#JEWISH JOURNA A publication of The Buffalo Jewish Federation

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SEPTEMBER 2022 | ELUL 5782 - TISHRI 5783

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(P4)

BUFFALO CELEBRATION CAMPAIGN FOR JEWISH BUFFALO CK OFF EV

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2022 | HYATT REGENCY BUFFALO





SPECIAL VIDEO LESLIE KRAMER Z"I







DON'T MISS: Reverse Tashlich, 10/2 (11)



Awesomesauce at the JCC (15)



LOOK: **My First** Vote (44)

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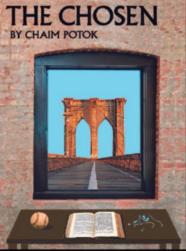
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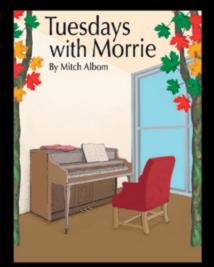
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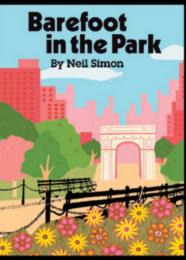


JCC BUFFALO









Oct 27 – Nov 20, 2022

February 2 - 26, 2023 April 27 - May 21, 2023

Season Subscriptions Now Available!



Upcoming Israeli Programs

Jewish Veganism and Vegetarianism





Wednesday, September 14 6:30 pm | Benderson Family Building

Veganism is booming among Jews, especially in Israel. Why is this happening, and what does it mean? Is there something specifically Jewish about their veganism? Have they changed their Judaism (or Jewish identities) by binding it to veganism? Jacob Labendz, Ph.D., and co-author Shmuly Yanklowitz have published an edited volume with SUNY Press in 2019, Jewish Veganism and Vegetarianism: Studies and New Directions.

Jacob will reflect upon his motivations for embarking on the project and his learning about Jewish veganism through editing and publication.

JCC Maccabi Games





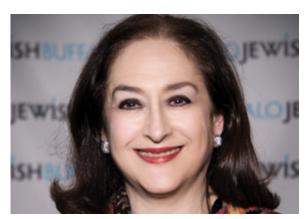
August 6 - 11, 2023 Fort Lauderdale, FL

Join Team Western New York for Maccabi Games August 6-11, 2023 at Fort Lauderdale, FL. Maccabi Games is the Jewish Youth Olympics, where teens from around the world get together for a week of sports competitions and fun! This year's sports are baseball, basketball, ice hockey, girls' volleyball, flag football, soccer, table tennis, tennis, swimming, and dance.

The JCC will be offering subsidies for teens wanting to participate. If your child is 12-16 years old, please contact Chief Program Officer Gon Erez at Gerez@jccbuffalo.org for more details.

September 2022

Editor's Note



Ellen Goldstein, Editor

We begin September during the Hebrew month of Elul, a time designed for us to reflect and consider the past as we ramp up to a new Jewish year. This year we move from 5782 to 5783, and we continue to bless the miracle that is the longevity and existence of the Jewish

Thinking back over the past year, much has happened. COVID continues to knock on our door, taking with it dayto-day life as we knew it, but leaving a different kind of daily order and new ways to engage, particularly through the virtual world of meetings, classes, lectures, theater and

We have also lost beloved community members this year, Leslie Shuman Kramer (z"l) and Gretchen Gross (z"l) to name just two. But we lovingly remember them, as well. Join us as we pay tribute to Leslie this year at the Kick Off Event for the Campaign for Jewish Buffalo Wednesday, September 14 (see page 4) and check out the JCC's Awsomesauce Day devoted to Gretchen's memory and passion for kids (see page 15) held at Camp Centerland over the summer.

Many of us have engaged in learning as we traversed the past year, and this fall LiNK Jewish Buffalo offers all sorts of classes for adults and teens (see pages 6, 7, and 9) to continue on the Jewish learning path in the new year. And we have also been reaching out more through the JCRC's deep networks, such as the July visit to The East Side Garden Walk (see page 12).

This past year has also primed us for adventure, and you can be part of two Buffalo trips available in the new year one to Israel in October (see page 8) and one to the United Arab Emirates next February (see page 6 & 9).

Finally, you can spend a little time before Rosh Hashanah opening your heart to the New Year by participating in our 2nd Reverse Tashlich when we will clean up an area on Unity Island Park on the Niagara River Sunday, October 2 (see page 11). If you are looking for High Holy Day services, a list of synagogues with dates and times is on page 30 & 31.

Shana tova umetuka from Mitch and me! We hope to

Ellen Goldstein - Editor

see you at the Campaign Kick Off event September 14 and at events and worship opportunities this month!

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CEO/Executive Director.... Rob Goldberg .Shelly Yellen Ellen S. Goldstein



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Coming Together and Embracing the New Year

For me, September is always welcomed with mixed emotions. I love the summer months with so many great activities that come with the warmer weather, long days and beautiful nights. I also enjoy this time of year, leading into the High Holy Days: a time to reflect and think about the New Year.

At this time last year, my comments in the September 2021 Jewish Journal centered on COVID and how our lives were still very much impacted by the pandemic. In-person gatherings were still very limited and most of our contact remained remote. Since then, most of us have adjusted to a hybrid approach, choosing a mix of in-person and virtual ways to connect and engage. Today, the remote option is more often used as a tool of convenience, since COVID restrictions on in-person gatherings have been removed.

With this in mind, I am very excited for the in-person Buffalo Jewish Federation (BJF) 2023 Campaign Kick Off gathering on September 14 at the Hyatt Regency. The evening will feature a tribute to Leslie Shuman Kramer, our most



Shelly Yellen

immediate Past President who passed away earlier this year after a courageous battle with cancer. We'll also hear from New York Times Bestselling author Bruce Feiler. Our last in-person Kick Off dinner was in 2019,

and this year's event will be a wonderful opportunity for our community to celebrate and connect with each other. If not already registered, please do so online at buffalojewishfederation.org/kickoff or contact Stacey Block at 716-463-5053 and stacey@buffalojewishfederation.org.

Speaking of in-person, looking for opportunities to travel? There is still time to join us for Buffalo Israel Experience II (BIE), our community trip to Israel October 19 -28. More than 50 participants are getting ready for this amazing trip. Contact Stacey Block (see above) for more information.

How about visiting the United Arab Emirates (UAE)? Rob Goldberg and Randi Morkisz will be leading a trip to the UAE February 1-9, 2023. Visit Abu Dhabi and Dubai to learn about these fascinating cities and why Israel is important to their future. You can register at buffalojewishfederation.org/UAE or contact Rob at rob@buffalojewishfederation.org.

In addition to planning travel opportunities and the 2023 BJF Campaign moving into high gear, this is also the time of year for organizational planning. With our fiscal year end of October 31, we will be putting together

our year 2023 Budget, evaluating priorities, determining strategies, and electing Officers and Board Members. This is an inclusive process as priorities for the BJF should reflect those of our community. Our CEO, Rob Goldberg, and his dedicated professional team design programs and activities based on priorities and stakeholder input that is critical to the process. Our goal is to enrich life in Jewish Buffalo. If you have not already done so, please visit buffalojewishfederation.org/makingan-impact. Also, please contact me at shelly@buffalojewishfederation.org or Rob Goldberg at rob@buffalojewishfederation. org with your thoughts.

I also want to take the opportunity to thank our dedicated donors and volunteers for your ongoing support and commitment to the BIF and our community. You are truly the ones that make it happen, offering your time, energy, and resources to ensuring a vibrant and caring community.

Finally, my wife, Heidi, and I want to extend our wishes for a joyful New Year. May your year be filled with peace, happiness, and good health.

L'Shana Tovah Tikatevu!



AWNERS AND SADLERS TO CO-CHAIR KICK OFF EVENT

The Buffalo Jewish Federation's 2023 Community Campaign Kick Off event will be co-chaired by Laurie and Ron Sadler and Maxine and Steve Awner. The Sadlers and Awners are long-time supporters and volunteers of Jewish Buffalo and urge you to join them for this special gathering Wednesday, September 14 at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo.

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, presenter of two prime-time series on PBS, New York Times columnist, and host of two TED Talks. Bruce is one of the country's preeminent thinkers and writers, and speaks about the role of spirituality in contemporary life.



Laurie and Ron Sadler



Maxine and Steve Awner

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. You can also visit with friends and enjoy the food 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, and valet parking will be 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 flourishing and connected Jewish Buffalo.

Thank You to our Kick Off Committee

Jessica Altman Shira Goldberg Jake Katz **Cookie Levin Merredith Levin**

Eric Niles Ellen Reis Joni Shatkin **Julie Weinberg Ellen Weiss**

Cathy Shuman Miller

Sonia Gellman Young

> Ticketa Still Available!

Tickets for the event are \$95; 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



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2022 | 5:30 PM | HYATT REGENCY BUFFALO

REGISTER ONLINE AT BUFFALOJEWISHFEDERATION.ORG/KICKOFF

Amelida Ortiz Weinmann to serve as new Women's **Philanthropy Chair**

Shelly Yellen, President of the Buffalo Jewish Federation, announced the appointment of Amelida Ortiz Weinmann as Women's Philanthropy Chair for the Campaign for Jewish Buffalo. She will serve a two-year term for the 2023 and 2024 Campaigns. Randi Morkisz, Assistant Executive Director shared, "Both Stacey Block, Director of Donor Experience, and I are looking forward to working with Amelida on the Campaign as well as various programs throughout the year. With her extensive experience within our community and her diverse background, we know that Amelida will bring new ideas and energy to this position."

Born in Buffalo to a political, religious and community-oriented family, Amelida grew up in Long Island and attended SUNY Binghamton before relocating back to the City of Good Neighbors to finish at SUNY Buffalo. Amelida describes her journey to Judaism as one filled with a lot of soul searching and ultimately learning it was the "best fit for her relationship to G-d through the *mitzvot*."

Amelida has been a volunteer for the Buffalo Jewish Federation for many years. She co-chaired Super Sunday in 2019 and 2020 with Neil Block. At the same time. she served on the Overseas Allocation Task Force. She was the Recruitment Chair for the 2021 International Lion of Judah Conference which was held virtually due to COVID-19. Amelida participated in JFNA's GA to Washington, D.C. in 2016 and joined twelve women from Buffalo on the IFNA Heart to Heart Mission to Israel in 2017. That same year she also served on the Women of Distinction Luncheon committee.

As a longtime member of Temple Beth Zion (TBZ), Amelida recently completed a two-year term on its Board of Directors. She also co-chaired TBZ's alternate Rosh Hashanah service for five years and Kol Nidre Campaign for two years. She is currently on the TBZ Life and Legacy committee and is a lifetime member of the Sisterhood.

Before taking on the role of Women's Philanthropy Chair, Amelida concluded her three-year term on the Hispanic Women's League Board, and is a past recipient of the WNY Girl Scout Leader of the Year Award for Amherst/Eggertsville.

Although Amelida's full time job now mainly consists of her family and volunteering, she previously worked



Amelida Ortiz Weinmann

at Hispanics United of Buffalo in their Domestic Violence Department, the Massachusetts Avenue Project as a Community Outreach Coordinator, a community liaison at the Junior League of Buffalo, as well as serving on committees for the Erie County Coalition Against Family Violence, the Hispanic Conference of Western New York, and the Western New York Hispanic & Friends Civic Association.

When asked why she decided to take on Women's Philanthropy Chair, Amelida shared, "I feel obligated and excited. While a bit apprehensive, I am confident in knowing there is great staff, knowledgeable L'Dor V'Dor women, who have worn these shoes before me and are willing to help. I look forward to a collaborative effort by engaging more people to use their time, talent and treasure for the benefit of our entire community."

Amelida lives in the city of Buffalo with her husband, Peter, and their four children, Madeleine, Benjamin, Aaron and Lillian, who are her greatest source of pride and support.

WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The Bonnie Clement Team





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Connecting People to Jewish Life

LiNK Jewish Buffalo offers a variety of semester-long and year-long

learning experiences for adults. Details about each class, cohort or learning

experience can be found below. For more information contact Susan Schwartz

Fall 2022 Adult Learning Classes

Living a Jewish Year Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Monthly, beginning 10/25

Location: Mix of zoom and in person sessions

1st semester: Classes run 12/8/22 through 1/19/23

Fee: \$118/year long course

Facilitated by: Susan Goldberg Schwartz

In this year-long program, participants will experience living the Jewish calendar through the celebration of a variety of holidays and festivals. The curriculum is designed to explore and discuss a different Jewish middah (character trait) each month, using ancient and modern Jewish texts, stories and simple activities, as a starting point of the conversation.

Adult Hebrew (Virtual Classes)

at Susan@buffalojewishfederation.org.

1st semester: Classes run 11/2/22 through 2/1/23 2nd semester: Classes run 2/8/23 through 5/10/23 Fee: \$200/for each semester (books purchased separately)

Location: Zoom Instructor: Zahava Fried

Beginners

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

No experience necessary. This course is for beginners interested in learning the Hebrew alphabet, grammar, and vocabulary with a focus on reading prayers for Shabbat, synagogue services and traditional blessings.

Intermediate

Wednesdays, 7:15-8:15 p.m.

This course is to further develop skills for those who already know the Hebrew alphabet and can read several words and phrases. The focus of this course is on Hebrew prayer.

Intro to Judaism

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m. beginning 11/2 Location: Mix of zoom and in person sessions

Fee: \$118/semester course (books purchased separately)

Facillitated by local clergy and educators, this exceptional course is designed for: individuals interested in conversion, individuals (Jewish and non-Jewish) interested in learning more about Jewish religion and history, and couples of multiple faiths considering marriage. This course will explore the Jewish calendar and life cycles, worship and beliefs, the Bible, Rabbinic literature, antisemitism, the Holocaust, Zionism and the State of Israel.

2nd semester: Classes run 3/2/23 through 3/30/23 Thursdays, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Talmud for All

Fee: \$72/semester Facilitated by: Mike Steklof, Ed.D

Learn with us in traditional chavruta/learning pairs to explore the Talmud using the SVARA method of study: a system of Talmud study in the original languages (Hebrew and Aramaic without translation), enabling students to own the text and the tradition. To participate, all you need is the ability to sound out your *aleph bet*. Our focus will be skill building (learning how to learn) and each week we will spend time with our learning pairs and also unpack the text as a group.

Women Gathering Cohorts

Wise Aging Women 60 years and older - monthly gathering dates/time TBD, depending on interest (minimum 8 women.) Join Susan Schwartz to hear more information on either Wednesday, October 19, 3:00 p.m. or Thursday, October 20, 7:00 p.m. Email Susan at susan@buffalojewishfederation if you would like to attend.

Wise Women Women who are or soon to be empty nesters - monthly gathering dates/time TBD, depending on interest (minimum 8 women). Join Susan Schwartz to hear more information on either Tuesday or Thursday, October 25 or 27 at 7:30 p.m. Email Susan at susan@buffalojewishfederation if you would like to attend.

Well Circle

Monthly, 7:30-9:00 p.m., beginning 10/25

This monthly peer-led Rosh Chodesh gathering connects women to body, soul, and community through wellness learning and Jewish spirituality. This group is designed for women in their 20s, 30s and 40s.

Trip of a Lifetime:

United Arab Emirates this February



Stimulate your sense of adventure and curiosity and join fellow Jewish Buffalonians for a trip of a lifetime to the United Arab Emirates, February 1-9, 2022. Led by Federation CEO Rob Goldberg and Assistant Executive Director Randi Morkisz, our unique experience will include both Dubai and Abu Dhabi where we'll meet with government officials, and experience the rich culture through the country's art, food and people. We have a total capacity of 40 travelers so if you or individuals you know may be interested in joining us, please contact Randi via email: randi@buffalojewishfederation.org. All travelers must make a minimum gift to the Campaign for Jewish Buffalo of \$1,800 per individual or \$3,600 per family.

Mussar for Moms

Monthly on Mondays, 7:30-9:00 p.m., beginning 11/7

Mussar for Moms, part of the Women Gathering series, facilitated by Susan Schwartz, will use conversations based on Jewish texts along with contemplative daily practices to set participants on a personal path towards self-discovery and transformation. This program is for women with children aged 0-8.

Men Gathering Cohort

Monthly on Thursdays, 8:00-9:30 p.m., beginning 9/22

Men Gathering, facilitated by Rob Goldberg and Rabbi Ori Bergman, is a monthly opportunity for men ages 30-60 to gather over food and drink for casual conversation about issues and events that matter such as fatherhood, politics, Jewish culture, and anitisemitism.

Register for LiNK ADULT LEARNING EXPERIENCES and GATHERING COHORTS at buffalojewishfederation.org/link-gatherings



Fall 2022

Jewish Teen Initiative Gatherings

Offering a series of experiences to help Buffalo's teens (grades 8-12) authentically encounter Judaism. Experiences are designed so that Jewish teens can build their knowledge, self-esteem, leadership and life skills, and shape their identities.

Questions? Contact Mike Steklof at mike@buffalojewishfederation.org

I Believe, I Care, I Advocate

Wednesday Evenings 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Grades 8 & 9

10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14

Fee: \$72

What do you believe in? What do you care about? What do you advocate for? Together we will explore our passions while learning advocacy and public speaking skills to make a real difference in the world.

Teen Leadership Council

Register online at:

buffalojewishfederation.org/link-gatherings

Grades 8-12

Do you want to create WOW experiences for your peers while learning leadership skills? Join teens throughout Jewish Buffalo as together we create this year's teen gatherings in partnership with all are Jewish agencies and synagogues.

Student to Student Training

Wednesday Evenings 6:30-8:00 p.m. **Grades 10-12**

11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 1/11

Fee: \$72

Student to Student is a national program where Jewish teens engage their non-Jewish peers and teach them about Judaism. In the fall, participants will be trained to share their personal stories and how to respond to questions about Jewish identity, culture and religious practices before presenting at area schools in the spring. Student to Student participants will learn valuable leadership and public-speaking skills.

REGISTER **TURN BACK** TO PAGE 4 **FOR MORE DETAILS!**



Experience Israel this October!



This October, more than 50 individuals from Jewish Buffalo will travel together on the Buffalo Israel Experience (BIE). Together they will spend nine amazing days discovering the sights and sounds of Israel from Jerusalem and Tel Aviv to our sister region in the Western Galilee. They will immerse themselves in Israel's history and culture and explore new ways of creating community and reimagining Jewish identity. Together, they will enjoy a great travel experience in Israel with fellow Buffalonians who will become dear friends.

A unique part of this experience is the opportunity for participants to create deep connections with each other. One way this occurs is through Garinim (seeds) groups. In July, each group got together and had an opportunity to meet and get to know each other through fun activities and ice breakers led by their Garinim Leaders.





Ohel **Restoration at Pine Ridge**



The Cemetery Committee under the leadership of Charlotte Gendler is overseeing construction of the expansion and restoration of the Ohelthe holy site of the late Rabbi Joseph Rabinowitz (z"l) - on Pine Ridge Heritage Blvd. During construction, the Ohel will be closed. "We, as a community, are proud to participate and enable this project to move forward," noted Charlotte. "The Cemetery Corporation supports the diversity within our broader Jewish community and welcomes those who come to pay homage to this distinguished Chassidic scholar."

During the trip, each group will get together for a check-in daily where they will learn what to expect for the day, ask questions and form deeper connections. Federation is so thankful that Charlene Celano, Marina Maulucci Finkelstein, Ira Nadel, Ezra Rich and Wendy Weisbrot will be leading the Garinim during the BIE.

The BIE also provides opportunities participants to create their own experience based on their interests. On specific days there will be options so first timers can experience "must sees" while returners have a unique Israel experience. First-timer experiences include a visit to the top of Masada and floating in the Dead Sea, and options for returners may include a stop at Ein Gedi, viewing the Dead Sea Scrolls or a hike on the Israel National trail. Free time is also included in the experience for those interested in exploring on their own.











Members of the upcoming BIE Israel trip together at a summer

Participants will all celebrate Shabbat together in Jerusalem, dine with new friends in Buffalo's partnership region in the Western Galilee and visit Yad VaShem, the Israeli National Holocaust Memorial Center.

BIE co-chairs Robin Raphael and Alan Gellin said it best: "One of the most important things a Jewish person can do is visit Israel." The BIE is highly encouraged for those who have never visited, visited once or even multiple times.

There are still spots available for you to join BIE this October. Please contact Stacey Block, Director of Donor Experience, at the Buffalo Jewish Federation at stacey@buffalojewishfederation.org or visit our website buffalojewishfederation.org/bie.

New Year, New Learning!

BY SUSAN GOLDBERG SCHWARTZ

The month of September always reminds us of new beginnings. In September, life settles into a routine after a summer of vacations and lazy days, children return to school, days are shorter, and the sunshine seems less intense.

This time period also usually coincides with the 7th Jewish month, Tishrei, when we celebrate the High Holy Days, and the beginning of a new Jewish year, Rosh Hashanah. This season of beginnings invites us to consider how we want to start anew and grow in the coming year. We invite you to consider being part of a learning cohort with LiNK during this upcoming year.

During these experiences, you will:

- 1. Encounter the diversity of the Jewish people;
- 2. Develop positive and strong relationships with peers and facilitators:
- 3. Discover the timeless wisdom of Jewish text, time, and memory;
- 4. Experience a sense of Belonging in a Jewish community; and
- 5. Be inspired to bring Judaism into your life!

Encounter the diversity of the Jewish people

"Just like every person's face is different, so too, is each person's mind different and unique" (Midrash Rabba 21b.) Traditionally, Jewish learning is done in partnership or with groups to allow our learning to be expanded by the diversity of every person and mind.

This form of study called Chavruta learning, involves learning in partnership and dates back at least two millennia and was the environment in which the first generations of Rabbis learned. The root of the word chavruta is the same as that of chaver, friend. Rabbi Bronwen Mullin teaches "the chavruta relationship is a place to make mistakes and invest deeply, even unapologetically, in one's chavruta's learning and growth as much as our own." Learning with a partner allows one to support and challenge their learning partner to question and deepen understanding, often arriving at entirely new insights and often leading to two learners becoming each other's friend.



Develop positive and strong relationships with peers and facilitators

Rabbi Monica Gomery said, "If we're doing it right, the study of Torah transforms us over time into a beloved friend. A person versed in the practice of friendship, of revealing and receiving radically honest and vulnerable truths to and from our friends, to and from the text itself."

Can you recall a person that had an impact on your life or a time when you learned something profound from a study partner? Many of LiNK's participants responded in a recent survey that their relationship with both their peers and facilitator strengthened their learning experience.

Discover the timeless wisdom of Jewish text, time, and memory

The Jewish sages of old state that "every day, the words of Torah should be brand new in your eyes." They are asking us to take Judaism's age-old wisdom and discover its relevance and application to our modern lives.

For over 3,000 years, Jews have cared about the Jewish tradition, and in return, these traditions have given vibrancy, life and meaning. Today, there are more people involved in Jewish study than in any other time in Jewish history as the life enhancing nature of our tradition is rediscovered. We have taken one of the oldest traditions and made it young again and by rooting ourselves in the depth of our heritage, we become stronger and able to withstand the many winds that come our way.

Experience a sense of Belonging in a **Jewish community**

In Genesis 1:27 it is written that when humans were created, they were created in God's Image, B'Tzelem Elohim. This is not only a description of our creative powers as humans,

but it is also a statement of responsibility about the way that we treat others.

LiNK's vision is for all Jews, their friends and life partners, and people exploring Judaism to feel welcome to participate in Jewish living and learning experiences regardless of race, gender identity, sexual orientation, or ability. Belonging allows all individuals to be fully accepted for their authentic self and to be celebrated for their differences in a safe and supportive environment.

Be inspired to bring Judaism into vour life

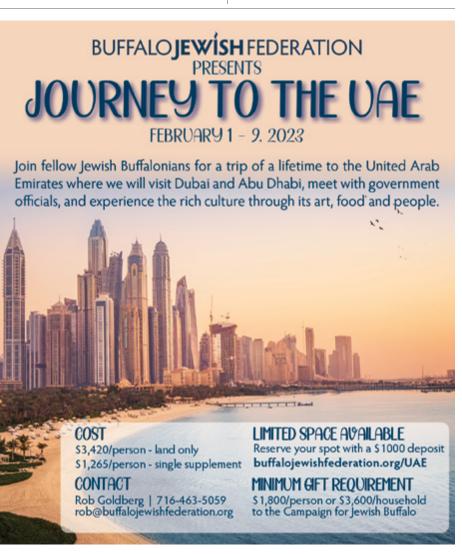
Rabbi Karyn Kedar wrote that "everyone is searching for something, brought together by a common longing: to belong, to connect, and to be recognized by others." We invite you to usher in the new year by taking part in a LiNK Learning opportunity and make this year a year of meaning, community and belonging.

Wishing you all, a happy and sweet New Year, Shana Tova!

For more information on fall LiNK learning opportunities, see pages 6 & 7.

Susan Goldberg Schwartz is a member of the LiNK Jewish Buffalo team.





Sara Schultz: Chief Tree hugger

BY HANNAH GABELNICK

Sara Schultz is a self-identified "tree hugger" who is extremely dedicated to combating climate change. She is currently the chairperson of the Sierra Club Niagara Group, an organization spanning seven counties in WNY that is dedicated to protecting the environment. In April, Sara spoke to the JCRC Committee about climate change in our region and concrete steps to combat it.

LOVE OF MUSIC

Sara studied at Carnegie Mellon University and SUNY Buffalo where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance. She went on to receive her Master's Degree in Music Therapy at New York University. After working in the mental health field in New Jersey for a few years, Sara moved back to Buffalo with her husband, Stephen, to raise their family. Since then, Sara has explored a variety of professions, including



teaching music and Hebrew at Temple Beth Zion, where she also served as a family educator, youth group advisor, and Cantorial soloist. Additionally, Sara has worked as a Chaplain at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Weinberg Campus, and on a freelance basis. A highlight experience was her tenure singing with Buffalo's Own Klezmer Band.

LOVE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Growing up, Sara always cared deeply about the environment. In an effort to reduce her carbon footprint, she lives a nearly zero-waste lifestyle by composting, using geothermal heating and solar panels, and driving an electric car. But this was all at an individual level, and in 2010, Sara realized that to make a bigger difference, she needed to join an organization. "I had always known about the Sierra Club from my interest in the environment, and I knew that joining would be the most powerful way for me to help move forward with climate change mitigation." As the current Chairperson for the Sierra Club Niagara Group, Sara lobbies for NYS Climate Legislation and acts as a liaison to other local organizations, such as PUSH Buffalo, the Clean Air Coalition of WNY, Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, United Solar Energy Supporters NY, and the Interfaith Climate Justice Community of WNY. Sara is also on the Atlantic Chapter Clean Transportation for All Committee and the Town of Amherst Clean Energy Committee, which is currently working to transition the town to LED lighting and Electric Vehicle infrastructure. Sara is also taking a volunteer leadership position with RAC (Religious Action Committee), the social justice arm of the Reform movement as they focus on the climate crisis.

When asked why she works so

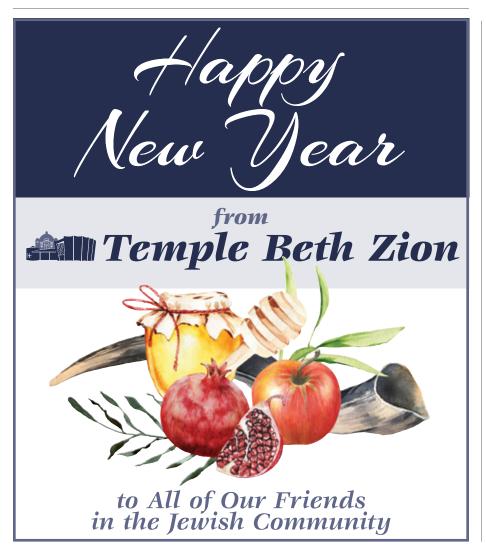
hard to protect the environment, Sara reflects on her three children and seven grandchildren. "It's not a choice. If I don't do this, I'm letting my grandchildren down. I grew up being able to enjoy the beauty of old trees, swimming in creeks, not having to worry about climate change induced issues. I want to preserve the glory of what I've been able to enjoy my whole life so that future generations can enjoy our beautiful earth."

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

So how can we help protect our environment? "Sure, we can 'reduce, reuse, recycle,' compost, take shorter showers, carpool, and turn off the water when brushing teeth, but there are ways in which people can make a much more significant difference," Sara says. "I strongly suggest educating oneself on climate change issues and advocating for legislation that will protect our planet. Most importantly, we must vote for legislators who understand that we have a very short window to start lowering our carbon output before the worst effects of climate change will be here."

Be sure to visit niagarasierraclub.org to learn how to get involved with the Sierra Club Niagara Group and see how you can help combat climate change.

Hannah Gabelnick has just completed her internship at the Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) and has begun her freshman year at Princeton University.



SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY MARCH 12, 2023 for **Buffalo Day of Jewish Learning**

Mark your calendar for the 2023 Buffalo Day of Jewish Learning Sunday, March 12, 2023. Hosted by Professor Alex Green, Buffalo Community Jewish Educator at UB, this event will be a celebration of local Jewish talent for all who love to learn. This is a public project of the Home/Hub Partnership between the Buffalo Jewish Community and UB's College of Arts and Sciences.

The Home/Hub Partnership seeks to draw on the academic resources of the university to address critical issues facing the Jewish community while presenting opportunities to enhance Jewish life on campus and throughout Jewish Buffalo. You can listen to last year's presentations on our Spotify podcast at anchor.fm/buffalodayjewishlearning. Stay tuned for more information. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact Prof Green at agreen6@buffalo.edu.

Reverse Tashlich Returns on Sunday, October 2

BY S. BRUCE KOHRN

It began with the thoughtful musings of environmentally conscious Jewish students at Florida's Eckerd College during the Rosh Hashanah ritual of Tashlich: "Why are we casting our sins into the ocean," they asked, "when we should be pulling them out?" Thus, began Reverse Tashlich, a waterway cleanup program seen through a Jewish lens that started with five students in 2016 and has expanded to an annual international event.

Last year in Buffalo, many Jewish organizations came together through the efforts of Buffalo Jewish Federation to participate as a new "Jewish Buffalo" team. Organized by Tikkun HaYam ("Repair the Sea"), a Jewish marine conservation program founded by Rabbi Ed Rosenthal, we joined over 2000 volunteers at nearly 200 locations in 18 countries.

This year, Reverse Tashlich will be held at Unity Island Park from 10:30 a.m. - Noon on October 2, the Sunday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The program is sponsored by Buffalo Jewish Federation, the Jewish Community Center, Hillel of Buffalo, and Temple Beth Zion.

Most Iewish sources trace the custom of Tashlich back to the 15th Century. For many synagogue communities, it has become a ritual traditionally observed on the first day of Rosh Hashanah when congregants proceed to a body of running water and symbolically cast off their sins. The ceremony includes reading the source passage for the practice, the last verses from the prophet Micah (7:19): "He will take us back in love; He will cover up our iniquities. You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea."

To the students' point at Eckerd College, Jews symbolically cast away our sins by throwing breadcrumbs into the water to begin the New Year with a pure heart. Unfortunately, humans also cast away approximately six to eight million tons of trash every year that ends up in the world's oceans, posing a health and safety risk to marine animals. Much of this garbage is plastic that, on the one hand, is useful for a myriad of consumer and industrial applications and, on the other hand, contains toxic materials that pass through the food chain to humans. Plastic also breaks down very slowly in the environment, and when used in single use, disposable consumer products, often ends up as litter.



Reverse Tashlich volunteers at last year's event on Unity Island.

In the modern era, too few of us have taken this to heart, which is why having so many WNY Jewish organizations come together for Reverse Tashlich holds so much promise. Last year, we saw this as a kickoff for a more active and engaged local Jewish community working to protect the environment and climate. This vision resonates with Sara Schultz, a long-time environmental advocate in Amherst, Chair of the Niagara chapter of the Sierra Club and a member of the Interfaith Climate Justice Community WNY. She says, "I am so happy to see our Jewish Community engage in the sacred work of caring for creation. 'Water is life,' regardless of where your prayers are sent, so it should be everyone's mission to preserve this precious resource."

Our plan for this year's Reverse Tashlich is to collect litter and garbage at Unity Island Park in Buffalo along the Niagara River. Our local waterways are all part of the Great Lakes ecosystem, the world's largest body of freshwater and a dominant part of the physical and cultural heritage of Western New York and North America. While great strides have been taken to restore the health of the Great Lakes in the last 50 years - to the benefit of both public health and the local economy there is always work to be done. Keep

in mind that since all waterways are ultimately connected to the sea, the work we do here benefits the oceans and marine wildlife everywhere.

On October 2, we will meet from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the first parking lot on Unity Island Park. We will begin with a Tashlich ceremony, and then teams will spread out across the park to collect litter. Please join us by registering online: repairthesea.org/rt22. You will be sent a map to the park once you register. All the equipment you will need will be provided. Be sure to wear long pants and a long-sleeved shirt to guard against insects and poison ivy; bring bug spray, suntan lotion, and water too (preferably not in a disposable, plastic bottle). Since we will be recording data on the litter we collect, download the Marine Debris Data app beforehand.

If you have any questions, Buffalo Jewish please contact Federation CEO Rob Goldberg: rob@buffalojewishfederation.org.

S. Bruce Kohrn of Vision & Grit, LLC, is an expert in environment and sustainability and is the Chair of Buffalo's Reverse Tashlich effort.





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COMMUNITY

East Side Garden Walk Visit



On Sunday, July 24, 30 people gathered at Northland Workforce Training Center to board a bus to begin an East Side Garden Walk (ESGW) tour. Guided by Jewish Journal Editor and gardener, Ellen Goldstein, they were taken to five unique destinations and met with gardeners at each site to learn about the diversity of neighborhoods in East Buffalo and hear about civic engagement projects throughout the community and see exquisite gardens!

The tour began with visiting Samantha and Byron White's garden. Ms. White, an attorney and a member of the JCRC's Racial Justice Subcommittee, not only told the group about her lovely garden, but shared information about the neighborhood Children's Festival she organized on the first day of the Garden Walk. From there, the group visited the community garden at Futures Academy, a Buffalo Public School on Carleton St.. and met with UB Urban Studies Professor Dr. Henry Louis Taylor, Jr. who shared the history of the space and the school's partnership with UB. The tour ended with two show-stopping gardens filled with native bees, vegetables, garden art, fruit trees and so much more! As one participant, Sara Shultz (see her profile on page 10) said, the garden walk "created community for all of us present and brought more beauty into our lives."







In addition to the ESGW trip, PJ Library visited Samantha & Byron White's Gardens on the ESGW, along with Rabbi Brent Gutmann from TBZ.

HRC's Descendants Group End-of-Year Party

Holocaust Resource Center Chair Wendy Weisbrot hosted a year-end gathering for the **Descendants Group.** More than twenty 2nd and 3rd generation Holocaust Survivor descendants participated, socializing and discussing future programs. Wendy thanked everyone for a year of thought-provoking discussions and meaningful family presentations. The evening ended with well wishes, gratitude, and appreciation to Elizabeth Schram, HRC Director, who is leaving for graduate studies at UB, for her dedication and success in establishing and maintaining an excellent and inspiring group.







Get Out the Vote Volunteer **Opportunity**

Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Committee (JCRC) is dedicated to ensuring that every American has easy access to voter and election education. Voter engagement is a key element to JCRC as it supports our value of Lo Ta'amod Al Dam Rey'echa (Do not stand idly by). In that spirit, we wanted to share that The League of Women Voters is planning to hold **Get Out the Vote** and **Voter Registration** tables at various Buffalo festivals and farmer's markets this month. Each event will have multiple time slots in which community members can sign up to volunteer to help inform and register people in our community.



If you are interested in volunteering, please email Barbara Gunderson from the League of Women Voters at gunderbarb@yahoo.com to receive a list of dates, times, and locations and to sign up for a time slot. You will need to attend a training session before the event. For more information and any questions, email mara@ buffalojewishfederation.org.

A Community Service to Remember the Six Million Jewish Victims of the Holocaust

IN KEEPING WITH THE TRADITION OF **KEVER AVOT V'IMAHOT**

Led by Rabbi Adam J. Rosenbaum from Temple Beth Tzedek

Sunday, October 2 12:00 - 12:30 pm

Old B'rith Shalom Cemetery 588 Pine Ridge Heritage Blvd Cheektowaga, NY 14225 At the Holocaust Memorial



We are grateful for the partnership of Amherst Memorial Chapel



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Round Tuit: The Path to Success

RABBI ADAM ROSENBAUM

The first Tuesday of this month, September 6th, is designated as National Fight Procrastination Day. I guess I should have warned you about this before, but I didn't quite get around to it.

Procrastination is a challenge that everyone faces; regardless of the tasks we have in front of us, there's always something else we'd rather be doing, and always some reason to put off for tomorrow what ought to be done today. The rabbis of the Talmud knew this, and our tendency to delay our sacred tasks was noted by Rabbi Hillel in Pirkei Avot, (The Ethics of the Ancestors): "Do not say, 'When I have leisure, I will study,' for you may never have leisure." Hillel knew that the being pro-active is the path to success.

Procrastination is by no means a crime, but it is perhaps one of the tendencies that frustrate us most when we consider how to repent leading up to the High Holidays. This is especially true for those of us who have attended High Holiday services for at least a few years. It's easy to wonder

why we are saying the same promises to improve ourselves year after year after year. Didn't we say that we would get better last year? It may feel sometimes that we are all procrastinators this time of vear.

A poem by the Jewish writer Zev Falk discusses this phenomenon. He begins with words that recall the Kol Nidre prayer: "All the vows on our lips, the burdens in our hearts, the pent-up regrets about which we brooded and spoke through prayers without end on last Atonement Day did not change our way of life, did not bring deliverance in the year that has gone."

For just about all of you, this is an over-generalization; I'm sure you have made strides in improving some aspects of your lives over the past 12 months.



Rabbi Adam Rosenbaum

Yet, very soon, many of us will find ourselves in synagogue once again, beating our chests as we admit making the mistakes we continue to make. The simple truth is, once we break our fasts and let a few days pass, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur can be easily forgotten. I am certainly as guilty of this as anyone; I can't remember the number of times I have re-dedicated myself to

improve my habits, only to repeat them again. Procrastination doesn't just involve putting things aside, but it also causes us to break promises with ourselves. How exactly can we enable the spirit of the High Holidays remain in our hearts and our minds throughout the year?

This is part of the beauty of the way our High Holidays are organized. Instead of observing them for an uninterrupted period of time, there is a week-long gap between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. It's as if our tradition tells us: "Think about what you need to do better, and we'll come back in one week to compare notes." This week therefore becomes Fight Procrastination Week — not just one day. If we treat the time leading up to and immediately after Rosh Hashanah with a little more urgency, our efforts will have a better chance of sticking on Yom Kippur and beyond.

I once found a wooden, circular disc around the size of a half-dollar. On one side of it the disc said the words, "ROUND TUIT". The disc's other side read, "This is for those of you who always wanted to get around to it." May we, over the next year, discover new ways to get around to the things we always wanted to, to the lives we've always wanted to lead.

Adam Rosenbaum serves as rabbi at Temple Beth Tzedek.





Jewish Community Center Holds First Gretchen Gross "Awesomesauce Day"

BY ALEXANDER EADIE

To commemorate the life and legacy of Gretchen S. Gross, campers at Camp Centerland experienced the first ever *Gretchen Gross Awesomesauce Day* August 2! Gretchen was fiercely dedicated to the Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo (JCC), Camp Centerland, and early childhood education. A past President of the JCC, Camp Committee Chair, and Ralph Kushner Volunteer Services Award winner, Gretchen's energy and impact were without parallel, and her insight, experience, and wisdom enabled the JCC and Camp Centerland to succeed under her leadership for the better part of two decades.

The day began with volunteers and JCC staff serving a bagel breakfast to the camp staff, something Gretchen did every Friday during the camp season. Throughout the day, campers tie-dyed shirts, took photos detailing what camp means to them, enjoyed ice cream treats from Anderson's, played in bounce houses, and participated in a special butterfly craft. Though it was the first Awesomesauce Day, it will certainly not be the last, as the JCC plans to continue to honor Gretchen each summer in this way.



Members of Gretchen's family in front of the new fireplace.

In the evening, over 120 friends and family members joined us in the Gretchen S. Gross Omanut Center to witness the dedication of a new fireplace and memorial plaque. It was an opportunity to celebrate the life and memory of this exceptional woman with a fitting tribute and memorial in the place she loved so much.



A Centerland camper at Awesomesauce day

During the program, the JCC announced the creation of the new Gretchen S. Gross Memorial **Endowment**. This fund will pay tribute not only to Gretchen's passions for photography and camp but to her commitment to serving the JCC and the Buffalo community. The fund will support camp scholarships for families in need and youth photography classes and programs at the JCC. By establishing a permanent endowment, the JCC will ensure that funding for these programs will continue perpetually. The goal for the fund is to raise \$250,000.



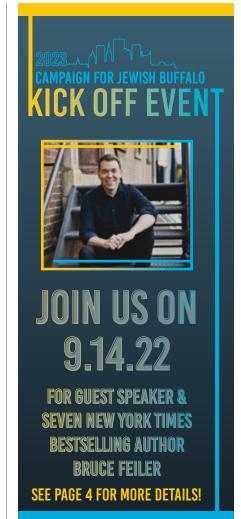
Centerland Campers with some of their fun projects on Awesomesauce Day.



JCC staff and volunteer leadership celebrating **Gretchen Gross**

To support the Gretchen S. Gross Memorial Endowment, visit www. jccbuffalo.org/donate, select restricted gift, and contribute in honor of Gretchen. For more information. contact Alexander Eadie, Director of Advancement for the JCC of Greater Buffalo, at aeadie@jccbuffalo.org or 716-929-6258.

Alexander Eadie is Director of Advancement at the JCC of Greater Buffalo.





Engagements, near and far.

BY CHANA R. KOTZIN, PH.D.

Engagement changes lives. Over the next few months, the Jewish Buffalo History Center (JBHC) is launching a series of new biographies that focus on individual women who have engaged in various areas of life and roles that have had broader impacts. The profiles include refugees and Holocaust survivors, community leaders, educators, activists, creators, volunteers, artists and philanthropists. Although highly varied in background and life experience, the women all have had a common trait: engagement for the betterment of our world.

Many of the profile names are familiar, while others from earlier decades remain relatively unknown. Sadie Altman, who died in 1936, was an outstanding civic leader and social activist involved in an array of causes from installing health centers into schools to supporting soldier welfare. She also participated in the founding of Children's Aid Society, a forerunner to Child and Family Services. Rosa Coplon was part of a team of women who recognized the need to care for elderly Jews in a Jewish environment and who had no other means of support in their golden years. Eventually, a Jewish

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senior's home emerged which bore her name: The Rosa Coplon Old Jewish Folks Home, later becoming a part of Weinberg Campus.

More recently, Shirley Joseph, involved in the National Council of Iewish Women, went on to support opportunities for women throughout Erie County. She also campaigned for Jewish women's rights at an international level through her work at the National Council of Jewish Women. Leslie Kramer, Gretchen Gross and Ruth Kahn Stovroff led exceptional lives of service to Jewish and non-Jewish community organizations, while Adele Cohen, Barbara Holender and Sylvia L. Rosen took other paths as creatives engaging in the communities around them.

An upcoming biography explores the life of Gerda Weissmann Klein, who passed away in April this year at the age of 97. Gerda was born in Bielsko, Poland, on May 8, 1924 into a middle-class Jewish family. She was only 15 years old in 1939 when German forces entered her community. Her brother Artur was taken away by the Nazis and Gerda and her parents were forced into



Gerda Weissmann Klein, Image courtesy of the Buffalo Jewish Federation, undated.

the Bielsko Ghetto. She was eventually separated from them and sent to a textile mill in Bolkenhain, Silesia, and then to a series of slave labor camps at Marzdorf, Landshut and Gruenberg. All of her immediate family and entire extended family died in the Holocaust. After the camps, Gerda survived a death march ending in Volary, Czechoslovakia on May 7, 1945, when she, and a few other survivors, were liberated by U.S. Army soldiers, among them, Kurt Klein. Drafted in 1942, Kurt served as a "Ritchie Boy" in the U.S. Army working as an intelligence officer. Gerda and Kurt Klein married in Paris on June 18, 1946, and settled in Buffalo.

She published an autobiography, All But My Life, in 1957, that was later made into an HBO documentary in 1996: One Survivor Remembers.

Throughout her life, Gerda Weissmann Klein reminded us to remain vigilant to the signs of totalitarianism, promote tolerance toward others and challenge violence and bigotry. Gerda and Kurt began a foundation in 1998 to promote tolerance and community service to combat prejudice and racism. A Nightline broadcast covered work with Columbine High School students following the 1999 massacre at the school, where Gerda visited to help survivors, teachers, parents and student begin to heal after the rampage. Gerda Klein also established Citizenship Counts to understand the value and importance of civic literacy and participatory citizenship.

Gerda Weissman Klein has a significant body of writings from the 1950s onwards. In addition to her autobiography, she has written among others, The Blue Rose (1974), Promise of a New Spring: The Holocaust and Renewal (1981); A Passion for Sharing: The Life of Edith Rosenwald Stern (1984), The Hours After: Letters of Love and Longing (2000), A Boring Evening At Home (2004) and One Raspberry (2009). To read more about Gerda Klein, please go to the website: jewishbuffalohistory.org

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



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Books to Call their Own

BY AMY HEUMANN

COVID has changed so many things for so many people. For the volunteers of the Buffalo Jewish Coalition for Literacy (BJCL), the pandemic brought an end, for the present time, to in-person volunteering in classrooms at Buffalo Public School 80 and to our threetimes-per-year book giveaways. Since March of 2020, volunteers have not been permitted at Highgate Heights.

What has not changed in the past two years is the need of the children who attend school at Highgate to have books to call their own. Perhaps more than ever before, it is important that children have books in their home to practice skills taught at school and to instill a love of reading.



Delivering the books to Highgate Heights

select books of their choosing at book giveaways, there is satisfaction in knowing that our books will find new homes in Buffalo. We look forward to the



BJCL books sorted by classroom for packaging

Three times during the school year, books from time that the doors of Highgate BJCL's collection were delivered to the school for distribution to students in Pre-K through 5th grade. Each of the children in those sixteen rewarding work. classes received three books during the school year—approximately 1,100 books in all.

While BJCL volunteers have missed interacting Buffalo Jewish Coalition for with children in their classrooms and as they

are once again open to us so we can resume our important and

Amy Heumann is chair of Book Donations for the Federation's Literacy.



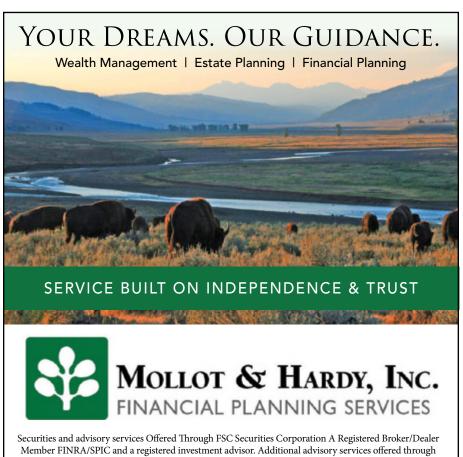
Hadassah Garden Party

It was a glorious summer day when 30 Hadassah members participated in a garden party in Pam Weinreib's spectacular English garden, Hadassah's first in-person event in over two years. The variety of trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals and garden decorations was breathtaking. Pam also graciously donated two of her handcrafted necklaces, which were auctioned off. The proceeds from the event were donated to National Hadassah for their ongoing work in helping Ukrainian refugees.





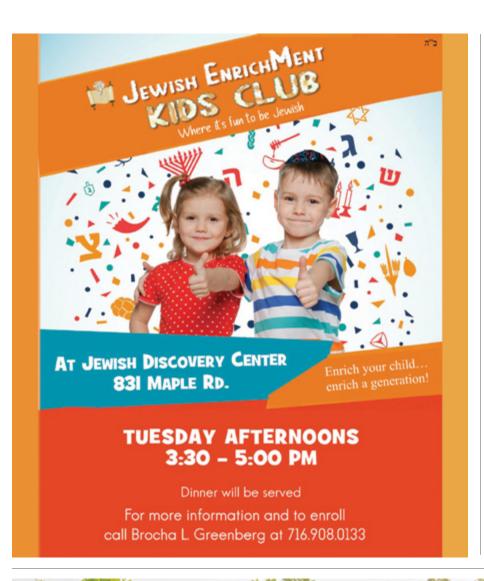




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The Community Religious School **Begins Second Year**

BY EINAV SYMONS

Buffalo's Community Religious School (CRS) is an inclusive, pluralistic Community Religious School that inspires Jewish identity, literacy, and values. Our educators and role models foster an environment where leadership, lifelong friendships and family connections thrive. CRS serves the students of Temple Beth Tzedek, Temple Beth Zion, Congregation Shir Shalom and unaffiliated families.

CRS provides engaging curriculum which includes holidays, Israel, Torah, ethics/values, life cycle, history, art and music. The Hebrew curriculum is taught as private, remote lessons to students from 1st through 7th grade. Hebrew is reinforced during *T'fillah* time on Sundays.



CRS students singing together led by Cantor Arlene Frank.

As CRS is embarking on its second year, new initiatives such as expanding the Hebrew one-on-one to 1st and 2nd graders and new curriculum intensives for 6th and 7th graders will be implemented. Since we are not limited by social distancing this year, we are excited to be planning various social opportunities for our students and their families such as apple picking, Havdalah, and Friday night dinners. CRS is further collaborating with LiNK and the JCC to enhance programming for all ages.

Please check out our website crsbuffalo. com where you will also find the latest updates and information. If you would like to register a child(ren) for school, this QR code below will take you directly to our online registration.



As the Director of CRS, it is my mission to foster an organization that lives up to its name: it is the Community Religious School, made by and for our community. I will ensure that at our school, all are heard, represented, and can find meaningful connections as they embark on their own unique Jewish journeys. Wishing all a Healthy and Happy New Year! Shanah Tovah U'metukah!

Einav Symons is a community educator who served as the director of Kadimah Academy. In addition to CRS, she teaches as Park School in the Kadimah Scholars Program.



LIFE & LEGACY® Launches **Year Two After Securing 216 Commitments**





LIFE & LEGACY® @ Buffalo, a partnership program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, promotes and guides after-lifetime giving to build endowments that sustain numerous Jewish Buffalo organizations that will strengthen our Jewish community for generations to come. During the first year of the program, 121 individuals, couples and families made 216 commitments to agencies and organizations amounting to more than \$7.8 million in current and after-lifetime assets.

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 Services of WNY Kadimah Scholars Temple Beth Tzedek Temple Beth Zion**

An End of Year One Celebration on August 14 at the Irving M. Shuman Campgrounds provided an opportunity to celebrate the first year's success

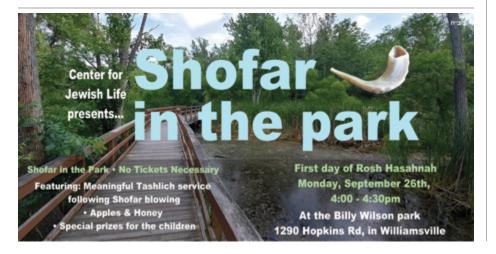
and to award incentive grants for each agency and organization that secured at least 18 Letters of Intent during this first year. Five of the organizations reached this milestone and three others reached the bonus tier of 25 Letters of Intent for the first year.

Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies and the Buffalo Jewish Federation are launching Year Two of the LIFE & LEGACY® at Buffalo program. We look forward to the upcoming training with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation later this fall. For more information about LIFE & LEGACY @ Buffalo, please contact Lorne Steinhart at lorne@jewishphilanthropies.org or 716-204-1135.

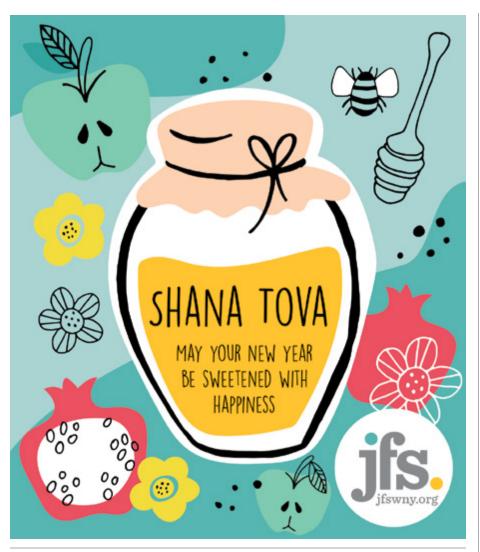
Learn with Rabbi Ori



Rabbi Ori Bergman of Kehillat Ohr Tzion is well known throughout the community for his love of learning and teaching about Judaism. He leads classes every Tuesday and Thursday and facilitates a Beit Midrash on Sunday evenings. In addition, he makes himself available to meet individually with anyone interested. For more information about learning opportunities email oribergman@gmail.com









Proud to be Part of a Vibrant and Caring Community



BY TODD GEISE

As we prepare for the High Holy Days and a seasonal change to autumn, this seemed like an opportune time to reflect on our work through the last year, providing three examples that would not have been possible without the support of the Jewish Community.

Afghan Evacuees: At this time last year, JFS was welcoming Afghan evacuees. In addition to our refugee services team expanding and successfully meeting the challenge of so many newcomers in a brief period of time, we relaunched our community education services to assist with everything from work and school norms to English language learning. We also introduced psychosocial support services to assist with preliminary assessments in light of the trauma experienced by these individuals and families.

New Feuerstein Behavioral Health Center: In June, we dedicated our Main Street facility as the Feuerstein Family Center for Behavioral Health. David Feuerstein, through his generosity, propelled JFS to achieve a milestone in its efforts to solidify itself as a preeminent provider of mental health and traumainformed care. The event, held on June 29, featured the Feuerstein family, Congressman Brian Higgins (D-26), and Governor Kathy Hochul's Western New York Director, Joan Kesner. Immediate Past Chair Blaine S. Schwartz and JFS Chief Executive Officer Dr. Molly Carr, both gave enthusiastic remarks about the meaning of the support and dedication, which also served as a soft launch of the agency's capital campaign.

Ukrainian Refugees: And now, as the summer begins to wind down, we focus our attention on arriving Ukrainians who have fled their homeland as a result of unprovoked Russian aggression and war. In April, the Biden Administration announced that 100,000 Ukrainians wouldbeadmitted to the US under a special program called Uniting for Ukraine. What is different in this situation is that rather than normal refugee admission or even the requirements for Afghan evacuees, Ukrainians under this program will be admitted for a two-year period as humanitarian parolees, requiring a sponsor with legal status in the US to bear the substantial responsibility.

In response, JFS has launched information sessions for those who are interested in sponsoring a Ukrainian family and has hired a Ukrainian sponsorship coordinator to develop sponsorship circles. The sponsorship circles are volunteers of five or more individuals that will provide support to Ukrainians as their sponsors.

The Ukrainian initiative is possible due to funding received from the Jewish Federations of North America, The Shapiro Foundation, and through the generosity of the Buffalo Jewish community. When challenged with a request to match initial funding, Buffalo Jewish Federation and Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies met the challenge and not only matched the funding but exceeded it.

JFS is truly proud to be part of such a vibrant and caring community. To form or join a Ukrainian sponsorship circle, please contact Dasha Valuyskaya at 716.261.8969 or by email to dvaluyskaya@ifswny.org.

Todd Geise is the Director of Marketing at Jewish Family Services of WNY.



Hillel's Summer Internship Program **Completes Successful Second Year**

BY PROF. ALEX GREEN

As college life returned to normal last year, nine undergraduate students worked in Buffalo over the summer as part of the Hillel Summer Internship. The program is for students at the University at Buffalo as well as local students who attend school out-oftown. It connected students with unique local internship opportunities, while developing their professional skills. It also introduced them to the rich cultural life of Buffalo while also helping them explore their Jewish identity.

This summer, I had the pleasure to work with two of Hillel's professionals, Rabbi Sara Rich and Logan Woodard, to design and run the Internship Program. The program ran for eight weeks, in which students worked with local employers from Monday through Thursday and then spent their Fridays with Hillel staff and their cohort for experiential learning, workshops and discussions on Jewish values as they related to the professional work environment. We are thankful to our new partner in the College of Arts and Sciences at UB, who joined the program as a sponsor through the Experiential Learning Network, to help underwrite a portion of the program.

Our nine students came from a wide range of areas of study and we strove to offer students the opportunity to interview for internships that match their areas of study. We were thankful to have had our students interning this summer at a diverse variety of venues: the Calspan-University of Buffalo Research Center (CUBRC) Inc., Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, JCC of Greater Buffalo, Just for Kids, the Office of Senator Tim Kennedy, People Inc., UB Neurosurgery, and Venture Steel. One undergraduate student, Hannah Danziger, who grew up in Buffalo and is currently studying at Skidmore College said that "having an internship at UB Neurosurgery under Dr. Levy has been one of the most rewarding and fascinating experiences and I'll cherish this experience for years to come."

The cohort days on Friday were a highlight of the summer for students and staff. Each Friday began with an



Hillel interns and leaders enjoying the beauty of Niagara Falls.

assigned student sharing a challenge they were facing at work and a facilitator would help the student and the group assess the issue and the best way to address it. Some of the topics included having the courage to ask questions, facing challenging assignments from supervisors, dealing with shifting workloads, and deciding how to represent oneself Iewishly in the workplace.

The group would then visit a notable place, have lunch and discuss a topic from a Jewish lens, such as business and philanthropy, inclusion and belonging, civic engagement, and East Side development. Some of the notable activities included Niagara Falls and the Underground Railroad Heritage Center, walking the Artpark Sonic Trails, volunteering with Jewish Family Services of WNY to create welcome packages for new immigrants, visiting the memorial site at the Tops on Jefferson, touring

North Buffalo's Jewish heritage with Explore Buffalo, cooking at The Bloom & Rose, learning about Universal Design through a tour of Temple Beth Tzedek, watching the judicial system in action at Buffalo City Court, visiting the Office of Senator Timothy Kennedy, and learning about the philanthropic work of M&T

The students also benefited from a distinguished lineup of guest speakers. These included: Eric Feldstein, Regional President of WNY for M&T Bank; Adam Fogel, Chief of Staff for Senator Timothy Kennedy; Janet Gunner, Esq. and Kesher Inclusion Committee Chair of Temple Beth Tzedek; Andrew Isenberg, District Executive of the Eighth Judicial District; Sierra Johnston, Manager, Volunteer Services of Jewish Family Services of WNY; Kara Kane, Executive Assistant, Iewish Family Services of WNY: Rabbi Adam J. Rosenbaum, Rabbi of

Temple Beth Tzedek; Harvey Sanders, Managing Partner at Sanders & Sanders, Western New York Employment Law Firm; Mike Steklof, EdD, Director of Jewish Experience, LiNK Jewish Buffalo; Ellen Weiss, founder of WORKplace WELLbeing Success; Steven Weiss, Co-Founding Partner, Cannon Heyman & Weiss, LLP.; and Samantha White, Staff Attorney, Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc.

Evan Klein, a UB undergraduate majoring in Business Administration and minoring in Jewish Studies highlighted that "to have these amazing resources and opportunities as a Jewish student is so special to me it's great to know that the community and these organizations that work with Hillel believe in students like me and my fellow interns."

We would love to partner with more employers in the future to offer more internship opportunities for students. Please reach out to one of us if you are interested in joining the program as an employer next year.

Prof. Alex Green is a Visiting Associate Professor in the Department of Jewish Thought at SUNY, University at Buffalo, where he serves as the Buffalo Community Jewish Educator. He runs the Home/Hub Partnership between UB's College of Arts and Sciences, Hillel and the Buffalo Jewish Community where he seeks to draw on the academic resources of the university to address critical issues facing the Jewish community while presenting opportunities to enhance Jewish life on campus and throughout Iewish Buffalo.

Buffalo's Best wishes you all L'Shana Tovah!

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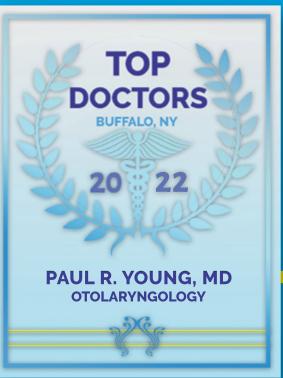
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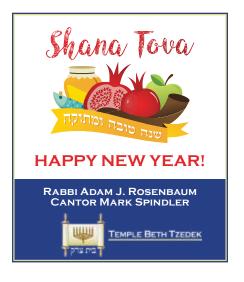


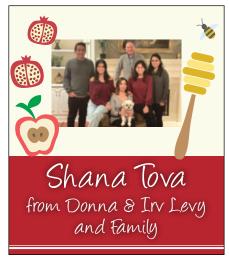
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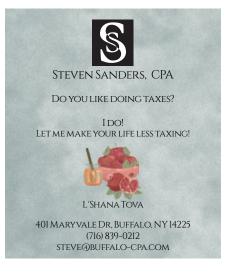






















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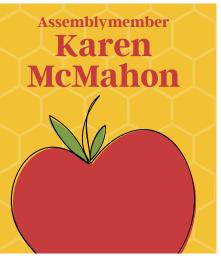
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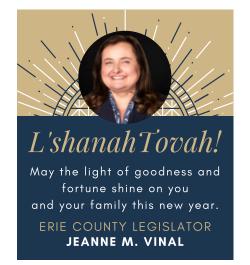
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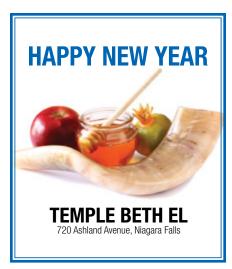
L'Shanah Tovah!!!

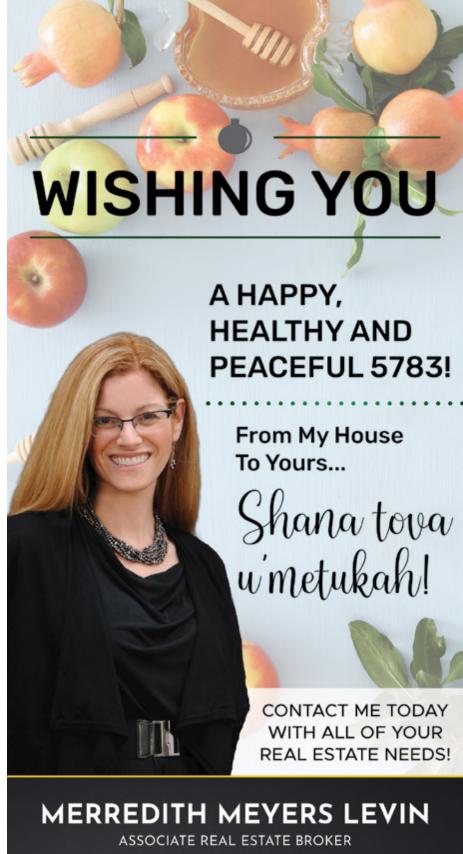


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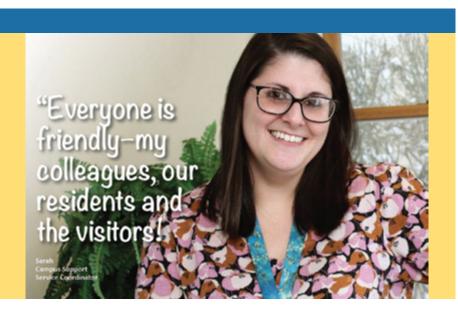




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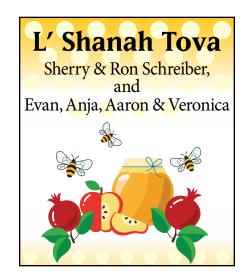
and Hadassah updates email: buffalohadassah@gmail.com

Steve Goodwin and the Goodwin Insurance Agency wish everyone a

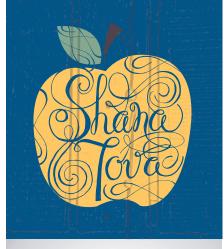
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Supervisor

Brian J. Kulpa

Judy Jack Lewis

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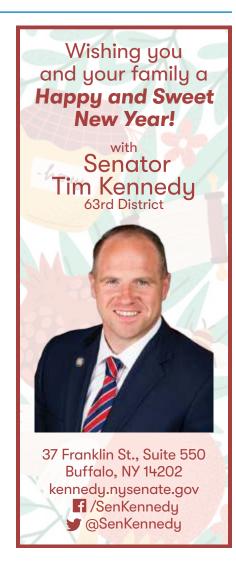
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Shana Tova U'metuka to the Buffalo Jewish Community!



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Temple Beth Tzedek Prepares for 5783

Coming off a refreshing summer, Temple Beth Tzedek (TBT) is gearing up for the High Holy Days and beyond under its new President, Linda S. Boxer, and with the additional clergy support of its Cantorial Intern, Zahava Fried.



President Linda Boxer

A native of Detroit, Ms. Boxer has been a proud Western New Yorker for over 40 years with deep involvement in the Niagara Falls Jewish community, where she was a longtime member of Temple Beth Israel and head of the late Jewish Federation of Niagara Falls. In addition to her work at TBI, she also became involved with Temple Beth El when her children, Robin (now Waldman) and Matthew, became active in USY programming in Buffalo. Along with her husband,

Laurence Boxer, Ph.D., they became members of Temple Beth Tzedek when Temples Beth El and Shaarey Zedek merged in 2008. Their son, Matthew Boxer, Ph.D., was Principal Researcher of the 2013 Greater Buffalo Jewish Community Study.

Most recently serving as TBT's Vice President, Co-Chair of the Membership Committee as well as International Northeast Region Vice President of Women's League's Torah Fund, which supports the Conservative Movement's five seminaries worldwide, Ms. Boxer has also been active in Women's Network, the Library, Adult Education and Museum Committees, among others. Ms. Boxer succeeds Marcia S. Goldstein, who during her tenure welcomed Rabbi Adam J. Rosenbaum, safely shepherded TBT through COVID with a pharmacist's precision, and presided over the extensive renovations of the shul's kitchen and social hall, which will be formally dedicated in the coming months.



Cantorial Intern Zahava Fried

The recent appointment of Zahava Fried as Temple Beth Tzedek's Cantorial Intern and Youth Educator marks a new chapter in Ms. Fried's expanding career as an inspiring Jewish educator. In her expanded role, she will lead a range of programming at Temple Beth Tzedek, including its Binah (wisdom) Jewish supplemental program on Thursday evenings for Community Religious School students and others in Grades 1-5; Tinok Time, a twice a month weekday

morning program for children aged six months to four; as well as Mishpacha (family), a Sunday morning supplement to CRS' monthly *Ganeinu* program for preschoolers. Ms. Fried will now be seen more on the Bimah and at temple life cycle events as she begins her internship under the mentorship of Rabbi Adam J. Rosenbaum and Cantor Mark Spindler.

Ms. Fried is currently attending the Academy for Jewish Religion, based in Yonkers, N.Y. where she is in the process of obtaining both cantorial ordination and a M.A. in Judaic Studies. A classically trained opera singer who has previously performed with the Pittsburgh Opera, her emerging cantorate infuses meaningful Jewish Tfillah (prayer), experiential Torah education, and *Nusach* (prayer tradition). Ms. Fried is the former director of the PALS-Kadimah preschool at Temple Beth Zion. She holds a B.A. in Education with a concentration in Early Childhood from SUNY Empire State College and a A.A. in Judaic Studies from Yeshiva University. Ms. Fried's leadership was previously recognized by Buffalo Jewish Federation as she was lauded among Jewish Buffalo's "18 Under 36 List of Emerging Leaders" in 2019. She resides in Williamsville with her husband, Dr. Yaakov Fried, and their two daughters.

Back to School Opportunities with Binah and Mishpacha

Temple Beth Tzedek prepared for its students to participate in the second year of the Community Religious School, with children from Shir Shalom, Temple Beth Zion. TBT is are excited to offer

Binah (wisdom), a Jewish supplementary education program to all CRS students and other members of Jewish Buffalo in grades 1 thru 5. The program will be offered at TBT on Thursday evenings from 5-6:15 p.m. The program is free

for TBT families and is \$75 per session or \$125 per year for non-TBT members. Please contact youthed@btzbuffalo. org to learn more and register for this dynamic program which will explore the Torah and its content through experiential learning, creative movement, and art, as well as creating one's own Siddur (prayer book)!

Additionally, to supplement CRS' monthly Ganeinu program for preschoolers, TBT invites CRS' young families to join us for additional ageappropriate sessions on non-Ganeinu Sunday mornings. To learn more, please contact youthed@btzbuffalo.org.

Tinok Time

Tinok Time, Temple Beth Tzedek's Thursday morning program for children ages 6 months-4 years led by Zahava Fried, will be returning to TBT this month after a successful summer at local parks. This free program requests an RSVP to youthed@btzbuffalo.org.

New Family Service at High Holidays

Temple Beth Tzedek is excited to welcome young families back to our beautiful North Forest campus after moving them to Camp Centerland during the pandemic. This year, Rabbi Rosenbaum and Cantorial Intern Zahava Fried are creating a family service that will be held at 10:00 a.m. on both mornings of Rosh Hashanah, as well as on Yom Kippur. The Rosh Hashanah theme is "Happy Birthday, World!" with birthday cupcake decorating and a birthday party.

Wine with the Women's Network

The Temple Beth Tzedek Women's Network will be holding a wine tasting with sommelier Josh Blumberg on September 11 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Please contact the Temple Office for more information or visit btzbuffalo.org.



High Holy Days Worship

PLEASE NOTE: Worship services for the High Holy Days are subject to change. Please contact the Congregation(s) to be sure of service times.

Center for Jewish Life

757 Hopkins Rd., Williamsville

Contact Rabbi Laizer Labkovski at laizerl@gmail.com for Sukkot, Simchat Torah and Shemini Atzeret services

Sunday, September 25 7:00 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 26

10:00 a.m. Morning Service 11:00 a.m. Shofar Service 2:00 p.m. Holiday Meal **4:00 p.m.** Tashlich in the Park

Tuesday, September 27

10:00 a.m. Morning Service 11:00 a.m. Shofar Service 2:00 p.m. Kiddush

Tuesday, October 4 6:45 p.m. Kol Nidre

Wednesday, October 5

10:00 a.m. Morning Services 11:30 a.m. Yizkor Memorial

Service 5:30 p.m. Mincha

6:30 p.m. Neilah Closing

Service

Center for Jewish Life (CJL) Downtown

1016 Lafayette Ave., Buffalo

Contact Rabbi Mendy Labkovski at mendylabkovski@gmail.com for holiday service information.

Chabad of Buffalo

2450 North Forest, Getzville

For more information, call Chabad at 716-688-1642 for details

Chabad Knesset Center

500 Starin Ave., Buffalo Sunday, September 25 **7:35 p.m.** Maariv

Monday, September 26 9:00 a.m. Shachris 11:15 a.m. Shofar

6:10 p.m. Mincha & Tashlich **7:35 p.m.** Maariv

Tuesday, September 27

9:00 a.m. Shachris 11:15 a.m. Shofar

Tuesday, October 4

6:15 p.m. Kol Nidre

Wednesday, October 5 9:00 a.m. Shachris

11:30 a.m. Yizkor

6:25 p.m. Neilah refreshments to follow

Congregation **Beth Abraham**

1073 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo

In-person services this year to those who have been fully vaccinated. All others will be able to participate on Zoom. Guidelines for attending in person and/ or participating on Zoom are available on our website congregationbethabraham.net

Sunday, September 25 **6:30 p.m.** Erev Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 26

9:30 a.m. Rosh Hashanah -Day 1

Tuesday, September 27

9:30 a.m. Rosh Hashanah -Day 2

Tuesday, October 4 7:00 p.m. Kol Nidre

Wednesday, October 5

9:30 a.m. Yom Kippur morning

5:30 p.m. Youm Kippur Evening

Congregation Havurah

For more information, contact Bernie Schenkler at bschenkler@ roadrunner.com.

Congregation Shir Shalom

4660 Sheridan Dr., Williamsville All Services in the Sanctuary with live stream via Boxcast, Facebook

and YouTube unless noted.

Saturday, September 17

7:00 p.m. Community Slichot at Temple Beth Zion, Delaware Ave

Sunday, September 25

7:30 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

Monday, September 26

10:30 a.m. Morning Service **3:00 p.m.** Rosh Hashanah Family Service

(OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY)

4:00 p.m. Tashlich, across from CSS Parking

Tuesday, September 27

10:30 a.m. Second Day Rosh Hashanah Morning Service

Sunday, October 2

1:00 p.m. Kever Avot at White Chapel Memorial Park and via Zoom

Tuesday, October 4

7:30 p.m. Kol Nidre Evening Service

Wednesday, October 5

10:30 a.m. Morning Service 1:30 p.m. Reflections in the

Open Area 3:00 p.m.

Yom Kippur Family Service (OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY)

4:00 p.m. Healing Service

5:30 p.m. Mincha Torah Service

6:00 p.m. Yizkor/Neilah Service

7:15 p.m. Park and Pray Final

Shofar Blowing in the CSS Parking Lot

7:30 p.m. (Approximately) Break Fast Bagel

Box Drive Thru-Must RSVP by 9/28/22

Hillel of Buffalo

Services will take place on UB's North Campus and are open to all. For location information and other questions, please contact Rabbi Sara Rich at rabbisara@ hillelofbuffalo.org

Sunday, September 25

6:30 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

Monday, September 26 9:00 a.m. Morning Service

Tuesday, October 4

6:30 p.m. Kol Nidre Evening Service

Wednesday, October 5

9:00 a.m. Morning Service **5:30 p.m.** Neilah

Kehillat Ohr Tzion

879 Hopkins Rd., Williamsville

Sunday, September 25 6:45 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 26

9:00 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Day **6:45 p.m.** Evening Service

Tuesday, September 27

9:00 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Day **6:45 p.m.** Evening Service

Tuesday, October 4 6:45 p.m. Kol Nidrei

Wednesday, October 5

9:00 a.m. Yom Kippur Services 11:30 a.m. Yizkor

6:15 Neilah

Jewish Discovery Center 831 Maple Rd., Williamsville

Sunday, September 25

6:45 p.m. Mincha 7:00 p.m. Rosh

> Hashanah evening services

September 26

10:00 a.m. Shacharis 12:00 p.m. Shofar blowing 5:30 p.m. 2nd Shofar blowing

6:15 p.m. Mincha followed

by Tashlich

7:45 p.m. Rosh

Hashanah evening services

September 27

10:00 a.m. Shacharis 12:00 p.m. Shofar blowing 5:30 p.m. 2nd Shofar blowing

6:30 p.m. Mincha

October 4 - Yom Kippur Eve 6:30 p.m. Kol Nidrei

October 5 - Yom Kippur Day

10:00 a.m. Shacharis 12:30 p.m. Yizkor 6:20 p.m. Nei'lah

Temple Beth El- Niagara

720 Ashland Ave., Niagara Falls Contact templebethelniagara@ gmail.com for any questions.

Monday, September 26

10:30 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Service

Tuesday, October 4 7:00 p.m. Kol Nidre

Wednesday, October 5

4 p.m. Mincha, Yizkor and Neilah

Temple Beth Tzedek

1641 North Forest Rd., Williamsville

Saturday, September 17

8:30 p.m. Community Pre-Holiday Program 10:00 p.m. Selichot Service

Sunday, September 25

6:00 p.m. Minhah & Ma'ariv -Traditional service

Monday, September 26

9:00 a.m. Shaharit, Shofar, Torah Reading, Sermon & Musaf

5:30 p.m. Tashlich

6:00 p.m. Minhah & Ma'ariv

10:00 a.m. Mini-Mahzor

service, food craft & interactive activities Family Service

Traditional service

Tuesday, September 27

9:00 a.m. Shaharit, Shofar, Torah Reading, Sermon & Musaf **Traditional**

7:00 p.m. Minhah & Ma'ariv

10:00 a.m. Mini-Mahzor service, food craft & interactive activities

Family Service

Tuesday, October 4

6:15 p.m. Minhah service 7:00 p.m. Kol Nidre

Wednesday, October 5

9:00 a.m. Shaharit, Torah Reading,

Israel Bond Appeal, Yizkor,

Sermon & Musaf

5:45 p.m Minhah, followed by Ne'ilah

8:10 p.m Sounding of Shofar,

followed by Ma'ariv

10:00 a.m. Shaharit, Torah Reading, Israel Bond Appeal, Yizkor,

Sermon & Musaf

Temple Beth Zion

805 Delaware Ave., Buffalo

Services will also be streamed. Go to www.tbz.org for more information.

Saturday, September 17

7:00 p.m. Community Slichot at Temple Beth Zion, Delaware

Sunday, September 25

8:00 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah

Services

Monday, September 26

10:00 a.m. Morning Service

10:30 a.m. Tot Service and Program (appropriate for children up

to 6 years of age)

12:30 p.m. Alternate Family Service -

Becker Farms. Reservations

required

12:30 p.m. Taschlich - Hoyt Lake in

Delaware Park

Sunday, October 2

12:00 p.m. Memorial Services -Forest Lawn Cemetery

Tuesday, October 4

8:00 p.m. Kol Nidre

Wednesday, October 5

10:00 a.m. Morning Service

10:30 a.m. Tot and Family Service

12:45 p.m. Panel Discussion

2:30 p.m. Musical Afternoon Service

2:30 p.m. Meditative Walk

3:30 p.m. Musical Interlude

3:15 p.m. Afternoon Service

4:15 p.m. Yizkor Service

5:00 p.m. Ne'ilah/Havdalah Service

5:30 p.m. Breakfast



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Maariy 7:00 PM Oct 17 Kiddush and Danci

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

Are you registered to vote in the November general election? If not, you have until October 14 to resister by mail, in person or **online.** The JCRC has resources on its website to help you do just that. Go to buffalojewishfederation.org/vote to learn more today, while you still have time to do so, because every vote matters!

Don't miss the most awesome community event of the year: The Campaign for Jewish Buffalo Campaign Kick Off event Wednesday, September 14 at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. Guest speaker Bruce Feiler will be in attendance and you won't want to miss the video tribute to past Federation President Leslie Shuman Kramer (z"l). To attend, a primary minimum \$100 gift to the 2023 Annual Campaign is requested. Go to buffalojewishfederation.org/kickoff for more information and to sign up! (See page 4).

Keep learning! Sign up now for adults and teen Jewish education classes with LiNK (see pages 6 & 7). Adults can study Hebrew, Mussar Talmud and more. Go to buffalojewishfederation. org/link-gatherings to sign up. Teens can hone their leadership skills in three different ways, and can contact Mike Steklof at mike@buffalojewishfederation.org to learn more and enroll.

Help heal the world and the Great Lakes too this year between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur at Reverse Tashlich! (See page 11). It takes place Sunday, October 2 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Unity Island right on the Niagara River. Please join us by registering online: repairthesea.org/rt22. If you have any questions, please contact Buffalo Jewish Federation CEO Rob Goldberg: rob@buffalojewishfederation.org.

Where in JBFLO



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.

For the July/ August issue, **Linda Boxer** wrote to say that the photo of the 1964 Temple Beth El Religious School can be found in the foyer of Temple Beth Tzedek on North Forest Road

Foundation Scholarship Recipient has Bright **Future in Social Work and Public Service**



Every year, the Foundation for Philanthropies awards qualifying students with scholarships and interest-free loans to assist with their academic endeavors. Years ago Haskell Stovroff (z"l) created the a scholarship in honor of his late wife, Betty, a 1940 graduate of the UB School of Social Work. Haskell's vision for creating the memorial fund was to provide eligible graduate students at UB School of Social Work with scholarships to help them build their future in the field.

This year, the recipient of the Betty W. Stovroff Memorial Scholarship is Samantha Williams, Born and raised in Buffalo, Samantha earned her



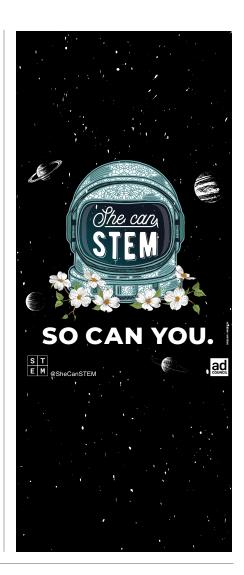
Samantha Williams

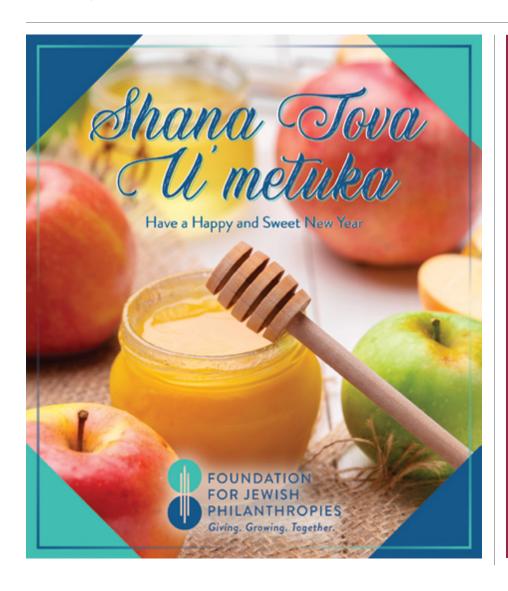
undergraduate degree at Buffalo State College with a major in History and a minor in African American Studies. After completing her Master of Social Work in 2021, she enrolled in the PhD program at UB's School of Social Work. Samantha's

studies focus on advancing community life along with health and well-being in predominantly Black neighborhoods.

To support and assist the community in addressing its needs, Samantha works as a counselor at Crisis Services and serves as the Vice President of the UB Chapter of the Association of Black Social Workers. Upon earning her doctorate, she plans to secure a career opportunity as a program analyst at the Department of Housing and Urban Development to evaluate programs for rental assistance and homeownership.

Congratulations to Ms. Williams on her well-earned achievement and career endeavor. For information on the Foundation's academic scholarship and loan programs, contact Lorne Steinhart, Senior Manager of Client Relations, at 716.204.1135 or email Lorne@jewishphilanthropies.org.





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Events at the JCC

Solo Acts: A Theatrical Compilation on Solo Aging @ the JCC

Solo Acts will host two free performances (advance registration required) at the JCC Benderson Building, Friday, September 23rd at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The show is approximately 40 minutes and is followed by a talkback.

Solo Acts is an uplifting, funny, thought-provoking theatre project, based on interviews with 18 culturally, economically, and racially distinct solo agers from Southeast Michigan and Western New York. According to the Pew Research Center, more than 25% of adults 60 years of age and older are considered Solo Agers, and that number is only expected to rise. This production offers all - caregivers, faith leaders, non-profit directors, policymakers, philanthropy, family members, and solo agers themselves – opportunities to reflect on the complexities of living as or serving, solo agers. Buffalonian Sharon Cramer notes: "Solo Acts enables us to transform our ideas about solos. Viewing it will leave you changed."

Rosh Hashanah Celebration on 9/18



JCC BENDERSON FAMILY BUILDING

Sunday, September 18 | Activities from 11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Registration Required - Suggested Donation of \$10 jccbuffalo.org

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Family Screening of the Bee Movie

1-2 p.m. Holiday crafts and snacks and food for purchase

2-3 p.m. SHULMAN QUARTET presenting original compositions by Israeli Buffalobased award-winning composer and selections of traditional music to celebrate Rosh Hashanah.

Moscato Exhibit at the Bunis Family Art Gallery



Artist Cary Moscato will show his work at the JCC Benderson Building beginning with an Opening reception Sunday, September 11 from 2-4 p.m. at the Bunis Family Gallery. The event is free and open to the Community and Cary will donate 50% of all his painting sale profits to Camp Good Days, a summer camp for children with cancer and their siblings.

Cary describes his work as looking through a portal, "through the bended branch, and into the crevices. Discover the mysteries of the natural world, beyond the obvious. My pastel paintings usually begin with an abstract underpainting in which I capture the composition and block out the dark and light values. Pastel can be layered, creating an infinite variety of colors."

Adult Art Workshops at the JCC

Brushes and Brunch

Sunday, Oct 16 - Fall Landscape

Sunday, December 4 - Winter Water Falls

Join us at the Omanut Building at Camp Centerland, JCC Benderson Family Building from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. when Deb Meier will lead a step-by-step watercolor piece to take home. Paint supplies are included. To register visit jccbuffalo.org.

Beginner Charcoal Workshop

Monday, September 19 | 6-8 p.m.

Join us at the Omanut Building at Camp Centerland to learn the fundamentals of drawing with local artist, Sonia Gellman Young, using one of the most expressive drawing media, charcoal! Students will explore charcoal, charcoal pencils, and white charcoal pencils to draw 3D subjects. This class will discuss some of the elements of design including shape, form, and value. Workshop supplies are included.

Tours and Trips this Fall

The JCC is happy to partner with Explore Buffalo to offer a tour starting from the JCC Holland Family Building on Thursday, **September 15**. Enjoy a one-hour walking tour, led by an Explore Buffalo Docent. "Hidden Gems" tours Linwood Avenue, Bryant Street, Oakland Place, and Summer Street to discover beautiful gardens and spectacular homes in a wide variety of architectural styles just off Delaware Avenue. Following the tour lunch will be provided back at the JCC.

On **Thursday, October 20**, travel in comfort by motor coach from the JCC Benderson Family Building to be a guest of the Martin family and enjoy a one-hour tour of the gardens, grounds, and first-floor interior of the Main house at the Graycliff Estate.

Examine the history of Graycliff, from Wright's design, and the Martin's time on the property, through today, while you explore the spaces used to entertain the family. Additionally, view a special art exhibit Finding Room, which is the first collaboration between the Curatorial and Public Art departments to take place outside of the Buffalo Albright Knox Gallery Art Museum campus. Enjoy lunch at SunCliff Manor, the historic mansion built

Schmidt and Schoellkopf families around 1914. For more information and to register for these programs visit jccbuffalo.org or contact Katie Wzontek at kwzontek@jccbuffalo.org.



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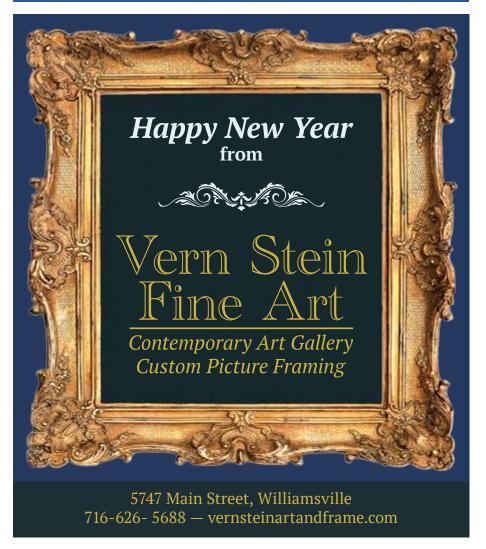


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Jerusalem Quartet **Opens 99th Season** of Buffalo Chamber **Music Society**

The 99th season of the Buffalo Chamber Music Society opens on October 18 with a performance by the Jerusalem Quartet. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Season Room of Kleinhans Music Hall and includes works by Mendelssohn, Webern and Tchaikovsky. Tickets are \$30 and may be purchased at the door. Students are free.

The Quartet will also perform at Lippes Concert Hall on the UB's Amherst Campus on October 19. This concert will include quartets by Mozart, Prokofiev and Brahms. Please call the UB concert office at 656-2921 for ticket prices.

The Jerusalem Quartet is a regular and beloved guest on the world's great concert stages. Recent appearances include a Beethoven quartet cycle at Wigmore Hall in London; a Bartók cycle at the Salzburg Festival; their third annual String Quartet seminar in Crans Montana Switzerland; and in fall 2022 they will begin a residency at the Jerusalem Academy of Music. This season, they will return to the Berlin Philharmonie and embark on a tour of South Korea. Their North American tours will take them to Philadelphia, PA; Buffalo, NY; Pasadena, CA; Palm Beach, FL; Durham, NC; Columbia, MD; Charlottesville, VA; New York, NY; Chicago, IL (performing sextets with Pinchas Zukerman and Amanda Forsyth); Dallas, TX; Cleveland, OH; and Indianapolis, IN.

Ellen Steinfeld Art Show



"Other Worlds," a solo exhibit of Buffalo artist Ellen Steinfeld's most recent paintings and sculptures, can be viewed at Meibohm Fine Arts, September 16 through October 15, 2022. The gallery is located at 478 Main St., East Aurora, 14052. Preview viewing is possible and opening information is available at meibohmfinearts.com.

Israeli Group is Welcomed by Chabad of Buffalo

This summer, Otzma, an Israeli organization that provides recreation for young children between 6-18 whose parents were killed while serving in the IDF, brought 21 children to Buffalo. The children were part of a threeweek tour of North America.

The children began their journey at Camp Half Moon near Kimama, before traveling to Scarsdale, NY, where they were hosted by community members. The children then continued to the Brownstone in Manhattan, before starting their final leg to Toronto and Niagara Falls. When Rabbi Moshe Gurary, director of Chabad of Buffalo, heard about the trip, he contacted the organizers and insisted that the children come to Buffalo.

After their drive from Manhattan, they were greeted by the Rabbi and a group of community members who warmly welcomed the group into the Chabad Center. A



sumptuous banquet was laid out, complete with elegant decor and ambiance. "It was amazing," said Noali Miron, organizer of the trip. "When we saw the whole delegation waiting to meet us — Jews from the other side of the globe we had never met before — we felt immediately comfortable. They embraced us wholeheartedly, showing us that wherever we go, we are never

Many of the visitors were engaged in conversation by their hosts. They opened up about their lives, their history, and their loss. "I am overjoyed that the children felt comfortable enough to open up to us," said Ruti Garmiza. "They understood exactly what we were trying to say: they are family, and we welcome and support them."

PBS to Premier Holocaust Documentary

September 18

THE U.S. AND THE HOLOCAUST, a new three-part documentary directed and produced by Ken Burns, Lynn Novick and Sarah Botstein, explores America's response to one of the greatest humanitarian crises in history. The series will air September 18, 19 and 20, at 8:00 p.m. ET on PBS (WNED-TV in Buffalo), PBS.org and the PBS Video app.

Inspired in part by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's "Americans and the Holocaust" exhibition and supported by its historical resources, the film examines the rise of Hitler and Nazism in Germany in the context of global antisemitism and racism, the eugenics movement in the United States and race laws in the American south. The series, written by Geoffrey Ward, sheds light on what the U.S. government and American people knew and did as the catastrophe unfolded in Europe.

Combining the first-person accounts of Holocaust witnesses and survivors and interviews with leading historians and writers, THE U.S. AND THE HOLOCAUST dispels competing myths that Americans either were ignorant of the unspeakable persecution that Jews and other targeted minorities faced in Europe or that they looked on with callous indifference. The film tackles



Photo taken in 1939 aboard the S.S. St. Louis of Sol Messinger as child and his parents.

a range of questions that remain essential to our society today, including how racism influences policies related to immigration and refugees as well as how governments and people respond to the rise of authoritarian states that manipulate history and facts to consolidate power.

"History cannot be looked at in isolation," said Ken Burns. "While we rightly celebrate American ideals of democracy and our history as a nation of immigrants, we must also grapple with the fact that American institutions and policies, like segregation and the brutal treatment of indigenous populations, were influential

In Buffalo THE U.S. AND THE HOLOCAUST special screening

Thursday, September 8 6:00-7:30 p.m.

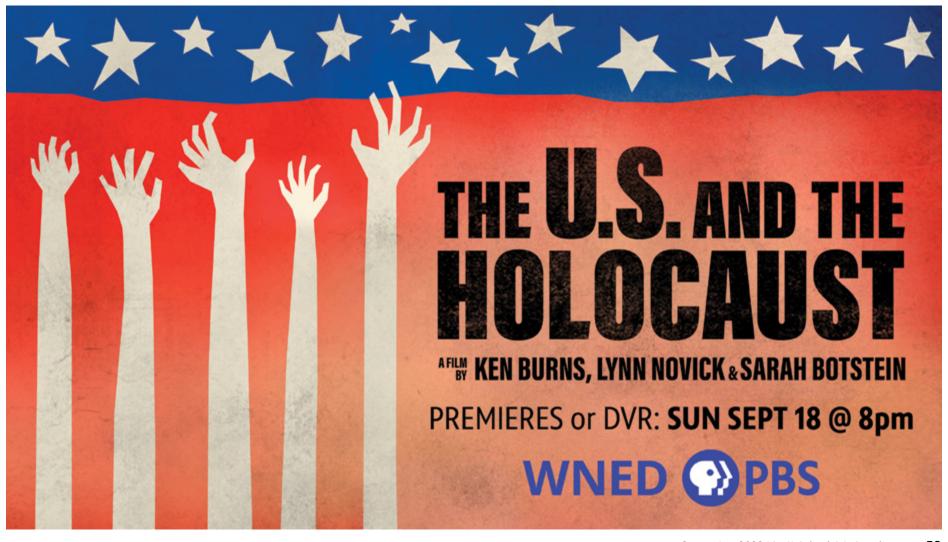
30 minute film screening and 45 minute panel discussion

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For more info or to sign up, contact Lauren Bloomberg at lauren@buffalojewishfederation.org.

in Hitler's Germany. And it cannot be denied that, although we accepted more refugees than any other sovereign nation, America could have done so much more to help the millions of desperate people fleeing Nazi persecution."

THE U.S. AND THE HOLOCAUST features interviews with some of the country's leading scholars on the period, including Deborah Lipstadt, Daniel Mendelsohn. On-camera witnesses include Buffalonian Sol Messinger and Guy Stern, who recently turned 100 years old.





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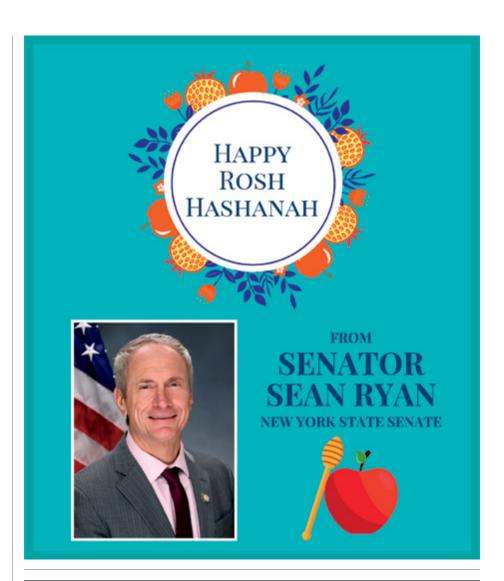
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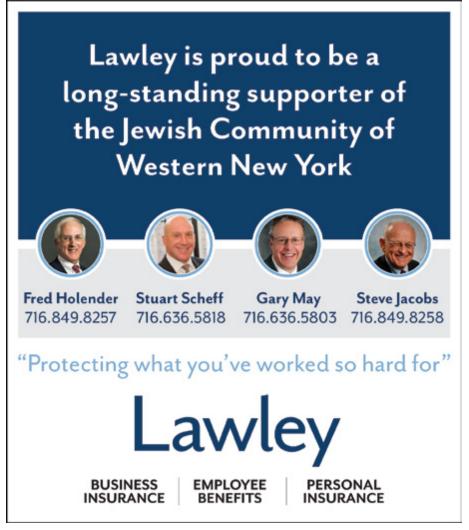
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Young Israel of Greater Buffalo (Orthodox) 105 Maple Road Williamsville, NY 14221 716-634-0212 vibuffalo.org Richard Berger and Michael Paskowitz -Co-Presidents







Remembering Dr. David Davidson 1942-2022

Dr. David Davidson passed away at the age of 80 on July 24, 2022, after a courageous battle with ALS. A passionate leader within the Reform movement and Temple Beth Zion, he was married to Bette (Silverman) Davidson, and was the father of Stuart (Suzanne) and Rachel (Richard) Kaplan, brother of Hilda (Michael) Cahn and Susan (Richard) Braun, and grandfather of Aaron Davidson, Lindsey Davidson, and Alexa Kaplan. The following are excerpts from a eulogy given by his son, Stuart, at the Temple Beth Zion funeral on August 7, 2022.

It is truly a bitter pill to swallow that we are here, today, to mourn the loss of our father, brother, husband, colleague, and friend. He practiced at the apex of the podiatry profession for 53 years, retired just last year, and planned to spend his next 20 years enjoying life and watching his grandchildren grow up, graduate, get married themselves, and become superstars in their own right.

But, as I had to explain to my family and many others over the last several months, life is rarely fair and rarely does it end perfectly. Life is a crap-shoot and often unbelievably cruel, no matter how hard we try to live a good, healthy lifewhich is what our Dad did in spades. As Rabbi Abraham Heschel once said, "The course of life is unpredictable, no one can write his autobiography in advance."

And our Dad... Well, despite his obvious disappointment that ALS was going to take his life much earlier than everyone thought, he demonstrated remarkable strength and courage through this entire ordeal—the same strength and resolve that Dad always had and for which he was known by family, friends, and colleagues. And through all the awfulness he had to endure these last six months, he never lost his sense of humor.

Dad was born in Rochester and attended Brighton High School. To me, his High School days sounded like a

scene straight out of a "Happy Days" episode or the movie "American Graffiti." Crew cuts, short-shorts, and great Rock N' Roll music. He played offensive line for his High School football team. I still try to picture him in those days, hanging with his friends at "Don & Bob's" in Rochester. Dad then went on to Syracuse University and graduated in 1968 from the New York College of Podiatric Medicine. He married Bette in 1970.

From as far back as I can recall, Dad was an exercise nut, whether lifting weights at the Village Glen or running with his friends, no matter how bad the weather. Running was really a passion of his until his hips and knees no longer allowed it. He loved running so much, our house was filled with Running magazines, which I thought were the most boring things on the planet. Except for one thing.... Dad enjoyed writing articles for those magazines, and we were certainly proud of him every time we saw his byline. As a running podiatrist, he had the obvious credibility to speak to runners around the world about their foot health.

I have one specific memory of our Dad's running days that I would like to share with you - because I



Dr. David Davidson

think it perfectly encapsulates the person he was. I think the year was 1987, and Dad was planning to run the Buffalo Marathon with his longtime best friend and running buddy, the late Rich Moschel. Dad asked me to meet him and Rich with my car at the finish line somewhere near the Hyatt Hotel downtown to drive them home from the race. I got to the finish line a little early and waited. And waited some more. And continued to wait. Finally, over an hour later, I caught a glimpse of Dad and Rich coming toward the finish line. They were not running. They were barely jogging. Instead, they were on either side of a young woman, essentially holding her up. Together, the three of them crossed the finish line. Dad then explained to me that the young lady wanted to give up around mile 15, and he and Rich decided to stay with her to

help and encourage her to finish the race. That was Dad. Always offering to help, even when no one asked him.

But, ultimately, everything our Dad did was for family. He absolutely adored his grandchildren, Aaron, Lindsey, and Alexa. He gave legendary hugs to them, and they gave them right back. In those hugs, his grandkids found unconditional love and unwavering support. He went to as many performances and sporting events as he could-and there were lots of them. He beamed with pride at every one.

Dad's work was extremely important to him. And he was simply great at it. Our Dad's podiatry career started out tough, though. My parents had no money and lived in a small apartment on Old Lyme Road in Williamsville. Dad eventually started his own practice with my Uncle Jeff Carrel, opening up a small office on Evans Road. 53 years later, Dad was one of the most prominent podiatrists in Buffalo, if not the most, and revered by podiatrists all over the country.

In fact, it's not hyperbole to say that Dad forever changed the entire face of podiatry in Buffalo for the better, including his pioneering work with wound care. Podiatry is what it is today, especially in Buffalo, because of our Dad, his colleagues Dr. Jeff Carrel and Dr. Kenny Goldstein, and Dr. Eddie Fischman. When



Jeff and Dad started their practice, podiatry was a second-class medical profession. Now, it is sub-specialty of orthopedics, and podiatry schools are inundated with applications. In fact, it is because of Dad and Eddie Fischman that podiatry was accepted into all of the major hospitals in Western New York. He was the first Chief of the Podiatry Section of the Orthopedics Department at Kaleida Health. He was an Associate Clinical Professor in Orthopedics at the Iacobs School of Medicine at UB. He was the National President of the American College of Foot & Ankle Orthopedics and the American Academy of Podiatric Sports Medicine. He co-founded the American Board of Foot Orthopedics. He was instrumental in forming the Podiatry Clinic at "Friends of the Night People," to provide free foot care to those in need and received the Silver Spoon Award for his dedicated service. And, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the New York State Podiatric Medical Association

A few weeks ago, I was talking on the phone to my cousin Mike Carrel and he said something to me about Dad that I had not realized but is the absolute truth. He said, "It's pretty remarkable how many lives your Dad has helped over his career. He helped literally tens of thousands of people who, because of him, were able to walk again, have a quality-of-life again, and be able to work again. Think about it," Mike said to me, "Your Dad met 10, 20, 30 people a day for over 50 years in order to give each of them a chance at a better life." When people pass on, you constantly hear things like "he made this world a much better place because he was in it." And indeed he did.

Anyway, as you can imagine, after our Dad was diagnosed with ALS, emails, cards, text messages, and Facebook posts started pouring in from friends, colleagues, former patients, nurses, employees, and old friends from high school, letting him know how much he meant to them and to honor him – a man who lived an exceptional 80 years on this earth, and left us with an incredible legacy of hard work, integrity, kindness, and, most importantly, love of family.

Dad, you made me a better person and I want you to know that I love you and appreciate you so much. You've made a huge impact on my life ... and I am grateful to have had you in it all these years. Thank you for everything, Dad! We all love and miss you.

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In Remembrance

The following individuals in our community passed away during the period from June 19, 2022-August 22 2022* May their memories forever be a blessing, and may their loved ones be comforted among the mourners of Zion.

Ree Adler, Esa. **Esther Amiel** Douglas Baker Harold Brody Ira Cohen Dr. David Davidson Bernice Diener Phillip Dickter Judith Eisenberg

Margot Glick Dr. Leonard Gross Ruth Guttmann Daniel S. Jacobson Arlene Josephson **Bruce Klonsky** Reva-Belle Kramer Carol S. Marcus Morton Merowitz Helene Mesch



Honorable Judge Joseph D. Mintz Getelle Rein Irving Slater Paul Staley Annette Stein **Ida Steinberg** Sara "Sally" Sternberg Kay Ullman Jeanne Winkelstein

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



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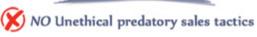








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MAZEL TOV!!

Daniel C. Oppenheimer, MD & Parisa Mazaheri, MD of St. Louis, Missouri are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter

Ashley Ava Oppenheimer

Born on August 7th, 2022.

The proud grandparents are Parvin & Parviz Mazaheri and Cindy & Randy Oppenheimer.

(NOT) THE LAST WORD

My First Vote

BY HANNAH GABELNICK

As a graduating high school student, the end of June was filled with many exciting activities; final concerts, senior week, prom, and graduation marked the end of a formative chapter of my life. But as the door closed on childhood, my 18th birthday opened a door on adulthood, bringing on a new sense of freedom and independence, as well as the ability to make my voice heard in government by voting.

Through my internship with the Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council, I've become particularly passionate about exercising my right to vote; it's the primary instrument for Americans to elect legislators who truly represent them, giving them a chance to make change about the issues that matter most to them. Upon my 18th birthday, I'd finally be able to practice what I've been preaching these past two years, setting an example for my community and fully engaging as a citizen.

As Election Day approached, I was excited, but faced with the daunting question that many Americans face during an election: who do I even vote for? Using some online resources, I was able to select the candidates for Governor, Lt. Governor, and Erie County Clerk that most aligned with my values. Amidst the tail-end of the pandemic, national and international conflicts, and a season of Supreme Court decisions, it felt more important

marked the end of tas the door closed opened a door on use of freedom and by to make my voice

Hannah Gabelnick's Senior photo and a photo taken in front of the voting site where she placed her first vote.

now than ever for me to stand up for what I care about by voting.

So, on the day between prom and graduation, I cast my ballot in the New York State Primary, an event just as momentous for me as my final days of high school. Voting is such an important part of being an engaged citizen, and no matter who you are, you have a fundamental right to make your voice heard. To learn more about the easiest ways to vote, visit buffalojewishfederation.org/vote.

Hannah Gabelnick has been an intern for Buffalo Jewish Federation's JCRC and has just begun her first year at Princeton University this month.





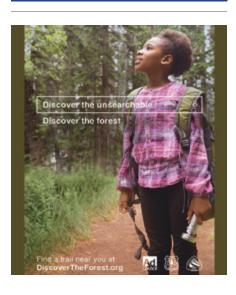


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