



## CAMP SPECIAL EDITION

**NH Jewish Film Festival Prepares to Celebrate Its Tenth Season****JFNH Signature Program**

*By Pat Kalik, NH Jewish Film Festival Chair*

Manchester — Can you believe it? We are 10 years old this year! Join us as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the NH Jewish Film Festival. We get older, better, and stronger every year.

The NH Jewish Film Festival is an annual event with a no-holds-barred approach to diversity that encompasses strong Jewish contributions to world culture, using the power of storytelling and film to thematically explore the human experience.

Our Festival promotes the preservation of Jewish culture by showing films with Jewish themes and encouraging a dialogue about a variety of issues. The movies will engage, enlighten, educate, in-

spire, and entertain moviegoers of all ages. There will be talk-backs, post film discussions, and other surprises.

This year's Festival includes 13 films over 11 days with screenings in Manchester, Concord, Merrimack, Portsmouth, and Keene. The Festival will run from Thursday, March 15, to Sunday, March 25. It will include an evening gala event at the Currier Gallery of Art on Saturday, March 17.

Here's a sneak preview of some of the films we have lined up for you.

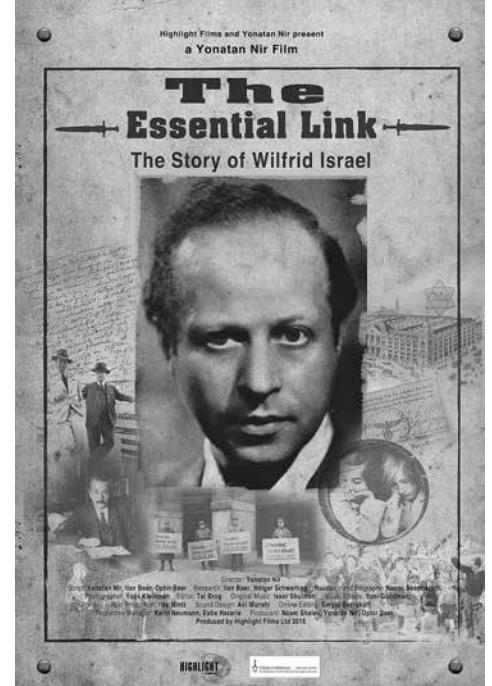
- For our gala on Saturday night, March 17, at the Currier Museum, we will show *Sammy Davis, Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me*, a Sam Pollard film. This is the first major film documentary to examine Davis's vast talent and his journey for identity through the shifting tides of

civil rights and racial progress during 20th century America. Delight in a toe-tapping, star-studded homage to the vastly talented and Jewish Sammy Davis, Jr.

- *Keep the Change*, a Rachel Israel Film, is a love story about David, an upper-class charmer struggling to hide his high-functioning autism. Forced to attend Connections, a support group for people on the autism spectrum, David falls in love with Sarah, a sheltered young woman who challenges his identity as "normal." The movie is charming and engaging.

- *The Essential Link: The Story of Wilfrid Israel* is a new film by Yonatan Nir. Wilfrid Israel, the owner of a department store in the center of Berlin, was one of the great saviors of Jews during

*Film Festival* continued on page 3

**What's Inside**

Federation Voices	3
Calendar	4
Your Federation at Work	6
From the Bimah	8
In The Community	9
Mitzvahs	10
Education	12
Arts & Entertainment	12
Focus on Camp	13-15
Book Review	16
Chanukah Around NH	18-19
Recent Events	20
Letters to the Editor	21
In Memoriam	22
Obituaries	24
Business & Professional Services	25
Tributes	26
<b>jewishnh.org</b>	

**10th Annual Jewish Film Festival Awarded Grant From New Hampshire State Council on the Arts**

Manchester — Jewish Federation of New Hampshire is proud to announce that it has been awarded a grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts. The competitive General Project Grant in the amount of \$4,000 will help to support the 10th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival, a signature statewide program of the Federation.

NHSCA believes that our communities benefit from a lively arts and cultural sector both socially and economically. General Project Grants for Community Engagement are designed to help not-for-profit organizations to enhance the quality of life for citizens, attract visitors, and help stimulate local economies through the arts. "JFNH is honored to have been selected as a recipient for this grant funding to expand the reach

**New Hampshire State Council on the Arts**

and impact of this, our 10th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival," expressed the Federation's Executive Director, Melanie Zalman McDonald.

The annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival brings new and exceptional cutting-edge Jewish-themed films from around the globe to movie lovers across our state. The

2018 festival takes place March 15–25 and will offer a selection of 13 different films at venues in Concord, Keene, Manchester, Merrimack, and Portsmouth. A complete schedule of films, educational programs, and other related events is available on the back page of this issue of the Reporter.

The Festival would not be possible without the valued support of grantors and sponsors, such as the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, Business Sponsors, Friends of the Festival, Committee members, the JFNH Board and staff leadership, and film lovers like you. Heartfelt thanks to our loyal and enthusiastic audience for your annual attendance. For a complete list of sponsors and information about the 2018 10th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival, visit [www.newhampshirejewishfilmfestival.org](http://www.newhampshirejewishfilmfestival.org).

# CONGREGATIONS

JRF: Jewish Reconstructionist Federation URJ: Union for Reform Judaism  
USCJ: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

## AMHERST

### CONGREGATION BETENU

Sam Blumberg (Rabbinic Intern)  
5 Northern Blvd., Unit 1, Amherst  
Reform, Affiliated URJ  
(603) 886-1633  
[www.betenu.org](http://www.betenu.org)  
Services: Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat  
services at 7:30 PM  
Saturday morning twice a month, 9:30 AM

## BETHLEHEM

### BETHLEHEM HEBREW CONGREGATION

Rabbi David Edleson  
39 Strawberry Hill Road  
PO Box 395, Bethlehem  
Unaffiliated-Egalitarian  
(603) 869-5465  
[www.bethlehemsynagogue.org](http://www.bethlehemsynagogue.org)  
[davegoldstone1@gmail.com](mailto:davegoldstone1@gmail.com)  
Services: Contact for Date/Time Info  
President Dave Goldstone -  
(516) 592-1462  
or Eileen Regen - (603) 823-7711  
Weekly Services: July through Simchat Torah  
Friday: 6:30 PM; Saturday: 10 AM

## CLAREMONT

### TEMPLE MEYER DAVID

25 Putnam Street, Claremont  
Conservative  
(603) 542-6773  
Services: Generally the second Friday of  
the month, 6:15 PM, April to November.

## CONCORD

### TEMPLE BETH JACOB

Rabbi Robin Nafshi  
67 Broadway, Concord  
Reform, Affiliated URJ  
(603) 228-8581  
[www.tbjconcord.org](http://www.tbjconcord.org)  
[office@tbcconcord.org](mailto:office@tbcconcord.org)  
Services: Friday night - 7 PM  
Saturday morning - 9:30 AM

## DERRY

### ETZ HAYIM SYNAGOGUE

Rabbi Peter Levy  
1½ Hood Road, Derry  
Reform, Affiliated URJ  
(603) 432-0004  
[www.etzhayim.org](http://www.etzhayim.org)  
[office@etzhayim.org](mailto:office@etzhayim.org), [rabbietzhayim.org](mailto:rabbietzhayim.org)  
Services: Fridays 7:15 PM  
Please check the website for the Shabbat  
Morning schedule

## DOVER

### TEMPLE ISRAEL

Rabbi Samuel R. Seicol  
36 Olive Meadow Lane, Dover  
Reform, Affiliated URJ  
(603) 742-3976  
[www.dovertemple.org](http://www.dovertemple.org)  
[templeoffice@dovertemple.org](mailto:templeoffice@dovertemple.org)  
Services: Friday night services at 7 PM  
For monthly Saturday services and holiday  
worship, please check the website.

## MANCHESTER

### CHABAD LUBAVITCH

Rabbi Levi Krinsky  
7 Camelot Place, Manchester  
Orthodox, Chabad  
(603) 647-0204  
[www.Lubavitchnh.com](http://www.Lubavitchnh.com)  
[rabbi@lubavitchnh.com](mailto:rabbi@lubavitchnh.com)  
Services: Shabbat Services  
Saturday morning at 9:30 AM  
Sunday morning minyan at 9 AM

### TEMPLE ADATH YESHURUN

Rabbi Beth D. Davidson  
152 Prospect Street, Manchester  
Reform, Affiliated URJ  
(603) 669-5650  
[www.taynh.org](http://www.taynh.org)  
[templeadathy@comcast.net](mailto:templeadathy@comcast.net)  
Services: Shabbat services the first Friday  
of the month at 6 PM  
All other Friday nights at 7 PM  
with some exceptions.  
Alternating Shabbat services or Torah  
study Saturday mornings at 10 AM

### TEMPLE ISRAEL

Rabbi Gary Atkins (Interim)  
66 Salmon Street, Manchester  
Conservative  
(603) 622-6171  
[office@templeisraelmht.org](mailto:office@templeisraelmht.org)  
Services: Friday night 6 PM  
Saturday 9:30 AM  
Tues., Fri. 7 AM minyan  
Call Stephen Singer, 669-4100 for more  
info.

## NASHUA

### TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

Rabbi Jon Spira-Savett  
4 Raymond Street, Nashua  
Conservative, Affiliated USCJ  
(603) 883-8184  
[www.tbanashua.org](http://www.tbanashua.org)  
[rabbi@tbanashua.org](mailto:rabbi@tbanashua.org)  
[office@tbanashua.org](mailto:office@tbanashua.org)  
Services: Friday night services 8 PM  
1st Friday family service 7 PM  
Saturday morning 9:30 AM  
Mon. - Thur. minyan 7:30 PM

## PORTSMOUTH

### TEMPLE ISRAEL

200 State Street, Portsmouth  
Conservative, Affiliated USCJ  
(603) 436-5301  
[www.templeisraelnh.org](http://www.templeisraelnh.org)  
[templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org](mailto:templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org)  
Services: Friday, 6:15 PM  
Saturday, 9:30 AM  
Tues. minyan 5:30 PM  
Temple Israel has a fully licensed  
M-W-F preschool.

# The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter

Volume 38, Number 5

FEBRUARY 2018

Shevat-Adar 5778

Published by the  
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire

66 Hanover St., Suite 300  
Manchester, NH 03101  
Tel: (603) 627-7679 Fax: (603) 627-7963

Editor: Fran Berman

Layout and Design: Tim Gregory

Advertising Sales:  
603-627-7679  
[info@jewishnh.org](mailto:info@jewishnh.org)

The objectives of The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter are to foster a sense of community among the Jewish people of New Hampshire by sharing ideas, information, experiences and opinions, and to promote the agencies, projects and mission of the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire.

The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter is published monthly ten times per year, with a deadline for submissions of the 10th of the month before publication. There are no January or June issues. All items, including calendar events, for the December-January or May-June newspaper must be submitted by Nov. 10 or April 10, respectively.

Please send all materials to:  
[theresporter@jewishnh.org](mailto:theresporter@jewishnh.org)

Send items for the print and online  
JFNH Calendar and E-News to  
[events@jewishnh.org](mailto:events@jewishnh.org)

Opinions presented in the paper do not necessarily represent the views of the Federation. Photos submitted by individuals and organizations are published with their permission.

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The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter is overseen by the JFNH Publications Committee, Merle Carrus, chairperson.

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## Shabbat Candle Lighting Times: (Manchester)

February 2	4:42 PM
February 9	4:51 PM
February 16	5:00 PM
February 23	5:10 PM



## JFNH: Investing in our Future

I have spent the past 10 summers living and working at Camp Tevya in Brookline, NH, one of the Cohen Camps. Because of this involvement, I was familiar with the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire as an organization that generously provides camper grants to first-time campers. The Federation's dedication to sponsoring these camperships allow multiple children in New Hampshire to experience Jewish overnight camp every summer. I feel so fortunate that I get to witness first-hand the proud smiles on the faces of our children as they get up on one water ski, hit a bullseye in archery, and dance as a community under the stars on Shabbat. The same childhood smiles that I see at camp reappear on the faces of our adult alumni as they share stories about their lifelong Jewish friends, the leadership skills they learned at camp, and how they teach their own children the hand motions of the Birkat Hamazon. By helping today's New Hampshire children go to camp, JFNH is helping to create a strong Jewish community of the future, as alumni, and research shows

**Mindee Greenberg**

**JFNH  
Board Member**



that there are long-term benefits of Jewish overnight camp.

When I moved to New Hampshire full time 1½ years ago, I was excited to get involved with JFNH, an organization that prioritizes investing in today's children, with the knowledge and understanding that by creating young leaders, we are strengthening tomorrow's Jewish community.

Soon after moving to New Hampshire, I received my first free copy of the Jewish Reporter. As I turned each page of the newspaper provided by JFNH, I felt an immediate connection to people throughout the state from the pictures of them at temple events and community happenings. One of these events was a PJ Library Shabbat program. PJ Library, a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foun-

dation, provides free books with Jewish content each month to children ages 6 months to 8 years. Through a partnership between JFNH and the Grinspoon Foundation, 350 of our children and grandchildren in New Hampshire have their own Jewish libraries, and parents, as first Jewish educators, have resources and tools to teach children about Jewish holidays, traditions, and values.

My grandson loves receiving his PJ Library books each month, and we have made it a tradition to read one of his books each Shabbat. At 18 months, he eagerly anticipates our special time together when he brings me his book, climbs in my lap, and points to the symbols that already have meaning in his life. By helping to facilitate early Jewish learning opportunities and family traditions, JFNH is helping to create a strong Jewish community of the future.

Last month, Noam Wolf, New Hampshire's shlicha (Israeli emissary), along with a few family friends, joined my family for a Shabbat dinner. It was so much fun to watch Noam connect with the young children through her personal sto-

ries, and to hear her encourage the young adults to attend her networking events. Everyone enjoyed hearing about her "Trip to Israel" program where children in the JFNH Preschool and New Hampshire religious schools get to travel to Israel without ever leaving the state! Noam is sharing her stories, her music, and her programs as she provides educational events that connect the Jewish youth of New Hampshire to Israel. The Federation sponsors the Shlucha Program, recognizing that the children engaged in these programs today will be the teens who travel to Israel in a few years, and the adults who support Israel in years to come.

I am proud to be involved with the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, which enhances the Jewish life of our children. By immersing children in a Jewish camp experience, by reading them books with Jewish content, and by engaging them in Israel education programs, we are providing Jewish youth with a strong foundation. With this foundation, today's children will become our Jewish leaders of tomorrow. Thank you, JFNH, for the investment in our future.

## My Journey Continues!

**Noam Wolf**

**JFNH Shlicha**



My journey in New Hampshire continues! Each day, I'm learning new places, new words, and cultural quirks. Sometimes I still have these crazy moments of realization — I am living in America! It can happen on a short drive to a meeting or on my way to Market Basket, and each time it hits me how much I love where I am, but also — a little heartache as I'm thinking of everything I left behind to come here. The strongest feelings are toward my mom (of course). I'm her only daughter (I have two brothers), and our connection has always been very strong. When I think of how great my life is here, I feel a bit of sadness for her and my dad. They didn't get to experience living abroad for a year or two, and I know she always wanted that. It truly is an incredible experience that will stay with me for the rest of my life.

During my daily routine (in addition to scraping ice from my windshield and brushing snow off my car), I get to meet a lot of children. The kids in New Hampshire's Jewish community are curious — they don't know much about Israel, and they want to know EVERYTHING. They ask me about our pop music, and Hebrew rap, they ask about street food and the laws in Israel, how soccer leagues work, and

what does our school system looks like. I could spend all day sharing with them and answering their questions, but alas, I only have one hour with each of the groups. It's important to say I am enjoying those sessions as much as they are. Teaching them about Israel continues to bring me great pleasure.

In January, I began my second round of "Trip to Israel" visits at New Hampshire's Hebrew schools, and this session focuses on Jerusalem and the Dead Sea. Together, we dive into a series of games and challenges as a group, and after every step the kids get 2-3 bricks to add to our "Western Wall" covered in Jerusalem stone! Together, we build the Wall, and the kids get to put their wish or prayer for themselves and their wish or prayer for the world on a colorful piece of paper and shove it between the cracks of the wall.

*Shlicha continued on page 7*

### Film Festival *continued from page 1*

the Holocaust and played a key role in the Kindertransport operation. The story of one extraordinary man becomes very personal as filmmaker Yonatan Nir takes us on a journey from a kibbutz in northern Israel to Germany in the 1930s.

- *Shelter* was created by acclaimed director Erin Riklis of *The Lemon Tree*, *Dancing Arabs*, and *The Syrian Bride*. This riveting thriller tells the story of Naomi, an Israeli Mossad agent (Neta Riskin) sent to protect Mona, a Lebanese woman (Golshifteh Farahani), their informant.

- *Monkey Business: The Adventures of Curious George's Creators* is a documentary by Ema Ryan Yamazaki. *Monkey Business* explores the lesser-known tale of George's creators, Hans and Margret Rey, German artists who escaped the Nazi occupation of Paris. The journey of Hans and Margret Rey is brought vividly to life in this mixed-media documentary. We'll bet you didn't know the Reys spent summers in New Hampshire!

For the full schedule and to purchase tickets, go to [www.njhewishfilmfestival.org](http://www.njhewishfilmfestival.org) or [www.brownpaperticketsco/profile/833384](http://www.brownpaperticketsco/profile/833384).



*JFNH Board chairman Jeff Crocker introduces a film during last year's NH Jewish Film Festival.*

Our 2018 NH Jewish Film Festival brochure should arrive in your mailbox in February.

The Festival is made possible with the valued support of our many Sponsors and Friends of the Festival. The Jewish Federation of NH has also been awarded the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts Project Grant for Community Engagement, which will be used toward our 10th annual Film Festival (see page 1).

Please encourage friends and family to join you at the movies. As you all sit together in a theater, there's nothing like a shared experience to encourage understanding and friendship. We look forward to seeing you at the movies during this, our 10th Anniversary year!

# Statewide Calendar of Events

## Thursday, February 1

### Mega Challah Bake

Chabad Center, 1234 River Rd, Manchester  
Chabad presents an evening of unity and fun as women from throughout NH join together to bake challah, a staple on Shabbat tables the world over. Enjoy a musical presentation by Shlicha Noam Wolf, and sample a variety of dips and spreads that pair well with freshly baked challah. \$20/before Jan 21, \$25/after Jan 21. \$18/ girls 8-13 years old. Register by visiting ChabadofNH.com/Challah. More information: Chanchie@chabadofnh.com.

## Friday, February 2

### MANTY'S Winter Wonderland

February 2-4, Temple Adath Yeshurun, Manchester.  
More information: 669-5650.

### Tu B' Shevat Seder

6:30 PM, Congregation Betenu, Amherst  
Sign ups for set up, clean up, food, and seder items at Betenu or call the office. Suggested donation: \$8/person, \$18/family. More information: 886-1633.

### Tu B'Shevat Shabbat with Noam Wolf

7 PM, Temple Israel, Dover  
Please join us for our Friday night Shabbat Service with special guest Noam Wolf. We will conclude the evening with a Tree Fruit Oneg, celebrating Tu B'Shevat. All are welcome at no charge. More information: rabbisam@doverttemple.org or the temple office 742-3976.

## Saturday, February 3

### Religion and the Constitution: Lunch & Learn with Professor Jay Wexler

12:30-2 PM, Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua  
How far does First Amendment protection of free exercise of religion extend? Does a business owner have to provide products for a same-sex wedding if he objects on religious grounds? When would a law or executive order exempting people from certain rules on the basis of strongly held religious or moral beliefs be constitutional? Explore these issues with Professor Jay Wexler, author of *Holy Hullabaloos: A Road Trip to the Battlegrounds of the Church/State Wars*, and former clerk to Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. There is no cost and RSVP is not required. More information: office@tbanashua.org or 883-8184.

### Introduction to Piyutim with Rabbi Loewenthal

7 PM, Congregation Ahavas Achim, Keene  
*Piyutim* (singular is *piyyut*) are Jewish religious poems, often set to music. Join Rabbi Loewenthal to learn all about the Piyut. You will get to hear

some of the beautiful melodies connected to medieval *piyyutim* that are still sung in synagogues all over the world, and learn to understand the biblical citations embedded in the poems. More information: 352-6747.

## Tuesday, February 6

### Anti-Jewish Pogroms in Tsarist Russia

7 PM, NHIOP Auditorium, Saint Anselm College, Goffstown  
Boston area scholars Irina Astashkevich and Diane Covert discuss pogroms that drove so many Jews from Russia in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. (Something like 75% of American Jews today trace their ancestry to refugees who fled these pogroms.) An exhibit of recently discovered historic photos documenting the pogroms will be on display before and after the lecture. The exhibit of photos, assembled by Ms. Covert, are from a Russian book, Jewish Pogroms: 1918-1921, which was published in Moscow in 1926. Cosponsors: Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, MLK Program, Department of Philosophy.

## Friday, February 9

### Schmooze & Schmear

9:45 AM, Temple Israel, Manchester  
No reservations required. More information: 622-6171.

### "Second Friday" With Musical Guests Bashert

6:15 PM, Temple Israel, Portsmouth  
Share a Musical Kabbalat Shabbat service with special guests Bashert, a group of seven singers and musicians. "Each selection in the Kabbalat Shabbat service is arranged by the group, with sounds that range from soulful and contemplative to joyous and uplifting. Most of all, we strive to render the melodies in ways that are appealing and singable by all, and we enthusiastically encourage community participation throughout the service." More information: 436-5301.

### A Taste of Jewish Cuba

Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua  
We are planning to sample a few Cuban appetizers plus more! More information and to volunteer contact Helen: helen@barrylawoffice.com.

## Sunday, February 11

### "Jerusalem: What Next?"

2:30-4 PM, Hilton Garden Room, Portsmouth Library  
A conversation with Alan Elsner, Special Advisor to the President of J Street and former Reuters journalist, and Robert Azzi, photojournalist, local columnist, and public speaker. Elsner and Azzi will

discuss the U.S. recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and its implications for future political options in the region. More information: Judy Ullman, judyullman@gmail.com.

### Southern NH Jewish Men's Club Breakfast

Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua  
Featuring Erik Lesniak, with a Fisher Cats and minor league baseball themed discussion. More information: http://www.snhjmc.org.

## Friday February 16

### Pizza and Salad Social followed by Shabbat Service

6 PM, Temple Israel, Dover  
Join us for pizza and salad, followed by our Friday evening Shabbat service! All welcome at no charge. More information: rabbisam@doverttemple.org, president@doverttemple.org, or the temple office at 742-3976.

## Wednesday, February 21

### Learn More About Jewish Artists and Abstract Expressionism with Jennifer Cohen

7 PM, Congregation Ahavas Achim, Keene  
Many have noted that Jewish artists are disproportionately represented in the Abstract Expressionist movement. We will look at some paintings by renowned Jewish painters and talk a bit about the artists and the aesthetics of Abstract Expressionism. We will ask (but not answer) some questions, such as: "Is there a Jewish art?" through the writings of Harold Rosenberg and others. More information: 352-6747.

## Saturday, February 24

### Lunch and Learn

12 PM, Temple Beth Abraham  
Ellysheva Zeira from the Lower East Side Tenement Museum will be the presenter. More information: 883-8184.

### Saturday Night at the Movies

7 PM, Congregation Ahavas Achim, Keene  
The movie to be shown will be *Lenny*! We will provide popcorn and other snacks. There will be brief framing comments, the film viewing, and a discussion afterward. This event is free to CAA members. Non-members are asked to provide a \$5 donation to defray costs of refreshments and movie rental. More information: 352-6747.

## Wednesday, February 28

### Purim Services and Dinner

6 PM, Temple Israel, Manchester  
Reservations required, call the temple office at 622-6171.

## Friday, March 2

### Purim Community Shpiel & Costume Parade

7 PM, Temple Israel, Dover  
Come help us celebrate Purim! Do not forget your costume. All welcome at no charge. More information: rabbisam@doverttemple.org or the temple office at 742-3976.

## Sunday, March 4

### Potluck and Purim Spiel

Noon, Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation, Bethlehem  
More information: http://www.bethlehemsynagogue.org.

## Sunday, March 11

### Nathan E. Cohen Lecture – 19th Century NH

Congregation Ahavas Achim, Keene  
We will host a Living History program. Historian/actress Deborah Anne Goss will perform in the persona of 19th century New Hampshire anti-slavery and women's rights activist Abby Hutchinson Patton. She will tell stories and teach songs illustrating the abolitionist and women's suffrage movements. The Nathan E. Cohen Lecture Series provides lectures to the public. These programs are free of charge and presented in memory of Arthur Cohen's father. The lectures cover both Jewish and non-Jewish topics and are sustained through donations. More information: 652-6747

*Events For Our Youth*

## Friday, February 2

### MANTY'S Winter Wonderland

February 2-4, Temple Adath Yeshurun, Manchester  
More information: 669-5650.

## Saturday, February 3

### Jr. Congregation With Tu B'Shevat Seder

10 AM, Temple Israel, Manchester  
Reservations required, call the office at 622-6171.

## Friday February 9

### Boy Scout Shabbat

7:15 PM, Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry  
More information: 432-0004

## Friday February 16

### PJ Library Tot Shabbat

6:30 PM, Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry  
Candle lighting, songs, and a story read by "Bubbe Leslie" will be followed at 7 PM by chalav & oogiyot oneg (milk & cookies, of course), then at 7:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat service with congregation. Sponsored by Etz Hayim Synagogue along with PJ Library and the Jewish Federation of NH. All are welcome. Please RSVP to the Jewish Federation of NH at 627-7679 or PJ Library – NH at pjlibrary@jewishnh.org.

## Sunday, February 18

### Annual Purim Carnival

10 AM – 1 PM, Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua  
Join us for a marvelous, zany, stupendous celebration of Purim in our annual Purim Carnival! Play the booths and wins prizes, see The Wizard of Oz Purim Shpiel, eat hamantashen and other delicious foods! Wear your costume — adults too! Tickets for the booths and food will be sold at the entrance. More information: 883-9844 or school@tbanashua.org.

See what's happening in the community at [www.jewishnh.org](http://www.jewishnh.org)

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Shows in Manchester, Merrimack, Concord, Portsmouth, Keene and Hanover

## Measuring Impact: A Federation Without Walls

Whether an organization succeeds or fails in its mission is determined by the answer to two basic questions: 1). Does the organization have sufficient resources, and 2). Does the organization have enough people (community volunteers, donors, and staff) to support its work... No one understands that better these days than we at Jewish Federation of New Hampshire.

When compared with other Jewish federations around the country, it is obvious that the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire is not a conventional or traditional federation. Our Federation faces challenges unique to our state's Jewish demographics, culture, and geography.

We are no longer your Zadie or Bubbe's Jewish Federation, the backbone to a Jewish Community Center, or a Jewish Family Services organization serving a limited segment of our state's Jewish community. We are a statewide organization -- the only statewide Jewish organization in New Hampshire. To be successful, Jewish Federation of New Hampshire must accept the challenges of a state with a relatively small Jewish population (1.5%, or approximately 10,000) and with 20 Jewish communities (synagogues, Hillels, havurot) spread across the state. In the face of these challenges, we are succeeding in creating a unified statewide Jewish community, sharing common purpose for our common benefit. Without the cohesive geographical population base that most federations rely on in their operations, Jewish Federation of New Hampshire has had to make a plan that would work for us, and meet your needs.

From time to time, we encounter the question: Why have a federation if each synagogue is taking care of itself? To answer, we don't compete with or duplicate programs offered by our many synagogue communities. Synagogues are our partners, and they also benefit from our work. Whether it be a visit from our Shlucha to take Hebrew school children on a "Trip to Israel" or the opportunity to enhance curriculum or expand scholarship opportunities for low-income families through our annual financial allocations -- growing synagogues help to make a vibrant and active statewide Jewish community!

We exist to enhance quality of life for Jews of all ages here in New Hampshire and around the world. We are here to speak out against anti-Semitism and to make visible our diverse and engaged Jewish community -- despite the miles and mountains that often separate us. We continue each day because we believe that the relationship between Jews in Israel and in the Diaspora is critical, and one worth fostering.

Our statewide programs -- PJ Library, the Shlucha Program, Social Services, The Reporter, The New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival -- connect us all and provide meaningful connections to Jewish life, values, traditions, and experiences. We are here as a resource and a convener for all Jews: Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, Reconstructionist, those connected to synagogues and those who build their own Jewish communities, seniors, young families -- whether Jewish or interfaith. We fill gaps not covered by even the most vibrant Jewish communities, offering programs on a large scale that might otherwise be unattainable for any one local Jewish community.

Best of all, we are able to offer these high-quality programs with limited resources and with a "skeleton crew" of hard-working and dedicated staff, devoted and engaged board members, as well as passionate and generous volunteers. So... why give? Where does it go? Why is Federation so critical to Jewish life here in the Granite State?

Melanie Zalman  
McDonald



**Executive  
Director**

As we round the corner to the second half of the 2017-18 fiscal year, I'm excited and proud to share with you some measurements that illustrate our statewide impact.

	2016-17	2017-18 Year-to-Date	% Increase
PJ Library subscriptions	239	355	49%
PJ Library books mailed	2,868	4,260	49%
PJ Library program attendance	40	160	300%
Shlucha Program engagement	0	2,100	--
Social Services requests	16	33	106%
Homes receiving The Reporter	3,253	3,921	21%
NH Jewish Film Festival attendance	1,100	*1,500	36%
Annual Meeting attendance	172	260	51%
Facebook following	573	800	40%
Senior Program engagement	210	402	91%
Camperships & Israel Exp. grants	24	33	38%
New donors to Campaign	12	36	200%

\*Projection: Festival takes place in March

Certainly, there are other ways to measure impact and organizational progress:

- We added six new board members to our leadership.
- Our Preschool (one of only two Jewish schools in New Hampshire) is celebrating 30 years!
- We were awarded grant funding by the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts for our 10th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival, a testament to the high quality of our signature program.
- Our year-long efforts to help a local Holocaust survivor led to a feature story on New Hampshire Public Radio's "Word of Mouth."
- We revived our Young Professionals Program and hosted three successful events around the state.
- We reinstated our beloved Shlucha Program to celebrate and foster a love of Israel by people of all ages!

And then there are the stories -- the lives we change with our work:

- The families who have access to Jewish books and experiences through PJ Library.
- The teen who decides to travel to Israel as a result of meeting our Shlucha, Noam Wolf.
- The elderly Holocaust survivor who is able to receive assistance as a result of our efforts.
- The middle school child who has access to Jewish summer camp for the first time as a result of our campership grants.

And so much more!

There is still work to be done as we expand our outreach efforts and connect you to more meaningful Jewish experiences. You may think we are a "Federation without walls," but the truth is, the "walls" of Federation stretch from Bethlehem to Keene, and from Concord to Portsmouth, providing connection and a sense of belonging that bridges our differences and reaches every diverse pocket of Jewish life across the state.

To discuss ways that you can help JFNH carry out our mission more effectively in your community, please call us at (603) 627-7679 or email director@jewishnh.org.

Help the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire sustain a proud and vibrant Jewish NH.  
Make your gift to the 2017-2018 Campaign at [www.jewishnh.org/give](http://www.jewishnh.org/give).



Jewish Federation  
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

# Your Federation at Work

## JFNH Preschool Announces Plans for Summer Camp 2018



Manchester — Don't know what to do with your preschooler this summer? Thought your little one was too young for a summer camp experience? Have we got a treat for you and your child! The JFNH Preschool is busy planning an exciting six-week summer camp program for ages 2 to 6 years.

There are crafts, swim lessons, sports program, field trips, and lots of fun on our wonderful playground, all packed into six weeks, starting July 2.

We will be offering a slightly different schedule this year. Summer camp will be six weeks, and you can pick three days or five days. We have added the option of picking whatever combination of three

days you need. Pick your hours 9-12, 9-2, or (new this summer) 9-5:30. Early morning drop off (7:30 AM) option is available.

- Week 1 (July 2–6): Jump into Summer, Closed July 4
- Week 2 (July 9–13): Wild West
- Week 3 (July 16–20): Summer Olympics
- Week 4 (July 23–27): Dinosaurs
- Week 5 (July 30–Aug 3): Storybook Summer
- Week 6 (Aug 6–10): Teddy Bear Adventures

There are additional day care weeks available, before and after camp weeks. Don't miss out on all the fun. For more information, pricing, and camp brochure, call Alane or Allyson at 603-782-5174 or email [preschool@jewishnh.org](mailto:preschool@jewishnh.org).



Children enjoy a summer snack during last summer's camp.

**Jewish Federation**  
Preschool

**NOW ENROLLING**  
*The place that inspires a love for Judaism and Learning*  
30 years of Educating Children  
(603) 782-5174  
[preschool@jewishnh.org](mailto:preschool@jewishnh.org)

A major focus of the Jewish Federation Preschool is the development of the child socially, emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually. We maintain a very low staff to student ratio, thus guaranteeing that every child receives consistent individual attention.

We recognize the uniqueness of each child, the importance of responsibility and commitment for each child, the need to develop creative and inquiring minds, and the importance of a warm, loving, positive and accepting classroom.

Developmentally appropriate classes for ages 2 years thru Kindergarten  
Half Day hours 8:45am – 11:45am  
Full Day hours 8:45am – 1:45pm  
Early morning drop off and extended day available

All Lead teachers ECE certified ~ All staff CPR and First Aid Certified

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY: The JFNH Preschool admits students of any race, national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.



PJ Library hosted a Family Chanukah Sing-Along with Shlucha Noam Wolf at the home of Ido and Julia Preis.

## The Magic of PJ Library Across New Hampshire



By Allyson Guertin, PJ Library Coordinator

Word is out about the magic of PJ Library, and the momentum is building! In only a year, the New Hampshire PJ Library has grown from just a books program to something so much more.

What is the magic of PJ in New Hampshire? Of course, it continues to provide monthly Jewish books to children throughout the state and now enriching

programming as well, but it is more than this that provides the magic. The magic is in the incredible families and the relationships that continue to build with each event and program. With each program, families return to nurture friendships

built on the same goal of instilling Jewish traditions and values to their children, and new families enter to discover the magic that is PJ Library.



For more information about PJ Library, contact PJ Library Coordinator Allyson Guertin at [pjlibrary@jewishnh.org](mailto:pjlibrary@jewishnh.org) or call 603-627-7679.

**Keeping you connected**

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

# Your Federation at Work

## Shlucha continued from page 3

Watching them do this is magical, and despite all of the fun they are having, the meaningful experience really does resemble the real life experience of going for the first time to the Western Wall and putting your heart's wish inside (other than the fact that these children can approach the wall together — boys and girls — which I hope will become a reality someday). I can see in their eyes how excited they are, and I am facing another realization of how much we (Israelis) sometimes take for granted having that place in Israel. Being able to go to the Wall any day we want to — and not just the Wall, but all of the other holy places of the Jewish people — it makes me appreciate it all a little more.

I'm writing this from the comfort of my warm Manchester apartment during a "work from home" day as there's a massive snow storm out there, or a new word I just learned: blizzard. The idea of the weather interfering with your access to your workplace is a completely foreign

concept to me. There's no such thing in Israel! Today, it's completely white and below zero degrees outside, but toasty warm in my apartment. I'm alone this week as Avi (my partner) is in Israel on his winter break, and being alone makes me miss my family even more. Avi has been spending time with them, sending me photos of my cat (Chilli), and not missing the cold weather much. On days like this, I'm encouraged to stay positive, and what helps me most is thinking about all of the amazing connections and relationships I have made through my work here at the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire. Every time I turn around, I am being invited into someone's home for a Shabbat meal, or making new friends with our "Young Mensches" group, or connecting with children of our Hebrew School and PJ Library families.

Though I am far away from my mother, my family, and many friends, I feel as if New Hampshire's Jewish community is quickly becoming like family! I'm glad to be here with you. Stay warm!



Noam Wolf stands before the Western Wall holding messages created by students.

A GIFT FROM THE  
JEWISH FEDERATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Pj Library**

JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES & SONGS FOR FAMILIES

Sign up today at  
[www.jewishnh.org](http://www.jewishnh.org)

If you have children 8 and under, sign up for PJ Library and enjoy the gift of Jewish children's books and music delivered to your home each month. Explore Jewish heritage and Jewish identity as a family through PJ Library's high-quality stories about Jewish values, traditions and holidays.

Through the program, your family will be enriched by experiencing the joy of Jewish life.

Funded by the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, it's a gift that will nourish a Jewish life from the start.



HAROLD GRINSPON FOUNDATION



Jewish Federation  
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

## The View From The Bimah

"Asking questions that would cross a rabbi's eyes" is one of Tevya's chief wishes in *Fiddler On The Roof*. If only he knew how easy that is to do!

As improbable as it sounds, rabbis do not have answers to everything. In fact, we find ourselves quite often at a loss for words. Facing human anguish; writing with certain regularity columns, sermons, *divrei Torah*, and *responsa* to various issues—these tasks are more exhausting than one would imagine.

So what do I do when I need strength and inspiration? I turn to the Torah. Without fail, the Torah's stories and laws offer ideas as well as encouragement.

In our annual reading of the Torah, we currently find ourselves in the midst of one of the most awe-inspiring stories in the entire literature of the ancient world: The Exodus from Egypt. In its various incarnations—movies, spirituals, even opera—the story has given hope to millions of impoverished, downtrodden, and enslaved people.

There are many elements in this story to wonder and reflect upon. As rabbi, I can definitely empathize with Moses as he first encounters the Burning Bush on God's Mountain. The view from the mountain-

### Rabbi in the House



**Rabbi Boaz D. Heilman**  
Temple B'nai Israel,  
Laconia

top—not unlike the view from the bimah—is both comforting and daunting. It is comforting in that up on the high peak, overlooking the vast wilderness, one can fully realize one's true status in the world. Nature makes no demands on you other than you not despoil it. Accept its grandeur, take in its beauty, reflect on who you are in the larger picture.

On the other hand, with fewer distractions (no phone or internet), it's easier to focus on the larger goals and directions in life.

Moses saw more than the physical improbability of a bush that was on fire but not consumed. He saw the difficulties God was imposing on him. He was not a born leader; rather, he was born to a nation of slaves. Though the Torah (and we, its students) realize that his role came from above, ordained by God even before

his birth, Moses could not know that. He was wanted for murder by Pharaoh (ironically, the same Pharaoh had commanded the murder of an entire generation of Jewish babies). He was physically impaired, with a speech impediment that—he thought—would stop him from communicating God's message both to Pharaoh and to the Israelites.

His argument with God is both humorous and moving. "Why me," he asks. "Send someone else," he implores.

Speaking at least for myself, my view from the bimah is often just as confusing and bewildering. Who am I to take the mantle of the great rabbis who have led and instructed our people for generations? What are my qualifications in light of the brilliant minds, teachers, and leaders who have truly deserved and earned their title and position?

Moses's requests are ignored; God—with greater and greater impatience—refuses to send anyone else, only agreeing to have Aaron, Moses's brother, be the mouthpiece who would speak God's words. But there was one more factor that motivated Moses—his deep love for his people. The same passion that had led him to kill the abusive slave master will

now drive him to lead his people out of misery and squalor, forward toward the Promised Land.

I share that love for my people, in the United States, in Israel, and wherever else our remnant is found today. I find support and encouragement in the friends, leaders, and volunteers who work tirelessly to make sure our congregations thrive. I find love, understanding, and affirmation in the company of the other rabbis with whom I serve. I find a listening ear and an open heart in the community organizations and leadership that are there to help our people in their various capacities.

The call of God is impossible to resist. As both Moses and Pharaoh realize, God simply doesn't take "no" for an answer. 2018 marks my 20th year in the rabbinate. Week after week, year after year, I continue to feel truly blessed to be standing on the bimah, facing both the challenge and the opportunity, both the solitary moments and the alternating periods of joy and love.

My view from the *bimah* today couldn't be more beautiful or more awe inspiring.

*Baruch atah Ha-Shem*, Who has called me and brought me to this place and time, and Who has always been my guide and source of strength and inspiration.

## Kol Ha'Emek Upper Valley Jewish Community and Dartmouth Hillel Restore Torah Rescued from the Holocaust

*By Thomas Cochran and Paul Etkind*

Hanover — Kol Ha'Emek The Upper Valley Jewish Community and Dartmouth Hillel are poised to welcome back into the congregation's ark a recently restored Torah scroll that was rescued from the Holocaust.

Kol Ha'Emek will hold a special Shabbat service at 10:00 AM on March 24, 2018, followed by a luncheon that will be open to all to celebrate the restoration of the scroll to kosher status. Rabbi Kevin Hale, the sofer (scribe) who restored the scroll, will speak about the painstaking restoration process and the clues he uncovered about the scroll's origins. Jeffrey Ohrenstein, chairman of the London-based Memorial Scrolls Trust (MST), will speak about the work of the MST in rescuing and preserving Torah scrolls that survived the Holocaust. Rabbi Hale will also teach students in the Kol Ha'Emek Community School about his sacred work in general and on this particular scroll.

The March 24 event will mark both the successful restoration of the scroll and its meaning to the Hanover-based commu-



*The synagogue of Brno, where the UVJC Torah previously resided.*

nity. "Our core thought is that the event itself is focused as much on the nature of our community as it is on the scroll and its history," said Rob Gurwitt, a member of the Scroll Committee and former president of the congregation.

MST scroll no. 1397 has a long and storied history. It first arrived in Hanover in 1988 from London after residing at a congregation in Connecticut. Kol Ha'Emek and Dartmouth Hillel now serve as co-trustees of this scroll, which is one of nearly 1,600 Torah scrolls that were collected and safeguarded by the staff at the Jewish Museum in Prague during the Second World War.

In 1964, the Westminster Synagogue in

London, England purchased the scrolls from the Czechoslovak State. The MST ([www.memorials scroll trust.org](http://www.memorials scroll trust.org)) was created to catalogue, evaluate, repair and, in time, entrust the scrolls to Jewish communities around the world. Today, the MST continues to promote the legacy of the Czech Torah scrolls. At its headquarters in London, the MST has a permanent exhibit relating the history of the scrolls and the Czech-Jewish communities from which they came. It also serves as a resource for information relating to each scroll and its specific history.

Our scroll is known to have come from the town of Brno, the second largest town in the Czech Republic, which at the time of the scroll's dedication in 1866, was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In 1848, the Jewish population of Austro-Hungary benefited from the repeal of laws that had dramatically curtailed their civil rights. As a result, many Jews left the small towns and villages for the more prosperous industrial centers, such as Brno.

The Jews of Brno prospered and increased steadily until the Germans took control of Czechoslovakia on March 15,

1939. The Germans immediately began destroying the more than 350 Czech-Jewish communities. The Jewish Museum in Prague began collecting Torah scrolls and other Judaica from the communities being destroyed in an effort to prevent their desecration. Following the war, the Czech communist authorities took control of the museum, and the scrolls were housed in conditions detrimental to their longevity.

Rabbi Hale, the scribe who restored the scroll, will speak about several interesting discoveries he made during the restoration process. Perhaps the most interesting is that the scroll is older than previously believed. There is strong evidence to suggest that the scroll was written in the late 18th century. The scroll is written in Sephardic script, though the regional origin of the script remains unknown. Stylistic elements in the writing suggest the scroll may have been written in Jerusalem, the Balkans, Persia, or perhaps Holland.

As the number of living Holocaust survivors dwindles, the importance of both preserving and teaching about the scroll takes on new urgency for Kol Ha'Emek

*Kol Ha'Emek continued on page 9*

# In the Community

## Hadassah Offers Winter and Spring Activities

By Michele Bank

Manchester — In December, several members of The Manchester Chapter of Hadassah attended a multi-chapter installation of officers at Temple Emanuel in Andover, MA. This memorable event was attended by incoming and outgoing portfolio members who were each acknowledged for their dedication to Hadassah.

Also in December, 11 members of The Manchester Chapter of Hadassah Book club attended a luncheon meeting at a member's home. The Orphan's Tale, by Pam Jenoff, was discussed and enjoyed by all. At this gathering, a ticket drawing was held. Proceeds went to the Sarah Wetzman Davidson Tower in Jerusalem. Congratulations to Benay Birch, our first-place winner and Roberta Silberberg, who won second place. Thank you to all who participated in this drawing. You are helping medical miracles happen.

The next chapter meeting will be held on Thursday, March 8, at 1 PM in the JFNH community room at 1400 Front Street, Manchester. All are welcome to attend.

The Chapter's annual Shabbat Service and Oneg will be held at Temple Adath Yeshurun on Friday, March 16. The Temple is located at 152 Prospect Street, Manchester. Hadassah members partici-

pate in the service and provide the Oneg. If you are interested in participating, please contact Michele Bank.

On April 22, the chapter will again volunteer at NH4Israel's second annual run for healing. Proceeds will be sent to Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem for genetic research on ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease.

On Sunday, June 24, the Chapter will have its annual fundraising brunch at the Manchester Country Club in Bedford. The committee is planning another fun event with entertainment and delicious food.

In Hadassah news: There is a new neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Hadassah Hospital in Ein Kerem. The innovative unit combines advanced technology with private rooms. Close to 13,000 babies were born at Hadassah last year. While the vast majority are healthy, there is a spiraling need for intensive care because Hadassah is a referral center for high-risk pregnancy.

2017 marked the 50th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem, which remains the undivided capital of Israel. Last year also marked 50 years since Hadassah Hospital reopened on Mount Scopus.

For additional information about Hadassah or any of the above programs, please contact Michele Bank, chapter president, at Michele.bank@gmail.com.

## NH4Israel Hears From Israel American Council

By Ken Kowalchek

Manchester — On November 8, NH4Israel hosted two advocates for Israel volunteers from Israel American Council (IAC). The IAC's mission is "to build an engaged and united Israeli-American community that strengthens the Israeli and Jewish identity of our next generation, the American Jewish community, and the bond between the peoples of the United States and the state of Israel." To that end, the volunteers brought methods of dialoguing with individuals who may be misinformed about Israel and shed light on Israel's point of view on issues informing its place in the Middle East and the international community.

More talks and educational films on Israel are planned in 2018. Mark your calendars for April 22, 2018, for helping with or participating in NH4Israel's sec-

ond annual springtime run-jog-walkathon 5-kilometer race in Derry, again for the benefit of Hadassah Hospital in Israel and its programs that reach out and treat all. This year the run will target a cure for Lou Gehrig's Disease. Find out more about NH4Israel and sign up for email updates on guest speakers and hosted events at NH4Israel.org.

With the exception of holiday conflicts and summer break, NH4Israel is hosting talks with refreshments at Manchester's Temple Israel at 6:30 PM on most Wednesdays each month. If other venues and weekdays are scheduled, word of the change will be publicized (generally emailed) in advance, as well as posted on the calendar of events at NH4Israel.org. NH4Israel guest speakers address current issues surrounding the state of Israel as well as historical analyses of topics such as the Diaspora, Jew-hatred, and Zionism.



EHS Rabbi Peter Levy led the service and Reverend Bonin of the Derry Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration gave the sermon for a well-attended interfaith Thanksgiving service.

## Etz Hayim Synagogue Hosts Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

By Steve Soreff, MD

Derry — On a cool Tuesday night November 21, at 7:15 PM, Etz Hayim Synagogue hosted the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. The Thanksgiving service alternates yearly between the two members of the Interfaith Campus: Etz Hayim Synagogue and The Church of the Transfiguration. When the synagogue holds the event, its Rabbi conducts the ser-

vice and the Priest delivers the sermon. This happened this year. Rabbi Peter Levy conducted a beautiful interfaith service, and the church's Episcopal priest delivered a meaningful, from the heart sermon on the importance of showing gratitude. Members of the Etz Hayim Hebrew School participated in the service. Later, the attendees broke bread together and shared the feeling that we all have much to be thankful for.

## Temple Israel Manchester Announces New Service Options

Manchester — To meet the needs of today's busy families, Temple Israel of Manchester is pleased to offer several different Saturday Shabbat options on a rotating basis. Service types and times will be posted on our website and included on our voicemail. Come on by and check them out!

- Express Services will start at 10 AM and finish between 11:30 and noon. Selected prayers will be abbreviated or

omitted.

- Torah Study will start at 10 AM and incorporate an Express Service with Torah study. Study sheets will be provided.
- Traditional morning services will begin 9:30 AM and end at noon, featuring unabbreviated prayers and readings
- Junior Congregation, geared for our Hebrew School students, will start at 10 AM and feature learning about the service.

**Kol Ha'Emek** continued from page 8 and the broader Jewish community. "The scroll represents a deep-rooted tradition of Jewish life that survived the Holocaust and is being reborn," noted Scroll Committee member David Leib. Scroll Committee chairman Thomas Cochran observed, "The memorial scrolls are a testament to the enduring rootedness of the Jewish people in Torah and tradition. Their survival and spread to Jewish communities everywhere represents renewal and growth." Cochran added, "We want to recognize the same qualities in our

community -- deep roots that feed growth, renewal and change."

New Hampshire's Jewish communities and other friends are cordially invited to join the celebration on March 24. Guests are kindly asked to call the office at 603-646-0460 to help us in planning the luncheon.

Kol Ha'Emek, the Upper Valley Jewish Community, is a welcoming, egalitarian congregation providing Jewish spiritual, educational, social, and cultural opportunities to the Upper Connecticut River Valley.

# Mitzvahs

## Gmilut Hasadim 2017: Once More, Again with Feeling

By Dr. Sol Rockenmacher,  
TAY Brotherhood

Manchester — The Jewish Almanac notes: "In Jewish tradition, gemitut hasadim are a category of mitzvot (good deeds) that obligate the individual to act in certain ways on certain occasions as a mark of basic human decency and respect towards others, living or dead, rich or poor, using one's time, effort, and money whenever necessary." They are deeds of lovingkindness involving "a degree of gentleness, extreme care, affection, tenderness -- a summoning of all the human resources of sympathy for the benefit of others."

The Temple Adath Yeshurun Christmas Mitzvah Program, organized by the TAY Brotherhood, has been in existence now for well over 35 years. It is a fine example of how members of our Manchester Jewish community have been giving back to their non-Jewish community with enthusiasm, feeling, and caring.

This year, once again, approximately 100 adults and children volunteered to participate on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The programs include staffing the Information Desks at Catholic Medical Center and the Elliot Hospital as friendly greeters to visitors, delivering luncheon platters to the Police and Fire Stations in Manchester and Bedford on Christmas Day, serving meals at New Horizons Soup Kitchen on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, providing hospitality to those less fortunate, and helping with the evening Bingo game at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Manchester on Christmas night. A significant snowstorm on Christmas Day made for a change of plans, in that we did the Police and Fire Department deliveries on Christmas morning as planned but had to move the Meals on Wheels deliveries to December 26. Some volunteers were unable to



Adam, Stephanie, Mark, and Brooke Sanders at the Elliot Hospital Information Desk on Christmas Eve

make the trip to programs because of difficult road conditions on roads that had not yet been plowed. But enough folks were able to make it through so that things got done on that snowy day. One volunteer, driving in the storm from 7:30 to 11:30 AM, shuttled New Horizons residents to and from a mill yard restaurant that was offering free breakfasts to needy individuals and families.

The volunteers came from Temple Adath Yeshurun and Temple Israel and some are as yet not affiliated with a congregation. They came to participate to help others, by covering for their Christian neighbors so that they could celebrate their holiday, by helping the less fortunate in our community, by delivering luncheon platters as a token of gratitude to those who are serving us so well in our local communities, and by spending some time socializing with veterans who have served our nation. "Think globally, act locally" can be one starting point directive in the process of tikkun olam (healing the world).

Thank you to all who participated, some of whom have been on board for many, many years. Judging from the very warm messages of gratitude we have received this program is very much appreciated by our Christian friends.



Alexander and Kylie Anderson have just delivered luncheon platter to Manchester Fire Station 7 on Christmas Day.

## New England Philanthropies Award Jolton Top Honor

If you have ever been called upon by Judith Jolton to help New Hampshire's Jewish community, you probably discovered it's hard to say no. Whether she is fundraising to help promote healthy children, fight hunger and homelessness, or better the community she lives in, Jolton gets the job done and in doing so has gotten the attention of New England's top philanthropies.

On November 2, 2017, The Association of Fundraising Professionals of Northern New England (AFP-NNE) marked National Philanthropy Day by honoring Jolton as Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year. The award recognizes an individual who demonstrates outstanding skills in coordinating and motivating groups of volunteers for fundraising projects for the benefit of charitable institutions.

She was nominated by Manchester Community Health Center/Child Health Services for chairing its largest annual fundraising event, Morning Matters Breakfast, for the past 10 years. "Judith's enthusiasm and passion for promoting children's health care is contagious. She works tirelessly advocating for the health



Judith Jolton being honored as Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year by the Association of Fundraising Professionals of Northern New England.

care needs of children in and around Manchester," said Kris McCracken, MCHC President/CEO.

Jolton attributes her success in fundraising to her belief that giving isn't relegated to only the wealthy, often quoting Anne Frank, who famously said, "no one ever went poor from giving."

Founded in 1960, AFP generates philanthropic support for a wide variety of charitable institutions. Currently, there are over 200 chapters throughout the world with over 30,000 members.



Joe, Jessica, Nathan and Audrey Gallant are ready to Deliver Meals on Wheels for the Mitzvah Program.

See what's happening in the community

at [www.jewishnh.org](http://www.jewishnh.org)

## Connections Israel Makes a Real Difference in Israeli Soldiers' Lives

By David Hunt

Several years ago, I stumbled on a charity, Connections Israel ([connectionsisrael.com](http://connectionsisrael.com)). Located in Jerusalem, it is a registered 501(c)(3) charity that does the same thing as Friends of the IDF. One of the attractions for me was that Connections Israel didn't just buy stuff and give things to the soldiers, but it helped build bridges and connections between the units and the donors. I, in the Diaspora, got to make connections with several units.

At some point along the way, I asked if I could send care packages (kosher, naturally). Soon, units started receiving boxes from me with "new and interesting" foods. I sponsored several unit barbecues. And then they asked me to join their Governing Board, a volunteer position. Since then I've sponsored more events,

sent more care packages, and even bought a Navy ship custom hats with their logo. I take my affiliation with them seriously, tweeting and blogging and posting on LinkedIn about the group and our various efforts. I also spoke to NH4Israel about them a couple of years ago.

We do barbecues and other morale-building events; we did a pizza and pasta party for a Navy unit, as one example, complete with a mini-golf putting contest. We purchase winter fleeces for our *chayyalim* and recently completed our drive on this for the year. We do events for Lone Soldiers like Shabbat meals, Kiddush, and weekend activities like bands or pool parties for their relaxation in the high-stress environment they are in.

We also help out with National Service, which is an alternative for Israelis who are ineligible to serve in the IDF. These people serve in non-profits, schools, shel-

ters, and government positions. Additionally we have allied with Pizza2Give ([pizza2give.com](http://pizza2give.com)) as another way to send a thank you to soldiers in the field.

For many of the projects to which I've donated, I've gotten pictures and even videos from the soldiers thanking me. It's humbling but rewarding to know that something you did has such a direct and personal effect on the lives of our *chayyalim*. Check out the gallery page to see the smiles on faces ([connectionsisrael.com/gallery](http://connectionsisrael.com/gallery)).

Right now we are building up for an effort to give 4,500 active-duty soldiers gift baskets for Purim, and then we will dive into Pesach, providing Seder materials and "Jewish Identity" classes for soldiers, many of whom are Lone Soldiers who are rediscovering their Jewish roots on the fly as they serve in Eretz Yisrael.

Each basket costs \$15, and to sponsor a unit of 30 costs \$450. This is an ambitious goal, but achievable. So please consider this an appeal to:

1. Add Connections Israel to the list of charities to which you donate; it's a great group, and I would not be enthusiastic about it if it were not.
2. Consider giving a contribution to us for Purim -- ideally, get together in your shul to donate to support a unit.
3. Tweet, Facebook, email, etc. to spread the word about us in general, and the Purim drive (and follow-up drive for Pesach) in particular.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me. If I don't know the answer, I'll work to find out.

*David Hunt is a member of Temple Beth Abraham in Nashua, and can be reached at [dracodei@outdrs.net](mailto:dracodei@outdrs.net).*

## Second Annual Family Friendly Run/Walk for Healing Planned for April 22

Israel's innovative spirit and wide-ranging contributions to humanity are themes of the Second Annual Family Friendly Run/Walk for Healing on Sunday, April 22, from 12 noon to 3 PM, with race time at 1 PM.

This year, all funds raised will go toward ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig's disease) genetic research at Hadassah Hospital in Jeru-

salem. Did you know that Israel has developed a treatment for Lou Gehrig's disease that is reversing patients' motor decline for the first time! It is providing families with hope that did not exist before!

The race will be a 5K run or a 1 or 2 mile walk that will start and finish at the Interfaith Campus of Etz Hayim Synagogue and The Church of the Transfigu-

ration in Derry. For those who cannot walk or run, join us for the live music, food, and party! We are also celebrating Israel's 70th birthday!

There is a link on the NH4Israel.org homepage to register. When signing up, be sure to **join a team**, as this year we will be having a friendly competition, and the team that registers the most people will **win a pizza party**! There is already an

NH4Israel team! How about a Hadassah team or an Etz Hayim Synagogue team? A JFNH team or a GDTC team? A Pinkerton Academy team or a Parkland Medical Center Team?

Sponsorship opportunities are available -- please email [NH4Israel@gmail.com](mailto:NH4Israel@gmail.com) for details.

Let's hit a home run for Lou Gehrig and for Israel. See you at the starting line!

## "Mah nishtana halaila hazeh?"

Manchester — This year, what makes this night different from all other nights is a brightly colored matzah on your Seder plate. While the original recipe hasn't changed in 4,000 years, on this night the matzah is decorative as well as delicious. What a fun addition to your Seder, and it's the perfect hostess gift if you are going to someone's home.

"When I saw these on Facebook," said Ruthie Gordon, buyer for the Temple Adath Yeshurun (TAY) Sisterhood Gift Shop, "I thought it was a joke. And then I read more, and realized that this was in fact a real product. We did a little research, and thought this would be a fun way to add to any family's celebration of Passover."

The Matzohgram®, inscribed with colorful pictures of Passover symbols and Passover greetings, was recently featured in USA Today, The Jerusalem Post, and at the URJ Biennial in December; it was awarded "Best New Product" at KosherFest (the world's largest kosher food exposition).

"Can you imagine how excited kids will be, bringing their lunch on this brightly colored matzah?" asked Gordon.

Available in two sizes, large and mini, each box contains multiple designs. Matzohgram® uses FDA-compliant food grade edible inks and is certified kosher for Passover. All Matzos are baked by Matzot Aviv in Israel.

For more information or to place an order, go to TAY's website, [www.taynh.org](http://www.taynh.org).



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eNEWS

# Education

## Feb. 6 Talk at Saint Anselm College Focuses on Russian Pogroms

Goffstown — On February 6 at 7 PM., the New Hampshire Institute of Politics at Saint Anselm College will host a talk about the pogroms that drove so many Jews from Russia in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Approximately 75% of American Jews today trace their ancestry to refugees who fled these pogroms.

The talk will feature two speakers: Dr. Irina Astashkevich and Diane Covert. Dr. Astashkevich, a visiting research fellow at the Tauber Center for the Study of European Jewry at Brandeis University, holds a PhD from Brandeis University, where she wrote her dissertation on "Po-

groms in Ukraine 1917-1920: An Alternate Universe." She received her MA in History, Jewish History, and Archives from the Project Judaica, a joint project of the Russian State University of Humanities, Historical Archival Institute, Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and the YIVO Institute of Jewish Research in New York. She has worked in various archives in Russia, Lithuania, and the United States, as well as in Jewish philanthropic organizations, such as the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in Moscow.

A unique feature of this talk will be an

accompanying display of recently discovered historic photos documenting the pogroms, assembled by the second speaker, Diane Covert,. The photos are from a Russian book, *Jewish Pogroms: 1918-1921*, which was published in Moscow in 1926. This book is the first known photographic record of a genocide or ethnic cleansing, made possible by the invention and availability of consumer cameras and roll film. The book contains a large collection of photographs of the Russian Civil War pogroms and includes documentation by survivors and family members, medical providers, regional officials,

and archival teams from Moscow who toured the region. In all there are just under 200 photographs of survivors, family members, victims, perpetrators, local officials, and landscapes of ravaged communities. Ms. Covert will talk about the significance of this book, what it reveals about the pogroms, and the technologies that made its production possible.

The talk will be at 7 PM on Feb. 6 in the auditorium of the New Hampshire Institute of Politics at Saint Anselm College, located at the intersection of Saint Anselm Drive and Rockland Avenue in Goffstown. It is free and open to the public.

# Arts & Entertainment

## *Disturbing The Peace* Plays to Full House in Concord

By Joel Berman

Concord — On December 3, a capacity audience at Concord's Red River Theatres watched Stephen Apkon's award-winning documentary *Disturbing the Peace*. The film chronicles the origins and evolution of Combatants for Peace, an organization of ex-IDF soldiers and former Palestinian militants who, after decades of bloodshed, have decided that lasting peace will only come when each side recognizes the humanity of the other. The mostly local audience represented a broad spectrum of backgrounds, beliefs, and political positions regarding Israel-Palestine.

Throughout the 85-minute showing, nobody in the theater stirred. At its conclusion, when the two cofounders of Combatants for Peace, Israeli Chen Alon

and Palestinian Sulaiman Khatib, joined the event via video conference for a Q&A, the audience burst into enthusiastic and sustained applause. Chen's and Sulaiman's presence and commentary made their personal stories even more poignant and inspirational.

Although a streaming version of *Disturbing the Peace* is available, this is a movie that deserves to be seen on the big screen in the company of family, friends, and congregants. If you were one of the people turned away at the box office or would otherwise like to see the film, there will be a reprise this spring that coincides with a New England tour of Combatants for Peace. Please check future events calendars in the Reporter to ascertain the date and location. Meanwhile, you can view the trailer at <https://tinyurl.com/dtp-trailer>.

## TBJ Presents *In a Purimshpiel State of Mind: The Megillah According to Billy Joel*

Concord — Oy vey! It's again that time in the depths of winter that the Temple Beth Jacob Purimshpiel Players descend into the depths of religious depravity, collect all the jokes and anachronisms they can, and emerge with their annual Purimshpiel, retelling the story of Queen Esther and her minions in ways that were certainly never intended! This year's 21st (!!) annual production, written by Shira Nafshi and Gary Sobelson (with lots of help from others), features music from one of the great Jewish popular composers of our era: *In A Purimshpiel State Of Mind: The Megillah According To Billy Joel*.

For those of you who have experienced prior TBJ Purimshpiel productions, little needs to be said. For TBJ Purimshpiel

"virgins" (outside of King Ahaseurus's harem, of course), we invite you to experience a musical comedy event that is unique in the New Hampshire Jewish environs, or anywhere else.

The TBJ community is pleased to invite all Federation members and friends to the show, which will be performed on Saturday, March 10, and Sunday ,March 11, at 8 PM in our usual synagogue-on-"Broadway" theatre, 67 Broadway, Concord. Please call TBJ at 228-8581 to reserve tickets.

We are very excited that the talented Federation shlichah, Noam Wolf, has joined the production this year, and she is already adding her wonderful spirit and voice to our 30+ person cast.

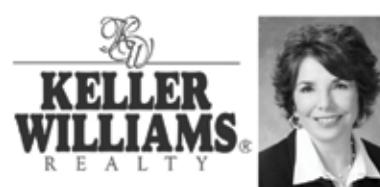
She and we hope that you'll be there, too!

## Help Wanted!

**Do you live in Keene, Laconia, Bethlehem, Hanover, or another NH community and want to help produce the Jewish Reporter?**

We are looking for people all over the state who are interested in writing about their local Jewish community.

**To get involved, contact [thereporter@jewishnh.org](mailto:thereporter@jewishnh.org)**



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Why attend Camp Hadar? Camp Hadar where campers are able to contribute to their Jewish community at camp in a traditional camp located outside on 17 acres of wooded land and scenic Captains Pond.



Campers experience joy in a Jewish camp community, develop self-confidence as Jews, and forge Jewish connections that stay with them into their lives beyond camp.



In a time where traditional Jewish day camps are closing, Camp Hadar is a hidden gem that continues to grow and invest in our facilities and our Jewish youth.



Camp Hadar continues to proudly serve the Jewish community of the Merrimack Valley and Southern NH.

**Two Programs...One Purpose: Build Jewish Identity**

**The Irving and Bernice Singer Israel Experience Program**



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(603) 627-7679  
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Dear Teens and Parents:

The Israel Experience is an exciting teen initiative of the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire. It is based on the guiding principle that continuing Jewish education linked with a peer trip to Israel will forge a strong Jewish identity in the hearts and minds of youth.

The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire strongly believes that a young adult peer travel experience to Israel is a fundamental educational opportunity in American Jewish communal life.

Funding for this program comes in part from the Irving and Bernice Singer Israel Experience Fund of the Jewish Federation Foundation.

**Get up to \$1,000 for Summer Camp!**

Outdoor adventure. Basketball. Ceramics. Canoeing. Everything from organic farming to campfires, music and dance, your child can experience all this and more at Jewish overnight summer camp. With more than 150 participating camps—traditional and specialty—across North America, there's bound to be a place that's ideal for your child.

If your child has never been to Jewish overnight summer camp, you may be eligible for a \$1000 grant.

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**CAMP  
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Full of laughter

**CAMP  
TEL NOAR**

[CampTelNoar.org](http://CampTelNoar.org)  
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**Sunday, July 15**

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**CAMP  
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[CampTevya.org](http://CampTevya.org)  
Brookline, NH

**Sunday, Aug. 5**

**Discover Camp Pembroke, New England's  
ONLY Jewish cultural camp just for GIRLS.**

"My daughter comes home more confident,  
more attuned to her friendships,  
more aware of her Jewish identity,  
and completely HAPPY!"

Some ages/bunks  
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# Focus on Camp

## Why Camp?

### JFNH Signature Program

Summers at overnight camps are packed with a wide range of fun activities—aquatics, arts and crafts, basketball and soccer, dance, music, cooking, archery, drama, outdoor adventure and hiking, and much more! Campers are encouraged to discover new skills and interests they never knew they had.

Jewish camp weaves Jewish values, culture, and traditions into the fabric of camp, helping campers to connect to their own identity and the larger Jewish community. Spirited and dynamic staff members use experiential learning to reveal what makes Jewish religion and culture so unique in today's world. At camp, Jewish and Israeli culture is celebrated through song, food, art, and dance.



Each camp designs its own program to be accessible and enjoyable for all campers. Whether they're telling stories in their bunks, learning about the environment, or playing tennis, campers explore what Judaism means to them in a

safe, nurturing, and fun environment. There are a variety of traditional and specialty overnight camps that span different denominations of Judaism, accommodate special needs and interests, and offer unique programming, catering to each family's needs.

The impact of Jewish camp is immediate—campers return home connected to a community and friends that will last them a lifetime. And it doesn't stop there. Children with pivotal Jewish camp experiences are more likely to become adults who value their Jewish



A typical scene from Jewish summer camp.

heritage, support Jewish causes, and take on leadership roles in their communities.

The Jewish Federation of NH has provided 126 camper families with **non-needs-based** camp grants over the past 10 years. JFNH works in cooperation with the Foundation for Jewish Camp ([www.onehappycamper.org](http://www.onehappycamper.org)). Their website offers additional information and the ap-

plication form, which JFNH uses for the program. Grant funding is budgeted annually through the generosity of donors to the JFNH Annual Campaign. Grants are allocated on a first-come first-serve basis and are given up to \$1,000.

One of our previous NH campers said it best: "Where I live, there are no other Jewish people. No one around me is Jewish, but when I arrived at camp, we all had this HUGE connection with us all being Jewish. There was this automatic vibe through our bunk. We were all friends from the very start."

Please contact Nancy Frankel, JFNH Camp/Israel Experience Grant Coordinator, at [corkyatcf@aol.com](mailto:corkyatcf@aol.com) for further information about grant opportunities for the 2018 summer season.

## "What Makes Jewish Camp Special?"

The Reporter asked some of our local Jewish summer camps, "What makes Jewish camp special?" Here is what a few of them had to say:

Campers experience joy in a Jewish camp community, develop self-confidence, and forge Jewish connections. Research has proven that children who attend Jewish summer camp are more likely to identify as Jewish adults and actively engage in the Jewish community. At Camp Hadar we continue to grow and invest in our facilities and our Jewish youth.

Camp Hadar  
Salem, NH

The unique sisterhood of a Jewish camp JUST for GIRLS helps girls thrive, free of many social pressures. Here at Camp Pembroke, located near Cape Cod, girls feel safe to be themselves, try new things, and grow into the person they want to be. In the studio and the pool, on the stage and the field, at lakeside Shabbat services or late-night bunk talks, girls get to laugh, cheer, listen, hug, share, and flourish. While many girls lose their voice and even self-confidence during adolescence, Jewish girls' camp is especially adept at nurturing girls' strength and identity. Each 'Brokie' can draw forever on the friendships, confidence, maturity, and Jewish values they deepen at camp. When

parents say their daughters "feel strong," like they "belong to something," and are discovering "respect for 'self' as a woman, a Jew, an individual," that's special indeed.

Ellen Felcher,  
Director of Camp Pembroke, a Cohen  
Camp  
Pembroke, MA

Have you ever thought about sending your child to Jewish overnight camp? One of the greatest gifts you can give your child is the opportunity to attend Jewish overnight camp. There is nothing like being in a safe, electronic-free, warm and friendly environment with other children with similar backgrounds and interests. At camp, campers discover new talents and interests while Jewish culture is celebrated and encouraged.

Camp Young Judaea  
Amherst, NH

Camp Gan Israel is more than a physical break from the school routine -- it's a comprehensive program designed to strengthen the body and soul. Campers are imbued with a deep sense of pride in their Jewish heritage and a love for the land of Israel. Activities, songs, and games bring to life the beauty and values of our tradition.

Camp Gan Israel  
Manchester



## Say YES to Camp Young Judaea!!

**YES** we have loads of qualified, fun-loving and trained staff. More than 80 percent of our staff members grew up at CYJ. (Including our two directors!)

**YES** we are a kosher camp and offer special meals, alternatives and snacks for a range of food sensitivities and allergies. (Plus cooking classes, healthy living program and lots of delicious food choices for everyone!)

**YES** we welcome campers ages 8-15 from a variety of Jewish backgrounds. (Ask anyone: We're known for our warm, welcoming community where kids and staff come back year after year!)

**YES** we offer competitive sports teams, inter and intra-camp matches and sports clinics open to all ages and abilities (soccer, basketball, swimming, tennis, lacrosse, archery and more!)

**YES** we offer dozens of electives, clubs and programs: Waterskiing, wacky science or woodworking, fishing or fitness, media lab, musical theater or model making, robotics or rock climbing, cooking, camping or creative arts...fun, fun, fun! (And yes, we offer horseback riding and farm care, too!)

**YES** we offer first-time discounts and scholarships on our 2-week, 3.5-week and 7-week programs. (Just ask us for more info!)

To inquire about space availability, please call us at 781.237.9410 or email us at [info@cyj.org](mailto:info@cyj.org)  
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# Book Review

Reviewed by Merle Carrus

## Some Books About Jewish Food That Make Great Winter Reading

Winter is definitely in full swing here in NH. As I sit here on my couch surrounded by books about food, there is a snow storm blowing outside. The weather outside is frightful, and our natural tendency is to look for comfort foods to cook and eat. They will warm us up both physically and emotionally.

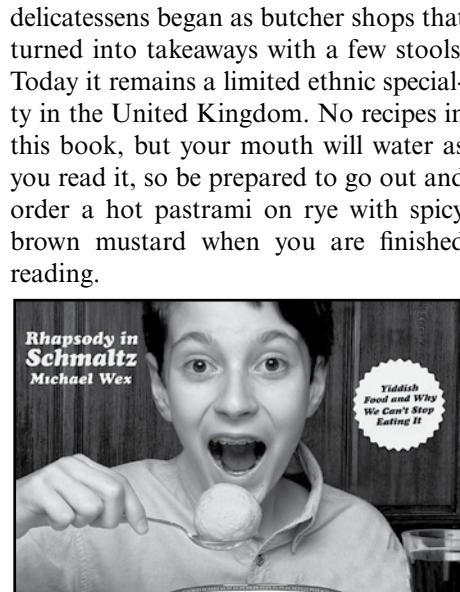
Here are a few books that are about the history of different kinds of foods that make up the history of Jewish cuisine. These books in many different ways talk about how they became the icons of our collective memory. These are not cookbooks. They may have a recipe or two, but they are really the history of our people through food.

Sarah Goldberg Wendel writes in her soon-to-be published book, *Chewish: 36 Recipes of Love with Stories from Nama's Kitchen* (Write On Ink Publishing, 2016), "The kitchen is the center of the universe, and the dining room table is the United Nations of world order where the world's problems can be solved, I am certain, over a nice bowl of matzo ball soup." Her book is a mix of personal stories of growing up in the Midwest with a grandmother who cooked Jewish comfort foods that now Wendel remembers fondly and recipes she tries to replicate in her own kitchen.

There are many foods that are culturally attached to our Jewish roots. Though they differ depending on where your ancestors originated from (Sephardic: falafel, hummus, and shakshuka; Eastern European Jews: kneidlach, chopped liver, and brisket), we can all agree that there are many foods that make our mouths water when we start to name our favorites. Some of us have grown up eating these foods in a kosher home and some of us eat these foods because we grew up or are living a life that is Jewish in food only.

*Save The Deli: In Search of Perfect Pastrami, Crusty Rye, and the Heart of Jewish Delicatessen* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2009), written by David Sax, starts off with a history of the food that Ashke-

nazi Jews brought to America from Germany and Poland. Surprise, surprise: New York City did not invent the Jewish delicatessen. Amazing, especially if you are a New Yorker. You would think that the only place to get good deli is in New York. It turns out that the word delicatessen is a mix of French and German that sort of means "delicious things to eat" or "delicacies." Sax goes on to talk about all the different delis in New York City and then explore the deli food across the United States in major cities like Chicago and San Francisco. He then travels north to Montreal and Toronto, which are known for their smoked meats. Then Sax continues across the pond to London, where delicatessens began as butcher shops that turned into takeaways with a few stools. Today it remains a limited ethnic specialty in the United Kingdom. No recipes in this book, but your mouth will water as you read it, so be prepared to go out and order a hot pastrami on rye with spicy brown mustard when you are finished reading.



*Rhapsody in Schmaltz: Yiddish Food and Why We Can't Stop Eating It* (St. Martin's Press, 2016), by Michael Wex, is a book that looks at the world of Yiddish food. It goes back to the "Old Country", Eastern Europe, and the foods that our ancestors ate there. Wex looks at the history of Jewish cuisine and how kashrut and religious rules



work with the food rituals of mainly Shabbat and holidays. Wex says in an interview with Tablet magazine, "A lot of Jewish food's appeal, I have found, has more to do with fond memories of growing up than the food itself. Your early sensations are the ones that stay with you. You similarly always remember your first kiss. Technically speaking, it probably wasn't your best kiss, but it is the one that gave you the taste."

Wex devotes a chapter to some of the most important ingredients in Yiddish cooking: onions, garlic, and schmaltz.

Looking at Jewish food and its history from a different perspective is *97 Orchard An Edible History of Five Immigrant Families in One New York Tenement* (HarperCollins, 2010). In this book, author Jane Ziegelman looks at all the different nationalities of families who lived in one tenement building at 97 Orchard Street in the Lower East Side of Manhattan between the 1860s to the 1930s. Here we see the progression of how over time, different immigrants have come to the Lower East Side, living at 97 Orchard Street before learning how to take advantage of the American dream and moving on. The story begins with a German family, the Glockners, who pass it onto the Moores, an Irish family, then to a German Jewish family, the Gumpertz, followed by the Rogarshevskys, a Lithuanian Jewish family, who pass the apartment on to the Baldizzi family of Italian extraction.

Interestingly, Ziegelman writes about the history of Ashkenazi cooking. She explains that the foods Ashkenazi Jews bring with them are interpretations of different foods they have learned about as a people in motion. The Jews over centuries were pushed from country to country. "Large Jewish families from southern France and Italy began to migrate north, forming settlements along the Rhine River. The early Rhineland communities were made up largely of rabbis and merchants. Both figures, it turns out, played major roles in shaping Ashkenazi food traditions," writes Ziegelman.

She talks about the influence of pasta or noodles on kugel and how the German

Gentiles' special Sunday braided sour-dough bread was adopted and renamed *berches*, a term derived from the Hebrew word for "blessing." Along with the borrowed bread on the table at Shabbat dinner is another reborn food: the gefilte fish. This started as a reassembled fish dish that was originally the creation of an ancient court cook, German chef Marx Rumpolt, for an aristocratic dinner. Ziegelman has complied an incredibly interesting history of both Lower East Side New York and the history of Jewish food.

As we prepare for Shabbat dinners during this winter of extreme cold weather or look for an easy dinner during the week, there is a new cookbook that has healthy updates for all our favorite comfort foods and some new, interesting options. *The Healthy Jewish Kitchen* (Sterling Epicure, 2017) is Paula Shoyer's newest cookbook.

Here she offers fresh, contemporary recipes for every occasion. Shoyer calls it "Jewish soul food" that is healthy.

All the recipes in this cookbook use only fresh natural ingredients. She has created a nutrient-dense spin on some of our childhood favorites. Shoyer writes that healthy options for these special recipes is her goal:

"Good nutrition is about balance and finding a way to introduce more healthful food into an everyday diet as often as possible. I am simply offering you a subtle shift towards better health without giving up your favorite foods."

There are more than 60 recipes from a variety of backgrounds, including Sephardic and Ashkenazi traditional recipes. There is Modern Borscht, a Baked Schnitzel with Nut Crust and a Brisket Bourguignon. Of course there are recipes to fit every lifestyle, including a Gluten-Free Challah, Caramel Apple Strudel, and Spelt Chocolate Babka.

Of course I will be testing the Ribollita from *The Healthy Jewish Kitchen* for dinner. This recipe meets all the important criteria that Shoyer gives emphasis to in her book: "I make sure every dinner plate has colors and textures and I offer both raw and cooked vegetables options."

Paula Shoyer graduated with a pastry degree from the Ritz Escoffier in Paris, and she does cooking and baking demos across the United States and around the world. She is the author of *The Holiday Kosher Baker*, *The Kosher Baker*, *The*



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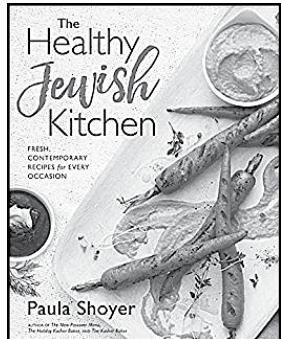
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New Passover Menu, and *The Healthy Jewish Kitchen*. Paula is a freelance writer for the *Washington Post*, *Hadassah*, *Joy of Kosher*, and *Jewish Food Experience*, among other publications. Paula competed on Food Network's Sweet Genius and often appears on TV before major Jewish holidays, over 28 appearances thus far. In 2015, Paula was hon-



ored by Jewish Women International as a "Woman to Watch," and by the kosher media community as a "kosher pioneer." She lives in Chevy Chase, Maryland, with her husband and four children.

Lastly, *Kosher USA: How Coke Became Kosher and Other Tales of Modern Food* (Columbia University Press, 2016). This book is a different kind of

## Ribollita

[Reprinted with permission from *The Healthy Jewish Kitchen* by Paula Shoyer]

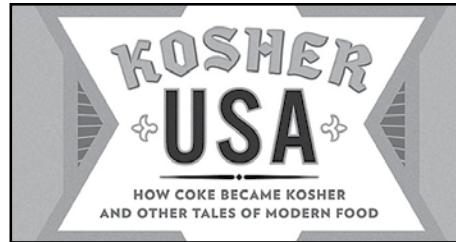
Parve, Gluten-free, Vegan • Serves 8 to 10

This Italian classic is usually made with stale bread. I've found that it is really filling, however—a complete meal for lunch—without the bread. If you like, serve the soup with toasted slices of whole-wheat Rosemary Focaccia on the side. You can also use curly kale for this recipe, but lacinato is heartier and looks particularly nice in the soup.

**PREP TIME:** 10 minutes • **COOK TIME:** 50 minutes • **ADVANCE PREP:** May be made 3 days in advance or frozen • **EQUIPMENT:** Measuring cups and spoons, cutting board, knife, vegetable peeler, can opener, large saucepan or soup pot, colander, food processor, fork

2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil  
1 large onion, halved and chopped into ½-inch (12-mm) pieces  
2 leeks, light green and white parts only, quartered and sliced  
2 carrots, peeled and sliced  
2 stalks celery, chopped into ½-inch (12-mm) pieces  
2 cloves garlic, roughly chopped  
2 15.5-ounce (440-g) cans cannellini beans, divided  
7 cups water (1.7L), divided  
3 tomatoes, seeds removed, cut into 1-inch (2.5-cm) pieces  
1 zucchini, chopped into 1-inch (2.5-cm) pieces  
1 cup butternut squash cubes, cut into ¾- to 1-inch (2- to 2.5-cm) cubes  
10 leaves lacinato kale (the variety with large bumpy-looking leaves), cut into 1½-inch (4-cm) pieces, about 1½ to 2 cups  
Leaves from 6 sprigs fresh thyme  
¼ teaspoon kosher salt  
¼ teaspoon black pepper  
1 large potato, peeled, and cut into ¾- to 1-inch (2- to 2.5-cm) cubes  
½ cup (20g) basil leaves, thinly sliced, as garnish

1. Heat the oil in a large saucepan or soup pot over medium-low heat. Add the onions, leeks, carrots, celery, and garlic and cook for 10 minutes. Stir occasionally. If the vegetables start to brown, turn down the heat.
2. Meanwhile, drain one can of the beans and rinse them well. Transfer the beans to the bowl of a food processor. Add 1 cup (240ml) of water to the bowl and purée until the mixture is completely smooth. Set it aside.
3. Add the tomatoes to the saucepan and turn the heat up to medium. Cook for 8 minutes, stirring often. Add the zucchini, squash, kale, and thyme and cook for 5 minutes over medium-low heat. Add the salt and pepper, remaining 6 cups water, bean purée, and potatoes. Bring to a boil, add the second can of drained beans, and then simmer the soup on low heat, covered, for 20 to 25 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the squash and potatoes are barely fork-tender.
4. Adjust seasonings if needed, add fresh basil, and serve.



book than the others mentioned here. Author Roger Horowitz writes about the creation of kashrut and the Kosher Food Guide, with the establishment of the kosher symbols we use today to distinguish foods that meet dietary guidelines. This book shows how the Jewish housewife and cook in America started creating new cuisine. This is about how Coke and Jello, along with other foods, have become a part of the traditional foods that have graced the dinner tables of Jewish homes. Horowitz writes that it



doesn't matter whether you are Orthodox, Conservative, or Reform -- though our experiences and thoughts about kosher food are different, it is what pulls us together as a community. "While kosher food may be central to Jewish experience, disagreement over what it was and what it meant is vital to its history. Arguments mattered as much as shared meals. But still, much as my family squabbled about what was kosher (and if keeping kosher mattered), kosher food nonetheless remained at the center of our identity as Jews, a touchstone of our relationship to Judaism, an indelible marker of the space between our past and our futures."

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# Chanukah Around New Hampshire



Rabbi Levi Krinsky of Manchester Chabad is assisted by Shlicha Noam Wolf in lighting the giant Chanukiah at the NH State House.



Shlicha Noam Wolf looks down at the crowd gathered to light the giant Chanukiah on the steps of the NH State House in Concord. This marked first ever candle lighting cosponsored by Chabad, JFNH, and PJ Library. About 100 people attended the celebration, which included a gelt drop, singing, and craft activities.

## Chanukah: The Game Show

Manchester — Step aside, Monty Hall! On Sunday morning, December 17, the TAY Brotherhood brought a game show Chanukah party to the Temple Israel community and religious school, billed as “The Second Best Day of Hebrew School!” (The best is the Purim Carnival, also brought to you by the Brotherhood). Students and parents competed individually and in teams in a host of competitions to win prizes and the adoration of the audience.

Competitions included the Chanukah Clothes Bag, a two-team relay race requiring contestants to pick one item of clothing from the Chanukah Clothes Bag, put it on, bring it to the next team member, take it off, and go get another. The first team to have the anchor member fully dressed (tutu and all) won the

game. In another competition, three multigrade teams competed to stack champagne glasses the fastest and the highest, creating towers seven levels high with over 75 champagne glasses. In a third contest, parents tried to convey Chanukah-themed messages to their kids in a game we called “Chanukah Speak Out” -- while wearing lip retractors (the kind the dentists used). And it wouldn’t be a competition without a race by the students to stick as many post-it notes as possible on Hebrew School moms.

And let’s not forget gourmet latkes prepared fresh by the Brotherhood Kitchen Krew, served right, with applesauce and sour cream to complement the kosher hot dog lunch (served baseball park style) and, of course, chocolate gelt for all the participants.



MC Joel Gordon watches as Sadie and Valerie Cadigan compete in the champagne glass stacking contest at the TAY Chanukah Party



Amy Dattner-Levy of Etz Hayim Synagogue of Derry teaches Israeli folk dancing to residents of Riverwoods in Exeter as part of their Chanukah celebration.



Temple B’Nai Israel Religious School students’ Chanukah celebration included sanctuary time with Rabbi Heilman, making their own menorahs, baking cookies, a dreidel championship, and sharing a delicious lunch.

# Chanukah Around New Hampshire



Betenu students and parents celebrate Chanukah together.



On December 17, Etz Hayim Synagogue held its first-ever "Latke and Lager" party for 21 to 35-year old mensches, who feasted on gourmet latkes, sufganiyot, and Jewish star-shaped Linzer cookies; lit the menorah; sang; and generally had a fun time. At the heart of the party was the JFNH Shlicha, Noam Wolf (fourth on the left).



Lots of Latkes! Prepared by Elda Cordero-Goodman, David Penchansky, and Sol Rockenmacher for the TAY Chanukah Party.



In Bethlehem, despite the snowy, windy weather that forced the cancellation of the annual BHC-sponsored community menorah lighting party, BHC president Dave Goldstone lit the menorah on the front lawn of Bethlehem Town Hall. Photo by Les Apple.



Children and their families joined together to light candles, sing songs, enjoy latkes (courtesy of Brotherhood), and play dreidel at this year's Temple Israel Portsmouth community Chanukah party.



December 16, 2017: First annual Temple Israel Dover Latke Vodka Party! We enjoyed a Latke cook-off, catered food from Bubby's deli, and the incredibly talented Noam Wolf singing Hallelujah and others.



Standing room only at Temple Israel Dover's annual Latke Party on Sunday, December 10, 2017. Thanks to all our Latke Makers, families, and Latke eaters for an amazing time.



On Sunday, December 3, Etz Hayim Synagogue women and their friends gathered in the neighboring Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration to make 300 delicious latkes. Pictured are EHS member Allison Doyle with her friend Maya Levin.



A large crowd gathered in the Temple Israel courtyard in Portsmouth to light candles in the Hands of Hope chanukiyah and sing songs on the last night of Chanukah.

# CHANUKAH

# Recent Events



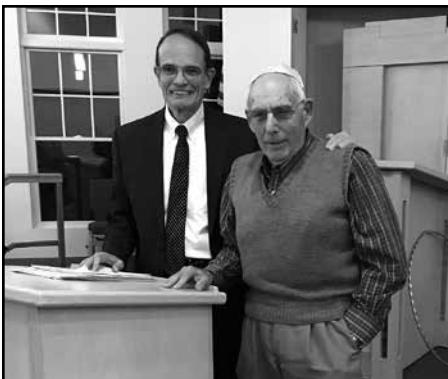
Children from Temple Adath Yeshurun's religious school proudly pose with the jars of cookies they created to donate in December.



After school one cold, snowy day in December, Temple Adath Yeshurun children and families created more than a dozen "cookies in a jar" to give to Angie's Place, transitional housing for homeless women in Manchester.



On December 17, Etz Hayim Synagogue held its first-ever free breakfast for the community as part of the Elijah's Table project. Pictured are (front) Kayla Patterson, Orianna Kane, Bonnie Leshin (in apron), Amy Dattner Levy, Board member Barry Leshin, and Arlene Agosto, and (back) Laurie Kagan Medrek, Linda Cohn-Rosenberg, Karen Seidler, and guest and frequent volunteer Frank.



On December 14, NH Supreme Court Associate Justice Robert J. Lynn spoke to a packed room at Etz Hayim Synagogue in Derry on the Establishment Clause, the Free Exercise Clause, and the relationship between the government and religious institutions. Pictured are Justice Lynn (on left) and EHS member, and former Board President Stephen M. Soreff, M.D.



New Hampshire's Evelyn and Michael Miller take a look at how Jewish National Fund is helping Israel be at the forefront of revolutionizing how water is treated. By building more than 250 reservoirs responsible for raising Israel's recycled water from 5% to 85%, rehabilitating rivers and transforming the Beersheba Stream into an oasis in the desert, and supporting educational programs such as Green Horizons, which teaches young children the value of water conservation and helps preserve water for the Bedouin in the Negev, Jewish National Fund continues to implement its overarching mission of improving the quality of life for the people of Israel.



Sunday school students and parents display the students' projects at Congregation Betenu.



Temple B'Nai Israel welcomed Jewish educator Esther Kosofsky for a day spent exploring some of the challenges and joys of interfaith families during the December holidays. She captivated the Religious School children (and their families) with stories, shared lunch, and then facilitated a moving discussion for the adults.



Cantor Sarra Allegra Spierer Riesman and Riman Dwiadari, presenters at the IWNH event at Temple Israel Manchester.



Interfaith Women of NH gathering at Temple Israel of Manchester for a December event, "Welcoming Winter with Joy."

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# Letters to the Editor

## Perceptions

I live in Hopkinton, NH, and am a member of Temple Beth Jacob. With friends in the Jewish community, I am involved with several projects: NH Participants in the Compassionate Listening Project, J-Street NH leadership, NH Friends of Combatants for Peace, programs under the auspices of Building a Culture of Peace Forum, and an interfaith discussion group. For me, an essential element of each of these projects is to create venues for our communities (Jewish, interfaith, and secular) to listen to each other and to speak with one another about difficult topics, most especially about peace and conflict in Israel and the Palestinian territories. I am writing this letter because during the course of my involvement I have encountered an interesting phenomenon, which is that the hardest places to create these venues are within in our Jewish communities.

At the recent Compassionate Listening presentation at Temple Israel Portsmouth (commented on in a letter by Linda McGrath in the Dec/Jan issue of the Reporter), I experienced first-hand one Jewish group leafletting outside the presentation, and I had to wonder what is going on in our community. I was also struck by the nasty letters about J-Street in the Reporter, and greatly appreciated Ken Grossman's (Dec/Jan Reporter) call for civility in our Jewish-community discourse. I'm happy to correct the inaccuracies in McGrath's piece (see below), but I think perhaps more significant would be for people in these groups to come together, to hear each other, and to work toward respecting each other's stories and experiences going forward. Instead of repeating and refuting issues, let's accept that you believe what you believe, and I believe what I believe, and let's sit down and listen to one another. Then perhaps at future events, your concerns will be acknowledged and you won't feel so threatened (if that's the right word) by simply the presentation of narratives that speak to the complexity and struggles of the lives of people working toward peace in Israel.

Can we sit down and talk? Everybody's truth is incomplete; we need each other's views of the world to understand it better and to do the continuous and fulfilling work of peacemaking.

Specific replies to McGrath's letter in the Dec/Jan Reporter:

- 1) There is vast disparity in public school support in Israel: Schools for Arab children receive less support than those for Jewish children. Interestingly, we just heard speakers from The Abraham Fund at TBJ and they addressed this very issue -- the Fund's primary efforts are in repairing the

disparities between Arab and Jewish Israeli schools.

- 2) The Compassionate Listening program at SNHU was not a student-oriented event. The school was simply the rented venue for the conference at which we were invited to present; another invitee was Rabbi Dov Taylor, who formerly served at TBJ. Few of the conference's participants were from SNHU.
- 3) The Compassionate Listening Project does not purport that listening alone will bring peace to the Middle East. It does purport that hearing the story of the person on the other side of the divide is a necessary step toward recognizing one another's humanity. Both sides are fearful of the other; both sides need to hear each other.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Jo Chabot, Hopkinton

## A Rose By Any Other Name Would Smell

We joyfully celebrate Chanukah despite suggestions that Maccabee followers killed more Jews than Seleucids in what was as much a civil war (traditionalists against assimilationists) as it was a rebellion against external authority. Skipping ahead a couple of millennia, 19th century American Jews vehemently opposed the immigration of Eastern European Jews, preferring to leave their embarrassing peasant co-religionists to be massacred by the Cossacks. Then the 20th Century found lots of overt anti-Zionism among Jews of various stripes, their hostility based on sincere but absurd rationalizations whose ultimate consequence proved disastrous. The more things change...

Certitude driven by feelings which are contradicted by fact is not reasoning. Emotions drive the decision-making of most people. Marketers and politicians cleverly profit from this human failing. Further adding to such self-deception is the Goebbels factor: "If you repeat a lie often enough, people will believe it, and you will even come to believe it yourself." Unfortunately, many people end up supporting the wrong side of vital conflicts due to these very human foibles. This stark and disheartening recognition of human irrationality forms the basis of my response to Ken Grossman, whose letter in your paper (Dec.2017/Jan. 2018) criticizes my earlier response to Emma Rous.

Mr. Grossman says, "It's well known that Rous's views are shared by many." Of COURSE it's well known! That is why I'm so upset. We're constantly confronted by Jews joining non-Jews for all kinds of vilification of Israel. These people invoke selective, out-of-context, and false histor-

ical citation and employ exaggeration and even fabrication of Israeli flaws while blithely ignoring far greater, real, contrasting wrongs in the aggressor Mohammedian societies which such ravings support. So, yes, Mr. Goodman, "Deliberately deceptive misrepresentations" are just that, even when committed with the best of intentions, and even when merely echoing others who are the source of those malicious deceptions.

It's clear that irrationality is a major factor in human thought and action. This tragic attribute contributes to the unjustified violence which has thrived in homo sapiens populations since long before we killed off the Neanderthals. There has never been a period in human history where peace has prevailed. This reality is pretty nasty. Demanding that I not be allowed to directly address a dismaying and flawed presentation which contributes to such violence because my critique is nasty (even though accurate) is merely conceding to villainy. Whether they act innocently or with malice, we need to firmly and factually confront those whose efforts facilitate the murder of Israelis (and ultimately all Jews, if you pay any attention to the charters of Hamas, Hizb'allah, and to the overt hostility brainwashed from early childhood into many Mohammedian citizens). When the ignorati are heedlessly encouraging unjustifiable violence and vicious villainy with lies and deceptions, any reply which accurately exposes those horrid behaviors might sound "nasty." But my hope is to sway the perceptions of the undecided by speaking directly, since those spewing this drivel are not even going to listen.

I keep wishing that people would work together toward a better future rather than repeating our bloody mistakes. Regrettably, my hopes keep being dashed by an unrelenting human predisposition to irrational actions. We need to forcefully interdict the deceptions which encourage dangerous misperceptions and which ultimately encourage such horrible consequences. Lynching for justice, anyone? We should be better. Perhaps with enough thoughtful nastiness, we ultimately can be.

Richard Collier, Eliot, ME

## Respecting the Humanity of Another: A Moral Imperative

I am writing in response to Linda McGrath's letter ("Compassionate Listening Project") in the December 2017-January 2018 NH Jewish Reporter. Ms. McGrath correctly points out that "the vast majority

of students know very little about Israel and the Middle East." I believe this observation also applies to many highly-educated and well-intentioned adults. It is easy to discern why, given the myriad complex social-political-historical roots of the conflict. Indeed, one need look no further for how tightly each community's history is interwoven with the other's than the 1948 Israeli War of Independence, or Nakba (defined as "catastrophe"), as the Palestinians refer to the same sequence of events.

The only certainty is that each side's refusal to acknowledge the other's perception of what transpired in 1948 has perpetuated this tragic conflict. I believe the failure to resolve the conflict has less to do with its structural complexity than with how we have attempted to navigate the competing claims for justice and legitimacy.

Several of Ms. McGrath's other statements reveal a fundamental misunderstanding of the Compassionate Listening Project's (CLP) mission and purpose. CLP does not purport to possess any "truths" underlying this or any other conflict. What the CLP does possess is the heartfelt conviction that conflict originates with individuals and, if there is to be any hope of resolving this (or any other) conflict, we have to move past the stereotypes and tropes each side has adopted to reinforce its position. If we've learned anything from the decades-long cycle of violence between Israelis and the Palestinians, it's that politicians on both sides have failed their respective communities. The CLP believes there's a way forward that recognizes the necessity to humanize and listen to the "other." Not to agree, but to achieve a deeper understanding of what compels individuals to adopt their beliefs and behave as they do. I and other participants with CLP choose to engage individuals from both sides, listen to their stories, learn from them, and help each side learn about the other.

If we accept Ms. McGrath's observation that the "vast majority of students [and adults] know very little about Israel and the Middle East," and we acknowledge the tragic consequences of rejecting the legitimacy of Palestinian claims for justice, what better response to this morass than to erect bridges between our respective communities by respectfully listening to the other? As a Zionist, I believe respecting the humanity of another is not a utopian vision but a moral imperative that conforms to the most fundamental values and tenets of our shared Judaism.

Respectfully,  
Scott Dickman, Concord

**Letters to the Editor may be sent to [thereporter@jewishnh.org](mailto:thereporter@jewishnh.org).**  
**Letters must be signed with full name and address.**



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## In Memoriam

### A Tribute to Rabbi David Rafael Senter

By Dr. Mel Prostkoff and Helen Hanan,  
Temple Israel, Portsmouth

We have dedicated our donation to the 2018 NH Jewish Film Festival in loving memory and in honor of Rabbi David Rafael Senter, our rabbi, teacher, mentor, and dear friend, who passed away tragically on 12/1/17 at the young age of 56. Some special highlights of our 3 1/2 years with Rabbi David, besides those mentioned by so many others, are:

- 1) The commitment ceremony that he performed for us on Shavuot 2015;
- 2) The funeral that he performed for our dog, Tibby, in July 2014;
- 3) Obtaining a Holocaust Memorial Torah for Temple Israel in Portsmouth (his third congregation to receive one), explaining its history to the membership and the Hebrew school children, and his obvious pleasure and kavod

each time it was used in services;  
4) His love of being a steward of Jewish history and tradition at Temple Israel and at the Touro Synagogue in Newport, RI;

5) His invigoration and leadership of the Seacoast Ministerium interfaith community; and 6) His distress and sadness over the falling of the Torah on Rosh Hashanah 2016, and his leadership of the entire congregation for the period of mourning, fasting, charity, and Torah learning in the year following.

Rabbi David was a very learned rabbi, a warm, generous, sincere, and compassionate spiritual leader, a revered teacher, a loving family man, a wise and worldly individual, and a true mensch. We already miss him dearly, and will continue to honor his life by following his examples of love of Torah, mitzvot, tzedakah and gemilut chasadim.

### Things I Learned From My Rabbi

(A Poem for Rabbi David Senter, December 2017)

By Sam Berg, Temple Israel VP Education

Here is what I learned from my Rabbi:

Be here and be present.

Get involved.

Pick up a book.

Study something deeply enough that you are able to talk to a group of people about it. Pay attention to everything so that you are able to talk to anyone about anything at anytime.

Be interested in the way things work.

Update a website.

Fix a microphone and set up a PA.

Pick up the phone.

Call someone.

Join a committee.

Help to plan an event.

Write about a topic that will be of use to other people.

Give of yourself.

Care about the people around you.

Invite people into your home.

Have a sense of humor.

Tell a joke.

But take life seriously.

Protect the things worth protecting.

Have an opinion on the news.

Turn the lights out when you go.

Share things that have happened to you.

Volunteer for things.

Don't be afraid to ask somebody to do something for you and check that it gets done. Make suggestions.

Live near friends.

Be respectful of absolutely everything.

Be moved by things.

Allow yourself at times to be overwhelmed by things.

Give thanks.

Find a gap somewhere and try to fill it.

Know who was here before you.

Recognize that others will be here after you.

Leave a place better than how you found it.

# In Memoriam

## Remembrances and Reflections: Rabbi David Senter

By Fran Berman, Immediate Past President, Temple Israel Portsmouth

[These comments were delivered at the memorial service for Rabbi Senter at Temple Israel, January 1, 2018.]

I am deeply honored to speak today on behalf of the board and members of Temple Israel. Rabbi David Raphael Senter was the spiritual leader of Temple Israel community for a brief three and a half years, yet his impact was tremendous. I cannot possibly convey all of the ways he has left his mark on our community, but I want to take a few minutes to share the somewhat surprising story of how he came to be our rabbi and some of what made his time with us so precious and his impact so great.

### Finding His Place in Portsmouth

Rabbi and Elissa first came to Temple Israel in the summer of 2013, when they stopped in to tour the synagogue during a brief vacation in the area. From the first moments, Rabbi and Elissa were smitten. I have never seen two people so enthused about our synagogue. They could not get over this treasure of Jewish life hiding in plain sight here in the Jewish hinterlands of Portsmouth. The high point came when we entered this historic sanctuary. Rabbi David stood silently, breathing in the history, experiencing the wonderful afternoon light coming in through these nearly 200-year-old windows. He was clearly deeply moved, and he asked if we minded if he went up on the bimah to daven. That was when his rabbinic light really began to shine. I can't remember which prayers he uttered at that time, but I do remember his resonant voice, his up-raised arms, his eyes closed in concentration. We watched silently, taking in the power and passion of his prayers. A little later in the afternoon, Rabbi David led our minyan in afternoon prayers the historic sanctuary, and all of the minyan regulars observed the synergy between his spiritual passion and this beautiful place. Really, the future was set right then and there.

Fast forward one year: Rabbi and Elissa had moved to Dover and started their new life on the Seacoast. They threw themselves into their new community with a passion that I believe we had never seen before. And Rabbi David's energy was multiplied by the energy of Elissa, who took on her role as rebbetzin with great zest and intensity. The two of them set out to get to know this community

and congregation person by person, phone call by phone call, often over coffee, lunch, or dinner. Soon there were walks across the Memorial Bridge, one of Rabbi David's favorite ways to spend time with a friend, colleague, congregant, or acquaintance. Our rabbi was at his best when he was walking and talking, listening and problem solving. Because this was a man who was all about mediating, finding middle ground, solving problems, but always within a Jewish context.

### A Personal Appreciation

My own family came to know and appreciate Rabbi David when my son Geoff and daughter-in-law Ellie visited with my grandson, JJ. Theirs is an interfaith marriage, but they had committed to raising JJ as a Jew since before he was born, and Rabbi David graciously agreed to preside over the conversion ceremony at a mikvah in Brookline. As rabbi sat with us at the mikvah before the ceremony, he explained that at the center of the conversion ceremony is the total immersion of the baby in the mikvah. Geoff would go into the mikvah with JJ while we all waited outside. Then, at the appropriate moment in the prayers, rabbi would cue Geoff to let go of JJ for an instant so the water could touch every part of his naked body. As Ellie absorbed this reality, she became anxious. Did Geoff really have to let go of JJ in the deep water? Rabbi David immediately saw her distress and realized that her maternal worry was not going away, so in true Rabbi David fashion, he found another solution, a third way. A pair of cloth gloves were produced for Geoff, allowing the water to contact JJ's skin even as Geoff held him in the water. Ellie breathed a sigh of relief, and the ceremony went forward with full parental support.

Rabbi David treasured his time with our children, whether visiting their classroom, dressed in a silly costume to celebrate Purim, or supporting their davening on the bimah. He personified Judaism for them -- for the youngest in particular, he was "their" rabbi at a time when they were first learning what Judaism is and what it can mean in their lives. He lived his Judaism openly and proudly, showing them that it is okay to be a caring, observant Jew, that celebrating holidays and Shabbat could be a joy throughout their life, that Jewish learning never has to end. That is a legacy that will live on with these children.

### Reaching Out to Others

He was a source of strength and com-



Rabbi Rafael David Ross Senter z''l

fort in times of trouble for many of us. I have heard from numerous people how Rabbi David reached out to them and was there for them in a time of need. It seems that he always knew when someone was hurting and offered a prayer, a hand of friendship, or even financial support. He magically called to offer a mishabeirach just when a congregant's mother was going for chemotherapy. He saw the pain of a local reporter who was suffering after the death of her husband and invited this non-Jew in to talk and then into his and Elissa's home for a Passover seder. In the middle of a temple breakfast, he brought a congregant who had just lost a dear friend into the sanctuary and opened the ark to say a special prayer with her in the glow of the Torahs. He sat for hours with a family during their loved one's final days, guiding them and supporting them through that difficult journey. He even showed up to offer prayers when a beloved pet was reaching the end of life. We will never know how he knew just who to call and when, but he did, and he made a real difference in each of these lives he touched.

I worked closely with Rabbi David as vice-president and president and saw first-hand his talent for management and group facilitation. So often during my presidency, my phone would ring and I would hear his voice on the line: "Hello my friend. How are you?" He started every conversation that way, acknowledging me, opening the door if I wanted to share something. He cared about every aspect of temple life -- the building, the staff, the organizational structure ... but most of all the people. He attended every board meeting and most major committee meetings, and his mere presence encouraged a tone of respect and collaboration.

### In the Board Room

Temple boards sometimes face difficult issues, and meetings can easily become contentious as tempers flare and factions form. But with Rabbi David in

the room, our factions quickly dissolved as common ground was found. He created an atmosphere of mutual respect that helped us through even the fiercest differences of opinion. Just when an issue seemed insoluble, Rabbi David would introduce a new perspective, a third, as yet unconsidered option, generally backed up by Jewish precedent or law, and the crisis was averted. He was a peacemaker extraordinaire. Our Israel Affairs Committee is a case in point, created by the board at Rabbi David's suggestion to bridge a deep divide in the congregation among people with passionately held but divergent beliefs. He saw the common thread that bound all of us together -- our passion for Judaism, for the Jewish people, for Jewish values -- and he built on that to strengthen the Temple Israel community.

### Connecting With the Community

Clearly, Rabbi David left us way too soon. He had much more to give at a time when the world desperately needs peacemakers who can think outside the box to bridge our very real divides. But Rabbi David's presence has left an impression here at Temple Israel that will be felt for many years to come. It's hard to describe the difference he made within these walls other than to say that each member of the community came to feel included and valued in a way I have never seen before. So many members of the community felt that he was "their" rabbi -- perhaps the first time they had felt this. I see it in the way our members walk into the building these days. Their ownership of this place is palpable and real. They are not just observers of Judaism, they are active participants. We are truly blessed to have had Rabbi David and Elissa as leaders among us.

The Talmud says, "The good die but live on, in the example they provided." Surely Rabbi David's legacy will continue, here at Temple Israel and beyond -- in our classrooms, in our board room, in our committees, in our work lives, and in our homes. We have seen what we are capable of with the right kind of leadership. May his example guide our choices, both as individuals and as a community, in the months and years to come -- toward the qualities of respect, empathy, insight, compassion, love of Judaism, and community spirit that he exemplified. May we honor his memory with our deeds of loving kindness as we struggle toward *tikkun olam*, making the world a better place.

## OBITUARIES

### Alfred William Beitz



Manchester — Alfred William Beitz, age 88, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on December 24, 2017, just three days after his wife of 64 years, Bernice (Waldman) Beitz, also passed. Al was born September 10, 1929, in Brooklyn, NY, son of Louis and Tillie (Toran) Beitz.

Al was an Army Veteran, having proudly served in Korea in 1951–1952. He returned to the states on hardship as a result of his father's passing,

Al and Bernice were joined in marriage on June 27, 1953, at Zimmerman's Hungarian Restaurant in Brooklyn.

The Beitz's lived in Brooklyn until the family moved to Philadelphia in 1954. In 1958, they moved to Newark, Delaware, and became an integral part of the community. Al worked for Food Fair. He managed the Brookside location for several years before opening a new store in New Castle. Al became a friend to many of his employees and customers. He also served as President of Temple Beth El in Newark.

Food Fair presented Al with an opportunity to open Quality Discount Foods in Salem, NH, so Al moved his family north to Manchester, NH. He and Bernice would call Manchester home for the next 49 years. Eventually, Al became sole owner of the QD Foods in Salem and Concord.

After the Quality Discount Food Stores closed, Al and Bernice owned and operated Babyland Children's Nursery from 1979 to 1984. They took great pride in helping to develop their babies into well-rounded children. They also loved that many stayed in touch through adulthood. It made them so happy to have the extended family to love and enjoy.

Al enjoyed his weekly poker games with the boys. He tried golf once, had a pretty good round, but the game just was not for him. He did enjoy letting people know that he and Arnold Palmer were born the same day in 1929. But mostly he loved his family and when not working wanted to spend his time at home.

Al was a lifelong NY Yankees fan while adopting the New England Patriots later as his favorite football team. Baseball season was quite interesting, as his daughter is also a Yankees fan, but his wife was a lifelong Brooklyn Dodger fan and his son a Red Sox fan.

Al is survived by daughter Cheryl R. Beitz, son Lewis Beitz and his wife Marnie, step-grandson Anthony Pappas, as well as many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents Lou and Tillie Beitz, his wife Bernice (Waldman) Beitz, and his sister Charlotte (Beitz) Feldman Reiss.

Services for Al and Bernice were held at the Manchester Hebrew Cemetery Chapel. Memorial donations may be made to Home Health and Hospice, 7 Executive Park Drive, Merrimack, NH 03054. Please visit [www.goodwinfh.com](http://www.goodwinfh.com) to sign the online guest book.

### Bernice Waldman Beitz



Manchester — Bernice Waldman Beitz, age 86, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family on December 21, 2017. She was a New Year's Day baby, born in Brooklyn, New York on January 1, 1931, the daughter of David and Fanny (Gravitch) Waldman.

Bernice graduated from Samuel J. Tilden High School, Brooklyn, NY, Class of 1949.

Mrs. Beitz was joined in marriage with Alfred W. Beitz on June 27, 1953, at Zimmerman's Hungarian Restaurant in Brooklyn.

Bernice lived in Brooklyn until the family moved to Philadelphia in 1954. In 1958 they moved to Newark, Delaware, and became an integral part of the community. They left many friends behind when Al's business took them to Manchester, NH, in 1968, where she would spend the next 49 years.

Bernice was a lifelong Brooklyn Dodgers fan despite living with Yankees and Red Sox fans. Her biggest thrill was when she worked at WPIX TV in New York. Jackie Robinson came in for a meeting with her boss, and she offered to watch his son while he went into the meeting.

Bernice was employed for many years with the Felton Brush Company in Manchester. She and her husband Al owned and operated Babyland Children's Nursery from 1979 to 1984. She took great pride in helping to develop her babies into well-rounded children. She also loved that many stayed in touch through adulthood. It made her so happy to have the extended family to love and enjoy.

Bernice enjoyed her weekly mahjong games with her friends. She also excelled at baking. Her apple pear pie was loved by all her family and friends. She stayed involved for many years with such organizations as Temple Beth El in Newark, Delaware, as

well as Temple Israel and the Jewish Community Center of Manchester, NH.

Bernice is survived by her loving husband of 64 years, Al; her daughter, Cheryl R. Beitz; her son, Lewis Beitz and his wife Marnie; a step-grandson, Anthony Pappas; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by parents, David and Fanny Waldman, her sister Helen (Waldman) Ziskind, her sister's husband Burton, "Bob" Ziskind, and her brother Walter Waldman.

Services were held at the Manchester Hebrew Cemetery Chapel. Memorial donations may be made to Home Health and Hospice, 7 Executive Park Drive, Merrimack, NH 03054, or Villa Crest Nursing Home, 1276 Hanover Street, Manchester, NH 03104 Attention: Activities Department.

The family would like to thank all of Bernice's wonderful caregivers at Villa Crest and Home Health and Hospice.

Please visit [www.goodwinfh.com](http://www.goodwinfh.com) to sign the online guestbook.

### Fran Gordon



Helen Frances ""Fran"" Gordon, 97, passed away peacefully on December 2, 2017. She was born in Winthrop, MA, on October 11, 1920, a daughter of Saul and Freeda (Simmons) Shapiro. Fran attended Bishop Lee School of Drama in Boston, MA, and went on to perform on stage and on radio. She was married to Paul J. Gordon of Manchester in June 1948. Fran was a drama and voice coach, and she performed summer stock and at the Palace Theatre, directed children's theatre in several Manchester schools as well as at the Girl's Club and the Jewish Community Center. She was a docent at the Currier Museum and the Zimmerman House and was a lifelong member of Hadassah. Fran graduated from UNH with a Bachelor of Arts degree in social services in 1975. She loved to travel, was a talented painter, and was a patron of the arts.

Fran is survived by three children, Dana ""Lee"" Gordon, Jeffrey Gordon and his wife, Donnajean Ahigian, and Ellie Gordon; a grandson, Isaac Rader; and a sister, Barbara Weinberg. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Paul, and a brother, Allen Shapiro.

The funeral service was held at the Manchester Hebrew Cemetery Chapel in Manchester, NH. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Paul and Fran Gordon Family Fund, c/o Jewish Federation, 66 Hanover Street, Suite 300, Manchester, NH, 03101, or the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash Street, Manchester, NH, 03104. Please visit [www.goodwinfh.com](http://www.goodwinfh.com) to sign the online guestbook.

### Rabbi Rafael David Ross Senter



Dover — Rabbi Rafael David Ross Senter passed away peacefully at The Hyder House in Dover, NH, with his beloved family at his bedside on December 1, 2017.

David Senter was born in Christ Hospital in New Jersey on June 16, 1961, the eldest of five children. His father is Rabbi Zacharia Senter and his mother Anne Senter of Teaneck, NJ.

He leaves behind his wife of 13 years, Chaplain Elissa Kaplan Senter; daughters Rochie Schwartz, Yehudes Tova Orlansky, Lani Senter Raice, Bentzion Senter, and Tracy Abraham; 11 grandchildren; 4 step-grandchildren; and siblings Rabbi Ari Senter, Rabbi Daniel Senter, Rabbi Chaim Tzvi Senter, and Yehudes Zidele.

Early in his career, Rabbi Senter was an administrator for the Kosher Supervision company, The Kof-K. He then decided to open a catering business and created the kosher concession stands at Shea and Yankee stadiums. He was ordained as a rabbi in 1985. After a successful career in the business world, he decided he wanted to make his mark in the world as a pulpit rabbi. He has served two congregations in New Jersey, one in New York, and most recently served as the spiritual leader of Temple Israel of Portsmouth, NH, where he leaves behind a congregation of nearly 300 families. He was committed to furthering interfaith dialogue between people of all religions and cultural backgrounds. He was an active member of the NH Board of Rabbis and the Seacoast Interfaith Clergy Association, serving as chair of the interfaith group. He loved children, history, and bringing people closer to their Jewish roots.

The funeral took place at The Rosenbaum Yeshiva of North Jersey and burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Saddlebrook, NJ. The J. Verne Wood Funeral Home Buckminster Chapel assisted with arrangements. A Rabbi David Senter Memorial Fund has been set up at Temple Israel. Donations can be made out and sent to Temple Israel, 200 State Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

*Obituaries continued on page 25*

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*Obituaries* continued from page 24

## Joel S. Silberberg

Bedford — Joel S. Silberberg, 85, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on December 1, 2017. He was born in Manchester, NH, on October 1, 1932, a son of Jacob and Frances (Richmond) Silberberg. He graduated from Manchester Central High School in 1950 and earned his bachelor of science degree from Cornell University in 1954. He was joined in marriage with Dorrine Foster on October 11, 1953. He was predeceased by his wife Dorrine in June 1983. Joel was owner/operator along with his father and three brothers of Riddle Spring Poultry Farm, Bedford, NH, retiring in 1984. In retirement, he took on a second career preparing taxes, volunteering many hours at The Moore Center. Joel was joined in marriage with Elaine (Zalkind) Cohen on March 24, 1984. Joel is a past president of Temple Israel, Manchester, NH, treasurer at Temple Adath Yeshurun in Manchester and Congregation Betenu in Amherst, and a past president of the board of directors at The Moore Center.

Family was the most important aspect of Joel's life, and he will be deeply missed by his loving wife of 33 years, Elaine; four children, Jeffrey and his wife Michele, Gary and his wife Pamela, Frances and her husband Stephen, and Naomi; two step-daughters, Deborah and Jennifer; seven grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents and three brothers, Robert, George, and Fredric.

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# Tributes



## JFNH Tributes

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### Annual Campaign

Helen Arnold in memory of Rabbi David Senter  
Steven and Pam Blotcky to Elaine Silberberg in memory of her husband, Joel  
Faith Canner in memory of her husband, Arnold  
Cedar Hill Wealth Management in honor of John S. Engelman's birthday  
Rhoda and Fred Feldman to the Senter family in memory of Rabbi David Senter  
Brenda Johnston in memory of Rabbi David Ross Senter  
Judith Shapiro to Elaine Silberberg in memory of her husband, Joel  
Charlotte Krentzel to the Gordon family in memory of their mother, Fran Gordon  
Irma Wallin to Louise Allard in memory of her father, Joseph Wainer  
Irma Wallin to Michael Davidow in memory his mother, Pearl Davidow

### Friends of The Reporter

Susan Frankel  
Harry Rosenstein

### JFNH Preschool

Dan Cohen and family  
Deborah De Passe  
Debra Garlin  
Eric Treibman in memory of Philip A. Treibman

### Kushner-Tumen Family Fund for Children

Norm and Andy Kushner to Gary and Rochelle Lindner for being good people and doing good deeds  
Norm and Andy Kushner to Elaine Silberberg in memory of her husband, Joel  
Norm and Andy Kushner to Mervyn Taub in honor of his 80th birthday

### Paul and Fran Gordon Family Fund

Rebecca Caldwell in memory of Fran Gordon  
Elizabeth Church in memory of Fran Gordon  
Joan and Williams T. Davies Jr. in memory of Helen "Fran" Gordon  
Larry and Liz Eckman to the Gordon Family in memory of Fran Gordon  
Roberta Freedman in memory of Fran Gordon  
Dorothy Garley in memory of Fran Gordon  
Nancy Hirshberg in memory of my wonderful drama teacher, Mrs. Gordon. What a long and rich life well lived!  
JoAnn Meyers to Ellie Gordon and family in memory of Fran Gordon  
Victoria Pulos  
Saul and Bernyce Taube to Ellen Gordon in memory of her mother, Fran  
The Weinberg Family in memory of Fran Gordon  
Do Younger in memory of Fran Gordon

### PJ Library

Lizabeth Love Ryan  
Debra Garlin  
Andrea Jaffa

### Senior Programming

Alexander Itenberg  
Saul and Bernyce Taube to Elaine Silberberg in memory of her husband, Joel

### Social Services Fund

Elana Elstein  
Deborah Hirsch and Jack Mayer  
Nancy Tobi

## JFNH Tribute Cards: A Double Mitzvah

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All tributes will be listed in The Reporter.

### Amount of Contribution:

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See what's happening in the community at [www.jewishnh.org](http://www.jewishnh.org)

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**March 15-25, 2018**

Across the Waters • An Act of Defiance

Between Worlds • Bye Bye Germany

Curious George: Show Me the Monkey

Dancing on a Volcano: The Story of Nadja Merino

Keep Quiet • Keep the Change

Monkey Business: The Adventures of Curious George's Creators

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## Festival Schedule At A Glance

**Thursday, March 15, 2018**

**Keep Quiet**

7:00 PM, Mara Auditorium, Webster Hall, SNHU, Manchester



**Saturday, March 17, 2018**

**Sammy Davis, Jr.: I've Gotta Be Me**

8:00 PM, Currier Museum, Manchester, NH

GALA 10th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



**Sunday, March 18, 2018**

**Across the Waters**

1:00 PM, Cinemagic, Merrimack, NH

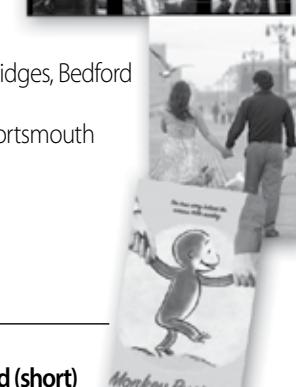
1:00 PM, Putnam Arts Lecture Hall, Keene, NH

Post Film Discussion

**Dancing on a Volcano**

1:00 PM, The Music Hall Loft, Portsmouth, NH

Speaker: Jesse Kalfel, son of Juana Merino Kalfel



**Keep the Change**

3:30 PM, Cinemagic, Merrimack, NH

Speakers: Thea Davis & Cathy Booth of Autism Bridges, Bedford

3:30 PM, The Music Hall Loft, Portsmouth, NH

Speaker: Julianne Johnson of Birchtree Center, Portsmouth

**Monkey Business: The Adventures of Curious George's Creators**

3:30 PM, Putnam Arts Lecture Hall, Keene, NH

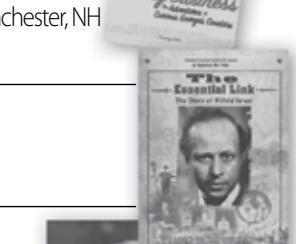
Post Film Discussion, Speakers TBA

**Tuesday, March 20, 2018**

**The Essential Link: Wilfrid Israel, The Driver Is Red (short)**

7:00 PM, Mara Auditorium, Webster Hall, SNHU, Manchester, NH

Special Guest: Director Yonatan Nir via Skype



**Thursday, March 22, 2018**

**Between Worlds**

7:00 PM, Red River Theatres, Concord, NH

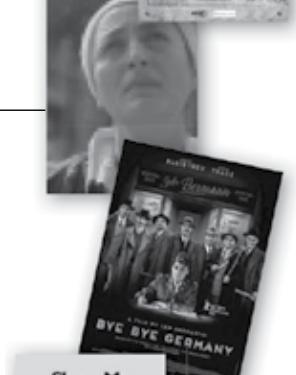


**Saturday, March 24, 2018**

**Bye Bye Germany**

8:00 PM, Red River Theatres, Concord, NH

SOCIAL SATURDAY NIGHT EVENT!



**Sunday, March 25, 2018**

**Curious George: Show Me the Monkey!**

1:00 PM, Red River Theatres, Concord, NH

PJ LIBRARY EVENT—FREE



**Shelter**

1:00 PM, Red River Theatres, Concord, NH

**An Act of Defiance**

3:00 PM, Red River Theatres, Concord, NH

**Monkey Business: The Adventures of Curious George's Creators**

5:30 PM, Red River Theatres, Concord, NH

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