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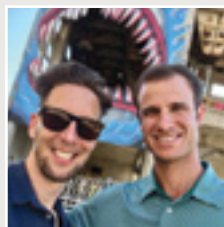
THE JEWISH JOURNAL

A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

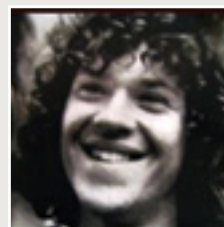
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SEPTEMBER 2019 | ELUL 5779 – TISHRI 5780

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ENGAGEMENT
(8-11)



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(30)



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September 2019

Editor's Note



Ellen Goldstein, Editor

September is here, and with it comes the beginning of a new Jewish year, 5780. Each fall at this time, we look back on the old year and look forward with hope for the new one. 5779 was a difficult year in the Jewish world. Anti-Semitism has once again become fashionable, together with racism, anti-immigrant sentiment and violence, hate, intolerance. And while these "isms" and ugliness are once again with us, it is important to note that we are not just passively watching them go by. Evidenced by JCRC Director Mara Koven-Gelman's stories on page 14, the Holocaust Resource Center's excellent teacher's education programs (page 50), the work of the synagogues and our national organizations like JFNA, JCPA and others, our Jewish community understands that NEVER AGAIN means NEVER AGAIN.

Which brings me to the cover story and the Federation's Campaign for Jewish Buffalo Kick-Off Event September 25. First, please read Federation CEO Rob Goldberg's overview on page 5 about why, during these difficult and increasingly perilous times, it not only okay to laugh, it's important to do so. Hence the Kick-Off Event featuring UB grad and comedy writer Alan Zweibel in conversation with Buffalo Funny Man Rob Lederman. Next, call Federation offices at 204-2241 or go online to www.buffalojewishfederation.org to purchase your tickets early—before September 9—for that evening as prices go up the next day.

Finally, read, then re-read Buffalo Jewish Federation President Leslie Shuman Kramer's message found on page 3. It's a transcendent work that carries us from her frightening bicycle accident and subsequent multiple broken bones this summer through her recovery and self-discovery using the Jewish tradition of Mussar she learned with Federation. Leslie's beautiful qualities of strength and perseverance shine through. And I am pleased to tell you that over the course of the summer, I saw her go from a wheelchair on the 4th of July, to standing up at a dinner in her own living room and ably welcoming her guests at a dinner for Federation Board members in mid-August.

Yes, there is a lot of work to do. That is why Federation is here to bring us together to do the work. But there is also so much for which to be grateful. And going into 5780, I'm counting my blessings. Shana tova umetukah from me and my family to you and yours.

Ellen Goldstein - Editor

On The Cover



A view of downtown Buffalo, whose reflection shimmers in the nearby boundary waters, invites us to think of all the possibilities we can create together in Jewish Buffalo. (Shutterstock photo)

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 President.....**Leslie Shuman Kramer**
 Editor, Public Relations Director.....**Ellen S. Goldstein**



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Approaching Challenges through a Jewish Lens

By Leslie Shuman Kramer

The morning after my bike accident in June, the doctor informed me that I would be “out of commission” for 6 weeks, that I would need to use a wheelchair, and would be spending time at a rehab facility before returning home. That was sobering news; how could it be me in this situation? Surely I would heal quickly and would be walking within days. The doctor had to be talking about one of his other patients.

But I was wrong.

Different from past injuries I’ve suffered, I would now be completely dependent on others for basic needs, and would refrain from any physical activity for many weeks. This was both a mentally and physically difficult adjustment. How, I wondered, do others do this?

As I grappled with my new reality, I tried to stay positive. I knew I would “fully recover” from my injuries, and was acutely aware that not everyone has that comfort as they recover from injury or illness. I knew that if I started feeling sorry for myself I would be sucked into a never ending dark hole of self pity that would be both terrible for me and those around me. So I tried—with the help of so, so many friends and family—to keep clear of the precipice. And ultimately it was our great tradition that provided me with wisdom and guidance on how I would endure and fully recover.

In the beginning, one rabbi told me that our forefathers and mothers



Leslie Shuman Kramer

probably wouldn’t have lived through the physical injuries I sustained. That certainly gave me perspective. Another gave me a copy of *Psalms* to read for comfort. Yet another emailed me links to YouTube videos of wonderful Jewish music meant to soothe and comfort me.

Their recommendations were helpful, but in the end, I found myself thinking deeply and often of the *Middot* - Jewish virtues or values - that we learn through the teachings of Mussar.

According to Alan Morinis, founder of the Mussar Institute and author of *Everyday Holiness*, Mussar is “most accurately described as a way of life. It shines light on the causes of suffering and shows us how to realize our highest spiritual potential, including an everyday

experience infused with happiness, trust, and love.”

In the Mussar class I took a number of years ago, I learned with a group of smart, interesting Buffalo women about approaching life through the lens of these *Middot*. This summer I found examples popping up almost daily as I traveled the road of recovery. Here are three examples of those *Middot*:

Humility- Recognizing that I was limited in my ability to function as usual, that I could not “do everything”. Mussar defines humility as “occupy(ing) a rightful space, neither too much nor too little. Focus(ing) neither on (my) own virtues nor the faults of others.” When one is infirmed, she cannot be entirely whole. There are parts of that person’s personality, talents and interests that shift to the back and new, less familiar traits emerge. Recognizing this and addressing the day to day challenges of recovery, rather than focusing on my “old self”, was the healthiest approach. I tried to focus on what I could do in the moment. Further, I accepted and became indebted to my family, friends and the numerous medical professionals and aides who I depended on to get through the early days.

Patience- “Impatience seldom makes things happen faster or better and usually only causes us grief,” suggests Alan Morinis “It’s like an inner blaze that burns us up without giving off any warmth.” Practicing patience is difficult any time, and being infirmed is surely a test. How much patience could I muster? And what about others

who are either infirm or otherwise set back? I was reminded that impatience brings no rewards, so I chose to practice patience—as best I could.

Gratitude- This was the first and most powerful *Middah*, one that was ever-present throughout my recovery. Mussar teaches us to “awaken to the good and give thanks.” How do infirm or injured people feel gratitude? And why should they? There is an ancient proverb that asks, “Who is rich” and the answer is “(S)He who rejoices in (her)his own lot.”

It is true that there is always more to have, better things, people who are happier-or healthier-than us. In our everyday life we are challenged to focus on what we have rather than what we don’t have. When we are vulnerable, gratitude is especially difficult. But I found comfort in focusing on all the good I have in my life. The outpouring of love and support from this community is something for which I will forever be grateful.

There are 48 *Middot* in total, and I have just listed three. I believe I would find each of them relevant to my life—whether now, in the past or in the future. In the Introduction to *Everyday Holiness*, Morinis reminds us that “life is set up so you will be challenged, and through the experiences you have dealing with the challenges, you will grow as a person”. No matter what the situation, we all have felt anger, hurt, frustration, envy or self pity. Turning to the *Middot* of Mussar really helped me out this summer, and I know I will be turning to them again as new challenges arise.

You can experience the fulfilling lessons of Mussar this fall, just like Leslie. See details on page 8 or contact Susan Schwartz at susan@buffalojewishfederation.org.



JEWISH BUFFALO 2020

HEADLINING



ALAN ZWEIBEL

Original Saturday Night Live
Writer and Best-Selling Author

ROB LEDERMAN



In Conversation with

FEATURING



NANCY FERNANDEZ

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Emerging Leadership Awardees



JAKE KATZ



CHARLES & PENNY
SHUMAN

Nathan Benderson
Community Service Award

2020 CAMPAIGN FOR JEWISH BUFFALO KICK-OFF EVENT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

5:30 PM Cocktails, Hors D'oeuvres & Dinner Stations | 7:00 PM Dessert & Sit-Down Program

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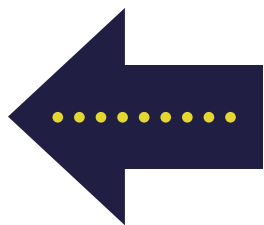
Dinner and drink stations will be available on the 2nd floor, with a NEW option to dine and schmooze at your assigned table in the ballroom. You can also visit with friends and enjoy the stations outside of the ballroom until 6:45 PM. Everyone will be seated for dessert and the program in the ballroom.

Couvert: \$80|person by 9.9.19 - \$95|person beginning 9.10.19
- Payment for dinner is not tax deductible -

RSVP <http://bit.ly/KICKOFF2020>

Dietary Laws will be observed under the supervision of the Buffalo Vaad HaKashrus
To attend, a primary individual minimum \$100 gift to the 2020 Annual Campaign is requested

BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION



What's So Funny About the Kick-Off?

By Rob Goldberg

My Mother-in-law Millie Ziller, of blessed memory, was witty and wise and always could make me laugh. One of her classics (which if you Google it is up there as one of the best "clean" Jewish one-liners) was her reply when you asked if she was comfortable: "I make a living," she would shrug with a grin.

Some argue that the origins of laughter as medicinal derive from the Book of Proverbs. In Chapter 17: 22 we read: "A joyous heart is a good medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones." Perhaps the most significant endorsement of laughter comes from the Torah when Abraham is informed that he and Sarah will have a child in their old age. The verse reads: "Abraham fell on his face and laughed..." (Gen 17:17). A few verses later when Sarah overheard the same news, she too "laughed within herself" (Gen 18:12).

"Laughter is one of life's greatest joys," writes author Richard Hawk. "Even during tragedies and emergencies, humor and its physical response – laughing – can ease tension. And when people laugh together, it strengthens their relationships and bond as a group."

The Jewish community world-wide has been under severe pressure since the end of October when 11 worshippers were senselessly murdered just 4 hours away at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life Synagogue. Anti-Semitism is on the rise; daily we read of swastikas painted on school walls, innocent Jews being attacked on the street, and threats made toward our Jewish institutions. Here in Jewish Buffalo, like in Jewish communities around North America, we've needed to raise necessary funds to "harden" our physical plants and train ourselves to be prepared for the worst. This is the world we now inhabit.

For this reason, we've chosen laughter as our theme when we gather on Wednesday, September 25th for the 2020 Campaign for Jewish Buffalo Kick Off. Alan Zweibel, one of the original writers of Saturday Night Live, will be joined by local comedian Rob Lederman to talk humor and to entertain us.

A University of Buffalo ('72) graduate, Alan Zweibel is a writer and producer, known for *It's Garry Shandling's Show*, the film *North* (1994) and Billy Crystal's *700 Sundays*. Zweibel is a board member of the National Comedy Center in Jamestown and his newest book, written with Dave Barry and Adam Mansbach, is a parody of the Haggadah called *For This We Left Egypt?*

We look forward to seeing you when we gather as a community later this month to celebrate with friends new and old, and for just a moment, amid all the worry that encircles us, laugh at ourselves and with each other, as we bask in the pride that is our Buffalo Jewish community.

Rob Goldberg is CEO of Buffalo Jewish Federation.

A message about El Paso and Dayton Shootings

Once again, we join with many Jewish and other communities to offer condolences to those impacted by the senseless acts of hate last month targeting innocents in El Paso, TX and Dayton, OH. Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council is passionately committed to continuing our work in building bridges with others to combat hate, anti-Semitism, and intolerance. While these incidents are mind and soul-numbing, we cannot be complacent. Let us remember the words of Elie Wiesel - "The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference. The opposite of art is not ugliness, it's indifference. The opposite of faith is not heresy, it's indifference. And the opposite of life is not death, it's indifference."

Follow the Buffalo JCRC Facebook page or email marab@buffalojewishfederation.org for upcoming opportunities to be engaged and make a difference in our society.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy new year



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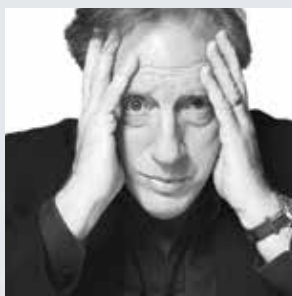


JEWISH BUFFALO CAMPAIGN

Alan Zweibel in Conversation with Rob Lederman

An original Saturday Night Live writer who the New York Times says has “earned a place in the pantheon of American Pop Culture,” comedian **Alan Zweibel** has won multiple Emmy, Writers Guild of America, and TV Critics awards for his work in television, including *It’s Garry Shandling’s Show* (which he co-created and produced), *Monk*, PBS’s *Great Performances*, and *Curb Your Enthusiasm*.

Alan is currently an executive producer on Showtime’s documentary series *Inside Comedy*, and recently released a Young Adult novel, *Benjamin Franklin: Huge Pain in My Ass* (Hyperion) that he co-wrote with Adam Mansbach and a new children’s book, *If Moses Drove a Bus*. A 1972 graduate from the University at Buffalo, Alan is most proud of the family he co-produced with his wife, Robin—their children Adam, Lindsay and Sari, and their grandchildren Zachary, Alexis, Jordan and Kylie.



Rob Lederman started his comedy career in 1985 working 40 weeks a year at Comedy Clubs from LA to New York. In 1987, Rob moved back to Buffalo to open what is now the longest running Comedy Club in WNY. Rob’s Comedy Playhouse has been providing top National Comics for the past 32 years and was named by USA Today as “One of the Top Ten Comedy Clubs in the country.”

Needing to keep his wit sharp, Rob signed on to co-host 97 Rock Morning Show in 1991, which is still to this day, one of the most popular radio shows in Buffalo. In 1997, Rob became a staff writer for David Letterman’s “World Wide Pant” production company. Over the years, Rob has been asked to perform with everyone from Don Rickles to Larry the Cable Guy. Rob’s has four national-selling comedy albums, which are regularly featured on Sirius XM and Comedy Central Radio.

In addition to his beautiful family, Rob is most proud of raising over \$800,000 for local charities and was recently named as Camp Good Days “Humanitarian of the Year.”



Shumans Honored with Benderson Award

Penny and Charlie Shuman, passionate and committed philanthropists in Buffalo’s Jewish Community for more than 50 years, will receive the prestigious Nathan Benderson Community Service Award at the Buffalo Jewish Federation’s Campaign for Jewish Buffalo Kick-Off Community Event Wednesday, September 25th.

The Benderson Award is given to leaders whose extraordinary service and commitment to the Buffalo Jewish community exemplify the leadership of Nathan Benderson. “We are particularly proud to receive this award in honor of Nate Benderson as he did so much for the community; it’s so meaningful to us to be a part of his legacy,” noted Penny Shuman.

Involvement in Jewish life and giving back was modeled for both Charlie and Penny at an early age. Charlie’s father, Peretz, served on the board of the local *Chevra Kadisha* (Burial Society) and his mother, Chaika, was a leader in Pioneer Women, a national Zionist Organization. “I learned the lessons of *tzedekah* not only from my parents, but even earlier from my grandmother, who left food for the poor in their shtetl in Sokolivka.”

Penny and Charlie are pillars of Jewish Buffalo, having invested significantly in Israel and Jewish education. Early supporters of Kadimah Academy, the Shumans also partnered with Arthur and Susan Gellman to create the Ohr Temimin School. The Shumans have also been ardent supporters of Chabad not only in Buffalo, but nationally, and



at Chautauqua where they have summered for decades. Additionally, they invest in the work of Aish Hatorah and countless other Jewish and secular institutions that benefit the greater community. “We are grateful to Federation for honoring us,” said Charlie. “We feel blessed by God to have the opportunity to give to the Jewish community and are proud that our children are following in our footsteps.”

The Shumans have three sons, Kenneth, Robert, and Daniel, and are blessed with a large family that includes eight grandchildren. “We raised our kids showing them that we give charity and explaining to them why we do it,” added Penny. Ken shared that his parents were always leading with their actions to back up their words. “When we were young, I recall them leaving home after dinner, or arriving later

in the evening due to ‘community obligations’. As kids, we didn’t know exactly what these meetings were about, but they always seemed to carry a significant gravitas about them. And, conversations at the table were about volunteering to help our ‘community’, helping those individuals in need – typically through agencies, shul, or anonymously to best preserve the recipients reputation.”

In reflecting on the role modeling of his parents, Daniel underscored his father’s determination when inviting others to give: “When my father would raise money for organizations and people would tell him they don’t want to give because they don’t agree with something the organization did, my father would say: ‘Do you agree with everything your children do? Yet you support them regardless. You should support the organization as well even if you do!’ That really stuck with me.”

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

KICK-OFF 2020 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

HYATT REGENCY BUFFALO

5:30 p.m. Cocktails & Dinner Stations

7:00 p.m. Dessert & Sit-Down Program

Dinner and drink stations will be available on the 2nd floor, with a NEW option to dine and schmooze at your assigned table in the ballroom.

You can also visit with friends and enjoy the stations outside of the ballroom until 6:45 p.m.

Everyone will be seated for dessert and the program in the ballroom.

VALET PARKING AVAILABLE

Dinner is: \$80/person by 9/9/19 • \$95/ person beginning 9/10/19

RSVP to www.buffalojewishfederation.org

Dietary laws will be observed under the supervision of the Buffalo Vaad HaKashrus.

To attend, a primary individual minimum \$100 gift to the 2020 Annual Campaign is requested.

Hadar Borden, Jake Katz are Emerging Leaders

Hadar Borden and Jake Katz will be honored as the 2019 Emerging Leadership Award Winners at the Federation's Campaign for Jewish Buffalo Kick-Off.

Hadar Borden is the Ruth and Milton Kahn Emerging Leadership Award Winner. She is the director of the University at Buffalo's Blackstone LaunchPad powered by Techstars, a campus-based entrepreneurship program. Hadar serves as the director of the WNY Prosperity Fellowship Program, a leadership development program that seeks to recruit and retain entrepreneurial-minded students to contribute to economic development in Western New York. Prior to her current roles, Hadar served for eight years as the administrative director of the University at Buffalo's Undergraduate Academies, the collaborative, interdisciplinary living-and-learning communities for undergraduates. She was formerly the assistant administrative director of the University Honors College and before that served as an assistant director in the Office of Admissions.

A University at Buffalo alumna, Hadar holds a bachelor's and master's degree



in geography with a concentration in international business and world trade. In 2012, Hadar was awarded the State University of New York Chancellor's Award in Professional Service in recognition of her professional accomplishments.

A mother of two young sons, she is married to David Borden (UB BS '97, MBA '01) and resides in Amherst. Hadar also engages in her community as a member of the Junior League of Buffalo, where she collaborates and innovates with a group of inspiring, accomplished women dedicated to volunteerism.



She has served as a commissioner on the Erie County Commission on the Status of Women; currently serves as a board member with the Amherst Industrial Development Agency and Town of Amherst Development Corporation, is a trustee on the board of the Buffalo Jewish Federation; contributes to The Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning; is a member of the board of Explore Buffalo, The Tool Library, and Hillel of Buffalo, and was recognized by *Buffalo Business First* as a member of the 2013 Class of Forty under 40.

Jake Katz is the Dr. Meyer and

Ann S. Riwehchun Emerging Leadership Award Winner. He attended Kadimah Academy for elementary and middle school and then went to Williamsville North for high school. Jake graduated from Binghamton University with a degree in Chemistry, and played Varsity golf for four years, breaking the school's all-time scoring record and was twice an Academic All-American.

After college, Jake moved to Florida to become a professional golfer, and after playing for three years, he decided to move back to Buffalo to join Scheff Thompson Cress Investment Group as a Financial Planner. Jake is a member of the Federation's Board of Governors, serves on Federation's Overseas Allocations Committee, and is Co-President of Nickel City Jews. Jake has grown up attending services at both Temple Beth Tzedek and Congregation Havurah and credits his parents Susan and Jeff Katz, his grandparents Judy and Len Katz, and Helene and Dr. Russell Seidner for instilling in him a philanthropic and community involvement that he finds both rewarding and meaningful.

The Center for Jewish ENGAGEMENT & LEARNING

powered by the
BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION

VISION

All Jews, their friends and partners of other faiths, and those exploring Judaism, have access to Jewish living and learning experiences that help them thrive.

MISSION

The Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning:

1. Engages and nurtures relationships with and among families and individuals at all stages of life;
2. Creates opportunities for meaningful and relevant Jewish exploration and learning; and
3. Supports and amplifies the work of synagogues and partner organizations.

CORE VALUES

Several core Jewish values underpin our mission and are central to activating our vision:



HAZON - VISION & INNOVATION

We are forward thinking and believe that Jewish living and learning can happen both inside of and outside of institutions. We facilitate new kinds of Jewish experiences; our work is iterative and continually improving.



ANAVAH - HUMILITY

We focus on building relationships and creating shared Jewish experiences that build and deepen connections.



SAKRANUT - CURIOSITY

We encourage anyone to ask questions, explore, and seek depth and meaning in their Jewishness.



BTZELEM ELOKIM - CREATED WITH THE SPARK OF THE DIVINE

We believe that everyone has something of value to contribute and everyone has a right to belong. We are inclusive of those raised inside Jewish community, those raised completely without Jewish community, individuals who are Jew-adjacent, and inclusive of all abilities, gender identities and sexual orientations.

ADULT ENGAGEMENT AND LEARNING

The Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning offers learning experiences for adults at all stages of life and all levels of Jewish connection/knowledge including Hebrew classes, Intro to Judaism, Mussar cohorts, and Wise Aging groups.

PROGRAMS

Mussar, Mussar, Mussar

Mussar is a Jewish spiritual practice that offers tools for living a more balanced and meaningful life. Mussar involves studying Jewish texts, meeting with a small group of peers, and engaging in personal practices and exercises. Email Susan Schwartz to find a Mussar cohort that's right for you!



Middah of the Season

October 27, January 19,

March 20 & June 14 1-4 p.m.

UB Hillel of Buffalo | 520 Lee Rd Suite 101B, Amherst

Living a Jewish Year

Sunday afternoons once a month,
beginning October 6th

This year-long program is designed for Intro to Judaism graduates from the past 5 years. Living A Jewish Year uses a Mussar curriculum and celebration of Jewish time/holidays/festivals to help individuals and families integrate Judaism into the natural rhythms of their lives. FREE thanks to generous donors.

Wise Aging

Wise Aging is a self-guided discussion group that focuses on using and celebrating our collected wisdom and experiences through a Jewish context. Topics such as Exploring and Embracing Life Stories, Cultivating Nourishing Relationships, Forgiveness and Reconciliation, and Living with Loss are covered. We are launching a new cohort (#3) of Wise Aging in Buffalo. FREE.

We are also offering Beginning Hebrew, Intermediate Hebrew and Introduction to Jewish Living classes. **To register, go to buffalojewishfederation.org/register.**

CONNECT/RSVP/QUESTIONS

Susan Schwartz, email susan@buffalojewishfederation.org

NICKEL CITY JEWS



Nickel City Jews is a platform for engaging with individuals and weaving networks of adults age 21 through early 40s. Attend large events, host or attend mini-events, or connect one-on-one to build a personal network.

Sukkot Shabbat

Friday, October 18th Times vary based on hosts.
Interested in hosting a Shabbat meal?

Mussar: A Jewish Toolbox for Life

Thursdays, 7- 8:30 p.m. JCC, 2640 North Forest Road
October 24, November 7 & 21,
December 5 & 19, 2019 January 9 & 23, 2020
FREE - thanks to generous donors.



NCJ Hanukkah Party SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, December 14.

Stay tuned for more information

QUESTIONS/INFO? Contact nicole@buffalojewishfederation.org

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

PJ LIBRARY/PJ OUR WAY



PJ Library® encourages Jewish families with young children to explore Jewish literature by sending a book infused with Jewish content each month. PJ Our Way is the next chapter of PJ Library, for kids ages 8 1/2-11. Through our gatherings, we connect with young families raising Jewish children in Buffalo and build relationships, friendships and share meaningful Jewish experiences together.

PROGRAMS

My Grown Up & Me Storytime

Sundays 10–11 a.m.

October 13th – Whole Foods

November 3rd – Holland JCC Indoor Playground

FREE; no registration required

Pre-Rosh Hashana Apple Picking @ Blackman Homestead Farm

Sunday, September 22nd 12 noon–2 p.m.

Pick, prep, play – in anticipation of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year!

FREE; RSVP to Nicole Bard

Living a Jewish Year

Sunday afternoons once a month,

beginning October 6th

This year-long program is designed for families of

multiple faiths, with children ages 3-7. **Living A Jewish Year** uses a Mussar curriculum and the Jewish Calendar to help families integrate Judaism into the natural rhythms of their lives. FREE thanks to generous donors; register with Nicole Bard

PJ Library Tot Shabbat

Fridays 5:45–6:45 p.m.

September 13th – Congregation Shir Shalom

October 18th – Temple Beth Zion/PALS

November 8th – Congregation Beth Abraham

FREE; no registration required

Pre-Hanukkah Party

Event for PJ Library and PJ Our Way families!

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, December 15th

CONNECT/RSVP/QUESTIONS Nicole Bard, nicole@buffalojewishfederation.org

INCLUSION- YAD B'YAD AND JEWISH PRIDE OF BUFFALO

We are committed to the value of inclusion and the philosophy that everyone has something of value to contribute and that everyone has a right to belong. Yad B'Yad strives to support people with disabilities (and their friends and family members) achieve meaningful participation in Jewish living and learning experiences in Buffalo. Jewish Pride of Buffalo brings together the Jewish LGBTQ+ community of Buffalo for Pride and to work for full equality in Jewish life.



Miriam's Well Sukkah Building

Sunday, October 13 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Once again we will be collaborating with Hillel of Buffalo and Congregation Shir Shalom to build a Sukkah with our friends who reside at the Jewish Women's Group Home.

RSVP/QUESTIONS

Contact Yonina,

bflogalagain@gmail.com.



The Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning strives to make sure that our programs are accessible to and inclusive of everyone. **If you have questions, or you/someone in your family needs special accommodations to participate in a Jewish Living or Learning Experience, please contact Mike at mike@buffalojewishfederation.org.**

LGBTQ+ & Ally: Coffee and Conversation

Sunday, September 22, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Join us for a relaxed evening of conversation, coffee and an exploration of Jewish texts and the notion of in-between spaces.

OUR TEAM



Miriam Abramovich

Director, Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning

Miriam's professional passion is engaging with individuals and finding ways to help them access Jewish tradition, Jewish values, and

Jewish time - in powerful and transformative ways. When not in the office, you can find Miriam with her kids, at the gym, baking or traveling.

miriam@buffalojewishfederation.org



Susan Schwartz

Director, Adult Engagement and Learning

Susan is a master Jewish educator who finds great joy in learning about people's personal Jewish stories, and facilitating connections with

others who share similar interests. When not in the office, you can find Susan with her grandchildren, with her guitar leading Shabbat services, or on a kayak exploring the inner harbor.

susan@buffalojewishfederation.org



Nicole Bard

Director, Young Adult and Young Family Engagement

Nicole is deeply committed to building meaningful relationships that pivot around Judaism with both young adults and families with young children. Nicole can often be found exploring the Buffalo food scene, in a ceramics studio, or spending time in her garden.

nicole@buffalojewishfederation.org



Mike Steklof

Director, Teen Engagement and Inclusion

Mike has spent the past seven years empowering teens and deepening their connections to Judaism. He is energized by helping teens develop their

own Jewish identities and creating space for all to be included in our Jewish community. Outside of the office, Mike can be found cooking, running or exploring the outdoors.

mike@buffalojewishfederation.org

NEW TEEN INITIATIVE
Turn the page

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www.buffalojewishfederation.org/engagementandlearning

MEET MIKE STEKLOF, Director of Teen Engagement and Inclusion

Mike Steklof, a Rochester native, is excited to join the Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning as the Director of Teen Engagement and Inclusion. Previously, he served as the Regional Director of BBYO: Ohio Northern Region; as the Assistant Director of Camping and Youth Services at the Louisville JCC; as the Program Director of Camp Livingston; Assistant Program Director of URJ Camp George in Ontario; as Youth Advisor for Lev/Ruach Tzafon (USY), and Youth Advisor for FEISTY (NFTY).

Mike has a Bachelor's in History and Master's in Women's Studies from the University at Albany,



SUNY and a Master's in Education from Gratz College. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Education from Gratz College

and is exploring how gender is transmitted through Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Jewish life. Mike is a graduate of the ninth cohort of the Jewish Community Centers of North America's Merrin Teen Professional Fellowship. He works every day to empower teens, deepen their Jewish identities and ensure all are included in our community. For fun, Mike enjoys cooking, reading and long-distance running. You can email him at mike@buffalojewishfederation.org. He would love to get coffee with you!



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BUFFALO JEWISH TEEN INITIATIVE (JTI)

In the fall of 2019, the Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning will launch Buffalo Jewish Teen Initiative (JTI). JTI will offer a series of new Jewish living and learning opportunities to help Buffalo's teens authentically encounter Judaism. Experiences will be designed so that Jewish teens can build their knowledge, self-esteem, leadership and life skills, and shape their identity.

The Buffalo Jewish Leadership Fellowship

This is a program of JTI. The fellowship invests in the future leaders of the Buffalo Jewish community through an experiential cohort based 9-month leadership program for teens in grades 10, 11 and 12. Fellows will meet monthly to explore Buffalo, their connection to Judaism through thought partnership discussions, practice Jewish values through Mussar, engage and enrich their community.

Opening Retreat held October 26-27

Sunday Afternoons:

November 17, December 15, January 19,

February 9, March 22, April 19,

May 17, June 14

Celebration of Learning/Graduation held June 18

FEE: \$540, scholarships are available.

Program application due by September 23, 2019.



Mussar: Challenges and Choices: A Jewish Teen's Guide to a Balanced Life

Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8 p.m.

October 23 & 30,

November 6, 13 & 20,

December 4, 11 & 18, 2019

JCC, 2640 North Forest Road

Through text study and a hands-on, creative and interactive atmosphere teens will explore age appropriate issues through a Jewish lens with an eye to developing strategies to make the best choices, informed by Jewish wisdom. This program is designed for teens in grades 8 and 9.

Cost: FREE, thanks to generous donors.

More programs and information about the new Buffalo Jewish Teen Initiative (JTI) will roll out in the coming months.

LEARN MORE/CONNECT/REGISTER

Mike Steklof,

mike@buffalojewishfederation.org



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“Jewish Life in Poland” Photo Show at Daemen

The Elizabeth C. and Peter Tower Gallery at Daemen College will host the American Premier of the photography exhibit, “Re-generation: Jewish Life in Poland,” featuring photos of Chuck Fishman. The extensive exhibit documents the rebirth of Jewish life in Poland featuring photos which span 43 years beginning in 1975. It provides one of the most comprehensive records of European Jewry of the last 50 years, and shows the enormous impact the 1989 rise of the Third Polish Republic had on the revival of Jewish communities and the revival of the consciousness of history among the wider community in Poland. Once home to the largest Jewish community in Europe, Germany’s 1939 invasion and Hitler’s Final Solution destroyed the multi-ethnic population and rich Jewish culture Poland once knew. Home to Jews for a thousand years, the vestiges of Jewish life and culture were virtually obliterated.

Ruth Ellen Gruber, journalist, author and researcher, notes that Mr. Fishman set out in the 1970s and 80s to capture the “final chapter” of this storied 1000 year history and has joyfully failed, as he is “now chronicling an expanding, multi-faceted and ever-unfolding story - and long may he do so!”

Western New York is privileged to have the opportunity to view the exhibit which will be on display from September 12 - October 11, 2019 at the Daemen College Gallery. A preview documentary, *Bogdan’s Journey*, about one man’s effort toward healing the wounds of the 1946 Kielce Pogrom, will be shown on Monday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m. at the Maxine and Robert Seller Theater located in the JCC Benderson Family Building in Getzville. An opening reception for the exhibit will be held on September 12th from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m at the Gallery located in the Haberman Gacioch Center for the Visual and Performing Arts at 4380 Main Street in Amherst.

On September 13th at 1:00 p.m. Daemen’s Wick Alumni Lounge will be the site of a panel discussion with guest panelists Jakub Nowakowski, Executive Director of the Galicia Jewish Museum in Krakow who coordinated the exhibit’s visit to the United States, Dr. Sean Martin, the Associate Curator for Jewish History at Western



Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland, and others.

A screening of the documentary, *A Town Called Brzostek*, about the restoration of the Jewish Cemetery there, will begin the event. An additional documentary, *The Return*, about being young and Jewish in Poland today, will be screened on September 17th at 7:00 p.m. at the Research and Information Commons 120 on the Daemen Campus. The exhibit and events surrounding it are free and open to the public. Regular gallery hours are 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday with additional hours for the opening and the September 17th event.

After its Buffalo premier, the exhibit will travel to Georgetown University. This project is co-financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland as a part of the “Public Diplomacy 2019” program and is made possible by the Galicia Jewish Museum, as well as sponsorships from the Visual and Performing Arts Department at Daemen College, the Center for Polish Studies and the History & Political Science Department at Daemen College, the Permanent Chair of Polish Culture at Canisius College, the Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo, and the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo.

For information on events regarding this exhibit and gallery hours, please visit www.jccbuffalo.org or <https://www.daemen.edu/academics/areas-study/visual-and-performing-arts/gallery-events>

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Website Makeover



The Buffalo Jewish Federation's website had a makeover this summer to give it a fresh, modern and cleaner look. Visitors to the page will find a simpler layout with easier access to all things Jewish Buffalo, including an interactive community calendar and past issues of the *Jewish Journal of WNY*. More updates and additions are in the works, so keep visiting www.buffalojewishfederation.org!

HADASSAH PRESENTS MIRIAM PERETZ

An Israeli educator who lost two sons during their army service, Miriam lectures around the world on Zionism and living with loss.

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Miriam's story is now a book by Smadar Shir. Limited copies will be available at the event for a discounted price of \$18.

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Jewish Community Relations Council

By Mara Koven-Gelman



Multicultural Women's Group

The theme of a recent JCRC supported-Multicultural Women's Group was "weddings." Members are seen here with their wedding photos and invitations. The range of cultures and religions included at this summer meeting included, Jewish (American, Canadian) Muslim (Iraq and Turkey), Christian, Buddhist (Burma and China), Christian (American). Members brought vegetarian version of their culture's food to share, and in a brief two hour period, these friends learned about unique wedding customs (henna), clothing (red in China), foods and the role of family members.



Outreach to Schools

JCRC's co-chair Nina Lukin, Executive Director Mara Koven-Gelman and Holocaust Resource Center's Executive Director Elizabeth Schram met with assistant superintendent of Orchard Park Central School District (OPCSD) Dr. Lisa Kruger (with teacher representatives and all principals) to share and discuss innovative curriculum resources to address a recent anti-Semitic language incident in Orchard Park. The group also discussed hiring, teacher development, approaches to alternate discipline techniques and creation of a diversity council. The OPCSD has strong character curriculum in place and educators were very open to the shared ideas and continuing the dialogue. Future conversations are being planned.

*If you want to get learn more or get involved:
www.census.gov or contact mara@buffalojewishfederation.org.*

Census Count 2020

April 1, 2020 is the next American Census Day. JCRC is helping to support the NY State Complete Count Commission and our community partners to collect the biggest census count possible. Why? The census is a constitutionally-mandated count of every American, regardless of their citizenship status. The decennial (every ten years) census is one of the nation's most important programs. More than \$800 million in federal funds will be allocated based on the census. Programs affected include:

Healthcare (Medicare/Medicaid)

Education (Head Start, school lunches, elementary/secondary schools, Pell Grants for college, Special Ed)

Housing (Section 8 rental housing assistance)

Local government (representation)

Manufacturing small business and neighborhood block grants

Transportation (Highway planning and construction)

Financial support (assistance checks/childcare, food support such as SNAP)

The Census also impacts Congressional representation. Residents of New York State who have historically been undercounted include young children, those living in poverty, immigrants, those in dense urban settings and very rural locations and people of color. JCRC recently attended a Census workshop by Partnership for Public Good.

Mara Koven-Gelman is Director of the JCRC.



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All about *IZZY!*

by Grant Golden

Q: What is *IZZY!*?

A: *IZZY!* is an original musical comedy, a spoof of composer salutes, and the “little theatre” companies that often staged them. *IZZY!* first hit the boards in Buffalo in 1996, at the Calumet Arts Café; it was revised and remounted at Muscalfare Theatre in 2001. A newly revised version will open the New Phoenix Repertory Theatre’s 25th Anniversary season. It will be playing Thursday through Saturday nights, September 20th to October 19th.

Q: Who is responsible?

A: The book is by Buffalo radio legend Jim Santella. The music and lyrics are by yours truly. The present version is closer to the 1996 original, using three men and just one woman. Plus the pianist.

Q: And why are you bringing back this old warhorse?

A: You know what they say—third time a charm! Besides, nobody has seen *IZZY!* in eighteen years. We thought that it was “chai” time for one last revival!

Q: Can you give me a real short synopsis?

A: Sure. Mid ‘80’s. The Golden Tones, a second rate musical theater group that has put on a great many salutes to famous Broadway composers, has discovered someone new and exciting: Izzy Freel—a golden-age immigrant songwriter in the mold of Irving Berlin. They tell Izzy’s story, sing his songs, and recount his many flops, clearly taken by this “almost-legend” of the American musical theater. Ultimately, it’s all about what it means to be a success in life, a subject that so many of us grapple with...

Q: Sounds promising. Who’s doing what this time out?

A: Richard Lambert, the Artistic Director of the New Phoenix, is directing. The newest Golden Tones are: Chuck Basil, Nathan Miller, Brett Klaczyk, and Renee Landrigan. Donald Jenczka is back behind the piano (third time!) as the Golden Tones’ music man, Father Joe Pat. He is also the Music Director. Choreography is by Jenny McCabe.

Q: Pardon the pun (it’s yours after all), but, Izzy Freel?

A: Theatregoers will have to make up their own minds. He certainly is for me!

Q: And there’s Jewish content?

A: Quite a lot, actually. You don’t need to be Jewish to enjoy *IZZY!*, but it’s helpful.

Q: OK, I’m sold. How do I make a reservation?

A: Call the New Phoenix at 853-1334. Tell them Izzy sent you...

Grant Golden is a local physician and playwright.

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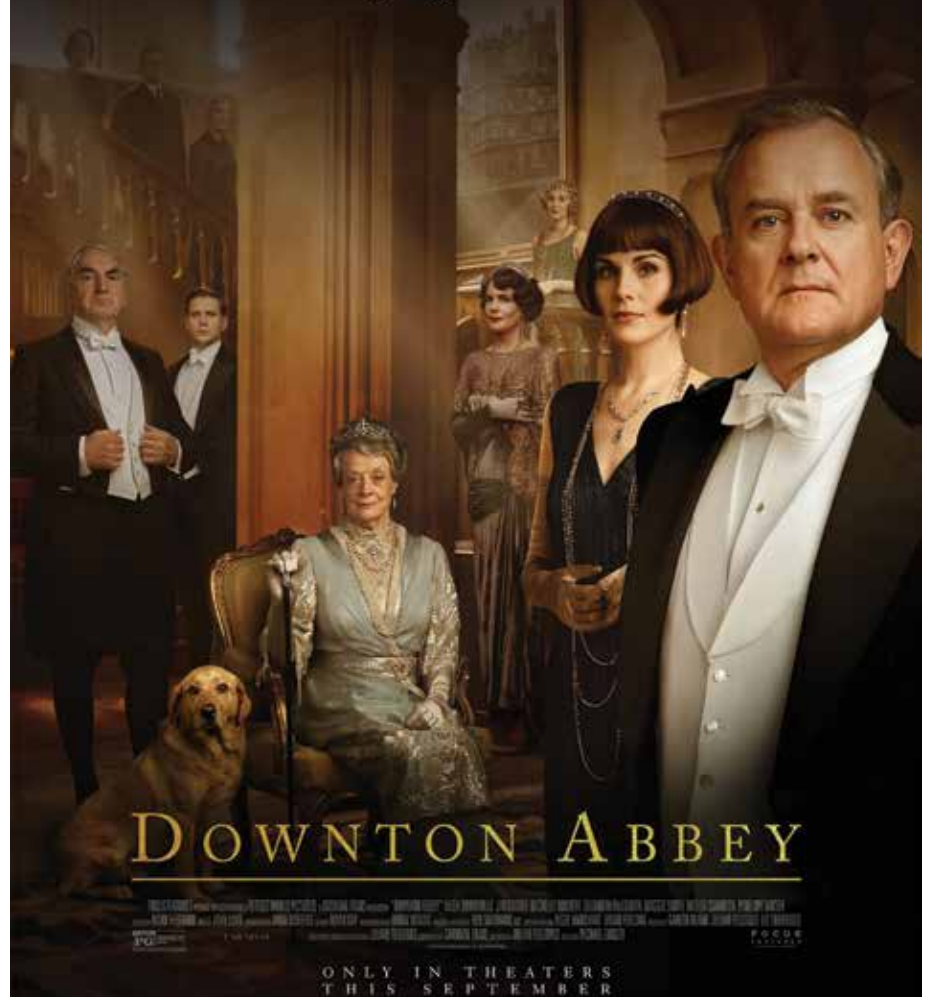
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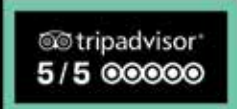






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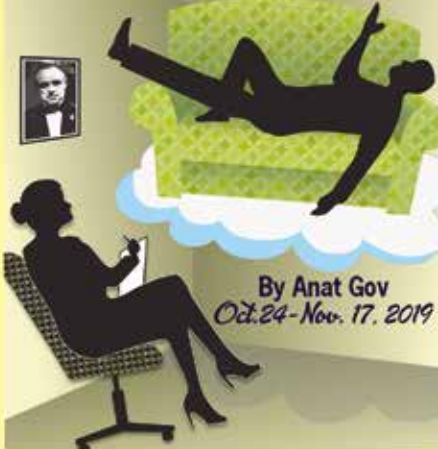
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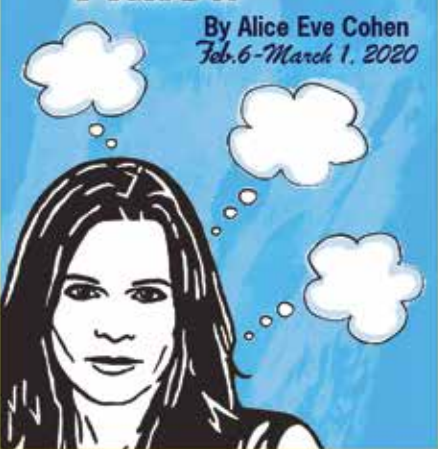
JEWISH REPERTORY THEATRE

Oh My God!




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What I Thought I Knew



By Alice Eve Cohen
Feb. 6 - March 1, 2020



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Special Events

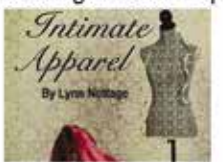
JRT's 17th season kick-off fundraiser

The Skiffle Minstrels

Country & Western Swing

Monday, September 16, 6:00-9:00pm
Sportsmen's Tavern, 326 Amherst Street
\$10 cover

Staged reading performed by
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Sunday, October 13, 2:00pm
JCC Holland Family Building, 787 Delaware Avenue
Free event, donations welcome

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7:30PM - KENMORE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20
3:00PM - ORCHARD PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7
7:30PM - NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
3:00PM - UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF BUFFALO

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13
7:30PM - ORCHARD PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SEX



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2020
9:00PM - VALENTINE CABARET HAMLIN HOUSE

PROUD



FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2020
7:30PM - THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2020
7:30PM - WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Hillel of Buffalo and Nickel City Jews are excited to collaborate for High Holiday Services 2019. This dynamic group will gather students, young professionals and community members together to bring in the new year. No tickets are required.

Rosh HaShanah Day 1

Sunday 9/29 at 6:30 pm
Monday 9/30 at 9:00 am

Rosh HaShanah Day 2

Student Community Experience Off-Campus

Kol Nidre

Tuesday 10/8 at 6:30 pm

Yom Kippur

Wednesday 10/9 at 9:00 am
Wednesday 10/9 at 5:30 pm

All High Holiday Festivities will take place in The Landmark Room (Student Union 210).

**Hillel
of Buffalo**

For more information,
please contact

Rabbi Sara Rich
rabbisara@hillelofbuffalo.org

Nicole Bard
nicole@buffalojewishfederation.org



September 2

Labor Day celebrated in the US.
Most schools and offices closed

September 5

Opening of Larry Ross' Photo
Show "Images from Near and Far"
5:30-7:30 p.m.
JCC Holland Building

September 8

Opening of Photo Show
"A Peaceful Path"
2:00-4:00 p.m.
JCC Benderson Building

September 10

"Klezmer Meets Classical" Concert
7:00 p.m.
JCC/Seller Theatre
\$18 adults/\$12 students

September 11

Hadassah Presents Miriam Peretz
4:00-6:00 p.m.
JCC/Seller Theatre
FREE. Reservations recommended.
204-2242

September 12

Opening of Photo Show
"Re-Generation:
Jewish Life in Poland"
5:00- 7:00 p.m.
Daemen College
4380 Main Street

September 13

Tot Shabbat
5:45 p.m.
Congregation Shir Shalom
Contact
Nicole@buffalojewishfederation.org

September 15

Buffalo Jewish Service Corps
CPR Class
9:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.
FREE
Temple Beth Tzedek,
1641 N. Forest
RSVP
joan@buffalojewishfederation.org

September 22

Ruach Buffalo-Jewish
Community Choir
11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
TBZ, 700 Sweet Home Rd.
Contact Kathy Ellis,
kkeedd2156@yshoo.com

PJ Library Families
Pre-Rosh Hashanah Apple Picking
12:00 noon- 2:00 pm
Blackman Homestead Farm
4472 Thrall Road, Lockport
Contact
Nicole@buffalojewishfederation.org

September 25

Campaign for Jewish Buffalo
Kick Off Event
5:30 p.m.
Hyatt Regency Hotel
\$80 by 9/9/19; \$95 beginning
9/10/19
RSVP 204-2242 or
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September 29

Erev Rosh Hashanah
The New Year begins at sundown

September 30

Rosh Hashanah

October 1

Rosh Hashanah

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5 THINGS YOU CAN DO in September to Repair the World

- 1» Fight back against this disease of aging! **Walk to End Alzheimer's Saturday, September 14 10:15 a.m.** Join with the other walkers and leave from Buffalo Outer Harbor. **For more information, contact Lauren Klenosky at 241-0355 or lklenosky@alz.org.**
- 2» **Moving Day for Parkinson's is September 21.** This fundraising walk for the WNY Chapter of the WNY Parkinson's Foundation takes place at Erie Community College- North and registration begins at 9:00 a.m. with the ceremony and Walk at 11:00 a.m. **Register at www.movingdaywalk.org or call Chris Jemele at 449-3795.**
- 3» **Don't miss the Kick-Off of the Campaign for Jewish Buffalo!** Join members of your Jewish Community Wednesday, September 25 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Buffalo Hyatt Hotel for the Kick-Off Event of the Campaign for Jewish Buffalo, featuring comedian Alan Zweibel in conversation with Rob Lederman. **To register go to www.buffalojewishfederation.org or call 716-204-2241.**
- 4» **It's a mitzvah to remember your loved ones**—your parents and grandparents who are no longer living before Rosh Hashanah. Make a donation in their memory to the Jewish Federation Cemetery Corporation. **Go to www.buffalojewishfederation.org and click on "Donate."**
- 5» The High Holy Days are coming up quickly. **Enable those less fortunate to be able to celebrate by donating canned good and food to the Town Square Food Pantry at Weinberg Campus.** It is open Tuesday mornings and Friday mornings and you can drop off your food, personal items like toothpaste, soap, shampoo or other goods! Or take them to Temple Beth Zion Broder Center, where they will then be delivered to Town Square.

WHERE IN JBFLO?



Where is this found in WNY?

The first 5 people to correctly identify the location will win **\$10 gift certificate to the JCC's Buffalo Kosher Gourmet at the Myers Family Tel Aviv Café.**

E-mail your answers to ellen@buffalojewishfederation.org

Last month Jan Liebowitz, Nancy Greenberg, Michael Paskowitz, Gail Kushner, and Gretchen Gross correctly identified the Congregation Havurah garden at the JCC on North Forest Road.



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Chicken with Apples & Honey for the New Year

By Robin Kurss



Chicken with Apples & Honey

- 1 chicken, cut into 8 pieces
- 1 c apple cider
- 1/3 c honey
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice
- ¼ c brown sugar
- 1 Tbsp cinnamon
- 3 Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored and sliced

In a pot combine all but chicken and apples. Heat over medium until sugar and honey are dissolved. Preheat oven to 350. Place chicken and apples in a baking dish, pour sauce over all and bake covered for 1 hour and uncovered for ½ hour more. Wishing everyone a sweet, happy and healthy New Year!

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SYNAGOGUES

ORGANIZATIONS

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www.buffalojewishfederation.org
Rob Goldberg - CEO & Executive Director
Leslie Shuman Kramer - President

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716-634-3990
Rabbi Eliezer Marcus- Regional Director
Michael Paskowitz - 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
Miriam Abramovich - Director of Engagement
Ellen Weiss - President

Chabad House of Buffalo

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Getzville, NY 14068
716-688-1642
Rabbi Moshe Guray
www.chabadbuffalo.com

Chai Early Childhood Center

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

Department of Jewish Thought

712 Clemens Hall - University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY 14260
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
716-204-1133
www.jewishphilanthropies.org
Irv Levy - COO
Lynn Catalano - Director of Development
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Hadassah

2640 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
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
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
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
716-634-9535
www.hrcbuffalo.org
Ann Marie Carosella - President
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Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo, Inc.

Benderson Family Building
2640 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
716-688-4033
Richard Zakalik - Executive Director
Alon Kupferman - President

Holland Family Building

787 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
716-886-3145
www.jccbuffalo.org

Jewish Community Relations Council

2640 North Forest Road
Getzville, NY 14068
www.buffalojewishfederation.org
Mara Koven-Gelman - Director
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Jewish Discovery Center

757 Hopkins Road
Williamsville, NY 14221
831 Maple Road
Williamsville, NY 14221 (office)
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716-632-0467
Rabbi Heschel Greenberg
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www.jewishdiscovery.org

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Marty Kerker - President
www.congregationbethabraham.net

Congregation Shir Shalom

(Reform/Reconstructionist)
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www.shirshalombuffalo.org

Congregation Havurah (Reform)

6320 Main St., Williamsville, NY 14221
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716-689-8059
www.congregationhavurah.org
info@congregationhavurah.org

Kehillat Ohr Tzion (Modern Orthodox)

879 Hopkins Rd
Williamsville, NY 14221
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http://ohrtzion.org/kot

Kneset Center (Orthodox)

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www.chabad.org

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716-876-1284
www.SaranacSynagogue.org

Temple Beth Tzedek (Conservative)

1641 North Forest Road
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716-838-3232
www.btzbuffalo.org

Temple Beth Zion (Reform)

Sanctuary: 805 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
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700 Sweet Home Road
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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!

The Buffalo Corner Reading Series Debuts September 19 @ CSS

By Gunilla Kester

Last spring, Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein approached me and asked if I would be willing to create a reading series at Shir Shalom. He wanted to showcase some of Buffalo's great talent, but also reach out and create a forum for cultural difference and understanding. Like all art, poetry, he felt, bridges communities and fosters tolerance. Quite a poet in his own right, Rabbi Alex also wanted a place where he could share his writing, find inspiration, and improve his craft like many of us. Somewhat daunted by this extraordinary task, I smiled bravely and responded: "I'll be right on it, Rabbi!"

Don't get me wrong. I have plenty of experience. I published my first poem before I was twelve and as a teenager I was voted Chairperson of the Pen-Club in my hometown in Sweden. I ran a reading series for the English Department at Daemen College for years and have been an active member of the Buffalo writing community for over two decades. Maybe that's why I hesitated. But I was in luck. I ran into my friend and fellow poet Perry S. Nicholas who has hosted four reading series in the Buffalo area for many years running, and he was willing to co-host with me. He was also putting together his eighth book of poetry, soon to be published. "Let's do it," I said, "but only if we can open the series with a book release event for your new poetry collection!" He grudgingly agreed.

I grew up on a gray ugly street lined with Stalinesque dirty yellow tenement houses. The only colorful place in my neighborhood was "the corner" where all the kids gathered and where we learned, mostly on our own as most parents (including mine) worked full-time. For us latch-key kids, the corner was an open, free, nurturing and democratic space. So I named our new reading series THE BUFFALO CORNER in its memory.

The Buffalo Corner Reading Series at CSS will debut on September 19th at 7 PM. A lineup of featured authors will give everyone a taste of what is to come, and we will welcome Perry S. Nicholas to read from his new book WHY I LEARNED TO SPELL. A wine and cheese reception will follow each reading, giving everyone a chance to mingle and also talk to



Gunilla Kester and Perry Nicholas at a previous poetry event. Photo by Enid Bloch.

the authors.

Here is the line up for the first year

September 19: many featured writers and Perry S. Nicholas' book release

October 17: Ansie Baird, one of Buffalo's absolute best poets, and Gunilla Kester of CSS

November 21: Poets Irene Sipos and David Langley

February 20: Mystery Night with Gary Earl Ross and friends

March 19: Three poets of the Buffalo scene—Scott Williams, Lynn Ciesielski, and Sandy Geary

April 15: Open reading in celebration of National Poetry Month

May 20: Poetry by Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein and memoir writing by Cantor Barbara J. Ostfeld

Each evening we feature 2-3 authors and welcome 5 open readers on a first come/ first served basis. I will walk around with a sign-up sheet. Each featured reader may bring books and CDs to sell after his or her event.

Einav Symons is CSS Religious School Director

Congregation Shir Shalom has appointed Einav Symons, Religious School Director. "This move was made as we explore opportunities to advance our religious education at Shir Shalom and in the community in new directions", said Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein.

Einav Symons was asked to elaborate and share her vision. The following is a brief interview with Einav:

First how does your background and education contribute to this role?

I was born in Israel and moved to Canada when I was 12. I attended Jewish elementary and high school in Toronto. From a very early age, I knew I wanted to be a teacher, so I continued at York University and received an undergraduate degree in Education and Religious Studies and a Master's in Education with a focus on Jewish education. Growing up in a secular Israeli family and later in life engulfing myself with supplementary Jewish education in Reform and Conservative synagogues has really influenced my educational philosophy. I also think that marrying Andrew Symons, who came from a very strong and committed Reform family, and raising two wonderful teens that had a phenomenal Kadimah education, have shaped my professional calling.

I truly believe that good Jewish education is a necessity. I feel that my calling is to be one who facilitates access to such education for any family or any person who seeks it. I recognize the many directions all of us are pulled in our daily life. I think that through creativity and collaboration we can provide exciting and high caliber education and engagement. I think my strength is recognizing and being able to utilize the numerous assets we have within our community, right here in our city. These assets are our amazing teachers, leaders, teens and individuals who have a shared vision and are honest, hardworking, transparent and trustworthy.

What professional experience do you bring to this role?

I have over 30 years of experience as a teacher in Jewish day schools and then religious schools. I have been the Director of Education of the Gesher School and very involved in the various amalgamation of religious schools. I am very proud of the eight years as Kadimah Head of School. Aside from my educational expertise, I take pride in forming collaborations and encouraging donors to enhance and enrich our community. I have a consulting company for Jewish organizations, schools and synagogues called "Advanced Jewish Studies Services". This allows me to share my expertise and really see impact in other communities in Rochester and in Canada.

Can you share some of the initiatives/directions that you are implementing at the Shir Shalom-Gesher Religious School?



The focus of this year at the Shir Shalom-Gesher Religious School is "Getting Up to Speed". That refers to our school functioning at its highest level of efficiency. My goals are twofold: The first is to maximize the time we have together with the students (and parents) during school. This will be reflected in the curriculum, its delivery and the staff. The second goal is to make our journey enriching, exciting and collaborative. This will be reflected in the family programs, as well as the various enrichment opportunities in Hebrew and Judaic studies for children, teens, adults and families.

I have hired several of my Kadimah colleagues for their expertise. I have also hired some Kadimah alumni. I am addressing the need to have our B'nei Mitzvah prepared to be lifelong learners, who see themselves as a responsible link in our community. There will be a new initiative for Israel education and engagement which is a topic of growing concern for us as Jews in the United States. Some of the new enrichment courses offered are in Beginner's Hebrew, Hebrew Yoga, Parsha and Judaism for adults, as well as Conversational and Enrichment Hebrew for children and teens. As part of becoming a community of learners, there will be a three-part lecture series in November with Dr. Nurit Fischer on understanding today's "isms" and how to deal with them as individuals and parents.

My goal is to, one day, have a catalogue of options and core courses, programs and activities throughout the week to meet everybody's needs and abilities.

I am very inspired by the commitment of the leadership at Shir Shalom and Temple Beth Tzedek. I am looking forward to a rewarding year for all!

Einav can be reached at (716) 574-6016 or at Einav.symons@shirshalombuffalo.org. Shanah Tova!

Public Paper Shredding Event at Congregation Shir Shalom

Saturday September 21, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

We make it simple for you to bring your confidential paper documents (no binders, notebooks or clips please) to be safely and securely shredded/destroyed by Shred-It!

Cost Schedule: \$10 per Bankers Box

\$30 per Large Box / Tote or Large Plastic Garbage Bag

Additional charges apply for larger bins or other containers holding paper to be shredded - will be priced on-site.

5780 TEMPLE BETH TZEDEK HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE 2019

Traditional service will be in Sanctuary led by Cantor Mark Spindler
Abbreviated service will be in Social Hall led by Rabbi Moshe Silberschein
Artscroll service will be in Kassirer Family Minyan Room

SELIHOT	Saturday, September 21
	9:00 pm Community Pre-Holiday Program at Congregation Shir Shalom
	10:00 pm Community Selihot Service
ROSH HASHANAH EVE	Sunday, September 29
<i>Traditional service</i>	6:00 pm Minhah & Ma'ariv
<i>Artscroll service</i>	6:35 pm Minhah & Ma'ariv
ROSH HASHANAH	Monday, September 30
<i>Traditional service</i>	8:30 am Shaharit, Shofar, Torah Reading, Sermon & Musaf
	5:30 pm Tashliḥ
	6:00 pm Minhah & Ma'ariv
<i>Abbreviated service</i>	9:30 am Shaharit, Shofar, Torah Reading, Sermon & Musaf
<i>Artscroll service</i>	9:00 am Shaharit
ROSH HASHANAH	Tuesday, October 1
<i>Traditional service</i>	8:30 am Shaharit, Shofar, Torah Reading, Sermon & Musaf
	6:00 pm Minhah & Ma'ariv
<i>Abbreviated service</i>	9:30 am Shaharit, Shofar, Torah Reading, Sermon & Musaf
<i>Artscroll service</i>	9:00 am Shaharit

Shir Shalom-Gesher Religious School is now offering the following classes in the fall:

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Time: Thursdays/Tuesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

TUESDAYS

Adult beginner Hebrew

Taught by Dr. Nirit Weiner
 September 2019-
 December 2019
 \$60/ 11 sessions

Adult Hebrew through Yoga

Taught by Dr. Nirit Weiner
 January 2020-May 2020
 \$60/ 16 sessions

THURSDAYS

Judaism 101 (Adults)

Taught by Keren Green
 September 2019-January 2020
 \$75/ 13 sessions

Genesis 101 (Adults)

Facilitated by Keren Green
 February 2020-May 2020
 \$60/ 12 sessions

Conversational Hebrew (Grades 4-12)

Taught by Dr. Nirit Weiner & Einav Symons
 September 2019-May 2020
 \$300/ 25 sessions

Hebrew Enrichment (K-3)

Taught by Becky Laufgraben
 September 2019-May 2020
 \$260/ 25 sessions

ISM's

Taught by Dr. Nurit Fischer
 Nov. 7, 14, 21 / 7:30-8:30 p.m.
 \$15/ 3 sessions

For more information email Einav.Symons@shirshalombuffalo.org or call (716)574-6016.

Marc Adler at TBZ Achim September 8

The Brotherhood of Temple Beth Zion is pleased to announce that Marc Adler is the opening Achim program for this year. The event will be held at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, September 8 at the Meadows Lounge at the Weinberg Campus. Adler is the co-owner of several restaurants in Buffalo and is an adjunct faculty member of the University at Buffalo in the Business School and the Marketing department. He is a past participant in the Achim series. He will be presenting a discussion about "The Renaissance of Buffalo and the University of Buffalo."

Achim is a monthly program sponsored by the Temple Beth Zion Brotherhood for the benefit of the residents, their guests, and the community, at the Weinberg Campus. It is open to the public at no cost. **For further information, please contact Ken Graber at 681-9885.**

Prepare for the High Holidays Learn With Us at Kehillat Ohr Tzion

Classes are free and open to all!

Sundays at 9:15 am

Medical Ethics and Halacha- Vaccinations and Public Discourse
 in Jewish Law & Thought
 Dates: September 8, 15, 22
 Location: Kehillat Ohr Tzion

Tuesdays at 1 pm

Preparing for a Meaningful High-Holiday Season
 A Look at the Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur Machzor (prayer book)

Dates: August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 24
 Location: The Office of Cheryl Stein

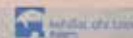
Thursdays at 4:30 pm

NJOP Crash Course in Basic Judaism
 Dates: September 5, 12, 19, 26
 Location: Dash's Market Café on Klein

Ongoing

Weekly Uplift- A 15 minute Phone Study Session with Rabbi Bergman (email to schedule)

Questions or RSVPs to oribergman@gmail.com



Expand your horizons and look within! Crash Course in Basic Judaism

Belief In God
 Prayer
 The Sabbath
 Jewish Observance
 Sexuality

Each Thursday in September
4:30-5:30pm
No charge

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Ruach Buffalo (Spirit of Buffalo)



A new Jewish community choir is happening, led by Cantor Penny Myers of Temple Beth Zion.

Come be part of this wonderful, new, and FUN experience through easy Jewish music.

All musical abilities welcome.
FREE & OPEN TO EVERYONE

Come join us
Sunday September 22
11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

TBZ's Broder Center for Jewish Education
700 Sweet Home Rd., Amherst NY

Any questions or to join:
Email Kathy Ellis:
kkeedd2156@yahoo.com

Bagels with Beth

An exciting year is planned for TBZ's Religious School, and will kick off with "Bagels with Beth!" Grab a cup of coffee and a bagel and meet Beth Steinberg, Director of the Temple Beth Zion Religious School. "Bagels with Beth" will take place on September 8, from 9-11 a.m. at TBZ Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Road. **Please RSVP to Kara@tbz.org or 716-836-6565 x 112 by September 5.**



Beth Steinberg is new TBZ Religious School Director

Temple Beth Zion has announced the hiring of Beth Steinberg as Religious School Director. "I am so grateful to the board for their willingness to take this bold step to improve our school. I have known Beth for years, and I am confident that she is the right person at this critical time," said Julie Weinberg, TBZ President.

Beth is a seasoned professional, and has been involved in Jewish Education for the past 20 years. She was a highly-regarded elementary classroom teacher at Kadimah Academy for the past 13 years. Beth has been involved in Reform Jewish leadership from her teenage years in Western PAFTY, through years of volunteer service at Temple Beth Am, and has taught at Temple Beth Am, Temple Beth Zion, and at Hebrew High. "I am excited and energized to have been given this precious opportunity to connect with young Jewish families and a new generation of students," says Steinberg. She adds, "I believe the identity, engagement, and practice of Judaism that we teach today will form the basis of the Jewish community of the future."

Rabbi Jonathan Freirich, rabbi at TBZ said, "Temple Beth Zion continues our devotion to excellence in Jewish Education with the addition of Beth Steinberg to our school as Religious School Director. As Beth joins our team we look forward to a new year of innovation and warmth, enthusiastic love of Judaism and expanded zest for learning. We could not be more excited!"

A new committee has been formed to be working with Beth which includes a team of educators and parents who are passionate about Jewish Education. Included on this committee are Susan Goldberg who will chair the committee,



Cantor Mark Horowitz, Mandy Weiss, Gretchen Gross, Jody Goldstein, miriam treger-honig, and Evie Weinstein. "Our job as Jewish educators is to instill in our children and families a love of Judaism, a sense of community and an atmosphere for creative learning to take place. These are the goals that we will be striving to meet with our newly invigorated school," said Goldberg.

Beth will also be working with the clergy, to bring new and exciting curriculum to TBZ's school and their families. Cantor Penny Myers of Temple Beth Zion said, "I am very excited to work with Beth Steinberg again. Beth brings a wealth of Jewish educational experience to TBZ. Her passion towards education exhibited through Jewish values and *heimishness* is something I am confident our students will enjoy and benefit from."

KOT News

Kehillat Ohr Tzion offers learning opportunities, led by Rabbi Ori Bergman, every Sunday morning after davening, Tuesday afternoons at 1:00 p.m., and Thursday afternoons at Dash's. Since KOT strives to create a place where all Jews feel welcome and can grow intellectually and spiritually, these classes are open to members and non-members alike. **For more specific information about each class, email oribergman@gmail.com.**

Several women in the Congregation meet on Shabbat afternoon at different members' homes to discuss Pirkei Avot. **For more information, email clslaw@gmail.com.**

Another Israeli delegation from Amiel B'Kehillah will be hosted by KOT on September 13 and 14. A weekend of inspiring services and interesting discussions is planned. Kabbalat Shabbat and dinner will be followed by a talk by Dr. Lisa Aiken, psychologist, author, and community educator. Her topic is "Why Jews Love to Eat: Mystical Secrets of Food." On Shabbat following lunch Einat Kapach, an arts ambassador and movie director will speak on "Rabbi & Rabbanit Kapach: From Yemen to Receiving the Israel Prize." **For more information contact mdchazen@gmail.com.**

On September 1 the Bergmans will host a barbecue to launch the revival of a chapter of NCSY in the Buffalo area. Pre-teens and teens are welcome and the get together will be the beginning of lots of exciting programs, including some plans for involving NCSY in the Shabbat Project on November 15 and 16.

There is always a social action project in the works at KOT. During August and September the congregants collected school supplies for The Teacher's Desk, a nonprofit organization that donates supplies to needy schools in WNY. **Feel free to contact Rabbi Bergman for more information.**

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PALS-Kadimah 2019-2020

By Zhava Fried

We are bursting with excitement for the upcoming 2019 school year. The PALS-Kadimah team has been hard at work to prepare for our students and their families.

Our toddlers and preschoolers will experience the building blocks of education and kindergarten readiness through secular and Judaic studies. Our program's philosophy of learning through play via music, art, dramatic play and physical movement will continue to be the foundation for all curricular planning. Hebrew will continue to be integrated throughout the classroom every day and will be enhanced through guidance of the primary classroom teachers.

PALS-KADIMAH CHILDREN BENEFIT FROM:

- Individualized attention through smaller class sizes and low student-to-teacher ratio.
- Nurturing PALS-KADIMAH staff members who are qualified and experienced early-childhood educators.
- Familiar faces and consistency of care.
- * Fun and experiential learning that balances developmentally appropriate practice with kindergarten readiness.
- Age-appropriate Hebrew and Judaic curriculum.

Zahava Fried is the new PALS-Kadimah director.

Please contact her at 836-6565 for more information or to schedule a tour. She would love to welcome you to the PALS-Kadimah family.



Community S'lichot Service
held this year at Congregation Shir Shalom

S'lichot
A Wakeup Call To Forgiveness

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2019
AT 8:30 PM

COMMUNITY STUDY

Rabbi Jonathan Freirich, Temple Beth Zion
Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein, Congregation Shir Shalom
Rabbi Moshe Silberschein, Temple Beth Tzedek

COMMUNITY S'LICHOT

Cantor Arlene Frank, Congregation Shir Shalom
Cantor Irwin Gelman, Congregation Beth Abraham
Cantor Penny Myers, Temple Beth Zion
Cantor Mark Spindler, Temple Beth Tzedek

8:30PM LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
9:00PM HAVDALLAH
9:15PM COMMUNITY STUDY
10:00PM S'LICHOT SERVICE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.SHIRSHALOMBUFFALO.ORG

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kehillat shir shalom

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SEPTEMBER 13
PJ Library
TOT SHABBAT

5:45PM AT
CONGREGATION SHIR SHALOM

Celebrating Woodstock at 50 – A Jewish Perspective

By Marty Kerker

There has never been a year quite like 1969. The amazin' Mets won the World Series, the upstart Jets won the Super Bowl, Neil Armstrong walked on the moon and the Age of Aquarius reached its zenith in the Borscht Belt on land owned by a Jewish dairy farmer. Woodstock – it's hard to believe the Festival just turned 50 in August. That was another lifetime ago (think: a generation that once lived by the motto, "don't trust anyone over 30"). Yes, I was there – sort of. To the horror of our parents, my girlfriend and I bought tickets and drove down from Potsdam NY, eventually finding ourselves caught up in the snarling traffic that shut down the Thruway.



Artie Kornfeld

Michael Lang

Arlo Guthrie

Who knew there were so many hippy wannabees? We made it into town, slept in the car and then wimped out, deciding to head back to Albany rather than deal with the torrential rain and mud that followed. In retrospect, BIG mistake! But I digress – this article isn't meant to be about me – rather how a group of Jewish visionaries, entrepreneurs and artists brought the Festival to life. Plain and simple, no Jews – no Woodstock.

Let's start with the festival concept itself. The first of its kind, Newport Jazz was founded by George Wein (Jewish) in 1954, followed by the Newport Folk Festival (also Wein), in 1959. Fast forward to 1967 and you have the Monterey Pop Festival, the more immediate impetus/inspiration for Woodstock. That festival, riding the crest of the wave of nearby San Francisco's "Summer of Love" was primarily conceptualized by legendary record executive and producer Lou Adler (Jewish). Among the young, impressionable Festival promoters was Michael Lang who subsequently approached Capital Records exec, Artie Kornfeld in NYC, where they tossed around ideas for a Monterey Pop knock-off in Upstate NY.

The project found its legs when they formed "Woodstock Ventures" with two other Jews, financiers Joel Rosenman and John Roberts. It was all systems go from there, despite several setbacks, most notably, finding a workable venue. At the last minute, they came upon a location in Bethel NY, owned by the afore-referenced dairy farmer, Max Yasgur. Another Jew, Arnold Skolnick designed the iconic logo that gave the Festival its identity (dove perched on the neck of a guitar) and the rest is history.

There were of course numerous Jewish performers and two notable moments that further defined Woodstock's Jewish legacy.

Among the performers were Country Joe and the Fish (all with Jewish roots), Jefferson Airplane (Jorma Kaukonen, Marty Balin, Spencer Dryden), Arlo Guthrie (Jewish mom) The Band's Robbie Robertson (Jewish dad), Sha Na Na (Jon "Bowzer" Bauman, Henry Gross, Alan Cooper), Mountain (Leslie West, Corky Lang), Grateful Dead (Mickey Hart) and Blood Sweat and Tears (Bobby Columby, Steve Katz, Randy Brecker, Fred Lipsius). As for those two Jewish related moments – the only standing ovation (allegedly) given to a performer during the Festival was for folkie Bert Sommer (Jewish) and the only display of violence came when Abbie Hoffman (Jew) was thrown off the stage by Pete Townsend (not a Jew) of The Who.

We know in retrospect Woodstock was far and away more than just a music festival. For three magical days, an estimated half million members of the 60's counterculture came together and showed the world how the transformative power of love, peace, music and youthful exuberance could foster a shared communal experience unlike anything ever seen before. It was of course a pipe dream to think the vibe would ever last. First there was the dark violence of the Altamont festival that followed a few months later and as we would soon learn, the harsh realities of living in the real world would bring us back down to earth for good. But for one shining moment, there was this magical Festival that celebrated a generation – the Woodstock Generation. Looking back, despite a few cringe-worthy moments, I feel fortunate to have been a part of that. And if you weren't aware before, now you know, Woodstock never would have happened without the Jews.

Marty Kerker is President of Congregation Beth Abraham.



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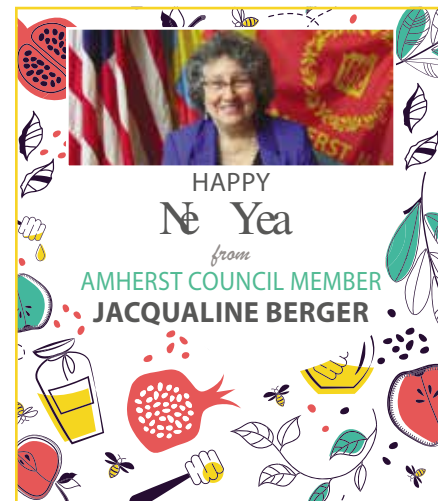


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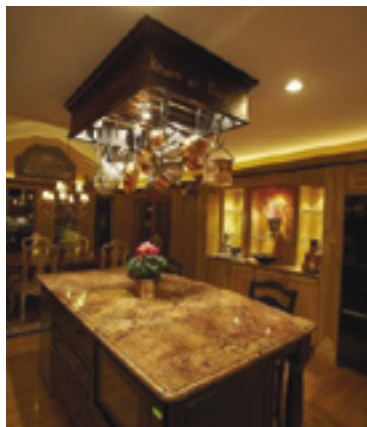


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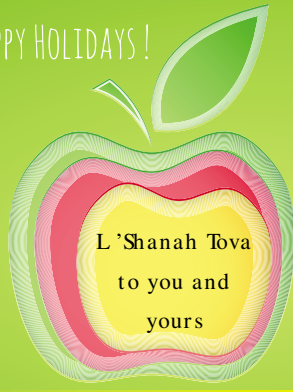

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Sept. 29th 8:00 pm | Oct. 8th 8:00 pm

Sept. 30th 10:00 am | Oct. 9th 10:00 am

Mincha, Yizkor, Neila 4:00 pm

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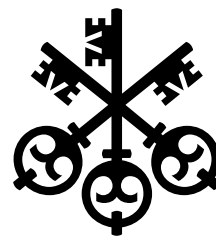


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★★★★★ "Dr. Young was extremely gentle and thorough. He took his time with me, answering all of my questions and was very approachable. It is evident that he deeply cares for the health and well being of his patients."

Stacie Greenfield Stone

★★★★★ "Dr. Young took time to ask me questions and listen to what I had to say. He was very personable yet professional and clearly knowledgeable in his area of expertise. The ambiance of the office made me feel relaxed and comfortable. I would highly recommend Dr. Young!"

Mitch Rubin

★★★★★ "Dr. Young is very knowledgeable and we know we are in good hands when we visit his office. We are always impressed with the office staff, cleanliness, timeliness, ease of getting an appointment and most importantly, medical care."

Rivky Greenberg

★★★★★ "Dr. Young is a gifted, compassionate physician. He provides excellent care and was kind, patient and reassuring. An overall welcoming and beautiful office. He is a brilliant doctor with great bedside manner and skilled staff."

Kenneth Dauber

★★★★★ "He listens, he cares, he has a gentle hand, and he is devoted to your well-being. Just a fine doctor and a model for doctors."

Kim Yonaty

★★★★★ "Dr. Young is a brilliant physician. His bedside manner and diagnostic skills are exceptional. I have found his practice to be outstanding for both adults and children. I have referred my friends and family to Dr. Young and they have all been so grateful for the care they received!"



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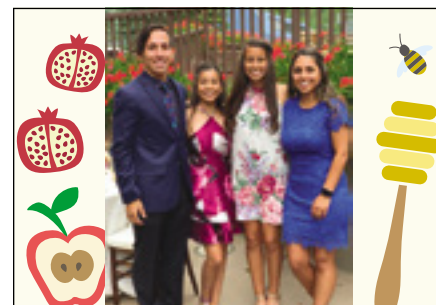
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Hillel of Buffalo: An Exciting and Innovative Hub for Jewish Learning and Community

By Alexa Zappia

As the school year fast-approaches, Hillel of Buffalo is beyond excited to welcome students back on campus. We are rolling out many new programs and initiatives as well as keeping with some of our traditional staples.

We are excited to welcome Zahava Fried as our Cantorial soloist for High Holiday services. In addition, Hillel of Buffalo has partnered with Nickel City Jews to gather students, young professionals and community members together to bring in the New Year. We are also offering a student off-campus experience for the second day of Rosh Hashanah, which will enable students to celebrate the New Year in an immersive way.

Starting this fall, we have officially launched our new Design Hub initiative that provides students with professional mentorship, skills training, personal growth, financial resources, and resume building opportunities to help them transform their interests and ideas



into reality. Some Design Hub initiatives include community service, art therapy, Israeli and Jewish cooking, and Gift of Life donor registry. Students have already been working with Hillel of Buffalo staff during the summer months to roll out their new Design Hub initiatives come fall.

Students asked, we answered! We heard from students that they seek opportunities to travel all while making a difference. Hillel of Buffalo is offering students two opportunities to do just that. From December 30th to January 10th, we will be offering a Birthright trip to experience all the beautiful wonders of Israel. From January 19th to January 26th, we will be offering students an Alternative Winter Break trip as we partner with Repair the World Miami for a week-long immersive experience to fight education and food injustice within Urban Miami.

I, along with the entire Hillel of Buffalo staff, cannot wait to start another amazing school year. We hope to see you soon in our new renovated suite designed to enhance Jewish learning and community on campus. Please visit us in our newly renovated suite on the first floor of The Commons across from Starbucks.

Alexa Zappia is Hillel of Buffalo Innovation Specialist.

HADASSAH HOSTS ISRAELI PRIZE WINNER ON 9/11

Members of the Buffalo Hadassah chapter are actively participating with Hadassah related activities in Buffalo and beyond. Phyllis Steinberg represented the local chapter at the National Convention in New York City in July and several members will be traveling to Cleveland for the Central States Shabbaton and Conference in September. Marian Arbesman will be presenting a workshop on gluten free cooking and baking called "Easy and Delicious Food—An Introduction to Plant Based Eating."



Members visiting Oswego

On August 5, ten Hadassah members went to Oswego, New York for the 75th anniversary commemorating the arrival of almost 1000 refugees into the Fort Ontario Emergency Refugee Shelter.

Fort Ontario was the only camp or shelter for Holocaust refugees in the United States during World War II. It is where reporters and Americans encountered victims and learned about some of the horrors perpetuated by the Nazis. Families of the refugees were in attendance as well as many invited speakers. A guided tour of the Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum was also part of the day's activities.

On September 11 at 4:00 p.m. Hadassah will be hosting



Miriam Peretz

a lecture by Miriam Peretz, an extraordinary Israeli who turned her own personal tragedies into an inspirational story that she shares with Jewish communities around the world. Miriam's son, a commander in a Special Forces Unit, was fatally wounded by terrorists in 1998. Another son was also killed during an Israeli war and her husband overcome with grief "died of a broken heart". She has found the strength to volunteer and to educate others by visiting schools, military bases, synagogues and Jewish centers to talk about how

she copes with these traumatic experiences and is still able to move forward and live a productive life. *Miriam's Song*, a book about her life written by Smadar Shir, has received excellent reviews and was recently translated into English. Last year she won the Israel Prize for lifetime achievement for "strengthening the Jewish-Israeli spirit". Hadassah will be providing light Kosher refreshments following her talk, which will be held at the JCC in the Maxine and Robert Seller Theatre. The Buffalo Jewish Federation and the JCC are cosponsors. There is no charge and the community is invited to this special program.

CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR WITH AN HBLA GIFT OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP

As we begin the New Year, the Hebrew Benevolent Loan Association (HBLA) would like to ask you a question: Have you yet given the gift of Life Membership? If your answer is “yes” we thank you for your commitment to providing interest-free loans to our fellow Jews in need of temporary financial assistance. If the answer is “not yet,” now would be a great time to do it. Let us tell you why:

For 120 years, HBLA, Buffalo's Jewish Free Loan Society, has granted interest-free loans to Jews in the 8 counties of Western New York, based on a mandate from the Torah. Because we respect the confidentiality of our borrowers, we can't tell you their names or their specific needs, but we can tell you about our history.

We began by lending money so that the new immigrant could stock his load, buy his horse, then his first store. We were here for the influx of refugees from Europe following the displacement of WWII, and we were here to help the Jews of the former Soviet Union. Some thought the need for HBLA might be over, but it continues just as strong today.

Today we make loans to help pay down credit cards, purchase computers for college students and to repair homes and cars. We help with medical and adoption expenses, down payments on homes and autos, engagement rings, simchas, school and camp fees. We don't define what a 'need' might be, but when one arises, we are here to assist with a loan, always interest-free. There are people in our community with a financial need and we are here to help.

In our 120th year, we have undertaken a campaign to raise an additional \$120,000 to enable us to help even more. As the New Year begins, one part of our goal is to enroll 120 new Life Members. Will you join us? Your membership dollars will be used over and over again, becoming available for new loans as prior loans are repaid. Join us in the mitzvah of offering a hand up, not a hand out.

Visit our website, wnyhbla.org, to learn more about the work of the HBLA and to become a member or make a donation. We hope to hear from you and that next year we will be able to count you among our Life Members! The board and officers of the HBLA wish you a very Happy and Healthy New Year. L'Shana Tova!



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September 10 7:00 - 9:30^{pm}

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Tickets: General \$18/ Student \$12

Purchase at either Member Services Desk or online at www.jccbuffalo.org

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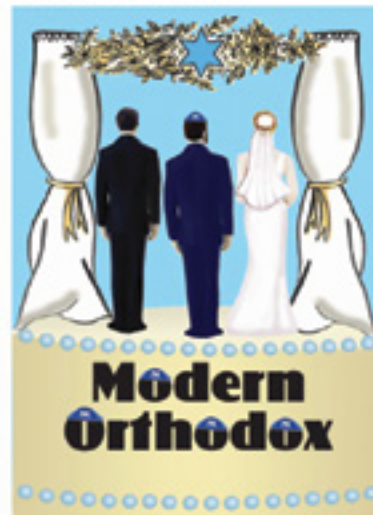
JEWISH REPERTORY THEATRE

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Oh My God!



What I Thought I Knew



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www.jewishrepertorytheatre.com

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JCC Holiday Schedule and Hours



Labor Day

Monday, September 2

Center 8:00^{am} - 3:00^{pm}, Aquatics until 2:30^{pm}

Outdoor Pool closes at 7:00^{pm}

Early Childhood/Offices are Closed



Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 29

Center closes at 3:30^{pm}, Aquatics at 3:00^{pm}

Monday, September 30 Center is Closed

Tuesday, October 1 Center is Closed



Yom Kippur

Tuesday, October 8

Center closes at 3:30^{pm}, Aquatics at 3:00^{pm}

Wednesday, October 9 Center is Closed



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

JCC TO SHOWCASE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITS BY LOCAL ARTISTS AT BOTH GALLERIES, SEPT/OCT 2019

This September the Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo is pleased to present two photography exhibits, showcasing the talents of local photographers. The galleries, which rotate exhibits every two months, are free and open for the community to visit during normal business hours of the JCC. The Bunis Family Art Gallery located in the Benderson Family Building in Amherst, and the Levy and Daniel Families Art Gallery at the Holland Family Building in Buffalo are community spaces providing creative opportunity for local artists to exhibit and sell their works.

Opening September 5, at The Levy and Daniel Families Gallery in the JCC Holland Family Building, is photography exhibit "Images from Near and Far (Encore)" by Lawrence M. Ross. Mr. Ross is a Buffalo-based photographer and attorney whose photographic works were exhibited publicly for the first time in the Bunis Family Art Gallery at the JCC Benderson Family Building in September 2018. His "encore" exhibit



will showcase a new set of images, described as captivating and moving, and will remain on display in the gallery through October 31. The public is invited to attend a free opening reception on Thursday, September 5, 2019 from 5:30-7:30pm, to view the gallery, enjoy light refreshments and speak with the photographer. Photographs will be available for purchase with net proceeds from sales being donated to Crisis Services.

A Peaceful Path, a group photography exhibit featuring work from VIEW



FINDERS, a group of amateur and professional photographers throughout WNY will open in the Bunis Family Art Gallery at the JCC Benderson Family Building on Sunday, September 8 with a free reception open to the public from 2-4pm. The exhibit will include work from thirteen different photographers; Sandy Barrett, Kathryn Benkow, Mark Carney, Sharon Dentice, Eve Fadeley, Jeff Hayward, Patricia Jaramillo, Sara Johnson, Barb Kowalski, Patricia Peterson, Nancy Smyth, Kathleen Winter, JoAnn Wolf, and is curated and directed by Bonita Chimes, the founder and owner of VIEW FINDERS. Through her experience, teaching technique and specifically designed programs, she has guided many amateur photographers into professional careers.

For more information on current or upcoming exhibits in the Art Galleries or to find out how to submit work, visit www.jccbuffalo.org or contact Katie Wzontek, Cultural Arts Director at kwzontek@jccbuffalo.org.

JCC's New Horizons in Adult Education

MONDAYS

American Situation Comedy, Jack Benny to Jerry Seinfeld

Four major sitcoms, each one with a show business setting. The Jack Benny Show, Carl Reiner's the Dick Van Dyke Show, Seinfeld, and Curb Your Enthusiasm. What is the schtick? That is our question.

Facilitator: Neil Schmitz

September 9 - 23, 2019

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Full/Social Member Gym/CP

\$22

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PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

JCC of Buffalo/Holland Building

TUESDAYS

Medical Ethics and End of Life Issues

Case based discussions will explore: Physician-assisted suicide, challenges of genetics, treatments that prolong life, patient autonomy, and what is a good death?

Facilitator: Jim Moran

September 10 - 24, 2019

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

Full/Social Member Gym/CP

\$22

\$30

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

JCC Buffalo/Holland Building

WEDNESDAY

Canopy of Neighbors: Strategies for Aging in Place

Canopy of Neighbors is a non-profit member based organization whose mission is to give people age 62 and older the means and confidence to remain in their own homes as they age. Please join Sasha Yerkovich the Executive Director of Canopy of Neighbors and Toby Laping for an informal discussion to learn more.

Facilitators: Sasha Yerkovich and Toby Laping

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

JCC Buffalo/Holland Building

FREE

Shakespeare's.....Poetry And Selected Scenes From Richard III And Measure For Measure

We will read selected poetry from Shakespeare's plays. Also, scenes from Richard III and Measure for Measure followed by discussion and film clips to enhance our experience.

Facilitator: Jim Paul

Mondays, October 7, 21, 28, and November 4, 2019

7:00 - 8:30 pm

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

Full/Social Member Gym/CP

\$22

\$30

JCC of Buffalo/Holland Building

New Horizons in Adult Education

Poets Of The Everyday: Mary Oliver, Linda Pastan, Lucille Clifton

These three poets are award winning poets of great breadth and depth, yet accessible as well. We will read and discuss some of their poems in this interactive class.

Facilitator: Linda Drajem

Tuesday's, October 8 - 29, 2019

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

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

Full/Social Member Gym/CP

\$22

\$30

JCC of Buffalo/Holland Building

To register or for more information contact kgoodwin@jccbuffalo.org.

JRT/ KAVINOKY THEATRE COLLABORATION IN 2020

Jewish Repertory Theatre collaborates with the Kavinoky Theatre this season in the production of INDECENT (March 6 - 29). The Tony-award winning play by Paula Vogel takes us through the history of Sholem Asch's controversial 1907 Yiddish play GOD OF VENGEANCE, the story of a Jewish brothel owner who bribes a rabbi so that the rabbi's son will marry his daughter but instead, the daughter falls in love with a prostitute.

Jewish Repertory Theatre Artistic Director Saul Elkin will play several roles in the Kavinoky production and will act as dramaturg for INDECENT, researching the play and its history and bringing that knowledge and cultural context to the director, designers and actors as they prepare for the production. Actors Arin Dandes and Adam Yellen, seen frequently on the JRT stage will also have starring roles.

JRT patrons can see Indecent at the Kavinoky Theatre at the reduced price of \$35! (reg. price \$45)

Just mention JRT when you call the box office at 716-829-7668.

Visit www.kavinokytheatre.com/events/indecnt/ for show dates/times.



Jewish Federation Apartments celebrate

SALE OF PROPERTY LEADS TO ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW ENDOWMENT

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As a team, they secured the land, raised the necessary funding, negotiated the agreements with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, designed the building, and oversaw construction.

40 years later, the property is at full occupancy and the future is brighter than ever.

On Aug. 14, a special celebration was held to mark four decades of providing affordable housing to the Jewish Community. That day also marked the start of a new era for the 150-unit complex, which

operates on Essay Road in Williamsville, with the announcement that it has been acquired from the Buffalo Jewish Federation (BJF) by Capital Realty Group (CRG), an experienced and nationally-respected owner and operator of nearly 14,000 affordable apartments in 24 states.

Proceeds from the \$14.4 million sale will be used to pay off the mortgage, and the remaining funds are to be placed into a new Shirley Joseph and Donald Day Endowment at the Buffalo Jewish Federation, with annual investment earnings to be reinvested in programs and services to further enhance the quality of Jewish Buffalo.



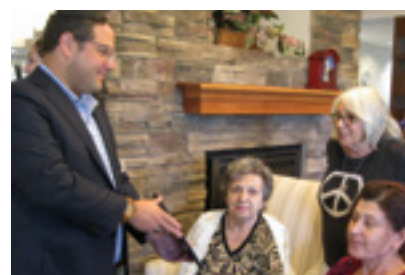
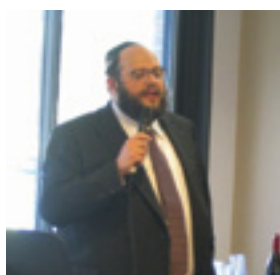
Federation Board of Governors Chair Leslie Kramer joins members of the Jewish Federation Apartments Board and new building owners at the 40th Anniversary Celebration

"Growing up in Buffalo during the Depression as the child of immigrants, Shirley was nourished and shaped by our Jewish community and its values," said her son, Todd

Joseph. "Through her Federation work and elsewhere, she was a passionate advocate for those values, especially for helping those less fortunate, and most especially women. Jewish Federation Housing was a prime example of the effectiveness of her passion, and she would be thrilled to know not only that its affordable housing mission will continue long into the future, but also that it provided a substantial multiplier to help sustain the work of Tikkun Olam in the Buffalo Jewish community's future."

Rich Day, Don Day's son, echoed that sentiment: "The Day family is thrilled that the Federation is recognizing our father this way. Supporting the Buffalo area Jewish community was a major part of our father's life. He would be so excited to know that this investment has turned out so well for the Federation and honored that it is creating this endowment fund in his name. Thank you on behalf of him and the entire Day Family."

Most resident's rents will continue at current affordable income levels. Along with the transfer, CRG has committed to an extensive modernization of the JFA that will include new kitchens (cabinets, stone countertops, appliances and flooring), bathrooms (fixtures, flooring) along with a renovation of the hallways and common areas (LVT flooring, LED lighting, color schemes) and much more. Residents will not need to be relocated for the renovation, as CRG has hands-on experience with numerous similar projects within their facilities with minimal impact to the



40th anniversary

residents.

Due to an innovative strategic alliance between BJF and CRG, the building will continue to be known as the Buffalo Jewish Federation Apartments. BJF will still have an active role in working with the building owners and managers, and its name and onsite management team will remain the same and the BJF will continue to provide religious, cultural and social programming for the residents.

Buffalo Jewish Federation CEO and Executive Director Rob Goldberg, called it a win-win. "The residents of JFA will continue to thrive in a caring and safe community managed by experienced and well-respected operators, while the Jewish community as a whole benefits from the assets generated by the sale. This sale will ensure the renovation and continued operation of the Jewish Federation Apartments for 20 years and beyond, generating a once-in-a-lifetime influx of resources into the local Jewish community that will enable us to continue to fulfill our mission while also fostering a stronger

safety net."

Jewish communal agencies will continue to have access to the common areas of the building for meetings and programs; the kitchen has been leased out to Luscious Lori, a kosher caterer that was formerly operating from the former Kadimah Academy; Jewish Family Service, a beneficiary agency of BJF, will assume the management of community care and social work services for the residents, pursuant to a HUD grant, and the existing JFA Board will transition into an Advisory Board to the new owners to ensure continuity of services for the residents and to act as a liaison with the BJF.

Jewish Federation Apartments Board President and Board Chair Shawn Frier said this type of an arrangement is a first. "In an advisory capacity with the new owners, our board will work with Capital Realty to allow for a seamless transition for the residents, and we are looking forward to having many mutual events together, which will lead to a vibrant future for the residents."

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Klezmer Meets Classical: Concert Celebrating Jewish Music at the JCC

Tuesday, September 10, 7:00 pm
Maxine and Robert Seller Theatre
JCC Benderson Family Building

By Robbie Hausmann

Do the names Rosowsky, Gernsheim, Stutschewsky, Dyck and Chajes (pronounce like l'chaim) mean anything to you? Not to me either before I began my exploration of Jewish chamber music. My musical adventure began 30 years ago when Congregation Havurah asked me to play Jewish cello music at Yom Kippur services. Through the years, the discovery and performance of Jewish cello music has become my passion. As a cellist in the BPO for 37 years I have been challenged by a great many orchestral master pieces from Beethoven to Zemlinsky, with many brilliant conductors including our current music director, JoAnn Falletta. However, I have found my true cello voice in Jewish chamber music.

On Tuesday, September 10, Cultural Arts at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo will be presenting a concert entitled Klezmer Meets Classical at 7pm in the Maxine and Robert Seller Theatre at the JCC Benderson Family Building. With friends Alfred Frenning (piano), Paul Schossman (oboe) and Loren Silvertrust (violin), we will be performing 2 trios. A trio for violin, cello and piano titled Fantastic Dance by Solomon Rosowsky, a Latvian composer who lived from 1878 to 1962 as well a trio for oboe, cello and piano by Julius Chajes from Lviv (1910-1985). We will also play a beautiful Kaddish by Vladimir Dyck (1882-1943) from Odessa who was murdered at Auschwitz, and many other unearthed gems. Rubin Goldmark, son of a cantor and nephew of the famed Karl Goldmark composed a beautiful piece titled Adon Olam. Incidentally, Rubin Goldmark taught composition to Gershwin and Copland at Juilliard. Veering from lesser composers and in recognition of the upcoming Yom Kippur holiday, I am playing perhaps the most well-known work for cello, Kol Nidre by Max Bruch. Bruch dedicated Kol Nidre to Brahms' favorite cellist Robert Hausmann (1852-1902).

I'm thrilled to be joined by my friends Paul, Loren and Alfred. Paul has enjoyed



a long a varied career as soloist, chamber musician and as an orchestral musician. Paul played in the Jerusalem Symphony in the 1970's under the direction Lucas Foss. In addition to oboe, Paul is a computer scientist and professional miniature golf player and jokes that in some years he has earned more money from Putt-Putt than oboe. Paul also enjoys seeking out unknown compositions and generously presenting the music to friends. Paul recently introduced me to the Kaddish by Vladimir Dyck. Composed in 1932, Dyck's Kaddish is dedicated to the memory to his brother Jaques. Alfred, WNY's most diverse musician, can be heard performing on violin, viola, viola da gamba and cello. If you attend a touring Broadway show at Shea's, peek into the orchestra pit and you will see Alfred playing cello. Loren, who joined the BPO in 2010, holds a degree in comparative literature from Williams College and masters in music from Indiana University. Loren's father, a retired public defender in Chicago, is the founder of Sivertrust Editions, publishing lesser known chamber music including the Rosowsky Fantastic Dance on our program. Loren welcomed her first child, Issac, in June. Our multi-faceted program will highlight Klezmer's influence on Jewish music as well as the more traditional classical traditions. Jewish chamber music has provided me much inspiration. I hope you will join us in experiencing this wonderful music.

Tickets: \$18/General | \$12/Student which include a light reception following the concert. Tickets may be purchased at either JCC Member Service Desk or online at www.jccbuffalo.org.

Robbie Hausmann is a cellist with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

THE HOLOCAUST RESOURCE CENTER'S WASHINGTON, DC TRIP FOR TEACHERS

By Elizabeth Schram

From July 24-25, Lori Raybold and I led five passionate teachers throughout Washington, DC for the Holocaust Resource Center's annual Washington trip for teachers. This annual trip began five years ago with the purpose of providing meaningful, relevant and current information and materials related to Holocaust and Human Rights Education. During this experience, teachers study primary source materials, learn best practices in Holocaust and Human Rights Education and receive the resources they need to immediately apply this learning in their own classrooms and communities.



Buffalo area teachers and Elizabeth Schram at the US Memorial Holocaust Museum

Selected through a competitive application process and representing both rural and urban school districts, the five teachers who attended the trip this year were not just "average" teachers. Whereas all these teachers incorporate the Holocaust and human rights into their English/Language Arts or World & U.S. History classes, one teacher is starting a Holocaust elective in the fall, another teacher is leading a club called "the do-gooders" and a third educator teaches a course on Nazi Germany. Some of these teachers had never been to our nation's capitol and most of them had never been to these museums.

Our group visited the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Institute of Peace, the National

Museum of African American History and Culture and took a walking tour of the monuments. The National Museum of African American History and Culture was newly added to this trip to compliment the theme for this year's HRC teacher conference in March-Racial Policy under the Nazi Regime and the Jim Crow Era in the United States. Enthusiastic conversations at dinner and at the hotel extended the enriching experience of those offered at these official sites.

Out of every site we visited, all of the teachers rated their experience at the Holocaust Museum as being the most impactful. This was largely due to the small, docent-led tours we were provided since an unguided visit can

be very overwhelming and crowded. After the tour of the permanent exhibit, one teacher exclaimed, "Joyce was fantastic! She read the group really well. She balanced what we knew and would determine where to take us next. This led us to have great discussions." In addition to the guided tours, the teachers were able to hear about national teacher-training opportunities the museum offers.

The Washington, DC Trip for Teachers incorporates every part of the HRC's mission: to Teach the Lessons of the Holocaust, to Remember the Survivors and Victims and to Promote Social Justice, Civic Responsibility and Human Rights. When asked to reflect upon their overall experiences of the trip, one teacher wrote, "The concept of humanity was incorporated throughout the trip...I have new ideas, new tools, new inspiration and new energy that I am looking forward to bringing into my classroom this school year." Another teacher reflected, "Being surrounded by passionate teachers allowed me to learn and to grow. My knowledge of history has been enriched from the museums and I was able to draw significant parallels between each topic. I am better equipped to see my students and myself as global citizens. This was the trip of a lifetime and I have learned so much. In turn, I will pass these lessons on to my students and to my fellow colleagues with passion."

Holocaust Survivor, Sophia Veffer, has asked many teachers around Buffalo if they feel confident teaching their students about the Holocaust, other genocides and human rights issues. Not one teacher has answered, "Yes." According to Sophia, "You absolutely need good teachers to have good students."

I am very thankful that the first years of this trip were made possible by Richard (z"l) and Roberta Handel and that the trip this year was made possible by an anonymous donor. In the upcoming years, we hope to expand our trip to include more teachers so we can increase the number of good students in this world. Our first post-trip meeting is scheduled for early September, where we will share our lesson plan & research project ideas for the school year.

Elizabeth Schram is the Director of the Holocaust Resource Center.

Federation visits Chautauqua - August 12



Challah Baking with JDC - July 8



Federation welcomes JFS CEO Molly Carr - July 24



Congregation Shir Shalom Again Walks-Off Hunger - July 27



Sheryl Schechter to Chair Alzheimer's Walk 9/14

Alzheimer's disease is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States today, and almost 6 million Americans are currently living with the disease. By 2050, 14 million people are expected to be diagnosed. This is a health care crisis that needs to be diverted, and Sheryl Schechter is working hard to help make that happen.

As a longtime volunteer and board member for the Alzheimer's Association, Western New York Chapter, Tonawanda resident Sheryl Schechter has dedicated her time and resources to the work and mission of the chapter, to help families touched by this disease. This year she is serving as the Chair of the **2019 Walk To End Alzheimer's, taking place on Saturday, September 14th at the beautiful Outer Harbor.** This is the chapter's largest fundraiser to support the programs and services offered by the chapter to families across all 8 counties of Western New York. Last year the Buffalo Walk raised over \$500,000.

You are invited to join the family-friendly, fun, and hopeful 2019 Buffalo Walk To End Alzheimer's. Check-in starts at 8:30 a.m., the opening ceremony is at 10:15a.m., and the 2 mile Walk begins at 10:30 a.m. There will be raffles, music, entertainment, refreshments, and exhibitors. Over 3,000 people are expected. Registration for teams and individuals is free, but all are encouraged to raise funds to support the vital programs and services offered by the local Chapter including care consultations, a 24/7 Helpline, education and training, support groups, respite care and more to people living with all forms of dementia, and their care partners. It also advances research toward a cure or prevention.

Register at alz.org/walk, and please direct questions about the event to Lauren Klenosky at 716-241-0355 or Lklenosky@alz.org.



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Remembering Sam Zemsky

Sam Zemsky, founder of Zemco Industries and CEO and chairman of Russer Foods, passed away June 18 in Buffalo. The following is the eulogy his granddaughter Kayla Zemsky gave at his funeral at Temple Beth Zion:

I am Kayla Zemsky, the first and only granddaughter of Sam Zemsky, which, I have to say, has been a very privileged role to hold for the last thirty one years. Harry, Jared, David and I are all so lucky to have had our grandfather for this long, and I don't take it for granted, as I think he may have outlived even his own wildest expectations.

We are lucky to have learned from his stories and his actions. Stories of everything from beginning to work in the Lower East Side on New York to traveling with Nana to Italian Deli Mafia dealings. He had an incredible curiosity about everyone and everything, and up until close to the end of his life would read such an incredible amount of newspapers and magazines at the kitchen table every day, which is also where he taught us the power of the smashed bagel and cream cheese, which I know still ranks as a top food group for David.

But the most prized seat during our spring breaks in Florida was to ride the golf cart with Papa and maybe even get to drive ourselves while he sang real and made-up songs. This seems to have been a particularly strong genetic trait that he



Sam Zemsky

passed on, evidenced by anytime my dad or Harry spend more than five minutes with any dog at all.

He also certainly passed on some incredible stubbornness, which he kept up until the very end of his life, coupled with a genuine care for other people. He would complain about not being seated within 2 minutes of walking into a restaurant, but by the end of the meal would know the names and ages of all the staff's children. At one of the restaurants we went to with him in Florida there was a regular accordion player that he just hated but he couldn't help himself from overtipping the guy, leading to a vicious cycle of extra long accordion serenades.

Despite his success, he was always grateful and humble and gave back to his communities. On particularly hot days golfing in Chautauqua, he would bring an entire half gallon of Ocean Spray

Cranberry Juice to the gate attendant. He modeled the value of hard work, and it is truly awe inspiring to see all that it achieved. Growing up, while I was very proud of how darn good that Russer hot dog was, I never imagined that I would join that family business. While it looks a bit different now, that's exactly what I did, as everything that has happened in Larkinville and everything that we will do is a direct result of what he started and what he sacrificed traveling every week to Buffalo to build something for our family.

How many people can have such an enormous impact on a city where they never even lived? One of my first weeks back in Buffalo about two years ago, I was sitting at the bar at Hutch's when the man next to me heard my last name and asked if I was related to Sam. When I said yes he said that he had worked with him and yelled loud enough for the whole bar area to hear, "Sam Zemsky is a credit to Buffalo! A credit!" Last year when Harry switched out produce suppliers at his restaurant, the owner of the distributor saw his last name got excited asking if he was related to Sam, going on to tell him how they were an early Russer customer, and how nice a guy he was. He cared so much about his employees and his customers and treating everyone fairly. And it always came through in his stories, and continues to in unexpected places.

If success is some combination of hard work and luck, all the hard work that Papa put in over his life really tipped the scales to afford my generation an incredibly lucky head start. It has had such a direct impact on our lives and the opportunities we have been afforded, from education to travel to the privilege of choosing work based on our own individual passions, whether that is art or design or opening a quirky bowling alley. We are so lucky to have the opportunity now to put in our own hard work to continue his legacy.

When I hear that it has been eight years since we lost my grandmother I really can't believe it because the memories of her are still so strong, and so I already know this will be the same. Together they showed us a partnership of over sixty years and we will always be grateful for all that it gave us and all it allows us, too, to pass on.

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 individuals in our community passed away during the period from July 24-August 19*. May their memories forever be a blessing, and may their loved ones be comforted among the mourners of Zion.



<i>Frida Dorfman</i>	<i>Ira Robbins</i>
<i>Kenneth C. Drake</i>	<i>Maurice Sands</i>
<i>Melinda Jacobs</i>	<i>Sheldon Schneiderman</i>
<i>Howard Lapides</i>	<i>Seymour Suchman</i>
<i>Gloria Lapidus</i>	<i>Adelle Yosim</i>
<i>Sean R. Lesser</i>	<i>Michael A. Zevon</i>
<i>Alan S. Platt</i>	

**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.*

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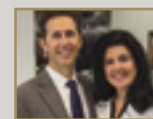
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(NOT) THE LAST WORD

My Connection to Jewish Buffalo and Beyond

By Rabbi Moshe Silberschein

Though I had never been to Buffalo in my life until two weeks ago, I apparently have family roots in Buffalo - or so my older sister recently told me. "Zeyde Goldbaum's mother had a brother in Buffalo that he always visited," she said. Though I've always been into family history, this was news to me. But ever since this recent revelation, I now have this image in my mind of our maternal grandfather Harry Goldbaum, who immigrated to Windsor, Ontario from Belarus in 1929, constantly making the long trek across Southern Ontario to visit his uncle in Buffalo during the 1930's and 1940's.

Growing up I may not have known about my grandfather's Buffalo uncle, but my grandfather's mother, Channah (nee Moskowitz) Goldbaum, was a real presence in my childhood. Every time I went downstairs to play in the basement of my grandparents' home as a child, I would see a huge family photograph of her hanging on the wall. In that photograph, Channah Goldbaum stood surrounded by twelve of her adult children at the unveiling of her husband's tombstone. The photo was taken in 1939 right before the outbreak of World War II, and just a year later, everyone in that photograph, even the tombstone, would be gone, as a result of the Holocaust.

My grandfather, who was the only one of his family to immigrate to the New World a decade before that picture



Rabbi Moshe Silberschein

was taken, was grief-stricken at the end of WWII, and convinced that nothing remained of the family he left behind in the Old Country. However, not long after the newspapers began printing the names of Holocaust survivors in the DP camps searching for relatives, and among them were his youngest sister and her husband! My great aunt and uncle, Auntie Shayna and Uncle Sh'muel. "An ember saved from the flames," they arrived in

America, right off the boat, just in time to stand up at my parents wedding in 1948 as a bridesmaid and best man. And from them we learned of the final fate of Channah Moskowitz Goldbaum, a story Uncle Sh'muel felt obligated to tell us at the Seder every Passover.

He would recount how, when he went on missions with the Partisans, he would leave his son in the care of his grandmother, Channah, back in their



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old hometown of Baranovich. The SS might enter the city to round up Jews for the death camps, but Channah had a trapdoor ready under the rug of her home which led to a cellar where she and her grandson would hide from the SS when needed. But the very last time Channah hid in the cellar with her grandson, they were turned in by a non-Jewish collaborator, who revealed their hiding place to the SS. In fact, the neighbor who turned them in had been Uncle Sh'muel's best friend in school before the War.

"And that is why," Uncle Sh'muel would always conclude, "we can only depend on ourselves and not on the rest of the world. We should have nothing to do with non-Jews. You can't trust them." And then, more often than not, there ensued a heated debate at our table in reaction to Uncle Sh'muel's extreme tribalism: Shouldn't our Seder ritual and its message be open to non-Jews? Can my big sister invite her Catholic friend, Claudette, to the Seder?

The story of Channah Moskowitz Goldbaum's capture and death was part of my family story growing up. And perhaps the debate it always engendered at home is one of the reasons why, for the past thirty years in Jerusalem, I've been teaching Christians from all over the world and Israeli Arabs about Jews and Judaism. And now in the year 2019, I wonder if my grandfather ever made a trip to Buffalo in 1948 to tell his uncle (last name Moskowitz) the fate of his sister.

If you know of any Moskowitz's or their descendents left in Buffalo whose family immigrated from Baranovich, Belarus to this fair city during the first decades of the 20th century, please connect with me at Temple Beth Tzedek, so I can add yet another layer to my family story—which is also part of the larger story of Jewish Buffalo.

Rabbi Silberschein is currently serving as rabbi at Temple Beth Tzedek.

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