

The Award Winning

>> CHAG PESACH SAMEACH!

# THE JEWISH JOURNAL

A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

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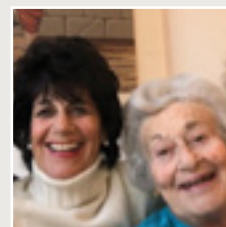
APRIL 2020 | NISAN- IYAR 5780

Let the good in  
me connect to the  
good in others,  
until all the world is  
transformed through  
the compelling  
power of love.

*Rebbe Nachman of Breslov*



**LOOK:**  
FOOD  
FOR PESACH  
(6-9)



**DON'T MISS:**  
YOM HASHOAH  
YOM HAATZMAUT  
(12-13)



**INSIDE:**  
STUDENT TO  
STUDENT LAUNCH  
(16)

# MAKE IT ADJUSTABLE

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## 12 Fully Featured Adjustable Base Styles Designed to Serve All Your Health and Lifestyle Needs

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- Minimize Snoring
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- Arthritis Relief

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*and more...*



## Why I walk...

*"I get goosebumps and a little teary-eyed when I see all those people who are walking with us! It makes me so optimistic that we WILL one day end Alzheimer's."*

*~Barb Ginsberg, 2019 Buffalo Walk to End Alzheimer's top fundraiser*



*Barb Ginsberg, right, with one of her "Dementia Busters" teammates. The 17-member team raised **\$28,000** in 2019. The Walk to End Alzheimer's funds research to end the disease and care & support for all impacted by dementia.*

## What's your reason to Walk?

Get started at [alz.org/Walk](https://alz.org/Walk) and join the fight to end Alzheimer's at the Buffalo Outer Harbor on September 12!

April 2020

## Editor's Note



Ellen Goldstein, Editor

I am writing this message March 16, and the world is upside down because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The April issue of *The Jewish Journal* is always so exciting to plan and work on. There are so many Passover events and Seders taking place, and Yom Hashoah and Yom Ha'atzmaut usually fall during this month, too. Not this year.

Why is this year different from all other years? Are we all really lost in the desert? Are we searching for the Red Sea? Who is Moses? Where is Miriam? As a people, we have endured plagues before...and much worse. As a Buffalo Jewish community, we have struggled to create the renaissance we are now beginning to experience.

In just a short time, our community is witness to so many of you working to safeguard your families, friends and communities. We at Buffalo Jewish Federation applaud the actions you've taken, the proactive communications you've been sending, and the spirit of partnership in our community as so many of you have been working closely together.

Leadership matters! Federation President Leslie Shuman Kramer and CEO Rob Goldberg are looking to answer these essential questions: How do we build community in a time of social distancing? How do we create meaningful Jewish experiences when institutions like many of yours are unable to open their doors? How do we care for our most vulnerable at a time when we can't get close?

As we move forward together to address these challenges, we are confident that we will get through this crisis together. Now is the time to lean hard into ancient Jewish truths: that strength comes from community; that we are all responsible for one another.

We will survive this crisis somehow and, I pray, come through stronger and wiser. For there is often an opportunity hidden in the elements of crisis. Pleased join us in sharing our Jewish values of kindness, generosity and caring. Let's use this opportunity to build a better Jewish Buffalo.

*Chag Pesach sameach* from me and my family to you and yours!

Ellen Goldstein - Editor

## On The Cover



Our tradition tells us that we are obligated to defy darkness. And so at times of worry and uncertainly like we are all now experiencing, we must not give in to despair, but to insist that we are sustained by hope. This message on our front cover from Rebbe Nachman of Breslow is a reminder that hope and love will sustain us, and that now, more than ever, we must dedicate ourselves to building community during times of darkness.

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# The miracles of Passover and Partnership

One of my favorite Passover songs is Dayenu. In addition to being fun to sing, Dayenu is a powerful song about gratitude: it exalts that if G-d had made just one miracle and not the next, it would have been enough. In Dayenu we recite G-d's many miracles of the entire Passover story including taking us out of Egypt, splitting the Red Sea, giving us manna in the wilderness, bringing us to Mount Sinai, giving us the Torah, leading us to the land of Israel, and building the Holy Temple. After listing each one of those things, we proclaim: this would have been enough! Yet singing about the progression of these events reminds us that each of those miracles was part of the big picture, and that it was not one defining miracle but many by which G-d brought us to freedom and into becoming a People.

By hosting and attending Seders each year we recount our story, and as part of this memory we often relate the chain of events to our present lives. For instance, sometimes at our Seder we'll go around the table and share what few items each of us would bring out of Egypt if we were the ones fleeing Pharaoh. These are always fun and thought-provoking conversations.

So I was delighted the first time I heard someone proclaim to have met me back then, yes, in Biblical times, in the era of the Exodus from Egypt. In 1993 I met Avram Infeld, who at the time was President of Hillel International, and who has since held leadership positions in many great Jewish institutions. I was participating in a Young Leadership program of the Buffalo Jewish Federation and our group would meet numerous times over the year, connecting with each other and hearing speakers on important Jewish subjects. Avram, one of our speakers, is an incredibly warm



and affable grandfatherly man with a booming South African accented voice and an even larger heart. When he and I met prior to his formal discussion, he exclaimed warmly, "I know you! We met at Sinai!"

Until that day I hadn't understood the Jewish concept that EACH of us was at Mount Sinai, when G-d gave Moses-and all of us- the Torah. I love that idea! How cool is it that our tradition connects us so viscerally, that we are really One People to the core and that each of us knows the other; How warm and inclusive! Since that epiphany I have heard the expression a number of times, and in thinking about Passover and the numerous events that led us out of Egypt and ultimately to the land of Israel, I feel the connectedness of all the events we sing about in Dayenu.

Likewise, I also feel the inherent and necessary connectedness among the entire world's Jews. Our Partnership2Gether relationship with Israel illustrates this miracle. Our Central Region Consortium is comprised of 14 mid- to small-size American Jewish

communities like Toledo, Ohio; Ft. Worth, and San Antonio Texas. Budapest, Hungary is also part of our consortium, and we, the Diaspora communities, all partner with the Western Galilee in Israel. Now in our 4th year of being a part of this dynamic partnership, Buffalonians from across the community have visited and fallen in love with its diverse people, comprised of Jews, Muslims, Druze, Christians and more in Akko, the Western Galilee Medical Center, and the many villages and kibbutzim that make up our P2G region. Hundreds of us, including 7 Heart2Heart participants, 15 Buffalo mothers on the Momentum trip, nearly 80 Jewish and non-Jewish adults on the Buffalo Israel Experience, 24 Buffalo religious and community leaders including priests and nuns, talented artists and musicians and individual families traveling on their own have experienced our family in Israel and our partners from the U.S. and Budapest. Many of our P2G friends from Israel and Budapest have visited Buffalo, bringing their stories, their professional and cultural expertise, and have built relationships with so many here in Buffalo.

In March, I joined the leadership team and Executive Directors from 14 out of 16 communities who make up our P2G cohort for meetings on Strategic Planning and program reviews, among other things. Our Israeli friends, so disappointed that the Israeli Ministries of Health and Education canceled their travel to the U.S. due to the outbreak of COVID-19, joined us at the Indianapolis Federation by Zoom. We loved connecting with our partners, even remotely, and the rest of us also enjoyed socializing over meals and at our hotel in Indianapolis.

So many in Buffalo have been fortunate over the past four years to visit the Partnership, establishing friendships

with Israelis and with those from our American and Hungarian cohort. We come from so many different places and we each have challenges specific to our own communities. But we are all similar in our passion and dedication to build relationships, community and a joint future for the Diaspora and Israeli communities. Like our ancestors in Biblical times, we are coming together at this moment in history to make a real difference.

I believe that collaborating and bonding through this partnership is the bedrock of our community's future. The more we can learn from, share with and create relationships among each other, the stronger we all will be. Just like our ancestors who fled Egypt-they didn't always get along and they had their own challenges, but when push came to shove, we all showed up when it counted.

The night we arrived in Indianapolis we gathered for a festive dinner at a local restaurant. Many of us were meeting for the first time, and there was much joyful chatter among us. Members of the Indianapolis Jewish community joined us, so we could get to know more of our partners. I sat next to such interesting people—a Dr. from Budapest, the Indianapolis Executive Director and her husband, and a terrific young couple, of whom the husband is chairing the Indianapolis Partnership committee. Never having met him before I was happy to do so. As I reached to shake his hand he smiled and said, "I remember you. We met at Sinai!"

**Note: If you are interested in learning more about P2G, please email Susan Schwarz [susan@buffalojewishfederation.org](mailto:susan@buffalojewishfederation.org).**

*Leslie Shuman Kramer is President of the Buffalo Jewish Federation.*

## Important Message about COVID-19

This issue of *The Jewish Journal* went to print March 17 during the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. This is an unprecedented occurrence, and as such, all of our communal gatherings are in flux. Some of the events listed may have been canceled, changed, postponed or now are being conducted virtually. Please check with the individual organization to see whether or not the program you are interested in is taking place. You may also check the Community Calendar at [www.buffalojewishfederation.org/calendar](http://www.buffalojewishfederation.org/calendar). We will also keep you up-to-date with the Federation's weekly email **My Jewish Buffalo**. As we indicated on the cover, may we increase our efforts to reach out, support others, and express hope, love, gratitude and strength during the weeks ahead.

*Leslie Shuman Kramer, President*

*Rob Goldberg, CEO*

**BUFFALO JEWISH FEDERATION**



# Showcasing Buffalo Talent for all of WNY

By Kelly Lignos Ziv and Margie Godin Bryen

## Home Town Girl

**Made in Buffalo** is coming to town, and we are thrilled to be featuring Buffalo-native Cheryl Stern for our much anticipated second event, taking place **April 26th at 7 p.m.** at the Shea's 710 Theater, located at 710 Main Street. Cheryl's accolades are many, including stints on and off-Broadway, as well as a recent recurring role as Ida Ettenberg (Benjamin's mom) in *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*. She's a talent you simply do not want to miss!

## One-Woman Show

Cheryl's one-woman production of *Shoes and Baggage* takes us on a wild, hilarious, and heartbreaking ride of hunting for a deal and spending as she digs deep to understand her own obsession with shopping. Not only is *Shoes and Baggage* a great show but Buffalonians will find some familiar themes as Cheryl touches on her upbringing in North Buffalo with her tight knit Jewish family, going to Camp Lakeland, attending Amherst High School, being confirmed at Temple Beth Zion, and more.



## VIP Pre-Event

In addition to the Main Event, a VIP Pre-Event will take place at the Shea's Smith Theater and Bistro, just down the street from the Shea's 710. The VIP event will showcase several extraordinary local Buffalo performers doing their acts while attendees watch and mingle, enjoying plentiful food provided by Luscious by Lori, and drinks from the open bar. Featured performers include award-winning Bollywood dancers, soulful Latin American music, Blues music, and dance and musical acts sure to get your body moving. The VIP event is a unique and special experience that is guaranteed to leave you in awe of our local talent. *Please note that tickets for the VIP event are limited.*

**IMPORTANT:** As of 3/17/20, we are looking to make this either a virtual event or reschedule it for another date. Please visit [www.madeinbfo.org](http://www.madeinbfo.org) for more information. We will let you know more about this event as soon as we are able.



## A Chance to Give Back



While the evening promises major laughs, it also offers attendees the opportunity to give back to the Buffalo community. The intention of **Made in Buffalo** is to celebrate a person "made" in our community—someone who feels pride in their connection to Buffalo. Additionally, it's also an opportunity to give back, and we are offering a simple yet powerful way for attendees to help others in our community. We are collecting gently used men's and women's business suits from guests attending either the VIP Event and/or the Main Event. Each clothing donation will be cleaned by Colvin Cleaners and delivered to the Buffalo Employment Training Center (BETC) to support individuals seeking employment and training opportunities. Thank you to our friends at Colvin Cleaners for graciously supporting our clothing donation efforts.

And there's more! The *Shoes and Baggage* production will end with a fun interactive auction of some designer accessories, with Cheryl engaging our audience and the proceeds going to support Jewish Family Service programming.

# Haggadah (The Telling)

for Moshe Dworski

By Susan Dworski Nusbaum



He steadies himself against the starboard rail,  
shivers, swallows hard at each slap of wave,  
peers across the dark sea into the wake,  
Raczki to Bremen—  
an oniony kiss,  
a calloused hand stroking  
the new beard sprouting on his cheek.

This boy Moses, aged 15, traveling alone,  
follows the paths of his brothers,  
as one by one, they escaped the terror of Cossacks—  
clatter of horses, wild through the village,  
hoots of drunken marauders,  
Mrs. Levitinsky's wailing  
at the tiny wooden synagogue's bloody gate,  
the flames, the ash.

His fellow passengers do not speak Yiddish.  
He fingers his tzitzit each morning,  
prays he'll recognize his brother's face at the dock,  
longs for an embrace, a table, a plate of soup.

I think of this boy, my grandfather, as I read  
about waves of oppressed  
Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Hondurans  
rolling toward our country, the promised land,  
families crashing in exhaustion against our gates,  
bodies of their dead— flotsam at the road's edge.

I think of this boy, my grandfather, as I read  
about Carlos Gregorio Hernandez Vasquez,  
who fled gang violence and certain death in Guatemala  
to join his father who came before him,  
detained with hundreds of other children  
inside a lice-ridden, windowless encampment  
in Brownsville TX,

This boy Carlos, aged 16, traveling alone,  
shivering with fever,  
pronounced dead after weeks of internment.

A newspaper headline records his ending:  
"Fifth child to die in detention at the border."

Who will tell his story?

*Susan Dworski Nusbaum is a Buffalo poet and retired attorney.*



# Bonnie is Buffalo!



**390 Brantwood Road • \$459,900**

A spectacular, Snyder home in pristine condition, this professionally designed, open concept has many special features. The updated granite kitchen includes a sunlit morning room leading into an oversized family room and dining room. Hardwood floors are throughout most of home. All bathrooms have been remodeled. The master suite includes an oversized walk-in closet. Throughout the entire home there is loads of closet space. The furnace and air conditioning are updated with a new roof completed in 2017. The stamped, concrete patio overlooks a Zen garden and fully fenced in yard.

View this breathtaking exceptional Spaulding Green custom designed "Jurek" built patio home. This home has over 3,600 sq. ft. of living area with a finished walk out lower level. Some special features included are 12ft. to 24 ft. ceilings, open floor plan with elite designed custom kitchen, huge waterfall island, commercial ovens and Thermador appliances. Hunter Douglas shades throughout, cove lighting in the dining room and 2 fireplaces are breathtaking. The master suite has surround sound speakers, a steam shower, radiant heated floors and a California Closet. The unique glass staircase leads to a lower level which includes 2 bedrooms, exercise room, great room, 1.5 baths and a walk out stamped concrete patio.



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PASSOVER  
5780

# Yum! It's Passover!

Passover is a holiday of freedom, and for many of us, it becomes a time of food and family, cooking and remembering. Again this Pesach, the *Jewish Journal* asked some friends to share beloved family recipes with us, so we could share them with you.

*Chag Pesach Sameach!*

## Matzo Farfel Stuffing

ROBIN BERNHARD KURSS

My Aunt Marsha Bernhard passed away recently. She was an elegant woman who kept a beautiful home. She made many magnificent holidays for our family there. When I was a little girl, she would have me over for special times, just she and I. When I was around 10 years old, before Passover, I had the pleasure of watching her make two of my favorite Passover foods--matzo farfel stuffing and mint meringues with chocolate chips. I can still taste them both....and to this day, the beautiful mint green of those meringues is my favorite color!



*Serves 8*

2 onions, diced  
1 c mushrooms, sliced  
2 ribs celery, sliced  
1 green pepper, diced  
oil or margarine (about 2-3 Tbsp)  
1 lb matzo farfel  
2 c chicken broth  
garlic salt & pepper to taste

Grease a 9 x 13 dish. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Sauté veggies in oil or margarine until soft. In a large bowl, combine sautéed veggies, farfel, broth and spices. Pour into prepared dish, cover with foil and bake for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake 15 minutes more till golden brown on top.

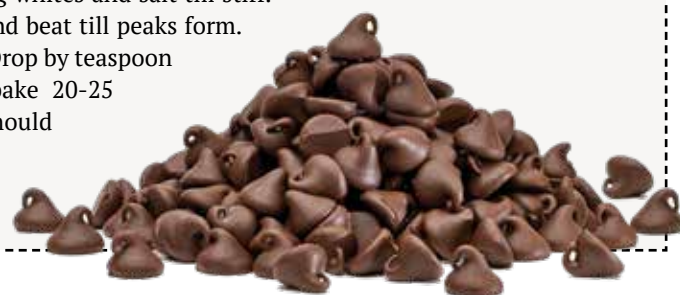
## Mint Meringues with Chocolate Chips

ROBIN BERNHARD KURSS

2 egg whites, room temperature  
3/4 c sugar  
1/2 tsp mint extract  
pinch salt  
a couple drops green food coloring  
6 oz chocolate chips or chopped chocolate



Preheat oven to 300. Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper. Beat egg whites and salt till stiff. Add sugar, mint extract and beat till peaks form. Gently fold in chocolate. Drop by teaspoon onto cookie sheet and bake 20-25 minutes. The cookies should not brown.



## Chocolate Mousse Cake

JIM CORNELL AND DARCI CRAMER

Jim Cornell and Darci Cramer, who married in 2015, knew from the beginning that they wanted to share their love of food, tradition, and entertaining with family and friends. Their hot new restaurant Eckl's@Larkin (703 Seneca Street in Buffalo) sprang from that shared idea. Eckl's@Larkin is a Steakhouse Nouveau that will be featuring creative twists on Jewish cuisine around Jewish holidays, beginning at Passover. They are members of Congregation Shir Shalom. Darci is happy to share her favorite Passover dessert.



1 stick sweet butter  
7 oz. semi-sweet chocolate  
7 eggs  
1 cup sugar  
1 Tbsp. vanilla  
1/8 tsp cream of tartar  
whipping cream

Separate eggs. Melt butter and chocolate and allow to cool. Beat egg whites with 1/8 tsp cream of tartar and 1/4 C sugar until stiff. Beat egg yolks and 3/4 C sugar until pale and smooth. Fold whites into yolks. Fold cooled chocolate into the egg mixture. Add vanilla. Reserve 2 cups of mousse and chill. Pour batter into ungreased 9" springform pan. Bake at 325 degrees for 30-35 minutes. After the cake has cooled, it will collapse. Spread unbaked mousse over top of cake. Freeze. Garnish with whipped cream and chocolate curls.

# Let's Eat!

## Mandel Bread

LORI MORRISON

Lori Morrison is the owner and chef of Luscious By Lori, a Kosher Vaad supervised caterer. Passover recipes have been passed down to her from her mother-in-law, of blessed memory, Allison Morrison, who was known for, among many other wonderful attributes, her amazing Passover food. Luscious by Lori is closed for Pesach, but Lori can be reached at 998-0218, or on Facebook.



2 cups sugar  
½ lb margarine  
6 eggs  
2 ¾ cups cake meal  
¾ cup potato starch  
8 oz. chocolate chips  
1 cup chopped walnuts  
Topping:  
1 tsp cinnamon  
2 tsp sugar  
set oven to 350



Cream margarine with sugar, add eggs, 1 at a time. Mix in cake meal and potato starch. Add chips and nuts. Spray a large tray with cooking spray. Place mixture on cookie sheet and spread, should be around 1 to 1 ½ inches high. Sprinkle on cinnamon/sugar mixture. Bake around 30 minutes. Edges should be brown, and center should look set. Remove from oven, cool for about 5 minutes then cut into strips, then cut to make strips smaller.

## Spinach Kugel

LORI MORRISON

10 oz. pkg spinach (fresh)  
2 onions, chopped  
1 stalk celery, chopped  
1 red pepper, chopped  
3 carrots, grated  
1 cup mushrooms, chopped  
1 Tbsp olive oil  
2 eggs + 2 egg whites  
¾ tsp salt  
¼ tsp pepper  
¼ tsp garlic powder, more is always good!  
Dash basil  
2-3 Tbsp potato starch

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Boil spinach, drain well. Heat oil, saute all vegetables, add spinach last. Add eggs and spices and potato starch, stir well. Pour into casserole dish and bake uncovered until firm, about 45-50 minutes.



## Matzo Balls

ROBIN BERNHARD KURSS  
AND BARBARA GROSSMAN MACKS

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

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

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

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



### Barbara's Matzo Balls

Makes 12 sinkers!

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

### Robin's Matzo Balls

Makes 12 floaters!

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

Mix all ingredients together in a bowl until thoroughly combined. Barbara’s chill for 30 minutes, Robin’s for 2 hours. Bring 6 cups of salted water to boil. Form 12 balls and place in water, bring to simmer and cook for 30 minutes, covered. Serve balls in chicken soup and enjoy!



PASSOVER  
5780

# Yum! It's Passover!

## Arlene Goldstein's Famous Passover Rolls

AMY GOLDSTEIN AND ELLEN GOLDSTEIN

We are pleased to share this recipe again with the community. It first appeared in a Temple Beth Zion Sisterhood cookbook. Our mother, Arlene Carrel Goldstein (z"l) used to make these popovers for Passover for more than 30 years. They were a big hit with her friends and family, and she was known for delivering these to people who asked for them right before Seders. Today, Laura Watts makes them for our family/neighborhood seder, and they are still yummy! This recipe is very technique-driven. DO NOT double the recipe to make more. You need to make one recipe at a time. Follow the rules for great rolls!



Bake 1 hour at 375  
½ cup peanut oil  
1 cup water  
1 Tbsp sugar  
1 tsp salt  
1 ½ cup matzo meal  
4 jumbo eggs

Add ½ cup oil to 1 cup water and boil, then add 1 ½ cup matzo meal, sugar and salt (which have been previously mixed together) all at once to the pot, then beat rapidly over low heat until mixture leaves the sides of the pot and forms a ball. A wooden or metal spoon works well for this. Remove the pot from the heat and beat in all four eggs by hand, ONE AT A TIME. Beat hard after adding each egg until batter is thick and smooth. Then, place a large tablespoonful of the mixture into each section of a well-oiled muffin tin.

Each recipe makes about 12 popovers. Enjoy them! Our mom would be thrilled that they still are on Seder tables around town.

## Marble Cake from Belgium

RIVKY GREENBERG

Growing up in Belgium, this was one of the delicious Passover cakes my mom used to make for us every year. A childhood favorite, we always looked forward to enjoying it with tea! And it's 100% gluten-free (no matzah meal) and nut-free.

2 cups sugar  
8 eggs (separated)  
½ cup oil  
3 ¼ cup potato starch  
2 tsp baking powder  
½ cup orange juice  
3 Tbsp cocoa



Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Beat egg whites and sugar on high until the mixture is hard. Then slowly add the egg yolks and other ingredients (except for cocoa) with mixer on low. Mix until smooth. Take your time to do this well. This mixture has to be REALLY smooth!

Pour ¾ of batter into a 9x11" pan. Add cocoa in the leftover ¼ of the batter. Pour the smaller cocoa batter into the pan and run a fork through it in a swirly pattern, in order to give it the pretty marble cake look. Bake for about 45 min to an hour on 350 degrees F. Check if it's done with a toothpick. Don't bake too long or it will get too dry. Cut into squares. FREEZE BEFORE YOU FINISH IT ALL YOURSELF. Happy Passover!

NOTE: I personally use 9x13 pans (a little bigger than recommended), and add 50% more of each ingredient to give the cake some fluffy height. Or I just triple this recipe and make two 9x13 pans out of it- same idea- works great! You can also use a deep round bundt pan.

## Date & Nut Bites

JESSICA MEYERS ALTMAN

I made these for a class I taught, and in a whirl of a food processor, they were done. That's how easy this recipe is! I like a little crunch, but they need to be processed long enough to break down some of the oils in the nuts to allow the bites to stick together.

This recipe is adapted from a wonderful book called *Afro-Vegan: Farm-Fresh African, Caribbean, and Southern Flavors Remixed* by Bryant Terry. I kick up the spices in these bites, and roll them in some toppings to liven them up further. I usually double the recipe and have them on hand whenever I feel myself needing a boost!

Makes about 23 bites, or 47 when doubled (depending on how you roll)



1 cup dates, soaked in warm water for 10 minutes and drained  
1/2 cup dried cranberries or cherries, soaked in warm water for 10 minutes and drained  
1 cup raw almonds  
1/2 cup raw pecans  
3/4 tsp ground cinnamon  
3/4 tsp ground ginger  
1/8 tsp sea salt (about a pinch)  
Toppings: shredded raw coconut, raw hemp seeds

Place all ingredients into a food processor and pulse until mixture comes together and can be pressed into a ball. Roll date/nut mixture into bite-sized shapes. If you moisten your hands, the mixture will stick to your hands less. As an alternative, you could shape these into small bars for something different. Roll into toppings if desired. Place on freezer tray, freeze for a few hours until firm, and store. These bites are great straight from the freezer, or fridge. They're best served cold, but can be room temp too. I love them as a post-workout snack, dessert, or fast, grab-and-go breakfast treat.

# Eat More!

## Quinoa Confetti Salad

JESSICA MEYERS ALTMAN

**This salad has** a great crunch. You could make half of this recipe, or make the whole recipe and enjoy your leftovers all week long. You may eat a bunch of these curried cashews before adding, be careful not to eat them all, they add a great crunch to the salad!

*Serves 10-12 side servings*

- 2 cups quinoa
- 4 cups water (plus a pinch of salt to water)
- 1½ cup curried cashew nuts (recipe below), some roughly chopped and some kept whole
- 1 bunch kale, about 6 cups chopped
- 1 cup celery, chopped
- ½ cup finely chopped red onion
- ½ cup chopped banana pepper
- ¼ cup chopped fresh parsley
- 2 lemons; 1 tbsp zest, plus 4-5 tbsp fresh juice (about 2 lemons)
- 1 firm apple, of your choice, about 1 cup chopped
- 2/3 cup golden raisins, soaked until plump, and then drained
- ½ tsp fresh black pepper (or more to taste)
- ½-1 tsp kosher salt (to taste)

### CURRIED CASHEWS:

- 2 cups raw cashews
- 1½ Tbsp lemon juice
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- ¾ tsp turmeric
- ½ tsp cumin
- 2½ tsp garam masala (if you don't have this, you can use a traditional curry powder)
- 1/8-1/4 tsp cayenne (we like them spicier, so we lean towards ¼, can add more after you coat, so go lighter to start)

Instructions for Cashews: Roast cashews for 8-10 min at 400 degrees. Squeeze lemon juice and pour on top of cashews. Mix remaining ingredients in a bowl and toss to coat cashews. Place back on cookie sheet and into oven for 2 minutes. Let cool and store.

Soak quinoa for at least 4 hours, or overnight. To cook quinoa: place 4 cups water and quinoa in a pot, bring to boil. Reduce heat and cook until water has been absorbed, about 15-20 minutes. Check for texture, making sure quinoa doesn't over cook and get mushy. If consistency tastes right, drain any remaining water if needed. Quinoa can be made several days in advance. Saute kale in a few tablespoons of water, until wilted. \*If you aren't planning on serving this salad right away, save this step until right before serving to keep green color vibrant.

Set aside 1 cup of cooked quinoa (or use all of it for a larger serving) for later use in the week (great for breakfast). Place cooked quinoa in a large bowl. Add remaining ingredients, except cashews, folding in cooked kale.

This can be made ahead of time. If desiring a bright green kale, save kale for right before serving. Cashews are best stirred in right before serving to preserve their crunch. Add some or all of the curried cashews, up to you! Serve on its own, as a side dish, or atop grilled portobello mushrooms.

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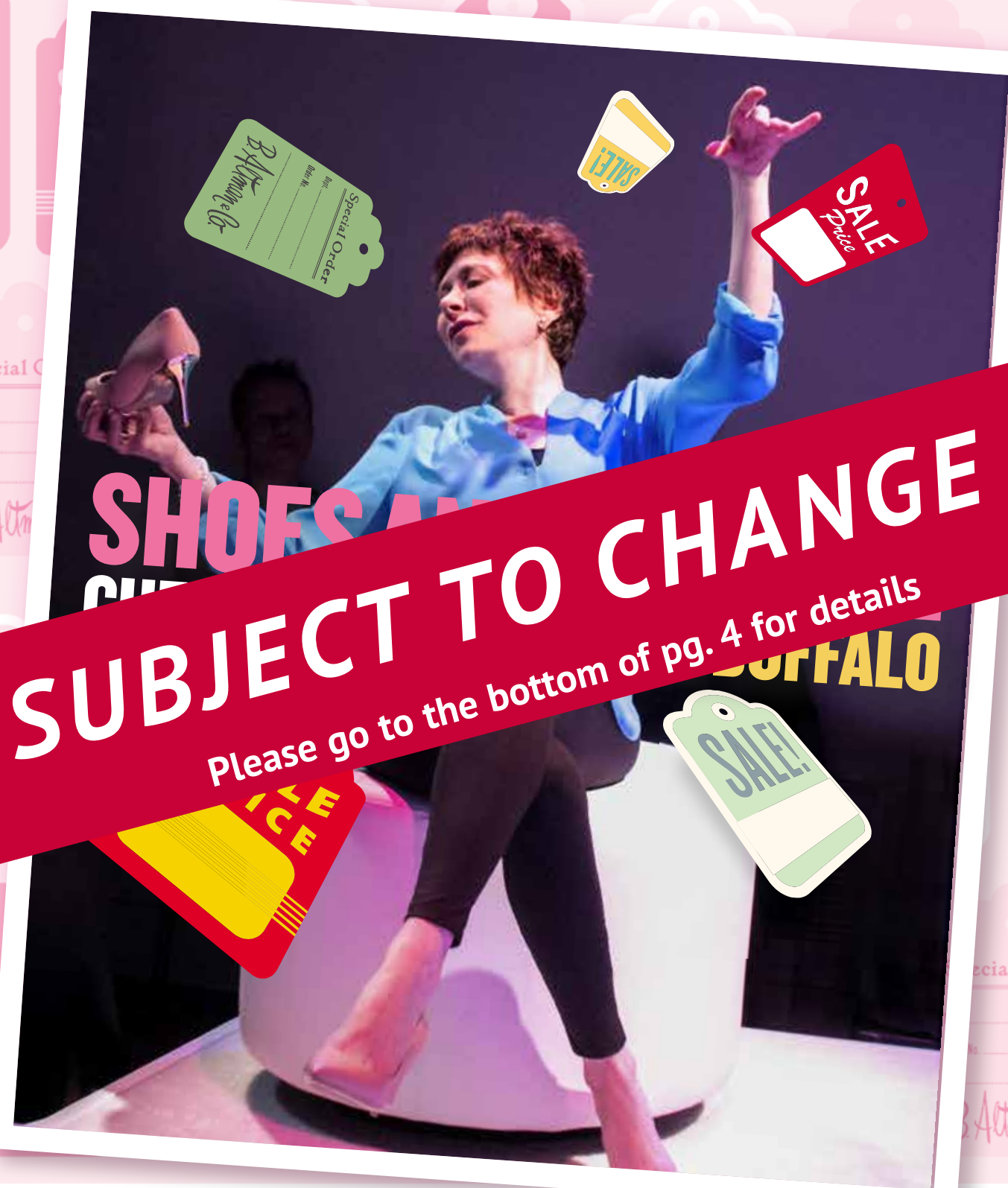
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# From Song Leader Boot Camp to Camp Seneca Lake

By Jake Small

This upcoming summer I will be working at Camp Seneca Lake, my overnight camp for the last ten years, as the camp music specialist. As part of my preparation for this new role, I attended the 2020 Song Leader Boot Camp (SLBC) conference. At SLBC I learned more than how to walk around a camp fire circle leading the Barchu (call to worship). SLBC taught me how to foster a community, how to be inclusive of all, and how to integrate Jewish culture into all areas of camp. More valuable than classes on how to stand up straight or how to use my voice effectively, were the times I spent singing and jamming together with other SLBC participants – often times I just listened and took mental notes on others effectiveness as song leaders. I had a great experience at



In February, Mike Steklof from CJEL and Jake Small traveled to St. Louis to attend the national Jewish leadership conference Song Leader Boot Camp.

SLBC, and have a lot of new ideas to bring back to Seneca Lake this summer. Thanks to the Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning and Camp Seneca Lake for enabling me to attend this conference.



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## PJ Library and PJ Our Way Happenings

There are lots of opportunities to gather with PJ Library families in the month of April. Enjoy tasty treats at our Chocolate Seder, hop over to Shabbat at Hillel of Buffalo, and for our older PJ Our Way friends (in grades 6-9) celebrate a Camp-style Shabbat (and paint night) at Pinot's Palette.

- Friday, April 3rd PJ Our Way/Jewish Teen Initiative Shabbat Paint Night at Pinot's Palette at 5 p.m.
- Sunday, April 5th PJ Library Chocolate Seder at Kehilat Ohr Tzion from 2-4 p.m.
- Friday, April 24th at Tot Shabbat at Hillel of Buffalo @ 5:45 p.m.

For more information about an event check out our Facebook Page [facebook.com/pjlibrarybuffalo](https://facebook.com/pjlibrarybuffalo) or reach out to Miriam Abramovich [miriam@buffalojewishfederation.org](mailto:miriam@buffalojewishfederation.org).





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# זכור! We Remember!

## Holocaust Remembrance Day is April 26 **Public Event April 26 CANCELLED!** Buffalo Jewish Community Commemorates Yom Hashoah

By Elizabeth Schram

The Buffalo Jewish Community's 2020 commemoration of Yom Hashoah will be held Sunday, April 26th at 11:00 a.m. at Williamsville South High School, 5950 Main St. in Williamsville. The Yom Hashoah Committee is co-chaired by Tara Karch Cross and Wendy Weisbrot.

In Western New York, we have been fortunate to have many Survivors of the Holocaust selflessly willing to share their stories in schools and throughout our community. As our Survivors age and pass away, we look to the next generation to continue to share these important stories. Our theme for this year, L'dor V'dor-From Generation to Generation, will highlight the emerging role of the children and grandchildren of our Buffalo Survivors as they are called to light 6 candles commemorating 6 million Jewish victims.

The six individuals being honored include Eva Blum (Survivor), Gertrude Sloan (Survivor), Nicholas Leibovic (Survivor), Cindy Ashton (Child of a Survivor), David Weinstein (Child of a Survivor) and Carol Froehlich (Child of a Survivor).

The Keynote Speaker will be James (Jim) A. Klein, President of the American Benefits Council and son of Holocaust Survivor Gerda Weissmann-Klein and the late Kurt Klein. Gerda was 15-years-



The Klein Family: James (Jim) Klein, Vivian Klein Ullman, Gerda Weissman Klein, Leslie Klein Simon

old when Nazi Germany invaded the city of Bielitz, Poland in September 1939. In her memoir, *All But My Life*, she shares her experiences of life in camps, of losing friends and family, of going on a death march and of liberation in 1945 by a soldier named Kurt Klein, who later became her husband.

Gerda and Kurt Klein resettled in Buffalo in 1946, where they were able to restore their lives and raise three children.

Attorney Jim Klein is a 1975 Kenmore West alumni, a Tufts University graduate

and has a degree from the National Law Center-George Washington University. His group, the American Benefits Council, is a trade association based in Washington, D.C. representing primarily Fortune 500 companies that either sponsor or administer health and retirement benefits covering more than 100 million Americans.

"I am deeply honored to be invited to participate in the Yom Hashoah ceremony. I plan to talk about the importance of Buffalo as the place that shaped my father as an American

when he arrived there in 1937, not quite 17 years old; and the place where my mother's life was restored to normalcy after the experiences she endured during the Holocaust," Klein said. "As Mom has told audiences in countless speeches across the globe, to her Buffalo, New York is unquestionably the most beautiful city in the world. It is the place that warmly embraced her when she arrived as a young bride, speaking no English, in 1946. It is where tragedy transcended into happiness and where, together with Dad, she raised a family, made life-long friends and began a career as an author. She wants the community to know how deeply she loves Buffalo," he noted.

With the increase of intolerance, hate and antisemitism worldwide, it is vital that we stand in solidarity and support one another in events such as Yom HaShoah. We sincerely hope you, your friends and family will be among them. The Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo (HRC) is dedicated to teaching the lessons of the Holocaust, remembering the Survivors and victims and promoting social justice, civic responsibility and human rights. The Board of the HRC is grateful for the sponsoring support of the Buffalo Jewish Federation and Williamsville South High School.

*Elizabeth Schram is Director of the Holocaust Resource Center.*

**Due to COVID-19, the HRC has made a few changes to ensure the safety of WNY's Holocaust Survivors, teachers, students and the wider community.**

**Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)** - Yom HaShoah scheduled for April 26th, will be cancelled. Alternatively, we will be sharing a video on HRC's social media pages and website to commemorate the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust.

**Arts and Writing Contest** - This is a great project for your students/children to work on during this time! Please go to <http://www.hrcbuffalo.org/artsandwriting/> to access the guidelines and to submit art and writing entries. The deadline for the contest has been postponed to April 20th. Rather than dropping off artwork, please send a photo of it to [elizabeth@hrcbuffalo.org](mailto:elizabeth@hrcbuffalo.org). Please mail in or drop off work once it is possible. The award ceremony is scheduled to take place June 10th at 6 p.m. at Temple Beth Tzedek (1641 North Forest Road, Williamsville, NY 14221).

**The members of the staff and board of the Holocaust Resource Center sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding. Please email [elizabeth@hrcbuffalo.org](mailto:elizabeth@hrcbuffalo.org) if you have any questions.**

# Zachor! We Remember!

## Yom Ha'Zikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut in Buffalo



Jewish Buffalo will host a *Yom Ha'Zikaron* (Israel Memorial Day) commemoration on Tuesday, April 28 from 7-8 p.m. at Temple Beth Tzedek and the ceremony will honor and commemorate Israel's fallen soldiers.

A *Yom Ha'Atzmaut* (Israel Independence Day) Celebration is on Sunday, May 3 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. at the Benderson JCC. *Yom Ha'Atzmaut* will be an Israel Fun Day where all of Jewish Buffalo is invited to sing *Hatikvah* (Israel's national anthem) and participate in wonderful family-friendly activities outside at the JCC Benderson Family Building, including a bounce house, climbing wall, face painting, crafts, and a community art-piece which is part of the 54th Annual JCC Book and Arts Fair.

Israeli food will be for sale through Buffalo Kosher Gourmet. *Toda Raba* (thank you very much) to the *Yom Ha'Zikaron* and *Yom Ha'Atzmaut* Committee, Maya Langberg (Chair), Michal Shmuel-Lewis, Kohava Howard, Hallie Keren, Rabbi Moshe Silberschein, Ronnie Adler, and Patty Simonson, to Temple Beth Tzedek for hosting *Yom Ha'Zikaron* and to the JCC of Greater Buffalo for hosting *Yom Ha'Atzmaut*.



## A New Ritual - The Art of Rachel Kanter

A New Ritual - The Art of Rachel Kanter exhibit is part of the upcoming 54th Annual JCC Book and Arts Fair. The exhibit will be on display in the Bunis Family Art Gallery at the JCC Benderson Family Building beginning Sunday, May 3 through Friday June 26, 2020.

The exhibit will open on May 3, during the Yom Ha'Atzmaut Community Celebration at the JCC Benderson Family Building, with a reception, artist talk and community workshop where participants will create one large communal art piece that represents the Buffalo Jewish community and becomes a "Community Wimple." In this session, participants will be taught about the history of the wimple and the prayer that was traditionally written on the wimple. They will have the opportunity to record their personal history in the Buffalo Jewish community by writing and drawing on fabric. These pieces of fabric will be attached together to create a new ritual object. Participants are encouraged to bring in a meaningful piece of fabric, approximately 12 x 12 inches that will become part of the "community wimple".

Thank you to our Presenting Sponsor,



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# B"H Rabbi Heschel Greenberg: Ask, Child

The Seder, as its name suggests, is an orderly ritual; so orderly, in fact, that even before we start the Seder, an outline of its 15 steps introduces virtually every edition of the Haggadah to show us the way.

One reason for the emphasis on order in the Passover Haggadah relates to the special relationship of Passover to children. Many of the things we do on Passover night at the Seder were designed to reach the children and respond to their questions.

Indeed the basis of the obligation to recite the Haggadah is the Biblical verse that states: "You shall relate it (*v'higadita l'bincha*)—the root of the word *v'higadita* is the same as Haggadah) to your **child**." In another verse, the Torah states in relation to Passover, "If your **child** shall ask you ..."

Many rituals of the night are intended to arouse the curiosity of children and to provoke them to ask questions. Asking questions is an integral part of the Seder. It does not suffice to simply tell the story



Rabbi Heschel Greenberg

of the Exodus from Egypt; one must tell the story in response to the questions of the children.

The focus on children in the Seder is repeated once more when we discuss the Four Sons (actually, four children) that

covers every category of child. In truth, the characteristics of the four sons are within each of us. There is a part of us that is intellectually curious; we want to know everything (the Wise Son). There is a part of us that is rebellious (the Wicked Son). There is a part of us that is simple and sincere (the Simple Son). And there are times when we just don't care; we are indifferent, (the Son Who Cannot Ask Questions). The Passover Seder is geared to all the children and to all of the moods and mindsets that each of us experience.

The Lubavitcher Rebbe taught that there is even a fifth child. He or she is the one that doesn't even come to the Seder. That child needs special attention. We must go beyond our comfort zones to seek out this child and bring him or her into our home to celebrate the Seder with us.

In many *Haggadot* (the classical text recited at the Seder) the "Four Questions" are prefaced by the following, instructional phrase: "**Here** the child



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asks...” At first blush, these words were intended to indicate that this is the appropriate place for the child to ask the questions. However, there is a deeper and more poignant message contained in the words “here the child asks.”

“Here” means that at this point, when we are ready to begin the process of retelling the story of the Exodus, each and every one of G-d’s children can ask their Heavenly Father for all of their needs and requests. The energy generated by all the little children, poised to express their innocence and inquisitiveness, awakens the child innocence in all of us. And as G-d’s children, we can ask for anything.

“Here,” refers even more specifically to the geographic and spiritual state of exile in which we are situated. At this point, where we realize the fact that we are still “here,” in exile, when the world is still suffering from hatred, violence and pain, this is where the child in us is aroused to ask, “G-d why? Why are we still in exile? Why are we not totally free,

both physically and spiritually?”

When we ask, with the innocence and purity of a child, why are we still in exile, G-d listens to our childlike purity of heart and assures us that the “night of exile” is but temporary. Just like He saved us from the Pharaohs in past generations, so too will He redeem us from this present exile so that we can indeed celebrate the Seder—this year—in Jerusalem, with the imminent coming of Moshiach! And although he has tarried, we believe with the pure and innocent faith of a child that by internalizing the holiness and spirit of freedom of the Seder, we will finally see what we’ve been waiting and praying for come to fruition: the era of universal peace and holiness!

*Rabbi Greenberg is a lecturer, founder and Director of the Jewish Discovery Center.*



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# Mazel Tov



## Melvin Livingston

celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in March with his family and friends. Born on March 1, 1920 in Pittsburgh, he moved to Buffalo in the 1930's. He was married to Sophie Kloner Livingston for 49 years and is the father to three daughters and sons-in-law, seven grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren. He is the beloved companion of Sandra Morrison. Mel is loved by all for his keen wit, intellect, kindness, joy for life, style, compassion, sense of humor, and unwavering support for his family and many friends. Mel touches all who have the privilege of being his family, friend, or acquaintance.



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## COMMUNITY

# Launch of Student to Student: Teens Teaching Tolerance

On a balmy March day, Fawn Chapel, National Director of Student to Student, traveled to Buffalo to support the launch of a local Student to Student program. Student to Student is a national initiative, based in St. Louis, which trains Jewish teens to travel to area High Schools to engage in dialogue about Judaism with their non-Jewish peers.



Trained Jewish teens make presentations and lead informal discussions about Judaism in local schools that lack a Jewish presence. The goal of this program is to reduce stereotypes and prejudice among teens through peer-to-peer dialogue. Student to Student presenters share stories of their personal Judaism, which can be an integral part of efforts to end bigotry and intolerance. The first cohort of Buffalo Jewish teen presenters are: Nadav Langberg, Charlie Herman, Hailey Epstein, Adam Beiter and Syvonne Forgette. The Student to Student program in Buffalo is a partnership of the Jewish Communal Relations Council, the Holocaust Resource Center, and the Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning.



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# Reflections on the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) 2020 Annual Conference

By Deborah Goldman

As the new JCRC co-chair, joining with Nina Lukin as co-chair and Mara Koven-Gelman, JCRC Director, I was pleased to learn that the Buffalo JCRC is clearly following the right path. Our JCRC Executive Committee has welcomed new members and we have a full calendar of community events for the upcoming months. We are making positive connections, partnering within and outside our local Jewish Community. While there is certainly room for us to grow, we are “punching above our weight” compared to JCRCs in cities about our size.

Evolutionary psychiatry has shown us that “our capacity for empathy is a function of proximity.” JCRCs are a unique way to combat antisemitism from both the right and the left through building bridges, and we appreciate the continued support from our community.

Last month, Mara Koven-Gelman and I attended the JCPA Annual Conference in Washington D.C. Here is a background and reflections on the engaging, informative, experience.

## What is the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA)?

The JCPA is the national umbrella body of the Jewish Community relations field, bringing together 125 Jewish Community Relations Councils (JCRCs) and 17 national agencies, including the four denominations of American Judaism.

## What happens at the JCPA Annual conference?

Each year, volunteers and professionals come together to participate in trainings on policy and professional development, engage in thoughtful discussion, discuss action steps, and vote on resolutions that are available for use by local JCRCs, and learn from experts.

## What topics were on the schedule?

The schedule was a combination of plenary sessions for all attendees, choices of panel discussions in smaller sessions, and affinity meetings for individuals with specific functions such as staff and/or delegates. The plenary sessions were focused broad topics such as antisemitism and Israel. Examples of smaller sessions included gun violence prevention; climate change; policing, bail and sentencing; Campus climate; Black-Jewish relations in a time of growing antisemitism; and Speaking about Israel in progressive circles.

## How can we use what we learned at the conference?

For example, the conversation about Jewish-Black relations touched on our history of shared interest and the opportunities to rebuild and rethink relationships - half of Israeli Jews are “Jews of Color” and appreciate the existence of Jews of Color in this country. Another example is my increased ability to respond effectively to a remark advocating for BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) in a recent conversation. Like the quote from Mark Twain, “I can love my country all the time and love my government when they deserve it.” Meaning many Israelis have issues with current leaders. There is room for both - loving a country and being critical.

We have an opportunity to continue educating our community

on issues such as census, voting, restorative and rehabilitative justice, gun violence prevention, and the working definition of antisemitism. The full list of adopted resolutions is at [jewishpublicaffairs.org/resolutions/](http://jewishpublicaffairs.org/resolutions/).

Deborah Goldman is co-chair Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council.



Buffalonian Darcy Hirsch, Deborah Goldman and Mara Koven-Gelman in D.C.

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# WOMEN GATHERING

### WELL CIRCLE

for women in their 30s and 40s. Are you interested in learning about yourself from the inside-out, cultivating relationships, and uncovering personal connections to inherited wisdom and rituals? This gathering connects women to body, soul, and community through wellness learning and Jewish spirituality.

**APRIL 20, MAY 19,  
JUNE 23 - 7PM**

### MUSSAR FOR MOMS

for women parenting pre-school and elementary school aged children. Do you want to increase awareness of yourself, and build confidence to be the best parent that you can be? This gathering will use conversations based on Jewish texts along with daily practices to set each of us on a personal path towards self-discovery and transformation.

**APRIL 19, MAY 3, MAY 17,  
MAY 31, JUNE 14 - 7PM**

### WOMEN GATHERING COHORTS

**WOMEN GATHERING TOGETHER HAS BEEN A HALLMARK OF JUDAISM SINCE BIBLICAL TIMES. ROSH CHODESH, THE FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH ON THE LUNAR CALENDAR, HAS BEEN SET ASIDE AS A TIME FOR WOMEN TO GATHER, STUDY, TELL STORIES, AND SHARE EXPERIENCES. IN EACH OF THESE SMALL GROUPS, WOMEN WILL CONNECT WITH ONE ANOTHER THROUGH TEXT, JOYFUL CONVERSATION, AND A COMMITMENT TO LIFT ONE ANOTHER UP.**

### BECOMING

for women with children age 15+. Are you looking for community and conversation with other women whose children are transitioning to independent adulthood? This gathering will include time to share joy, commiserate and glean insights from Jewish texts. Gathering for drinks/coffee to share stories, challenges and opportunities.

**APRIL 22, MAY 20,  
JUNE 10 - 7PM**

### WISE WOMEN

for women who are empty nesters. Are you interested in engaging in conversation about the excitement and challenges of a new stage of life? Want to explore what Judaism has to say about transitions, and new experiences? This group will explore Jewish and secular texts along with guided conversation.

**APRIL 27, MAY 18,  
JUNE 22 - 7PM**

**WANT TO LEARN MORE?**  
CONTACT [SUSAN SCHWARTZ:](mailto:SUSAN@BUFFALOJEWISHFEDERATION.ORG)  
[SUSAN@BUFFALOJEWISHFEDERATION.ORG](mailto:SUSAN@BUFFALOJEWISHFEDERATION.ORG)

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

- 1» **Be Counted!** By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. You will have three options for responding: Online. By phone. By mail. **Go to [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov) for more information.**
- 2» **19th Annual Camp Good days Black Tie Gala is April 4 from 5:30-12 Midnight at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.** This year, it is a Billy Joel-themed event. For over 40 years, the primary purpose of Camp Good Days has been to make the lives of children dealing with cancer as happy and rewarding as possible, and to give back the childhood that cancer has taken away. \$200/per person. **Contact [www.campgooddays.org/event](http://www.campgooddays.org/event) or call (716) 206-0709.**
- 3» **Enjoy a Taste of Ghana Tuesday, April 21 at Congregation Shir Shalom from 6:00-8:30 p.m.** The program, which features Ghanaian food, a fashion show, goods, silent auction and Ghanaian drumming & dancing, supports Hope for Sisi's Kids. \$85 VIP Tickets / \$25 students / \$40 general admission / \$50 at the door. **[www.hosikids.org](http://www.hosikids.org) or call 913-9835.**
- 4» **Celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day April 25.** The Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper Sweep is the largest shoreline cleanup in WNY! Join over 2,000 volunteers on April 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in cleaning up tons of trash at over 50 sites in the region. Do your part on the 50th anniversary of Earth Day and gather litter along the shore to prevent it from entering the waterways! **Go to <https://bnwaterkeeper.salsalabs.org/2020springshorelinesweep> to register or call 852-7483.**
- 5» **Yom Hashoah is the time to remember those lost in the Holocaust.** The Buffalo Jewish Community Commemoration is Sunday, April 26 at 11:00 a.m. at Williamsville South High School, 5950 Main Street. Help us commemorate the day as a community, and bring your friends and family. **Call 634-9535 for more information or go to [www.hrcbuffalo.org](http://www.hrcbuffalo.org).**

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Last month Jody Goldstein, Linda Nash, and Elinor Weiss correctly identified Ellen Steinfeld's painting, "The Exodus" hanging in the stairway of the JCC Benderson Family Building.

# Dining Guide



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# Dining Guide



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*Checks can be sent to Jewish Family Service, 70 Barker St., Buffalo, NY 14209  
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## SYNAGOGUES

## ORGANIZATIONS

# Jewish Community Organizations in Western New York

### Buffalo Jewish Federation

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

### Buffalo Vaad of Kashrus

49 Barberry Lane  
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716-534-0230  
Rabbi Eliezer Marcus - Regional Director  
Michael Paskowitz - President  
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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 - Chair

### Chabad House of Buffalo

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Rabbi Moshe Gurary  
www.chabadbuffalo.com

### Chai Early Childhood Center

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Chani Labkovski - Director

### Department of Jewish Thought

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jewish-studies@buffalo.edu  
www.jewishstudies.buffalo.edu  
Dr. Sergey Dolgopolski - Chair

### Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies

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Getzville, NY 14068  
716-204-1133  
www.jewishphilanthropies.org  
Irv Levy - Executive Director  
Don Kohnstamm - President

### Hadassah

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buffalohadassah@gmail.com  
Elaine Kellick and Annette Magid -  
Co-Presidents

### Hebrew Benevolent Loan Association

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716-204-0542  
Judith Katzenelson Brownstein - President

### Hillel of Buffalo

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Rabbi Sara Rich - Director  
Dr. Jeffrey Lackner - President  
www.hillelofbuffalo.org

### Holocaust Resource Center

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www.hrcbuffalo.org  
Elizabeth Schram - Director  
Ann Marie Carosella - President

### Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo, Inc.

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716-688-4033  
Richard Zakalik - Executive Director  
Alon Kupferman - President

### Holland Family Building

787 Delaware Avenue  
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www.jccbuffalo.org

### Jewish Community Relations Council

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Getzville, NY 14068  
www.buffalojewishfederation.org  
Mara Koven-Gelman - Director  
Nina Lukin - Co-chair  
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### Jewish Discovery Center

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www.jewishdiscovery.org

### Jewish Family Service Of Buffalo And Erie County

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www.jfsbuffalo.org  
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### Jewish Federation Apartments

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www.jfedbflo.com  
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### Kadimah

www.kadimah.org  
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### Western New York Synagogues and Temples

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Rabbi Moshe Gurary - Director  
www.chabadbuffalo.com

#### Congregation Beth Abraham (Conservative)

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www.congregationbethabraham.net

#### Congregation Shir Shalom

(Reform/Reconstructionist)  
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Rabbi Alexander Lazarus-Klein  
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Bruce Corris - President  
www.shirshalombuffalo.org

#### Congregation Havurah (Reform)

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#### Kehillat Ohr Tzion (Modern Orthodox)

879 Hopkins Rd  
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http://ohrtzion.org/kot

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### Saranac Synagogue (Orthodox)

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Gabbai David Kunkel  
www.SaranacSynagogue.org

### Temple Beth Tzedek (Conservative)

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716-639-7600

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

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## TBaZY Youth to Lead Shabbat Service

Friday, April 3, at 7 p.m.  
Temple Beth Zion, 805 Delaware Avenue



TBaZY members at NFTY NEL's 2019 Spring Kallah

Temple Beth Zion's Youth Group—TBaZY—will lead the April 3 Shabbat Evening Service at the synagogue. It is another opportunity for TBaZY and TBaZY Jr. prospects, alumni, and current members to enjoy a fun service, learn some new melodies, and see friends. The community is welcome to participate and join the ruach!

## Save the Date: June 6 at CSS Anne Bernstein Memorial Program

By Peter Simon

The Anne Bernstein Memorial Shabbat Speaker Series at Congregation Shir Shalom on June 6 will be all about family and music. The program has been sponsored for the last seven or eight years by Alan and Ellen Bernstein in memory of their daughter Anne, who passed away 37 years ago at age 22. Although the event has attracted an average of about 80 people over the years, Mrs. Bernstein felt it was time to try something different. "I thought it would be nice to sit back and enjoy a musical program," she said.

The Bernsteins' son Marc, a New York City attorney and an excellent singer, agreed to lead a musical production on June 6th at Congregation Shir Shalom in Williamsville. Marc's sons, Adam and Brett, both students at the University of Pennsylvania, are musicians and will also perform.

Marc Bernstein, a graduate of the University of Buffalo and Harvard Law School, has a repertoire that includes classical music, Broadway show tunes and Yiddish and Hebrew selections. He is also president of the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue in



Marc Bernstein

New York. Ellen Bernstein said honoring the memory of Anne is even richer this year because the performers are family members. "They leave Buffalo but don't forget their roots," she said. "We feel very gratified."

The program is open to the entire community. More information will be forthcoming next month.

## April 19 Shir Shalom Spring Rummage Sale: A Story of Mitzvah

Rummage sales are a mitzvah in every sense of the word. The next Shir Shalom rummage sale will be held Sunday, April 19th from 9:00 a.m. through 1:30 p.m. at the synagogue, 4660 Sheridan Drive in Williamsville.

The Women of Shir Shalom look forward to continuing the decades old tradition of holding Temple rummage sales. In addition to providing funds for Congregation Shir Shalom and all the activities of the group, the twice annual rummage sales do so much more.

The sale provides clothing in all sizes for

men, women and children, and community members are able to find collectibles, art work, jewelry, toys, books, small appliances, sports equipment, and all types of household items at greatly reduced prices.

After each sale, the items that remain unsold are donated to City Mission, Goodwill, Everywoman Opportunity Center, Prom Dress Drive, American Association of University Women Book Sale, Jewish Family Service Resettlement Program, and other equally worthy local non-profits. **For information, call 633-8877.**

## TBZ Presents "Big J Blues"

Saturday, April 4  
Temple Beth Zion, 805 Delaware Avenue



7 p.m. Pre-concert reception

7:30 p.m. Concert

Jeremy Appelbaum entertains the crowd with his custom Mississippi Drum Machine underfoot. Big J plays the blues the way they were meant to be played....from the gut!

**\$10 per person Call (716) 836-6565 to RSVP.**

*Tickets also available at the door.*

## Temple Beth Zion Sisterhood is hosting Ladies' Night-Out Accessory Exchange Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Road Thursday, April 30

7 - 8 pm: socialize, wine, cheese & fruit • 8 - 9 p.m.: shop & accessorize!

**\$10 per person**

**TO PARTICIPATE:** Please bring your new, or nearly new items to the Broder Center on Sunday, April 26, 9 - noon or Monday, April 27, 4 - 6 pm. During drop off, you will be given one ticket per item.

**25 ITEM LIMIT.**

Items remaining after the event will be donated. Accepting: Jewelry, shoes, jackets, scarves, gloves, belts, purses & small totes. Join us for this fabulous and fun event.

**Questions? Contact Jamie at (716) 908-0056 or Dee at (240) 446-1211.**

## Keeping Up with KOT

**Kehillat Ohr Tzion** started celebrating Purim early this year with a special children's program including plenty of treats and activities to get the children excited about the holiday. Then two days before Purim, KOT held a Comedy Night event featuring comedian David Kilimnick, who performs regularly in Israel and the Diaspora. The Megilla was read three times over two days by Rabbi Ori Bergman. A Purim Seudah followed with not only good food but with parodies written by Ted Steinberg and sung together by everyone in attendance. At KOT, Haman's name was blotted out with the shaking of boxes of pasta,



which were then donated to Hearts for the Homeless.

Chocolate Seders sound pretty appealing to children as well as to adults. Last year's Chocolate Seder was a huge success and will be repeated this year at KOT as a PJ Library event Sunday, April 5 from 2-4 p.m. The Passover story will be told while using chocolate and other treats. Each child will make a fun Passover craft to take home.

## Joint Liberal Passover Service at Congregation Shir Shalom



**Wednesday, April 15,  
10:30 a.m.**

The community is welcome as clergy from Shir Shalom, Temple Beth Zion, Congregation Havurah and Temple Beth El of Niagara Falls lead the Yizkor service and celebration of Passover. A complimentary luncheon will follow. **Please RSVP to the Temple Office 633.8877**

## Renowned Rabbi to Speak at TBT Klein Weekend in May

**Dr. Raphael Medoff, the founding director of the David Wynman Institute for Holocaust Studies which focuses on America's response to the Holocaust, will be the Scholar in Residence for the Temple Beth Tzedek Rabbi Isaac Klein Weekend Friday, May 15 through Sunday, May 17.**

During Friday night services, Dr. Medoff will present new research and controversies regarding FDR and the Holocaust. Dr. Medoff's recently published book *The Jews Should Keep Quiet*, addresses the U.S. government's unwillingness to undertake serious rescue efforts and the deep divisions within American Jewry at that time.

During Saturday morning services, Dr. Medoff will discuss "The Jewish Vote: Myth and Reality." The focus will be twofold. First, the behind the scenes efforts by Republicans and their Jewish allies to woo Jewish voters away from President Roosevelt during the 1944 presidential election will be explored. Second, Dr. Medoff will discuss his new research on the 1948 presidential contest between President Harry Truman and Republican candidate Thomas Dewey. Dr. Medoff's presentation will challenge the conventional wisdom of Jewish voting patterns in that race with important implications for Jewish voting



**Dr. Raphael Medoff**

trends today.

On Saturday evening, at 7:30 p.m. the topic "Babe Ruth, Other Athletes and the Holocaust" will be explored. A multimedia presentation on "Cartoonists Against the Holocaust" will begin after a continental breakfast at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 17. Everyone is welcome. **For more information, contact TBT at 838-3232.**

## Congregation Shir Shalom Second Night Seder

**Thursday, April 9, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Shir Shalom Social Hall**

**You are welcome at the Shir Shalom Second Night Seder conducted by Rabbi Alex Lazarus Klein and Cantor Arlene Frank.**

Complete Seder dinner catered by Jonny Cs includes gefilte fish, chicken soup with matzoh balls, salad, boneless, skinless chicken, broccoli with garlic, oven roasted potatoes, matzoh, wine, juice, hot beverages, fruit salad, cookies and cake.

**Ticket Prices:** Adult members \$40/Adult non-members \$45/Adult Kosher \$50/Children 10 and under \$25/ Children Kosher \$30

**Call 716.633.8877 with questions or to RSVP.**



## Cantor's Penny Drive

**Jewish Family Service** is grateful to receive over \$200 in cash and gift cards, in support of its Mental Health programming and training, as a result of "Cantor Penny's Penny Drive!" This event represented much more than financial support for JFS. The agency is so grateful for the friendship and community partnership we share with Cantor Penny and TBZ. To everyone who contributed, JFS says "THANKS!"

## Annual TBZ Flower Sale

**Just in time for Mother's Day!** Pre-order from a wide variety of options. Gerbera daisies, geraniums, begonias, and much more. Hanging baskets, bull flats, and annuals. Purchases will be available for pickup at the Broder Center, 700 Sweet Home Road, Sunday, May 3. Plants provided by Bengert Greenhouses. **Pre-Order form available by calling 836-6565 or at [www.tbz.org](http://www.tbz.org). Cash-and-carry available while supplies last.** Proceeds benefit the Temple Beth Zion Religious School.

**Congregation Shir Shalom**  
Presents

## Buffalo Corner Reading Series

**Thursday, April 16**  
**7:00 p.m.**

Hosted by Gunilla Kester  
at the Synagogue-  
4660 Sheridan Drive

## Service to honor TBZ Teachers

**"Morah Rab'cha ke'mora shamayim."**  
**"Revere your teacher as you would heaven."**  
(Avot 4:12)

Each year, Temple Beth Zion honors the dedicated PALS/Kadimah staff and Religious School teachers and Madrichim on *Shabbat HaLimud*, an Erev Shabbat service which is dedicated to thanking and honoring the educators of Temple Beth Zion for influencing the lives of children in such positive ways. **The entire community is invited to celebrate Shabbat HaLimud at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 1, 2020, at Temple Beth Zion, 805 Delaware Ave.**

## TBZ Religious School in Brief

In early February, the students at Temple Beth Zion Religious School enjoyed a festive Tu B'Shevat celebration during which they tasted a wide variety of fruits, planted parsley seeds to harvest for their Passover seders, wrote poetry celebrating trees, and watched their 7th Grade friends put on a play based on the story of Honi the Circlemaker.



In early March, the Religious School followed the Purim commandment of giving *tzedakah* to those in need. Students at all grade levels helped to tie the fringed edges of twenty fleece no-sew blankets. Religious School and TBZ Sisterhood shared the cost of materials, and prepped the blankets together before Sunday morning. The finished blankets will be donated to Friends of Night People, a charitable organization that helps the poor, homeless and destitute in Buffalo, by providing food, clothing, medical care, counseling and hope to those in need.



## TBZ Adult Learning

### Spiritual Tools for Today

**Tuesday, April 7, 7 p.m.**  
**Temple Beth Zion library**  
**805 Delaware Ave.**

Kabbalah, Middot, Spiritual Practices – each of these help us manage and create more meaning and better living.

In each session we will explore current readings of practical Jewish mystical teachings and look at practices to help us better cope, find balance, and thrive, even when facing challenges. Coffee and desserts for our bodies, reflections, learning, and inspiration for our hearts, minds, and spirits.

### Talmud Talk

**Wednesday, April 1**  
**Noon – 1 p.m.**

**Broder Center Conference Room,**  
**700 Sweet Home Rd.**

All our Judaism, especially Reform Judaism, starts in the Talmud. Everyone is welcome – we are all beginners in the ocean of Jewish learning. Materials provided. Bring your own lunch.

### I and Thou and Lunch

**Friday, April 17**  
**Noon – 1 p.m.**

**Temple Beth Zion**  
**805 Delaware Ave.**

The fundamentals of relational Judaism start with the thinking of Martin Buber in his beautiful I and Thou. Learn this profound text in conversation – no preparation required. Lunch and drinks provided.

### Torah Study

**Saturday mornings**  
**9:15 – 10:15 a.m.**

**Temple Beth Zion library**  
**805 Delaware Ave.**

**Temple Beth Zion, 805 Delaware Ave.**

TBZ's clergy delve into the week's reading from Torah, the Five Books of Moses. Learned and open-ended, join this group and discuss how our ancient texts continue to bring meaning to our twenty-first century lives. Coffee and cookies provided.

**Please RSVP to Rabbi Freirich,**  
**[rabbi@tbz.org](mailto:rabbi@tbz.org).**

# Community Seders in WNY

## PJ Library Chocolate Seder

Sunday, April 5 2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Kehillat Ohr Tzion, 879 Hopkins Rd.

For more information check out  
PJ Library's Facebook Page  
[facebook.com/pjlibrarybuffalo](https://facebook.com/pjlibrarybuffalo) or  
[miriam@buffalojewishfederation.org](mailto:miriam@buffalojewishfederation.org)

## Chabad of Buffalo

Wednesday, April 8 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 9 8:30 p.m.

2450 North Forest Road

RSVP Necessary 688-1642 or

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

## Congregation Beth Abraham

Thursday, April 9 at 6:00 p.m.

1073 Elmwood Ave, Buffalo NY

\$30 **RSVP (reservations required):**

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

or visit [www.congregationbethabraham.net](http://www.congregationbethabraham.net).

## Congregation Shir Shalom

Shir Shalom Second Night Seder

Thursday, April 9 6:00 p.m.

Shir Shalom Social Hall

Adult Members \$40/Adult Non-

Members \$45/Adult Kosher Meal

\$50/Children 10 and under

\$25/Children Kosher Meal \$30

RSVP by April 1 to 633-8877.



## Hillel of Buffalo

Seder for local undergraduate and graduate students

Wednesday, April 8 7:00 p.m.

Hillel, 520 Lee Entrance, UB

Commons, 101B

Free for undergraduates and graduate students at UB, Buffalo State and any other local colleges.

RSVP to Rabbi Sara Rich

[rabbisara@hillelofbuffalo.org](mailto:rabbisara@hillelofbuffalo.org).

## Jewish Discovery Center

Wednesday, April 8 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 9 8:00 p.m.

757 Hopkins Road

Free, but RSVP necessary:

[www.jewishbuffalo.com](http://www.jewishbuffalo.com) or 639-7600.

## Kehillat Ohr Tzion

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

Email [oribergman@gmail.com](mailto:oribergman@gmail.com).

## Temple Beth El/ Niagara Falls

Community Passover Seder

Wednesday, April 8 6:00 p.m.

720 Ashland Avenue, Niagara Falls

Free, but donations to help cover the costs are welcome.

For more information or reservations, call Darlene at 716-297-2574.

## Temple Beth Zion

TBZ First Night Seder

Wednesday, April 8 6:00 p.m.

Marriott Hotel

1340 Millersport Highway

Adults member \$45/\$55 adult non-

member/ Children ages 4-12 \$35/

Children 3 and under Free.

RSVP ASAP to 836-6565.

## TBZ Sisterhood Passover Luncheon

Saturday, April 11

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Best wishes as you gather together with friends and  
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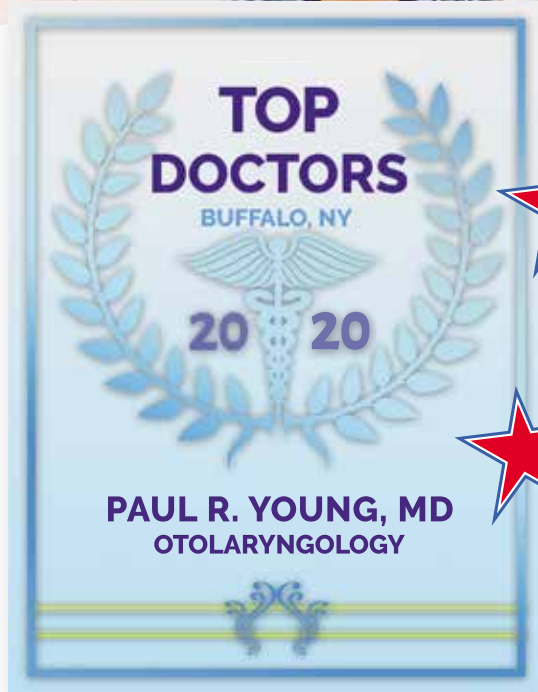
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# Happy Passover

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Louis J. Antonucci, MD

Diane T. Flanigen, MD

Joseph R. Berardi, MD

Barry M. Epstein, MD



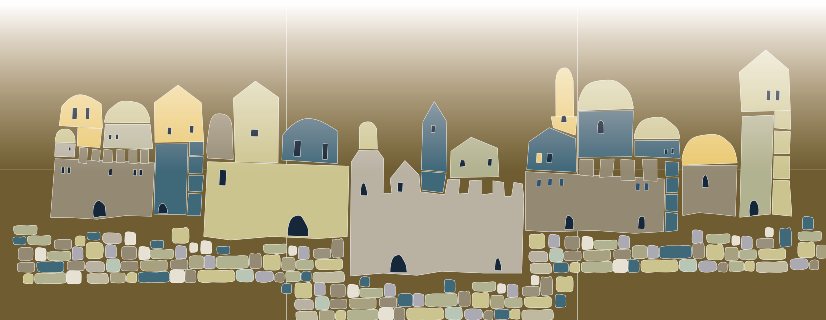
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## *Chag Sameah! Happy Passover*



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\*One giveaway per person

# BUILDING BRIDGES IN A TIME OF ANTISEMITISM

Monday, May 11  
7:00 PM

## Temple Beth Tzedek

1641 North Forest Rd | Williamsville 14221

Dessert Reception to Follow  
This event may be offered virtually given the  
Coronavirus pandemic. For updates, check  
BUFFALOJEWISHFEDERATION.ORG/CALENDAR



We are living in challenging and polarizing times.  
What are the current trends in antisemitism?  
Can we even talk to each other anymore?

Stephanie Hausner, Deputy Director of Israel Action Network will provide an update on the current landscape and offer suggestions on how we can build relationships to ensure vitality for Jewish Buffalo and our larger community.

RSVP to joan@buffalojewishfederation.org by May 2

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## CALENDAR



**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all events in April are subject to change.**

### April 1

#### Lunch and Learn

12:15 p.m. JDC Learning Center  
831 Maple Rd.  
Call 716.400.1550

### UB Dept of Jewish Thought Lecture

2 Responses to National Socialism  
7-9 p.m. UB/ 708 Clemens Hall  
Jamie Farrugia- 645-0757  
[Jewish-thought@buffalo.edu](mailto:Jewish-thought@buffalo.edu)

### April 3

#### PJ Our Way

#### Shabbat Paint Night for 6-9th graders

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Pinot's Palette, 9570 Transit Rd.  
\$20,  
[Bit.ly/pjowpaint](http://Bit.ly/pjowpaint)

### April 5

#### Kosher Mini Chefs

4:00- 5:00 p.m. 757 Hopkins Rd.  
\$10  
RSVP at [www.jewishbuffalo.com](http://www.jewishbuffalo.com) or  
[laizer@gmail.com](mailto:laizer@gmail.com) / 639-7600

### April 6

#### UB Dept of Jewish Thought Lecture

#### Against Maimonides:

#### Two Modern Jewish Theories of Sacrifice

7:00- 9:00 p.m.

UB/ 708 Clemens Hall  
Jamie Farrugia- 645-0757  
[Jewish-thought@buffalo.edu](mailto:Jewish-thought@buffalo.edu)

### April 7

#### Let's Do Kosher Lunch

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
757 Hopkins Rd.

RSVP at [www.jewishbuffalo.com](http://www.jewishbuffalo.com)  
or [laizer@gmail.com](mailto:laizer@gmail.com) / 639-7600

#### Spiritual Tools for Today

7:00-8:30 p.m. Temple Beth Zion Library  
805 Delaware Avenue  
RSVP [rabbifreirich@tbz.org](mailto:rabbifreirich@tbz.org)

### April 8-16

#### Passover celebrated

Check page 27 for event details.

### April 14

#### Let's Do Kosher Lunch

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
757 Hopkins Rd.

RSVP at [www.jewishbuffalo.com](http://www.jewishbuffalo.com) or  
[laizer@gmail.com](mailto:laizer@gmail.com) / 639-7600

### April 21

#### Let's Do Kosher Lunch

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
757 Hopkins Rd.

RSVP at [www.jewishbuffalo.com](http://www.jewishbuffalo.com) or  
[laizer@gmail.com](mailto:laizer@gmail.com) / 639-7600

### April 23- May 16

#### Jewish Repertory Theatre presents

#### "Modern Orthodox"

7:30 p.m. JCC Seller Theatre

Call 650-7626 or [pquinn@jccbuffalo.org](mailto:pquinn@jccbuffalo.org)

### April 24

#### PJ Library Tot Shabbat

5:45 – 6:45 p.m.

Hillel of Buffalo

UB Commons, 520 Lee Rd. # 101

### April 26

#### Yom Hashoah

#### Community Commemoration

11:00 a.m.

Williamsville South High School

[www.hrcbuffalo.org](http://www.hrcbuffalo.org)

Contact [Elizabeth@hrcbuffalo.org](mailto:Elizabeth@hrcbuffalo.org)

#### Made in Buffalo

#### MAY BE VIRTUAL - See pg. 4

7:00 p.m. Shea's 710 Theatre  
710 Main Street  
[www.madeinbfl.org](http://www.madeinbfl.org)

### April 28

#### Let's Do Kosher Lunch

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
757 Hopkins Rd.

RSVP at [www.jewishbuffalo.com](http://www.jewishbuffalo.com)  
or [laizer@gmail.com](mailto:laizer@gmail.com) / 639-7600

#### Yom Hazikaron

#### Community Commemoration

7:00 p.m. Temple Beth Tzedek  
1641 North Forest Rd.

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

# Kadimah Scholars at Park

*By Hallie Keren,  
Kadimah Scholars at  
Park Board President*

**Kadimah Scholars at Park celebrate the holidays with zest!** February's Tu B'Shvat celebration included songs, games and dried fruit. March's pre-Purim celebration with the Buffalo Jewish Teen initiative (thank you!) included dressing up and acting out the megillah. And Kadimah scholars joined Rabbi Laizer and Chani Labkovski at the JDC for an afternoon of baking oznei haman (hamantaschen), making mishlochei manot and learning about Purim. A full Purim celebration took place at The Park School of Buffalo, and Kadimah's annual model Pesach Seder is planned.

We don't just learn about the holidays, we live them! Save the date for Kadimah's annual dinner on June 8th. Stay tuned for details! Chag Sameach to all!



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## Save the Date: May 21!



Calvin Trillin, journalist, humorist and New Yorker columnist, visits Buffalo to bring his new play *About Alice* to the Maxine and Robert Seller Theatre, 2640 North Forest Road, Amherst, NY. The event is one night only - May 21. VIP tickets are \$250 and include a cocktail party with Mr. Trillin. General tickets are \$100. Tickets are available for sale online or by mail. **For more information, visit [www.jewishrepertorytheatre.com](http://www.jewishrepertorytheatre.com).**

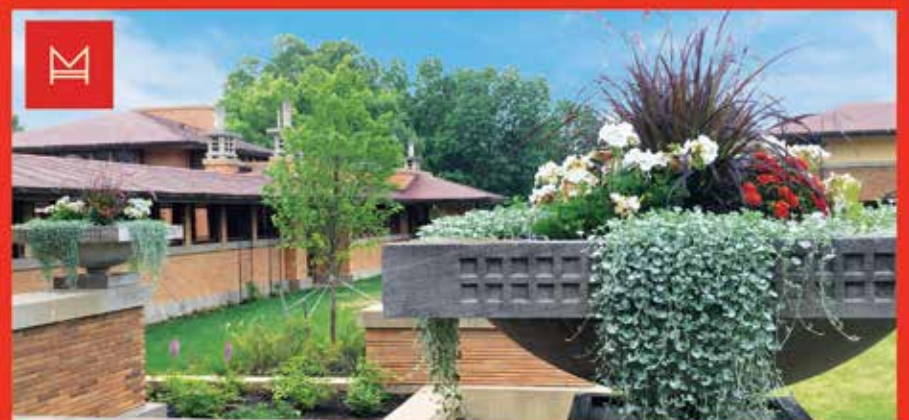
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## Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House

Experience the newly-restored, Wright-designed landscape this spring during a garden-themed tour or simply a walk around the estate.

Coming this summer: an exciting public art installation featuring monumental ceramic works by Jun Kaneko.

**Visit [martinhouse.org](http://martinhouse.org) or call 856.3858 today.**



# Repairing the World One Day at a Time

*By Alexa Zappia, Hillel of Buffalo Innovation Specialist*

To what extent can ten college students repair the world in seven days? Although repairing the entire world may sound like a daunting task, ten Buffalo students were determined to make a difference within the community of Miami-Dade County. For the second year in a row, Hillel of Buffalo partnered with Repair the World on a week-long Alternative Winter Break trip to fight education and food injustice within urban Miami. Repair the World “mobilizes tens of thousands of young Jews to volunteer in tackling pressing local needs each year.” The work that the volunteers do is rooted in Jewish values, learning, and history.

The trip was transformative on many levels for the entire group. After landing back into snowy Buffalo, two students, Sari Arrow (Freshman) and Chloe Komorowski (Sophomore), spent some time reflecting on this impactful experience.

## Small Moments, Large Impacts

*By Sari Arrow*

On my recent trip, we gardened at three different locations, went to two different homeless shelters, organized materials for a few organizations, and worked with over 100 children. None of that would have been possible if it wasn't for the Repair the World fellows. I knew that the trip would

consist of a lot of work, but I never realized that it would change my perspective on the world and my life.

Two highlights of my experience included visits to Lotus House and Guitars Over Guns. Lotus House is a homeless shelter for women and children who have experienced trauma. As I was interacting with some of the children, I noticed a woman with three young children talking to someone on FaceTime in American Sign Language (ASL). I am a Sign Language minor at UB, and I saw the opportunity to talk to the woman too.

The moment I came up to her and signed, “Hi! I am a student from the University at



Hillel of Buffalo students in Miami

Buffalo and I am a Sign Language minor,” her face immediately lit up. She was so happy to talk to someone in person who knew ASL because no one there was able to sign. She is hard of hearing, and grew up going to speech therapy because her whole family is hearing. She said that communicating in ASL is so much easier for her, and it meant the world to have the opportunity to talk with me.

The smile on her face is something I will never forget. The next time we went to Lotus House, I felt much more comfortable interacting with the kids because all of their faces were now familiar to me.

My experience in Miami made me realize that donating as little as an hour of my time can make a difference. Now that I am back at UB for the spring semester, I am determined to find a local organization or community to volunteer at on the weekends and form a bond with them the same way as the fellows from Repair the World do. Perhaps, one day in the future, I will too be a fellow in Repair the World and be able to provide other alternative break groups with the same life changing experience that I had.

## High Tides, Good Vibes

*By Chloe Komorowski*

While many people think of Miami as a vacation spot, this trip was way more than a vacation. The entire time while in Miami, our group worked with many different groups of people in the Miami-Dade community.

One of my favorite places we visited was Lotus House, a women's and children's center in Miami that houses and provides for women and children who are homeless and have possibly been abused. While at Lotus House, we interacted with the residents, mostly the children. I really enjoyed making “slime” with them as well as throwing a mini dance party. Everyone at Lotus House was a family, even if not blood-related. Seeing how much Lotus House provided for these women and children was really eye-opening. Many of us have talked about bringing this experience back to the Buffalo community.

Another one of my favorite places we visited was the urban garden. Urban gardening is the process of growing plants of all types, flowers, fruits, vegetables, in an urban setting, which is often far removed from a source of healthy food. Working in the urban garden was such a special experience. We were able to create new beds in which new plants would be added, as well as adding mulch to the already existing plants there.

While this trip provided me with great volunteer opportunities and eye-opening experiences, I was able to create nine close friendships with the other students on the trip. Living together in a small house and working so close together every day through these experiences really brought us all closer together. Alternative Winter Break created a nice tight knit group of students from the University at Buffalo which I am lucky enough to now call my family.

## BE PART OF THE JCC'S 2021 ALL FOR ONE YEARBOOK!

There's a lot going on at the JCC and these great happening will now be part of an ALL FOR ONE yearbook filled with photos, stories and YOU! The yearbook will be distributed at community events throughout the year, And the community will be able to see many stories and photos that capture how JCC programs improve lives every day.

Funds raised through our All for One campaign help:

- Scholarships for early childhood, after school programs and summer camp, giving young children the healthy start they need
- Family friendly furniture for our Benderson Family Building lobby that encourages reading, socializing and meeting members
- New state-of-the-art fitness equipment purchases and upgrades
- Furniture for our Kids' Place After-School programs at both buildings

There's still time to be part of the 2021 JCC year book – all donations will be included and sponsorship and advertising opportunities are still available. **For more info, contact Jordana Halpern at [jhalpern@jccbuffalo.org](mailto:jhalpern@jccbuffalo.org), 716-204-2255 or <https://www.jccbuffalo.org/donate/>.**



JEWISH REPERTORY  
THEATRE PRESENTS

# Modern Orthodox

by Daniel Goldfarb

April 22 – May 16, 2020



**CANCELLED:**  
go to  
[jewishrepertorytheatre.com](http://jewishrepertorytheatre.com)  
for details



JRT is excited to present *Modern Orthodox*, the off-Broadway hit about how an Upper West Side financial consultant, meets an Orthodox jewel merchant, and their differences lead to friendships between two Jewish couples, one modern and one more traditional.



Making the story even more interesting is the casting of newlyweds Adam Yellen (*Indecent*) and Arin Lee Dandes (*Looking Through Glass*), who will play a newly married couple. With directing by Steve Vaughan and a cast that includes Kristin Bentley (*God of Isaac*) and Nick Stevens (*Visiting Mr. Green*), you're sure to enjoy this romantic comedy by Daniel Goldfarb.

The Jewish Repertory Theatre of Western New York is a program of the JCC of Greater Buffalo founded in 2002 by Dr. Saul Elkin, artistic director, and David Bunis, producer.

For more information on JRT productions, dates and tickets, visit [www.jewishrepertorytheatre.com](http://www.jewishrepertorytheatre.com). Tickets are available at 716-650-7626, through Showclix at 1-888-718-4253 (Monday-Friday, 9am-9pm EST) or at either JCC reception desk.

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# Helping our community to preserve a legacy

**By Irv Levy,**  
*Executive Director Foundation  
for Jewish Philanthropies*

I recently attended a meeting of charitable giving planning specialists. The theme of the meeting was "creating a legacy." In leaving the meeting I realized, it's easy to create a legacy, because we all have one. Preserving a legacy, on the other hand, is a different matter. I have often heard that my children are my legacy and I will live on through them. For some this is true. I never met my grandfather, but I still got to know him through the stories my parents shared with me. However, if you ask me about my great-grandfather, there is very little I can tell you. I only recently learned of his name through online genealogy research.

You *create* a legacy by touching people while you are alive. You *preserve* a legacy by touching people after you have passed.

The Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies has been helping individuals preserve their legacy for more than 100 years.

Spring has finally arrived. It's a great time to take a fresh look at the world around you and the mark you wish to leave. Spring is also the time of Pesach, a traditional time for Jews to help their neighbors. In the opening paragraph of the Haggadah recited at the Seder, we declare "All who are hungry, let them come and eat." Our nation is a singular entity, and in order to experience freedom ourselves, we must also ensure that our brothers and sisters have the means to celebrate freedom too.

## **The Origins of Maot Chitim**

The practice of Jewish communities collecting money to help the local poor cover the cost of matzah (*maot chitim*) is referenced in the *Jerusalem Talmud* which was compiled more than 1,600 years ago. Contributing to provide for the immediate

support of families in need is a mitzvah. As the saying goes, if I provide a fish, you will eat for a day... However, the Foundation's legacy funds have been supporting our community for decades. Our parents and grandparents led by example and now it's the next generation's opportunity to preserve their legacies and endow our community for generations to come.

The Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies has extensive experience in charitable gift planning and offers a variety of giving vehicles that can be customized to suit your individual goals and objectives.

## **GIVING OPTIONS:**

**Bequest in a Will or Trust** - A bequest made through a will or living trust is the most popular tool and the simplest way to leave a legacy.

**Retirement Plans** - The primary advantage of making a charitable bequest of a retirement plan such as an Individual Retirement Account, 401k or pension plan is that doing so allows you to bypass both income tax and estate tax. Gifting retirement plan assets to charity during your lifetime may also result in substantial tax savings.

**Life Insurance** - The gift of an existing life insurance policy, or the purchase of a new one, guarantees a specific sum of money to a designated charity upon the death of the insured. Properly structured, a gift of life insurance can greatly increase your philanthropic impact with tax-deductible dollars.

**Charitable Remainder Trust** - A Charitable Remainder Trust is a trust arrangement between you and the Foundation. You transfer property to a trust but retain the right to receive income. At the end of the trust's term, the principal is distributed to establish a permanent fund in your name to benefit the charities you wish to support.

**Appreciated Stock** - When donating appreciated stock you receive an extra benefit. Not only do you get the joy of sharing and charitable deduction, you may also be able to avoid the income tax on the appreciation.

We work closely with your professional advisers to ensure that your legacy giving complements your existing estate and financial plans. **To arrange a confidential consultation, please call Irv Levy at the Foundation at (716) 204-1133.**



Cousins crammed around a seder table

Finding the Afikomen

Drinking four cups of wine

What Jewish memories  
do you most cherish?

Live on and inspire future generations of Jews with a legacy gift. Planning a gift today will secure the education of our children, make certain our elderly will always be cared for, and assure that the Jewish traditions and culture we hold dear will live on and flourish for generations to come.

To learn more about leaving a legacy and to arrange a personal and confidential consultation, contact Irv Levy, Executive Director at (716) 204-1133 or send an email to [irv@jewishphilanthropies.org](mailto:irv@jewishphilanthropies.org)



  
**The Foundation**  
FOR JEWISH PHILANTHROPIES

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# HADASSAH ART AUCTION AND MUSICAL EVENT MAY 13



Buffalo Hadassah's Program Committee, chaired by Marlene Katzel and Maxine Seller, met recently to plan programs through October. Some of the events are educational; others are cultural; and still others are just friendly get-togethers for Hadassah members and friends.

One of the most anticipated programs is the Juried Art Auction and Musical Event, which is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13 in the banquet room at Sean Patrick's Restaurant in Getzville. Art by Israeli and American

artists, including works by Ilona Royce Smithkin, have been donated to Hadassah since the beginning of 2019. There are oils, watercolors, lithographs and prints, which have been reviewed and selected by local artists to be included in the auction. Other works in different media will also be on sale through a silent auction.

Dr. Mark Finkelstein is the auctioneer, and Cantor Arlene Frank of Congregation Shir Shalom will entertain with a musical presentation. The doors will open at 11:30 a.m. with lunch scheduled for 12:15 p.m. Kosher meals are available on request. Cost is \$36.

**Reservations or questions to [mkatzel@me.com](mailto:mkatzel@me.com) or [mseller@buffalo.edu](mailto:mseller@buffalo.edu). Reservations should be made by May 4.**

## NEW: KOSHER FOOD PANTRY AT JDC

Jewish Discovery Center (JDC) is opening the area's first kosher food pantry, the Kosher Food Pantry of WNY at 757 Hopkins Road, on the JDC site. "Our mission is to help eliminate hunger for our community members who need help putting food on the table. We will provide kosher food and other essentials for children, adults and seniors in need in the Western New York area." Said Rabbi Laizer Labkovski.

### Special for Passover

"Passover is a special holiday for all and presents unique challenges for those who aren't fortunate financially," said Rabbi Labkovski. "This year, the Covid-19 crisis could make the Passover challenge even worse."

On April 5th, the Kosher Food Pantry will distribute Passover bags containing matzah, grape juice, gefilte fish, brisket, potatoes, and carrots. To ensure there are enough Passover seder bags, RSVP by calling 716-639-7600.

If you would like to help with providing everyone with the food for a kosher Passover seder, we welcome your donations. You can also bring Passover non-perishable kosher certified food, or gift cards for Wegmans, Walmart or Tops. Volunteers, too, are needed to help purchase the food and distribute it.

**For more information, please call 716 639-7600. Please visit our website, [www.JewishBuffalo.com](http://www.JewishBuffalo.com), for times and dates that the Kosher Food pantry will be open.**

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[campcenterland.org](http://campcenterland.org)



## About Alice

### JRT Fundraiser – Save the Date!

Calvin Trillin, journalist, humorist and New Yorker columnist, visits Buffalo to bring his new play "About Alice" to the Maxine and Robert Seller Theatre, 2640 North Forest Road, Amherst, NY.

**Thursday, May 21, 2020**  
**One night only!**

General tickets \$100  
VIP (includes cocktail party with Mr. Trillin) \$250

Details at [jewishrepertorytheatre.com](http://jewishrepertorytheatre.com).



## Book & Arts Fair May 3 - June 17, 2020

Join us in celebrating the 54th JCC Book and Arts Fair. Programs begin in May with two amazing Art Gallery exhibits and openings, a family program at our Holland Building and a film screening. The fun continues into June with a concert, cookbook and tasting event, staged reading and of course some great author and book signing events!

There is something for everyone.

For a complete schedule visit [www.jccbuffalo.org](http://www.jccbuffalo.org).

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*April 23 - May 17*

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and times at:

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



## Modern Orthodox

By Steven Vaughan

**HAPPY**  
*Passover*

**Wed, April 8**

Center Closes at 3:30pm

**Wed, April 15**

Fitness/Aquatics/KP/EC Open  
Business Offices Closed

**Thurs, April 9**

Center Closed

**Thurs, April 16**

Fitness/Aquatics/KP/EC Open  
Business Offices Closed

**Fri, April 10**

Fitness/Aquatics/KP/EC Open  
Business Offices Closed



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688-4033

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886-3145

## JCC Hours

**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

# Mega Challah Bake Brings 150 UB Students Together

Joyful chatter and big smiles filled the room as 150 UB students gathered at Chabad of UB to mix, knead and pour the ingredients to create challah. The Mega Challah Bake was held to support “Challah for Hunger” and in loving memory of Stephanie Ann Goldberg, beloved mother of Jenna Goldberg, a current student at UB. Jenna was joined by her father Steven Goldberg and her sister Halle, who traveled from Long Island to take part in this beautiful event in memory of their beloved wife and mother. The students rolled up their sleeves and began to create challah from scratch while learning the significance of the traditional challah baking. While the delicious smells filled the air, the students filled their plates with a delicious dinner, and filled their bags with freshly baked challah. The Mega Challah Bake program was organized by Chabad, and made possible through a grant from the Buffalo Jewish Federation.



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# Remembering Irwin “Irv” Schreiber 1931-2020

Irwin “Irv” Schreiber passed away February 17. His funeral was held at Congregation Shir Shalom. The following are eulogies from his sons, Ron and Bruce, and his grandson, Scott. At the funeral, Jordan Levy, Ron’s longtime business partner and friend, read words on Ron’s behalf and Scott, in addition to his own words, spoke on behalf of his father Bruce.

## Ron Schreiber

The best way that I can tell you about my Dad is to share with you some of what I’ve learned from him over my years as his son. He never ever really told me what to do, so I learned by example watching how Dad lived his life...every day.

As a kid he was just MY Dad. He hugged and held us constantly and always made us feel special. I remember being in his arms a lot. He loved us all this way, but there was a special place in his heart for my sister Gail, his little girl, who he just couldn’t hug enough. It was also so easy to see how much he loved my Mom. She was his first love



in high school, and that love continued for the next 70 years. He loved her unconditionally, always, and he showed me what a loving, affectionate husband and father was and that men are tender and caring.

Dad taught me how to work with my

hands. He could fix anything and was always willing to figure it out one way or another. He would take on any job, and never shied away from a hard day of work. He simply got things done. He understood his obligations and took them on in earnest. He worked hard. I learned that men work hard.

Dad was working at the Delaware Camera Mart by the time I was born, so his time working there is my only recollection of his life during those years. He walked to work every day from our house on Avery Avenue. For some reason, I would wake up just as I heard the front closet door open when Dad was putting on his coat. I would hop out of bed and run to the front room. He would put me on his lap with a big hug and tell me “Daddy has to go to work now.” He would never be late for work, so after another hug and kiss he was out the door. So men went to work every day and were never late.

By the time I was 15, Dad became an owner of the Camera Mart and I started to work there, while also in school. I spent the next 13 years working shoulder to shoulder with my Dad. I think the time at the Camera Mart were his favorite years. He really loved that business. Working with Dad at the Camera Mart was also my textbook on how a man should conduct his life.

His suppliers, employees and customers loved him. It was routine for customers to wait, sometimes for quite a while, for Dad to take care of them. So many times I would say, “Can

I help you?” They would answer “No thanks, I’m waiting for Irv.” I finally would say, “Irv’s my Dad,” and somehow this legitimized me and I was able to take care of some of them. They would always say, “So you’re Irv’s son? He’s a really good man.” This happened over and over again for years. And not just in the Camera Mart but everywhere I was “Irv’s son” and it would always be the same thing. “He’s a really good man.”

He treated everyone fairly, honestly and with respect. To this day his former suppliers still call him each year to say hi, take him to lunch or simply to tell each other a joke or two....and it’s been over 30 years since he sold the business.

Dad’s longtime partner Jerry Lippes called me with his condolences and our conversation was very comforting. He said “your dad didn’t have a single ounce of BADNESS in him”. Wow. To me that really sums it up. It was perfect, bringing together all those qualities and attributes that seem to define my father. Not a single ounce of Badness. It’s what makes a real mensch.

Losing my Dad is like losing a piece of my soul. Saying goodbye to him is the hardest thing I have ever had to do, ever. Death is a part of life and my Dad had a really, really great life in every way. If you measure a man by his character, my Dad would be the richest man on earth. He’ll be loved and missed by all of us forever. I hope he’s well and in a better place....but wherever he is I’m sure he’s telling some jokes and that the heavenly souls around him are saying, “he’s a really good man.”

## Bruce Schreiber

We pass on from one generation to the next the fragile existence that is this life. Our mark is indelibly etched upon the people we meet and the legacy we leave behind.

I picked up my father from the airport Saturday night. He always comes back to Buffalo this time of year to check on the business and take me out for my birthday. Like so many other habits, this was just another ritual he developed through perseverance and dedication to an idea, a thought, a connection. The plan was to go to EZ Loan to pick up a car then come for dinner at our house on LaSalle where my daughter Melissa had prepared a Tu B’Svat seder. Unfortunately, the car was there but it had no license plate, nor were the keys

## In Remembrance

The following individuals in our community passed away during the period from February 18-March 17. May their memories forever be a blessing, and may their loved ones be comforted among the mourners of Zion.

**Harriet “Terry” Cohen**

**Marilyn Hauck**

**Rae Heller**

**Dr. David E. Hoffman**

**Jerauld Nimelman**

**Bea Saffer**

**Irwin “Irv” Schreiber**

**Donna Smith**

**Richard Sperling**

**Beatrice K. Sultz**

**Susan Yasgur Trott**

**Marc D. Wasserman**

**Jerome Yavno**



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

anywhere to be found. I told him not to worry and that he could use my car until he sorted it out on Monday.

Anyways, Melissa had prepared this delicious Tu B'Shvat seder which had a very brief service concerning trees and how we shouldn't eat them. He was mildly amused and took an active part in the conversation at first, but eventually just stayed seated in his chair and calmly took it all in.

The meal was delicious. It was a Mediterranean palette that included tzatziki, eggplant wrapped cheeses, tomato and olive oil salad, and rice. Dad left after dinner, and later told Mom how much he disliked the meal because there was no meat. My mother however, in her graciousness, told everybody assembled for our meeting with the rabbi before the funeral that he told her he liked it. I think the former opinion is probably the more accurate.

It was Monday morning, approaching noon and I hadn't heard from him. About 5 PM I got a call from the Amherst Police Dept. I was away from my phone so did not hear it, but my wife, Beth, did and picked it up. She almost never does this, but something in her Irish sense told her it was important. It was.

The news was not good and it is what brings us all here today. Dad died peacefully in his sleep at about 3 p.m. Monday February 17 doing what he had done for a considerable part of his almost 89 years of life, getting ready for work. So that dinner the night before was the last time any of us would have chance to see the man who we called Irv.

### Scott Schreiber

I want to tell a few things about who Irv Schreiber was as a grandfather and as person. I was talking to my dad, Bruce, and he told me a story of when he was growing up. He was finishing school, and he asked his Dad what to do next. He expected him to tell him to go to college, find a wife, and find a job. Instead, he told him "just be happy."

That's what it felt like growing up with Irv as a grandfather. He always wanted us to be happy, to be the best versions of ourselves, and he was there to support us every step of the way. It felt like if we

could find the thing that would make us happy, he would support us and help us any way he could. Any time we brought him a problem or a question, first we would get a joke, then we would get great advice or whatever it was that would help. My sister told me about how her car died way out in Lewport, and she called Grandpa, and he knew just what to do. Plus, at every gathering, every grandkid knew we would get that warm, loving hug from Grandpa that made us each feel special.

He was at every bar mitzvah, every birthday party, every graduation. No matter when, where, or who. He loved seeing his family grow and excel, and he wanted to be there. Whether it was flying to Atlanta, driving to Jersey, or anywhere else, he always made it for everyone. Even when you didn't expect him there, like seeing my sister off to her school dance.

He did the same in every other aspect of his life. He brought the same genuine interest and compassion to his business life, which was part of what made him so successful. Even this week he was in Buffalo for his friend's birthday, his son's birthday, and to keep helping with his business.

When he set his mind to something, he was dedicated. That was true of everything he did, whether it was telling jokes, bowling, business, or his family. That dedication is how he created such a large and loving community around himself.

He created such a community and was so well known, that all my life when I introduced myself, people would ask if I was related to Irv. When I said I was his grandson, they would say how they know him, what he's done for them, and what a genuinely great guy he is. Every time, it made me so proud to be a Schreiber. Not living in Buffalo, it's the kind of thing I strive for and can only hope to create for myself.

We're not here long, but we affect a lot of people and create a lot of stories along the way. Irv touched a lot of people with his spirit and his genuine interest. He was an amazing father, a loving grandfather, a devoted husband, a wonderful role model, and a great man. He made every day count, and we will miss him every day.

*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](mailto:ellen@buffalojewishfederation.org) if you would like to share your words.*

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# Albright Knox Northland Opening: January 15



# NFJC Community Leader Lunch: February 13



# Women Artists in WNY Show: February 20



# AIPAC in Buffalo: February 3

AIPAC held its largest event in Buffalo to date at the home of Steven and Ellen Weiss February 3. Pro-Israel activists from diverse backgrounds gathered for an in-depth discussion on the upcoming 2020 elections and the importance of keeping pro-Israel issues at the forefront of American politics.

Upstate New York AIPAC Fellow Miranda Weiss, who hails from Buffalo, began with passionate remarks, followed by the briefing and Q & A discussion conducted by Northeast Political Director, Jason Koppel, and Upstate New York Director, Jacob Scheiner.



# Stop the Bleed: TBZ

In February, Dr. Iris Danzinger and Dr. Philip Glick facilitated a "Stop the Bleed" training for members of the Temple Beth Zion Board and staff. "Stop the Bleed" is a national awareness campaign and call-to-action, and is intended to cultivate grassroots efforts that encourage bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives.



# Chag Purim Sameach!

This year, our Buffalo Jewish Community celebrated Purim far and wide. The photos on these pages are from Purim parties and carnivals that featured individuals at celebrations at the Community Purim Carnival at Congregation Shir Shalom, The Kneset Center of Buffalo, Jewish Discovery Center, Jewish Federation Apartments, Chai School, private homes, the offices of Jewish Federation and Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, Kadimah Scholars at Park, Kehillat Ohr Tzion, The Jewish Women's Group Home, CJEL's My Grown Up & Me and Tot Shabbat, Temple Beth Tzedek and Temple Beth Zion.



# Happy Purim!



## (NOT) THE LAST WORD

# My parents wrote me a letter

By Vilona Trachtenberg

In March 2019, I went on a Chabad trip to Poland with a group of young adults from many countries. Called “Living Links,” I knew it was going to be a meaningful trip. The Holocaust has always been a huge part of my identity, and has impacted my family directly. But, there’s something about seeing the concentration camps firsthand that added enormously to my already strong sense of Jewish identity.

Once in Poland, we went to the Radegast train station in the city of Łódź. We stepped into one of remaining transport cars from the Holocaust – a cattle car like the ones that had been overcrowded with people who had no idea that they were being taken to their probable deaths. Radegast was the *Umschlagplatz* (collection point) where tens of thousands of people were held before being taken to Auschwitz in 1944. While on the cattle car, we all were silent. But the sound of a nearby train rang alarmingly and unexpectedly,

jolting us and at the same time transporting us back 80 years into the shoes of our ancestors for just a single moment. That was just a prelude for what was to come on the rest of our trip.

The next day we headed to Majdanek, a camp where 360,000 people died. We walked through the remaining crematoria and barracks, and Rabbi Zalman, one of the rabbis who led our trip, told us a story about Jewish pride that existed in Majdanek, amid both the torture and desire by the Nazis to squash it. He explained that during the War, rabbis who lived in the barracks would sing



Vilona Trachtenberg at Auschwitz

the *Shema* prayer deeply and proudly, and that the Nazis couldn’t stand it. They would beat these rabbis, who wouldn’t or couldn’t stop singing. They were beaten, but they couldn’t be destroyed.

We were all given bracelets saying “I will never lose my song” to commemorate the passion those rabbis possessed then, and that the Jewish people have still have.

At the end of Majdanek, there is a large mountain of ashes, which are human remains of so many of our ancestors. We sat nearby, praying for those lost, and singing the songs they once sang, the *niggunim* (traditional melodies) they so passionately wouldn’t give up.

We learned that a customary tradition during Passover is to save an extra seat during the Seder to represent lives lost during the Holocaust; today that’s done by inviting a person to the Seder table who may otherwise not have a place to be. We also learned the importance of kindness and inclusion, in one of the most hateful places imaginable.

## Wishing you a Happy Passover!

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At the forest of Zbilatowska Gora, where Jews of Tarnow were killed and buried in mass graves, we experienced one of the most emotional parts of the trip. It was pitch black outside as we approached the mass grave. We learned that we were also at the mass grave of 800 children. This is where we were each given letters from our own parents.

Reading the note from my parents letting me know how much they love me, standing alongside a mass grave where so many children didn't get to receive letters from their parents ever again was the deepest experience I've ever had. I'll never forget that moment.

At the end of the trip, we went to Auschwitz, the concentration camp where 1.1 million people--mostly Jews-- were killed. From the moment we walked in to that camp, I felt goosebumps. It was an appropriately rainy and eerie day; the clouds were dark and all-consuming. The infamous "Arbeit Macht Frei" sign, meaning "Work will set you free," was the first thing we saw.

Throughout the day, we viewed the unthinkable. We saw barracks that currently house artifacts that were stripped from innocent people – piles



The entrance to Auschwitz

of shoes, kitchen utensils, and even their hair. There were many books of names displayed of people killed during the Holocaust, and I found people with

my last name and my mother's maiden name in the books. People that might have been direct family members that I

would never had the experience of meeting because their lives were taken away from them. Millions of names in those books that were killed; complete families gone because the War left no one to continue their family's legacy.

Amidst all the sadness and pain that place held, we heard a story about the liberation of Auschwitz. Rabbi Zalman told us that when Auschwitz was liberated, there was a specific Jew in the camp who was frail but wanted to show his Jewish pride. He took his shirt off, and with dirt from the ground, drew a Star Of David on his shirt, and proudly waved the flag he created. The Jewish people survived, then.

At the end of our time at Auschwitz, we said Mourner's Kaddish, and I proudly wore my Israeli flag on my back in front of the infamous train tracks that headed into Auschwitz-Birkenau. And then, we walked out. The Jewish people survive, now.

I urge us all to never forget the atrocities that happened during the Holocaust, atrocities that continue affecting us to this day. I urge us all to live each day with purpose and joy, and to perpetuate the legacies which our ancestors fought so hard to keep. I urge us all to never forget our songs. Never Forget. Ever.

*Vilona Trachtenberg is Master Data Coordinator at New Era Cap Co. and received a Spotlight Professional award from Buffalo Niagara Partnership in January 2020.*



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