

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE
Jewish **Reporter**
Volume 43, Number 7 May-June 2023 Iyar-Sivan-Tammuz 5783

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Jewish Federation of
New Hampshire



CELEBRATE ISRAEL

Why I Give to JFNH

By Evelyn Miller

When I first joined the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, it was going through the process of transitioning from more of a Manchester organization to a statewide one. Over the five years that I have been a board member, I have watched this organization change its location and transform its office space from a business to a Jewish comfort zone. It has worked hard to support and maintain the Israel-connected Shlichut Program, and truly share our emissaries with all of the New Hampshire communities. Although the Jewish preschool was closed, the Federation developed Early Childhood and PJ Library affiliated programs in its place, to strengthen young children's Jewish identity. We have maintained older, familiar programs like Seniors Forever Young, the Jewish Film Festival, and Holocaust Remembrance study. The Federation has broadened its horizons by including a special "visit Israel" program to moms within our statewide Jewish community, and also taken advantage of a special teens to Israel camp experience. The Federation took on the difficult task of helping all of us deal with antisemitism,



and also developed a teen program that invites Jewish teens from all over the state to participate in a comfortable and supportive group setting to learn ways to confront antisemitism.

All that is to say, the Federation has come a long way. However, the journey hasn't always been easy. This is a unique state and a unique Federation. Finding leadership that understood our state and its diversity took several years, and several directors. During the pandemic, we needed to find a new director, so I volunteered

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jewishnh.org	

SPOTLIGHT ON ISRAEL Celebrating Israel at 75

Walk the Land

A Community Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration for Israel's 75th Anniversary

Sunday, May 21st, 2-4pm

Bow Community Center, 3 Bow Center Road, Bow, NH

Travel some of Israel's cities, from Eilat to Jerusalem, Tel Aviv to Be'er Sheva!

Register by scanning QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/WalkTheLand>

Children's and Adult Activities, Music, Food and Dance!

Free In-Person Event | Convenient Location

Kosher Food Available for Purchase

Questions: Ra'anah de Haas, shaliach@jewishnh.org or call JFNH office at (603) 627-7679

<https://bit.ly/WalkTheLand>

Thank you to our Israel Education and Engagement Committee Sponsors:

SPONSOR SPONSOR TOWNS COOPER: MICHAEL & EVELYN MILLER

SENIOR JEWEL SPONSORS: Linda Leventhal McGrath

GOLD ZEMAY SPONSORS: Grinley Creative, Community Group, NH4Israel, KEN AND BERTHA LITVAK, COHEN

PROGRAM PARTNERS: IAC, HSI

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CONGREGATIONS

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

AMHERST

CONGREGATION BETENU

Dena Glasgow (Rabbinic Intern)
5 Northern Blvd., Unit 1, Amherst
Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 886-1633
www.betenu.org

Services: Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat services at 7:30 PM

BETHLEHEM

BETHLEHEM HEBREW CONGREGATION

Rabbi Donna Kirshbaum
39 Strawberry Hill Road
PO Box 395, Bethlehem
Unaffiliated-Egalitarian
(603) 869-5465
www.bethlehemsynagogue.org
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

CONCORD

TEMPLE BETH JACOB

Rabbi Robin Nafshi
67 Broadway, Concord
Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 228-8581
www.tbjconcord.org
office@tbjconcord.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
office@etzhayim.org, rabbi@etzhayim.org
Services: Fridays 7:15 PM, Sat 9:30 AM
followed by Torah Study
Family Service Fridays 6:30 PM (2nd Fri of
Month)
Please visit www.etzhayim.org/calendar
for optional Zoom link.

DURHAM

UNH & SEACOAST CHABAD JEWISH CENTER

Rabbi Berel Slavaticki
72-1 Main Street, Durham
(603) 205-6598
Rabbi@JewishSeacoast.com
www.JewishSeacoast.com

HANOVER

THE ROHR CHABAD CENTER AT DARTMOUTH

Rabbi Moshe Gray
19 Allen Street, Hanover
Orthodox, Chabad
(603) 643-9821
www.dartmouthchabad.com
chabad@dartmouth.edu

Services: Friday Evening Shabbat services
and Dinner
Shabbat morning services
Call for times

KOL HA'EMEK UPPER VALLEY JEWISH COMMUNITY

Rabbi Mark Melamut
Roth Center for Jewish Life
5 Occom Ridge, Hanover
Nondenominational, Unaffiliated
(603) 646-0460
www.uvjc.org
office@uvjc.org
Services: Friday night Shabbat service at
6 PM
Saturday morning Shabbat service at
10 AM

KEENE

CONGREGATION AHAVAS ACHIM

Rabbi Dan Aronson
84 Hastings Avenue, Keene
Reconstructionist, Affiliated JRF
(603) 352-6747
www.keenesynagogue.org
rabbida@keenesynagogue.org
office@keenesynagogue.org
Services: Regular Friday night services at
7 PM
Weekly Shabbat Torah study at 9:30AM.
Shabbat morning services on the 2nd
Saturday of each month at 9:30AM.
Meditation and Pirkei Avot study on the
4th Saturday of each month at 10:30AM.
All services are in-person and online.
Check the website for schedule changes
and Zoom links.

LACONIA

TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL

Rabbi Jan Katz
210 Court Street, Laconia
Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 524-7044
www.tbinh.org
info@tbinh.org
Services: Every other Friday
night at 7:30 PM

MANCHESTER

CHABAD CENTER FOR JEWISH LIVING

Rabbi Levi Krinsky
1234 River Rd., Manchester
Orthodox, Chabad
(603) 647-0204
www.Lubavitchnh.com
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
office@taynh.org
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

66 Salmon Street, Manchester
Conservative
(603) 622-6171
office@templeisraelmht.org
www.templeisraelmht.org
Services: Fridays at 7 PM
Saturdays at 10 AM
Morning Minyans - 7:00am every
Wednesday. At this time, we are offering
in-person Friday and Saturday Shabbat
services on alternating weeks.

NASHUA

TEMPLE BETH ABRAHAM

Rabbi Jon Spira-Savett
Conservative
(603) 883-8184
www.tbanashua.org
rabbijon@tbanashua.org
office@tbanashua.org
Services (generally):
Every Friday at 8:00 pm
Every Saturday at 10:00 am
Evening minyan Sunday-Thursday 7:30
pm and at the end of Shabbat
Second Friday each month Shabbat Alive!
6:30 pm
Meditation every other Saturday 9:00 am
All services on Zoom, most at the Temple
(check website)

NORTH CONWAY

KEHILAT HAR LAVAN

Hazzan Marlena Fuerstman
PO Box 474, Bartlett
(978) 853-4900
harlavancommunity@gmail.com
Services: Wed. mornings 9 AM online via
Zoom
Enter meeting ID https://zoom.
us/j/381930069
Holiday service times, locations TBA

PORTSMOUTH

TEMPLE ISRAEL

Rabbi Kaya Stern-Kaufman
200 State Street, Portsmouth
Conservative, Affiliated USCJ
(603) 436-5301
www.templeisraelnh.org
templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org
Services: Friday, 6:00 PM
Saturday, 9:30 AM
Tues. minyan 5:30 PM
Temple Israel has a fully licensed
M-F preschool.

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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:
thereporter@jewishnh.org

To submit Calendar items for the print and online JFNH Calendar and E-News, go to <https://jewishnh.org/community-calendar>, click the red "Suggest an Event" button, then fill in the form with your event information.

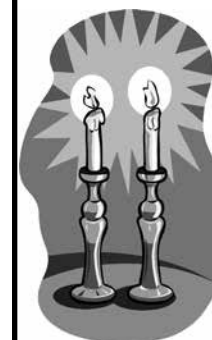
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The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter is overseen by the JFNH Publications Committee, Merle Carrus, chairperson.

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Shabbat Candle Lighting Times: (Manchester)



May 5	7:33 PM
May 12	7:41 PM
May 19	7:48 PM
May 26	7:55 PM
June 2	8:01 PM
June 9	8:06 PM
June 16	8:09 PM
June 23	8:11 PM
June 30	8:11 PM

The State of the Campaign – We are \$25,000 behind, and We Need You

Over the past three years that I have been chair of Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, and co-chair of our Annual Campaign, I have been extremely proud of the fact that we produced and lived within a balanced budget. We did this while bringing amazing programming to our community, from PJ Library, to Holocaust Remembrance Day, to our amazing Film Festival, and on and on.

Sadly, at this current moment, our campaign is behind by \$25,000, and the fiscal year ends in three months. So, I

Ken Litvack

**JFNH
Board Chair**



ask you, which program do you want us to cut?

Our board, being fiscally responsible, does not want to go into the next fiscal year with a campaign deficit, and person-

ally, I do not want to end my tenure with a campaign shortfall. Contrary to popular belief, all nonprofits must be operated as a business, and not spend more money than they take in. An economics teacher of mine once said, "Money is the blood needed to run a business," and the same applies to nonprofits.

In our prayer book, Maimonides talks about the eight levels of giving, one greater than the other. It reads, "The greatest giving level above which there is no greater, is to support a fellow Jew."

This can be interpreted in many ways, but as I look at it, by donating to the Federation you are helping fellow Jews—enriching their lives through all the wonderful things the Federation offers.

So, I ask you, if you have already donated, can you donate a little more? And if you have not donated, please consider doing so?

I am a firm believer in putting up or shutting up. So, in that spirit, my wife Bertha and I will donate an additional \$500 to the campaign. Please join me.

Your Gift to JFNH is Invaluable

I am almost embarrassed to say that the first time I traveled to Israel was in 2022. I traveled with Momentum, a program supported by The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire. To say it was life-changing is an understatement. Israel is the homeland of the Jewish people, but it wasn't until I walked into the Old City of Jerusalem for the first time, placed my hand on the kotel, walked into the amazing synagogues in Tsfat, explored Masada, floated in the dead sea, and walked through the shuk on a Friday morning could I truly understand what that meant. Making this experience even more meaningful, I traveled with eight other mothers, all with the same desire of providing strong Jewish connections to our children. Seven out of our nine had never been to Israel before, and to experience this for the first time with them made this trip even more meaningful. After being away from my family for 10 days, I was eager to go home to share my experience. I left a piece of my heart in Israel after that trip, and I look forward to returning again soon.

Momentum is truly a life changing program and one of several opportunities our Federation offers to the New Hampshire community. Being able to offer opportunities to experience and engage with Israel is a priority for JFNH.

- **Momentum** – Momentum seeks to inspire women to transform themselves, transform their families, their communities, and the world. Our flagship program, the MOMentum Year-Long Journey, empowers women to connect to Jewish values, engage with Israel, take action, and foster unity, without uniformity. By the time you read this article our second group of Momentum moms (twelve this time!) will be in Israel for their own trip of a lifetime.
- **Israel Experience Grants** - The Jewish

Allyson Guertin

**JFNH
Director**



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, and we are proud to be able to offer The Irving and Bernice Singer Israel Experience grant. This grant was created 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. We are thrilled to be giving five NH teenagers grants to travel to Israel this summer!

- **Shlichut Program** - Shlichut is an outreach program by The Jewish Agency for Israel that brings shlichim (cultural emissaries) from Israel to live and work in the United States. JFNH partners with the Jewish Agency to bring one of these young adults from Israel to live and work with us here in New Hampshire. The shaliach works on behalf of the Federation, as well as with synagogues, preschools, religious schools, youth groups and other organizations, to create and promote Israel-related activities in the area. Between the years 2005-2013, JFNH brought a shaliach to New Hampshire. They have each traveled across the entire state educating us, enriching our lives, and sharing their lives with us. This program was rekindled in 2017 with the arrival of Noam Wolf, followed by Avia Sagron. Our most recent Shaliach, Ra'anan de Haas is finishing his second year with us, and we are excited to welcome someone new in August.



ishing his second year with us, and we are excited to welcome someone new in August.

Jewish Federation of New Hampshire also has an active Israel Education and Engagement Committee helping to offer



additional programs and opportunities to our community throughout the year. Your gift to the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire's Annual Campaign helps support these important initiatives, and more.

Why I Give

continued from page 1

to sit on the search committee and had an eye-opening experience: Not only did we have applicants from the East and West coasts, large and small cities, but even applicants from South Africa and the Philippines. The misunderstanding of who we were was jaw-dropping. Finally, though, we looked within our own ranks, to find someone who already knew and loved the NH Jewish community at its heart.

So after five years—and coming out of a pandemic—it is most exciting to see a collaborative event planned with six synagogues joining together to work and celebrate Israel's 75th anniversary. All have their own personality and they are chosen to bring their unique talents together to form a larger New Hampshire Jewish community event. It's wonderful to see the Federation working for the greater Jewish community, and the greater Jewish community working with each other as a whole.

Finally, I feel a special gift of the Fed-

eration is to connect all of our NH Jewish community through communication, specifically through *The NH Jewish Reporter* and the JFNH statewide calendar of events. My husband and I have enjoyed the best pastrami sandwiches at the summer Jewish food feast at the Laconia Synagogue. We found our lawyer while attending a talk at the Nashua synagogue. We enjoyed an Israeli Music concert in the Keene synagogue. We loved a music-fest on the seacoast put on by Chabad. We thought the music festival in Bethlehem was a great vacation getaway. And Hannukah at the Palace with Chabad was great, with a full house of New Hampshire Jews.

So why do I think the New Hampshire Jewish Federation is "special," you ask? Well, after five years, I think we are through with our transition, and have fully become an organization working for all the synagogues, all the New Hampshire Jewish communities, and New Hampshire as a whole.

Statewide Calendar of Events

DISCLAIMER: Events are submitted weeks in advance of publication, and are subject to change. For information on format changes, rescheduling, and so on, please contact the event's host.

To submit Calendar items for the print and online JFNH Calendar and E-News, go to <https://jewishnh.org/community-calendar>, click the red "Suggest an Event" button, then fill in the form with your event information.

Monday, May 1

Recipe with a Memory

5:30PM – 7:30PM Newmarket (Seacoast)
Cost \$10/PP

Join us for this unique Yom HaZikaron program to remember a fallen Israeli soldier by cooking their favorite dish and learning about their story. This year we will make homemade pizza to honor Ronen Hayoun. The program will take place in a private home in Newmarket. Address will be sent upon registration. Please register at <https://bit.ly/recipe-memory>

Tuesday, May 2

Confronting Genocide and Antisemitism: Recovering in the Aftermath

6:00PM – 8:00PM Keene State College Alumni Center

T. Williams & Patricia Ayers Global Tipping Points Series. Join NH Fulbright Association with the World Affairs Council, in partnership with the Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College, as our speakers discuss their reconciliation work in post-genocide Bosnia & Herzegovina. Audience members will explore lessons learned from these personal experiences and how the approaches can guide future reconciliation work. Healing does not come quickly or easily, meaning communities require ongoing support and unbiased efforts to repair community wounds. Speakers: John Sturtz earned his doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus on Secondary Social Studies Education from the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia. He is currently a Professor of Education and Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College in Keene, New Hampshire. He teaches a variety of education courses and works with beginning teachers. His research interests include education in divided societies and education in emergencies. In 2022 he was a US Fulbright Scholar at the University of Sarajevo in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Christa Kirby is VP of Talent Development and Practice Director for Management and leadership at Corporate Education Group (CEG). A licensed psychotherapist, Christa integrates her global experience as a mental health professional with her passion for holistically developing leaders and teams. For the last 25 years she has been designing and delivering impactful learning experiences to companies, nonprofits, and non-governmental organizations all over the world. Moderated by Katrina Lantos Swett, President of the Lantos Foundation for Human Rights and Justice. Please register at <https://wacnh.org/event-5158868>

Saturday, May 6

Community Holocaust Remembrance Program

4:00PM – 6:00PM Congregational Church of Laconia

Restoring Faith in Humanity – Remember and ensure that such a tragedy never happens again. The community is invited to hear prominent community members and a special presentation by gifted artist Bonnie Abrams, "Voice of the Second Generation," a program that tells the story of her Holocaust survivor parents through Music. Contact Barbara Katz webmail@tbinh.org

Sunday, May 7

Community Pancake Breakfast

11:00AM – 12:30PM Temple Israel Portsmouth
Cost \$18/family

Join the Temple Israel Portsmouth Teen Group for a pancake feast to help raise funds for Jewish teen activities all year long. Endless pancakes for a good cause! Suggested donation: \$5 per person or \$18 per family. Register via the website calendar: <https://templeisraelnh.shulcloud.com/event/teen-group-community-pancake-breakfast.html>

Teen Words into Action Workshop

12:30PM -- 2:00PM Temple Israel Portsmouth
Join Temple Israel Portsmouth for an interactive workshop for Jewish teens led by ADL facilitators to learn about identity-based antisemitism. Increase your understanding, explore effective resources, and learn how to strategically respond to stereotypes and prejudice; hate speech vs free speech; vandalism; anti-Israel incidents. This program is free and open to all Jewish teens thanks to a generous donation from Michael and Glicka Kaplan. Please register via the website calendar: <https://templeisraelnh.shulcloud.com/event/words-into-action-workshop.html>

Recipe with a memory - Manchester

5:30 PM – 7:30PM Manchester Home
Cost \$10/PP

Join us for this unique Yom HaZikaron program to remember a fallen Israeli soldier by cooking their favorite dish and learning about their story. This year we will make homemade pizza to honor Ronen Hayoun. This program will take place in a private home in Manchester, address will be sent upon registration. Please register at <https://bit.ly/recipe-memory>

Wednesday, May 10

Lag BaOmer Field Day, Bonfire, and Family Picnic

4:00PM – 7:00PM

Join Temple Israel Portsmouth for an afternoon of field games, archery, low ropes, gaga, and of course a bonfire with s'mores! Let's celebrate the middle of the Omer the way it was meant to be... with lots of fun! Pack a picnic dinner for your family and we'll provide the rest. Don't miss this second annual event!

Note: The Archery range will be open to all children (and adults) in grades two and above due to Girl Scouts safety regulations. Archery participants will also be required to take part in a safety orientation prior to shooting on the range. Portsmouth location and directions will be provided with registration confirmation. Register via the website calendar: <https://templeisraelnh.shulcloud.com/event/lag-baomer-field-day-bonfire-family-picnic.html>

Thursday, May 11

The Challenges of Jewish Education

7:00PM – 9:00PM Etz Hayim Synagogue
The Challenges of Jewish Education. Megan Hogan, head of the Etz Hayim Hebrew School discusses the many challenges and opportunities in providing a Jewish education to our youngsters. They range from the many activities our students are involved with to the expansion of Jewish topics. Contact Stephen Soreff at soreffs15@aol.com

Saturday, May 13

Young Family Shabbat

9:30AM – 11:30AM Temple Beth Abraham
A child friendly musical Shabbat service with snack and play time. Best fit for children under six, all are welcome! Please register at https://tbanashua.shulcloud.com/event/Young_Shabbat

Thursday, May 18

Talking to Children about Antisemitism

7:30AM – 9:00AM, Zoom.

Join us for an important program. Dr. Samantha Vinokor-Meinrath, author of #antisemitism: Coming of Age During the Resurgence of Hate, will offer suggestions and answer questions about how to talk to children about antisemitism. Additional resources will be provided. The program is free, and everyone is welcome. For more information, please register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZUufuuvrT8sGdz2Es6ecyVcG8lrD4TiMjYh>

Sunday, May 21

Shavua Tov Storytime 2022-2023

8:30AM – 9:00AM Zoom

A program designed for families with children ages 2-5. Join us for a 20-minute interactive story time on Zoom on Sunday each month. Each month will have a different theme! All Participants will receive a craft in the mail ahead of time to use during the program. The Zoom link will be provided to registered families each Monday ahead of the program. To receive your craft in the mail please register a week in advance of each program. To register: <https://bit.ly/shavuatovstory>

Walk the Land – A Community Yom Ha'atzmaut Program

2:00PM – 4:00PM Community Space, Bow, NH

Join the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire and synagogues from around NH to celebrate Israel's 75th birthday! Travel around Israel and learn more about the country through projects, activities, and more! Programming, activities, and fun for all ages! Please register at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfefkHf5JvVt2sDP5uT0CNi5ymWB3jRmlQXseGNJ-ybCCLHow/viewform>

Parenting Through Jewish Lens

8:00PM – 9:30PM Zoom every month on the 3rd Sunday until June 11, 2023

Cost \$72/PP

Join a group of fellow parents of newborns through nine-year olds in New Hampshire to explore Jewish values that can enrich your family!

Topics of discussion include:

Simcha! Towards Joyful Parenting

Integrating Meaningful Rituals

Shalom! Peace in Our Homes

Shabbat: A Time to Reconnect and Recharge

Facilitated by Temple Beth Abraham member and child development specialist and parent coach, Stefanie Paige Wieder, M.S.Ed.

A four-part Zoom session on the following Sundays.

March 19, April 16, May 21, and June 11.

Register at <https://tbanashua.shulcloud.com/event/PTJL-SP-23>

Thursday, May 25

Shavuot Community Potluck, Learning, and Song Session

6:30PM – 8:30PM Temple Israel Portsmouth
Please join Temple Israel Portsmouth for a special "Blinis and Blintzes" dairy potluck in celebration of Shavuot! Please bring a dish to share in the social hall. Learning session and songs will follow. Potluck note: dishes brought into the temple must be vegetarian, dairy, or pareve. <https://templeisraelnh.shulcloud.com/event/erev-shavuot-community-potluck-meal.html>

Saturday, May 27

We Care Concert presented by Temple B'nai Israel

7:30PM – 9:30PM Inter-lakes Community Auditorium

Cost \$40/PP

Experience the Michelle Brooks-Thompson phenomenon for the first time in The Lakes Region! Proceeds benefit Camp Resilience of Gilford, a resource for service members, veterans, first responders and their loved ones, to help those who have served bounce back in mind, body, and spirit through outdoor experimental retreats at no cost to the participants.

Michelle Brooks-Thompson is a national award-winning Independent Recording Artist and performer from Springfield, Massachusetts. She is known for her appearance as a finalist on the hit NBC TV show, The Voice. Since competing on The Voice, Michelle's versatile and phenomenal singing ability has privileged her to grace a multitude of diverse musical platforms across the country. She has become known by all as a dynamic powerhouse vocalist! As quoted by Maroon 5's front man and NBC's The Voice vocal coach Adam Levine, Michelle has been gifted with a "supernatural singing ability." Michelle's vocal tone and power are reminiscent of the late musical icon, Whitney Houston. Please register at <https://tbinh.org/event/we-care-concert/>

Monday, May 29

We Remember – Memorial Day Service

5:00PM – 7:00PM Manchester Hebrew Cemetery/ Zoom

Hosted by Temple Adath Yeshurun and Temple Israel, the program will honor those veterans buried in the cemetery, as well as all those who have served our country in military service. US flags will have been placed at gravesites of the veterans interred in the cemetery. Please join us as we remember and honor those who have helped keep us free. While we hope you can join us in person the Zoom link and instructions will be posted on the Temple Adath Yeshurun and Temple Israel websites before the event.

Wednesday, May 31

Etz Hayim Synagogue Second Annual Blood Drive

11AM – 5PM Etz Hayim Synagogue

Etz Hayim is holding its second annual blood drive. If you would like to donate, Please go to RedCross.org and make an appointment. One blood donation can save two lives, and the NH supply is exceedingly low.

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Statewide Calendar of Events

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Thursday, June 8

The Jewish Cemetery in the United States: A Path Toward Americanization

7:00PM—9:00PM Etz Hayim Synagogue
Rabbi Joshua L. Segal will speak about how the evolution of cemetery history in the American Jewish Community has been driven by two forces: changes in the cemetery and burial practices in America, and the gradual acculturation of American Jews. These forces have exerted more influence than either Jewish customs (min-hag) or Jewish law (Halakhah). The first Jewish cemeteries in America followed a pattern of evolution similar to that in non-Jewish cemeteries. Backyard burials were replaced by colonial cemeteries which in turn were replaced by rural cemeteries and park cemeteries. Contact Stephen Soreff at soreffs15@aol.com

Friday, June 9

Scholar in Residence Shabbaton: Exploring Jewish Views of the Afterlife

7:00PM—8:30PM Temple Israel Portsmouth
Temple Israel Portsmouth is pleased to welcome Reb Simcha Raphael, Ph.D., to lead a weekend's exploration of Jewish views of the afterlife. Register on the website calendar for any one or all three sessions, which will focus on text study of Torah, Talmud, Midrash, Zohar and otherworldly tales from Hasidism and Yiddish folk literature. We shall also reflect on how ideas about life after death impact our contemporary attitudes toward death and loss. Shabbaton Schedule:

Friday, June 9

6:30PM Shabbat Service

7:00PM Kiddush & Study Session, Topic: Afterlife in Biblical and Rabbinic Tradition: Sheol & Olam Haba
Saturday, June 10

10:00AM Shabbat Services

12:00PM Kiddush Luncheon

1:00PM Study Session, Topic: Afterlife in Kabbalistic Tradition: Postmortem Journey of the Soul

Saturday Evening, June 10

7:30PM Storytelling & Havdalah, Topic: Jewish Ghost Stories: Ancient Ancestors. Wandering Spirits and Reincarnation Souls

About our Scholar-In-Residence: Reb Simcha Raphael, Ph. D is founding director of the DA'AT Institute for Death Awareness, Advocacy and Training. He works as a psychotherapist and spiritual director in Philadelphia and is on the faculty of the One Spirit Learning alliance Art of Dying Institute. Ordained as a rabbinic pastor, he is author of the groundbreaking Jewish Views of the Afterlife, and co-editor of Jewish End-of-life Care in a Virtual Age – Our Traditions Reimagined. www.daatinstitutes.net

Saturday, June 10

Young Family Shabbat

9:30AM – 11:30AM Temple Beth Abraham

A child friendly musical Shabbat service with snack and play time. Best fit for children under six, and all are welcome. Please register at https://tbanashau.shulcloud.com/event/Young_Shabbat

Installation of Rabbi Jan Katz

10:00AM – 12:00AM Temple B'nai Israel

Shabbat morning service and installation of Rabbi Jan Katz on Saturday, June 10th.

The installation will be performed by special guest Rabbi Noam Katz, Son of Rabbi Jan and Rabbi Alan

Katz. The service will begin at 10:00AM followed by a festive kiddush lunch in the social hall.

Sunday, June 11 – Sunday July 9

The New Hampshire Jewish Food Festival

12:00PM
The 26th annual New Hampshire Jewish Food Festival ordering period opens on June 10th and will continue to July 9th. From corned beef and pastrami to kugel and rugelach – all the traditional favorites will be ready for pickup from the temple on July 21 and 22, by appointment. Visit our website to see all the options, select your favorites and get ready to sit down and FRESS!! (Eat!!). <https://tbinh.org/food-festival-main/>

Sunday, June 11

Parenting Through Jewish Lens

8:00PM – 9:30PM Zoom

Cost \$72/PP

Join a group of fellow parents of newborns through nine-year olds in New Hampshire to explore Jewish values that can enrich your family!

Topics of discussion include:

Simcha! Towards Joyful Parenting

Integrating Meaningful Rituals

Shalom! Peace in Our Homes

Shabbat: A Time to Reconnect and Recharge

Facilitated by Temple Beth Abraham member and child development specialist and parent coach Stefanie Paige Wieder, M.S.Ed.

A four-part Zoom session ending June 11th. Please register at <https://tbanashua.shulcloud.com/event/PTJL-SP-23>

Saturday, June 17

Etz Hayim's Shabbat on Pawtuckaway Lake

9:00AM – 11:30AM 32 Dolloff Dam Road

Join us Saturday Morning at 9:00AM, at the home of Peggy Tucker and Steve Soreff, 32 Dolloff Dam Road, Nottingham, NH 03290 as Etz Hayim continues its tradition of Shabbat on Pawtuckaway Lake. There will be a Shabbat service lakeside followed by kayaking and canoeing. Please bring your own kayak and canoes. A limited number of kayaks and one canoe are available for you to reserve. Also, remember to please bring a snack, a life jacket and sunshine.

For more information and to RSVP to Steve Soreff at 603-895-6120 or email soreffs15@aol.com by June 10, 2023

Sunday, June 18

Shavua Tov Storytime 2022-2023

8:30AM – 9:00AM Zoom

A program designed for families with children ages 2-5. Join us for a 20-minute interactive story time on Zoom on Sunday each month. Each month will have a different theme! All participants will receive a craft in the mail ahead of time to use during the program. The Zoom link will be provided to registered families each Monday ahead of the program. To receive your craft in the mail please register a week in advance of each program. To register: <https://bit.ly/shavuatovstory>

Thursday, June 22

How Israeli PBS Changed Israeli Public TV

7:00PM – 9:00PM Etz Hayim

Ra'anana de Haas, JFNH Israeli Shaliach. You will learn about the history of Israeli public broadcasting and its eventual downfall, rebirth, and effect on other networks. Contact Stephen Soreff at soreffs15@aol.com

Saturday, June 24

PJ Library Tot Shabbat Hop

11:00AM – 12:00PM Upper Valley Jewish Community

PJ Library's jBaby and Early Education Initiative invite families with children 0-5 (siblings welcome) to celebrate Shabbat morning together.

Stories, Singing, and Blessings followed by a Kiddie Kiddush.

Registration required, please visit <https://bit.ly/totshabbatuvjc>

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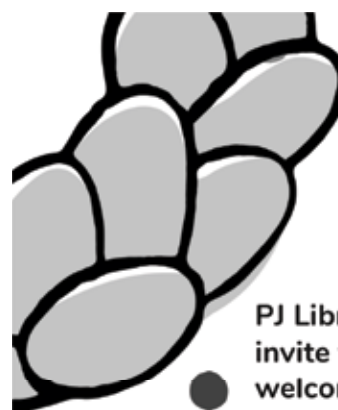
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TOT SHABBAT HOP!

PJ Library's jBaby and Early Education Initiative invite families with children 0-5 (siblings welcome) to celebrate Shabbat morning together. Each month this summer at a different location!

Stories, Singing, and Blessings followed by a Kiddie Kiddush



Saturday, June 24th, 11AM

Roth Center for Jewish Life,
Upper Valley Jewish Community -
5 Occom Ridge, Hanover

Registration Required

Scan QR code or

<https://forms.gle/SaGQhXfNdHP9EtVH6>



PJ Library



Jewish Federation
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Israel: Books, Vision and Reality

It should be easy to write another article about Israel, right? Haha. It's not that I'm not familiar with the country. I've been to Israel numerous times. I met my now-husband on a bus tour of Israel when we were fifteen. I rode a camel, slept in a Bedouin tent, hiked Masada, participated in a mock Knesset, rubbed Dead Sea mud on my skin. I've toured the archaeological digs in Caesarea, explored the Roman bathhouses in Ashkelon, marveled at the Crusader tunnels in Akko.

On my first trip to Israel, I had been confused and disoriented. Maybe even disappointed. I had been taught that Israel needed me. That kibbutzim were constantly under siege. That we needed to reclaim the desert. I dreamed of founding a Kibbutz and fighting alongside friends to defend what I believed in. What I found was a modern, thriving, vibrant country with excellent security and technology, not at all what was depicted

Dinah Berch

**JFNH
Program
Coordinator**



in the books I had read. I went back when I was 23 and lived with my aunt in Jerusalem for several weeks. On this second trip I took my time and tried harder to see the country for what it is, with all the incredible sounds and smells and sights. I was more prepared to engage with the dichotomy of history alongside skyscrapers.

I'm pleased that through PJ Library, my children have access to interesting and well written books that show Israel's present, not just its past. A favorite in my house is *The Cats of Carmel Market* by Alyssa Satin Capucilli, with all the bustle

of shopping for Shabbat. We also love *Shalom Everybody! Grover's Adventures in Israel* by Tilda Balsley and Ellen Fischer – written in adorable emails from Grover to his friends back on Sesame Street. Other favorites include the *Engineer Ari* books by Deborah Bodin Cohen, *First Rain* by Charlotte Herman, *A Zombie Vacation* and *Shmulik Paints the Town* both by Lisa Rose, and of course, *And Shira Imagined* by Giora Carmi – a favorite of mine when I was a little girl.

For a special Israeli snack that's kid-friendly try cubed watermelon with feta cheese, or make your own hummus! If you prefer a more sensory experience, I recommend painting with Za'atar and Cumin and Sumac and other spices found in Israel. Bonus: Scan the QR code for PJ Our Way's blog, "15 Fun Facts about Israel"



Still, it's not always easy to know how to talk about Israel, especially with the current turbulence. Enter PJ Library's Israel Hub in honor of Yom Ha'atzmaut (April 25th-April 26th), Israel's 75th year as a modern state. The hub includes printable resources such as the Israel Trail board game, a memory game for littler kids, a special podcast, virtual tours, music playlists, and a series of common questions children ask about Israel. Here's a few:

- "How do you get to Israel? It's a 10 ½ hour flight from New York to Tel Aviv."
- "What's Jewish about Israel? The Jewish people was born in Israel. The Torah (the first five books of the Bible) says that Israel — then called Canaan — is where Abraham and Sarah settled to start their Jewish journey. It's where the Jewish people built a home after escaping slavery in Egypt and wandering in the desert. For over a thousand years, Israel was where the Jewish people grew up, where farmers farmed and students learned, and where Jewish kings ruled and Jewish prophets imagined a better world....In 1948, a modern state was established in the ancient land of Israel. And because it was formed as a Jewish state, you'll find signs of Jewish life everywhere. Israel is a country in development, so there's a lot of growing still to do. But that, too, feels Jewish: tikkun olam — fixing our society and our world — is a never-ending challenge."

I love that sentiment – that Israel is young, still in development, still growing. That the very existence of the state of Israel is an example of Tikkun Olam – the Jewish value of repairing the world. In a message from Habonim Dror, the youth movement my husband and I grew up within, the movement's secretary-general wrote, "We have a long history of holding the vision and the reality of Israel side by side." By engaging my children in discussions about Israel - and the world - as it is and how we wish it to be, I can empower them to be part of the shaping of the future for Israel and for their world. We can help merge vision and reality.

I hope we'll see you on May 21st for a special "Walk the Land" community event, hosted by the Federation, PJ Library, our Shaliach and many partner synagogues. Come celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut as we honor the vision and the reality of Israel together.

A gift from the
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire



Sign up your children ages 6 months through 11 years old and enjoy the gift of Jewish children's books and resources delivered to your home each month. Explore Jewish heritage and culture through PJ Library's high-quality stories about Jewish values, traditions, and heritage.

Through the program your family will be enriched by experiencing the joys 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 Grinspoon
FOUNDATION



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**SIGN
UP**

Ages 6 mos. through 8
pjlibrary.org

Ages 9 through 11
pjourway.org

Making Every Moment Matter

Shalom everybody!

As we move from my second winter here to my second spring, it's hard to hold back the feeling that my time here is coming to an end. I won't sum it up now, but I've been trying to make each remaining day, program, or activity meaningful and memorable. I hope everyone had a great Passover; I had an amazing time being hosted by community members at their homes with their families and friends. I've said it before, and I'll say it again, this community is amazing. In addition, I had a very special guest come over for a short visit – Guy, our new Shaliach, happened to be in the area for Passover and was able to come up for a short time. It was great to have the opportunity to show him around the state and get to know him: You'll get to know him in the next issue of *The NH Jewish Reporter* and in an upcoming zoom interview for the community.

These past few months it's been hard being away from home. As I'm sure most of you know, Israel has been going

Ra'anan de Haas

JFNH Shaliach



SPOTLIGHT
ON ISRAEL



Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Israel Engagement and
Education Committee

through a lot! Just reading the headlines on what's been going on can be overwhelming, and being thousands of miles away hasn't been easy. This month's Reporter theme is "Celebrate Israel," and at first, I found it hard to write about anything without going into politics, or feeling like I'm ranting. That being said, it's hard not to acknowledge that Israel is going through a very tough time, from hundreds and thousands protesting in the streets against and in support of the government, to security threats both within and outside of Israel's borders,



mixed together with Passover, Easter, and Ramadan, a combination that is always a contentious time in Israel. I can only hope that by the time this article is published, all of these issues will be in the rearview mirror.

After almost two years here, I'm very aware of the diverse opinions of the community when it comes to Israel. But something I think we can all agree upon is our love for Israel – whether you criticize it or adore it, we all hold it dear to our hearts. As I'm writing these words, I, together with six partnering synagogues, am finalizing all the small de-



tails for our Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel's Independence Day) event. It's going to be a huge community wide family celebration to showcase Israeli diversity, landmarks, history, innovation, and culture.

To bring you back to the beginning of this article, I want to make the most of these last few months, and I would love to see you join me on one of my last big programs on May 21st in Bow. You can find the flyer and registration on the front page of this paper or on our website - <https://bit.ly/WalkTheLand>. I hope to see you there!

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PJ Library Joins the Film Festival!



From making box cars to watching Shaboom!, PJ Library's own participation in the film festival was a roaring success!



Honoring Jewish Veterans Interred at New Hampshire Veterans' Cemetery in Boscawen

By Rabbi Gary Atkins

Are you aware that New Hampshire has a beautiful Veterans Cemetery up in Boscawen, north of Concord? I was not aware of this until I was asked to officiate at the interment of a Jewish veteran there. It brought back memories of my attending memorial services as Jewish chaplain at the largest military ceremony overseas, in Manila, Republic of the Philippines. There are over 20,000 veterans from World War II interred there, of whom over 200 are Jewish. After the service in Boscawen for Colonel Katz, I wondered how many Jewish souls might be interred in the Boscawen cemetery. The director told me they did not keep religious affilia-

tion records. So, with the assistance of my wife Iris and the Guttman family from Temple Israel of Manchester, we canvassed the grounds and saw over sixty markers with Stars of David.

The cemetery has a Memorial Garden near the administration building, where, over the years, many organizations have erected monuments in memory/honor of specific groups of veterans. When my wife and I walked through the Memorial Garden area (follow the QR code link to see photos), we realized there was no monument remembering and honoring Jewish veterans. I talked with the cemetery administrator, and he said that there were spaces available in the garden, and he would welcome the Jewish community



Scan to learn more about the cemetery.



Scan to view photos of Memorial Garden and monuments.

erecting such a monument.

With my personal history of being a military chaplain, I decided to make this happen. I started corresponding with Rabbis Davidson, Stern-Kaufman and Nafshi, plus a number of people in the community, many of whom were veterans themselves. The Jewish Federation has agreed to assist in this project and is allowing Federation to accept donations for the cost of a monument in a special designated fund.

We have decided on a design. Fundraising for the monument will formally start in June, with a goal of having the monument set up in time for a dedication, tentatively on Sunday, October 15, time TBD.

I will be happy to share with anyone the design of the monument (just email me at mohel8@aol.com), and I earnestly ask for your financial support. We need \$9000 for the monument, foundation, and associated costs. Checks should be sent to the Federation earmarked to the Veterans Monument Project.

With sincere appreciation,

Rabbi Gary Atkins

Currently serving as a Chaplain in the Civil Air Patrol, USAF Auxiliary

Please make your gift payable to the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire - Cemetery Fund
273 S. River Rd. Unit 5 Bedford, NH 03110 and return it along with this form.

Thank you!



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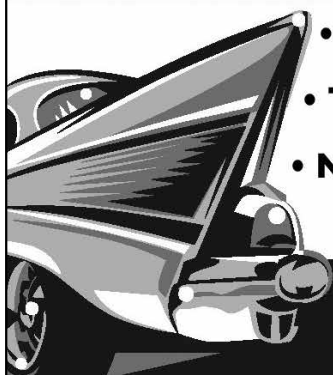
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The New Hampshire Jewish Museum Honors WWII veterans

By Stephen Soreff, MD

The New Hampshire Jewish Museum (NHJM) recently honored the New Hampshire Jews who served in the Armed Forces during World War II by proudly displaying this framed photographic collection of their pictures next to the Museum's showcase. 160 NH Jewish veterans are pictured here, and an additional 182 veterans are known of, but not pictured. There were also five Gold Star honor roll names not in that picture. These were Lt. Benjamin Bronstein; Robert Isenberg; Jack Perolman; Zalman Rosenberg; Max Slovack.

In WWII, 550,000 Jews, out of a Jewish population of about 4,900,000, served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The total United States population was about 132,200,000 at that time. 16,000,000 men and women served in WWII.

When NHJM opened last November, it honored all the New Hampshire Jewish veterans past and presently serving. We are still currently compiling a list of



all those NH Jewish veterans. The Museum's mission is to collect, preserve, and display the Jewish history of our state. If you know of the name of any NH Jewish member of the Armed Forces presently or in the past, please email them to the NHJM Head Stephen Soreff, MD soreffs15@aol.com. Thank all NH Jews in the Armed Forces who have served our country.



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PJ Library's Passover Story Walk was a ton of fun!





PLANNED GIVING

Secure the future of our Jewish community

As you envision the future of the Jewish community that means so much to you, consider creating a planned gift with the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire that will touch the lives of generations to come.

ENDOWMENT AND PLANNED GIVING

By making a planned gift to a JFNH endowment fund, you can ensure that your generosity and vision will have an impact that extends far beyond your lifetime. Endowment funds that were established decades ago are still providing important support to our community today. At JFNH, we have the knowledge and expertise to help you design a planned gift that meets your needs while also endowing your personal vision for the future.

- **Unrestricted Endowment.** A gift to JFNH's Unrestricted Endowment will support the full spectrum of initiatives and programs essential to the future of our Jewish community.
- **Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE).** You can create an endowment to perpetuate your Annual Campaign gift. This is a wonderful way to sustain your lifelong investment in the community you have helped build.
- **Restricted Endowment.** Our planned giving professionals will work with you to craft a gift that supports the work of a valued partner organization or an area of particular interest to you, such as caring for the most vulnerable, engaging people of all ages in Jewish learning, and supporting Israel.

WAYS TO ENDOW YOUR VISION

- **Bequests:** A bequest through your will, trust, or retirement account is an easy way to create an endowment. We will work with you and your advisor to create a gift that clearly reflects and honors your intentions.
- **Retirement Plan Assets:** You may designate JFNH as a beneficiary of a qualified retirement plan such as an IRA, 401(k), or 403(b). To do so, simply contact your plan administrator and complete the appropriate beneficiary designation form. By naming JFNH as a beneficiary, you may avoid significant and often unanticipated estate and income taxes that would otherwise be paid by your heirs.
- **Life Income Gifts:** A Charitable Gift Annuity or a Charitable Remainder Trust can provide an immediate tax deduction and lifetime income for one or more beneficiaries. After the death of the last beneficiary, the remainder becomes part of an endowment fund to be used in accordance with your wishes.
- **Life Insurance:** You may purchase a life insurance policy that names JFNH as both owner and beneficiary. After your passing, JFNH will redeem the policy and the proceeds will support JFNH's endowment.

LEARN MORE:

Contact Foundation Chair Julia Preis through the JFNH Office at 603-627-7679




THE **STRENGTH** OF A PEOPLE.
THE **POWER** OF COMMUNITY.

Celebrating Israel: Stretch With Me

If I had to pick one theme to celebrate about Israel that connects with us, especially as American Jews, it would be: *stretching*.

For me personally, Israel is where I found my own independence. As an 11th grader returning from Israel, I started planning my college year there almost from the moment I stepped off the plane. It was the one fixed point I knew about my college education before I was certain about where I wanted to attend or what I wanted to study. Due to the strict requirements of my college, I ended up on a one-year program where absolutely no credit was going to transfer back. I studied at Neve Schechter, the learning center at the time for the Conservative movement. So, I realized that every decision was up to me — what to study, regardless of what the program organizers wanted me to do; when to attend class or go into town; when and where to travel all over the land.

Rabbi in the House



Rabbi Jon Spira-Savett

Temple Beth Abraham

It was the year I stretched myself, to turn my Hebrew skills into spoken language. Based just on my Hebrew School, I had placed into third year Hebrew in college, and could read Agnon and Amichai—but I could hardly say a word. So, I forced myself to do it, on the bus and at the store, arguing with taxi drivers, and in the shuk. This was the first time I ever traveled to a city without knowing where I would lodge for the night. I turned 21 in Israel, and leapt into adulthood.

As an adult now, Israel continues to stretch me. The diversity of Israel has stretched me to love and admire the Jew-

ish people as a whole in ways I was not accustomed to. I grew up defining myself sometimes narrowly—as Conservative and not Orthodox, because of the role of women; as modern and observant, in contrast to those who were only one and not the other; as part of the overlooked slice that is the religious Zionist peace movement. But because of Israel, I have come to have tremendous admiration for the *chesed*, the intense taking-care-of, in West Bank settlements and *charedi* communities. The day-to-day and every-Shabbat hospitality. I think of one particular story of a community after a terrorist attack just before Simchat Torah, where the community turned out to make sure the kids could celebrate even as their family members mourned. Israel stretches me to take note of the Jews most unlike me, in lifestyle or ideology, and tie myself to them and find something to admire about them, whether or not they have any idea about me in return.

Israel stretches us as it stretches itself to be a lab for Jewish values when everything is at stake, from life and death to technological advance to the destiny of the planet. Through organizations like The Arava Institute, which brings together Israelis, Palestinians, Jordanians and others to learn environmental science together and explore solutions for the region and the world. Or The Shalom Hartman Institute, a think tank and learning center bringing Torah and Jew-

ish philosophy to bear on the social, political, and ethical issues of Israel today. If we are tempted to think of Judaism as narrow, as only about what happens in our homes or on our holy days, Israel stretches us to see Torah everywhere, and not only for ourselves.

And as a multi-ethnic and multi-religious democracy, Israel stretches us to see Jewish destiny interwoven with other people. As citizens and residents in the Jewish state, non-Jewish Israelis are also my people, our people. Israel stretches us to see them: Arabs, Druze, Bedouins, Palestinians, Muslims, Christians, Baha'i, and more. We are stretched to see how each of their stories intersect our own, to see where their freedom is or could be part of our own sacred narrative of freedom. In a time of conflict, this is such a difficult stretch to make. I am, on a personal level, far less intertwined with Israel's non-Jewish citizens than with even the most unlike-me Jews. But I recognize how Israel's *mamlachi'ut* — Israel's sovereignty as a state of all its people — requires us toward this stretch.

The Torah says that name, Israel, comes literally from the word for struggle. I will today prefer to translate that verse from Genesis differently: "For we have stretched with other people and with the Divine, and proven ourselves." As we celebrate 75 years of Israeli statehood and launch the next 75, may Israel's stretches continue to stretch us.



RECIPE WITH A MEMORY



Join us for this unique Yom HaZikaron program to remember a fallen Israeli soldier by cooking their favorite dish and learning about their story. This year we will make homemade pizza to honor Ronen Hayoun

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For more information and registration visit:




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

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Julianna Corrado has fun with photo boards at the JFNH Passover Playgroup.

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Road, Unit #5, Bedford, NH 03820



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The strength of a people, The power of a community.

How to Talk to Children About Antisemitism Program

Please join us for our important and timely program, "How to Talk to Children About Antisemitism." It is offered by the Antisemitism and Diversity Committee of the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire in partnership with the Lap-

pin Foundation. The program will be held via Zoom on **May 18, 2023, from 7:30 - 8:30 PM.**

We are all very concerned about the rise in antisemitism and especially how it affects our children. Through our work

with parents, students, and schools we have learned that children of all ages are often reluctant to speak to their parents or other figures of authority about antisemitism. Many parents question the wisdom of raising the topic at home



Parents, grandparents and educators are invited to join us for an important program

Talking to Children about Antisemitism

with Dr. Samantha Vinokor-Meinrath



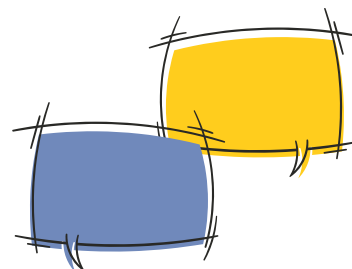
Thursday, May 18, 2023
7:30 p.m. ET on Zoom

Dr. Samantha Vinokor-Meinrath, author of *#antisemitism: Coming of Age During the Resurgence of Hate*, will offer suggestions and answer questions about how to talk to children and teens about antisemitism. Additional resources will be provided.

The program is free, and everyone is welcome.

Please register here

For more information, please email info@jewishnh.org or call 603-627-7679



Dr. Samantha Vinokor-Meinrath

in advance of an incident and many are uncertain how to do so. When our youth experience an antisemitic incident, adults who want to support and safely empower them often find the process daunting and confusing.

The program will be presented by Samantha Vinokor-Meinrath. Dr. Vinokor-Meinrath is the Senior Director of Knowledge, Ideas and Learning at the Jewish Education Project. She teaches at Gratz College and is an expert on Jewish teens, Jewish identity development, antisemitism, and Israel. She is an alumna of the University of Pittsburgh (BA), the Jewish Theological Seminary (MA), Gratz College (EdD), and the Pardes Experiential Educators Program. She will discuss the following:

- Antisemitism in 2023: Where are we now?
- Voices from teens: What do young people have to say about the complexities of this moment?
- Parents and caregivers: How can we meaningfully support our children?

There will also be a question and answer session after the presentation. Recommendations for resources, articles, and books will be sent to participants in a follow-up email. We hope you take this opportunity to join us and learn how we can help our children cope with antisemitism. We also hope that you will personally encourage community members to attend and perhaps organize a small in-person "watch party" at your home so that discussion can continue when the program ends.

To register for this program please use the QR code, email info@jewishnh.org or call the JFNH office at 603-627-7679.



New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival

2023 Film Festival Lookback



Arlene Fishbein and Leon Cornell at Opening Night at The Rex



Gail Ellis and Ed Schoen



Darren Garnick and Seth Kramer, Director of Israel Swings for Gold



JoAnn Meyers, Ross Fishbein, Pat Kalik and Allyson Guertin at Opening Night at The Rex



Barbara Ann and Barrie Paster at Red River Theatres



Barbara and Barry Scotch at The Rex on Opening Night



JoAnn Meyers, Pamela Englander, Allyson Guertin and Debbie DePasse at Red River Theatres



Peter Stein, Director of Out of Exile The Photography of Fred Stein



Jennifer Fishbein, Ross Fishbein and Zachary Camenker Opening Night at the Rex



Norm Kushner and Ra'anana DeHaas at Opening Night



Honey Weiss, Maryellen Bilech and Marc Rubenson at The Rex



Pat Kalik Introducing the film Israel Swings for Gold



Pat Kalik with Director Peter Stein



Tracy and Larry Richmond at SNHU to see Israel Swings for Gold



Peter Stein and Mark Bilech Opening Night Post Film Discussion



Ra'anana DeHaas at SNHU to see Israel Swings for Gold



Roger Peltzman Filmmaker Dedication

The NH Jewish Museum Asks You: Who are the These Folks? The Second Time

By Steve Soreff, MD

After the successful opening ceremony of the New Hampshire Jewish Museum (NHJM) this past November, we launched a series titled "Who are These Folks?" in *The Reporter*, to identify those in the photos. This second article will first review the responses to the initial series, and then present the second set of two pictures.

Picture (1): Who is with Rabbi Arthur Starr? Do you recognize these children-now adults? When and where was it taken?



Responses:

- "The woman with two kids on her lap looks like Alane Sabel" - Bob Feldmann.

- "This is my mom, Andy Kushner and Rabbi Starr. The little girl standing next to Rabbi Starr is my sister Micaela." - Allyson Guertin.

Picture (2) The man is Sheldon Krensky. Who are these two women and when and where was this picture taken?



Responses: "On the left is Bernice Singer, matriarch of the Singer family (Stephen's mother), former owners of Merchant Auto. 2. On the right is Rivellev Singer, wife of the late Attorney Bob Singer. No relation to Bernice Singer. The location is the American Red Cross Blood Center on

Reservoir Drive probably in the late 80's or early 90's." - Bob Feldmann

Here is the Second Series of Pictures:



Who is there? Why are they there? It is at the National Capital in the late 1950s. Please help us to identify these pictures.



Send your answers to Steve Soreff, email soreffs15@aol.com.

In addition, to fulfill NHJM's mission to collect, preserve, and display the Jewish history of our state, the museum has developed a system of receiving, cataloging, and preserving items from synagogues and individuals from throughout the state. If you have such NH Jewish material and wish to donate it to NHJM, or if you would like to contribute financially to it, or want to offer photographs for the *Who are These Folks?* series, or wish to visit, please contact Steve Soreff, email soreffs15@aol.com or call 603 895-6120.

Temple B'nai Israel of Laconia: Community Holocaust Remembrance Program May 6th with Special presentation by Bonnie Abrams, 'Voice of the Second Generation'

Laconia, NH – Temple B'nai Israel and the Laconia Human Relations Committee have joined together to restore faith in humanity and ensure that hatred and discrimination will not be tolerated and have no place in the Lakes Region community. The Holocaust Remembrance Program will take place on Saturday, May 6th at the Congregational Church of Laconia, 18 Veterans Square, beginning at 4:00 PM.

The program features the award-winning singer-songwriter Bonnie Abrams, creator of a unique Holocaust program entitled *Voice of the Second Generation*. Bonnie recounts the stories of her Holocaust survivor parents through her music. The program includes her mother's testimony as well as a vi-

sual component providing a background setting to the stories and songs. This powerful testimony has been performed by Bonnie at Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem, Israel and Bonnie is excited to bring her story to the Lakes Region. The experience, according to Bonnie, "Provides the facts of the Holocaust in a situation that enables us to feel the emotional reaction," making this an excellent opportunity for parents to bring their children (ages 13 and up) to learn about growing up as a child of Holocaust survivors.

Dr. Kate DeConinck, Director of the Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College, will present a brief overview on the New Hampshire

State Board of Education mandate to include Holocaust and Genocide education for students in grades 8 and above, which is in line with the mission of the Cohen Center; "To remember...and to teach, in the hope that present and future generations take responsibility for recognizing and responding to the dangers of antisemitism, intolerance, racism, and hate."

Temple B'nai Israel and The Laconia Human Relations Committee extend an open hand for our community, especially educators, to gather in fellowship—to learn, understand, recognize the importance of positive human relations and not to let history repeat itself. This event is free and open to the public. All are welcome. Advance reservations are not required.

Community Holocaust Remembrance Program

Restoring Faith in Humanity

Remember and ensure that such a tragedy never happens again

"There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest."

-Elie Wiesel

Saturday, May 6th
4:00 to 6:00 pm

The Congregational Church of Laconia
18 Veterans Square

Special Presentation by
BONNIE ABRAMS
Award winning singer-songwriter

"VOICE OF THE SECOND GENERATION"

A program that tells the stories of her Holocaust survivor parents through music.

Presented by Temple B'nai Israel in collaboration with
the Laconia Human Relations Committee

See what's happening in the community at www.jewishnh.org

In the Community

March Madness

A wintry mix didn't stop this crowd from gathering at Etz Hayim on March 25, to share some laughs on a chilly March evening.

The synagogue was packed to watch the hilarious antics of Off Our Rockers and Brad Zimmerman. Off Our Rockers is a sassy group of local seniors who perform skits for the 55+ crowd at senior centers and assisted living facilities. Directed by Peggy Kerr, the troupe included our very own Leslie Kirshman, and Martha and Carl Tomanelli, and entertained us with their ... let's say, mature brand of humor. The performance was followed

by our headliner, Brad Zimmerman, entertaining us with his act—part stand-up, part theatrical—known as “My Son the Waiter, A Jewish Tragedy.” It was over an hour of nonstop laughs with stories of his struggles to “make it” as an actor, sprinkled with self-deprecating humor and his experiences growing up in a Jewish household.

Many thanks to the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire for providing a mini-grant to assist in the cost of this event in support of enhancing Jewish life within our state.



Our young families bless us by lighting Shabbat candles during a family service.



Queen Esther and Mordechai greet congregants and visitors alike to our building.



Curtain-less curtain call for our Never Ready for Anything Players.



Rabbi Peter Levy laughed through the show.



The cast of Omar haEmet, To Tell the Truth: Shushan Edition performs the post Purim spiel.



David Meyer becomes an Eagle Scout. He redesigned and rebuilt our library shelves as his project.



Brad Zimmerman entertained us with his one man show, "My Son, the Waiter (A Jewish Tragedy)."

In the Community

The Temple Adath Yeshurun Brotherhood Looks Back on a Wonderful Purim and an Exceptional Deli Night

By Mark Granoff, TAY Brotherhood President

I hope this note finds everyone well. We are celebrating Passover as I write this, and I hope everyone had a zisshen Pesach – a sweet Passover. This is my favorite Jewish holiday, as it comes without the stress of Chanukah's gift shopping nor the ominous feelings surrounding the high holidays—rather, Passover comes with the amazing story of the Exodus, warm family seders, and wonderful holiday specific foods like charoset, matzos and our family favorite, brisket! I enjoy sharing this festive holiday with those close to me, as I hope you did.



Mark Granoff

After an absence in 2021 and 2022 due to Covid, our TAY Brotherhood was happy and proud to welcome the community back to a traditional Purim Party in the TAY Social Hall on March 12th. The theme was Purim Passports, where each youngster was given a passport book and went around to the various games (cities) and collected stamps from each world city like Tel Aviv, New York, Athens, Cairo, and others. This added both a fun challenge to get all the stamps, and a way to keep track of their unique raffle tickets toward Queen Esther's (aka Chunky's) movie tickets and Mordecai's Aquarium, complete with a beta fish with a tank, treasure chest, and food. A special thank you goes out to Treasurer Ed Schoen for schlepping to the pet store(s) to arrange for a proper aquarium! The kids had a blast, as did the adults.

Winnings from the games were exchanged at the prize table where Sol and Linda Rockenmacher expertly managed the prize exchange. Thank you both! Thank you to David Rosenzweig for cap-



The TAY Social Hall alive with Purim!



The Purim prize table with Priscilla Malcom, Sol & Linda Rockenmacher in charge. Note Mordecai's Aquarium at left.

turing all the action with his trusty camera; to Dave Penschansky, Jon Baron and Bob Katchen for hot dogs, tater tots and all the fixings; to Rabbi Beth for the yummy Hamantaschen and arranging for the student volunteers; to Alan Kaplan for the audio and kitchen help; to Kugel the Clown (aka Nancy Frankel) and to all our Brotherhood and student volunteers for running the games, clean up and ensuring the community had some good old-fashioned Purim fun. The festive music, food and prizes were sponsored by your TAY Brotherhood, along with some donations by several in attendance, for that a huge thank you! What a great return to the social hall. To all in attendance, THANK YOU!

Please enjoy the photos included with this article, all credited to David Rosenzweig.

March was a big month for Brotherhood activities, as we also held the 2nd ever Deli Night-to Go event on Sunday, March 19th! We packed up 40 orders, with Kosher deli meats and pickles from



Lots of smiles and energy at the game tables!

the Butcherie in Brookline, freshly made rye breads from baker extraordinaire Jackie O'Dowd, Jet Goldberg's famous Deli Night Potato Salad and Elaine Penschansky's equally famous Deli Night Cole Slaw. Thank you once again ladies. The reviews have been very positive for the Butcheries' lean and tasty pastrami and corned beef, expertly sliced by MC Dave Penschansky. Special thank yous are in order for the incredibly generous sponsorships provided by Robert Singer and Michael & Joy Sydney who helped us make this another strong Brotherhood fundraiser and will allow your Brotherhood to help with important TAY building updates and a variety of community good-will programs. Some added fun was our 50/50 raffle and other prizes with winners noted below:

- Our 50/50 raffle winner - Alan Kaplan
- Manchester Community Theater Players Tickets - Robert Singer, Michael Bank
- Bedford Village Inn Gift Certificate - George Bruno

Congratulations to all our winners. We hope we can return this event to its former glory next year: Time will tell. Either way, it was another fun social event for TAY and the greater Manchester Jewish Community. Thanks to all



Kelly Edwards helping with Queen Vashti's Schpritzer!



Jud's Unofficial Costume of the Party!

who participated and volunteered, it really makes a difference!

We are working on event planning for May and June, with a Brotherhood Breakfast for current and new Brothers on May 21st, and our Annual Meeting June 6th where we will award the 2023 Man of the Year and Sugerman Scholarship, along with a tasty BBQ! Please stay tuned for updates. We are always looking for new volunteers to get involved with our TAY Brotherhood, please contact me (memkgranoff@comcast.net) if you would like to help and volunteer at one of our upcoming events. To all our existing program leaders and volunteers, a sincere thank you for all you do!

Etz Hayim Celebrates Shavuot

In celebration of Jewish people receiving the Torah, Etz Hayim Synagogue will be having a series of presentations on Shavuot. Rabbi Peter Levy will be speaking about why we eat dairy foods on Shavuot. Amy Dattner-Levy, our cantorial soloist, will talk about the Book of Ruth. And a presentation on

the history and impact of Jewish humor will be led by Steve Soreff. There will be ample time for discussion and, of course, the sharing of dairy foods and desserts. People are welcome to bring dairy foods to share. The program will be at Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1 1/2 Hood Rd, Derry starting at 7 PM.

We Remember: Memorial Day Service, hosted by Temple Adath Yeshurun and Temple Israel

Manchester Hebrew Cemetery, 289-325 Beech St, Manchester: Monday, May 29, 2023 at 5 p.m., Zoom and In-Person

The program will honor those veterans buried in the cemetery, as well as all those who have served our country in military

service. US flags will have been placed at the gravesites of the veterans interred in the cemetery. Please join us as we remember and honor those who have helped keep us free. While we hope you can join us in person, the ZOOM link and instructions will be posted on our websites before the event.

See what's happening in the community at www.jewishnh.org



Fridge Flyer



Shavua Tov Story Time

A program for families with children ages 2-5

Join us for a 20-minute interactive story time on Zoom one Sunday each month from 8:30am to 9:00am. All participants will receive a craft in the mail ahead of time to use during the program. The zoom link will be provided to registered families each Monday ahead of the program. Scan QR code to register or go to <https://forms.gle/9qdWUVrPTG4Hivzx9>.



April

16

April Theme: Israel

Sunday, April 16th, 8:30am

Register by April 9th for craft.



May

21

May Theme: Shavuot

Sunday, May 21st, 8:30am

Register by May 14th for craft.



June

18

June Theme: Family

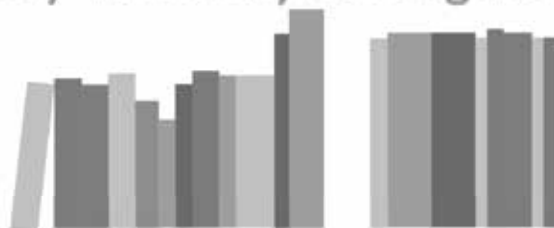
Sunday, June 18th, 8:30am

Register by June 11th for craft.



No Shavua Tov Story Time July or August for Summer Vacation

PJ Library



Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Visit <https://jewishnh.org/community-calendar> to register or email alane.sabel@jewishnh.org with questions

In the Community

Join Us for Etz Hayim Synagogue's Shabbat on Pawtuckaway Lake: June 17, 2023.

Join us on Saturday morning at 9:00 AM, June 17, 2023, at the home of Peggy Tucker and Steve Soreff, 32 Dolloff Dam Road, Nottingham, NH 03290, where Etz Hayim Synagogue will continue its tradition of Shabbat on Pawtuckaway Lake. There will be a Shabbat service lakeside, followed by kayaking and canoeing. Please bring your own kayak and canoes, as only a limited number of kayaks and one canoe are available for you to reserve. Also, remember please bring yourself a snack, a life jacket, and sunshine. For more information and to RSVP to Steve Soreff at 603 895-6120 or e-mail soreffs15@aol.com by June 10, 2023.



Etz Hayim Presents: Interpreting the Sacred Texts with Emotion and Motion: An Interfaith Program - May 19-21, 2023

You are welcome to attend and participate in an Interfaith Program entitled "Interpreting the Sacred Texts with Emotion and Motion," conducted by Sasha Soreff on the weekend of May 19-21, 2023 at the Derry Interfaith campus of Etz Hayim Synagogue and the Church of the Transfiguration. Combining emotion and movement represents a fascinating and unique way to interpret the sacred texts of Judaism and Christianity. Here is how Sasha describes her program: "I invite a fun, interactive space for congregants/parishioners to engage with spiritual texts and themes with movement-based story-telling."

Sasha Soreff lives in New York City and is a Certified Resonant Healing Practitioner, choreographer, and dance teacher. For more than two decades, Sasha has facilitated workshops that weave creative expression and spirituality together. This program is supported by the William Einhorn Interfaith Fund.

The Interfaith exploration of connecting to the Divine has three components. The first part will be during Etz Hayim's Friday night services at 7:15 pm on May 19, 2023. The Synagogue is located at 1 1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH. Sasha will offer a creative D'var Torah during the service. The second part is the actual workshop at Etz Hayim synagogue on Saturday, May 20, 2023, from 1:00 to 2:30 PM.



Sasha Soreff

This experiential workshop invites participants into a journey of creative expression and embodied connection with sacred texts. People of all ages and abilities can participate as all movements are optional and can be done either seated or standing. The themes of the afternoon workshop are inspired by the liturgical texts of the week. The third event is part of the Eucharist Service on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 10 AM, at the Church of the Transfiguration, 1 Hood Road, Derry, NH and it will be based on the liturgy for that day.

For more information, please contact Stephen Soreff, MD, at soreffs15@aol.com or 603-895-6120.

Temple B'nai Israel of Laconia: 26 Years of The New Hampshire Jewish Food Festival

It's almost that time of year when thoughts turn to savory brisket with gravy, freshly sliced corned beef, pastrami and tongue from Evan's Deli, sweet creamy noodle kugel, and the vast assortment of delicious home-cooked Jewish foods that are only available when

The New Hampshire Jewish Food Festival at Temple B'nai Israel opens their website for orders on June 10th. Mark your calendar now, and don't wait until the ordering period closes on

July 11th to place an order. Quantities are limited and likely to sell out quickly. Everyone who orders will select a time on either July 21 or 22 to pick up their order at TBI in Laconia.

The 26th year of the New Hampshire Jewish Food Festival continues with an online ordering and pick-up system. Over the years, there have been many changes to the Jewish Food Festival, but the consistent component is the focus on the food, and making sure that all the recipes are authentic and the outcome is perfect. Almost every item sold is made by TBI cooking teams in the temple kitchen, using those recipes that were

THE New Hampshire JEWISH FOOD Festival

handed down from generation to generation. Each year, recipes are tweaked by various temple members as innovative

ideas brought in by new cooking team members whose grandmothers might have added a pinch

of this or changed an ingredient. These innovative ideas get introduced to the discussion during cooking sessions that take

place around the temple's kitchen center island. The team is never satisfied with what they have done

and is constantly striving to make the products better, and the customer experience unmatched. They never lose sight of the fact that it's about the food, though, and if the products are not unsurpassed, then they haven't done their job.

Visit the temple website to see this year's menu and place orders beginning on June 10th - <https://tbinh.org/food-fest-menu/>.



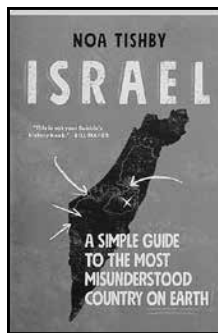
Book Review

Reviewed by Merle Carrus

Israel: A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth

Israeli and Arab relations are changing on a daily basis. The news stories can be confusing, dramatic, and charged. To keep up, a reader must understand the history of the region, know the players, and closely follow the moving target of politics and social relationships between many factions. To say the least, there are differences of opinion between the various Jewish religious groups. There are different interpretations of how all the different groups came to be in the roles they are now playing, and how those roles should be carried out.

So it was with great interest that I picked up Noa Tishby's new book *Israel: A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth*. Noa Tishby is not a journalist or a politician. She is an actress, producer, writer and activist. Born and raised in Tel Aviv and having served two years in the Israeli army be-



fore becoming a star and moving to Los Angeles, making history selling the first Israeli television show to air in America. To her credit, perhaps due to her experiences, this book is written in an easy to understand and engaging style. It lays out an account of the current situation in Israel, explaining the history and how

that is misinterpreted by many people today who do not understand the complete picture.

Her book starts off taking the reader back to the history of the Jewish state and how, without taking a religious point of view, the Torah first mentions the land of Caanan in about 1500 BC. The borders are described as ranging from approximately modern-day Lebanon, in the north, west to the beach, over to Jordan in the east and south to the Negev desert. She lays out in great detail the British Mandate, Laurence of

Arabia, and the Balfour Declaration. Noa describes how the State of Israel came into being. Her grandparents and parents were there at the start of the state, the Partition Plan, creating the first Kibbutz, and defending the new country from attack. Her family has lived through it all. It is a personal story for her family, but also a historical account of the birth of a country.

There is a clear explanation for how the State of Israel fought in each of the wars to defend the homeland, and all of the attempts to find peace. From the War of Independence that started two days after the UN voted to recognize Israel, to the most current development toward peace, the Abraham Accords of 2020. Tishby is unapologetic about the Jewish people defending the new fledgling State of Israel: as she writes it, they have fought hard over the last 75 years, but they have also been extremely fair, and have long wanted to negotiate a peaceful solution with the Arabs. This book answers so many questions and really gives the read-

er a clear understanding of all the aspects of both sides, delving into how the unrest and turmoil is hard on both the Jewish people and the Israeli or Palestinian Arabs living in Israel.

In her professional life, Noa Tishby served two and a half years in the Israeli army before she landed a starring role on the nation's highest-rated prime time drama *Ramat Aviv Gimmel*. She became a household name, appearing in numerous TV shows, films, theater productions, and national fashion campaigns, before moving to Los Angeles, where she sold the Israeli TV show *In Treatment* to HBO, making history as the first Israeli television show to become an American series. She co-produced over 150 episodes, which earned a Peabody Award and twelve Emmy and Golden Globe nominations. A passionate political activist, Tishby founded the nonprofit "Act for Israel," Israel's first online advocacy organization, and has become widely known as Israel's unofficial ambassador.

Film Festival: Best of the Fest

By Zach Camenker, NH JFF Committee Member

Our "Audience Award: Best of the Fest" votes from the 2023 New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival are in! As is tradition, we are happy to announce winners in three categories: *Best Short*, *Best Documentary*, and *Best Feature Film*.

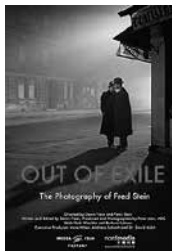
We are pleased to award Best Short to *The Space Torah*, a film by Verissima Productions. This film is a sweet documentary short about NASA astronaut Dr. Jeff Hoffman's journey into space alongside his own religious journey. Not only did Hoffman spend time in space, but so did certain Jewish objects that belonged to him, including a small Torah scroll that his rabbi provided him. This film was part of our virtual shorts pro-



gram this year, which included four other unique and provocative films. We are thrilled to award it the Best Short prize, just as the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival did last year.

For our Best Documentary award, we are pleased to announce that our opening night film, *Out of Exile: The Photography of Fred Stein* was the victor of the five films we screened in this category. *Out of Exile*, which opened our Festival at the Rex Theatre in Manchester, details the work of acclaimed photographer Fred Stein, whose son Peter traces his father's roots from escaping the rise of Nazism to arriving in 1940s New York. A deeply personal and touching piece celebrating the largely forgotten work of Fred Stein, this film was a huge hit and drew nearly 100 attendees. We were pleased to have Fred's son, and the film's director, Peter, join us for a post-film discussion and presentation of his dad's photographs.

Finally, for Best Feature Film, the



French drama *Farewell Mr. Haffmann* has proven victorious among the six non-documentary pictures that we screened. A powerful story about war-torn France and the beginning of the Nazi party's rise to power, this well-acted and beautifully written film was shown for in-theater audiences in Keene and Portsmouth, and available virtually during our Bonus Weeks. It is an incredible feat for this film to take the top prize when there were so many that were well received in our lineup this year. The conversations in the lobbies of our venues, discussions via personal networks, and on our social media pages made for a lot of engaging dialogue about our variety of movies. We congratulate the whole acting, directing, and production teams behind *Farewell Mr. Haffmann* for receiving the top prize!

As previously mentioned, our in-theater events included *Out of Exile* and *Farewell Mr. Haffmann*, which screened in Keene, Manchester, and Portsmouth.

Best of the Fest continued on page 22



Join us at Etz Hayim's Book Club! On Sunday, May 7, 2023, 10 -11:30 AM, in-person, we will discuss Amy Gottlieb's *The Beautiful Possible*: This epic, enthralling debut novel—in the vein of Nicole Krauss' *The History of Love*—follows a postwar love triangle between an American rabbi, his wife, and a German-Jewish refugee. Spanning 70 years and several continents—from a refugee's shattered dreams in 1938 Berlin, to a discontented American couple in the 1950s, to a young woman's life in modern-day Jerusalem—it's the braided love story of three unforgettable characters. With extraordinary empathy and virtuosic skill, *The Beautiful Possible* considers the hidden boundaries of marriage and faith, and the mysterious ways we negotiate our desires. For more information contact Steve Soreff 603 895-6120 or email soreffs15@aol.com

Temple B'nai Israel of Laconia: Memorial Day Weekend We Care Concert on May 27th to Support Veterans, Active-Duty Military, and First Responders

We Care has been bringing exceptional talent to the Lakes Region for the last 10 years while “lending a helping hand,” and raising more than \$150,000 for valuable nonprofit organizations, like Camp Resilience of Gilford. And like We Care, Camp Resilience “lends a helping hand” to those who have served their country, and communities to recover and maintain their mental and physical health. Founded in 2014 by a small group of veterans and local citizens, Camp Resilience has organized over 100 retreats in the beautiful Lakes Region of New Hampshire. These free 2-to-3-day retreats com-



bine outdoor experiential learning activities, facilitated peer-to-peer counseling, and life skills workshops to “help those who served bounce back and improve in mind, body, and spirit.”

The grass roots nature of the programs sends an important message to participants—their service is appreciated by their fellow citizens. For more information about Camp Resilience, visit their website: <https://www.camp-resilience.org/>

On May 27th the next We Care concert features Michelle Brooks-Thompson and



will benefit Camp Resilience. Michelle is a dynamic powerhouse vocalist who will light up the night with the music of iconic female voices such as Aretha, Whitney, and Tina. Michelle will also pay tribute to America with her own stirring rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner, complete with an honor guard. This fitting tribute for Memorial Day weekend in the Lakes Region will take place at the Inter-Lakes Community Auditorium, 1 Laker Lane in Meredith at 7:30 pm. Doors will open at 7:00 pm for general admission seating. Tickets and more information can be found online: <https://tbinh.org/we-care-concerts/>



We Care and Camp Resilience are also offering the opportunity to “lend your helping hand” to make it possible for veterans and first responders to receive complimentary tickets to see Michelle Brooks-Thompson. When tickets are purchased and donated, they will be distributed to those who have served and those who continue to serve to be honored guests at the show. Ticket donors will be recognized in the concert program. To purchase and donate use this link: <https://tbinh.org/ticket-donation/>



SCAN ME

Don't know whom to turn to?
JFNH can help.

JFNH's consulting social worker can provide support, referral, follow-up services, and resources to you and your family.

- Food and shelter
- Unemployment
- Medical and drug costs
- Spousal, parental, or child abuse
- Drug or alcohol addiction
- Mental health
- Children with learning, physical, and/or emotional disabilities
- Senior care/dementia
- Legal aid, incarceration, police matters



Don't let your problems simmer until they boil over. Call the JFNH social worker at 603-310-9941.

All calls and assistance are confidential.



Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Best of the Fest continued from page 21

We were also fortunate to show three films at Red River Theatres in Concord: the French drama *The Man in the Basement*, which led to some thought-provoking discussion in the lobby after, the Israeli drama *America*, a powerful and touching piece that left few dry eyes in the house, and *Dedication*, a documentary feature that was very well-received as it closed out the Festival and included a live post-film conversation with its star, Roger Peltzman.

Israel Swings for Gold, the highly anticipated sequel to the 2019 film *Heading Home: The Tale of Team Israel*, also had an in-person screening at Southern New Hampshire University in Hooksett with director Seth Green joining for a post-film discussion.

In addition, I was pleased to moderate a Zoom discussion with Steve Pressman, director of one of our virtually-available documentaries, *The Levys of Monticello*, about the legacy of the

Levy family as they helped to preserve Thomas Jefferson's homestead through nearly a century of ownership. We had over 30 attendees on Zoom that evening and insightful questions about the irony of the Jewish Levy family owning slaves, as well as Jefferson's own tainted history and the rising antisemitism of the 21st century.

Four other films were available for virtual only viewing: the documentary *Reckonings*, the American comedy *Our (Almost Completely True) Story*, and the Israeli dramas *Barren* and *Karaoke*. The varied plots, genres, and styles of our virtual offerings complemented the depth of our in-theater events as well.

We are so pleased to have enjoyed another year and a true return to normalcy with our 2023 Festival! It is because of readers like you, donors, volunteers, sponsors, and friends that we continue to thrive. We look forward to seeing you at the movies again in 2024!

Kids' Corner Coloring Page



Veronica Ava Conley, ©2023

Jewish Journeys

Living on the Edge

By Evelyn Miller

Living on the edge in Israel has many challenges—and some surprises! Halutza, for instance, is a new pioneering community full of challenges. Imagine a few young families being displaced from Gaza in 2005, and then looking with hopeful expressions on their faces at pure desert, their new utopia.

Would you believe that when we met Yedidya Harush from Halutza in 2010, he was excited to show us a field of carrots? Yes, they piped in water from the desalination plant on the coast, cultivated the sand, laid their drip method pipes, and planted an enormous field of carrots. The carrots grew! With each success, more shipping container temporary houses were brought into the community, to be filled with more young and equally



hopeful families and future farmers.

The region was beginning to feel like home in 2019. The farmers were experimenting with a few more different kinds of crops, the community was welcoming more new families, a little school with a playground was erected for the children, a small building for the mayor and town business was built, and a makeshift synagogue was placed close to the school — the beginnings of a town center.

One Friday evening in November 2019, the farmers left their fields, school was over for the children, and the Sabbath



meal had been prepared ahead of time. Many in the community found themselves in the little synagogue for services. This was the beginning of a satisfying and peaceful day of rest for this young pioneering community. Suddenly, mortar bombs were fired towards the synagogue and school. Shock and fear filled the room. Parents grasped for their children and sheltered them next to their bodies. Some of the farmers were running outside to see what was happening.

Just as suddenly, the phone rang. Everyone could hear it, because it was so quiet in



the wake of the bombing. It rang and rang, and Yedidya ran and picked up the phone.

“We are sorry, so sorry!” a voice said. “This is the head of the Egyptian army, we have been fighting Isis in the Sinai desert. We did not mean to fire our canons at you. We are so sorry!”

Oh my gosh, what a relief!! Understandably, it took a long time for the community to settle down and all were thankful that no one was hurt. To everyone's surprise, the next morning saw a delegation of Egyptian soldiers and an important member of the Egyptian government come to this young community to give their sincere apologies to the farmer/mayor of Halutza, and they brought a gift of cookies.

Yes, living on the edge has its challenges and surprises! This one turned out to be quite a relief, in the end, but definitely was memorable.

From New York to New Hampshire: A Federation Journey

By Lee Jason Goldberg

For over two decades, I made my home in New York City, where the Jewish population — 1.6 million — consists of 200,000 people more than the entire population of my new home state, New Hampshire. New York is a bastion of institutional Judaism, with scores of synagogues, schools, community centers, charities, and other Jewish organizations that have endured for generations, including the century-old UJA-Federation of New York, the world's largest local philanthropy. By contrast, New Hampshire has about a dozen synagogues, no day schools, JCCs, or Jewish family services, and one of the country's only state-wide Federations, the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, which covers the state's whole 10,000-person Jewish community. Following years enmeshed in New York's Jewish community, I knew moving to New Hampshire would be a monumental change in my Jewish life. For the past seven years, however, I have taken part in a program that equipped me well for this change by showing me Jewish life in places of all sizes: Jewish Federations of North America's National Young Leadership Cabinet.

My initial Federation involvement started in 2009 as an \$18-a-month donor to UJA-Federation of New York. Over the next several years, my volunteering, leadership, and donations grew steadily, and in 2016, my local UJA professional suggested I consider participating in National Young Leadership Cabinet, which

brings together North American Jews ages 30 to 45 to support their development as Federation lay leaders. Despite not knowing much more about Cabinet than this, I decided to venture to South Florida that summer for a retreat with 250 young Jewish adults.

Unencumbered by any expectations as the Cabinet retreat began, little did I foresee that I would return home to New York five days later feeling the warmth of family, the bliss of summer camp, and the spark lit by joining a community of givers. Almost seven years after that seminal retreat, I recently returned home to New Hampshire from a Cabinet study mission to Central and Eastern Europe with a group of friends who have forever transformed my life. Reflecting on these seven years, I am filled with profound gratitude for what I have learned about the worldwide Jewish community, the contributions of Federation and its partners to Jewish life locally, nationally, and globally, my friends on Cabinet, and, most surprisingly, myself.

Cabinet's five-to-six-year program (extended to seven because of the pandemic) is punctuated by two major annual events: a retreat held during the summer in North America, attended by most of Cabinet's now 450 members, representing more than 60 Federations and independent communities, and an international study mission held in late winter or spring in different locations around the world, attended by 100 to 175 Cabinet members.

The highlight of every summer retreat is Campaign Day, where Cabinet members

share with all of Cabinet their unique Jewish journeys and motivation for giving to Federation. A married couple, born in Ukraine, raising their young family in a Jewish home and at Jewish schools in Indianapolis. The daughter of a Federation family from Akron, volunteering for the Cleveland Federation so she could help people like her beloved late uncle. Jacksonville's campaign chair, a Jew by choice, discovering the school in Casablanca attended by the close colleague who had inspired her conversion to Judaism. And me, a gay Jew, finding the gay and Jewish facets of my identity celebrated and integrated with each other in New York. These are my friends and me illustrating for our fellow Cabinet members the diversity of Jewish life throughout North America and why we give to Federation.

On our study missions, I have also had the privilege of traveling with these lifelong friends to experience Jewish life, and the efforts of Federation and its overseas partners, in synagogues, schools, community centers, camps, and homes in India, Morocco, Spain, Russia, Georgia, Estonia, Latvia, Hungary, and, of course, Israel. At the same Moroccan Jewish school attended by my friend's colleague, I even got to run around its courtyard with Jewish and Muslim children playing side-by-side. Many of these Jewish communities are tiny but thriving, reestablishing Jewish life decades, and, in some cases, centuries, after Jews were murdered, expelled, and oppressed. These communities tell stories of resilience — a refusal to succumb to Jew-hatred coupled with an enthusiasm

for being joyfully Jewish.

On the Friday afternoon just after my study mission to Central and Eastern Europe, I visited the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire's office for the first time. As the Executive Director and Incoming Board Chair described their aspirations for the Federation, I was struck by the parallels between New Hampshire's small but hardy Jewish community and many of the Jewish communities I'd seen around the world: honoring and serving the elders who form the bedrock of the community, creating vibrant programs for young families who embody its future, and combating the antisemitism that poses an existential threat to us all. I might as well have been in Tallinn or Tbilisi, Madrid or Mumbai, where, rather than Jewish life surrounding you, you have to actively choose to make Jewish life happen.

During my time as a member of Cabinet, I have learned how my friends, all of whom share a commitment both to giving and to the Jewish people, help make Jewish life happen in North American communities small, large, and everywhere in between. I have learned how Jews the world over actively choose to make Jewish life happen in communities that are at once ancient and nascent. And I have learned about my own strengths and weaknesses as a leader. As I conclude my Cabinet years, I offer tremendous thanks to Cabinet's members and professionals for preparing me to put all of this deeply meaningful learning to work as a new member of New Hampshire's Jewish community.

Passover Memories: Hosting my First Seder in 2023

By Carly Feins

Charoset. Maror. Matzo. Haggadah. To most people, these words are foreign and don't make much sense. But to me, my family, and about 2.5% of the American population, these words can only mean one thing: Passover has come once again.

For the first time this year, I hosted Passover on my own at my house. I decided to handle most of the "heavy lifting," as it were, to get our seder dinner done. I made the nice, saucy tomato and brown-sugar brisket, as well as kosher Passover brownies and charoset in a desert bar form using almond flour instead of wheat. I got help with setting the table, getting the seder plate done, gathering up the Haggadot, and cleaning the kitchen.

As I prepped for my Seder, I remembered, once upon a time, back when my family and I would go to my paternal Aunt and Uncle's home in the Boston area for Passover. Here, I used to rendezvous with most of my father's side of the family. We would have my dad's brother-in-law lead the seder. We would read the Haggadot, have the youngest guest read the Four Questions, and sing several parts in the story in Hebrew (with me struggling to pronounce the words). After everything was said and done, we would eat, talk with our family, drink wine, be merry, and hang out with family members we hadn't seen in a while. The kids would run around the house, trying to find the Afikomen.

Passover combined family memories with the lessons we Jews share. The seder I hosted this year reminded me that this yearly tradition is important, because like many Jewish holidays, Passover celebrates how we found ways to escape, overcome, and evade further persecution by oppressors. In this story's case, it's about how Moses led the Israelites out of bondage (slavery) in Egypt to freedom in Israel. Like freedom overall, it didn't come without a price. The story of Passover isn't a happy one, as many innocents in Egypt suffered from the Ten Plagues. Water turning into blood; frogs; boils; lice; wild animals; diseases on livestock; hail; locusts; darkness. Last, but most definitely the worst, is the death of the firstborn children in each Egyptian family.

How did the Israelites avoid this fate? According to the story, God told Moses to order the Israelites to sacrifice a lamb and put its blood on their doors. The Angel of Death sent by God would *pass over* these houses, which is where we get the name Passover. Now, one can argue that with the rising antisemitism and out-of-control gun violence in our nation, it could take our own version of the Ten Plagues to put a stop to it all. The American Jewish World Service has reinterpreted the Ten Plagues to represent one change in our behavior to better the world, and this year, we incorporated these into our Seder:

• *Blood* – Grieve those whose blood was unnecessarily shed.

• *Frogs* – Protest the increasing violence.

• *Boils* – Care for the ill and tend to their needs.

• *Lice* – Prevent hatred and fear from causing further affliction.

• *Wild Animals* – Implore people to act with humanity in their hearts.

• *Livestock Pestilence* – Break through and rise above the viruses and diseases that come in the forms of bigotry, racism, ableism, and antisemitism.

• *Hail* – Go in and respond to areas ravaged by natural or unnatural disasters where lives have been lost.

• *Locusts* – Raise our voices in nonviolent battle cry for change.

• *Darkness* – Shed light on the people that live in the shadows of our world.

• *Death of the Firstborn* – Inspire and educate future generations to carry on these actions, pay it forward, and continue fighting for a better, more equal, less hateful world.

Honoring the traditional teachings of Passover was, this past year, more important than ever. We all need to come together to put a stop to a different type of epidemic – an epidemic of hatred. In my case, if I had to go without eating fluffy, leavened cakes, breads, and pastries for an entire week, so be it.

Carly Feins is a lifelong member of TAY, and the current owner and operator of Carly's Custom Cakes, a homestead bakery in the town of Bedford, New Hampshire.



Israel News and Events



Hadassah Fights Back Against Antisemitism

By Michele Bank

Hadassah has partnered with the Foundation to Combat Antisemitism to support the #StandUpToJewishHate campaign, building on Hadassah's long history of speaking out about hate. This far-reaching new campaign aims to educate all Americans about the rise of antisemitism and mobilize people beyond the Jewish community to help address growing hate and intolerance. The ad kickstarted on NBC's *The Voice* on March 27.

The campaign uses a blue square as its symbol. The blue square represents the Jewish population in the US, taking up 2.4% of the screen when it appears, calling attention to the disparity of the Jewish population size and the scale of hate the community faces, both online and in person. In 2022, more than 1 in 4 Jewish Americans were the targets of antisemitic incidents, including physical attacks, remarks in person, or online harassment.

As the largest Jewish women's organization, antisemitism affects Hadassah members in many ways. We face this surge in antisemitism in places of worship, on college campuses, in online groups, and in personal interactions. When you see the ad on social media, please share the post. It can be found on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Instagram. Please join Hadassah to fight antisemitism in all its forms. Hadassah stands up for what is right—the safety of the Jewish people, fighting hatred toward Jews, addressing anti-Israel and antisemitic agendas, rhetoric, and ideology. You can also fight Antisemitism with Hadassah Advocacy: Hadassah has and always will #StandUpToJewishHate, working to fight antisemitism in all its forms.

There are a couple of ways you can act right now. Tell the White House Interagency Group to fight all forms of antisemitism, including the growing acts of antisemitism masked as anti-Zionism. One of the most important ways to learn about our collective responsibility to fight antisemitism, hatred and bigotry is to ensure that our children and future generations never forget the horror of the Holocaust. You can urge Congress to support the Bipartisan Holocaust Education and Antisemitism Lessons (HEAL) Act. This act will require the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to conduct a study on Holocaust education efforts in states, local educational agencies, and public elementary and secondary schools.

Our power in combating antisemitism is through education — at home and abroad — and Hadassah is proud that their efforts secured passage of the Never Again Education Act, expanding Holocaust and anti-hate education throughout the US. To enhance understanding and strengthen protections for Jewish people in the US and worldwide, Hadassah supports the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism. Join us in actively promoting this definition in government, academia, social media and whenever Jews need protection from. For additional information about Hadassah and its advocacy initiatives, please go to Hadassah.org or Michele.bank@gmail.com.

Does Community Help to Produce Happiness?

By Richard England

According to a 2023 report sponsored by the UN, Israelis are the fourth happiest people in the world. This high ranking is partly because of a successful economy and high average life expectancy, but also because many Israelis display generosity towards their fellow Israelis who are in need.

This social support for fellow Israelis probably has several sources. One is religious. Hillel said long ago, "Do not separate yourself from the community."

For thousands of years, religious Jews have believed that each individual Jew has responsibility for the well-being of fellow Jews. In recent times, mostly secular Jews launched the kibbutz movement in pre-

independence Israel. The kibbutz is a small community based on principles of equality and mutual aid. So secular and religious beliefs of Israelis encourage social support for fellow Israelis.

Happiness continued on page 26



JFNH Tributes

Received by April 10, 2023

Campaign

In memory of sister Jane for Don Kalfus and family – Marion and Paul Shapiro

In honor of Jan Schiff –Isaac Schiff

In memory of Barbara Morgenstern

In memory of Mara Friedman's father Edward Rosenthal – Larry and Tracy Richmond

Campership

In memory of Jan – Richard Shapiro

NH Veterans Cemetery Fund

In memory of Jerome Sorkin – Laura and Michael Rubin

Senior Programs Fund

In memory of Arnold Canner – Faith Canner

How to submit an obituary

The Reporter publishes obituaries for any member of the community, past or present, for a \$36 fee. Please send obituaries and one photo, if desired, as a separate jpg attachment to thereporter@jewishnh.org or to the office along with payment at: JFNH, 273 South River Road, Unit #5, Bedford, NH 03110.

Happiness

continued from page 25

A vibrant nonprofit sector provides much of this social support. There are roughly 37 thousand registered nonprofit organizations in Israel. Most of these nonprofits are small service providers, but 1600 are large organizations with annual budgets in the millions of dollars. They provide food aid for the hungry, care for the elderly, tutoring for disadvantaged students, emergency medicine, and other vital services. In 2022, these nonprofits raised more than \$4 billion from Israeli sources (foundations, businesses, and individuals) and more than \$3 billion from abroad.

A few examples show how innovative these Israeli nonprofits can be. Founded in 1979, *ESRA* recruits English-speaking immigrants as volunteers with education and welfare projects serving disadvantaged communities. While serving as *ESRA* volunteers, recent *olim* become better integrated into Israeli society. *Yad LaKashish* (Lifeline for the Old) is a Jerusalem-based program that serves elderly Israelis, many of them immigrants, by providing meals, transportation, and work opportunities. The elderly create handicrafts in its workshops while enjoying camaraderie with other elders. The sale of craft goods helps to finance the nonprofit's social services.

United Hatzalah is another Jerusalem-

based nonprofit that utilizes 6500 volunteer medics on GPS-equipped motorcycles to provide free EMT services across the country. Their rapid response time averages three minutes across Israel, and 90 seconds in major cities! Emergency services are provided regardless of race, religion, or nationality. A final example of a valuable nonprofit is *Leket Israel*, founded in 2003. This national food bank provides nearly a quarter million recipients with fresh, nutritious food each week. Some of the food that it distributes has been donated by restaurants and grocers who would otherwise have disposed of the food items.

As mentioned earlier, much of the funding for Israeli nonprofits comes from domestic donors. However, donations from the diaspora are also a significant source of funding. In 2023, nonprofits face funding challenges because of a slowdown in contributions from the Israeli high-tech sector. However, since the beginning of 2021, the Israeli shekel has weakened versus the US dollar. That means each dollar you donate converts into more shekels of support for an Israeli charity. If you can spare a donation, this would be a good year to make an online contribution. Some of these Israeli nonprofits have a tax-deductible US affiliate that makes charitable giving easy.

Richard England is a member of the JFNH Israel Engagement & Education Committee who lives in Durham.

JFNH Tribute Cards: A Double Mitzvah

Sending a tribute card from the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire is one of the best ways to honor someone for any *simcha*, e.g. birthday, anniversary, bar/bat mitzvah. It is also the perfect way to say "Thank you" or to send your condolences.

Your JFNH tribute card serves double duty by helping to support the vital programs serving the New Hampshire Jewish Community.

All tributes will be listed in The Reporter.

Amount of Contribution:

☐ \$10 ☐ \$18 ☐ \$36 ☐ Other \$ _____

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- ☐ NH Jewish Film Festival
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When submitting a Letter to the Editor, please include your name, town of residence, and contact information. Letters to the Editor must be under 300 words in length to be considered for publication. Send your letter by email to the reporter@jewishnh.org with "letter to the editor" in the subject line.



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