
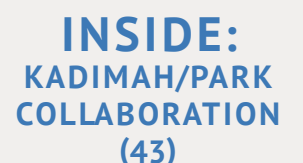
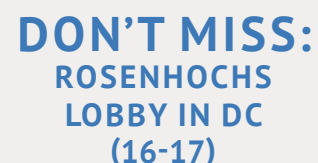


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A close-up photograph of a blue ceramic bowl filled with a light-colored soup. Several pale, round dumplings are floating in the broth. A hard-boiled egg, cut in half to show a bright orange yolk, is also in the soup. Small green herbs are scattered throughout. Four hands are visible, each holding a silver spoon and dipping it into the soup, suggesting a communal meal. The background is a neutral, light-colored surface.

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(4-8)



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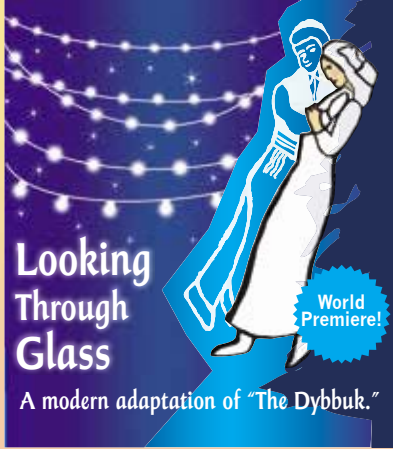
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Editor's Note



Ellen Goldstein, Editor

Passover takes center stage this month in most Jewish homes, schools, synagogues and organizations. So we begin this April issue with a message about memories of Pesachs-past by Federation President Leslie Shuman Kramer. We are also showcasing homegrown recipes from Buffalo cooks for the holiday (see pages 4-8). Just as a little “taste” of the story, we are offering three matzo ball recipes: two from *Buffalo Spree* professionals and cousins Barbara Macks and our regular *Jewish Journal* foodie Robin Kurss, which originally appeared in the first issue of the *Jewish Journal* six years ago, and one gluten-free recipe from best-selling Buffalo-bred author Seth Godin’s wife, Helene - an accomplished entrepreneur herself. There are several more different foods to try, each delicious in its own way, that could add extra Pesach panache to your holiday table. I strongly recommend my mother, Arlene Carrel Goldstein’s, famous Passover rolls--really popovers. Email me if you need help!

This year, the Jewish Community Relations Council has adopted a program called “Buffalo Open Seder” in which Jewish community members invite individuals from other faiths or cultures into their homes for Seder. Along with our own multi-faith friends and family, we will be welcoming two additional guests whom JCRC Pro Mara Koven-Gelman directed our way. Look at page 15 to find out how you can do the same.

Finally we include two pieces in this edition (pages 14 and 49) as tributes to past Federation, JCC and Kadimah President Dr. Kevin B. Kulick, who left us in February after nearly two years of a courageous battle with cancer. Kevin was president of those three Jewish communal agencies, as well as a dedicated, knowledgeable physician specializing in dermatology. If you knew him, he was a lovely, caring, passionate, always-learning doctor, Jewish Community leader, friend, father, and husband. He was indeed a mensch in many, many ways, and our community is diminished by his passing. May his memory always be

for a blessing, for his loving family, for his friends, for his Jewish community, for Buffalo, for us all.

Ellen Goldstein - Editor
ellen@buffalojewishfederation.org

On The Cover



What could be better than sharing matzo ball soup with family and friends this Passover?”
Photo by kc kratt.

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BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION

CEO/Executive Director.....Rob Goldberg
President.....Leslie Shuman Kramer
Editor, Public Relations Director.....Ellen S. Goldstein



Publisher/Chief Revenue Officer.....Barbara E. Macks
bmacks@buffalospre.com
Senior Vice President/Creative Director.....Chastity O'Shei
coshei@buffalospre.com
Vice President/Production.....Jennifer Tudor
jtudor@buffalospre.com
Lead Designer.....Kimberly Miers
kmiers@buffalospre.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@buffalospre.com
Sales Director.....Cynthia Oppenheimer,
coppenheimer@jewishjournalwny.com
Senior Account Executives.....Louis J. Aguglia, Wendy Burns, Paula Devereaux,
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Proofreaders.....Sharon C. Levite, Amy Goldstein

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Leslie Shuman Kramer: My Love of Passover

I love Passover. For me, Passover is a time to creatively explore our Jewish history and culture. When I was a child, our Seders were generally big, extended family affairs. Cousins (first, second and third), uncles and aunts would descend on either our house or my aunt's, the table would be set for a huge crowd, the Maxwell House haggadah placed on each dinner plate. I remember my mother's apple cake, my Baba's matzo kugel, the Manischewitz concord grape wine. In my memory, it was always Spring Break, the weather was summery and we'd play kickball in the yard until it was time to wash up and "get ready". A number of my cousins learned the hard way what happens when you drink too much sweet wine (they know who they are)!

There was the year we visited my aunt, uncle and cousins in Arizona, when we drove across the border to Tijuana in RVs and had a campground Seder among the cactus, sand and tumbleweed. I found the Afikomen and got a 20 pesos piece, where all the other kids just got 1 peso.

Later, our Seders evolved into more cultural experiences. My parents would invite non-Jewish friends or colleagues (my dad invited a judge he was friends with), I brought home a friend from my college dorm who had no place to go



(last minute, and of course my parents were thrilled to have him). That's when my mom met my first openly gay friend.

When I was living in Israel as a young adult, the Yemenite Seder I attended introduced me to new tunes, charoset made of dates and sesame seeds, and I learned that Sephardim eat rice and hummus on Pesach.

There was the time in Israel when my children, Jim and I joined the family of Tzahi, the Centerland counselor/shaliach who had stayed with us in 2006. His grandfather led

the Seder. He was a *Palmachnik* and had lost a finger blowing up British bridges in the 1940's. There was so much spirit and song at that Seder in Tel Aviv that the police were called to quiet us down! I remember the joyous atmosphere as songs rose from adjacent apartments—the warm spring meant the whole neighborhood was celebrating on their *mirpesets* (porches).

And then there was Costa Rica a few years ago. We couldn't pre-arrange a Seder to attend so I came prepared with the Ten Minute Seder, matzo, wine, a few haggadahs and a discussion piece centering on the story of Nachshun, the Israelite who walked into the Red Sea up to his nose, confident that G-d would indeed part the Sea.

After a busy day of rappelling down waterfalls, the kids were hanging out at the hotel pool, when 14-year old Leah came running back to our bungalow to tell us that she had met an Israeli family at the pool, and had invited them to our Seder. Ten minutes later we were gathered around our hotel patio with our new friends, an Israeli family of five, singing songs, sharing stories, and celebrating our collective freedom together.

Jim and I love leading our Seders. We have hosted many at our home with our extended family, and we always include friends, ours and our kids', both Jewish and other faiths. Sharing our tradition with family and friends, we've incorporated questions pertaining to freedom, enslavement, Judaism and our history. The questions asked, the discussions had, are my favorite part. My father had a file where he kept Passover discussion points, and after he died, I adopted his notes and use them as a reference for our Seders.

This year, Jewish Buffalo is seizing on this theme and encouraging community members to open their homes to guests of other faiths and communities. This new program is called Buffalo Open Seder 2019. Read more about it on page 15. This is a program of our new Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC). One of its goals is to foster meaningful and collaborative relationships with other faith, ethnic and cultural communities towards the goal of building a more civil society. I encourage you to share your Seder and use the themes of freedom, resilience and generational storytelling. It is a wonderful way to creatively build friendships.

From my family to yours, *Chag Pesach Sameach* – have a joyful Passover holiday.

Leslie S. Kramer is president of Buffalo Jewish Federation.

Chag Pesach Sameach! Happy Passover!

From the Board of Directors and Staff
of the Buffalo Jewish Federation

BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION

Passover is the biggest food holiday on the Jewish calendar, and often, our Seder table and its treats remind us of childhood, family, treasured memories. This Pesach, the *Jewish Journal* asked some friends to share beloved family recipes with us, so we could share them with you. *Chag Pesach Sameach!*

Matzo Balls

ROBIN KURSS AND BARBARA MACKS

Passover is on its way, so we thought some Matzo Ball Maven tips would be fun!

Although Barbara Grossman Macks and me—Robin Bernhard Kurss—are “kissing cousins” and love each other dearly, our matzo balls couldn’t be more different.

Let’s just say, Barbara’s matzo balls are highly compact (aka dense) as can be, and mine are heavenly (aka fluffy as a cloud.) Barbara’s parents, Dolores and Joe Grossman, and her maternal Grandmother Annie Isenberg, preferred a matzo ball on the heavier side—just like the ones that Barbara’s mother in law, Marion Macks, used to make.

My family, Gloria and Harold Bernhard and grandmothers Kate Bernhard and Esther Grossman, preferred the featherweights. But, whatever your family’s fancy—and believe me there are those who love each kind—whether you like your matzo balls dense and delicious or light and airy....have we got a recipe for you!!! Happy Pesach.



Barbara’s Matzo Balls

Makes 12 sinkers!

- 2 Tbsp. oil
- 2 large eggs
- ¾ c Matzo Meal
- 2 T water or broth
- 1 tsp salt

Mix all ingredients together in a bowl until thoroughly combined.

Barbara’s chill for 30 minutes, Robin’s for 2 hours.

Bring 6 cups of salted water to boil.

Form 12 balls and place in water, bring to simmer and cook for 30 minutes, covered. Serve balls in chicken soup and enjoy!

Robin’s Matzo Balls

Makes 12 floaters!

- 2 Tbsp oil or schmaltz
- 4 large eggs
- 1 c Matzo Meal
- ¼ c club soda
- 1 ½ tsp salt

Matzo Balls with a Gluten-Free Twist

HELENE GODIN

Helene Godin is the owner of *By The Way Bakery*, a gluten-free bakery in Hastings-on-Hudson and three other locations in New York (btwbakery.com). She is married to native Buffalonian and marketing guru Seth Godin, and is sister-in-law to Buffalo’s Hard Manufacturing president Marjorie Godin Bryen. She happily shared her matzo ball recipe with *The Jewish Journal*.

Clarice’s Matzo Balls with a Gluten-Free Twist

If you can’t find gluten-free matzo meal, simply break 3 or 4 gluten-free matzo squares into pieces, place in a food processor and pulse until you have rough crumbs.

Yields 8 large matzo balls.

- ¾ cup plus 2 tablespoons gluten-free matzo meal
- 3 eggs, lightly beaten
- 3 tablespoons margarine, melted
- 3 tablespoons soup stock or vegetable broth
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh dill
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon almond extract
- 10 cups water

Combine all the ingredients except for the water in a medium bowl and mix well with a fork. Cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Lightly spray a dinner plate with non-stick cooking spray. Bring the water to a boil in a large wide stock pot, then reduce heat to a simmer.

Take enough batter in your hands to form a ball about the size of a large walnut, being careful not to compress the mixture too much. Place the ball on the prepared plate. Repeat the process with remaining batter.

Using a large spoon, slide the matzo balls into the simmering water. Once all the balls have been added, cover and simmer until fully cooked and puffed, about 25 minutes.

Gefilte Fish

JOE STERMAN

Joe Sterman’s late wife, Toni, used to make this gefilte fish. Now that she is gone, Joe makes a very large batch and gives much of it away to family and friends. Here is the recipe, thanks to Ellen Sterman, for a single batch!



Sterman Family Gefilte Fish

- 3 lbs. white fish
- 2 onions
- 3 eggs
- 2 Tbsp salt
- 1 tsp white pepper, ground
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1 cup cold water
- 3 Tbsp matzo meal

Grind fish and onions through food grinder, or have your fish seller grind the fish for you, saving the skin and bones.

Beat eggs in the bowl of an electric mixer, add fish, onion and seasonings, and beat well.

Add matzo meal and water alternately, and continue to beat until well blended.

In a large pot, place fish bones, several sliced onions, 2 sliced carrots, salt and pepper to taste. Add water to cover, and bring to a boil. Skim.

Form fish into balls (it helps if you run cold water on your hands from time to time so the fish mixture does not stick you) and drop them into boiling water.

Cover, turn down the heat, and cook slowly for 2 hours.

Turn off the heat, cool for one hour and remove fish from gravy.

If you want to make more or less, use the ration of 1 pound of fish to 1 egg.

Passover food!

Potato Leek Soup

JESSICA MEYERS ALTMAN

Jess is an educator, food scientist and blogs at www.gardenfreshfoodie.com.

Potato Leek Soup

2 pounds of potatoes; washed and cut into cubes (we don't skin)

4 cups of cleaned and chopped leeks

2 cups of chopped carrots

1 1/4 cup chopped celery

5 cups of water

1 1/2-2 tsp kosher salt (depending on your taste)

1 tbsp dried dill, or 3 tbsp fresh

1 1/2 tbsp chopped fresh garlic

3/4 tsp freshly ground pepper (to taste)

***optional: milk to thin:** can use soy, almond, or other milk of choice

***optional toppings: freshly chopped parsley or chives**



Place all ingredients into soup pot, except optional milk. We add 1 1/2 tsp of salt, and add more if needed after cooking.

Heat until boiling, and turn down to a simmer until potatoes are softened

Using a stick blender, or a traditional blender, puree soup until smooth. If using a traditional blender, be sure to vent soup, as it will expand due to heat

If soup is too thick, add additional water or milk to thin. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Serve topped with fresh herbs if desired.

Soup can be frozen for 6 months.

Passover Rolls

AMY AND ELLEN GOLDSTEIN

Our mother, Arlene Carrel Goldstein (z"l), used to make these popovers for Passover for more than 30 years. They were a big hit with her friends and family, and she was known for delivering these to people who asked for them right before seders. Today, Laura Watts makes them for our family/ neighborhood Seder, and they are still yummy! This recipe is very technique-driven. DO NOT double the recipe to make more. You need to make one recipe at a time. Follow the rules for great rolls!



Arlene Goldstein's Famous Passover Rolls

Each recipe makes about 12 popovers

1/2 cup peanut oil

1 cup water

1 Tbsp sugar

1 tsp salt

1 1/2 cup matzo meal

4 jumbo eggs

Add 1/2 cup oil to 1 cup water and boil, then add 1 1/2 cup matzo meal, sugar and salt (which have been previously mixed together) all at once to the pot, then beat rapidly over low heat until mixture leaves the sides of the pot and forms a ball. A wooden or metal spoon works well for this.

Remove the pot from the heat and beat in all four eggs by hand, ONE AT A TIME. Beat hard after adding each egg until batter is thick and smooth. Then, place a large tablespoonful of the mixture into each section of a well-oiled muffin tin.

Bake 1 hour at 375°.

Enjoy them! Mom would be thrilled that they are still on Seder tables around town.



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Rainbow Kale Salad

JESSICA MEYERS ALTMAN

Spring is in the air! The warmth and vitality of this season makes me smile ear to ear! I love it when we come out of hibernation. What better way to celebrate than with nature's fresh veggies!!

I think the colors of this salad are like eating a rainbow, hence the name! Red peppers, orange carrots, yellow mangoes, greens from kale, Napa cabbage, and scallions, and the brown of the dressing-what a beautiful plate! If berries are in season, these would be excellent additions too, and add more texture and color! Blueberries would be a great.



Rainbow Kale Salad

Serves about 6-8 people

- 5 cups chopped kale
- 4 cups chopped Napa cabbage
- 1 1/2 cups shredded carrots
- 1 cup diced red pepper
- 1 cup chopped scallions
- 2 cups (1 whole) diced mango
- Fresh lime juice

Dressing:

- 6 tbsp good quality balsamic vinegar
- 4 tbsp dijon or spicy mustard
- 1 1/2 tbsp maple syrup
- 1-2 cloves garlic, smashed and minced, about 1 tbsp

Cut mango and drizzle with some fresh lime juice. This will prevent it from oxidizing and turning brown. It also makes the flavor pop!

Place all salad ingredients into a bowl and toss. An alternative would be to massage some of the greens with some of the dressing to make them softer in texture. If doing this, add the rest of the ingredients after you rub the dressing into the cabbage and kale.

Place salad dressing ingredients into a canning jar and shake, or place into a blender and blend

Serve salad dressing along side salad, or toss to serve. Remaining dressing keeps well in the fridge.

Chocolate Hazelnut Torte

HELENE GODIN

This delicious dessert from Helene Godin's *By The Way Bakery* is gluten-free and first appeared in *Hadassah Magazine* in 2016. We reprint it with permission of Ms. Godin.

Chocolate Hazelnut Torte

Makes an 8-inch torte that serves 8-10

- 4 ounces hazelnuts
- 3/4 cup plus 1 tablespoon sugar, divided
- 7 tablespoons water
- 1/4 cup cocoa powder
- 4 ounces dark chocolate, chopped
- 2 tablespoons vegetable shortening
- 4 large eggs, separated
- 2 1/2 teaspoons vanilla



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease an 8-inch springform pan.

Place hazelnuts and 2 tablespoons of sugar in a blender and grind to an almost a fine powder (Be careful – if you grind it too much, you'll have hazelnut butter!). Set aside.

In a heavy-bottomed saucepan bring the water and the remainder of the sugar (3/4 cup) to a boil, stirring constantly over medium heat. Continue boiling and stirring until all the grains of sugar have completely dissolved and the mixture forms a simple syrup.

Remove the saucepan from the heat and stir in the cocoa powder until thoroughly combined.

Add chocolate and vanilla extract to the saucepan and stir until chocolate is melted and smooth. Set aside to cool.

In a large bowl, beat the egg yolks with an electric mixer until light and thickened, about 4 minutes.

Add the hazelnut mixture and the shortening to the egg yolks and beat until combined.

Add the cooled chocolate mixture to the hazelnut-egg mixture and combine thoroughly.

In a separate bowl, whisk the egg whites until they hold stiff peaks.

Gradually fold the egg whites into the chocolate-hazelnut-egg mixture, incorporating them gently but thoroughly (no whites should be visible).

Pour the batter into the prepared pan and bake for 30-35 minutes, until puffed and almost set but still a little gooey in the center. A wooden toothpick inserted 1" from the edge should come out clean.

Remove the pan from the oven and let cool on a rack.

When completely cool, run a thin-bladed knife around the edges of the torte. With the torte still in the pan, press the raised edges down gently, so that the edges of the torte are even with the center.

Dust with kosher for Passover powdered sugar or cover with chocolate glaze, if desired.



Kosher for Passover Powdered Sugar

- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon potato starch

Place sugar and potato starch in a food processor and grind until it becomes a fine powder.

Chocolate Glaze

(makes enough glaze for one torte)

- 1/4 cup cocoa powder
- 2 tablespoons coconut oil
- 1 cup kosher for Passover powdered sugar
- 1/4 cup hot water

Combine all ingredients until smooth. Pour over inverted torte (bottom side up), letting glaze drip down the sides. Smooth the top of the torte with a spatula to cover.

Passover Brownies

RIVKY GREENBERG

Rivky Greenberg, wife of Rabbi Levi Greenberg and daughter-in-law of Rabbi Heschel and Mrs. Lea Greenberg, makes these delicious brownies for Passover. "This is a wonderful recipe," she said. "From everything I've tried, this one is really the best, and tastes most similar to regular brownies...not like dry Passover cakes."



Rivky's Passover Brownies

- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 4 Tbsp cocoa
- 1/2 cup potato starch
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 Tbsp instant coffee (dry, right from the jar)
- 1/2 cup oil
- 2 eggs
- Optional: walnuts sprinkled on top

Preheat the oven to 325 F.

Combine all ingredients and mix until smooth. Take your time doing this well. The mixture has to be really smooth.

Pour into 9" x 11" pan and bake for 25 minutes. Check if it is done with a toothpick.

Rivky says you can add 50% more of each ingredient, if you would like. She triples the recipe and bakes it in two 9"x13" pans. When cool, cut in squares and serve, or freeze if you are making them in advance.

Clementine Cake

BUSY WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

The recipe for this cake, which comes from both Nigella Lawson and the *New York Times* (and probably other sources), is perfect for Passover and is a favorite of Buffalo's Busy Women's Book Club. It was introduced to the group by member Antoinette Dauber. The group, founded by Dr. Linda Brodsky (z"l) includes Hon. Rose Bailey, Hon. Lisa Bloch Rodwin, Michele Calandra, Antoinette Dauber, Ellen Goldstein, Sue Grossman, Mara Koven-Gelman, Vickie Rubin, Cathy Shuman Miller, Ellen Steinfeld, Dr. Eileen Watson, Marci Wiseman and Karen Zakalik.

Clementine Cake

8-12 servings

5 medium clementines

Spray cooking oil

6 large eggs

1 cup sugar

1 tsp salt

2 cups almond flour or very finely

ground blanched almonds

2 tsp baking powder



Place whole unpeeled clementines in a large pot, cover with cold water and bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to low, cover and simmer gently for 2 hours, adding more water as needed. Remove clementines with slotted spoon and, once cool enough to handle, halve and remove any seeds or other hard bits. Puree in a food processor or blender and set aside. (May be done up to 2 days ahead and refrigerated.)

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Spray a 9" springform pan with cooking oil, line bottom with parchment paper and spray paper with oil.

In a large bowl, whisk eggs together with the sugar, salt and clementine puree. Add the almond flour and baking powder and stir until just combined.

Pour into prepared pan and bake until edges are golden brown and starting to pull away from the sides of the pan, about 1 hour. Transfer to wire rack set over baking sheet. After 10 minutes, run a knife around the edge of the pan to loosen cake; remove cake from pan. Peel off parchment paper and return cake to wire rack to cool completely. Decorate with dusting of powdered sugar or chocolate glaze, if you wish.

Charoset

KAREN ZAKALIK

Karen Zakalik is an amazing cook, and is married to JCC Executive Director Rick Zakalik. "I love Shmurah Matzo with Haroset and Horseradish. Twenty-five years ago my brother- and sister-in-law shared this recipe for Yemenite Haroset and homemade horseradish. WARNING: when making your own ground horseradish work in a well ventilated area and do not, I repeat do not take the cover off the food processor and lean in to take a smell. You are guaranteed a religious experience from the fumes of the freshly ground horseradish root."



Yemenite Charoset

Yield: approximately 2 cups

1 cup of pitted dates coarsely chopped (about 15 dates)

½ cup raisins (black or golden)

½ cup figs coarsely chopped (about 15 figs)

½ cup walnuts

1 tsp each of ground ginger and ground cinnamon

¼ tsp each of ground cloves and ground cardamom

1/8 tsp cayenne pepper

1 tbs dry red wine

Pre-chop the dried fruit and walnuts (raisins can be cut in half or left whole) before adding to bowl of a food processor.

Pulse to blend so fruits and nuts are blended but not mush.

Add spices and wine and stir in by hand or in the processor.

Ashkenazi Charoset

3 medium apples, peeled and coarsely (MacIntosh, Mutsu, Granny Smith are the apples I like to use for this recipe)

1/2 cup coarsely chopped walnuts

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon.

2 tablespoons sweet red wine (maybe more maybe less depending upon the consistency you prefer)

Pre-chop the apples and walnuts before adding to bowl of a food processor.

Add spices and 1 Tbsp. of wine to start and pulse to blend apples, walnuts and cinnamon together.

Add additional wine if too dry. I find the grind of the nuts and the oils released determine how much more "liquid" is needed.

Homemade Freshly Ground Horseradish

2lbs of horseradish root scrubbed, peeled and cubed (approximately 3 cups)

2 cups of apple cider vinegar

2 tsp kosher salt

2 tsp sugar

Process half the ingredients until finely chopped.

Add remainder of ingredients and process until smooth. Careful when opening the cover of the food processor the fumes from the horseradish are very strong.

Store in clean glass jars with plastic wrap between jar and metal cover and refrigerate upside down.

Fruit Tzimmes/Compote

1 ½ lbs of dried fruit

(apricots, pears, peaches, prunes, raisins, cranberries, cherries [your pick or bag of mixed])

½ cup dry white Passover wine

2 cups of water

3" stick of cinnamon

1 cup of orange juice

½ cup of honey

¼ cup lemon juice

¼ tsp each of ground ginger, cinnamon and allspice

Combine fruit, water, wine and cinnamon stick and bring mixture to a boil and then reduce heat to simmer covered for 15-20 minutes. Transfer fruit to a bowl or container using a slotted spoon and remove cinnamon stick. Add finely sliced orange peel and/or lemon peel (only the peel no pith/white part) to sauce pan and simmer 2-3 minutes. Stir in orange juice, honey, lemon juice and cinnamon and heat liquid until it's boiling. Then add the fruit back into the hot liquid, remove from stove, cover and allow mixture to cool to room temperature. This will keep a long time in the refrigerator.

Apricot Bars

LORI MORRISON

Lori Morrison, kosher caterer and owner of *Luscious by Lori*, offered a dessert recipe given to her by her mother-in-law, Allison Morrison. "I make them every year. My mother-in-law was a caterer also in her earlier years."

Apricot Bars

2 sticks margarine

2 egg yolks

1 cup sugar

1 tsp salt

1 tsp vanilla

2 cups Passover cake meal

1 jar apricot jam (other flavors are good too, but apricot tastes the best)



Mix all ingredients in bowl, except jam. Place 1/2 in refrigerator, the other half sprinkle into 9" x 13" pan. Bake at 350 20 minutes. Take out pan and spread apricot jam. Sprinkle other 1/2 of mixture on top of jam. Bake at 325 degrees for about 35 minutes, cool then cut and enjoy.

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Passover Potato Kugel

NECHAMA OKONOV

Nechama Okonov runs *Buffalo Kosher Gourmet* in the JCC's Myers Family Tel Aviv Café. She loves this easy potato kugel for Passover, but says it is good all year 'round, too!



Potato Kugel

- 6 large potatoes**
- 1 onion**
- 1 large zucchini**
- 5 eggs**
- 3/4 c oil**
- 1 tbsp salt (or to taste)**
- 1/4 tsp pepper**

Preheat oven to 375°. Using the shredder blade on the food processor grate all the onions, zucchini and potatoes. Pour it into a mixing bowl. Working quickly to prevent browning, add eggs, oil salt and pepper. Combine all the ingredients and mix well. Pour into a 9x13 pan and bake until the top is a dark golden brown, approximately 2 hours.

Passover Lokshen (Egg Noodles)

CHANI LABKOVSKI

Chani Labkovski leads the JDC's Chai Early Childhood Center. She shared her grandmother's recipe for egg noodles. "As a child I could not wait for my bubby's Passover *lokshen* eaten with the chicken soup. It was my favorite Passover treat. I remember her standing in the kitchen for hours frying the egg crepes and cutting them thin... adding them to her delicious chicken soup, just as her mother, my great grandmother prepared for her children and grandchildren. Now, every Passover I spend time with my children preparing my bubby's *lokshen* together, my children's favorite Passover treat too."

Passover Lokshen

- 6 eggs**
- 1/2 cup water**
- kosher salt**
- 1/4 cup potato starch**
- Oil for frying**



Mix room temperature water with potato starch. Slowly add to beaten eggs, stirring well. (It should not be lumpy). Salt to taste. Heat 1-2 tablespoons oil in a frying pan, swirl to coat the pan.

Using a ladle, (or a cup) ladle a thin, even amount into the pan, just enough of the mixture to cover the bottom of the pan. Cook on medium heat for 1-2 minutes. Then gently flip and cook 1 minute more. (Amount of batter and cook time will vary depending on the size of your pan.) Tip egg "pancake" out of the pan and onto a plate. Mix the egg mixture each time before you ladle into the frying pan or potato starch will all sink to bottom. Roll as tight as possible. (you may roll a few together). Slice into 1/4 inch circles. Serve in chicken soup.

Holocaust Resource Center appoints new Director

Holocaust educator Elizabeth Schram is the newest member of Jewish Buffalo's professional leadership corps. On April 8, Schram will assume the helm of the Holocaust Resource Center as the agency's new director. A graduate of University of Texas, Schram recently earned a Masters in Holocaust Studies from the University of Haifa.

"We are delighted to have Elizabeth join the HRC as our new Director," said HRC president Rachel Kranitz McPhee. "Her demonstrated commitment to Holocaust education, passion for keeping the lessons of the Holocaust relevant, creativity and compassion are an asset to the Western New York community. We look forward to a successful partnership with her."

Jeff Blum, chair of the search committee that recommended Schram's appointment added "We reviewed over a hundred resumes and interviewed several qualified candidates for this position, and are very pleased with the



Elizabeth Schram and her family dog, Lucy

outcome. Elizabeth is exactly what HRC needs – a dynamic, determined and passionate professional." He also expressed thanks to those who served with him on the committee: Ann Marie Carosella, Sharon Jacobs, Larry Jones, Jessica Kent, Rachel Kranitz McPhee, Rob Goldberg, Marilyn Toth, Sophia Veffter, Wendy Weisbrot and Mary Lou Wyrobek.

When asked to comment on her appointment, Schram beamed with enthusiasm. "In becoming Director of HRC, I am very excited to cultivate working relationships with community groups, teachers, students, school districts, universities and other organizations to successfully carry out HRC's mission and vision. HRC's mission and vision strongly align with my own personal goal of creating a more just and tolerant future through Holocaust education."

Rachel Kranitz also acknowledged the support of the Buffalo Jewish Federation during this period of seeking a new director, from loaning Federation professional Mandy Weiss to serve as interim, to Rob Goldberg's participation in the search process. "The collaboration with Federation is such an added value to the work of HRC. It is the best of Jewish Buffalo."

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Buffalo Lions of Judah... the Story Continues



A Lifelong Love of Israel: Dr. Maxine Seller

The *Jewish Journal* continues to profile women who make an annual Lion of Judah (LOJ) level gift (\$5,000) to the Campaign for Jewish Buffalo. This month, meet lifelong Zionist Dr. Maxine Seller, who made her first trip to Israel in 1949. She continues to travel to Israel every other year, and has led a life devoted to Jewish community both in *Eretz Yisrael* and in the Buffalo community.

Maxine Schwartz Seller, a lifelong Zionist and feminist, was not raised in a world Zionist center like New York or Chicago. She grew up in Wilmington, North Carolina, not a typical place to learn to love Israel. Her mother, who was born in the United States, was from Cleveland. "An early Zionist, my mother Sylvia learned modern Hebrew in

Cleveland in the coeducational Talmud Torah system her mother—also an avid Zionist—helped to establish," Maxine said. Sylvia also started a Young Judea chapter in Wilmington in the 1940s with only a half-dozen teens.

Maxine's father, Benjamin David Schwartz, who came to the U.S. as a child from Poland, owned a furniture store in Wilmington and was chairman of UJA there for several years during and after World War II. Her parents were always community leaders, and they cared about many different things. "I grew up in an interesting home. For example, my father was active in the Chamber of Commerce, and my mother worked with the Wilmington Family Services and was an airplane spotter during the War," she said. "My father was also the mayor

and a member of the state legislature! My mother planned his campaigns, and wrote his speeches." The concept of *Tzedakah* was taught to her early on by both her parents and grandparents. My father would often say, "You never get poor giving away money!"

The trying times in the 30's and 40's—that the Schwartz family and others lived through left a lasting effect on young Maxine. Both parents had family in Europe, and both lost many relatives.



Dr. Maxine Seller

And her mother tried, unsuccessfully, to adopt a child from Europe at the beginning of the War. "They knew people who died in the Holocaust, and were sick about the slaughter of the Jews in Europe and the failure of the world to respond," Maxine explained.

The Schwartz family's passion for Israel grew after the War. In the spring of 1949, Maxine and her family traveled to Israel. "Having worked for the establishment of the State, my parents wanted to see for themselves. My father also had relatives, Holocaust Survivors, there. So as soon as the smoke cleared in the Middle East, the school year ended and the State Department gave its OK, we packed our bags," she said. They stayed for part of the summer, and returned to North Carolina in love with Israel.

"I remember wondering if I would ever get back to Israel. Of course, I did return—many times—and every time I go, I am still amazed. The Third World country I visited in 1949 has become a First World technological giant! Though our relatives are gone, I see new faces now—Ethiopian, Russian, Asian. Many things have changed, but the people I meet now are very much like the people I met then—caring, generous and hopeful for the future," she said.

Maxine left North Carolina to attend Bryn Mawr College, where on a blind date, she met Bob Seller (z"l), a Philadelphian and a student at medical school at the University of Pennsylvania. They were married a few years later, just before both of their graduations. Following graduation, Maxine went to U Penn for her Masters and Doctorate degrees, while having three children in the process (three sons who now live in Colorado and California).

The family stayed in Philadelphia until 1974, and moved to Buffalo, when Bob, who practiced academic medicine, was recruited to chair and build the Family Practice department at the University at

Buffalo School of Medicine.

Maxine had been teaching in Philadelphia and upon moving to Buffalo, was able to teach at UB in the Graduate School of Education, where she conducted research on immigration, women's education and specialized in the history of education. She also taught a course on Jewish women and, after she retired, the history of Zionism and the State of Israel.

In addition to teaching and raising a family, Maxine became involved in the Pro-Choice Network in Western New York. She was a "founding mother" and program chair of the group during the contentious public abortion debate, which culminated in the murder of Dr. Barnett Slepian 20 years ago. "I was involved because I strongly believed in a woman's right to choose. At the time, I was very busy at UB. I wanted to be more involved in Jewish community as well as locally and in the academic world, but there never seemed to be time for everything." Maxine transitioned to half-time teaching in the late 90s, and retired in 2006.

After retiring from UB, Maxine became more active in Buffalo Hadassah, as program chair and then co-president for a few years. She is still co-chair for programming for Hadassah and serves on the Jewish Repertory Theatre steering committee. She is also an active member of Temple Beth Tzedek. "When the idea of moving to Buffalo came up in the 1970s, I was hesitant about coming here. But Bob and I found that people were very friendly, very kind, and we, in turn, were very happy we came. When Bob died, friends old and new were so helpful and supportive. I don't know what I would have done without them."

When they retired, the Sellers together wanted to give something back to the Jewish Community. Maxine has always loved theater, even writing a book on Immigrant Theater.



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She believes theater is education as well as entertainment. She even wrote a show in college, which was on the stage while she was a student.

“Growing up in North Carolina, we didn’t really have a ‘real’ Jewish community, and in Philadelphia, the Jewish community felt too big for us to make a difference. But here in Buffalo, there was a ‘real’ Jewish community, and you could get to know people here, even make a difference,” she said.

“I was on the JCC theatre committee then, and Bob and I thought, ‘wouldn’t it be great to have a ‘state-of-the-art’ theater here?’ We decided to help. Since the JCC building was doing a major remodeling, the time was right. So Bob and I gave a lead gift, and many others followed. Soon we were all enjoying plays and many other kinds of programs in the new theatre space. This confirmed my belief that Buffalo is a community where it’s possible to get things done.” The theatre, called the Maxine and Robert Seller Theatre, now houses the JCC’s Jewish Repertory Theatre company, and was completed before Bob died in 2015.

“To me, Federation is the center of the Jewish community. This organization makes plans for the future, and raises funds for things to keep going. It is a way for those Jews who are not affiliated with a temple or synagogue to have a Jewish connection—a secular option, and an important way to connect with other Jews. Federation also can reach all parts of the community,” she continued.

“I have been a Lion for many years. I think that Federation giving is part of being a responsible individual in the community. If you are part of the community—any community—you have an obligation to support it. Its connection to Israel is critical for all of us, like Buffalo’s connection with the Western Galilee. Federation is the voice of the Jewish community and acts on behalf all of us, locally and nationally. The current Federation leadership has done a wonderful job in keeping us connected and current with Israel,” she said.

Maxine Seller still travels to Israel. “I go every other year to Israel at least, and now I volunteer there. She has been a visiting professor twice at University of Haifa, and most recently participated as a volunteer in the “Save a Child’s Heart” program in Holon, which embraces patients from all over the world. She loved working with the children in a “Ronald McDonald House-like” atmosphere. And like those children in Israel, we are all lucky to have this Woman of Valor- Maxine Seller—in our Buffalo community.

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COMMUNITY

The 2019 JCPA Conference...and You

By Nina Lukin

Nina Lukin, Co-Chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) attended the national Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) annual conference in Washington this past February with Executive Committee member Deborah Goldman and Executive Director Mara Koven-Gelman. While there, they met Buffalonian Valentino Dixon. This is her report from the event.



Nina Lukin and Valentino Dixon

145 Days. Valentino Dixon was exonerated and released from prison 145 days ago. He served a 27-year sentence for a crime he didn't commit. Less than five months later, he was sharing his story at the annual JCPA conference in front of 250 attendees representing 65 communities. Valentino didn't focus on his wrongful conviction. Rather, he was an impassioned and compelling speaker on the subject of criminal justice reform.

The inequities people of color suffer at the hands of the justice system constitute one of the most pressing civil rights issues in the U.S. Mass incarceration disproportionately hurts minorities. Imprisonment diminishes employment opportunities post-release, destabilizes families, increases rates of poverty, and can exacerbate mental health problems. However, more than 50 years after the passage of landmark civil rights legislation, our society still struggles to fully embrace equality. Our nation and our local community have an unprecedented opportunity to transform its approach to reducing mass incarceration and the associated fiscal and social trade-offs in other

governmental costs that go along with it.

If you're wondering about the intersectionality of Jewish Community Relations and Criminal Justice Reform, the Jewish community has a long and distinguished track record on fighting for racial equality and civil rights. For 75 years, JCPA has convened the local networks to mobilize the grassroots on key issues and advocate for those interests.

The JCPA conference allowed me to understand how nuanced and complex situations can be and yet how I can help to move Buffalo forward in addressing the principle mandate of the Jewish community relations field: working to repair the world through Jewish activism. How?

- Heightening community **awareness**
- Building **alliances** with policy makers, advocates, and communities impacted
- Inspiring civic and social **involvement**
- Encouraging **deliberation** on key issues of local importance
- Empowering the Jewish community to **take action** on criminal justice

What does that look like for people seeking to get involved here in Buffalo? Go to City Council meetings, observe how your representatives voted on key issues, attend court watch trainings, read about law enforcement practices, obtain the facts on how bail setting works in Erie County, read articles from outside your echo chamber, train on restorative justice practices, volunteer for a recidivism-reduction program, offer your social work/legal services skill set pro bono, research misdemeanor incarceration rate disparities among races, visit with individuals who have served their time and have a permanent criminal record....discover how their record impacts their employment, housing options, education re-entry, credit applications, etc.

Acknowledge the human capital impact!

Roy Waterman, JCPA's Criminal Justice Initiative Project Manager, specializes in changing mindsets, re-scripting the narrative around the realities of formerly incarcerated people. He spoke from the heart when he said, "Minorities need people that don't look like them to advocate for them to be treated with dignity, passion, and justice." This rung so true to me and is in alignment with how I believe Jews alone will not diminish anti-Semitism. Racial bigotry, religious persecution, Islamophobia, gender-bias, anti-LGBTQ or any other form of hatred cannot be wiped out unless we confront it.

Please take a moment to read Valentino's story and view his extraordinary art work available for sale at www.valentinodixon.com. If you are interested in being part of any of the JCRC projects, contact Mara Koven-Gelman at mara@buffalojewishfederation.org.

What about the Fifth Son?

Rabbi Laizer Labkovski

As we prepare for the holiday of Passover, it is a fitting time to focus on one of the very first parts of the Seder when we declare "Let all who are hungry sit down with us to eat, and let all who are in need of their Pesach supplies join us for the Seder."

This year marks the 25th year since Chani and I came to Buffalo as emissaries of the Lubavitcher Rebbe to spread the love and joy of Judaism to every Jew regardless of affiliation and background. As we reach this milestone and think back to the warm manner in which we were welcomed into this community, we are filled with gratitude for all of the warmth and love that the Buffalo Jewish community has shown us over the years. We realize how thankful we are to be here, and how proud and fortunate we are to be a part of the Buffalo community.

Over the last 25 years, it was also our privilege to give back to the local community, and, with G-d's constant assistance and blessings, we can now look back to many successful years. Besides the many educational and Jewish cultural programs that we have created and helped grow, we feel privileged to have so many opportunities and ways to help those who are most vulnerable and most in need, with the numerous programs we run for over 1000 residents of the local senior citizen's homes and hospitals. We managed to bring the warmth of Judaism and the joy of the Holidays to them, as well as a word of encouragement or a shoulder to lean on in a time of need.

Five years ago we brought back the Kosher Meals on Wheels program that delivers more than 10,000 delicious and nutritious meals to the elderly and isolated members of our Jewish community every year. We ensure that they know that they are neither neglected nor forgotten.



We have just begun the "Let's do Kosher lunch" program, which allows seniors to come and eat a variety of healthy and delicious Kosher foods, while enjoying the chance to socialize with others. It was another means to reach out to these valued members of our community, and show them the respect and appreciation that they deserve.

In the course of the Seder, we also discuss the "Four Sons" and the questions that they pose, from the "Wise Son" who wants to know all of the particulars of Passover observances, to the "Wicked Son" who challenges and mocks them. There is a "Simple Son" who simply asks "What's this?" There is even a son whose only form of participation is simply being there. With everything happening around him, not a single question occupies his mind.

The Lubavitcher Rebbe went a step further. Modern society has had an impact upon the Jewish people: today we have yet another son. The son who does not even attend a seder. Yes, it is true. There are many Jews out there who are not going to attend a seder this Passover. They can be put into three basic categories: 1) They have

no place to attend. 2) They do not care to attend. 3) They do not know of Passover or its Seder.

Just as there are answers for the Four Sons, there must be answers for this Fifth Son as well. For those who have nowhere to attend, we must aggressively advertise the invitation found within the Haggadah, "All those who are hungry, let them come and eat! Whoever is in need, let him come and partake of the Passover!"

For those who do not care to attend, we must positively reinforce their Jewish identity and expose them to the beauty of Torah observance, in general, and of the Seder in particular. Most importantly, we must communicate with them in a language they can understand and identify with.

Those who do not know that it is Passover or that there is such a thing as a Seder are perhaps the most worrisome of the groups. Most likely, they do not have the fond memories of Passovers past. They are, in fact, in danger of losing their Jewish identity altogether, G-d forbid. As Jews, we are all responsible for the welfare of one another. We must therefore endeavor to introduce these people to their great inheritance, the Torah, the grandeur of their Judaism.

This Passover once again the Jewish Discovery Center will be hosting the first and second Seder, and I want to take this opportunity to personally invite you to join in. If you know of anyone who needs a Seder meal brought to their home, please let us know, and we will be happy to have it delivered to them.

Do your part, and seek out the Fifth Son, wherever or whoever she or he might be, and invite them to a Seder, were they too can enjoy the warmth that the Buffalo Jewish community has to offer.

Rabbi Laizer Labkovski is a Rabbi and teacher with the Jewish Discovery Center.

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A Tribute to Dr. Kevin Kulick (1950-2019)

Dr. Kevin B. Kulick, Buffalo Jewish Federation president from 2004 to 2006, passed away February 25, 2019 after a courageous two-year battle with cancer. A Buffalo native, he attended Campus and Nichols Schools, Wesleyan University and UB Medical School. Kevin practiced medicine for more than 30 years, most recently as a part of Buffalo Medical Group. He was certified by the American Board of Dermatology and was a fellow in the American Academy of Dermatology.

Kevin also chaired Federation's Young Leadership Program and was a Federation Ann & Meyer Riwchun Young Men's Leadership Award winner. He was president of Kadimah Academy in the late 1980's when his children were students there, and served as president of the JCC from 2007 to 2009.

He leaves behind is devoted wife, Rise', adult children and their spouses Abigail & Alex Gold, Benjamin & Jessie Kulick, David & Laura Kulick, four grandchildren and sisters Tracy Jacobowitz and Wynne Elizabeth Trinca.

Community Leaders shared reflections about Kevin as a man, as a physician, as a passionate Jew. We have collected some of them for *Jewish Journal* readers.

Federation CEO Rob Goldberg

I first met Kevin when Rise' was leading the Ithaca College Hillel and I was with Hillel International. But of course, Kevin was always by her side and I soon came to appreciate that their approach to Jewish leadership and living was very much as a team. Fast forward to 2015 when I succeeded Mike Wise at Federation, and Kevin and I connected through his passion for the work of Federation. He and Rise' also attended the inaugural planning meeting for our Buffalo Jewish Service Corps and generously hosted the second meeting in their magnificent backyard. It was then that I learned about Kevin's love of gardening and the pride he felt for what he helped to nurture. I'll always remember his probing questions, his commitment to excellence and his determination to do things right and well. But more than anything, I'll remember how much he loved living Jewishly and that his leadership grew only out of a deep desire to ensure that his Jewish community – our Jewish Buffalo – was fortified, vibrant and engaged. May Kevin's memory always be beacon for all of us.

Former Jewish Federation Executive Director Daniel Kantor

Kevin Kulick was an extraordinary leader. During my eleven years as the Executive Director of the Jewish Federation, it was



Dr. Kevin Kulick

my privilege to serve with several accomplished presidents. Kevin was truly exceptional in every respect. He had a strong intellectual Jewish background, a willingness to listen to all opinions, and a sense of fairness in making judgements and decisions. Kevin's interactions with professional staff and volunteers should be the gold standard for all lay leaders. His curiosity to learn and solve problems benefited not just the Federation, but many of the other Jewish community organizations. It was my honor to work with Kevin and call him "friend."

Temple Beth Tzedek Past President Harvey Sanders

I first got to know Kevin from attending Saturday morning services at Temple Beth Tzedek. He always sat in the back row – I assumed it was so that he could take everything in without drawing attention to himself. But when it came to discussions about the Torah reading or some other Jewish text, it quickly became clear how knowledgeable and well-read he was. Most recently, our discussions were about Project Beit Tefilah – the construction of the new TBT synagogue building on North Forest. Again, he did not do it in a public way – it was almost always a private conversation off to the side, usually with Rise'. If there was background about the issue, he was always curious and didn't rush to an opinion until he had all the facts. Often he had an insight that I hadn't considered. I really valued every interaction with Kevin and I will really miss him.

David Schiller

Kevin personified the Psalmist's description of the good and just man. Although a dermatologist by profession, he was an even greater "spiritual cardiologist," an expert in matters of the heart: concern for others, generous, love of family, and love for Rise'.

Kevin rarely used the word "I." He asked about you and about others. He loved discussions about the ideas and experiences of other people. Kevin engaged in matters and projects that were about *all of us*. We will sorely miss Kevin. We were all blessed to know him.

Robert Skerker

Kevin was an active thinker. His intellect was restless and always probing. He was endlessly curious and was able to recall obscure topics from long ago articles and books. Conversations with him were a ride through history, art, music, culture and of course science. And it was that curiosity which propelled him first into a career in medical research, followed by the pull of family to return to Buffalo and enter private practice here.

His patience, warmth, knowledge and compassions were an abiding part of who he was and how he treated his patients, the community, and those around him. To me, he was a best friend. And our conversations were one long continuum of the obscure and humorous, serious and obvious. Our conversations never ended. Actually, they were just "to be continued."

Temple Beth Tzedek Cantor Mark Spindler

Kevin was a very devoted and dedicated leader of the Buffalo Jewish community. He was a traditional Jew and fervently believed in the beliefs and practices of Conservative Judaism. Kevin and Rise' attended Shabbat services regularly and were very active in synagogue life. Kevin also attended weekly morning services several times a week. At morning minyan, Kevin would always display his extensive knowledge of Judaism by asking questions or contributing to the discussion of *Mishna*. Kevin truly loved learning about his heritage and was a storehouse of knowledge.

Our Sages tell us that "the righteous need no monuments; their deeds and accomplishments are their monuments." So it was with Kevin. He had such a beautiful and productive life. Kevin was

such a sweet, kind, honest and sincere person. He was driven by such a genuine passion for his faith that made him become as involved and immersed in the Jewish community-at-large. There is a saying in *The Ethics of the Fathers* which truly fits Kevin. There are three crowns: the crown of learning, the crown of priesthood, and the crown of royalty. But the crown of a good name exceeds them all. A person achieves priesthood and royalty by heredity, but a good name is achieved by the way a person has lived life. Kevin leaves behind a legacy of goodness, kindness and sweetness, and such fond memories that we will never forget. May his memory be for goodness and blessing.

JCC Executive Director Rick Zakalik

The JCC of Greater Buffalo would be a diminished organization had Dr. Kevin Kulick, of blessed memory, not been an active leader. As a board member, officer and ultimately president, Kevin provided insight, historical perspective, Jewish input and genuine concern for the welfare of the Jewish and general communities for more than 30 years.

With a fund at the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, established in his grandmother's name, Kevin sponsored many events for the Cultural Arts Department of the JCC. At board meetings he advocated for the strengthening of the Jewish core of the agency in an informed and inclusionary fashion. During his presidency, he guided the agency through a very difficult existential period, ultimately mediating solutions to the structural annual deficits that were being incurred. It was always apparent when Kevin was quietly gathering his thoughts, avoiding a "shoot-from-the-hip" comment or reaction. Upon hearing Kevin's thoughts, the room would become quieter and issues that seemed to be black or white became gray, and discussions would turn to negotiated solutions. Kevin was the opposite of bombastic, rather a quiet, caring and well-humored mensch, with whom it was a pleasure to work.

Together with his beloved wife Rise' (also a JCC past-president), Kevin could be counted on to complete the tasks he began. His advocacy for strong Jewish knowledge for the leadership of the JCC, as well as the entire community, are goals that will continue to be at the forefront of the board's agenda. Kevin's example of leadership and hunger for knowledge and information is worthy of emulation. May his memory be a blessing for his family, the JCC and the entire community.

What is Buffalo Open Seder 2019?

The Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) is organizing an effort to urge members of the Buffalo Jewish Community to host 2-4 guests of other faith/ethnic communities at their Passover Seder table. Seders are Friday April 19 and Saturday April 20, and we are calling this "Buffalo Open Seder."

In the past, the Buffalo Jewish Federation held a large community Seder for nearly 500 participants from other faith communities. While it was fun and much-loved by many attendees, it was a "one and done" event. Lasting relationships were not given the chance to form, and thus no follow-up was put into place.

The new JCRC, one of 125 JCRC's across the nation is focused on building real and lasting friendships as part of fostering tolerance and social justice. "We want to create opportunities for people to build enduring friendships," said JCRC co-chair Ted Steinberg.

The Jewish community has many new and renewed friends from the interfaith clergy trip, previous synagogue trips to Israel with churches, and a new

Multicultural Women's Group who are eager to learn about and experience a Passover Seder.

Many Jewish households already invite members of other communities to their Seders. "We also want to know about those to help amplify this as a great way to build bridges," said director Mara Koven-Gelman.

A goal of JCRC is to foster meaningful and collaborative relationships with other faith, ethnic and cultural communities. A Passover Seder is a place where many communities can relate to the themes of freedom from slavery and oppression, resilience and generational storytelling.

Please consider hosting. **Email Mara Koven-Gelman at mara@buffalojewishfederation.org and she will connect you to some new friends.** If you are already hosting, we would love to know that also. Thank you for helping to create a more civil and caring community. Deadline is April 1, or as close to that date as possible—so we have time to connect interested people.



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A goal of the JCRC is to foster meaningful and collaborative relationships with other faith, ethnic and cultural communities. Sharing a Seder with the themes of freedom, resilience and generational storytelling is a wonderful way to build friendships.

For more information and to sign up as a host household,
email mara@buffalojewishfederation.org

Please let us know by April 1 so we have enough
time to connect interested families.

WHAT

Members of the Buffalo Jewish community are invited to welcome 2-4 guests of other faiths/communities to their Passover Seder table. Invite someone you know or we can pair you with many of our community friends.

WHEN

Passover Seders are Friday, April 19 & Saturday, April 20. [Note- Good Friday is also on Friday, April 19]

WHERE

Your home! Hosts are invited to the "Planning an Awesome Seder" session with Rabbi Aaron Goldscheider on Tuesday, April 2, 7 - 8:30 PM, part of Amiel BaKehila educators from Israel.

WHO

Members of the Buffalo Jewish community and friends of other faiths/communities.

BUFFALO JEWISH
COMMUNITY RELATIONS

SEEKING TO SUSTAIN A MORE CIVIL AND CARING COMMUNITY
IN WESTERN NEW YORK AND AROUND THE WORLD

Jewish Disabilities Awareness and Inclusion Month

By Howard Rosenhoch

Each year, the month of February is set aside for Jewish Disabilities Awareness and Inclusion Month (JDAIM). What is JDAIM? Why is advocating for the disabled a Jewish value? How did I, and my son, David, observe and participate in JDAIM?

JDAIM is a time set aside to focus awareness on people in our communities who, because of varieties of conditions that affect their abilities, are among the most vulnerable in our society. We look for ways to make their lives richer and more meaningful and inclusive.

We learn in the Torah, Leviticus 19:14 “You shall not curse the deaf, nor place a stumbling block before the blind.” Our obligation is to treat persons with disabilities with respect, and remove barriers, or stumbling blocks, to their living fulfilled and meaningful lives. Stumbling blocks come in many forms, from inaccessible buildings, to lack of availability of programs or personnel that help provide the basics of daily living. To remove these barriers, we engage in education and advocacy.

David was born with Down Syndrome 29 years ago. His mother, my late wife Valerie Rosenhoch who passed away in September, was a force in disability advocacy. David, who has grown into a remarkably independent, articulate and able young man, and I carry on Valerie’s work advocating for the disabled.

This year, David and I, as we had with Valerie in the past, attended Jewish Disability Advocacy Day. JDAD is a day for education and advocacy on disability issues. It is a collaboration of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism and the Jewish Federations of North America, the motherships of our national and world-wide Jewish Reform and Federation movements. Over 250 advocates, the largest group in the nine years of JDAD, gathered in Washington, DC to learn about issues in the disability arena that can be impacted by Federal legislation, and lobby on Capitol Hill to petition our representatives in Congress to act on, sponsor and vote for this legislation.

During JDAD’s morning session, we learned about two pieces of proposed



Howard and David Rosenhoch got to hear their cousin, newly elected Congressman Kim Schrier, MD from Washington State, address JDAD during lunch.

legislation, the ABLE Age Adjustment Act and the Money Follows the Person Act, that will positively impact the lives of large numbers of disabled folks in significant ways.

ABLE accounts were authorized by Congress in 2012 so that disabled people could save money for a rainy day in a tax advantaged fashion without disqualifying themselves from life sustaining benefits provided by Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI and other safety net programs. To qualify for an ABLE account, however, the person’s disability must have started before reaching the age of 26. The ABLE Age Adjustment Act will, if passed, raise the age of disability onset to 46. Currently, only 33,000 disabled individuals have opened ABLE accounts. Estimates are that making ABLE accounts available to those whose disability starts before age 46, instead of 26, will allow six million more disabled people to establish an ABLE account.

Money Follows the Person, or MFP, helps older adults and people with disabilities living in institutions move back home to live in their communities with needed services and supports. It provides funds to assist with one-time transition costs, such as advance rent or security deposit, purchase of basic furniture, and the like. MFP is one of the longest running and most successful demonstration projects in the history of

bills. We received welcoming receptions from the legislative staff members we spoke with and are hopeful that the bills will receive bi-partisan support and be enacted into law.

On a local level, David and I are active in the Family Committee of the Developmental Disabilities Alliance of WNY. DDAWNY is a collaboration of non-profit agencies that provide services to disabled folks in our region of the State. The Family Committee was organized by my late wife, Valerie, and other advocates to create a platform for families of disabled individuals residing in WNY to advocate in an organized fashion for the State to provide funding for services on a level that is sufficient for our loved ones to live lives of meaning and dignity.

The overarching issue that the Family Committee has addressed in recent years is the inadequacy of State funding to pay a living, competitive wage to Direct Support Professionals, or DSP’s – those workers who provide direct support in the everyday lives of our loved ones with disabilities. The problem in a nutshell is that, as the minimum



Howard and David with their upstate NY JDAD lobbying partners

Medicaid. Passage of this bill will prevent MFP benefits from disappearing and reauthorize them for another five years, assuring continued support for disabled folks transitioning from institutions to the community.

During the afternoon of JDAD, David and I teamed up with three other advocates from Upstate New York. We visited the offices of our Congressman, Brian Higgins, as well as Rochester Congressman Joe Morrelle and Albany Congressman Paul Tonko, where we advocated for both

wage has risen, and pay levels for DSP’s have not, more DSP’s are leaving the profession resulting in high vacancy rates and turnover in the field. This has lead to inadequate levels of service for our loved ones, resulting not only in loss of quality of life, but even risk of injury or death to our most vulnerable population, folks with developmental disabilities. In response, our Family Committee and similar advocacy platforms across the State launched the **#Fair2DirectCare** campaign, to advocate for funding to pay DSP’s a living and competitive wage. As I

write this article in mid-March, the battle over the next NYS budget, the deadline for which is March 31, is reaching a climax. We are advocating that adequate funding be included in the budget for DSP wages. For additional information on the #bFair2DirectCare campaign, search "Direct Support Professionals" on *The Buffalo News* website or search my name on **YouTube.com** to view the JDAIM Shabbat presentation I gave in February at Congregation Shir Shalom.

How do we in Jewish Buffalo address the needs of and seek to include those in our community with various challenges? Yad B'Yad (Hand in Hand), now housed under Buffalo Jewish Federation's new Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning, is the most enduring Buffalo organization promoting inclusion of all Jews in Jewish Buffalo regardless of differences. Check out their web page at buffalojewishfederation.org/inclusion/. The Jewish Community Inclusion Task Force, chaired by Janet Gunnar, in addition to running educational inclusion programs, is facilitating the creation of a Men's Jewish Group Home to compliment the Women's Jewish Group Home in existence for many years. For information, email Janet at janetgunner@gmail.com. Au-Some Swimmers, a collaboration of the Buffalo JCC and Children's Hospital of Buffalo, uses swim lessons to teach critical life skills to children diagnosed on the autism spectrum and provide a gathering place for families to connect and support each other. Check out their web page at www.specialmomsnetwork.com/au-some-swimmers/. The Temple Beth Tzedek Keshet Inclusion Committee strengthens connections between all our members, especially those isolated by illness, disability or care provider obligations. Their web page is at www.btzbuffalo.org/our-community-/keshet-outreach.

Each of us is created, regardless of our abilities or disabilities, *b'tzelem Elohim*, in the image of G-d. Jewish Disabilities Awareness and Inclusion Month may come around once a year, but it is our everyday obligation to treat those with differences with respect, and to remove barriers that impede anyone from living a life of dignity and meaning. Please join David, me and many others in doing this Mitzvah.

Howard Rosenhoch is past president of the Buffalo Jewish Federation, and incoming chair of the Campaign for Jewish Buffalo.





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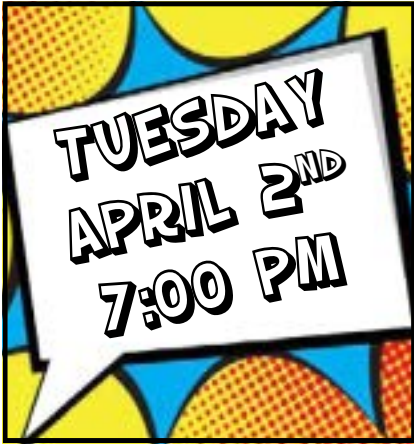
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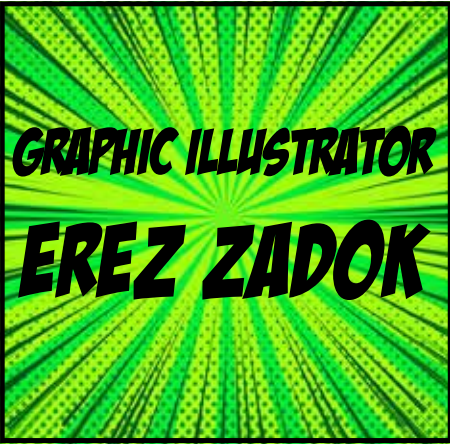
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SATURDAY, APRIL 27

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*April 26-29 only. A \$10 deposit per camper, per week is required for day camp. A \$50 deposit per camper, per session is required for resident camp.



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April

April 5

Jewish Renewal Shabbat with Dr. Yonina Foster

7:00 p.m.

Congregation Beth Abraham
1073 Elmwood Avenue

Contact Yonina at
bflogalagain@gmail.com

April 7

Au-Some Swimmers Film Event & Fundraiser

2:00-4:30 p.m.

Johnston Theatre, Elmwood
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For info call Jonathan Palma-
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4660 Sheridan Drive

Intergenerational Women's Seder

3:45 p.m.

Temple Beth Zion
700 Sweet Home Road
\$20 per adult
836-6565

April 8-11

Buffalo's Holocaust-Era Traveling Exhibit

Of the Holocaust Resource Center
At Jewish Federation Apartments
275 Essay Road

(See page 44 for information)

April 12

Tot Shabbat

5:45 p.m.

Hillel of Buffalo

UB Commons, Suite 101 B

Nicole@buffalojewishfederation.org

April 14

My Grown Up & Me

10 a.m. JCC Holland Building
787 Delaware Avenue

Nicole@buffalojewishfederation.org

April 19

Passover begins in the evening.
First Seder held

April 20-27

Passover celebrated

April 27

BBC Band

Doors open at 6:45 p.m.
Temple Beth Zion
805 Delaware Avenue
\$30 in advance
836-6565

April 28

TBZ After- Passover Meet-Up with Pizza

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Zetti's Pizza
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Dutch Treat

April 29

Dr. Sergey Dolgopolski new Book Launch

6:30 p.m.

UB Dept. of Jewish Thought
708 Clemens.
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April 30

UB Department of Jewish Thought Graduation

7:00 p.m.

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at

THE JEWISH JOURNAL
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Breaking Bread/Sharing Stories: Women's Multicultural Group

We are proud to share these reflections on being part of the Women's Multicultural Group, coordinated by the Jewish Community Relations Council.

Phyllis Steinberg

Our group is special in many ways. The group is comprised of women from almost every continent. Some are recent immigrants and some have deep family roots in the United States. The group is multigenerational, religiously and culturally diverse. We include mothers, grandmothers, single women, doctors, musicians, educators, businesswomen and students. Women are: Muslim, Jewish, Sikh, Catholic, Unitarian Universalist, African American, Burmese, Chinese, Rwandan, Somali, Puerto Rican American, and Canadian. We meet once a month for a potluck vegetarian dinner, to share information about ourselves, our families, our values and to get to know each other.

We have no agenda or set goals. A topic is presented as a jumping off point as we go around the table and share thoughts. What really brings us together is our desire to learn about each other. People were a little tentative at the first meeting, wondering how this group with so many different accents and origins was going to coalesce. By the second meeting, women were hugging each other as each additional person arrived.

We have shared something about our religious or cultural background that was important to us. A common thread was the idea of treating every human being the way each of us want to be treated. At another meeting we brought a cultural or religious significant object to share with the group. They included photographs, pendants and head coverings. We are no longer just a group of random women who meet once a month, but a group of friends who like to listen to each other, who respect each other and who look forward to the next time we can see each other.

Phyllis Steinberg is a Jewish member of the group, active in the Jewish Community Relations Council, Hadassah and KOT.



Women's Multicultural group members at the Turkish Cultural Center.

Dr. Betul Bat

One of the best things I have experienced since living in Buffalo for the past two years, is meeting my new friends at Congregation Beth Abraham for a Women's Multicultural Group. Each month we have the opportunity to meet beautiful people from multiple different backgrounds.

During our meetings, we usually sit around a table and share our stories. I learn something from each person and I happily feel that we share the same world under the same sky, breath the same air and have so many things in common.

At our last meeting, we had a different experience. We were introduced to *Ebru*, a traditional Turkish marbling art. It is painting on the water, giving shapes to colors, turning circles to the leaves, flowers, hearts with little touches. It was relaxing while enjoying traditional instrumental music. I have been away from my home country Turkey for four years now. Although I want to go visit, I prefer not to, like so many other Turkish people. But I am so happy my friends help me feel like home in Buffalo. I am proud to be here and will continue to join our meetings and enjoy the friendship.

Betul Bat is a Muslim member from Turkey. She is a doctor at ECMC.



Win Min Thant

We initiated our first group discussion with the water—the water theme—as water symbolizes cleansing, rebirth and life. We shared how water is celebrated in different creeds and cultures. It is fluid, as we all are. We are constantly shaped by the people we met, the role we play, and the norm we value. We have wanted our discussion and meeting to be constantly flowing with generosity and sincerity.

As mothers and daughters, we also wanted our discussion to be nurturing and to find solace within. We share what we cook at home and eat together

happily while we talk about our home cultures. Inevitably those include a naughty joke told by a grandpa or a motto a grandma practiced and passed down. Some other jokes may come across from time to time—it can be from the most unexpected person or a stand-up comedian in house. We have opened up the space, quite enough, I believe, while respecting each other, to feel vulnerable, to feel strange and similar, and to feel free to be who you are as you are. We have achieved it so far by exploring different cultures, by getting to know each other better, and by hearing out all our values and opinions openly.

Last week, one of our members facilitated the *Ebru* art—the ancient techniques of “Painting on Water” rooted in Uzbekistan. We all had participated and created the painting together. Historically, *Ebru* is practiced to encourage dialogue, reinforce social ties, and strengthen relations between individuals and communities. Through arts, food and dialogue, we are exploring and celebrating our similarity, resistance, and resilience.

Win Min Thant is from Burma and pursuing a MA in diversity education in Buffalo.

Dining Guide

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5 THINGS YOU CAN DO in April to Repair the World

- 1» **Invite a friend of another faith to join your Passover Seder** April 19 or 20. Federation's JCRC is sponsoring "Open Seder" this year, in order to foster meaningful and collaborative relationships with other faiths. **For more information, check out page 15, or contact Mara Koven-Gelman. mara@buffalojewishfederation.org.**
- 2» **Attend the JCC's Au Some Swimmers Film Event & Fund Raiser** Sunday, April 7 from 2-4:30 p.m. at Elmwood Franklin School, 104 New Amsterdam Avenue. \$10/person for screening of film *Swim Team* and speakers. **Call Katie Wzontek at the JCC- 204-2084 for more information.**
- 3» **Help celebrate the life of Tibor Baranski (z"l),** a hero who saved Jews during WWII and was named a Righteous Among the Nations with the Holocaust Resource Center and JRT Thursday, April 11 from 5:30- 7:00 p.m. at the JCC Seller Theatre on North Forest Road. **688-4033.**
- 4» **Don't Miss out on the JCC's 70th Anniversary gala celebration** the evening of May 19. **Buy your tickets NOW to the fabulous event for \$70 at either JCC member services desk or www.jccbuffalo.org**
- 5» **Attend A Night of Hope for Parkinson's** Friday, April 26 from 6-9:00 p.m. at the Millenium Hotel on Walden Avenue. This event supporting the WNY Chapter of the Parkinson's Foundation costs \$50 in advance and \$60 at the door. **Go to <http://parkinson.org/westernnewyork>**

Where in JBFLO ?



Where is this found in WNY?

The first 5 people to correctly identify the location and the person will win \$10 lunch to the JCC's new Myers Family Tel Aviv Café, which is now open.

Last month, no one identified the fabric mural located on the 2nd floor wall of the JCC's Holland Family Building, outside the Early Childhood offices.

E-mail your answers to ellen@buffalojewishfederation.org

Meet Your Attorney



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www.kristagottlieb.com

Krista Gottlieb is a graduate of Barnard and Albany Law School. Her ADR Center & Law Office focuses on appropriate conflict & issue resolution as a practicing neutral, mediator, arbitrator and resolutionary. She has worked with parties, from Fortune 500 companies to families, individuals, family owned businesses and start-ups. Her mission is to help avoid, de-escalate and resolve conflict in the most cost and time effective way, while preserving and advancing relationships and outcomes. Her many distinguished honors include: Top 10 WNY Legal Elite, National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, and Best Lawyers in America.



2464 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo
716-873-6765
ssugarman@psasattorneys.com
www.psasattorneys.com

A skilled and passionate proponent of mediation, **Steve Sugarman** helps individuals and organizations settle their legal disputes without the stressors and costs of the court process. As a long-time matrimonial attorney and mediator, Steve helps parties communicate, identify their interests and reach lasting agreements in a cost-effective, timely and peaceful fashion. Steve is a mediation law professor at UB and a partner at Pusatier, Sherman, Abbott and Sugarman, which also services clients in personal injury, social security and other practice areas.



1 Park Place • Suite 221 • Fredonia
716-401-3406
sheila@sheilahahn.com
sheilahahn.com

Sheila Starkey Hahn, a graduate of SUNY Buffalo and the University of Minnesota Law School, has a solo practice in Fredonia, NY representing companies and individuals in employment and family-based immigration matters. She is the Chair of the National Pro Bono Committee of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, lectures extensively and is the author of numerous articles on immigration law. Ms. Starkey Hahn also provides *pro bono* legal representation to Central American women and children at family detention centers on the Southern border.



Meet Your Attorney



Dara Biltekoff Ordon practices in all areas of real estate law. Her practice focuses on navigating clients through residential real estate transactions, examining title, and writing title insurance. She also has experience as in-house counsel, and in commercial and business litigation, negligence, administrative proceedings, and local, state, and federal court practice. Ms. Ordon earned her JD from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 2001. She lives in Amherst with her husband and their children. She is active in Women's Council of Realtors, WNY Mothers of Multiples, and other charitable organizations.



2350 North Forest Road • Getzville
716-404-4733
dordon@cherylsteinlaw.com



The mission of the Law Office of **Lindy Korn**, PLLC, is to assist people facing discrimination at work, restoring workplace relationships & safer work environments. She works with her clients to prevent, correct & remedy the abuse of power. A holistic lawyer, Lindy helps employees resolve workplace disputes through negotiation, mediation, & litigation strategies. Her practice, is a plaintiff oriented employee rights law firm with an emphasis on stopping workplace discrimination. She is the proud mother of two daughters, Emily and Leslie, and also has a wonderful rescue dog named Sigmund.



535 Washington Street, Buffalo
Ninth Floor • Electric Tower
716-856-5676
lkorn@lkorn-law.com



Randy Oppenheimer represents clients before courts, administrative bodies, and in arbitration and mediation proceedings. For over 40 years, Randy has handled a wide array of commercial, labor, employment and other complex litigation. He is a member of the Panel of Mediators appointed by the US District Court for the Western District of NY. He is a certified commercial mediator for the NYS Supreme Court - Eighth Judicial District (which includes Erie, Allegany, Cattaraugus, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming counties). Randy provides effective and efficient counsel to achieve client goals, through negotiations or adversarial proceedings.

**RANDOLPH C.
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200 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo 14202
716-858-3780



A fall on ice is a risk of living in Western New York. On the other hand, property owners are required to maintain property in a reasonably safe condition. An owner is not expected to salt and shovel during a snow storm. But a layer of ice and snow in a high-traffic area should be treated. The Small Law Firm recommends frequent salting and shoveling for the safety of others. If you slip and fall, call **Craig Small** at Small Law Firm.



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craigsmallny.com
slipandfallcallcraigsmall.com



Richard F. Griffin is a member of the Mediation and Arbitration Panels of the AAA, CPR, NY State Supreme Court, U.S.D.C.W.N.Y. and a member of the NY Academy of Mediators and Arbitrators. The following are some recent comments. "I would like to express my appreciation for the terrific effort you have made in resolving this case." (Personal Injury) "Your passion and desire for the legal system have left deep impression with me." (Widow's Contract Enforcement) "Thank you again for everything...my clients loved you." (Estate Dispute) "Just don't give any thought about retirement" (Construction).



726 Exchange Street, Buffalo
716-845-6000
www.kavinokycook.com



Cheryl Stein received her Law Degree from Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center in 1988 and was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1989. She is also a member of the Erie County Bar Association and the Women's Council of Realtors. Her practice is limited to Real Estate. Cheryl is currently Vice President of Kadimah Academy, on the Board of Governors for Buffalo Jewish Federation and the Board of Kehillat Ohr Tzion. Cheryl is from Williamsville, married to Irv, and has 2 children who are living in New York City.



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SYNAGOGUES

ORGANIZATIONS

Jewish Community Organizations in Western New York

Buffalo Jewish Federation

2640 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
TEL 716-204-2241
www.buffalojewishfederation.org
Rob Goldberg - CEO & Executive Director
Leslie Shuman Kramer - President

Buffalo Vaad of Kashrus

49 Barberry Lane
Williamsville, NY 14221
TEL: 716-634-3990
Rabbi Eliezer Marcus- Regional Director
Dr. Michael Chaskes- President
www.bvkkosher.comvaad
buffalo@yahoo.com, bvkkosher@gmail.com

Center for Jewish Engagement & Learning

2640 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
www.buffalojewishfederation.org
Ellen Weiss - President
Miriam Abramovich - Director of Engagement

Chabad House of Buffalo

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

Chai Early Childhood Center

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

Department of Jewish Thought

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

Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies

2640 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
TEL 716-204-1133
www.jewishphilanthropies.org
Irv Levy - COO
Lynn Catalano - Director of Development
Don Kohnstamm - President

Hadassah

2640 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
TEL 716-688-5260
buffalohadassah@gmail.com
Elaine Kellick, Annette Magid,
and Rhonda Wise- Co-Presidents

Hebrew Benevolent Loan Association

2640 North Forest Road in FJP offices
Getzville, NY 14068
TEL 716-204-0542
Judith Katzenelson Brownstein- President

Hillel of Buffalo

Campus Center of Jewish Life
520 Lee Entrance/UB Commons
Suite #101B
W. Amherst, NY 14228
TEL 716-616-0083
Rabbi Sara Rich - Director
Dr. Jeffrey Lackner - President
www.hillelofbuffalo.org

Holocaust Resource Center

336 Harris Hill Road, Suite 302
Williamsville, NY 14221
TEL: 716-634-9535
www.hrcbuffalo.org
Rachel Kranitz McPhee - President
Elizabeth Schram - Director

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
831 Maple Road
Williamsville, NY 14221 (office)
TEL: 716-639-7600
TEL: 716-632-0467
Rabbi Heschel Greenberg
Rabbi Laizer Labkovski
www.jewishdiscovery.org

Jewish Family Service Of Buffalo And Erie County

70 Barker Street
Buffalo, NY 14209
TEL 716-883-1914
www.jfsbuffalo.org
Marlene Schillinger - Executive Director
Blaine Schwartz - Chair

Jewish Federation Apartments

275 Essjay Road
Williamsville, NY 14221
TEL 716-631-8471
www.jewishfederationapartments.org
Kathleen Haggerty - Property Manager
Shawn Frier - President

Jewish Federation Cemetery Corporation, Inc.

2640 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
TEL 716-204-2246
www.buffalojewishfederation.com
Deborah Pivarsi - Director
Charlotte Gendler, President

Kadimah Academy

1085 Eggert Road
Amherst, NY 14226
TEL 716-836-6903
www.kadimah.org
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Jonathan Epstein - President

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Western New York Synagogues and Temples

Chabad House of Buffalo

(unaffiliated)
2450 North Forest Rd,
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TEL 716-688-1642
www.chabadbuffalo.com

Congregation Beth Abraham (Conservative)

1073 Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14222
www.congregationbethabraham.net

Congregation Shir Shalom

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

Congregation Havurah (Reform)

6320 Main St., Williamsville, NY 14221
Bernard Schenkler, President
Enid Edelman, Membership Chair
TEL 716-689-8059
www.congregationhavurah.org
info@congregationhavurah.org

Kehillat Ohr Tzion

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

Knesset Center (Orthodox)

500 Starin Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14214
TEL 716-832-5063
Rabbi Shmaryahu Charitonow
www.chabad.org

Saranac Synagogue (Orthodox)

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

Temple Beth Tzedek (Conservative)

1641 North Forest Road
Williamsville, NY 14221
Rabbi Samuel Barth
Cantor Mark Spindler
Andy Gewurz - President
Kim Jones - Administrator
TEL 716- 838-3232
www.btzbuffalo.org

Temple Beth Zion (Reform)

Sanctuary: 805 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
Religious School and Offices:
700 Sweet Home Road
Amherst, NY 14226
Rabbi Jonathan Freirich
Cantor Penny Myers
Amy Schaefer - Temple Administrator
Julie Dressler Weinberg - President
TEL 716-836-6565
www.tbz.org

Temple Beth El (Reform)

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

Temple Emanu-El (Reform)

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

The Family Shul (Unaffiliated)

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

Young Israel of Greater Buffalo (Orthodox)

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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!



CONGREGATION SHIR SHALOM Second Night Seder

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Join family and friends at
CSS's Second Night Seder.

**Saturday, April 20
6:00 p.m.**

Shir Shalom Social Hall

Adults Members \$40
Adults Non-Members \$45
Adults Kosher \$50
Children 10 and under \$25
Children Kosher \$30

Conducted by:
Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein and
Cantor Arlene Frank

Reservation & payment due by 4/12/19. We are unable to accommodate walk-ins.

Make checks payable to: Congregation Shir Shalom
Return to: Congregation Shir Shalom • 4660 Sheridan Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221

April 5 is Jewish Renewal Shabbat @ Congregation Beth Abraham

You are invited to attend this Jewish Renewal Shabbat with Dr. Yonina Foster Friday, April 5 at 7:00 p.m. downstairs at Congregation Beth Abraham, 1073 Elmwood Ave. For your comfort, bring a cushion for your chair and a nosh for Oneg that follows.

This Shabbat program draws upon the mystical liturgical tradition from which it arises, with tunes and songs, old and new. Feel free to bring rhythm instruments. Dr. Foster had Seminary training through ALEPH, the Alliance for Jewish Renewal, and founded Z'raem, Seeds, a Jewish Renewal gathering for Shabbat and High Holy Days, in Germantown, Maryland before returning to the Buffalo area in the summer of 2017.

The service will reflect on the Torah portion, Tazria, birthing the creative part of ourselves, which separates us unintentionally from others, retreat time, and the necessary offerings of purification and healing for re-entry into the community. See Rabbi Shefa Gold's reflections on rabbishefagold.com.

It is also Shabbat HaChodesh (Sabbath of the



month), the first day of the Hebrew month of Nisan, during which Passover occurs. This becomes the first month of the Jewish year when the Jewish People stepped into freedom and were commanded to sanctify the new moon (Kiddush HaChodesh).

Contact Dr. Foster with any questions (301) 452-7847 or bflogalagain@gmail.com.

Sing, chant, meditative dance, schmooze & nosh

**April 28, Sunday
Congregation Beth Abraham
1073 Elmwood Ave. Bflo, NY 14222
Time: 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.**

Donation: \$10.00 love offering recommended
Welcome to bring: a song, story, dance, a snack.

Dr. Yonina Andrea Foster, historian, music specialist, Reiki master, and returnee to Buffalo (Amherst grad '75), looks forward to gathering with you to open the gates of healing through community sharing. Bring friends. Rhythm instruments also welcome. **Contact Dr. Foster (301) 452-7847 or bflogalagain@gmail.com.**

Anne Bernstein Memorial Shabbat Speaker Series

**"Jewish Buffalo"
Presented by Chana Kotzin Ph.D.**

**Saturday, June 1st
Congregation Shir Shalom
12:00 p.m. Luncheon
1:00 p.m. Speaker**

Chana Kotzin, Ph.D. was born and raised in Great Britain. She is the director, archivist and historian for the Jewish Buffalo Archives Project. Chana will share her knowledge about Jewish Buffalo.

The program is complimentary, but reservations are required by May 28th. Please call the Temple Office to RSVP at 633-8877.



Women of Shir Shalom

Spring Rummage Sale

Sunday, April 7th

9:00am-1:30pm \$1.00 Admission

Noon-1:30pm (gigantic) Bag Sale \$10.00

**COME SHOP AT OUR SALE TO FIND
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*****Donations are being accepted now through April 6th,
Tuesdays through Fridays from 9:30am to 4:30pm**

VOLUNTEERS ARE CRUCIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS FUNDRAISER!

**They are needed on Saturday for set up
and Sunday for sale and break down.**

**Please call Jennelle at 270-3316 to let her know
you are able to help with the sale.**



4660 Sheridan Drive
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716.633.8877
www.shirshalombuffalo.org

Stu Boyar Is April 14 Achim Speaker

Temple Beth Zion Brotherhood will present its April Achim program April 14 at 10:00 a.m. at the Meadows Lounge, on the second floor at the Weinberg Campus. The featured speaker will be Stu Boyar, sports personality for WGRZ television Channel 2. Mr. Boyar will be discussing the local Buffalo sports scene, especially the Buffalo Sabres and the Buffalo Bills, and topics of similar interest. Achim is a monthly program for the benefit of the residents, and their guests, at the Weinberg Campus and is open to the public at no cost. **For further information, please contact Ken Graber at 681-9885.**



KOT Tidbits

On March 1, members of Kehillat Ohr Tzion and many guests celebrated with Nora and Rabbi Ori Bergman and their families at the Brit Milah of their son.

On March 15, KOT was pleased to host Rak Shalom, an award-winning co-ed A Cappella group from the University of Maryland. They led Kabbalat Shabbat services for an enthusiastic crowd.

The Social Action Committee is now collecting needed items for the



Kevin Guest House, where patients and their families can stay while a family member is receiving treatment in any of the area hospitals. Please bring them to services, or contact Phyllis Steinberg at phyllismksteinberg@gmail.com.

Finally, Passover will soon be here. For information about services during Passover, contact Rabbi Berman at oribergman@gmail.com.

TBT Rabbi Klein Scholar-in-Residence Weekend begins May 30

Temple Beth Tzedek will be sponsoring their scholar-in-residence program in memory of Rabbi Isaac Klein beginning on May 30. This year's scholar is ethno-musicologist Rabbi Jeffrey Summit, recently retired Executive Director of Tufts Hillel. Rabbi Summit will be in Buffalo to give four talks

Thursday 5/30, 7:30 p.m.: "Cabaret at the Edge of the World: Performing in the Shadow of the Holocaust" (a multi-media presentation).

Friday 5/31, 6:00 p.m.: Kabbalat Shabbat: "The Meaning of our Melodies: Music and Identity in Contemporary Jewish Worship". Shabbat Dinner following services.

Saturday 6/1, 9:00 a.m.: Shabbat Services: "Singing God's Words: Religious Experience, Chant & Sacred Text"

Sunday 6/2, 9:30 a.m.: (following morning minyan) brunch and presentation: "Coffee, Music, and Inter-religious Harmony in Eastern Uganda"

Further information will appear in the May issue of the JJWNY. Call 838-3232 with questions.



**PASSOVER
WITH TBZ**



25th ANNUAL SEDER

**Friday, April 19, at 6 PM
Transit Valley Country Club
8920 Transit Road - East Amherst,**

All are welcome!

Adults are \$45 for TBZ members and \$50 for members of the community. Children ages 4 - 12 are \$20 (includes a special afikomen surprise for each child)
Vegetarian option is available.

RSVP by calling the Temple Beth Zion office (716) 836-6565. Phone reservations can only be accepted with credit card payment.
We cannot accept reservations after April 12.

Warm Friends

Temple Beth Zion volunteers invite you to warm your heart by serving meals to clients at Friends of Night People. Volunteers are needed for the second Tuesday of each month. If you are available and are interested in helping, please let us know.

For details or to sign up, contact Ann Marie at Temple Beth Zion 836-6565, Ext. 111 or annmarie@tbz.org.

After-Passover Pizza with TBZ

The Temple Beth Zion Engagement Committee has planned an after-Passover celebration program with, what else? Pizza! The community is welcome to meet and shmooze on Sunday, April 28 from 1-3 p.m. at Zetti's Pizza, 4621 Maple Road in Amherst. This no-host/Dutch-Treat meet-up is organized by Matt Schwartz. **You can check out this and other events on the TBZ Facebook page.**

TBZ: Buffalo Jazz Collective Featuring Bobby Militello May 4

The Buffalo Jazz Collective includes some of the finest musicians from Western New York and beyond. Come to Temple Beth Zion at 805 Delaware on Saturday, May 4, for the last concert in the Jazz Series.

Highlights of Bobby Militello's illustrious career include being a member of the Maynard Ferguson Big Band, the Dave Brubeck Quartet, The Tonight Show Band led by Doc Severinson, as well as leading the Bobby Militello Quartet. During his tenure with Maynard, he appeared in the *Downbeat* Readers polls from 1976 to 1979 on baritone saxophone and flute and received critical acclaim in numerous articles and reviews throughout the United States and Canada.

From 1982 to 2012, he played alto saxophone and flute with the Dave Brubeck Quartet and recorded over 25 albums, played with almost every major orchestra in the U.S., Canada and Europe, and appeared in many International jazz festivals, television and radio shows.

Cost is \$15 per person at the door. There is a 7:00 p.m. reception, followed by the concert at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome!



Registration for PALS-Kadimah 2019-2020 is now open!

Early Bird Special!

Lock in 2018-2019 pricing
by registering by April 30.
Class size is limited and is filling up fast.

Call Melissa at 836-6565
or email pals@tbz.org for registration
materials and information.

Early bird
DISCOUNT



PALS-Kadimah Students Making Winter Fun!



PALS-Kadimah students made the most of a snowy day in February. Mr. Snow-tato Head was a fun and creative, although chilly, activity.



**JUILLIARD
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Tuesday, April 23rd at 8 pm
Mary Seaton Room, Kleinhans Music Hall

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

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The BBC Band

Featuring the best
of the Beatles & '60s Music



Saturday, April 27
Doors open at 6:45 p.m. Music at 7:30 p.m.
805 Delaware Avenue

Concert suitable for all ages

Tickets: \$30 advance sale; \$35 at the door.
Purchase tickets at www.tbz.org or call 716-836-6565

Community Seders in WNY

Chabad Of Buffalo

Friday, April 19, 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 20, 8:00 p.m.
2450 North Forest Road
RSVP necessary- 688-1642

Congregation Beth Abraham

Saturday, April 20, 6:00 p.m.
1073 Elmwood Ave.
RSVP (reservations required):
info@congregationbethabraham.net
Website:
www.congregationbethabraham.net

Congregation Shir Shalom Shir Shalom Second Night Seder

Saturday, April 20, 6:00 p.m.
Shir Shalom Social Hall
4660 Sheridan Dr.
Adult Members \$40 / Adult Non-Members \$45 / Adult Kosher Meal \$50 / Children 10 and under \$25 / Children Kosher Meal \$30
RSVP by April 10 to 633-8877

Hillel of Buffalo

Seder for local undergraduate and graduate students
Friday, April 19, 7:30 p.m.
UB Student Union.
Free and open to all local college students.
Contact Rabbi Sara Rich at
rabbisara@hillelofbuffalo.org

Jewish Discovery Center

Friday, April 19, 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 20, 8:00 p.m.
757 Hopkins Road
Free, but RSVP necessary:
www.jewishbuffalo.com
or 639-7600

Kehillat Ohr Tzion

KOT is not holding a community Seder, but invites anyone who needs a Seder to contact Rabbi Ori Bergman and he will find a welcoming home.
oribergman@gmail.com

Temple Beth El/ Niagara Falls

Community Passover Seder
Friday, April 19th, 6:00 p.m.
720 Ashland Avenue,
Niagara Falls
Free, but donations to help cover the costs are welcome.
For more information or reservations, call Darlene at 297-2574.

Temple Beth Zion

TBZ Intergenerational Women's Seder
Sunday, April 7, 3:45 p.m.
TBZ Broder Center
700 Sweet Home Rd.
Adults \$20/ Teens 13-16 \$15 / Children 12 and under - Free
RSVP 982-2099 or
thetovers@gmail.com

TBZ First Night Seder

Friday, April 19, 6:00 p.m.
Transit Valley Country Club
8920 Transit Rd.
Adults member \$45 / \$50 adult non-member / Children ages 4-12 \$20 / Children 3 and under Free
RSVP by April 10 to 836-6565.



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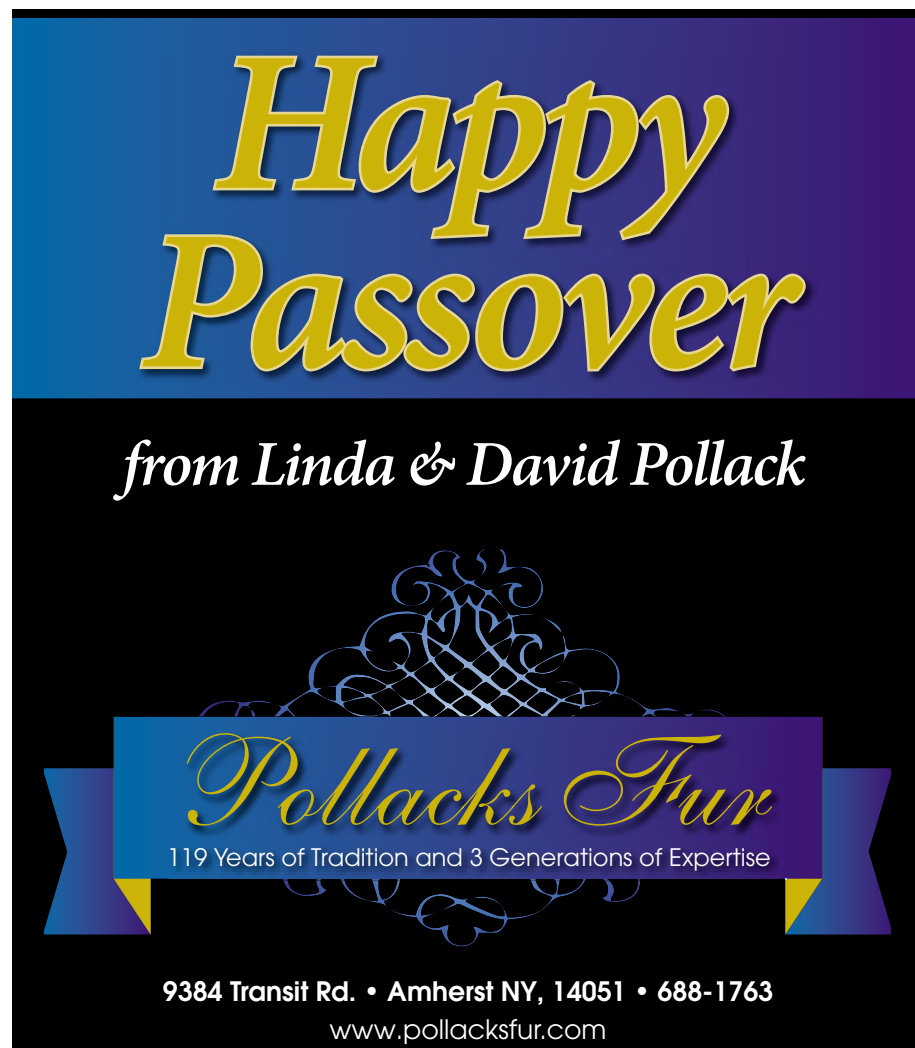
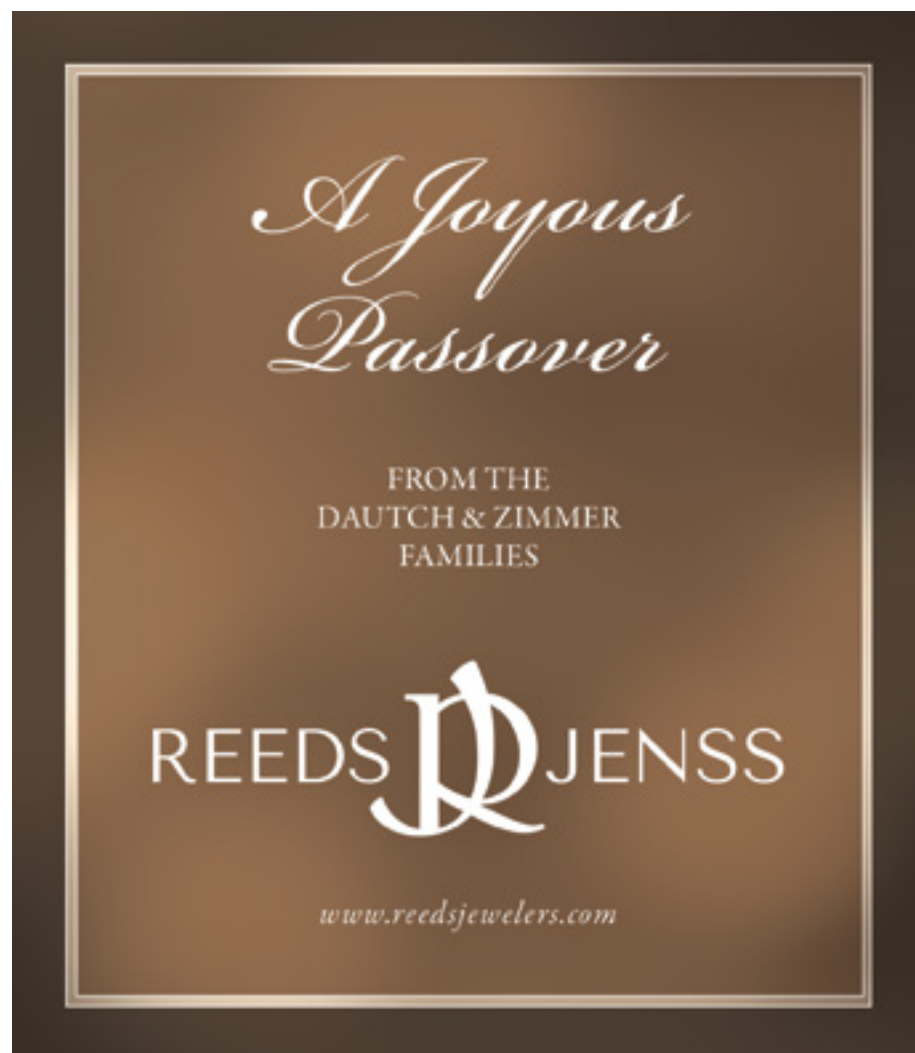
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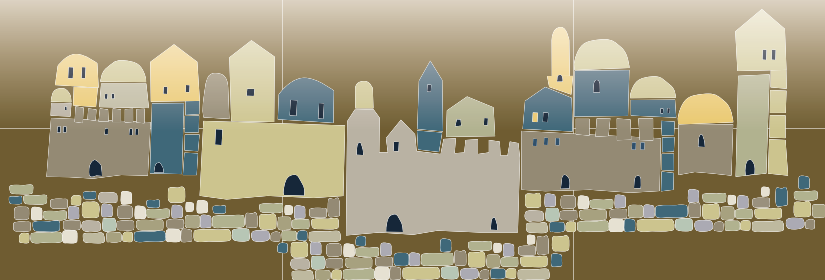


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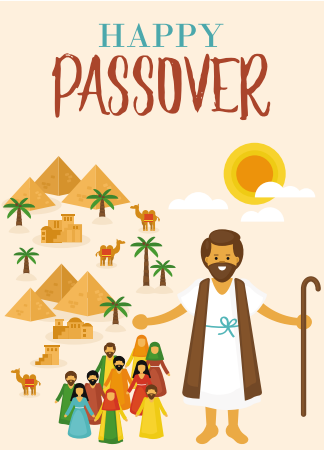
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JCC celebrates 70 years on May 19!

Exciting Evening Event

With only two months before the JCC's 70th anniversary takes place on Sunday, May 19th, event chairs Joanne and Michael Berger are getting excited about **Renaissance and Ruach** – a celebration of seven decades of the Jewish Community Center providing vital social, fitness, cultural and educational programs and services to community members all over Western New York.

"The JCC has always been the center of social, cultural, fitness and family events for the Buffalo Jewish community and we want to ensure the continuity and growth of this important and valuable institution. At the same time, we always welcome the community as a whole and look forward to working together with all our members to provide a welcoming, enriching environment for all," said Michael and Joanne Berger, longtime community leaders and volunteers.

"With the recent \$4 million renovation and the revitalization of the Holland JCC Building on historic Delaware Avenue,

the Hebrew word "*Ruach*" - which means spirit, breath/wind and purpose - perfectly defines what the JCC represents for our community, a Center that supports people of all ages and cultures and continues to bring members of our communities together," said Michael.

Music & Dancing & Food!

The 70th Anniversary celebration, which takes place in the Holland Building May 19 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. is open to all and features live and vibrant entertainment throughout the building for the duration of the program.

Among the entertainment will be Moshe Shulman and the Buffalo Tango Orkestra, musician Samantha Sugarman, Buffalo to Broadway – a multi-talented troupe of crooners, Israeli dancing and a light up dance floor with a disc jockey in the JCC's "night club." Special appearances include musical numbers by former members of the JCC's Youth Theatre, who will perform show tunes they performed 30+ years ago.



Michael and Joanne Berger

Israeli artist Smadar Livne, whose work will be featured in the art gallery, will attend the event to meet guests and talk about her work. Guests will enjoy an array of food stations, including Mediterranean, charcuterie, deli, Asian, salads and desserts as well as beverage stations throughout the building. All

food will be kosher and supervised by the BVK.

"We hope to fill our beautifully renovated JCC with guests from all of our communities," said Joanne Berger. "We've heard from people who grew up at our JCC who will be traveling back to Buffalo to join this exciting event, making our celebration a reunion for many."

Presenting gold level sponsors of **Renaissance and Ruach** include Delta Sonic Car Wash Systems Inc., Gretchen and Gordon Gross and M&T Bank.

Buy Your Ticket Today!

Renaissance and Ruach, the JCC's 70th anniversary celebration, takes place Sunday, May 19, 6-9 p.m. in the JCC at 787 Delaware Avenue. Free parking is available on site and at Temple Beth Zion, located next door to the JCC.

Tickets and information
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Kadimah Academy, Park School announce unique partnership

COLLABORATION BRINGS HEBREW, JUDAIC STUDIES TO PROGRESSIVE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

Kadimah Academy, The Park School of Buffalo and the Buffalo Jewish Federation are pleased to announce an innovative new partnership that will introduce Hebrew language and Judaic studies courses to one of the nation's oldest independent progressive schools, beginning in September 2019.

The unique collaboration – called “Kadimah Scholars at Park School” – brings together two well-established schools with a combined 160 years of history serving students in Western New York, each with a tradition of excellence.

The new partnership supports Kadimah's mission through Park School, while expanding its reach to a broader segment of the regional population. It will also extend its classes through high school for the first time in its history, achieving a long-desired goal and providing a new opportunity for generations of future students.

It is not a merger of the schools but a relationship that transitions Kadimah Academy from a standalone brick and mortar building to an education program and scholarship fund with classes, students, and teachers on the Park campus, while adding to Park's curriculum and programming. Kadimah will exist separately as a fundraising and marketing organization to promote the program and Jewish education while providing scholarships to participating students.

“This is an incredibly exciting collaboration for us,” said Jonathan D. Epstein, president of the Kadimah Academy Board of Trustees, and a parent at the Jewish day school in Amherst. “Not only does it allow us to maintain our tradition and mission through a great partner, but it will enable us to reach far more students and provide them with a Jewish education throughout high school. That's something our community has long desired but never achieved. Moreover, it creates the new potential to inform a broader segment of the entire community about Judaism, Jewish traditions and Jewish culture, which will contribute to a better understanding for everyone.”

At the same time, the partnership furthers Park's multicultural philosophy of encouraging diversity and bridging



ethnic, racial, and religious divides by bringing such groups together under the Park tree. It also allows for the addition of Hebrew to Park's world languages curriculum, broadening the scope of options available to the community.

Park Head of School Jeremy Besch said, “This is an exciting new partnership that furthers Park's mission to encourage a global perspective and expose Park students to more friends from the wider world. Even better, our two communities share a strong belief in our core values of Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, and Kindness. This collaboration further enhances our shared ability to promote these important qualities.”

The leadership of both schools and the Federation believe this new relationship not only benefits both institutions but also Jewish Buffalo and the broader Western New York community. If successful, it could also position Buffalo as a model for small and mid-sized cities around the country. Based on their discussions with representatives of schools and Jewish communities nationwide, the new partnership may be the first of its kind.

“The Buffalo Jewish Federation embraces the dialogue between Park and Kadimah and the creating of this new model as a complete win-win. Not only does it provide a new home for Kadimah's existing students, but it creates new opportunities for the Park community to engage more deeply

with Jewish engagement and learning,” said Leslie Shuman Kramer, Federation President.

Under the plan, Park will hire teachers for Hebrew and Judaic Studies, with courses offered both during the regular school day and an after-school component. Additional after-school study time may also be available for further education for those families desiring more. The curriculum is now in development, in collaboration with Kadimah faculty and Jewish community leaders.

The new classes will be open to all students at Park. Those participating in the Kadimah program will also be offered supplemental time and space for Jewish religious prayer. Other enhancements or additional educational programming are also under consideration.

The partnership with Park covers grades K-12, and will have no impact on Kadimah's separate pre-school partnership with Temple Beth Zion's Play and Learn School, called PALS-Kadimah.

Kadimah will continue to operate as an independent organization, working with Park to raise money, award scholarships, engage the community and its alumni, market the partnership and recruit new students. The two schools are also working in conjunction with the Buffalo Jewish Federation, which provides funding to Kadimah.

Kadimah's existing endowment and all funds previously donated to the school will remain intact and continue to grow for the benefit of Jewish day school education in Buffalo. The school's leadership is grateful to all of its benefactors, especially Dr. Sol Messinger, for their continued support.

NEW JCC ADULT CLASSES

AT HOLLAND BUILDING

Sign up for these new adult classes
at the JCC/Holland Building

MONDAYS:

Reading Aloud: Bringing Short Stories to Life

Experience the fun of reading short stories aloud and discussing them in a small group. We will begin with selected authors and continue with suggestions from members of the group.

Facilitator: Elaine Regan

April 1 - May 20

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Full/Social Member \$22

Gym/Community Participant \$30

TUESDAYS:

Western Civilization Revisited

Oral reading and discussion of the world's great literature.

Facilitator: Athalie Joy

April 2 - May 28

1:30-3:00 p.m.

Full/Social Member \$22

Gym/Community Participant \$30

WEDNESDAYS:

Current Events

Join this group for lively discussions of political, social and cultural concerns. Bring your point of view and opinions and have your say about news at the local, national and international levels.

Facilitator: Jack Regan

April 3 - June 19

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Full/Social Member FREE

Gym/Community Participant \$30

THURSDAYS:

New Yorker Magazine Discussion Group

Join an informal gathering of people interested in discussing the articles, poetry, fiction, reviews and cartoons found weekly in the New Yorker. Readings for each week are pre-selected by the group.

Facilitators: Peter Gold and Liz Clark

April 4 - June 6

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Full/Social Member \$22

Gym/Community Participant \$30

AU-SOME SWIMMERS FILM EVENT AND FUNDRAISER—SUNDAY, APRIL 7

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo is partnering with Elmwood Franklin School to host a fundraiser for Au-Some Swimmers, a learn-to-swim program for children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders, Sunday, April 7.

The Au-Some Swimmers event will take place in the Johnston Theatre, at Elmwood Franklin School, 104 New Amsterdam Ave from 2pm to 4:30pm. Generously sponsored by The Summit Center and Tapestry Charter School, the event includes a screening of the film *Swim Team*, which chronicles the rise of the Jersey Hammerheads, a New Jersey based swim team of teenagers on the autism spectrum.

There will be a brief discussion about the program before the film screening, and following the film, instructors and families participating in the program will be available to answer questions and speak more about the program to audience members.

Tickets are \$10 per person and will benefit the Au-Some Swimmer program. Tickets may be purchased at either JCC member Services Desk, online at www.jccbuffalo.org or by calling Katie Wzontek, Cultural Arts Director at the JCC at 716-204-2084.



Witnesses: Buffalo's Holocaust-Era Stories Traveling Gallery Exhibit and Speakers

Last November commemorated the 80th Anniversary of Kristallnacht, also called the Night of Broken Glass. It occurred on the night of November 9, 1938, when German Nazis attacked Jewish persons and property. In a few hours, thousands of synagogues and Jewish businesses and homes were damaged or destroyed.



Anna Post

If you missed the Kristallnacht exhibit at the Amherst JCC last fall due to road closure or weather, or are hearing about it for the first time, you have another opportunity to see the panels – in Williamsville at Jewish Federation Apartments, Monday - Thursday, April 8-11.

The Jewish Federation Apartments (JFA), in collaboration with the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo, presents **Witnesses: Buffalo's Holocaust-Era Stories Traveling Gallery Exhibit**, on display at JFA at 275 Essjay Road in Williamsville. This exhibit shares personal stories, photographs, and artifacts, exploring the themes of movement, anti-Semitism, cooperation, and resilience as witnesses to the Holocaust survivors who arrived in Buffalo. Survivors included in the exhibit are Stephen Lewy, Dr. Sol Messinger, Anna Post, Mark Solarz and Sophia Veffler.



Mark Solarz

Opening: Monday, April 8 @ 1:00-3:00 p.m. and 6:30-7:00 p.m. - includes light refreshments

Opening reception: Tuesday April 9 @ 1:00-3:00 p.m. and speaker-light refreshments

Wednesday April 10 @ 1:00-3:00 p.m. and speaker-light refreshments
Thursday, April 11 @ 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Location: 275 Essjay Road, Williamsville, NY. **This is a secured HUD building. You will be buzzed in to view the exhibit and hear the speakers.**

Contact at JFA: Dr. Yonina Foster (716) 631-8471; (301) 452-7847. **The exhibit was made possible through the support of the E.O. Smith Arts and Humanities Faculty Development Fund at SUNY Buffalo State College and The Buffalo News and is free and open to the public.**

2019 YOM HASHOAH 5779

NEVER AGAIN? How Anti-Semitism is Still Alive Today

Speaker: Kenneth Stern
Sunday, May 5, 11:00 am
Temple Beth Zion
805 Delaware Avenue,
Buffalo NY

Kenneth S. Stern is an attorney and award-winning author, and an internationally known expert on hatred and anti-Semitism, who was most recently the executive director of the Justus & Karin Rosenberg Foundation. He has testified before Congress, been an invited presenter at the White House Conference on Hate Crimes, and argued before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Yom Hashoah Committee is co-chaired by Tara Cross and Ellen Dubie.

Anyone who can volunteer to drive people to the service, please contact Kelsey at the HRC Office, 716-634-9535 or kelsey@hrcbuffalo.org.



JCC ANNOUNCES NEW CULTURAL ARTS ALL ACCESS PASS, FREE WITH MITZVAH MEMBERSHIPS

The Jewish Community Center is now offering all members a new benefit – free access to cultural arts programs year round at the Mitzvah Membership level. “We wanted to give our Mitzvah Members something extra special to thank them for their extra support,” said Sharon Kostiner, JCC Membership Director.

**The exclusive JCC Cultural Arts
All Access Pass includes
free admission to:**

**Jewish Repertory Theatre of
Western New York** – award winning professional theatre, offering three productions each season plus panel discussions, staged readings and community programs (does not include gala event)

**Buffalo International Jewish Film
Festival** – a full week of award winning film screenings (18+) from around the world at the Amherst Dipson Theater, March, 2019

(does not include gala event)

JCC Book & Arts Fair – a month of author, film, artist and music events, June 2019

Family programs, all year round
Visit jccbuffalo.org for details

Attending all of these cultural arts events would come with ticket prices of more than \$360, so making the upgrade to the Mitzvah Membership level (\$1800 or \$150 per month) which comes with two All Access Pass at a value of \$720 is a great choice. To make the program even more attractive, JCC Cultural Arts passes may be gifted to others.

The JCC All Access Cultural Arts Pass is also available to members and non-members for \$360. It's a win-win way to support programming and services at your JCC, and enjoy or give others a wide range of high quality cultural programs all year round!

For more information about how to become a Mitzvah Member or purchase the JCC All Access Cultural Arts Pass, please contact Sharon Kostiner, Director of Membership at 204-2081.

HBLA Can Help With Holiday Expenses

“Let all who are hungry, come and eat!”

Soon Jews around the world will be reciting these words from the Passover Haggadah. As we prepare to celebrate this holiday of freedom, some of us may be wishing we could travel to be with friends or loved ones. Or perhaps we are looking forward to hosting guests or welcoming home family members to join us at our own seder table. Whether celebrating at home or away, coping with holiday-related expenses can be challenging.

For months the supermarket shelves have been stocked with the traditional (and not so traditional) foods of the holiday. The choices are extensive, but the grocery bills can be huge. If you find it challenging to absorb the added expenses that often come with this holiday, maybe we can help to reduce some of that stress. Whether for holiday travel or to stock your pantry, consider an interest-free loan from Buffalo's Free Loan Society – The Hebrew Benevolent Loan Association (HBLA).

For 120 years, the HBLA has been helping those who find themselves in need of a little extra financial boost for a wide variety of



reasons. At the HBLA, whatever the need, we pledge to treat all borrowers with dignity and confidentiality. Loans under \$1,000 do not even require a co-signer and can typically be facilitated very quickly.

Find out more about what we can offer, to apply for a loan, or to help others with a generous donation, check out our website at www.wnyhbla.org. The Board and officers of the HBLA wish the entire community a Happy Passover! Onward to our next 120 years!

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A glass of red wine and a plate of matzah on a white lace doily.

Seder Memories

Finding the afikomen. Hearing the four questions. Naming the ten plagues. Tasting the bitter herbs. Which is your favorite Seder memory? Which of our Jewish traditions, values or institutions do you cherish most?

When you leave a Jewish legacy, it's an enduring statement of what really matters to you. It keeps the Jewish community vibrant and strong. It will enrich and sustain Jewish life for generations to come.

To learn more about leaving a legacy and to arrange a personal and confidential consultation, contact Lynn Catalano, Co-Director & Director of Development at (716) 204-1133 or send an email to Lynn@jewishphilanthropies.org



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Ways to Engage the College Students at Your Seder Table

By Rabbi Sara Rich



Why is this night different from all other nights? Because you have a college student at your seder table! For college students, Passover is an opportunity to reconnect with family and friends. Although many students will stay on campus for the Seder (and we at Hillel love hosting students each year), many others will be returning home to the Seder traditions of their youth. For the students, the holiday always provides a welcomed break in the semester, and this is especially true this year when it falls a couple of weeks before the stressful final exam period.

While there are many fun resources available to engage young children in the Passover Seder, there is not much written about how to involve college students. Hillel of Buffalo is pleased to provide you with these ideas so that you can make the most of the presence of any college students with whom you might be sharing the Seder experience:

Here are some ideas:

Invite students ahead of time to bring an idea to share on a subject that is meaningful to them. It could be an

interesting article from class that relates to the themes of Passover (ie. an article from a sociology course about human trafficking or a history course about ancient Egypt), a favorite poem or song, or an idea they find online in one of the dozens of available commentaries on the Haggadah. The website www.myjewishlearning.com is a great place to start.

Ask them to make a dish to bring. College students are in a transitional age from teenager to adult, and this involves learning to cook for themselves for the first time. Give them a chance to practice making a

favorite family recipe or the new vegan chopped liver recipe that they discovered on Pinterest. They will feel a huge sense of accomplishment (or will learn a valuable cooking lesson). Not only that, but asking them to contribute teaches them the etiquette that you don't show up to a host's home empty-handed, and helps them feel like adults, not like children accompanying their parents.

The Seder is a time for asking questions. Here are some engaging questions for you to use to make conversation with students, beyond "How's class?" and "How's your roommate?"

- What are the big topics of conversation on your campus?
- What are some of the biggest student groups on campus? Why do you think they are so successful in attracting student participants?
- Who do you turn to when you have an academic challenge? A personal challenge?
- Do you prefer to study with friends or alone? Where are you

most productive? How do you deal with distractions?

- How does college compare to what you thought it would be like?
- What have you learned about yourself since starting college?
- Who is the person on campus that you find most interesting?
- How comfortable do you feel telling people on campus that you are Jewish? Have you had any experiences related to this that have surprised you?
- What is the Israel conversation like on campus? Is it very divisive, or relatively quiet?
- Do you have a mentor on campus who is helping you think about academics and your career path?
- What are the biggest challenges that college students face today? How is your university/college responding to these?

Have a sweet and joyful Passover! For more information about Passover Seders with Hillel of Buffalo, or for sponsorship opportunities, please look at page 29, and visit www.hillelofbuffalo.org.

Rabbi Sara Rich is the Executive Director of the Hillel of Buffalo

GORDON & GRETCHEN GROSS TO BE HONORED AT UB DEPARTMENT OF JEWISH THOUGHT GRADUATION AND AWARDS CELEBRATION, TUESDAY APRIL 30 AT 7 PM

By Professor Alex Green

The Department of Jewish Thought at the University at Buffalo invites the entire Buffalo community to celebrate our second annual "Department of Jewish Thought Graduation and Award Celebration." It will take place Tuesday, April 30 at 7 p.m. in the Samuel J. Friedman Library in 708 Clemens on the UB North Campus. We have four students graduating with a BA or Minor in Jewish Studies, three award winners and a number of freshmen from Jewish Studies classes who will present their research. Our four graduating students are Louis Eisenhauer (BA Jewish Studies), Justin Strudler (BA Psychology and Jewish Studies), Hannah Mechanic (BA Social Science Interdisciplinary BA with a concentration in Health and Human Services/Community Mental Health and Minor in Jewish Studies) and Collin Payne (BA History and Minor in Jewish Studies).

Our 3 award winners are Sofia Paulino, who is the winner of the Irving M. and Marilyn C. Shuman Scholarship; Leah Silverstein, who is the winner of the Harold J. and Arlene Levy Award; and Josh Dawson, who is the winner of the Ruth and Isidore Bob Fellowship. Many of our students will be speaking about their experiences in the department, how they came to Jewish Studies and

how their studies have come to play an influential role in their studies and career goals.

The evening will also honor Gordon and Gretchen Gross for their support in the founding of the Department of Jewish Thought. They helped fund the first endowed professorship in the Department, establishing the Gordon and Gretchen Gross Professorship in

Jewish Studies. They have also been major donors to UB's Law School and School of Dental Medicine.

Our keynote address will be given by Logan Woodard ('17) who graduated from UB with a BA in History and Minor in Jewish Studies. As a Senior, Logan served as the coordinator of Jewish Student Life at the University at Buffalo Hillel, and is currently Hillel's Ezra Fellow. Ezra Fellows work full-time engaging students in Jewish life by infusing Jewish knowledge into Hillel programs. The Fellowship provides up to three years of exclusive training in pluralistic Jewish education, including immersive Jewish learning, seminars in experiential Jewish education, and career coaching.

Dr. Green is Assistant Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Jewish Thought, SUNY-University at Buffalo

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Thank you for this act of loving kindness in support of JFS and its service to our community!

*Checks can be sent to Jewish Family Service, 70 Barker St., Buffalo, NY 14209
or a payment can be made online at www.jfsbuffalo.org*

Remembering Kevin Kulick 1950-2019

A Eulogy delivered by David Kulick 2/27/19

My father had an immense amount of fortitude and resolve. It was his greatest quality. He cared so deeply about his family and exercised such strength in trying to be the best husband and the best father he could be.

About a month ago, I wrote an e-mail to my dad. I was trying to motivate him as he felt despair in the course of his treatment. I said that I hope he can find the strength to continue with chemo if that is what he wants. I told him that my children, Ida-Rose and Sandy, will one day admire his strength.

I know It didn't need to be said, as our children and my niece and nephew will of course admire him and the stories about him. He put energy and attention into everything he did. He was such a dedicated learner, fascinated by so much in the world. Up until near the very end, he played the piano every day and still took lessons so that he could learn and grow. I would record him, likely without him knowing, so I could have those moments to look back on. What I hope we can all glean from that wonderful music is the story of his life- the life of a person who cherished living and wanted us, his children, to have the best and most meaningful lives we could live. He wanted my mom—his greatest love—to always have what she needed and to be happy. Even at the end he was worried about stopping chemo so he wouldn't disappoint us. He was even worried where he would spend his final days so my mom would be most comfortable. Not him. I know I'll always admire his strength. I hope we can all strive to do for others what he succeeded in doing...to care about family and to care about what's right. His moral compass was always at work.

I remember when I first went off to college- I went away to school. I had trouble adjusting, as many do, and I remember



Dr. Kevin B. Kulick

after a couple of weeks I asked to come home—it just seemed too hard. Dad came to get me. No questions. No guilt. He made me feel safe and loved. He was always there for his children.

I just recently learned from my dad that when Ben was in high school and had been grounded without access to a car, he still had to get to work. Ben took the bus. My dad followed the bus in his car, unbeknownst to Ben, just to make sure he was OK. He never stopped looking out for us even without us knowing it.

Beyond being a great model as a father, he was a great leader. He was a representative to the community both in the Jewish world and in his work. He was a great comfort to his patients, listening to them in a way that few did, and few do. He was an advocate to them and a great support. He knew about his patients' stories and looked for ways to help them beyond just the acute need. He was constantly learning and growing to be the best doctor and caretaker he could be. Growing up, our house was full of countless dermatology journals, as he carried the same intensity in learning to his practice and their care.

He cared deeply about the Jewish community as president of Kadimah School, president of the Jewish Federation, and also as president of the Jewish Community Center. He served on the board of his synagogue and was always available to help any community organization. He was a tireless community leader and set an example to us all about civic engagement and support to the world around us. Not only did he tirelessly build a Jewish community, but he also built a wonderful Jewish home. He and my mother created a weekly Shabbat dinner, which is a mainstay in my memory of the family and the warmth he built.

I think the most common story among those who knew him was his love of learning. He saw so much beauty in the world through his learning and interests. He was always reading

and growing. Anyone who knew him would be struck by his depth of knowledge. Not only for what he knew, but also for his constant inquisitiveness. He always wanted to learn and grow, and challenged us children to apply the same effort. I remember when we would have a question as children, and he would first challenge us to look up our question in the encyclopedia so we could learn and have that same passion he did.

Not only was he passionate about learning, but he was also very humble. I believe his humility towards learning from the world around him is what created such beauty. He played piano, practicing his scales and always taking lessons. Some of my most favorite memories as a small child are of my dad practicing piano with my grandfather. My father knew he could always grow.

People would often talk about my father's green thumb. If you saw his

garden, you would understand, as many of you here today have. I believe that this beautiful space was the result not of talent but of hard work, humility and a passion for learning. He strived to create a space that was beautiful for my mother, recognizing that garden was their respite. He would study plant books and read seed catalogues and even draw new garden and planting maps for the following year. The garden, I think, was an embodiment of him and what he brought to life—creating a space of beauty for those he most loved. This space was built for my mother, and shows his commitment to her.

Which brings me to the most important thing about my father—my mother. She was the love of his life, and everything he did was about her. He cared so much for her and about her. They have been an example to me and my wife, to Ben and Jessie, and to Abigail and Alex. They had the most remarkable love, and a relationship and devotion we can only aspire to.

There are so many stories we all have in how he was there to comfort us and show us what it means to be a good father, a good leader, and a good person.

My wife Laura said she spoke with him last week and he met with a rabbi in Phoenix who talked to him about leaving an ethical will—words and guidance for family on how to live. He was worried he wouldn't get it written in time. But Laura said that we all know it. I think anyone who knew him knows how his righteousness guided his life. He was my role model in humanity. Let his righteousness and strength continue forever to be an example to us all.

Each month we will feature a eulogy of a member of our own community who has recently died. Please contact Ellen Goldstein at ellen@buffalojewishfederation.org if you would like to share your words.

In Remembrance

The following people in our community passed away during the period from February 19 - March 18.* May their memories forever be a blessing, and may their loved ones be comforted among the mourners of Zion.

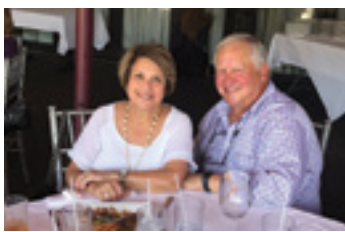
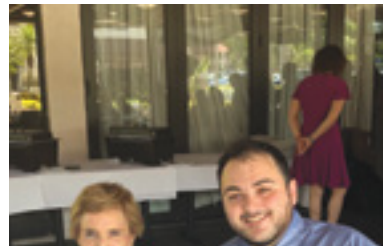


Dr. Marion Goldstein
Edith Greenberg
Dr. Kevin B. Kulick
Arthur Mesches
Marcia Roth
Robert Schwartz
Dr. Fred M. Silver
Dr. Gerald W. Silverman
Myriam Troy

**If we inadvertently missed printing the listing of your loved one, please write to ellen@buffalojewishfederation.org and we will include the name next month.*

Florida Visit

Buffalo Jewish Federation and the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies visited donors on both the East Coast (Boca) and West Coast (Sarasota) of Florida during March. The events provided an opportunity to share updates on Jewish Buffalo and a time to celebrate.



Western Galilee Visitors

Buffalo Jewish Federation hosted Western Galilee visionary, Yuval Hargil, owner and founder of Jullius Craft Distillery, the first of its kind in Israel, and Gil Klempert, Community Engagement and Education coordinator of Partnership2Gether Western Galilee. The highlight of their visit was Yuval's presentation and tasting of his special spirits, made entirely of fruits and herbs grown in the Western Galilee, held at the Buffalo Distilling Company. Yuval made a connection with the co-owner and distiller, Frank Weber, beginning a conversation about working together to develop a unique spirit as well as with Roy Bakos, the distillery's Director of Hospitality and Pleasure as they shared a common Polish heritage and love of Krupnik, a traditional Polish spirit distilled from honey! In addition to meeting with Federation staff, they toured both Buffalo and Niagara Falls, did a tasting with members of KOT and ended their visit with a stop at Premier, where Yuval envisioned his products being sold right here in Buffalo (It just may happen)!



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THE JEWISH JOURNAL
A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

Cherished Colleagues Sharing a Dream

By Rob Goldberg

My wife Shira and I are blessed with three extraordinary adult children – Noa, Elana and Ari. And, they all are blessed with loving spouses and incredible kids (I’m biased) and each are engaged in meaningful work. Last month, I had the privilege of being alongside Noa at the Prizmah Day School Conference in Atlanta. It was one of those “kvelling” moments.

We each came to the conference with our respective teams, mine from Jewish Buffalo and Noa’s from Los Angeles where she is the Assistant Principal of Brawerman Elementary School at the Wilshire Boulevard Temple. We both entered the conference venue with expectations. For Noa, it was embracing opportunities for growth in her school, to meet with her **You LEAD** cohort (Prizmah’s leadership development program that promotes professional growth) and to come home inspired to implement change at Brawerman. For me, it was the opportunity to bring a delegation of leaders, Jonathan

Epstein, Hallie Keren and Michal Lewis from Kadimah Academy and Kennedy Schultz from Park School, who are working passionately to build a new model of immersive Jewish education – a collaboration between our 60 year-old community day school and one the oldest progressive independent schools in the country (*you can read more about the new partnership on page 43*).

Noa and I left Atlanta brimming with possibility. She discovered new practical ways to design protocols around hiring and retaining exceptional teachers. I learned about the art of design theory and a way to inspire donors through



Noa Goldberg Grant and Rob Goldberg

giving circles. Noa loved connecting with her **You LEAD** colleagues and getting to know new fellow educators. I reconnected with dozens of former Hillel colleagues who are now working in the day school space.

One of the best reconnections on the first morning of the conference happened when I bumped into Emily Cook, a Washington University in St. Louis alumna who was a dynamic student leader when I served the University as its Hillel director. Noa was 11 we were living in Missouri. Fast forward 24 years... and Noa and Emily, now the Director of Curriculum and Instruction at the Perelman Jewish Day School in Philadelphia, spent hours in Atlanta deep in conversation. Noa told me that they bonded over similar experiences, including the challenge of leading two unique campuses under one system. I was overjoyed when Noa said to me: “I love my new colleague, Emily!”

I also left Atlanta hopeful, both about the state of the day school movement, but also about the new model Kadimah’s leadership are exploring with Park. We encountered so many attendees who wanted to learn more about our “lively experiment.” Save it to say, they were

impressed at our initial design and were taking note. In the end, we all felt validated that we are moving in the right direction, thinking boldly about a plan that will enable our Kadimah students to benefit from all that Park offers, along with ensuring they continue to have a deep Jewish education.

Atlanta was a shared experience for me and for Noa. We loved being travel buddies from riding a school bus to visit LabAtlanta on one of the designed field trips, talking shop during a session on professional development, and taking a breather at the hotel bar.

I loved being introduced as Noa’s Dad and I loved watching Noa in her element. She is widely respected in her school and throughout the Los Angeles day school community. I kvelled so much in Atlanta that my smile muscles ached!

Noa and I left the Prizmah Conference still just a Dad and his kid. But we also left as cherished colleagues daring to dream and bringing those dreams back to our home communities.

Rob Goldberg has been the CEO/ Executive Director of Buffalo Jewish Federation since 2015. He is a father of three and grandfather of six.

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