Frances	Green, Julius
Adler, Tessie	Buchberg, Jessie	Domb, Abraham	Freed, Joseph	Greenbaum, Simon
Alt, Bernard	Burman, Frances	Domb, Esther	Freed, Robert	Greenberg, Rose
Altman, Sadie	Cantor, Anita	Domb, Katherine	Freedman, Harriet	Greenberg, Lester
Applebaum, Simon	Caplan, Rebecca	Drellich, Harry	Freedman, Seymour	Greenberg, Rebecca
Aroeste, Joseph	Caprow, Chana	Drellich, Bessie	Freedman, Sidney	Greenblatt, Solomon
Askinazi, Sophie	Caprow, Motel	Drellich, Edith	Frey, Carl	Greenman, Leah
Babinsky, Celia	Chait, Ann	Drellich, Jacob	Frey, Fannie	Greenman, Samuel
Babinsky, Peter	Chait, Joseph	Duker, Jonathan	Frey, Jacob	Groner, Lena
Baitman, Arnold	Chambers, Pearl	Dweck, Jacob (Jack)	Fried, Pauline	Groner, Louis
Baitman, Benjamin	Chazen, Anna	Dweck, Sophia	Fried, Solomon	Gross, Robert
Baitman, Rebecca	Chazen, Charles	Edelman, Morris	Friedman, Harry	Gross, Rose
Barden, Solomon	Cheplowitz, Hyman	Ehrlich, Abraham	Friedman, Lena	Gross, Sarah
Barris, Morris	Cheplowitz, Julia	Ehrlich, Bernard	Friedman, Sadie	Grossberg, Bertha
Barron, Phyllis	Cheplowitz, Morris	Ehrlich, Gordon	Friedman, Shirley	Grossman, Charles
Beck, Isidor	Chernila, Joseph	Ehrlich, Henry	Galpirin, Anna	Gruenfeld, Norbert
Beck, Gittel	Chernila, Rachel	Ehrlich, Irving	Galpirin, Daniel	Gutman, Ann
Beck, Loeb	Civin, Frieda Stern	Ehrlich, Jennie	Gantz, Bene	Gutman, David
Becker, Jacob	Cohen, Blanche	Ehrlich, Rose	Gantz, Esther	Haas, Emil
Becker, Sadie	Kloville	Eichler, Isadore	Garelick, Celia	Haas, Irvin
Becker, Sarah	Cohen, Celia	Eichler, Robert	Garfinkel, David	Haas, Isabella Siegel
Beckman, Manuel	Cohen, Louis	Eisenberg, Jack	Garfinkel, Edith	Haas, Ruth Schwartz
Beckman, Toby	Cohen, Mary	Elisewicz, Family	Garfinkel, Esther	Haas, Theodore R.
Bellow, Ronald	Cohen, May	Elkin, Edith	Garfinkel, Ethel	Haas, Vivian
Berg, George	Cohen, Morris	Elster, Sol	Garfinkel, Rosa	Handler, Esther
Berger, Samuel	Cohen, Richard K.	Estry, Fannie	Gellman, Celia	Harris, Hyman
Berman, Mollie	Cohen, Rosalind	Estry, Jacob	Gelman, Pauline	Harris, Rae
Berman, Nathan	Cohen, Rose	Etkin, Harry	Gershon, Dora	Harrishburg, Jacob
Bernhard, Anna	Cohen, Rose Zegler	Exler, Martin	Gershon, Isadore	Harrishburg, Lena
Bernhard, Beatrice	Cohen, Sarah	Exler, Richard	Gerst, Gunda	Hassenberg, Esther
Bernhard, Benjamin	Cohen, Sloan	Fagin, David	Gerst, Louis	Hassenberg, Simon
Bernhard, Harold	Cohen, Albert	Fagin, Louis	Ghnassia, Felix	Heimowitz, Anna
Bernhard, Hyman	Cohen, Albert	Fagin, Max	Ghnassia, Reine	Heimowitz, Jacob
Bernhard, Iris	Cohen, Anna	Farber, Ida	Ginsberg, Sophie	Herbst, Albert
Bernhard, Jacob	Cohen, Dora	Farber, Philip	Glassner, Lena	Hersch, Isidor
Bernstein, Benjamin	Cohen, Fannie	Farber, Samuel	Glatcow, Jacob	Herschfield, Rachel
Bernstein, Ida	Cohen, Fanny	Farkas, Abraham	Glatcow, Sidney	Herschfield, Samuel
Bernstein, Isaac	Cohen, Fred	Farkas, Rachel	Glickstein, Goldie	Hirsch, Avraham
Bernstein, Joseph	Cohen, Gabriel	Fass, Charles	Gold, Benjamin	Hirsch, Frimet
Bernstein, Rachel	Cohen, Harris	Fass, Julia	Gold, Edith	Hirsch, Jean
Bernstein, Sadie	Cohen, Isadore	Feinberg, Abraham	Gold, Frederic L.	Hoffman, Betty
Berzon, Jennie	Cohen, Jean	Feinsinger, Abraham	Gold, Joseph	Hoffman, Meyer
Berzon, Marvin	Cohen, Jenny	Feinsinger, Eva	Gold, Sarah	Hoffman, Morris
Berzon, Samuel	Cohen, Joseph	Feldman, Bertha	Goldberg, Alfred	Hoffman, Stephen
Besnoy, Rachel	Cohen, Mildred	Feldman, Harry	Goldberg, Lena	Holman, Rose
Besnoy, Yaakov	Cohen, Morris	Feldman, Henrietta	Goldberg, Dorothy	Holman, Samuel
Beyder, Leon	Cohen, Nathan	Feldman, Israel	Goldberg, Seymour	Hornblass, Lena
Birnbaum, Abraham	Cohn, Bessie	Fierstein, Anna	Golden, Bessie	Horwitz, Robert
Blanchard, Sylvia	Cohn, Carl	Fineberg, Anna	Golden, Nathan	Ishenberg, Benjamin
Block, David	Cohn, Emeil	Fineberg, Jacob	Goldin, Shirley	Ishenberg, Rozanne
Block, Fanny	Cohn, Lilian	Fingold, Gertrude	Goldman, Maurice	Jacobs, David
Bloom, Jeffrey	Cohn, Marcus	Finkelstein, Bessie	Goldman, Quinn	Jacobs, Elias
Bookbinder, Bertha	Coploff, Elia	Fish, Edith	Goldscher, Harry	Jacobs, Ida
Bookbinder, Frank	Coren, Anne	Fishkin, David	Goldsmith, Joseph	Jaffe, Benjamin
Bookbinder, Mary	Craden, Abraham	Fleysher, Dr. Maurice	Goldstein, Faye	Jaffee, Gertrude
Bookbinder, Morris	Crollick, Sylvia	Henry	Goldstein, Hiram	Josephson, Jay
Bookbinder, Philip	Crouse, Etta	Fleysher, Mollie	Goldstein, Lillian M.	Kahn, Esther
Borg, Gustav	Dankner, Rebecca	Helper	Goldstein, Anna	Kaiser, Fanny
Brander, Arnold	Dantzer, Rhea	Fox, David	Goodman, Anna	Kaiser, Gertrude
Bricker, Louis	Davis, Charles	Fox, Florence	Goodman, Celia	Kaiser, Kalman
Brock, Dr. Samuel	Davis, Ida	Fox, Minnie	Goodman, Louis	Kaiser, Max
Brock, Ida	Davis, Julius	Fox, Ruth	Gorsky, David	Kaiser, Ronnie
Brock, Meyer	Davis, Mae	Fox, Sidney	Gorsky, Irving	Kaiser, Rose (Ronnie)
Brock, Sarah	Davis, Nathan	Frank, Alan	Gorsky, Sophie	Kalinowsky, Osfi
Brooks, Samuel	Davis, Ida	Frank, Bessie	Gottlieb, Nathan	Kane, Anita
Brotz, Samuel	Davis, Sam	Frank, Harry	Grant, Celia	Kane, Julius
Brown, Harry	Dickman, Lena	Freed, Henry	Green, Anne	Kaplan, Abraham



Kaplan, Milton
Kaplan, Charles
Karny, Abner
Kaufman, Ann
Kaye, Abraham
Kaye, Sarah
Kaye, Abram
Kaye, Sarah
Keller, Ann
Klein, Anna
Klein, Yisroel
Kleiner, Karl
Kleiner, Otto
Knopf, Celia
Kopol, Josepha
Korman, Henrietta
Korman, Morris
Korn, Jack
Korn, Rose
Koshar, Samuel
Kreuter, Elaine
Kriegler, Jacob
Kriegler, Minnie
Kriegler, Rose
Kronman, Joseph
Kronman, Sarah
Krupnick, Benzion
Krupnick, Edith
Krupnick, Thomas
Kuflik, Martin
Kutzman, Belle
Lampert, Bertha
Lampert, Isadore
Lander, Meyer
Lander, Rose
Langer, Mr. J.
Langer, Mrs. J.
Lasky, Rebecca
Lavett, Adele
Lavett, David
Lavett, Isaac
Lavett, Jules
Leder, Boruch
Leder, Edith
Lederman, Charles
Lefcowitz, Anna
Lefcowitz, Max
Leff, Edwin
Leffler, Clara Snitzer
Lefkowitz, Chaia
Lefkowitz, Fay
Lefkowitz, Samuel
Lehman, Otto
Leibelsohn, William
Leifer, Esther
Leifer, Harry
Leifer, Rebecca
Lettman, Hanna
Lettman, Herman
Leuchten, Sol
Leven, Charles
Levenstein, Morris

Levin, Gertrude
Levin, Hyman
Levin, Joseph
Levin, Philip
Levin, Yetta
Levine, Dorothy
Levine, Lester
Levine, Harry
Levite, Dorothy
Levite, Jacob (Jack)
Levy, Isaac
Levy, Mamie
Levy, Rose
Lewis, Allan
Lewis, Sophie
Lewis, Zelda
Lichtenstein, Harry
Lichtenstein, Mollie
Liebergall, Bessie
Lieberman, Joseph
Lieberman, Mildred
Lieberman, Ethel
Lieberman, Solomon
Liffmann, Rosa (Rosi)
Liffmann, Sigmund
Linder, Norman
Lipsitz, Sylvia
Livingstone, Arthur
Livingstone, Estelle
Livingstone, Norman
Lname, Fname
Lobel, Julia
London, Dena
Lorinczy, Iren
Lubick, Ada
Males, Abe
Males, Ethel
Marcus, Hyman
Marcus, Michael
Marcus, Nathan
Marcus, Rebecca
Marcus, Samuel
Marcus, Sarah
Margulis, Hyman
Margulis, Rose
Martin, Anna
Martin, Sam
Maslekoff, Anna
Maslekoff, David
Matasar, Ada
Matasar, Sam
Matlin, Bronislava
May, Beatrice
May, Cecilia
May, Francis
May, Jerrolde
May, Leo
May, Sadie
Meadow, Ida
Mednick, Ann
Memel, Philip
Menies, Fannie

Mesch, David
Mesirow, Stuart
Meyer, Bernard
Meyer, Louis
Meyers, Morris
Meyers, Sophie
Milewitz, Hannah
Milewitz, Solomon
Milewitz, Brownie
Milewitz, Hannah
Milewitz, Rose
Milewitz, Solomon
Milich, Michael
Milkove, Harriet
Morrison, Rose
Miller, Barrie
Mills, Abe
Mintz, Sheldon B.
Mittleman, Dorothy
Mittleman, Samuel
Morowen, Harry
Morris, Jack
Morrison, Hannah
Morrison, Rosa (Rosi)
Myers, Martin
Nechamkin, Ruth
Nemo, Anna
Neuman, Anna
Neuman, Celia
Newman, Eleanor
Newman, Isadore
Nickerson, Harry
Noodelman, Rose
Noskin, Fannie
Nyman, Ruben
Olson, Alex
Olson, Regina
Padwe, Solomon
Palanker, Abraham
Palanker, Mrs. Abraham
Paysan, Harris
Paysan, Jennie
Payson, Harris
Payson, Jennie
Pehevorsky, Lena
Pelano, Evelyn
Penner, Elizabeth
Penner, Harry
Penner, Max
Penner, Mendel
Perelstein, David
Person, Benjamin
Peters, Pauline
Peters, Stanley
Pohl, Philip
Pohl, Jacob
Polokoff, Louis
Posner, Lillian
Prais, Helen
Prais, Sam
Prior, Merle
Prock, Edward

Prock, George
Prock, Rose
Rabinowitz, Isadore
Rabinowitz, Sophie
Rachman, Bessie
Rachman, Isadore
Raichilson, Abraham
Raichilson, Sarah
Rakowski, Mike
Rappaport, Elsa
Rappaport, Harry
Rappaport, Mamie
Rappaport, Marcus
Rappaport, Zygmund
Raszmann, Karen Winer
Raye, Evelyn
Reifer, Feni
Reifer, Joesf
Reiman, Fay
Reiman, Joseph
Reiman, Rebecca
Reingold, George
Reingold, Rose
Reingvartz, Maurice
Reinstein, Pauline
Reisig, Ben
Reisman, Jessie
Resman, Lena
Richman, Freda
Richman, Nathan
Richman, Solomon
Richter, Josephine
Richter, Samuel
Rickler, Maurice
Rifkin, Samuel
Risman, Diane
Riwchum, Nathan
Rose, Albert
Rose, Morris
Rosen, Fanny
Rosen, Lena
Rosen, Morris
Rosen, Frank
Rosenberg, Anna
Rosenberg, Isidor
Rosenberg, Miriam Brotz
Rosenberg, Rebecca
Rosenberg, Sidney
Rosenblat, Mollie
Rosenblitt, Philip
Rosenheimer, Claire
Rosenheimer, Fred
Rosenheimer, Theodor
Rosenthal, Jennie
Rosenthal, Joseph W.
Rosenthal, Morris
Rosenthal, Samuel
Ross, Irene
Ross, Max
Rossman, Edith
Rozansky, Anna
Rozansky, Meyer Rubin
Rozansky, Samuel
Rubenstein, Sarah
Rubin, Simon
Rudman, Albert
Rudman, Freida
Ruslander, Abraham
Ruslander, Alex
Ruslander, Amelia
Ruslander, Lester
Ruttenstein, Mary
Ruttenstein, Rose
Ruttenstein, Samuel
Sadik, Miriam
Sadik, Nathan
Sadoff, Sonya
Sandler, Rose
Sandler, Frank
Sandler, Rose
Scharles, Nathan
Schaefer, Marc
Schaffer, Allek
Schaffer, Anna
Schaffer, Esther
Schaffer, Jacob
Schaffer, Leah
Schaffran, Estelle
Schaffran, Morris
Scharf, Henny
Scharf, Israel
Schiller, Herman
Schneiderman, Isadore
Schneiderman, James
Schodchen, Reuben
Schrutt, Benjamin

Schrutt, Bernice
Schrutt, Esther
Schrutt, Louis
Schrutt, Max
Schrutt, Pesach
Schrutt, Shlomo
Schrutt, Tillie
Schuel, Irving
Schwartzman, Nathan
Seeman, Joan
Segel, Mariam
Seidel, Joseph
Seidel, Sarah
Seller, Alexander
Seller, Anna
Seller, Frieda
Seller, Isaac
Seller, Marvin
Seller, Paul
Sellers, Edith
Sens, Esther
Sens, Isidore
Sens, Freda
Sens, Israel
Shaffer, Joseph
Shaffer, Reuben
Shaffer, Joseph
Shaffer, Mary
Smith, Anna
Shapiro, Dora
Shapiro, Dora
Shapiro, Richard
Shapiro, Thelma
Shkolnikoff, Benjamin
Shkolnikoff, Sarah
Shumaker, David
Shumaker, Janie
Shumaker, Jennie
Shumaker, Louis
Sidel, Samuel
Siegel, Edna
Siegel, Ida Fried

Siegel, Irving
Siegel, Jacob
Siegel, Maurice
Siegel, Melvin
Siegel, Morris
Siegel, Rachel
Siegel, Solomon
Siegel, Tema
Siegel, Celia
Siegel, Edith
Siegel, Herman
Silverman, Paul
Silverstein, Benjamin
Silverstein, Esther
Silverstein, Gershon
Silverstein, Joseph
Silverstein, Kate
Silverstein, Mendel
Silverstein, Rachel
Silverstein, Samuel
Silverstein, Sarah
Simon, Belle
Simon, Louis
Singer, Allen
Skerker, Saul
Sklarow, Isadore
Sklarow, Sophie
Sklarow Md, Louis
Smith, Alexander
Smith, Louis
Smith, Sylvia
Shapiro, Richard
Snitzer, Samuel
Snyder, Lillian
Sopinsky, Irwin
Spector, Eva
Spector, Louis
Spector, Bessie
Spector, Nathan
Sperling, Louis
Sperling, Rose
Spielman, Ann

Standard, Gertrude
Standard, Herman
Stein, Rose
Steinberg, Ethel
Steinberg, Henrietta
Steinberg, Hyman R.
Steinhart, Rose
Steinman, Abraham
Stern, Arthur
Stern, Leonard
Stern, Sybilla
Stilller, Dr. Aloys
Stillman, Chiah
Strauss, Ethel
Strauss, Philip
Strauss, Samuel
Strickberger, Bernice
Striks, Matylda
Striks, Sam
Stromberg, Esther
Sugarman, Sarah
Sweet, Shifri
Szwarcberg, Chana
Szwarcberg, Shmul
Teitelbaum, Morris
Troyan, Betty
Troyan, Louis
Tyson, Anna
Tyson, Elias
Tyson, Ethel
Ujazzd, Sara
Unger, Max
Urkofsky, Leonard
Utcovitz, Louis
Volat, Lillian
Wabnick, Esther
Wabnick, Sam
Wachter, Benjamin
Wachter, Fanny
Wagner, Maurice
Wall, Rebecca
Warnick, Abraham

Warnick, Gertrude
Weber, Annie
Weber, Morris
Weber, Della
Weber, Max
Weinberg, Irving
Weinberg, Isadore
Weinberg, Jacob
Weinberg, Max
Weinberg, Rebecca
Weinberg, Sarah
Weissfeld, Herman
Weissfeld, Jennie
Weller, Anna
Weller, Hyman
Wesoke, Anne
Wesoke, Jacob
Wesoke, Philip
Wexler, Ida
White, Phyllis Cohen
Wiseman, Harry
Woldman, Bernard
Woldman, Clara
Wolfisch, Esther
Wolfisch, Harry
Wolfisch, Maurice
Wyckoff, Frank
Yost, Benjamin
Yost, Ruth
Zabat, Celia
Zabat, Frank
Zafron, Anna
Zafron, Isidore
Zegler, Max
Zeitlin, Ezrial
Zeitlin, Rebecca
Zeller, Victoria
Zells, Netta
Zombek, Hershel
Zubin, Jacob
Zucker, Jessie

Beth Tzedek's New Building Going up!

By Harvey Sanders

Temple Beth Tzedek is making great progress on its planned move from Getzville Road to North Forest Road. A new 10,000 square foot addition to the building that was the home of the former Congregation B'nai Shalom is under construction.

After completing the site work, including all the storm and sanitary lines and utility lines, the project moved on to pouring footers and foundation walls. Although the winter presented challenges, that process has been completed. Recently, a large crane was on-site to install large wooden arches for the sanctuary. Activity has now moved on to framing the building. Anticipated completion is August 2018.

The existing building will continue to serve as a gathering place for daily minyan, a parallel Shabbat and holiday minyan and social and other program activities.

The addition will include a new sanctuary, administrative wing, meeting space, a youth lounge, rest rooms and a community court that will serve as a gathering place, a library, museum and gift shop. Yahrzeit (memorial) plaques will also be displayed in the community court.

The congregation intends to display all memorial plaques that have a connection to anyone in the congregation or anyone else in the broader community - regardless of synagogue affiliation. The accompanying list includes only those names for which the congregation had been unable to identify a connection. If anyone knows of a connection to names on this list, please contact the synagogue. If you know of a name on a plaque that is not listed, don't worry - that just means the plaque is already on the list of plaques to be displayed. The synagogue will also be installing an interactive memorial display that will include English and Hebrew names and dates and the opportunity to include photos, biographies and links to other family members in the database. On Shabbat, the system will display the names of those with Yahrzeit during the coming week.



Dr. Taublieb to Address Achim

The Brotherhood of Temple Beth Zion will welcome Dr. Amy Beth Taublieb for their May Achim program May 6 at 10 AM, at the Meadows Lounge, located on the second floor at the Weinberg Campus, 2650 North Forest Road. The program is held in the building across from the rear entrance to the Jewish Community Center Benderson Building.

Dr. Taublieb will be addressing the residents and their guests on the topic "Aging With Psychological Grace". Dr. Taublieb is a licensed Psychologist who has been in private practice for over twenty-five years in the Amherst area. She is a frequent participant in many local programs, including being a regular guest on WBEN Talk Radio *Senior Radio Show* with Joe Chile and on Channel 7 AM *Buffalo* and can be found on the Channel 7 website. She is a contributor to national and local news media, a frequent guest on local and national radio and TV programs, the author of three books, the most recent being *The Tail Wags The Dog*. She is a member of Temple Beth Tzedek, a lifelong



resident of the Buffalo area and a frequent speaker at Achim. There will be a period for questions and answers following the presentation. Achim is a monthly program of learning 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 or Kamas5@aol.com.

Jazz at Temple Beth Zion

The Music of Richard Rodgers featuring Lindsey Holland

Thursday, May 17, at 7 PM
805 Delaware Avenue

Richard Rodgers was an American composer of music for more than 900 songs was born into a German Jewish family in Arverne, Queens. He is best known for his songwriting partnerships with the lyricists Lorenz Hart and Oscar Hammerstein II. Rodgers was the first person to receive what are considered the top show business awards in television, recording, movies and Broadway—an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar, and a Tony.

\$10 suggested donation at the door.

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Jacob Jay - Trumpet
Nelson Rivera - Tenor Saxophone
Jared Tinkham - Guitar
Ed Croft - Bass
Alec Dube - Drums

TBZ Womens' Seder



Caption



The women and girls pictured enjoyed TBZ's Women's Seder in March.

PALS-Kadimah Registration

PALS-Kadimah is a warm, welcoming Jewish community pre-school with an enriched Judaic, Hebrew and values-based curriculum. Through creative play and experiential learning, our children thrive and discover the world around them.

For more information and/or a tour, contact Melissa Milch: pals@tbz.org or (716) 836-6565.



Spring is off to a busy start for PALS-Kadimah students. Preparation for Passover included cleaning, making colorful Matzah covers using shaving cream, making Charoset, decorating Miriam's cup and sharing a special song at their model Seder.

39th Annual Merrill Molien Haven House Scholarship Luncheon

Tuesday, July 17, Noon
Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Road

Join the Temple Beth Zion Sisterhood for a delicious lunch, interesting speaker and our fabulous basket auction. All proceeds to benefit an educational scholarship for victims of domestic violence. **For more information, call (716)836-6565.**

Temple Beth Zion Religious School Annual Flower Sale

Sunday, May 6
9 AM – noon
Broder Center parking lot

Gerbera daisies, geraniums, begonias, and more. Hanging baskets and full flats of annuals. Cash-and-carry.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Temple Beth Zion will coordinate volunteers to serve at Friends of Night People on the second Tuesday of each month. We won't need 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. We welcome new and returning volunteers.

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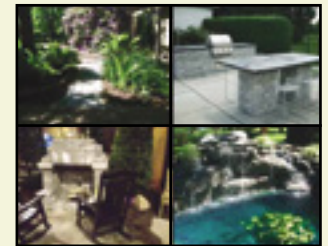
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THE JEWISH JOURNAL
A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

The special section in June features

Home & REAL ESTATE

For ad information contact Cindy at 972-2240 or coppenheimer@jewishjournalwny.com

KADIMAH ACADEMY TO HONOR DR. SOL MESSINGER JUNE 11

Kadimah Academy, Buffalo's community Jewish day school for almost 60 years, will commemorate its unbreakable connections to Israel at its Annual Dinner on Monday, June 11, at Acqua Restaurant on the Niagara River. The school's annual event and major fundraiser brings together parents, alumni, staff, donors, community leaders and other supporters from all segments of Jewish Buffalo for an evening of camaraderie and rededication to the future.

This year's program will honor Dr. Sol Messinger, a prominent and generous benefactor of the Buffalo Jewish community. Dr. Messinger has been a beloved longtime supporter of Kadimah. Dr. Messinger was born in 1932 in Berlin to Polish Jewish parents. His childhood was tumultuous and at the age of seven, accompanied by his parents, he made the perilous journey aboard the MS St. Louis in an effort to escape the terrors of anti-Semitism. Surviving great difficulties, the young Sol was able to make his way to the United States in 1942. He, along with his parents, settled in Buffalo. He attended the University of Buffalo for his undergraduate studies, as well as for medical school, on his path to becoming a pathologist.



Dr. Sol Messinger
Photo by Mark Mulville/ Buffalo News

Dr. Messinger maintains a deep connection to Israel, having traveled to the Jewish State annually from 1965 to 2016. In 1969, he worked for six months at Hadassah Hospital in his capacity as a pathologist. He has always been one of Kadimah's most consistent and generous supporters, both financially and vocally, expressing his ardent belief in the importance of day school education for our community's future.



"A Kadimah education is extremely important in the United States in making children aware of their Jewish heritage and making them aware of the importance of Israel in Jewish lives everywhere in the world," said Dr. Messinger. The Annual Dinner will also feature several alumni, who will share their personal connections to Israel, formed and shaped as students at Kadimah.

Celebrate Kadimah's Unshakeable, Unbreakable Unfake-able connection to Israel – join with the Kadimah Academy community and all of Jewish Buffalo at the school's largest single fundraiser of the year.

Tickets are \$125 per person, and tables of eight can be purchased for \$1,000. Or join Kadimah's larger philanthropic efforts as a leading supporter of Jewish education with a larger direct gift to the school that will help ensure a vibrant day school for future generations.

To purchase tickets for this year's Kadimah Annual Dinner, to make other donations, or for more information, please contact Kadimah Academy Head of School Einav Symons at: 716-836-6903 or visit the website at www.kadimah.org.

the buffalo gay men's chorus presents

BGMc

Summer

STATE OF MIND

MAY 18, 2018 • 8:00 pm
Orchard Park Presbyterian Church
4369 S. Buffalo Street

MAY 19, 2018 • 8:00 pm
Trinity Episcopal Church • 371 Delaware Ave.

MAY 20, 2018 • 4:00 pm
Trinity Performing Arts Center @ Trinity United Methodist Church • 711 Niagara Falls Blvd.

\$20 • Tickets can be purchased at Spoiled Rotten / 831 Elmwood Avenue, online at www.buffalogaymenschorus.org, through a chorus member or at the door.

buffalogaymenschorus @thebgmc

Program is funded by the New York State Council on the Art with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; administered by Arts Services Initiative of Western New York.

BUFFALO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA **BPO** (716) 885 5000 bpo.org

FATE. FORTUNE. LOVE. LUST. Carmina Burana

Sat. May 12, 8pm
Sun. May 13, 2:30pm
JoAnn Falletta, conductor
Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus
Amy Owens, soprano
Andrew Skoog, countertenor
Elliot Madore, baritone
Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus
It's a spectacle for the senses!
This and popular masterpiece is heard in commercials and films from aftershave and Applebee's to The Hunt for Red October and The Omen. It's paired with the New York premiere of Jaakko Kuusisto's trumpet concerto written specifically for BPO Principal Trumpet, Alex Jokipii.

M&T Bank Classics

Star-Spangled Spectacular

Fri. May 25, 10:30am
Sat. May 26, 8pm
Bradley Thachuk, conductor
Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus
The BPO's annual tribute to our veterans, marches, and music that celebrates the American spirit.

KeyBank **POPS**

The Coffee Concert Series is presented by Elderwood

Standing at her parents' dining room table, filled now with momentos

of time passed instead of family and favorite foods, Dalia pulls up a box and opens it.

Inside, under the stack of old cards, awards, scribbled children's drawings her mother had kept and cherished, is a smaller box of black and white snapshots she has never seen. Among these is a small photo of her great grandparents Aviel and Golda, dressed in their Sabbath best, young and smiling triumphantly. On the back is written: "Avi and me, safe in Brooklyn, June 1943."

Pushing back a pang of grief, Dalia drifts back to a childhood sweet remembrance of family gatherings in this same house. When Great Uncle Aaron told the story of his parents' journey from the Old World to America, she would hold her breath when he described how they had hidden in a cold cellar with no light and little food to escape the concentration camp. When he came to the part where they descended the ship onto Ellis Island, holding hands and safe in New York, she always clapped her hands and cheered.

Years passed and soon Dalia's own children clapped and cheered as the story was told first by her own grandmother Bubbe Ora after Uncle Aaron passed on – and then by her mother Maddie Esther. Now Maddie Esther was gone too, and Dalia is now the matriarch. This year, she will tell the story, and smile broadly as her own granddaughter Ruthie, now seven, claps and cheers.

That evening Dalia and her husband Seth, and their three children and their children's young families, are all together again in the house where she grew up. After the memories

have been packed away for posterity, and the table has again been filled with favorite foods and then cleared, Dalia tells the wondrous family story one last time in her parents' home.

The next morning Dalia, Ruthie and daughters Kara and Dorah – just a few months away from the birth of her first child – rise early to go to the cemetery to pay respects to the elders. They drive down a winding path to the rose marble monument where Savta Golda and Sabba Aviel rest eternally, where Bubbe Ora and Zayda Mordechai are laid nearby – and where now Maddie Esther has joined her beloved.

"This bench is beautiful. I'm glad the family decided to put it here," Dorah says, easing gingerly down to sit. Beside her, younger sister Kara says coming here still makes her feel like their family is forever.

"Family *is* forever," Dalia smiles. Sitting next to her daughters, she pulls Ruthie into her lap and hugs her tightly. "The ones we love are never gone. They live forever in our hearts."



*The ones we love are never gone.
They live forever in our hearts.*

Jewish Federation Cemetery Corporation maintains a Sacred Trust.

We are the caretakers of seven Jewish cemeteries in Western New York. We provide burial places for members of the community and we maintain Jewish genealogical and burial records.

We preserve the past and provide for the future. Your support of our mission is appreciated as the highest form of Mitzvot.

Thank you.



JEWISH FEDERATION
CEMETERY CORPORATION

To make a supporting donation, please visit www.buffalojewishfederation.org or call 716-204-2241

Foundation Offers Israel Scholarships

Catherine Shuman Miller, Chair of the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies' Israel Scholarship Committee has announced the award of scholarship grants to 4 Buffalo-area outstanding students, totaling \$7,800 to support travel to Israel in the summer of 2018. It is not the Foundation's policy to announce the winners, but we have included the programs with which students will be traveling.

These grants for these scholarships are made from the income from endowment funds managed by the Foundation for this unique program. These funds are:

Jeannette & Sydney S. Abzug Fund
 Dr. Nathan & Toby Tickin Back Fund
 Hyman & Ruth Benatovich Memorial Fund
 Joseph and Anna Gartner Foundation Fund
 Dr. Irwin & Sylvia Ginsberg Fund
 Mildred & Jack Haniford Fund
 Milton J. Hurwitz Fund
 Dvorah & Donald Joseph Fund
 Joel & Norman Katz Memorial Fund
 Mary F. Levine Fund
 Lila & Shay Mintz Fund
 Nobel Family Fund
 Harvey & Nancy Schiller Fund
 Anna Schwartz Memorial Fund

"It is important to send young people to Israel especially if they are passionate and interested in broadening and deepening their Jewish identity. The opportunity we help give them strengthens them as individuals and us as a community," says Committee Chair Miller.

These young people come from both observant and secular upbringing. The common thread among all of the applicants is their intense curiosity and a deep interest in visiting Israel. We have assisted students traveling on well organized, established national programs such as these:

Onward Israel – In Partnership with MASA and the Jewish Agency for Israel

Onward Israel's theme based programs offer unique internship opportunities to young adults aged 19 to 27 from around the globe. Each program places participants in groups with other like-minded individuals which creates an opportunity to network and engage with peers in different sectors of a career field.

Work and live in Israel while exploring what makes Israel a global influence in the field of your interest.

TRY – Tichon Ramah Yerushalayim

Tichon Ramah Yerushalayim (TRY), the Ramah Jerusalem High School, has been serving North American teens since 1982. TRY is an international co-ed secondary school in Israel offering students an academic curriculum of high level general studies parallel to that being followed in their home communities, as well as a superior course of Hebrew, Jewish studies, and Israel studies that is possible only in Jerusalem. TRY offers an academic trimester (three months), quarter (two months) and semester (four months) program. TRY is an all-encompassing framework, designed to provide students with a stimulating cross-cultural experience while focusing on their personal and Jewish development.

Camp Seneca Lake in Israel

This month long program exposes participants to the beauty, depth, and

complexity of Israel from the inside out. Participants will travel the entire country – hiking, touring, tasting, learning, and exploring. Each Shabbat will be celebrated with a different community, enabling participants to experience some of the many ways that Israelis celebrate and observe Shabbat.

"Being able to learn about the history of my people while actually being in the places that it occurred is such a unique experience that many people don't have the opportunity to indulge in. Visiting places such as the Western Wall allowed me to expand my connection to Judaism and Israel itself," stated one of our past Israel Scholarship recipients.

The young people uniformly have incredible, meaningful experiences in Israel and come back better informed and ready to engage in our Jewish community.

For more information on how you can help more young people travel to Israel from our community, please contact Lynn Catalano at Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies at (716) 204-2259. For more information on applying for the summer of 2019 Israel Scholarship which we will begin accepting applications in September 2018, please contact Lisa Collins at Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, (716) 204-1134.

NEW FUND ESTABLISHED



Catherine Shuman Miller
Israel Scholarship Committee Chair

Catherine Shuman Miller and her husband, David, have made an initial gift to the Foundation to establish a new Israel scholarship fund called the "Community Collective Fund for Student Travel to Israel." The Foundation is seeking contributions to help reach our initial goal of \$10,000 for the endowment. Earnings from the Fund each year will increase our capacity to send more young people to Israel. Our requests for financial assistance have consistently exceeded the funds available in recent years. Gifts in any amount will be appreciated.

Checks may be sent to the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, 2640 North Forest Road, Suite 200, Getzville, NY 14068. For further information, contact Lynn Catalano at (716) 204-2259.

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52ND JCC BOOK AND ARTS FAIR TAKES PLACE JUNE 4 – JUNE 21, 2018

The 52nd JCC Book and Arts Fair will showcase authors and presenters from Western New York and beyond, June 4-June 21, 2018.

With a line-up that offers something for everyone, the annual event will celebrate acclaimed authors, playwrights, artists and poets as well as the Tribeca Film Festival favorite, *Keep the Change*, a romantic comedy set in a world where no character is typical.

The Festival features two books which celebrate the History of Buffalo. Author/historian/restauranteur Mark Goldman shares a revealing story about one of Buffalo's most important industrialists in his book *Albright: The Life and Times of John J. Albright*. In *Becoming Elmwood: Buffalo's Olmsted Parkway Neighborhood*, author Clinton Brown educates and enlightens readers with the history and origins of Elmwood Village's enduring character.

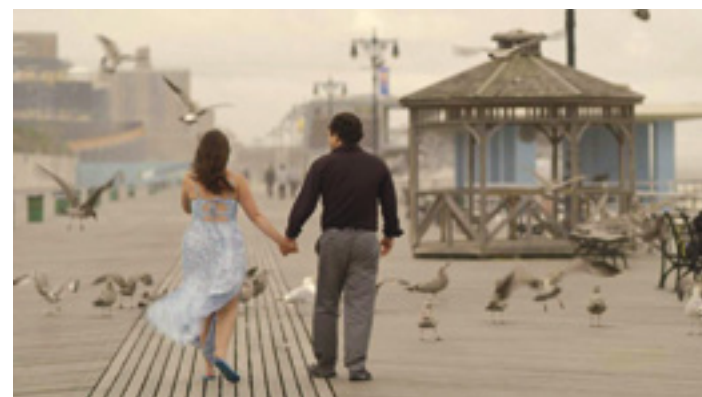
Also featured is A SPECTACULAR



VARIETY SHOW, starring The Twins from France and magician Todd Nelson, a family friendly event.

The Bunis Family Art Gallery, at the JCC Benderson Family Building, will feature the exhibit "Art From The Heart" by artists from Yad B'Yad (Hebrew for Hand in Hand) a group that provides outreach, advocacy and program support for people with disabilities. The exhibit will run May 15 - June 29, 2018.

During the month of June, books will



Clockwise from top: *Keep the Change*, *Becoming Elmwood: Buffalo's Olmsted Parkway Neighborhood*, *The Twins* and *Albright: The Life and Times of John J. Albright*

be collected for preschool – grade 4 students attending Highgate Heights Elementary School in Buffalo, in collaboration with Buffalo Jewish Coalition for Literacy, a program of Buffalo Jewish Federation. For the past 15 years, Buffalo Jewish Coalition volunteers have been bringing donated books to students, as well as reading to and tutoring children. Collection boxes will be at or near membership services desks at both JCC buildings. (Please note, to comply with the school's preference, no holiday books will be distributed)

The JCC Book and Arts Fair is open to the public. Most events conclude with dessert receptions as well as books sales and signings. Tickets for events requiring admission may be purchased at the door, or prior to the events at either JCC member services desk as well as www.jccbuffalo.org.

Talking Leaves Pop-Up Book Sale

Wednesday, May 9, 2018
10 AM – 6 PM

Location: Lobby of the JCC Benderson Family Building

Shop a huge selection of books perfect for gift giving or just for you! A portion of the sales will support the JCC Book and Arts Fair.

JCC Book and Arts Fair

Tickets & Passes

Tickets and passes may be purchased at the door or in advance at either JCC member services desk or at www.jccbuffalo.org

New this year:

Flex Pass \$50

Six tickets for the price of 5!

Pass may be shared.

Please note: Flex Pass and student tickets may not be used towards A SPECTACULAR VARIETY SHOW on June 10.

For information about schedules, or donation opportunities for the JCC Book and Arts Fair, please visit www.jccbuffalo.org or contact Katie Wzontek, Cultural Arts Director at Kwzontek@jccbuffalo.org



Hebrew High's Jewish Civics Initiative Class Visits DC



Bottom row L-R: Madeleine Weinmann, Hannah Wallenfels, Hannah Maxick. Top row L-R: Hunter Myers, Orry Segol, Abby Block, Joshua Bloom

By Jill Komm, Principal

Seven teens traveled to Washington DC March 16 for a weekend filled with learning and lobbying. **The Bernard and Audre Rapoport L'Taken Social Justice Seminar** in partnership with the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism is designed to expose teens to a variety of public policy issues and explore the Jewish values around these issues. The weekend was the culmination of Hebrew High's Jewish Civic Initiative 8-week class, where Buffalo teens learned about current events and prepared to meet with local congressman on Capitol Hill.

Hebrew High teens were joined by more than 300 teens from across the country. Together, they visited various DC sites, including the Holocaust Memorial Museum and the National Mall, enjoyed Havdalah at the Jefferson Memorial, and participated in a number of programs on a range of topics including Israel, the environment, reproductive rights, LGBTQ civil rights, church/state separation, international relations, and more.

David Gordon has been teaching this course at Hebrew High for over 20 years and accompanied the group to DC. Hebrew High is a program of the Bureau of Jewish Education.



Lobby Day Bottom row L-R: Orry Segol, Abby Block, Hannah Wallenfels, Madeleine Weinmann, Hannah Maxick. Top row L-R: Hunter Myers, Joshua Bloom

HEBREW HIGH'S 72ND GRADUATION CEREMONY

Wednesday, May 2, 2018
17 Iyar 5778

Weinberg Campus - Meadows Entrance
Park in the JCC Lot - Enter at door facing the JCC
2700 North Forest Road
Getzville, New York

The Community is invited to Celebrate:
The Class of 2018
and

The Better Together Program

in Partnership with Congregation Shir Shalom

7:00 pm - Dessert Reception to follow

2018 Graduates 5778

Seth Blum
Drew Boehnlein
Jordan Grubea
Charlotte Long
Elliot Snitzer

Please RSVP by April 30 to Mindy: 716-204-5380 or mindy@bjebuffalo.org

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There's
something
about the JCC

Happening now at the JCC





Ticket to Adventure
9 weeks June 25-August 24
children grades K-10!

at the
Irving M. Shuman Campgrounds

To learn more, call Director Michael Garcia: 204-2078.
Pick up a camp brochure at either JCC location
campcenterland.org

Grossman Family Outdoor Pool Complex Opens June 9!



June 9 - August 12
Sun-Thur 9:00am-8:00pm Fri-Sat 9:00am-8:30pm

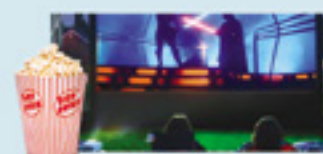
SUNDAY FUNDAYS

12:00 - 4:00pm
July 22
August 12



DIVE IN MOVIE NIGHTS

Begin at 7:30pm
August 4



HOLIDAY PARTIES

July 4
9:30am- After UB Fireworks
Labor Day Sept. 1
12:00-4:00pm



Book & Arts Fair

June 4 - 21, 2018

The JCC Book & Arts Fair is celebrating 52 years. We are once again proud to showcase authors and presenters from Western New York and beyond, with a line-up that offers something for everyone.

For a schedule of events visit
www.jccbuffalo.org.



A Sentimental Journey

Tickets available at:
www.jewishrepertorytheatre.com
www.showclix.com
Box office: 716-650-7626



Apr. 19 - May 13 2018

You are invited to join us for our

Annual Meeting

June 14, 2018 7:00-8:00pm

Meeting followed by Ice Cream Sundae Bar! Everyone Welcome!
At the Maxine and Robert Seller Theatre in the Rochwarger Auditorium
2640 North Forest Road, Amherst, NY 14068

Shavuot

Sunday, May 20 Center closed
Monday, May 21 Fitness/Aquatics/KP/EC open
Business Offices closed

Memorial Day

Monday, May 28
Fitness Open 8:00am-3:00pm Aquatics until 2:30pm
Business Offices, Kids Place, Early Childhood closed



Benderson Family Building
Amherst
2640 North Forest Rd
adjacent to UB North
688-4033

Holland Family Building
Buffalo
787 Delaware Ave
at Summer Street
886-3145

JCC Hours

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

Art from the Heart

EXHIBIT OF MIXED MEDIA ART BY MEMBERS OF YAD B'YAD AT JCC MAY 15 – JUNE 29

This spring, the artists of Yad B'Yad are partnering with the JCC Cultural Arts program to present **"Art From the Heart,"** the first Yad B'Yad art exhibit. Yad B'Yad is a program of the Bureau of Jewish Education. Hebrew, for "Hand in Hand," Yad B'Yad provides outreach, advocacy and program support that assists people with disabilities to achieve full participation in the Jewish and Buffalo communities.

"The **"Art From the Heart"** exhibit gives our artists a wonderful opportunity to share their talents with the community while raising awareness of their special abilities," says Cindi Mikulik, director of Yad B'Yad. "Working with the JCC Cultural Arts has been very exciting for us. We look forward to collaborating on more projects in the near future."

"Art from the Heart" will feature the artistic talents and accomplishments of Daniel Rodgers, Jeremy Pratt, Liz Skerker, Sarah Doueck and Rick Gear. The exhibition will include framed drawings, paintings, and more.

"I enjoy working as an artist while attending Aspire's iExpress art program at the Tri-Main Building. I have participated in this program for about ten years and



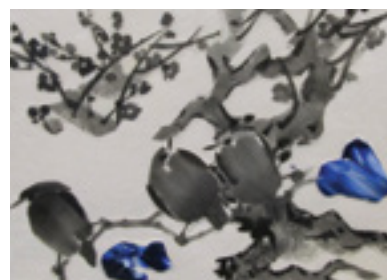
Art by Liz Skerker

have had the opportunity to work with many instructors during that time," says artist Liz Skerker. "I recently painted my brother's dog, Ozzie. The finished painting made me feel happy, which is how I like people to feel when they view my work. I want them to feel better about art and to feel good...inside and out," she said.

"I started making art in grammar school," says artist Sarah Doueck. "I now make art when I am at Aspire Co-Op. I like to make art because it makes me feel good. I like to use paints, watercolors and clay and my favorite color is yellow. My favorite type of art to look at is 3-D art from the Sixties. I make art because I want people to feel very good inside when they see all of my work."

"Art has no limitations and allows us to celebrate our differences and explore our similarities with each other. It is one of the best mediums for inclusion and we believe that all persons, regardless of their disabilities, should have equal opportunities to express their talents and to be successful in the Arts," says Katie Wzontek, who curates the gallery as Cultural Arts director at the JCC. "We are proud to have the opportunity to partner with Yad B'Yad and share these truly talented artists with the community."

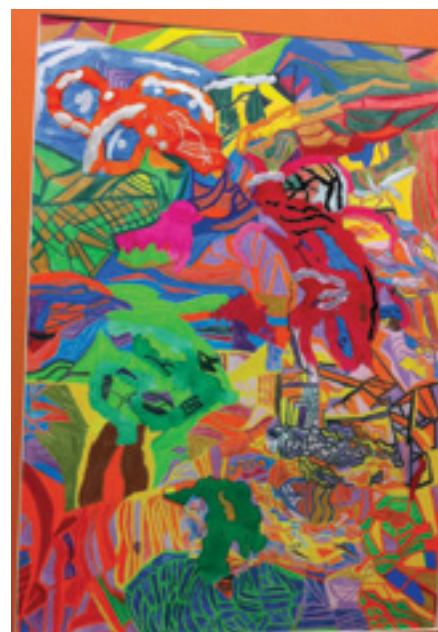
There will be a free gallery reception, open to the community, May 24, 6-8 p.m., in the Lippman Lounge and Bunis Family Art Gallery at the JCC Benderson Family Building. Gallery admission is free and the gallery is open during JCC business hours, 7 days a week. For more information, visit jccbuffalo.org or contact Katie Wzontek at 716-204-2084 or Kwzontek@jccbuffalo.org.



Art by Daniel Rodgers



Art by Sarah Doueck



Art by Jeremy Pratt

BUFFALO HADASSAH BRIEF

Buffalo Hadassah's program committee has been working all year to plan for the upcoming spring events.

Dr. Gale Burstein, Erie County Commissioner of Health, made an informative power point presentation at a luncheon on April 18 in the banquet room at the Lenox Grill. She answered questions from the audience during dessert and coffee. Arrangements were made to provide kosher lunch options.

On Sunday, May 13 David Bunis and Marvin Frankel will share their memories and insights about "The Glorious Days of Shopping in Buffalo." (See ad on page 11.) A video will also present some highlights from those days, and a kosher brunch will be served. The event takes place in the Lippman Lounge of the JCC at 11:00 AM. **Jon Lehrer and Dancers will appear on the stage in the**

Robert and Maxine Seller Theatre on Sunday, June 3 at 2:00 PM. Lehrer and five dancers recently performed in Europe in their "Shadows in Motion" tour and will present some of these dances at the JCC. Mr. Lehrer will take questions from the audience about the choreography of the dance numbers. For additional information contact mseller@buffalo.edu.

Aside from these programs Hadassah continues to run several groups that meet monthly. These include a book club which meets on the third Monday of every month facilitated by Phyllis Steinberg, a study group called "Pray Tell" facilitated by Janice Gelfand, and a short story group. Volunteers work in the office tabulating Dash's grocery purchase tapes and putting together the bulletin, which is sent to more than 700 members four times a year. There



is also the continuous fundraising that our organization does for the world-renowned Hadassah Hospitals in Jerusalem.

The bulletin is written and edited by Elaine Kellick while Frima Ackerhalt (and her band of faithful volunteers) is in charge of tabbing, labeling and sending the bulletin to all the members. For information about becoming a member of the Buffalo branch of Hadassah, contact nangrnborg@gmail.com.

Frima Ackerhalt on her way to P.O. to mail the bulletin

Foundation Offers Academic Scholarships

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

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

Sidney & Jeanette Birzon Memorial Fund
 Raymond & Sara Ehrenreich Scholarship Fund
 Isadore & Bessie Federman Scholarship Fund
 Rose H. Frank & Leonard H. Frank Academic Scholarship Fund
 Anna E. & Bernard I. Gross Scholarship Fund
 Isaac Hoenig Memorial Fund
 Dr. Martin & Edith L. Horowitz Scholarship Fund
 Jewish Liberal Arts Club
 Edna, Lillian P. and Beatrice J. Kohn Scholarship Fund
 Knights of Pythias – Jonathan David Lodge Scholarship Fund
 Dr. Harold J. and Arlyne Levy Award in Jewish Studies
 Dr. Louis Sklarow Award Fund
 Maimonides Medical Society Fund
 Sarah & Nettie Nathan Scholarship Fund
 Dr. Meyer & Ann S. Riwchun Scholarship Fund
 Benjamin & M. Madalene Smith Scholarship Fund
 Paul Swados Scholarship Fund
 Lola Zeckhauser Scholarship Fund

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

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



Lenore Levy

Gan Israel Day Camp Summer 2018

בס"ד



"Give your child the Jewish Pride that they truly deserve"

JULY 2 - JULY 20
 JULY 23 - AUGUST 10
 HOURS 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

BOYS AGES 3-8
 GIRLS AGES 3-12
 NEED HELP? CALL 716-834-1915

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WWW.GANISRAELBUFFALO.COM



TALMUD TORAH: THE VALUE OF A LIFE OF JEWISH LEARNING

By Susan Goldberg Schwartz,
Director of Adult Learning

Since biblical times, Jews have been obligated to study and question. Rabbis Shammai and Hillel rarely agreed, but both stressed the importance of study. Shammai said in Pirke Avot 1:15, “make your study of Torah a regular practice.” Hillel said in Pirke Avot 2:4, “Do not say, ‘I will study when I have leisure.’ Perhaps you will never have leisure.”

In the blessing before the study of Torah, we are told ‘La’asok b’dvrei Torah’ meaning to busy ourselves with the words of Torah. Torah study is not an intellectual exercise alone, as to be fully engaged with Torah, we must wrestle with it every day.

In our daily liturgy, we recite the line, “Talmud Torah K’neged Kulam”. The English translation varies from prayer book to prayer book, but one translation says, “and the study of Torah, is equal to them all (mitzvot)” as study is the highest mitzvah leading to righteous acts. We encounter God’s presence through the study of sacred texts.

In the Talmud there is a story of Rabbi Tarfon who was with other rabbis when the question was raised before them: Is study greater or practice? Rabbi Tarfon said: Practice is greater. Rabbi Akiva said: Study is greater. Then they all answered and said: Study is greater for it leads to practice.

The study of Torah, which includes all Jewish texts, biblical, rabbinic and modern, can lead to a more fulfilling life. The study of Torah offers us the knowledge of what is right and how to live justly, with the hope that the lessons will be applied to life.

There is a reason Jewish tradition places such a high value on reading and discussing texts. Jewish learning is not based on text alone; it is based on dialogue. To truly trust that your thoughts and understandings are solid, we need to discuss and debate with others. We can learn from one another and find more meaning in life, making a difference in the world.

What do you want to study? Would you like to find a learning partner? We will be planning new opportunities for study and dialogue over the next few months. Email me at susan@bjebuffalo.org with your interests and ideas.

Talmud Torah: Let’s make Jewish Buffalo a community engaged in Jewish learning!

What if Everyone Read the Same Book?

Monday, May 7

7:00pm

JCC Benderson Building

This session will conclude our ongoing conversations on the book, *My Jewish Year: 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew*, by Abigail Pogrebin. This meeting will focus our discussion on the holiday of Shavuot and the Mussar trait of Emet/Truth. **Please RSVP to susan@bjebuffalo.org or 716-204-5830. Space is limited!**

For more information, please contact Susan Schwartz, Director of Adult Learning, susan@bjebuffalo.org or 716-204-5830.



ALL-GIRL POWER
ALL SUMMER LONG!

WRITE it, FILM it, READ it, SOLVE it, CODE it, KNIT it, SEW it,
BEAD it, BAKE it, LEARN it, DANCE it, SING it... EXPLORE it @SAS!

SUMMER @SEM

June 25 - August 3, 2018

Day Camp for Girls entering grades 5-9

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Recognize Shavuot This Month by Volunteering in the JFS Community Garden

On May 19, we begin the important celebration of Shavuot, a spiritual renewal and re-acceptance of the Gift of the Torah to the Jewish people. Unlike Passover or Sukkot, Shavuot is not a holiday that has us re-enact its central event—the Matan Torah—when Jews received the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai. Rather, we are encouraged to experience Shavuot by embracing the *mitzvot*—the good deeds—in our own lives, and by sharing our good fortune with others through volunteer work and in-kind donations.

Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County is founded on the laws of the Torah that was given to Jews during Shavuot. The agency's work seeks to answer the Torah's demand to bring justice and acts of lovingkindness to the world. For more than 160 years, we have

pledged continual commitment to the provision of a safety net for neighbors and friends who need help.

This help is extended today to homebound, isolated seniors; Holocaust survivors; new moms coping with postpartum depression; disabled adults;

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The Zeckhauser family and friends at the JFS garden last summer.

survivors of torture; people who fall through the cracks in the system; and those who don't qualify for traditional resources or know how to use them.

"During Shavuot, we renew our understanding, acceptance and practice of the laws of the Torah, which provides a moral and spiritual 'safety net' for our lives. In keeping with those important laws, JFS provides a safety net for individuals dealing with physical, emotional or financial crises," JFS President and CEO Marlene Schillinger says.

In every service area, Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County is focused on the delivery of high quality, people-client centered, strength-based treatment of the whole person. Our oath

is to offer individualized help to every person facing a significant challenge or life change, and to help each person find a lifeline to success and strategies to manage the challenges of everyday life.

"We can celebrate the gift of Shavuot together this year by volunteering in our J. Milton Zeckhauser International Garden. The sages said Mount Sinai bloomed with flowers and vegetation when we received the Torah," JFS Director of Development Juliana Teibel says. "If you would like to volunteer for the garden, contact me at jteibel@jfs.org. And if you know of someone who may need our help, please ask them to call 716.883.1914. Our compassionate and caring staff has taken an oath to treat everyone in need as if they were part of our family."

Jewish Family Service of Buffalo & Erie County is located at 70 Barker Street, Buffalo, NY 14209, above Temple Beth Zion. We provide mental health counseling and treatment, career counseling and health home/care coordination services to people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, religious affiliations and income levels.

JFS accepts most forms of insurance and offers a sliding fee scale for the uninsured. To learn more visit www.jfsbuffalo.org or call 716-883-1914. Join us on Instagram and Facebook @jfsbuffalo

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BUFFALO HILLEL EXPLORES THREATS TO THE DEAD SEA

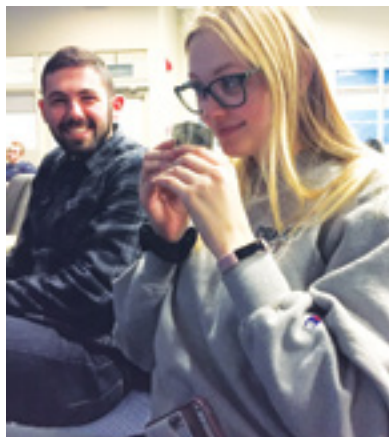
By Maddie Czworka

At the Hillel of Buffalo, it's very important that as students, we can learn through interactive presentations about topics that affect not only us, but the world around us. On March 12, the interns on Hillel's Israel Committee, Blake Lobel and Shaya Kalmanofsky, organized a program with Israeli journalist and photographer Noam Bedein, the founder and director of the Dead Sea Revival Project.

The Dead Sea is a natural wonder, and a popular destination among tourists to Israel from around the world.

Unfortunately, the Dead Sea is suffering from depletion that threatens its future existence. The Dead Sea Revival Project strives to educate the public on the natural beauty of the Dead Sea, but also the problems that it has recently been facing. In a theater on the University at Buffalo's North Campus, Bedein gave a presentation that outlined the problem of the disappearing Dead Sea. He included a slideshow representing the visual documentation of the lowering water levels, passed out time-lapse photo sets to the students, and created a PowerPoint presentation that allowed students to understand the severity of this environmental danger. The PowerPoint included videos of Bedein's adventures out in the Dead Sea, where he regularly measures water levels and captures photos of sea sculptures that had previously been under water.

One of the more memorable parts of the talk was his virtual reality presentation. Bedein,



Daniel Levy and Maddie Czworka smelling a salt diamond that Noam Bedein found in the Dead Sea,

The disappearance of the Dead Sea has been an ongoing issue for many years but never has been addressed. I'm very thankful to Noam Bedein for showing us, through photography and virtual reality, how tragic this issue is but, more importantly, how people



Students following along with a virtual reality video on their phones,

through Facebook visuals, has created multiple virtual reality links where the viewer can see the Dead Sea on their phones as if they were walking along the shores at that very moment. By moving their phones around, we were able to capture the beauty of the Dead Sea. Bedein also offered the more traditional, virtual reality goggles for a similar effect, available for use by the students.

Sophomore Daniel Levy was in attendance for the event. He commented, "This presentation was creative and informative.

can make a difference."

We are grateful to Hillel's Israel interns for organizing this event, and to Hillel International, who provided funding through a Hinenu grant for Israel programming.

For more information about Noam Bedein's project, visit deadseastory.com or look at his photographs on Instagram: [instagram.com/noam_bedein_dead_sea](https://www.instagram.com/noam_bedein_dead_sea).

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Purim by Students in Ohr Temimim 4th and 5th Grades

Students in Ms. Wilson's fourth and fifth grade class at Ohr Temimim Day School celebrated Purim in March and participated in a fun STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) activity. They dressed in costumes and built ramps out of cardboard tubes. Their objectives were to build a ramp that would launch a ball into the air and determine which ramp launched the ball the farthest.



Students from left to right: Sara Shanowitz, Sari Cohen, Esther Zingorenko, Goldie Shuman, Atara Zyskind, and Esther Lazerson. Photo: Chaya Shuman

Sara Shanowitz, age 10, summed up the event on behalf of her classmates:

On that day of the photo, we had a competition about a STEM project that we made with partners. The point was that when your ball goes down the slope, it will go the farthest. My partner and my ball went the farthest! I am the last one on the left, and my partner Sari is next to me with our project. Then in the middle is another group with Esther Z. and Goldie. Esther Z. is next to my partner (Sari) and Goldie is next to her. After that is the last group, which is Atara and Esther L. (Yes, two Esthers!), Atara is next to Goldie, and next to Atara is Esther L. The supplies we used were cardboard tubes, paper, tape, scissors, popsicle sticks, pipe cleaners, and a ball. It was very fun! I hope you enjoyed my article!

YAD B'YAD HAPPENINGS

By Cindi Mikulik,
Director of Yad B'Yad

Yad B'Yad participants have been enjoying many programs this past month. University of Buffalo fraternity Pi Kappa Phi, ran a wonderful field day program on campus and had a fun afternoon of sports together with Yad B'Yad. The Buffalo Aspies group attended the film festival screening of "My Hero Brother" and engaged in discussion after the film at a local restaurant. Participants enjoyed a Shabbat dinner and service with University of Buffalo Hillel Students. Earlier in the month, local teen youth group friends teamed up with Yad

B'Yad for an afternoon of bowling.

This month, Yad B'Yad artists will be exhibiting their talents in a six week long exhibit at the JCC titled "Art From the Heart." There will be an artists' reception on Thursday, May 24 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM in the JCC/Benderson Family Building's Lippman Lounge. The community is invited to come and meet the artists and see their beautiful work.

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.



To join us in our programming, or to volunteer, please visit our website at www.yadbyad.org, find us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/yadbyadbuffalo>, or contact Cindi Mikulik at 716-204-5380 or yadbyad@bjebuffalo.org. We look forward to having you!

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SCHEDULE

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Sunday, April 29 through Sunday,
June 10 (No classes on May 20)

COURSE B

6 SUNDAY MORNINGS @ 11:00 AM
- 12:00

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To register:

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or call/text 716.400.1550

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***Classes will be held at our NEW facility
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Jewish Film Festival: March 3 & March 10, Taste of India & Dipson Amherst Theater



Challah Bake with JDC and friends: March 15, Main-Transit Fire Hall





Yom Hashoah : April 12, Erie County Hall



Rally for Israel @ 70: April 19, Niagara Square



Israel @ 70 Party: April 19, Acqua Restaurant



Israel @ 70 Family Parade and Party: April 22, Amherst Youth Center



(NOT) THE LAST WORD

A Point of View from a 3G

By Vilona Trachtenberg

3G. Third generation. Third generation Holocaust Survivor. All are titles that I hold in high regards, and cherish every day. My father is a 2G, second generation Holocaust Survivor, born in 1947, just two short years after one of the worst atrocities in world history. The fact that my own father was so closely tied to the Holocaust continues to haunt me.

Approximately 11 million people were killed in the Holocaust. Innocent people who were considered as non-human, with no worth in this world. People who were doctors, shopkeepers, lawyers, and every other prominent, educated, and blossoming title. People who had families and legacies. Six million of those who perished were Jews. Two-thirds of Jewish people living in Europe during World War II were killed by Nazis.

But the Nazis couldn't kill them all. They couldn't extinguish the flame, the vigor that is the Jewish people.

My grandparents were some of the few who survived. I never met my grandfather but have heard many stories from my father's friends about how gentle and kindhearted he was. My father's resemblance to him is uncanny, and I know that when I talk to my father, I have that direct insight into my grandfather. I knew my grandmother for only a little while; she passed away when I was just two years old.

My grandparents were heroes, warriors, and fighters, as were all the people who endured the tortures that went on from 1933 to 1945. They shouldn't have had to have been heroes. They shouldn't have had to own that quality. The only ones who should have called them heroes are their kids, for being such great parents.

But one evil man, and people living in many countries, decided that wasn't the way things were going to be. One man and his followers decided that my grandparents and their families were so malevolent that they were going to take away my grandmother's daughter (my father never even met his sister), my grandmother's first husband, my grandmother's sister, niece, and nephew. It didn't stop there – my grandfather's first wife, his parents, and his son were also taken away through starvation and shootings.

They shouldn't have had to be warriors. They shouldn't have had to be

fighters, sufferers, overcomers, fearers. All they should have been is people who were able to go through everyday life – working, enjoying time with their families, attending parties, meeting up with friends. But that's not the way one evil man and his followers were going to let history be shaped.

Through everything they endured, though, my grandparents met soon after the War, and my dad came into this world shortly after. They began to rebuild their lives. They were still living and breathing, and were thankful for that. My father has told me stories of the horrors that his mother and father went through. It was harder for my dad to learn about the atrocities from my grandfather, as he wasn't so forthright about his experiences. Whenever there was a topic on TV about the War, he would quietly leave the room.

What my dad did learn though, was that my grandfather survived a concentration work camp in Bershad, Ukraine. His name is listed in a registry along with the others who were in that camp, and that registry is listed in the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. and Yad Vashem in Israel.

I'm proud to have my grandparents' photo as the background on my phone. I'm proud to have the name Vilona, as a namesake to my grandfather, Volodia. I'm proud to have the last name Trachtenberg, as a fact that the Nazis couldn't get rid of my entire family, and as a family heirloom. I'm proud that I have parents that live out their parents' legacies, so that I can follow in their footsteps too.

I'm proud that my grandmother wanted to come to America, and encouraged my father and grandfather to make the journey. They fought the Soviet government for four years for permission to leave the former Soviet Union, and finally were able to come to this wonderful country in 1980. I'm



The author, Vilona Trachtenberg, as an infant with her grandmother.

proud that because of my grandmother's decision, my dad truly lives out the American dream.

I'm proud that my grandmother was able to reunite with her brothers who she hadn't seen in decades. Her brothers started immigrating to America in the 1920s, and they immigrated from Besarabia, which was Romania before the War happened. I'm a proud 3G and I will strive to live everyday appreciating the little things, and the little miracles that happen. Every day is a beautiful adventure if you look at life that way.

I was chosen by G-d to be the descendant of these amazing people, and I don't take that lightly. I have been able to meet many wonderful, spunky, and memorable Holocaust Survivors through volunteering at the Holocaust Resource Center, and I'm grateful that they are willing to share and teach these stories.

Join me in commemorating these beautiful lives – the Survivors, the heroes, the warriors, the fighters.

Let's live each day as best as we can.

Let's take a moment each time we have a free second to think of things we're thankful for. Let's be thankful for life, and everything that comes with it. Let's be thankful for our jobs, our homes, our friends, our families. Let's help each other out. Let's continue living together in the best city around, and be good to each other.

Please just take a moment each day. Please do it. Do it for those who didn't have enough time in their lives to do that.

Do it for my grandparents.

Vilona Trachtenberg, 27, is a fulfillment planner at Rich Products Corp, and is a 2017 Buffalo Business First "30 Under 30" Honoree. She lives in Amherst, and graduate of University at Buffalo for undergrad and Canisius College for grad. She enjoys writing, music, dancing, traveling, and volunteering.

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Photo Above: Hollie Bonneville Barden with Actress Julianne Moore at the John Hardy and Vanity Fair Celebrate Legends at Le Coucou in NYC.



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