

The Award Winning

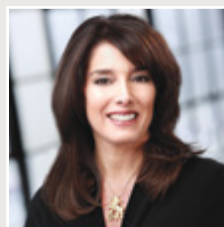
» Savor Summer!

THE JEWISH JOURNAL

A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

BUFFALO, ISRAEL & THE JEWISH WORLD | BUFFALOJEWISHFEDERATION.ORG

JULY/AUGUST 2022 | TAMMUZ-AV-ELUL 5782



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Honored
(4)



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(6)



DON'T MISS:
Welcome
Rabbi Brent
(19)

July/August 2022

Editor's Note



Ellen Goldstein, Editor

Welcome to this special double issue of *The Jewish Journal* as we all usher in summer together in Buffalo. After a difficult and painful period for our community since May 14, it's time to reassess, make future plans, address racial equity and yes, savor the joy of summer in Western New York.

First, in the aftermath of the East Side Tops murders and racial justice, the Jewish Community Relations Committee (JCRC) continues to work in coalition with interfaith partners (see page 2 and Rabbi Lazarus-Klein and Rev. Mark Blue's message on page 5). Volunteer in the short term and get involved with JCRC's Racial Justice group for the long term. You can even take a tour of the East Side Garden Walk July 24 with JCRC and me as your garden guide (see page 6).

As you can see by the cover and story on pages 16-17, there is a lot going on for families, teens, and everyone at our JCC: Camp Centerland, swimming, concerts, wall climbing, pickleball, tennis, volleyball games and arts & crafts!

And don't forget the Summer Celebration event on August 1, a special day of fun and friends organized by Temple Beth Zion and Congregation Shir Shalom (see page 13). You can sign up for the afternoon of golf, a wine and spirits tour, or just dinner at tbz.org. Meet TBZ's new senior clergy Rabbi Brent Gutmann there, or visit him at the synagogue for Shabbat services starting July 1 (see page 19).

Finally, end your summer on a positive note by voting in the New York State primary August 23 (see page 2) and bring your kiddos to the PJ & PJ Our Way End of Summer Festival August 28 at Camp Centerland (see page 10).

There's so much more happening this summer, and if you happen to visit Buffalo Garden Walk the weekend of July 30 -31, stop by to say hi! Enjoy the summer, and

save your strength for the fall. We've all got important communal work to do for the New Year!

Ellen Goldstein - Editor

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Summer fun at the Buffalo JCC! Photos courtesy of the JCC. Design by Kim Miers.

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Published by
Buffalo Jewish Federation
338 Harris Hill Rd., Suite 108B
Williamsville, NY 14221
716-463-5050
www.buffalojewishfederation.org



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The Buffalo Jewish Federation is a proud member of the Jewish Federations of North America and the American Jewish Press Association

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CAMPAIGN FOR JEWISH BUFFALO KICK OFF

Returns to the Hyatt

The 2023 Campaign for Jewish Buffalo Kick Off event is on Wednesday, September 14 at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. We are excited to bring the community back together so that we can celebrate all that we have accomplished together!

The evening will include a special tribute to Leslie Shuman Kramer, z"l, Federation's immediate past President and beloved community member who lost her courageous battle with cancer earlier this year. We will also feature guest speaker Bruce Feiler, author of seven *New York Times* bestsellers. Bruce is one of the country's preeminent thinkers who writes and speaks about the role of spirituality in contemporary life.

Join us at 5:30 p.m. for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and dinner stations on the 2nd floor, with the option to dine and schmooze at your assigned table in the ballroom or enjoy the stations outside of the ballroom until 6:45 p.m. Everyone will be seated for dessert and the program at 7:00 p.m. Dietary laws will be observed under the supervision of the Buffalo Vaad HaKashrus. Valet parking is available.

The Campaign for Jewish Buffalo provides support for people in need here, in Israel and around the world. Together with our partner agencies, we work to build a robust, caring and connected Jewish Buffalo.

This year's event is co-chaired by Laurie and Ron Sadler and Maxine and Steven Awner. Tickets for the event are \$80/person by 8/26 and \$95 thereafter; a reservation is a must! To attend, a primary individual minimum \$100 gift to the 2023 Annual Campaign is requested.

RSVP online at buffalojewishfederation.org/kickoff or call Stacey Block, Director of Donor Experience at 716-463-5053.



Bruce Feiler



Leslie Kramer, z"l

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WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT RACISM

Immediate, Short and Long-Term Responses After The Tragic May 14th Buffalo Shooting

BY DEBORAH GOLDMAN, JCRC CO-CHAIR; ADAM FOGEL JCRC CO-CHAIR
AND MARA KOVEN-GELMAN, JCRC DIRECTOR

Many in the Jewish and general community are asking: “What can we do to stand in support of the Black community after the horrific white supremacist fueled-hate on May 14th that left 10 Black people killed and 3 others injured at Tops Market on Jefferson Avenue?”

As members of the Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) dedicated to building a more caring and civil community, we created immediate, short and long-term responses following the guidance of Buffalo Black-led organizations.

Immediate: Like many in our community, we reached out to our friends and community partners to share our horror and compassion. We wrote a powerful statement that focused on the reality that this was Black racism. We attended and helped lead interfaith vigils, and worked with our JFS who provided a list of resources where people could contribute mental health expertise, time, food and funds. We dropped off food and groceries and hosted meals so that our friends could share their grief.

Short Term: We will continue amplifying all the Black-led organizations who are providing food, mental health care and volunteer opportunities. There is strong need for immediate services, but this is not sustainable. Some of these organizations include Buffalo Community Fridge, Resource Center of WNY, Buffalo Urban League and Black Love Resists in the Rust, African Heritage Food Co-op and Open Buffalo.

Long Term: There are many issues to address. They include:

- Combating white supremacy and anti-Black and antisemitic hate
- Gun Control/Safety
- Diversity, Equity and Belonging work throughout Buffalo and its surrounding communities
- Changing the disparities by chiseling away at social determinants of health such as economic, social, housing, education, and health disparities
- Building sustainable relationships with our neighbors

JCRC will continue to work on these issues but elevate issues identified by our community partners:
1) Changing the disparities and
2) Building sustainable relationships.

Change the Disparities

We believe in working with our existing partners to affect social determinants of health and to address the root causes of systemic racism. As Buffalo Urban League President Thomas Beauford Jr. clearly stated, we must have plans that are strategic, sustainable and support “the nonprofits that will remain here after cameras have gone.”

Legislatively, two of JCRC’s priorities, the creation of an Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice and the John Lewis Voting Rights Act were both approved by the NYS legislature and awaiting the Governor’s signature.

Building Sustainable Relationships

JCRC will continue to build on the many and deep relationships with our Black community partners and friends.

JCRC wants to provide opportunities for the Jewish community to spend time and build relationships with our neighbors in the East Side of Buffalo. JCRC Racial Justice Coordinator Rachel Beerman has organized several virtual and in-person opportunities to learn about US Black history locally and in Greensboro, NC.

In July, we are offering an opportunity to take a tour of the beautiful East Side Garden Walk on Sunday July 24. Brandye Merriweather, president of the Buffalo Urban Development Corporation told *Business First*, “If you want to be part of the change...Make Black people and Black neighborhoods part of your life.”

JCRC is taking the long view based on our Jewish values – *B’tzelem Elohim* – we are all created in G-d’s image. To erase the effects of systemic racism, we have to go beyond standing with our friends in the Black community; we will work on those barriers to equity, and most importantly to see people as fellow human beings.

To find out more information and join these initiatives please contact, Rachel Beerman, rachel@buffalojewishfederation.org or Mara Koven-Gelman, mara@buffalojewishfederation.org

ERIE COUNTY

3 WAYS TO VOTE

1

VOTE EARLY

Saturday, August 13 - Sunday, August 21

Find locations and times here:

bit.ly/earlyvoting2022

2

ABSENTEE BALLOT

Due to COVID-19, any registered voter can apply for an absentee ballot
ELECTIONS.ERIE.GOV/ABSENTEE_NOTICE

3

ON ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, August 23: 6 AM - 9 PM

Find your polling location:

ELECTIONS.ERIE.GOV/VSEARCH2

BUFFALO JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

See you at the Polls on 8/23

BY HANNAH GABELNICK

The U.S. Congressional and New York State Senate Primary Elections are being held this summer on Tuesday, August 23. Primary Elections are nominating elections in which voters indicate their preference for their party’s candidate for the upcoming General Election, which will be November 8. NYS Primaries are closed, meaning you must be affiliated with a political party to vote.

The deadline to register to vote for the Primary Election is July 29. You can register to vote online, by mail, or in-person. You can cast your vote by Early Voting from August 13 - August 21, voting absentee (by mail), or voting in-person on Election Day. See the graphic above or visit buffalojewishfederation.org/vote for more information.

Voting is our way to make our voices heard in government to advocate for the world we want to live in. JCRC hopes to see you at the polls!

Hannah Gabelnick just graduated from Amherst Central High School last month and is an intern at the Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council. She will attend Princeton University in the fall.

JFS to Resettle Ukrainians: Investment from JFNA and Local Funder to Make Possible

On Monday, April 25, 2022, the federal government launched *Uniting for Ukraine*, a sponsorship initiative to allow U.S. residents to sponsor Ukrainian evacuees. The initiative will enable up to 100,000 Ukrainians to temporarily enter the United States through this program.



Photo courtesy of JFNA

Western New York expects two dozen or more families to arrive in the coming weeks. In anticipation of the significant needs of these families, the Buffalo Jewish Federation (BJF) worked with the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), the Shapiro Foundation, Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies (FJP) and a local philanthropist to enable Jewish Family Services of Western New York (JFS) to welcome Ukrainians in Buffalo, one of the first Federation communities to launch a local resettlement effort.

"In order to provide the necessary support for Ukrainian arrivals and their sponsors, JFS is preparing to hire two new professionals," said Lauren Maguire, Director of Fund Development at JFS. "We will be hiring a Community Sponsorship Coordinator who will develop and support groups of volunteers who come together to sponsor Ukrainian individuals and families and help them navigate the complexities of immigration. We will also be hiring a Mental Health Coordinator to ensure that Ukrainian arrivals receive critical mental health support as they navigate their transitions to life in the United States."

"JFNA is proud to support this initiative to welcome Ukrainian families to Buffalo," said Darcy Hirsh, JFNA's Managing Director for Public Affairs. "JFS's demonstrated expertise in refugee resettlement and the generosity of Federation and Foundation has made the Buffalo Jewish community a leader in this critical work of embracing those seeking safety and refuge in the United States."

"Ever since the conflict in Ukraine erupted in late February, we have received countless calls offering support to Ukrainians from abroad and here in Buffalo. We are grateful for this support and are seeking to bring in more resources this summer to support these families and others who we know will be arriving in Buffalo," indicated Rob Goldberg, BJF CEO. "With your help, JFS will be equipped to help these newest arrivals and show them that they are welcome in our community of good neighbors."

To contribute to support new Ukrainian families, please visit buffalojewishfederation.org/ukraine. For more information about this effort through JFS, please email lmaguire@jfswny.org

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Women Making History: 50th Anniversary of Lion of Judah

Women have been a force in driving change and making a difference in the Jewish world through their leadership and philanthropy. One example that has impacted the Federation system and Jewish Buffalo is Lion of Judah.

The Vision of Two Leaders

Norma Kipnis-Wilson (z"l) envisioned a path for elevating women's leadership in Jewish philanthropy. She saw the Lion of Judah as a symbol of the strength of Judaism and the Jewish people, and with that concept and her passion for women's leadership, Kipnis-Wilson and her good friend Toby Friedland (z"l) co-founded the Lion of Judah program fifty years ago in 1972. Their vision enabled a new avenue and sense of recognition for women to make significant financial commitments within the Federated system.

Since that first year, Lion of Judah donors have raised more than a billion dollars to benefit Jews in need in Israel, in countries worldwide, and in their local communities. The Lion of Judah program has brought together women of



Buffalo Lions at the International LOJ Conference in Florida several years ago.

all ages and from many walks of life in order to play an essential role in creating social justice, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, preserving human dignity, and building Jewish identity. Nearly 18,000 women worldwide from 146 Federations are a part of the mission.

Locally, we have 72 proud Lions, 14 of whom have endowed their gifts so that future generations will benefit. Collectively, these women contribute nearly 25 percent of the Annual Campaign.

The Lion of Judah is a symbol

of today's Jewish Woman's strength, a symbol of her caring about the organized Jewish world and a symbol of her financial commitment of at least \$5,000 in her own name to the Federation's Annual Campaign.

Women who give at the Lion of Judah level are offered a specially designed pin of a Lion, a traditional symbol of the strength of the Jewish people. Women are Lions in Jewish communities around the world and the piece of jewelry has become an emblem of generosity and commitment recognized around the world.

Lions of Judah from across America and Israel will come together this December in Phoenix, Arizona to celebrate the 50th Anniversary at the International Lion of Judah Conference.

Women's Philanthropy in Buffalo

Women's Philanthropy of the Buffalo Jewish Federation is a network of compassionate and committed volunteers who inspire and empower each other to be change makers and community shapers. We are sisters and daughters, mothers and friends, women at every stage of life and career.

Inspired and guided by our tradition of *tzedakah* (righteousness/charity) and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), Women's Philanthropy is dedicated to the continuity, connectivity and thriving future of our Buffalo Jewish community, Israel and the Jewish people. This is attained through our three pillars: philanthropy, social action, and education.

Women's Philanthropy is about more than just the Annual Campaign. It's about knowing and understanding deeply the breadth of issues facing our community and rolling up our sleeves to help. It's about educating, inspiring, and empowering women of all ages in our community. It's about nurturing leadership and fostering a commitment to philanthropy. It's about having an impact.

Come join us and meet like-minded women who make a difference.

To learn more about Lion of Judah and Women's Philanthropy visit:
buffalojewishfederation.org/womens-philanthropy

CONTACT:

Randi Morkisz at
randi@buffalojewishfederation.org
or Stacey Block at
stacey@buffalojewishfederation.org

Ellen Weiss Receives Coveted Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award

Ellen Weiss has been chosen as the 2022 Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Awardee of Jewish Federations of North America's (JFNA) National Women's Philanthropy Program (NWP). This award is presented to a leader who has made a significant impact in the local Jewish community, Israel, and/or abroad; leads in creative ways to address community challenges; takes initiative in areas of philanthropy and volunteer opportunities; and has served as a role model to other women.



Ellen Weiss

"My own daughters know how important my role as a leader in our Jewish community means to me," Ellen shared. "I know one day they will carry on this tradition of giving back financially to those less fortunate and building bridges to make the world a better place. And, with the rise in antisemitism, an aging population, and unaffiliated Jews," Ellen added, "I am glad that my family's gift helps provide Jewish educational programming, strengthens young adult engagement, and facilitates

conversations with the non-Jewish community so tomorrow will be a brighter future."

Randi Morkisz, Assistant Executive Director of Buffalo Jewish Federation, underscored Ellen's passion for Jewish Buffalo and the indelible impact on Federation. "Although Ellen spends a considerable amount of time in Arizona, she continues to stay

involved, making sure we talk regularly so she is kept up to date on what is happening locally. I have been honored to work alongside Ellen during my tenure at the Federation."

A graduate of the University of Michigan, Ellen holds an MBA from SUNY UB School of Management. She is currently a Certified Health Coach, Master Workplace Wellness Consultant, and Stress Master Associate. Ellen serves as Secretary of the Board of Governors of Federation and Adult Engagement Chair for LiNK Jewish Buffalo. She has also served on the National Women's Philanthropy Board since 2015 and was the Buffalo Women's Philanthropy Chair from 2013 – 2015. In 2018, Ellen chaired the first-ever Engagement Conference and served as an important leader through the transition of the Bureau of Jewish Education, to the Center for Jewish Engagement and Learning, and now LiNK Jewish Buffalo. A recipient of Federation's 2001 Ruth and Milton Kahn Young Leadership Award, Ellen has held many other volunteer leadership positions in agencies throughout Jewish Buffalo.

Mazel Tov Ellen, on this well-deserved recognition.

“Now is the Time to Make Justice a Reality”

BY RABBI ALEX LAZARUS-KLEIN
AND REVEREND MARK BLUE

On Sunday, May 15, all of our hearts were broken. Less than 24-hours before a deranged gunman had stormed into the Tops Friendly Market on Jefferson Avenue and murdered ten people, injuring three others. As hundreds gathered on the street outside where the attack had taken place, we struggled to find the right words. People of all ages, colors and faiths, had formed a tightly packed circle of consolation. Seeing one another in the crowd, we instantly embraced. This was a time and space where mere presence mattered. Fixing the world, or what Jews call *Tikkun Olam*, would come later.

Five years before, we had been roommates on an Interfaith Clergy trip to Israel sponsored by our Buffalo Jewish Federation. Walking along the path of Jesus and David gave us greater understanding of one another and greater appreciation of one another's faith. We traversed the Via Dolorosa, inserted prayers into the Western Wall, and looked out over the Sea of Galilee. Since that time we have formed a strong partnership between one another and between our communities. We have stood side by side at Temple Beth Tzedek after the Tree of Life massacre, and in MLK Parkway after the murder of George Floyd.

Western New York has a long tradition of partnership between the Black and Jewish communities starting with the first official meeting of the Niagara Movement, later the NAACP, in July of 1905 at 521 Michigan, and continuing through the Civil Rights movement until today. But, there is much need for improvement as well. While the majority of the Jewish community lives within a few miles of a surplus of supermarkets, the shooting at Tops Friendly Market exposed the fact there are only four total supermarkets serving the 130,000 people in Buffalo's East Side. Both of these facts are unacceptable.

Here are just a few of the other disturbing statistics reported by WBFO, our community's local NPR station:

- Black families in Buffalo earn an average of \$24,700 a year, while white families average nearly double that, at \$44,000 a year. That is about \$8.50 more per hour;



Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein and Reverend Mark Blue at the Gallilee in December 2017.

- The black poverty rate in Buffalo is nearly 40%, while the white poverty rate is about 26%;
- About 41% of homes in Buffalo are owner-occupied, but less than 30% of black families in the Buffalo-Niagara region own a home;
- Forbes' most recent list of the nation's most dangerous cities ranks Buffalo #11.

The mantra after the May 14th attack has been, “Choose Love.” But while we both know love is essential we need so much more. A renewed commitment to improving the lives of the residents of the East Side and an ending of the divide between city and suburb, the haves and the have-nots. Projects such as the Racial Equity Roundtable and the Jewish community's participation in the JEDI (Jewish Equity Diversity and Inclusion) are positive steps in the right direction. We must honor the memory of the ten beautiful souls taken from us by working toward a more perfect world

As the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. once shouted from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial: “Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quick sands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's children.”

Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein is Rabbi at Congregation Shir Shalom. Reverend Mark Blue serves as President of Buffalo's NAACP Chapter.

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East Side Garden Walk Guided Tour July 24

The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) and Buffalo Jewish Federation are hosting a guided tour of Buffalo's East Side Garden Walk on Sunday, July 24. The guided tour will include the opportunity to gather for a meal at Manna@Northland, and then enjoy the lovely gardens through a hop-on-hop-off guided tour with enthusiastic gardener and guide Ellen Goldstein.



The East Side Garden Walk, which is part of Gardens Buffalo Niagara, began in 2018 and features gardens in over 14 different neighborhoods. Starting with 42 gardens, the East Side Garden Walk now has over 75 gardens and also includes public art work.

The East Side Garden Walk not only builds community for those that participate, but provides rich opportunities for all people to engage with each other and build relationships across lines of difference.

Be on the lookout for more details and how to register, and feel free to reach out to Rachel Beerman, Racial Justice Coordinator for JCRC, rachel@buffalojewishfederation.org with any questions.



The East Side Garden Walk will be hosting the Children's Garden Festival, an afternoon of free family fun on Saturday July 23 from 3:30-7:30 p.m. on Box Ave between Fillmore and Kehr Street. We are encouraging visitors from all different backgrounds to bring their kids and grandkids to enjoy this afternoon of free food and fun on the East Side. There will be a bookbag give away at 5 p.m. for East Side children in need, and we will be accepting bookbag donations from neighbors able to contribute. *See our school supply list online at EastSideGardenWalk.com.* Please take this opportunity to come out and be a good neighbor!

**Saturday & Sunday,
July 23 & 24, 10am-3pm**
Free. Self-guided. No tickets required.

Accepting donations of backpacks with school supplies for distribution to children of the East Side. Visit our website for a school supply list, drop off site, and map pick-up information.
EastSideGardenWalk.com



CAMPAIGN for JEWISH BUFFALO
presents

A Conversation with Norm Weinberg

Wednesday, August 3 at 7 PM
Jewish Community Center - Lippman Lounge
2640 North Forest Rd, Getzville



Dr. Norman Weinberg, an accomplished scientist, began writing *Commandment* four years before the Covid-19 pandemic appeared.

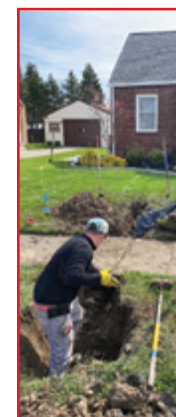
Join us for a conversation with Norm about his interest in the incredible properties of microorganisms - those that infect us, and those that help us.

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Corey Auerbach Spotlight

BY HANNAH GABELNICK

We are honored to cast a spotlight on Corey Auerbach, an active Jewish community leader who has been instrumental in creating a more equitable greater Buffalo community. Corey chairs the Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) Racial Justice Sub-Committee and is a member of the JCRC Executive Committee. He is also a member of the Buffalo Jewish Federation Board of Governors, the Campaign for Jewish Buffalo Cabinet, and the Belonging Conference Planning Team. Professionally, Corey is a partner at Barclay Damon, where he chairs the Land Use and Zoning Practice Area and serves as the firm-wide Hiring Partner.

Originally from the Catskill Mountains village of Ellenville, NY, Corey graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. After attending Albany Law School, he served as Associate Counsel to the Association of Towns of the State of New York, where he advised town government on planning and zoning laws. Since moving to Buffalo in 2010, Corey now works to represent builders and developers who are obtaining planning and zoning permits. He described his passion for land use law as "the perfect marriage of politics and real estate." Corey currently lives in North Buffalo with his wife, Meg, and his three children, Charlotte, Benjamin, and Nathan.

Corey lived in Buffalo for ten years before connecting with Jewish Buffalo. Serving as the volunteer president of the Westminster Early Childhood Program Parent Advisory Board, Corey met BJF CEO Rob Goldberg at a Westminster Church focus group for faith and community leaders. As they became friends, Rob was Corey's gateway to the Buffalo Jewish community. "I was then, and am still now, drawn to Corey's thirst for knowledge, his openness to connecting more deeply with his Jewishness, and his ability to be 'in the moment,'" Rob said. "Whether it was at that Westminster gathering or now at a JCRC discussion about racial justice, Corey instinctively knows how to be



present and in conversation."

Understanding Corey's passion for racial justice and his work as a member of his firm's Diversity Partner Committee, Rob invited Corey to join JCRC's Racial Justice Working Group. Corey embraced the opportunity to explore racial justice through the lens of his Jewish identity. "I loved the community's forthright and honest way of approaching these issues, informed by Jewish values," Corey said. "Jewish Buffalo has been so welcoming to my multifaith family, and I am so grateful to have found this community."

In a short time, Corey has assumed numerous leadership roles within Jewish Buffalo, including chairing the Racial Justice Sub-Committee, which has hosted virtual museum tours of the Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Heritage Center, the International Civil Rights Center, and the Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor. They also hosted a guided tour of the "In These Truths" exhibit at the Albright-Knox Northland Art Gallery. "I was so inspired by the Racial Justice Working Group and our exploration of social and racial justice issues against the backdrop of Buffalo's history," Corey reflected. "But that working group was just the beginning – now we must be the engine that drives the recommendations we put forth in January 2021. I am honored to chair this committee, composed of leaders who share my passion for advancing racial justice in Buffalo and beyond." Be on the lookout for the committee's lunch and East Side Garden Walk event on July 24th (see page 6).

Hannah Gabelnick just graduated from Amherst Central High School last month and is an intern at the Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council. She will attend Princeton University in the fall.

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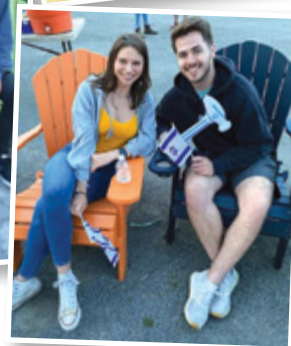
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July 13 | 10:00am | Delaware Park Rose Garden | Buffalo
July 26 | 3:00pm | Garrison Park | Williamsville

RSVP: bit.ly/playdatepark

Morning on the Farm

July 10 | 9:30am | Greg's U-Pick Farm | Clarence

RSVP: bit.ly/morningfarm

Shabbat ShaFamily

July 16 | 6:00pm | Billy Wilson Park | Williamsville

Havdalah and BYO Picnic

August 12 | 5:30pm | Garrison Park | Williamsville

Bring a Friend - Kosher Picnic Provided

RSVP: bit.ly/buffamilyshabbat

East Side Garden Walk & Faerie House Crafting

July 24 | 3:30pm | Buffalo

RSVP: bit.ly/buffaeriehouse

My Grown Up and Me

August 7 | 9:45am | Canalside | Buffalo

RSVP: bit.ly/bufmgum

SAVE THE DATE

End of Summer Festival

Sunday, August 28 | 3-5 pm | JCC Getzville

QUESTIONS? CONTACT ROBIN@BUFFALOJEWISHFEDERATION.ORG

Engage with Jewish Learning

LiNK
Jewish Buffalo

Connecting People
to Jewish Life

BY SUSAN GOLDBERG SCHWARTZ
AND RABBI ORI BERGMAN

Since biblical times Jews have been obligated to study, learn and question. It is an understatement to say that your life can be transformed and positively influenced by the regular practice of Jewish learning; Jewish learning nourishes the soul and strengthens community.

The Talmud records a discussion between two sages who ask the following question: which is greater, study or practice? Rabbi Tarfon said practice is greater. Rabbi Akiva made the case for study. Then they all answered and said: *study is greater for it leads to practice* (Kiddushin 40b.)



There is a reason Jewish tradition places such a high value on studying and discussing texts. Jewish learning is not based on decoding text alone but rather is based on dialogue. We need to discuss and debate with others to uncover deeper understanding and personal meaning, ultimately translating what we have learned into practices that make a difference in the world.

After all is said and done, nothing speaks to the power of Jewish learning more than learning for its own sake.

Fortunately, at LiNK Jewish Buffalo, there are various opportunities available from which you can choose and find an opportunity that works for you and with your life. A new academic year begins in Fall 2022, with opportunities to learn Hebrew, study Talmud or the Jewish spiritual practice of Mussar, or join a learning cohort focused on parenting, relationships or aging well.

We hope that you will join us in making Jewish Buffalo a community engaged in Jewish learning and want to hear from you: What do you want to study? **Email either of us at susan@buffalojewishfederation.org or oribergman@gmail.com with your interests and ideas and to find out about the many Adult Learning opportunities** offered through LiNK Jewish Buffalo. New cohorts and classes begin in the fall, look for more information in the September issue of *The Journal*.

Susan Goldberg Schwartz and Rabbi Ori Bergman are Jewish Educators at LiNK Jewish Buffalo

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We asked, you answered:

LiNK 2021-2022 SURVEY

“I’m grateful to the whole team at LiNK for all of the incredible programs you facilitate for Jewish Buffalo!”

“I love having spaces to learn and have Jewish conversations.”

Annually, LiNK Jewish Buffalo surveys participants about their experiences during the past academic year to help plan for the future and continue our commitment to design offerings which are meaningful, relevant and valuable to YOU. To discuss the results further, contact Miriam Abramovich, Chief Experience Officer at miriam@buffalojewishfederation.org.

On behalf of the volunteer and professional leadership teams at LiNK Jewish Buffalo – **THANK YOU** for participating in the 2021-2022 survey. We appreciate your feedback, we are listening, and want to share with you what we learned.

WHAT YOU TOLD US

- 94%
- of survey participants in LiNK experiences will participate in a future experience
- 93%
- of survey participants in LiNK experiences would recommend participating in a LiNK experience to friends or family members
- 91%
- of survey participants in LiNK experiences experienced a sense of Belonging
- 84%
- of survey participants of LiNK experiences learned at least one new thing about Judaism

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

There are many opportunities for growth and refinement. Based on your feedback, this is what we are planning to work on in the coming year:

- ✓

Investigating ways to gather feedback from teens who do not participate in LiNK programs to ensure LiNK remains relevant to all teens.
- ✓

Planning a thoughtful process to refresh Nickel City Jews to ensure it remains meaningful and relevant to all Young Adults.
- ✓

Imagining new opportunities for families with similarly aged children to get to know each other outside of formally structured PJ Library programs.

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LIFE & LEGACY® @ Buffalo Secures More Than 150 Commitments in Year One



LIFE & LEGACY® @ Buffalo promotes and guides after-lifetime giving to build endowments that sustain numerous Jewish Buffalo agencies and organizations and strengthen our vibrant Jewish community for generations to come. During the first year of LIFE & LEGACY® @ Buffalo, more than 80 individuals, couples and families made over 150 commitments to Jewish Buffalo agencies and organizations amounting to more than \$6.6 million in current and after-lifetime assets.

LIFE & LEGACY® is a partnership program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation that assists communities across North America, through partnerships with Jewish Federations and Foundations to promote after-lifetime giving to build endowments that will sustain valued organizations and vibrant Jewish communities for the next generation and beyond.

"The response to the LIFE & LEGACY® program is tremendous," said Alison Keane, Chair of the Foundation Legacy Team and co-chair of the LIFE & LEGACY® FJP/BJF Joint Committee. "Looking back on this exciting first year, I am so grateful to be a part of this historic endeavor."

Congratulations to all the participating agencies and organizations!

Buffalo Jewish Federation
Center for Jewish Life
Congregation Shir Shalom
Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies
Hillel of Buffalo
Jewish Community Center of Greater
Jewish Discovery Center
Jewish Family Service
Kadimah Scholars
Temple Beth Tzedek
Temple Beth Zion



Irv Levy, Executive Director of FJP, speaks to a gathering of those who recently made a Legacy commitment.

The Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, in collaboration with the Buffalo Jewish Federation, launched this community-wide multi-year initiative in Buffalo in 2021. LIFE & LEGACY® @ Buffalo will start the second year this month. Over the past 10 years since the LIFE & LEGACY® program began, more than 23,000 donors in 72 communities across North America have committed more than \$1.3 billion in current and after-lifetime assets to Jewish organizations.

Legacy commitments ensure that organizations provide impactful programs and services during both calm and turbulent times, having the necessary resources to adapt. The commitments made by legacy donors in Jewish Buffalo are just the beginning of this community-wide effort to ensure a bright Jewish future.

"I am so grateful to be a part of building a culture of perpetual legacy giving for Jewish Buffalo" shared Howard Rosenhoch, Chair of the Federation Legacy Team and co-chair of the LIFE & LEGACY® FJP/BJF Joint Committee.

For more information about LIFE & LEGACY® @ Buffalo, please contact Mandy Weiss, LIFE & LEGACY® Coordinator at legacy@jewishphilanthropies.org or 716-463-5065.



@ BUFFALO
Year in Review



TOTAL LEGACY COMMITMENTS RECEIVED

151

TOTAL NUMBER OF DONORS

80



\$6,658,076



TOTAL ESTIMATED DOLLAR AMOUNT

11

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



As of June 7, 2022

jewishphilanthropies.org/life-and-legacy

The Rainbow Fish Ballet August 21

BY MOSHE SHULMAN

The Rainbow Fish is a ballet for children and made possible when I received a 2019 New York State Cultural Arts Grant (NYSCA) “dedicated to preserving and expanding the rich and diverse cultural resources that are and will become the heritage of New York’s citizens.”

The Rainbow Fish is based on the book by Swiss author Marcus Pfister. The ballet characters in it are the beautiful and shiny Rainbow Fish, the wise Octopus, fish that confront the Rainbow Fish and other fish who just dance. For me, it was important to choose a story that depicts all sorts of feelings children are familiar with: happiness, glory, acceptance, nonacceptance, devastation, anger, desolation.

The ballet is written for only four instruments: trumpet, violin, piano and double bass. Trumpet has the glory and happiness in its sound; the violin can bring one to tears; double bass has the depth of the sea like no other instrument, and piano can do all of the above. The music was recorded by Buffalo musicians Mark Filsinger (trumpet), Miranda

Shulman (violin), Ivan Docenko (piano) and James Marone (double bass).

Monica Karwan is an old friend of mine and is also a contact to the dance world. Through her I was introduced to Deborah Kunttu, who opened Lancaster Dance Center in 1979 and is entering her 42nd season as its studio director. “The Lancaster Dance Center is beyond excited to be invited to participate in the premier performance of *Rainbow Fish*,” Deborah remarked. “Students from Lancaster Dance Center will perform an underwater adventure fable so fittingly appropriate for the sensitive issues in today’s society.”

There will be two shows on August 21 at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. at Jewish Community Center in Getzville. Tickets can be purchased in advance



at therainbowfish.ticketleap.com/the-rainbow-fish-ballet/ or at the door on the day of the event.

Moshe Shulman is Russian born, Israeli composer and instrumentalist. In the

past he was awarded a prestigious award from Harvard University (2015 Fromm Commission) which resulted in in “Seven Prophetesses for Voice, Harp and String Quartet.”

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JFS: Loss, determination, and the need to do better



BY LAUREN MAGUIRE

There is the unspeakable sadness in our country right now. Nineteen children and two teachers shot dead in their Texas elementary school classroom. Nine Black shoppers and one security guard shot dead in their Buffalo neighborhood grocery store. One man killed and five other Taiwanese worshippers wounded in their beloved church in California. This year there have been 288 mass shootings in the United States, in

which more than four people have been killed or been wounded. And as I write, it is only June, just halfway into the year.

How do we respond in the face of such monumental loss? There is grief, fear, rage, and desperation. All these emotions are valid and permissible.

But there must also be determination. In Buffalo, we must have the determination that the City will emerge from the shocking tragedy outside of Tops Market on the East Side better than before. However, as the sixth most segregated city in America, we must look squarely at both the legacy and current realities of racism and racial inequity that permeate our city at all levels and society at large. We must

be determined to confront this to achieve that better than before status.

Each day at Jewish Family Services (JFS), we see clients and families from all backgrounds. And as the agency continues to grow, the staff is beginning to reflect more of the diversity of our clients and the community we serve. Some of our staff and clients were directly impacted by the massacre. We have taken an all-agency approach to recognize the impacts of the racist attack on so many.

The first steps in our response included compiling and sharing resources for those



Lauren Maguire. Photo credit: Nancy Parisi

interested in volunteering, donating, and supporting organizations working directly in the East Side. We also deployed seventeen volunteer mental health counselors to five unique sites across the city to help those affected. Through this process, we have learned more about the culture of those impacted, our neighbors, and what their needs are on a

day-to-day basis. There is so much need on so many levels – we must do better.

But to do better we need to ensure that agency staff are able to come together, take time as needed, and support one another each day. We have encouraged group discussions, which aid in processing what has already happened and for what is undoubtedly yet to come.

Everything we are speaking about now comes just weeks after the tragedies that have befallen our community and nation. They are short term actions to help with the emotions at hand. As we get through this moment and begin to look ahead, there are so many questions to answer. But one thing is clear, each and every one of us will, and should, be called upon to do a great deal more.

Lauren Maguire is the Director of Development at Jewish Family Services of Western New York



Justin Loeber named Toby Ticktin Back Awardee

The Holocaust Resource Center (HRC) presented Justin Loeber with this year's Toby Ticktin Back Education and Excellence Award. Named after the founder of the HRC, this award is presented each year to an outstanding educator who has dedicated a significant amount of time and energy teaching the history and lessons of the Holocaust.

Justin has been teaching Social Studies at Pembroke High School for 22 years and started a Genocide Studies elective, which he has been teaching for the past 15 years. The course has been so impactful that Justin has been contacted by other school districts to help them establish their own Genocide Studies electives. One student from his course shared that "Mr. Loeber has inspired me to have a career in this field. He has shown us that the Holocaust really happened and how important it is to learn about it and from it." Another student reflected: "Mr. Loeber taught us about the power of humanity. Even with all of the terrible things going on in society, Mr. Loeber has emphasized the positive and how we can make impactful



changes, even as young people."

Justin also serves as HRC's Teacher Support Chair where he planned two conferences for educators with the themes "America and the Holocaust" and "Antisemitism: Its Origins, During the Holocaust and Today." Justin has been instrumental in the Joe Diamond Training Program for 2Gs/3Gs where he has given feedback to 2nd and 3rd generation descendants before they present in classrooms. Justin also attended the Belfer National Conference for Educators and was named a Museum Teacher Fellow by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

HRC's Arts and Writing Contest Winners



Zorianna's work

On June 8, the Holocaust Resource Center (HRC) held a virtual ceremony to celebrate the winners of the 2022 Arts and Writing Contest. This year's theme was **Antisemitism in Today's Society** where students responded to at least one of the following prompts: Where have I seen or experienced antisemitism? Why does antisemitism still exist? What can I do personally or we do as a community to combat antisemitism? How does antisemitism threaten a democracy that does not address it?



Elle's work

The student winners came from a variety of schools including Barker Central School, Geneseo Central School, Mount St. Mary Academy, Nardin Academy, Orchard Park Middle School, Starpoint High School, and Universal School. The judges of this year's contest, Bob Freeland and Reed Taylor, reflected that "This year was especially difficult to judge since all of the entries were of such high quality."

Each year, in addition to cash prizes directly awarded to the winners, the Best of Show winners in Writing and Art earn their schools \$250 to be applied to Holocaust-related teaching materials. The Best of Show Winner in Writing was Elle Soltiz from Orchard Park Middle School and the Best of Show Winner in Art was Zorianna Menclewicz from Mount St. Mary Academy.

We are grateful to our Contest committee members: Lauren Bloomberg, Robert Freeland, Wendy Weisbrot and Naomi Haefner, and to our generous sponsors, Renee Joffe and the Mary Dean Freeland Foundation.

Elizabeth Schram leaves HRC for Grad School

Holocaust Resource Center (HJRC) director Elizabeth Schram will be leaving her position later this summer to begin graduate studies in Social Work at the University of Buffalo. Elizabeth has led HRC for the past three years since coming to Buffalo from her hometown of San Antonio, Texas.

"When Elizabeth travelled to Buffalo to interview it was during a blizzard!" remembered Wendy Weisbrot, current HRC chair. "We saw a young woman who had an impressive education in Holocaust Studies and had the skill and passion to take us forward. Elizabeth arrived in Buffalo with one winter coat and a shovel in her car that still remains there 12 months of the year!"

During Elizabeth's tenure, she has strengthened HRC's Speakers Bureau impacting a record number of community members. "Elizabeth brought energy, warmth and passion to our community building on HRC's legacy of impact and growing the entire enterprise," noted Rob Goldberg, Federation CEO. She has collaboratively helped to establish needed social, emotional, and medical support for our community's Survivors, reached out to the corporate sector for HRC's Speakers Bureau to fulfill DEI initiatives, trained 2G/3G Holocaust Survivors to be speakers, established a vibrant Descendants Group, planted a foundation for the establishment of Upstander Clubs in schools and brought an international exhibit – *The Girl in the Diary* from the Galicia Jewish Museum – to Buffalo that was experienced by over 5,000 individuals.

"It has been my privilege to work with Elizabeth on a number of events, most recently *The Girl in the Diary* Exhibit," added former HRC board member Mary Lou Wyrobek. "Her thoroughness in preparing docents and in making sure the exhibit was properly ordered assured the success of the Exhibit. Throughout her tenure, I have found Elizabeth to be eloquent and polished, and most importantly, kind and considerate."

A consummate professional, Elizabeth has assured the on-going presence of HRC through Covid and increased its outreach through numerous virtual and in-person events, all the while addressing the needs of survivors in these difficult times. Survivor and speaker Sophia Veffter said: "When Elizabeth entered HRC she energized our program from day one. She brought sunshine, happiness and professionalism to HRC." Another survivor, Nick Lebovic added: "Elizabeth herself, as an offspring of Holocaust survivors, has a perspective formed by personal empathy. And, she has been very helpful in every aspect of the Speaker's Bureau, of which I am a



Elizabeth Schram

part. Her social skills have stood her in good stead when making connections and I know that her qualities and experience will help her in making a success in whatever path she takes next."

Lauren Bloomberg, HRC's program specialist shared:

"Working with Elizabeth this past year has been both an honor and privilege; her knowledge, calm demeanor and expertise is an asset to the HRC. She is patient, positive, supportive and I have learned a tremendous amount from her and will miss her dearly."

Elizabeth's monumental impact on the HRC can directly be attributed to the authentic relationships that she makes with all community members she comes in contact with where people feel valued, engaged, and invested in. "It has been a true honor and pleasure to have had the opportunity to work closely with Elizabeth," remarked Anne Marie Carosella, HRC's most immediate past president. "No matter the situation, Elizabeth is problem-focused, professional, and always successful in delivering high quality impactful programming, especially during the pandemic when all of the plans and programs had to be revamped to accommodate a virtual world."

"I'm extremely grateful that I've had the opportunity to work so closely with a partner that has inspired me and has also become a treasured friend," concluded Wendy Weisbrot. "We owe Elizabeth a debt of gratitude that she took a chance on snowy Buffalo, and as a result put her heart and soul into the Holocaust Resource Center to educate our community and help make this world a better place."

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JCC Embraces SUMMER for Family

“A Summer for Family” is the JCC of Greater Buffalo’s goal for the Summer of 2022. The Grossman Family Outdoor Pool Complex sits right alongside beautiful Ellicott Creek in Amherst and is in the midst of a major transformation to become a welcoming and diverse town square of life and joy.

Two brand-new professional-grade beach volleyball courts and four pickleball courts will bring a sense of excitement not seen in years. Expect open play, leagues, tournaments, lessons, and more fun than you can imagine. Pickleball is wildly popular in Western New York, and these courts will be a premier destination for new and veteran players.

The JCC also will be hosting a wide range of family events all summer long. Poolside concerts, Sunday Fundays, Outdoor Movie Nights, and Cultural Arts for Kids are free and open to the whole community! Check out all the details at jccbuffalo.org/events-at-jcc/

On June 28, the JCC will host one of its biggest events in history with the Inaugural JCC Buffalo Creekside Concert, featuring Noga Erez, an Israeli singer, songwriter, producer, and the #1 international singer in Israel. She has performed worldwide, including Bonnaroo 2022, and is visiting us to mark the end of her second US tour. The opening band, Magenta Sunshine, comes to us from Asheville, North Carolina, and Food trucks, bounce houses, refreshments, activities, zip lining, community vendors, and giveaways. Free tickets are available at jccbuffalo.org/event/creekside-concert/

With an epic concert, family events, brand-new volleyball and pickleball courts, the heated outdoor pool, aquatics classes, enjoying a bite from the Snack Shack, and endless amounts of shmoozing, the JCC is ready and committed to bringing the community a summer it will never forget.



Irwin Gelman Elected as New JCC President



At the JCC Annual Membership meeting last month, Dr. Irwin Gelman was elected as the new President of the JCC Board of Trustees. Dr. Gelman is the Director of Research Integration at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. Along with his wife Mara, who serves at the Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council, he is an active member in the Jewish Buffalo community serving in various leadership roles across several area organizations, including Cantor of Congregation Beth Abraham.

The JCC is pleased to have someone with Irwin's character, charisma, and dedication to Jewish Buffalo leading the organization. "I would like to thank the Board for entrusting me with this honor," Gelman said. "I am grateful to Alon Kupferman for his leadership these past three years as JCC President, and I look forward to continuing the good work that has been started in serving the Buffalo JCC."



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Arlen and the Other East Side Stories

BY CHANA REVELL KOTZIN, PH.D.

There are many East Side stories, and one way to draw attention to them is to explore the life of one individual and their legacy through the broader context of their times, teasing out the backdrops against which so many other stories were written. The Jewish Buffalo History Center (JBHC), powered by the Buffalo Jewish Federation, just launched an in-person traveling exhibition about the Buffalo roots of Hyman Arluck, also known as Harold Arlen.

Harold Arlen was an exceptional talent – able to compose melodies in a variety of styles across different genres from the club stage, to Broadway shows, to hit films. Many of these melodies were award winners and came to serve as cultural touch stones for universal feelings. Timeless in their appeal, they could be returned to as beloved old friends, fifty or more years after their creation.

Harold Arlen's rise was meteoric by any measure. He was just 14 years old when he knew music was going to be something in his life. He was only a little older when he founded his first band, and by the time he died in 1986, he had composed more than 400 songs.



An East Side Story, Harold Arlen's Buffalo Roots. Photograph by Katie Wzontek, 2022.



Public School 32 graduating Eighth Grade Class 1919. Includes Hyman Arluck and Lily Levine, Courtesy of Steven Kosanovich and Lynne Steinhart.

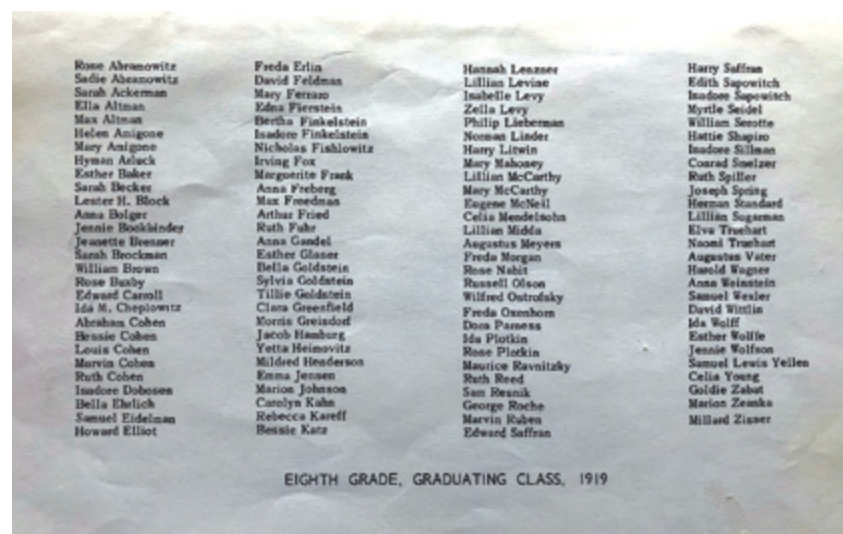
His story of ascent begins with the story of the East Side at a particular time, his relationships within his family, especially his father, and between his overlapping communities of friends and neighbors in the spaces that surrounded him – in school and in organizations – Jewish and others – and in groups he created or participated within. Most of all, his story and that of many forebears in our contemporary Jewish community today, came out of this same environment and time.

Harold Arlen came of age during the early 1920s, when as an impressionable teen he experienced the thrill of changes in entertainment, in the movies, in music, in technology and cultural tastes. While Arlen's story feels exceptional in many ways, much of Arlen's journey was one that many children of immigrants experienced at this time, especially in Buffalo, which had a very significant émigré population.

The clash between the generations, and between first generation American-born children with American identities like Harold, and that of his immigrant parents who viewed living in America through the lens of European orthodoxy, was a culture challenge many homes experienced. Observing the Jewish customs of the Old Land, versus adapting and even dropping certain Jewish practices in the New World, were all issues that many younger Jews grappled with, and even battled with their parents.

These negotiations did not occur in a vacuum. They took place alongside friendship networks who experienced similar adaptation journeys. This was a time when younger Jews saw themselves as part of a Jewish neighborhood and its multiple subcommunities, but also understood themselves to be part of overlapping, adjacent communities: German, Polish and African American to name just a few. The exhibit reveals the world from out of which Arlen arose, but it simultaneously illustrates how Jewish community lives were generally transforming at this time, as the trajectory of Buffalo Jewish life and Buffalo itself was undergoing massive change.

A deep dive into one story is not enough. This exhibition is part of a broader goal to document the East Side, enabling us to ensure that East Side Jewish histories and legacies do not disappear. The roster of the graduates in 1919 of PS 32, also known as Bennett Park, includes Hyman Arluck, but it is an amazing listing of names that many readers will know intimately or remember. In stages, we are adding materials to the East Side neighborhood section including a special essay about William Street written by the esteemed historian of Buffalo, Mark Goldman. The author of a trilogy of books that documents the broader history of Buffalo, Goldman has also recorded his own experiences in a recently published autobiography, as a transplant to the city and as a Buffalo booster and



Graduating Class list, 1919, Bennett Park School, PS 32, Golden Anniversary, 1969. Courtesy of Steven Kosanovich and Lynne Steinhart.

preservationist. His essay, and the new materials in the East Side section, will continue to grow over time, and are a place to see the similarities, variations and differences that characterized this period.

We invite you to visit this traveling exhibition in person at the Jewish Community Center's Benderson Building or virtually through an ever-expanding website version of this exhibition at jewishbuffalohistory.org/arlen/. If you have an East Side Story to share, you can contact Dr. Chana Kotzin at chana@buffalojewishfederation.org.

Chana Revell Kotzin, Ph.D., is the coordinator of the Jewish Buffalo History Center website, which you can find at <https://jewishbuffalohistory.org>

TBZ Welcomes Rabbi Brent Gutmann

Temple Beth Zion warmly welcomes Rabbi Brent Gutmann as its Senior Rabbi this month. Originally from Dayton, Ohio, Rabbi Gutmann, who also goes by Rabbi Brent, joins TBZ after having served for 6 years as the Senior Rabbi for Temple Kol Ami in West Bloomfield, Michigan. A graduate of Hebrew Union College, Rabbi Brent began his career serving for 3 years as a rabbi at Beth Shalom Progressive Congregation in Auckland, New Zealand. The Rabbi is married to Jill Gutmann and they have four young daughters.

When asked about his commitment to social action, Rabbi Gutmann said, "Our faith conveys a responsibility to be transformative agents for justice in our world. As a matter of principle, I hew very close to the Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism, the Reform Movement's lobbying



Rabbi Gutmann, his wife Jill and their four daughters

agency in Washington D.C. In my previous congregations, Social Action projects have been among the most fruitful towards engaging the congregation and making a positive impact on our communities."

In the months leading up to the official beginning of his tenure, Rabbi Gutmann met with a wide variety of representatives

from both TBZ and the greater Buffalo community, including several members of the Buffalo Jewish Federation. He has made it a point to begin getting to know both the synagogue and the community, and each discussion has contributed to a very warm reception.

Outside of the shul, Rabbi Gutmann has a

wide range of interests from biking and cooking, to gardening and camping. Rabbi Gutmann's wife Jill is also a talented chef and gardener and brings her own tremendous energy and excitement to Buffalo and TBZ.

"Heading into our search for a new rabbi, there were some common themes on the minds of TBZ's congregants," commented Jeff Clark the Temple Executive Director. "They sought a rabbi who would be kind and genuine and would help reinvigorate the congregation with meaningful services and a renewed sense of social justice. And it certainly feels as though Rabbi Gutmann and his family's arrival at Temple Beth Zion is *bashert*; just what we needed – and right when we needed it!"



WELCOME

***Rabbi Gutmann
and His Family to
Temple Beth Zion
& the WNY Community***



There will be many opportunities and gatherings to meet Rabbi Gutmann

**TO LEARN MORE CALL TBZ
at 716-836-6565 or go to TBZ.ORG**

Kol Ha Kavod: Well Done!



Miriam Abramovich

Buffalo Jewish Federation's Chief Experience Officer Miriam Abramovich was recently accepted into the prestigious JFNA/Mandel Center's first cohort of *Grow to Lead: Group Coaching for the Evolving World of Management*. Miriam is one of 30 Federation professionals selected for this custom-designed pilot program. At Federation, she spearheads LiNK Jewish Buffalo and with her team works at the intersection of engagement, learning, and leadership, catalyzing hundreds of individuals and families to live, learn and lead Jewishly across Buffalo.

With more than 20 years of experience in a Jewish professional role, Miriam has brought innovative opportunities to Jewish Buffalo, such as the *Made in Buffalo* series, Engagement Conference, Buffalo Israel Experience trips, and KOLOT Pro: Bringing our authentic Voices to Leadership. In 2020, Miriam was awarded the Judith and Daniel Kantor Professional Service Award.

Shira Brown

Dr. Shira Brown, MD, MBA is entering a new chapter as the physician lead for the new South Niagara Hospital in Welland, Ontario, working to prepare the new 469 bed hospital for operational readiness.

Dr. Brown is an active member of the Young Israel of Greater Buffalo. Dr. Brown has been the Deputy Chief of Emergency Medicine for Niagara Health and has provided leadership and frontline care to patients and their families at the system's Niagara Falls, Port Colborne, Ft. Erie, and Welland, Ontario sites. Dr. Brown has also been instrumental in Niagara Health's COVID-19 pandemic response.



Syvonne Forgette

Newly graduated City Honors student Syvonne Forgette was recently named a Community All Star Student by *Buffalo Business First*. At school, she was the founder, president, and advisor of Environmental Club; co-captain of varsity crew; and lead bassist in orchestra. In the greater Buffalo Community, Syvonne volunteered as a Buffalo Ski Center Downhill Race coach and as a bassist in the Buffalo Bluegrass Ensemble. She received the Gold Star Award from the Girl Scouts of America. Syvonne was also an active teen in Jewish Buffalo. She was a presenter in the Student-to-Student Program, a graduate of the Buffalo Jewish Teen Leadership Fellowship, attended Camp Seneca Lake and has helped plan many Teen Initiative Events.

Susan Grelick

Susan Grelick, former Town of Amherst Supervisor, was recently honored by Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village (BNHV) as it unveiled its new Amherst Gallery called the Susan Grelick Gallery. The event honored Ms. Grelick, whose support made the new permanent exhibit possible. Susan Grelick was the first female Supervisor of Amherst from 1997 through 2005 and served as the first woman elected Town of Amherst Town Clerk from 1992 through 1996. She is a Trustee *Emeritus* of the BNHV and chair of Amherst's Interclub Council. The gallery will display artifacts and information focusing on the history of Amherst and the museum's legacy as the former Amherst Museum.



Marina Maulucci-Finkelstein

Marina Maulucci Finkelstein is the 2022 recipient of the Congregation Shir Shalom President's Award, which is given annually to honor an individual who exemplifies extraordinary service and dedication to the congregation. In addition to her leadership at Congregation Shir Shalom, Marina is a member of the Board of Governors at Buffalo Jewish Federation and is overseeing the selection of a new director of the Community Religious School.



Photo by Douglas Levere

Seth Blum

Seth Blum, current student in the UB School of Management, won the People's Choice award for his company, NetWorthy, through UB's highly competitive and prestigious Henry A. Panasci Jr. Technology Entrepreneurship Competition. NetWorthy is an education technology company that provides college students the confidence to make smart financial decisions that align with their life goals.

Ellen Steinfeld

Friends of the Lake Erie Seaway Trail requested sculpture proposals from artists to raise awareness of plastic pollution in the Great Lakes. Artist Ellen Steinfeld's sculpture proposal "Red Fish" was selected for the new public art on Lake Erie. Her concept of a fish jumping symbolically out of water surrounded by recycled plastic bottles in cages, represent the danger and impact of plastics on aquatic life. Red Fish is a reminder to our community and visitors to each do our part taking care of our environment. The sculpture is now located next to Lake Erie in Hamburg on Route 5.





Hannah Gabelnick

Recent Amherst Central High School graduate, Hannah Gabelnick, was honored by Independent Health and Business First by inclusion in the first class of Wellness All-Stars. These seniors were identified by their high schools as exemplary community servants and leaders who has an impact in their school and their community by promoting wellness.

Hannah was co-founder and vice president of the Mental Health Awareness Committee; president, National Honor Society; director, Sweet Sixteen A Cappella Ensemble; student producer, Amherst Central High School Operetta; treasurer, Amherst Central High School Wind Ensemble; secretary, Amherst Central High School Concert Chorale. She was Valedictorian of her class, AP Scholar with Distinction, National Merit Commended Scholar, a member of National Honor Society, and received High Honor Roll.

She was also a voting member of Amherst Task Force for Healthy Communities & Healthy Youth; led leadership session for Buffalo Jewish Teens about how to start the conversation about mental health; student intern, Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council where she researched and created a fact sheet on racial-health disparities, and has been the Buffalo Jewish Federation JCRC's intern as well as a contributor to *The Jewish Journal of WNY*. She will be attending Princeton University in the fall.

Mitch Steinhorn

Director of Amherst Memorial Chapel, Mitch Steinhorn, assisted local funeral directors in three services for victims of the Tops shooting. Mitch explained that "my heart sank when I heard the news (of the shooting). But as I learned what happened, I knew I had to offer my help to my friends and fellow funeral directors in the Black community."

His longtime friend, Darryl Saxon, was handling five of the funerals and asked Mitch for assistance. "It's never easy helping families deal with their grief, but the circumstances made it especially heart-wrenching even for long-time funeral directors like Darryl and me. Words cannot express the sheer sorrow I have for all these victims."



Samantha White

Samantha White, Esq., Staff Attorney of Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, will be part of a group honored at the Buffalo NAACP's 54th Annual Medgar Evers Awards Dinner in October with the Daniel Acker Community Service Award. The Acker Award is given to one who exemplifies outstanding volunteer community involvement. The Minority Bar Association of WNY Criminal Justice Task Force, which Ms. White co-chairs, won for its service to the community by writing, submitting then lobbying for the "Right To Know" law, ushered it into law.



To send Mazel Tov wishes, contact
Cindy Oppenheimer at 716-308-4843,
coppenheimer@jewishjournalwny.com

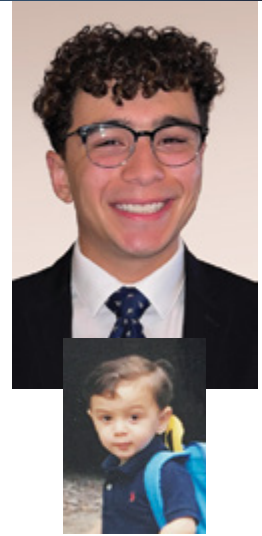
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Hadassah this Summer

Buffalo Hadassah held a wonderful workshop last month at the home of Nancy Greenberg, local artist, teacher and Hadassah Life Member. Nancy presented a two-session workshop in her backyard on making paper mâché' containers, leading participants to use paint and decoupage to complete their individual creations.

On August 16, Suzie Tuchman, who has an MFA in Paper Art, will be leading a Zoom presentation on creating journals from tissue boxes. Suzie works primarily in paper, print and book arts, as well as in restoration of old books. She has exhibited and presented her work in galleries and museums. Suzie is the daughter of Annette Magid, a member of the Hadassah Leadership team. Anyone interested in more information on this workshop can email mkatzel@me.com.



Hadassah is also planning a program in July to encourage donations of personal care products to all in-person gatherings. These items will be donated to Jewish Family Services.

Hadassah Book Club continues to meet virtually on the third Monday of each month. If you would like to sit in on a book club meeting or find out what books we're reading just email phyllismksteinberg@gmail.com.

KOT: Gathering and Mitzvot

BY PHYLLIS STEINBERG

Kehillat Ohr Tzion (KOT) has created many opportunities recently for members to get together to share meals and to enjoy each other's company. Of course, following services we've always had time for socializing, but because of the pandemic we did not have meals together in shul until the last few months. And it's been great sitting down and eating with our shul family once again. KOT has started a new monthly Friday evening tradition. The women of the shul have been doing a Women's Kabbalat Shabbat Tefillah. Following our lighting the Shabbat candles the women join the rest of the congregation, then after the service, we enjoy a wonderful Shabbat meal together. If anyone is interested in joining this Friday night program, email clsaw@gmail.com.



On Lag Ba'Omer KOT members and friends met in the parking lot of the shul for a well-attended barbecue that included fun filled activities for the children including a petting zoo. Rabbi Ori Bergman's parents joined us from Toronto, bringing lots of the food as well as their cooking skills. Rabbi and Nora Bergman's three-year-old son, Zusha, also celebrated his 3rd birthday and his *Upsherin*, his very first haircut. He was surrounded by family and friends as the Rabbi shared some meaningful words about the occasion.

Erev Shavuot was celebrated with an evening of talks presented by KOT members as well as our traditional dairy dinner.

KOT's Social Action activities continue to be an important part of the congregation's mission. Many, many bags of food were collected and dropped off at FeedMore WNY to be distributed to individuals on the East Side of Buffalo. Rabbi Bergman and other community members also volunteered to put together food packages to be distributed to the community. Another



collection took place at KOT to benefit those in need of towels and linens in the New York City area, where there is a warehouse stocked with such items. Different non-profit agencies are involved in making sure that people who need these items are able to pick them up free of charge. At the end of July, KOT will again host a hat exchange and hat collection for donating to Roswell Park Cancer Institute. **For more information about services, learning opportunities and more, email oribergman@gmail.com**

For all who visit the Ohel to pray at the grave of Rabbi Rabinowitz (z"l)
CONSTRUCTION HAS STARTED ON THE OHEL!

All visits must cease until the project is finished, as no one will be admitted to the Ohel during construction.

Check buffalojewishfederation.org/ohel for construction updates.



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Hillel of Buffalo Welcomes New Springboard Specialist

Zoe Felber, a recent graduate of Ohio University in Athens, OH, will be joining the Hillel of Buffalo staff as the Springboard Intrapreneurship Specialist. Zoe was an active leader at Ohio University Hillel and brings to Buffalo a passion for student engagement, community service, and innovation.

Zoe graduated with Honors from Ohio University in December, 2021, where she majored in English-Creative Writing, and earned two Certificates in Entrepreneurship and in Diversity & Inclusion. During her time in college, Zoe held several internships that prepared her for this position with Hillel, including with the National Council for Jewish Women, the Hebrew Free Loan Association, and at her Hillel through the Jewish Learning Fellowship. Zoe also held leadership roles on campus, including as the Director of Storytelling for the Center for Entrepreneurship at Ohio University and as a board member of Ohio University's Jewish Heritage Program. Zoe will be moving to Buffalo and starting her role in July. "I'm excited to come to Buffalo to kick off my career in the Jewish nonprofit world. The Jewish community has been a home to me, and it is an honor to give back. I'm also excited to develop personal and professional skills, build community, and explore a new city!"

The Springboard Fellowship is a Hillel International program that recruits innovative and talented young professionals, provides hands-on training and mentorship and deploys them to campus Hillels for two years. The



Zoe Felber

Fellowship comes with a stipend from Hillel International to cover a significant portion of the Fellow's salary, and all Fellows receive extensive training and coaching. Hillel's current Fellow is Macie Clawson, who after two years in her position, is remaining in Buffalo to pursue graduate studies at Daemen University.

As the Springboard Intrapreneurship Specialist, Zoe will strive to increase student engagement by supporting students in the creation of new initiatives in their areas of academic and personal interest. Zoe brings social media and marketing experience from her prior internships and will be the lead professional for Hillel's marketing and public relations strategy. So many students' first engagement with Hillel takes place online, and messaging and branding play a key role in the students' decision to get involved with in-person programming.

"We are excited and grateful to welcome Zoe to our staff team," says Rabbi Sara Rich, Executive Director of Hillel of Buffalo. "As we got to know her through the interview process, it was clear how easily she can connect with our students and gain their trust. As the pandemic continues to impact how students get involved with Hillel and other campus activities, we will benefit from Zoe's creativity and entrepreneurship skills."

Kadimah Siddur Tradition Returns to Park

For many years, Kadimah Academy upheld a tradition of honoring and encouraging our young scholars at the end of first grade by recognizing their achievements, showcasing their knowledge, and presenting them with their very own *siddur* in a ceremony attended by their schoolmates, family and friends.

Then COVID disrupted the world, just as Kadimah entered a new phase of its own. This past year, Kadimah renewed that time-honored tradition of our *siddur* presentation, for the first time within the halls and walls of Park School of Buffalo.



Second-graders Elisheva Rosenfeld and Belle Sobieraj received their *siddurim* in early June, just before Shavuot, after dazzling their friends, parents and grandparents with the Hebrew and Judaic knowledge they have gained in their time as Kadimah Scholars at Park.

The girls led the other elementary school students and guests in singing Hatikvah, the Israeli anthem, and other songs, reciting *brachot*, and chanting the *Shema* and the *Aleph-Bet*. They taught about Shabbat and Shavuot, counted in Hebrew, went over the colors, weather and parts of the body, and otherwise demonstrated their language skills, before Michal Shmuel-Lewis, the Kadimah Scholars Hebrew teacher at Park, presented them with their new navy-blue prayer books, donated by longtime Kadimah supporter and parent Hannah Kaminker. "We wish you to use the *siddur* at home," Lewis told the



girls. "May you use this *siddur* in good health, at home, and do Shabbat and the holidays."

The *siddur* presentation followed a pre-Shavuot parade – in which Kadimah Scholars in the elementary school dressed as pilgrims bringing offerings to the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. Beginning in the Park dining hall, the students were led by Judaic Studies teacher Nirit Weiner across the Park campus to the Hebrew classroom in the Library Learning Center building.



There, they entered through the back of the building, after proceeding under an archway of tree branches meant to serve as a gateway to the Temple, and then brought their baskets of offerings to the *Kohen HaGadol* – the High Priest, played by one of Park's art teachers, who ceremonially pronounced the priestly blessings over the children in English.

Kadimah Scholars offers Hebrew and Judaic Studies within the Park School curriculum and community, combining Kadimah's 60-year legacy of Jewish day school education with Park's century-old tradition of educational excellence. More than 33 children are currently enrolled in the Kadimah program, representing more than 10% of Park students.

To learn more about the Kadimah Scholars at Park, call (716) 836-6903 or go online to kadimah.org. For information about Park and to apply for admission – including for Kadimah – contact Park at (716) 839-1242 or go online to theparkschool.org.

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Partnership2Gether (P2G) is a program of The Jewish Agency for Israel and The Jewish Federations of North America, promoting people-to-people relationships through a variety of programs. The Western Galilee Partnership connects 17 U.S. communities of the U.S. Central Area Consortium, including Buffalo, with Israel's Western Galilee and Budapest, Hungary. Our participation is a joint project of the Buffalo Jewish Federation and the JCC of Greater Buffalo.



Buffalo P2G's Leadership Council gathers with special guests

This past May, we welcomed our first in-person visitors to Buffalo in over two years! Dr. Marcy Paul, the Western Galilee Partnership Consortium U.S. Director, and Mark Frank, Founder and Chair, The Akko Center for Arts & Technology (A-CAT), spent time with our Partnership Leadership Council as well as others throughout Jewish Buffalo.

Our Partnership Leadership Council welcomed our guests to their first in-person dinner meeting since last summer. Mark shared information about A-CAT, which is an organization in Akko that brings Israeli and Arab youth together to learn photography, videography and 3D modeling in an encouraging environment free of the fears that usually separate them. Our Council is looking forward to working with A-CAT in the future and visiting B-Cat, Buffalo's Center for Arts & Technology, right here in our own backyard!

During the time that Marcy spent in the community, she immersed herself in Jewish Buffalo, getting to know the P2G Council members as well as learning more about the work of the JCC, HRC, JCRC, LiNK Jewish Buffalo and many others. The Jewish Community Relations Council welcomed her to their Multi-Cultural Women's event, she attended the LIFE & LEGACY® donor event and was a guest at the meeting the agency executives. Marcy

also enjoyed time with our delegation that will be attending the Partnership Summit in Budapest this September. Marcy so thoroughly enjoyed her time connecting with everyone in Buffalo that she will be joining us on the Buffalo Israel Experience trip this fall!

We look forward to welcoming future guests from our Partnership and to sharing them with all of Jewish Buffalo! **For any program questions, please contact Gon Erez at GErez@jccbuffalo.org. For any questions about the Consortium or the Leadership Council, please contact Mandy Weiss at mandy@buffalojewishfederation.org or visitwesterngalilee.org.il/.**

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Chalk Over Hate at the JCC

On Friday, June 3, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo hosted Chalk Over Hate: DAY OF ACTION – a nationwide day to choose love over hate through public art. This campaign was by Artists 4 Israel, a group that prevents the spread of anti-Israel bigotry through art and helps communities and people affected by terrorism and hate. The JCC joined together with organizations across the country to share messages of solidarity with one another and opposition to all forms of hate. Over 200 WNY community members of all ages participated in the event, writing messages of love in chalk at both JCC facilities. Children enjoyed ice cream cups for Shavout and soaking up the sunshine. Additionally, the JCC encouraged people to bring diapers, and non-perishable food to the event to be delivered to the Buffalo Community Fridge in support of the Black Community impacted by the tragedy at the Tops Market weeks earlier. Thank you to Ruby Merritt and Sonia Gellman Young, our artist facilitators for the day!



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1» Ukrainian families fleeing the bitter war will soon be resettled in Buffalo by JFS, and you can help! Several types of Volunteer opportunities will be available and funds are also needed (see page 3). *To contribute to support new Ukrainian families, please visit buffalojewishfederation.org/ukraine. For more information about this effort through JFS, please email lmaguire@jfswny.org.*

2» **East Side Garden Walk.** Want to see some beautiful gardens you haven't seen before? Join your friends from the JCRC on a bus tour of the East Side Garden Walk Sunday, July 24 during the hours of 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. *Reach out to Rachel Beerman, Racial Justice Coordinator at JCRC at rachel@buffalojewishfederation.org for details, cost and any other questions.* (See page 6.)

3» Enjoy learning about the **scientific world of microorganisms** with Dr. Norm Weinberg Wednesday, August 3 at 7:00 p.m. at the JCC's Benderson Building. *RSVP for this fascinating pandemic era discussion at bit.ly/weinbergconversation.*

4» **Primary Day in Erie County is August 23**, and we want to remind you to VOTE! You will find easy information about three ways to do so—early, absentee ballot, or at the polls—on Primary Day on page 2.

5» **PJ Library End of Summer Festival.** Don't miss this free event for PJ Library families and friends Sunday, August 28 at Camp Centerland. 7 stations of activities and tons of fun! *Contact robin@buffalojewishfederation.org for more information.*

Where in **JB FLO**



**Where is this found
exactly in Jewish Buffalo?**

The first 5 people to correctly identify the location will be mentioned in next month's *Jewish Journal*.

Email your answers to ellen@buffalojewishfederation.org.

Cheryl Tobias wrote to say that the photo of the 1966 Temple Emanuel Confirmation Class with Rabbi Isaac and Mrs. Henriette Klein can be found in the foyer of Temple Beth Tzedek on North Forest Road.

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Federation Participates in the FBI Citizens Academy

The FBI Buffalo Citizens Academy presents a unique experience for civil, business, religious, and community leaders to come together to become familiar with the work of the FBI. Classes provide an in-depth exploration of the FBI's investigative priorities including terrorism, counterintelligence, civil rights, cybercrime, public corruption, and violent crime. Participants are given the opportunity to engage with FBI leadership, case agents and professional staff as they learn about what it is really like to live the FBI's mission to "protect the American people and uphold the Constitution of the United States."



Renee Petties-Jones (President, NFJC of WNY), Miriam Abramovich (Federation's Chief Experience Officer) and Ronald Papa (CEO, National Fire Adjustment Co.) attending the Buffalo FBI Citizens Academy.

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RECIPE

ASPARAGUS-ONION QUICHE

- 1 10-inch unbaked pie crust, refrigerated 1 hour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon Dijon-style mustard
- 12 to 14 asparagus spears, cooked
- 1 1/2 cups firmly packed grated Swiss cheese
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 4 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups quartered, sliced onions
- 2 cups half and-half
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil, crushed
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1/2 tsp dried oregano, crushed
- Freshly ground pepper to taste



Heat oven to 400°F. Cut 3 inches from tips of cooked asparagus and set tips aside. Coarsely chop remainder to equal about 1 cup. Melt butter or margarine in skillet; add onions and sauté for 3 minutes. Add chopped asparagus and continue to sauté, stirring for 10 minutes. Add basil, oregano, 1/2 teaspoon salt and pepper to taste. Mix well. Spread mustard on bottom of crust. Bake pie shell 10 minutes. Remove from oven; add onion-asparagus mixture. Sprinkle cheese over top. Combine eggs, half-and-half, cornstarch, remaining 1/2 teaspoon salt, and pepper in a bowl; beat until well blended. Pour into pie shell and bake for 20 minutes. Remove from oven and arrange asparagus tips on top of custard, in circular spoke fashion. Bake 20 minutes more until puffed, browned, and set in center. Cool for 10 minutes before cutting into serving wedges. Serves 8 to 10 as an appetizer.



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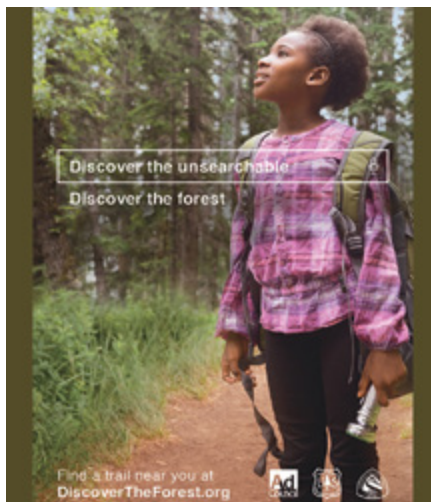
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Remembering Dr. M. Steven Piver: 1934-2022

When his father Harry died of tuberculous meningitis at 59, a doctor told Steve Piver that his father might have lived had he been diagnosed and treated properly.

Those words spurred Steve to take up a career in medicine that led to better health and hope for women around the world stricken by ovarian cancer. "I wanted to help people get better," he once told a reporter. "If my father's illness were diagnosed today, he would have been cured."

Few of his teachers would ever have guessed that young Steve Piver would go on to become one of America's top ten cancer surgeons, author of seven books and more than 300 research articles and founder of the Gilda Radner Registry for Ovarian Cancer.

Born in Washington, D.C. in 1934 to Russian-Jewish immigrants Harry and Sonya, M. Steven Piver was the youngest of three children. He had such severe dyslexia as a child that he would search out comic-book versions of classic novels so he wouldn't have to read the entire text. That he became class president in high school and graduated Gettysburg College *Magna Cum Laude* is a testament to his diligence and determination.

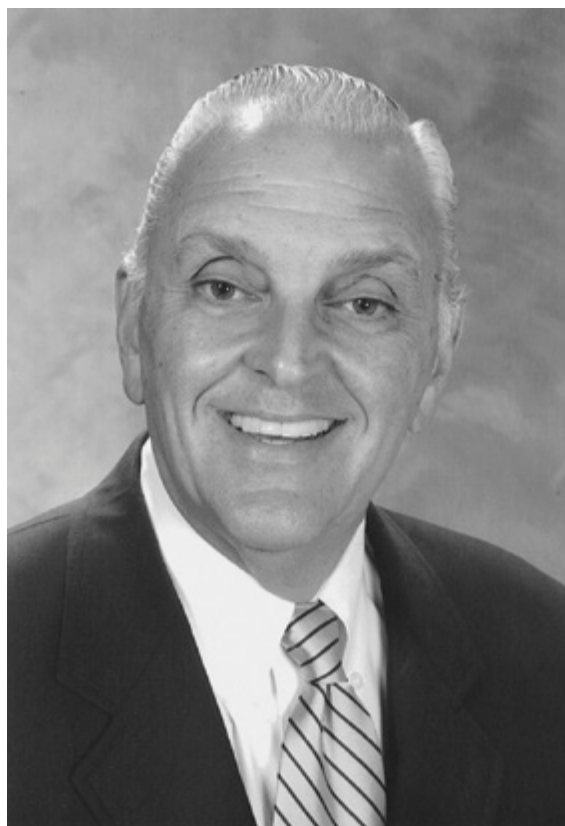
After completing medical school at Temple University, Steve did post-graduate work at Nazareth Hospital, Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Pennsylvania Hospital and University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute.

In 1971, he relocated to Buffalo to work at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, eventually becoming Chief of the Department of Gynecologic Oncology. During his nearly thirty years at Roswell Park, Dr. Piver achieved international

"I wanted to help people get better," he once told a reporter. "If my father's illness were diagnosed today, he would have been cured."

renown for his surgical skills and innovations, clinical acumen and compassion, as well as his research and scholarly work. In recognition of these contributions, Roswell Park Cancer Institute created an endowed chair of Gynecologic Oncology in his name. Additionally, Dr. Piver wrote the book *Gilda's Disease*, with the late comedienne Gilda Radner's husband Gene Wilder about Gilda's cancer, and founded the registry that bears her name. Since its founding, the registry has worked to identify specific genes that cause ovarian cancer, to educate women and physicians about the disease, and most importantly, to discover a simple blood test that would detect disease in its earliest stages, when the cure rate is over 90 per cent.

In 1999, Steve moved to Sisters



Steve was dedicated to understanding, treating and curing gynecologic cancer, through patient care, research, teaching and writing.

of Charity Hospital, where he worked as a senior gynecologic oncologist until his retirement at 81 in 2016. His devotion and service were honoured in

2010, when the hospital named the M. Steven Piver MD Center for Women's Health & Wellness.

Steve was dedicated to understanding, treating and curing gynecologic cancer, through patient care, research, teaching and writing. So devoted was he that in 1996, after a record lake-effect storm dumped nearly four feet of snow on Buffalo, his family were startled to see his car gone in the morning, deep tracks running through the drifts. Steve had rounds to do at the hospital and a few feet of snow weren't going to stop him.

Yet there was more to Steve Piver than his career in medicine. He was devoted to his wife of 63 years, Susan Myers, and their children Deb, Carolyn (known to all as Bobbie) and Ken. He took delight in all his extended family including their partners, and especially his grandchildren Ryan, Matthew, Asa and Selah. An avid golfer, with two holes-in-one to his credit, he enjoyed playing golf with them and son-in-law Rob, and being all-around Papa Steve. He adored his black lab Abby.

He was also the recipient of more than a dozen community service awards in Buffalo, including *Buffalo News* Citizen of the Year (1989), D'Youville College Community Service Award (1992), Honorary Doctor of Laws (1997) and Health Care Award (2000), and the AIDS

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Family Services Unsung Hero Award (with Susan) in 2000.

When D’Youville College awarded him its Achievement in Health Care Award, they said: “To be in the care of the gentleman who stands before us this evening is at once to have known the meaning of hope, understanding, and compassion. He is a leader, mentor and friend whose knowledge, character and compassion have enhanced the well-being of thousands of women around the world and have taken root in all who have come to know and love him.”

AIDS Family Services called Steve and Susan “bold, tender-hearted and charitable friends to people living with this disease and for that reason we honor them as unsung heroes.”

He served on numerous boards, including United Way, Buffalo Jewish Federation, Temple Beth Zion, the American Cancer Society of Erie County and the Irish Classical Theater.

His longest and deepest connection was to the soup kitchen Friends of Night People, where he volunteered for more than 35 years, eventually

becoming chair of the board and leading a successful drive to buy the shelter’s building.

Steve Piver was even something of an inventor, going so far as to be named Inventor of the Year by the Niagara Frontier Intellectual Property Law Association for his Method of Enhancing the Efficacy of Antitumor Agents.

His passing will leave a giant “Steve-sized” hole in Buffalo, for his patients and their families, and for his close-knit family and community, but he would be happy to know that his legacy lives on in the mentorship he provided, the commitment he modelled, and the many lives that he touched during a long and exemplary life.

“I’m only coming this way once,” he once told a reporter. “I want to do as much good for those less fortunate than me as I can. When I leave, all I’ll leave behind is my reputation—and I want it to be a good one.”

This obituary was compiled by Steve Piver’s nephew, Howard Shrier, with assistance from Steve’s children and other family members.

In Remembrance

The following individuals in our community passed away during the period from May 21-June 18, 2022*. May their memories forever be a blessing, and may their loved ones be comforted among the mourners of Zion.



Leona (Lee) Cohen
Yury Danilovich
Harris Goldstein
Mark Gugino
Dominick Lombardi
Ann Lee Ruben
Dr. Barbara Segal
Adrienne Shleser
Gloria Werblow

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Stop the Bleed

BY IRIS DANZIGER MD & PHILIP GLICK MD

On May 14 on the East Side of Buffalo, an 18 year-old who had posted racist intentions on the internet dressed in tactical gear, including a bullet proof vest, armed with an illegally modified AR-15 rifle, and live streaming the event on social media opened fire at a Jefferson Avenue Tops Market, killing 10 innocents and wounding three others.

Only a few days later on May 18 in Uvalde, Texas an 18 year-old entered the Robb Elementary school killing 21. He had recently purchased 1,657 rounds of ammunition. He brought 315 rounds into the school and had 922 rounds on school property. He killed 19 innocent children and 2 teachers. Some of the victims could only be recognized by DNA testing.

Now all too familiar, schools, malls, grocery stores, movie theaters, concerts, bars, churches, mosques and synagogues are all targets of gun violence. Domestic violence is yet another way our gun culture has impacted our communities. A woman is 5 times more likely to be killed when her abuser has access to a gun. Accidental shootings result in 27,000 emergency room visits per year, and on average 492 people per year die from an accidental gun injury.

Surprisingly, following these and other shootings there is an increase in gun sales. We now have more guns than people in the

on access to assault rifles, a ban on large capacity magazines, increased access to mental health resources, funding for school security, and age 21 for gun ownership. Changes that the majority of responsible gun owners support regardless of political affiliation. Despite public outcries, there is no reason to believe anything will change. Given how often gun violence is occurring it is inconceivable that significant federal legislation has not already been passed. If you agree that change is necessary you have to vote, and vote like you mean it. That means knowing if your candidate is supported by the NRA.

United States. There are over 393 million weapons owned by civilians in the US. The weaponization of America has led to an increase in gun deaths in 45 states. A problem only seen worldwide in our country.

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Despite this inadequate governmental response there is something more we can do. Following the tragedy in Sandy Hook in 2012, a consortium of organizations with the American College of Surgeons was created to increase public resilience and save lives. The Stop the Bleed training was developed to teach civilians how to control bleeding until help arrives. The goal is to train every American in basic bleeding control techniques and to work tirelessly toward placing bleeding control kits in every public venue, including schools, community centers, places of worship, and stadiums. 1.9 Million Americans have now been trained.

Following the Tree of Life shooting in Pittsburgh, the Buffalo Jewish Federation (BJF) saw a critical need for the Jewish Community to be trained and bleeding control kits to be placed in all Jewish spaces after instructed in their use. We – Dr Philip Glick, a pediatric trauma surgeon and Dr. Iris Danziger MD, an otolaryngologist – became trainers. BJF CEO Rob Goldberg and Community Security Coordinator Susan DeMari generously provided us with the necessary equipment to teach these skills. The Erie County Department of Health staff have been great partners in our efforts. In typical BJF fashion, our training has expanded to the greater Buffalo community.

If you have not taken the opportunity to be trained at one of the synagogues please consider putting a group together for training. Please contact Dr. Philip Glick (glicklab@buffalo.edu) or Dr. Iris Danziger (danzigermd@aol.com); please place stop the bleed in the subject line.

For more information on this subject see the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence (Bradyunited.org) The only thing more tragic than a death from bleeding is a death that could have been prevented (StoptheBleed.org.).

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Albright Knox Art Truck | 6:00 - 7:00 pm
July 20 - Benderson



Story Telling with Music | 11:30 - 12:30 pm
August 14 - Holland | August 28 - Benderson

SUNDAY FUNDAY

at the Grossman Family Outdoor Pool Complex

June 26, July 31, August 28
1:00 - 4:00 pm



Enjoy swimming, art projects, volleyball, pickleball, family trivia with prizes, Minute to Win it Games, bounce houses, a live DJ, giant lawn games, freeze pop freeze dance, and the Snack Shack!

POOLSIDE Summer CONCERT SERIES

Thursdays, July 14 - August 18
5:30 - 7:30 PM



July 14 - Rear View Ramblers with Tap Truck
Bluegrass/original Americana

July 21 - Kristen Smigielski Combo
Spin on the classic Jazz standards

July 28 - Tim Britt with Tap Truck
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August 4 - Son Borikua
Afro Cuban - Puerto Rican musical heritage

August 11 - Selfish Nate and the Creator
Reggae / Surf / Roots

August 18 - The Skiffle Minstrels Trio
Jazz Standards

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Flick OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

Wednesdays, July 6 - August 18
Movies begin at 8:30 pm



July 6, 7:00 pm - Sing 2
Open mic and karaoke, arts and crafts, lawn games, and swimming.



July 20, 6:00 pm - Coco
Participate in an art project with the Albright Knox Art Truck. Enjoy face painting and a Fiesta Celebration.



August 10, 7:00 pm - The Greatest Showman
A live performance by Buffalo Aerial Dance with moves and music inspired by The Greatest Showman and Minute to Win It Games.



August 24, 7:00 pm - Hook
Treasure hunt with prizes, water games, and bounce houses.