

NEW HAMPSHIRE RESPONDS TO THE CRISIS IN ISRAEL

New Hampshire State House Holds Vigil for Israel

The New Hampshire Gathering in Solidarity with Israel was held on Wednesday, October 11th at the New Hampshire State House in Concord. The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire hosted this event in partnership with New Hampshire synagogues.

This was a very meaningful, impactful, and peaceful gathering, and there was a nice turnout. JFNH Director Allyson Guertin opened the event, followed by a blessing and song by Rabbi Robin and Cantor Shira Nafshi of Temple Beth Jacob in Concord. We then heard from Ambassador Meron Rueben, the current Consul General of Israel to New England. Other speakers and performers included Rabbi Marc

Philippe of Temple Israel in Manchester, New Hampshire; Speaker Sherman Packard, Speaker of the House of Representatives for the State of New Hampshire; Israeli Emissary to New Hampshire Guy Ben David; and Justin Troiano on behalf of Senator Maggie Hassan. Statements were also read from Senator Shaheen, Representative Kuster and Representative Pappas, who were unfortunately not able to join us.

Many state politicians and religious leaders were present, and the overall message was clear: New Hampshire stands with Israel. The event closed with everyone waving Israeli flags and joining Guy in singing Israel's national anthem, "Hatikva."

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New Hampshire Stands with Israel

New Hampshire State House Holds Vigil for Israel

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Solidarity with Israel

The following speech was shared with the community by JFNH Director Allyson Guertin during the New Hampshire Gathering in Solidarity with Israel on October 11, 2023. It is reprinted for you here now.

Allyson Guertin

JFNH
Director



Over the past few days, we have watched with horror at the unfolding scenes in Israel, while experiencing a range of emotions. Here in New Hampshire, one can only feel powerless at the sight of women and children being taken hostage, the elderly and the young being targeted. Images of dead, injured, kidnapped, and more, fill our television screens and social media. So how can we replace that powerless feeling with action? How can we feel comfort when we are feeling so much pain?

One of Israel's most famous leaders, Golda Meir, once said, "I never did anything alone. Whatever was accomplished in this country was accomplished collectively."

That sense of the collective is more important now than ever before. So, look around you now. Look into the faces of those who have shown up tonight to

stand alongside you. Having you all here today, showing your support for the only Jewish state in the world, should fill you with a sense of pride of not only of self, but our community and in Israel.

The collective strength of the Israeli people, and with the support of Jews around the world, will always mean that Israel will not only survive this, but thrive afterward. There will be dark days ahead, but we will get through this because we have no other choice. It is the strength of the Jewish people that our enemies have never understood, and vastly underestimated us, no matter who our enemy has been.

New Hampshire's Jewish Community will never give up its commitment to the people of Israel. Am Yisrael Chai: The people of Israel live.

Jewish Federations stand in solidarity with Israel

Once again, on a holy day of the Jewish calendar, the people of Israel have come under attack. Once again, the brave military forces of the State of Israel are responding and will defend our beloved Jewish state. And once again the Jewish communities of North America stand in total and complete solidarity with our Israeli brethren.

We pray for their safety and will do everything we can to ensure the complete and total success of their efforts. And once again the Jewish Federations across North America will act immediately and comprehensively to support our brothers







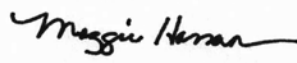

and sisters as they defend Israel.

The prayer for the State of Israel we recite in synagogue every week - including this morning - says

ונתת שלום בארץ ושמחת עולם ליושביה - "Grant peace in the land and happiness to all its residents." On this day, which is the holiday of Simchat Torah in Israel - we literally sing and dance with simcha - with happiness. Today is not a day of simcha in Israel, but it is a day of solidarity, determination and utmost seriousness. Israel will prevail and the Jewish people will stand together as we always do. Am yisrael chai.



New Hampshire Stands with Israel

<div><p>STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR</p><p>CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU Governor</p></div> <p>We are heartbroken over the terrorist attacks at the hands of Hamas against innocent Israelis — including beloved children, brothers, sisters, and parents.</p> <p>America always stands united with our allies against hate, antisemitism, and terrorism, and we have a moral obligation to unequivocally support Israel in this time of dire need.</p> <p>Israel must have the ability to defend itself from these barbaric and heinous acts of terrorism from Hamas, and America's support to our allies in these times of crisis must be unwavering.</p> <p>New Hampshire stands shoulder to shoulder with the people of Israel — today, and every day, and antisemitism will never be tolerated here.</p> <p>God Bless Israel</p> <p> Christopher T. Sununu Governor</p>	<div><p>CHRIS PAPPAS First District, New Hampshire COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS Pappas.house.gov</p><p> Congress of the United States House of Representatives</p><p>October 11, 2023</p></div> <p>Dear Friends,</p> <p>I write in solidarity with those attending today's vigil and those affected by the unspeakable acts of terror occurring in Israel. Please join me in thanking the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire for organizing today's vigil and all those who have come together to support their neighbors, friends, and the New Hampshire Jewish community, as well as the state of Israel. Standing together is of paramount importance in our efforts to unite against violence and hate in our local communities and around the world.</p> <p>The violence and loss of life we have witnessed in Israel over the last several days has been horrific and heartbreaking as Hamas terrorists have kidnapped and murdered innocent civilians through coordinated attacks. The loss of life is inconceivable and includes at least 14 Americans, and this kind of hate-fueled brutality cannot go unanswered.</p> <p>I stand with the people of Israel and join all of you in denouncing these terrorist acts in the strongest possible terms. I remain committed to supporting Israel, our loyal democratic ally, and its right to defend itself and ensure the safety of its people.</p> <p>For decades, Israel has been one of our country's most important allies. Our historic partnership is based on principles of democracy, justice, and standing up against hatred. Now is the time for Americans to come together, stand with our ally, and speak out against these heinous acts of terrorism. We should send the state of Israel our thoughts and prayers, while also committing to supporting them in this fight.</p> <p>The importance of community support and awareness cannot be understated. Thank you again to all those present today, and for all that you continue to do to support Israel during this unprecedented attack.</p> <p>Sincerely,  Chris Pappas Member of Congress</p>	<div><p>ANN McLANE KUSTER Second District, New Hampshire www.Kuster.house.gov COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & COMMERCE SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY, CLIMATE, AND GRID SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND POLICY COMMITTEE</p><p> Congress of the United States House of Representatives</p><p>October 11, 2023</p></div> <p>Jewish Federation of New Hampshire 273 South River Rd. #5 Bedford, NH 03110</p> <p>Dear Friends,</p> <p>I wish that I could be with you in person as you gather in Concord to demonstrate the unwavering support of New Hampshire and our nation for Israel and the Israeli people.</p> <p>The brutal attacks against Israel by Hamas terrorists represents an affront to all humanity and the dignity of human life. My heart breaks for the lives lost to these unprovoked and barbarous attacks.</p> <p>The United States stands in solidarity with Israel and the Israeli people during this difficult time. I am committed to providing Israel with the resources necessary to defend itself, free those individuals who remain held hostage by Hamas terrorists and prevent this type of atrocity from happening again.</p> <p>I extend my deepest condolences to the families of those killed and pray for those wounded and held hostage.</p> <p>My office stands ready to assist anyone from New Hampshire impacted by the crisis in Israel. Please do not hesitate to contact my Concord office at 603-226-1002 if there is any way my team or I can be helpful.</p> <p>Sincerely,  Ann McLane Kuster Member of Congress</p>
<div><p>MARGARET WOOD HASSAN NEW HAMPSHIRE</p><p>SUITE SH-324 HART BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20510 (202) 224-3344</p><p>United States Senate</p></div> <p>October 11, 2023</p> <p>Jewish Federation of New Hampshire 273 South River Road Bedford, NH 03110</p> <p>Dear Friends,</p> <p>I am sorry that I cannot be with you in person, but please know that I proudly stand with you in support of our ally, Israel.</p> <p>Hamas's unprovoked, violent terrorist attack on Israel is horrifying. Like all of you, I am heartbroken for the families — including some Americans — who have had loved ones murdered or taken hostage by Hamas. The images and reports emerging from Israel have made clear that Hamas's actions — particularly its kidnapping and execution of children — are unconscionable and depraved. There cannot be false equivalencies; there is absolutely no justification for this kind of evil. We will continue to stand united in support of Israel and the Jewish people, and we must continue to strongly condemn antisemitism that we have seen in response to Hamas's terrorism.</p> <p>Let me be very clear: Israel has a right to exist, the Israeli people have a right to live in peace, Israel has a right to defend itself, and the United States will support our democratic ally in this struggle against terror. The unbreakable bond between the United States and Israel dates back to Israel's founding and is based on our shared values. The solidarity shown by Granite Staters here today and Americans across our country demonstrates that this bond will not be broken. We are Americans; no matter our political party or background, we stand up against evil and we stand with the right of sovereign nations to defend themselves and keep their people safe.</p> <p>Thank you again for being here to show your support for the people of Israel. While there are difficult days ahead, Americans will continue to wholeheartedly support our ally and the Jewish people.</p> <p>With every good wish,  Margaret Wood Hassan United States Senator</p>	<div><p>JEANNE SHAHEEN NEW HAMPSHIRE</p><p>SUITE SH-506 HART BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20510 (202) 224-2841</p><p>United States Senate WASHINGTON, DC 20510</p></div> <p>October 10, 2023</p> <p>Dear Friends,</p> <p>I wish I could join you in person for today's Rally for Support of Israel. Please know I am with you in spirit as we lend our voices to a growing chorus of support for the Israeli people and condemnation for the indiscriminate terrorist attacks by Hamas. Thank you to the members and supporters of the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire for being here for this meaningful demonstration.</p> <p>The world has watched in horror as the people of Israel have suffered terrible violence at the hands of terrorists. My thoughts and prayers are with all Israelis, and I extend my heartfelt condolences to the families of those who have been killed, my commitment to the safe return of those who have taken hostage and my unwavering support to the many others who are now heroically defending their homes, their freedom and their future. Israel is not alone, as you are demonstrating here today.</p> <p>Now more than ever, we cannot let up on our support for our Israeli friends and partners. The United States must deliver the assistance that Israel needs. This moment calls for continued solidarity through these trying times. Today, I'm proud to stand alongside you all in supporting the courageous and resilient people of Israel.</p> <p>Sincerely,  Jeanne Shaheen United States Senator</p>	



We Stand with Israel



Jewish Federations have opened a fund to support Israel. Please donate here: <https://jfed.org/israelfund2023>



FALL & GIVING

Faith, Hope, and Giving

Faith, hope, and giving: this phrase is a little twist on a sentence we've heard many times before, even in musical form: that is, "faith, hope, and charity." This is our goal for 5784, and let me break it down:

- **Faith:** As we reach an end to our High Holiday celebrations ringing in 5784, many of us have had time to reflect on the year that just passed. During services, we asked G-D to put us in the book of life for another year.
- **Hope:** Hope can mean so many things to so many people. We hope that ourselves and our loved ones stay healthy.

Ken Litvack

**Campaign
Co-Chair**



We hope that our divided country comes together. We hope that we can see the end of antisemitism in our cities, our country, and throughout the world. The list of our hopes and dreams is too long to share all of, but as for me, my one great hope is that the

Jewish Federation of NH will continue to grow, continue to fight antisemitism, continue to bring great films to our community, to increase the output of our terrific PJ Library program, and continue to stand up for our homeland, Israel.

- **Giving:** I receive over 35 donation requests every year, and of course, we would love to support all the worthwhile ones—but like most families we have to pick and choose what we feel are most beneficial to us as a whole, and the most important to what we, as a family, believe in. First on our list is a

little organization in Israel that takes care of the few remaining Holocaust survivors, and works with the Ethiopian children that come from broken homes. Second on our list is JFNH itself: I have seen firsthand what this small but powerful organization can accomplish, and I feel the best is yet to come.

Of course, none of this can be accomplished without your continued support. I urge you, if you have not donated to our campaign, to please do so as soon as possible. For those who have donated, please consider increasing your pledge over last year. Wishing you all a wonderful 5784.

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Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

jewishnh.org

Making Mensches and Training Tzaddiks

How do you raise children to be thoughtful, caring adults? Or to have a sense of justice? We put coins in our Tzedakah box. We put clothing in donation bins. But do they really get it?

I heard something recently about the roots of the words "tzedakah" and "charity" that really struck me.

From the PJ Library website: "*Tzedakah comes from the Hebrew word for justice, and it means doing the right things by helping people or causes in need.*" The distinction is that, while tzedakah is often translated as "charity," charity comes from a different root – the Greek word "agape" or unconditional, sacrificial love. Tzedakah is more about righteous behavior. I think of this a little like the heart vs. the head. Giving not just because it makes our hearts swell or because seeing the needy makes our hearts hurt – but because we understand and see a deeper sense of injustice around us that we want to mend. Doing the right thing by demonstrating justice or fairness – not just philanthropy or generosity.

We call someone who routinely practices righteousness a *tzaddik*. And what mother

Dinah Berch

**JFNH
Program
Coordinator**



doesn't want to see her children raised up to be *tzaddiks* and mensches? We recently listened to the Podcast Beyond the Bookcase S1E4: "Goldilocks and the Tzedakah Project." This episode has wonderful examples of charity and giving. For the littlest kids sharing and giving and redistributing resources might be the best place to start when teaching the value of tzedakah. Two wonderful PJ Library books that convey these themes well are *26 Big Things Small Hands Can Do* by Coleen Paratore and *Ten Things I Can Do To Help My World* by Melanie Walsh. The message is "Taking care of the world may feel like a very big job, but even very little people can help."

There are so many ways to incorporate tzedakah into your family that PJ Library even has

a "PJ Library Tzedakah Project" hub. Check out the QR code for more information.

There's also an entire page dedicated to teaching kids to "get with the giving" including episodes from the YouTube show *Shaboom* and *Shalom Sesame* and the Podcast "Afternoons with Mimi" (see the second QR code).

There's a wonderful PJ Library infographic about giving and how to talk about charity with different ages - included in this issue of *The Reporter*, as well. But all of this focuses on giving. How do we bring in the concept of justice, or righting the wrongs in this world? As explained by Sara Shapiro-Plevan on *Kveller*, "Justice is a central theme in the lives of children. From questions of fairness and equality between siblings ("Why does Danny get more than I do?") to ethical decisions and behavior ("Why is it okay to tell a little white lie?"), kids are engaged in a daily struggle with justice."

This year I'm going to read *I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark* by Debbie Levy with my daughter. We'll talk about the

Making Mensches continued on page 7



This paper was sent to print in early October, so many submissions were received prior to the crisis in Israel.

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Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
273 South River Rd. Unit #5
Bedford, NH 03110
Change Service Requested



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.

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

Rabbi Marc Philippe
66 Salmon Street, Manchester
Conservative, Affiliated USCJ
(603) 622-6171
office@templeisraelmht.org

Services: Fridays 6:00 PM (alternating
Fridays)
Saturdays 9:45 AM (alternating
Saturdays)
Morning Minyans: Wednesdays 7:00 AM
(Please check website or call office for
the days
in the month that weekend services are
being held.)

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)

NEWINGTON

UNH & SEACOAST CHABAD JEWISH CENTER

Rabbi Berel Slavaticki
2299 Woodbury Avenue, Newington
Orthodox, Chabad
603-584-4111
Rabbi@JewishSeacoast.com
www.JewishSeacoast.com

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 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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Shabbat Candle Lighting Times: (Manchester)

November 5 5:17 PM
November 10 4:09 PM
November 17 4:03 PM
November 24 3:57 PM



The Importance of November 4 in Israel

At school, November was the most boring month of the year. No holidays, no vacations, no parties. In Hebrew, we call the Jewish month around November *Mar Cheshvan*. *Mar* in Hebrew means bitter.

Unlike in America—with Halloween right before the start of November and Thanksgiving at the end—Israel has no holidays this month, except when Hanukkah invades every few years. But there is one day in the month that is very important, and that day is November 4th.

On this day in 1995, Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Prime Minister at the time, was assassinated by Yigal Amir.

If you ask any Israeli born before the 90s where they were at that moment, they can tell you. My parents were out to dinner with friends and my brother, who was 6 months old at the time. They got home, turned on the TV and

Guy Ben David

JFNH Shaliach



SPOTLIGHT
ON ISRAEL



couldn't believe it. Every year there used to be a ceremony in our school, and I just couldn't snap out of it in the days after. My family did not agree with Rabin's ways and decisions but continued to honor this day like any other Memorial Day. As a child, I couldn't understand why, but after being involved with politics in high

school, I realized how important respect is. It's okay not to agree with someone. It's okay to have arguments and it's okay to tell someone they are wrong—but respect is the key. As kids, we studied at school about tolerance and patience through Rabin's story. Each kid had their opinion about Rabin from home, but they taught us that it doesn't matter. What matters is that a person got murdered because of his opinions, and that was wrong.

Hopefully, Israel will never get into a

situation that is even close to Rabin's case ever again. Thanks to our education at schools about Rabin's murder, the next generations can understand the deeper meanings of respect, tolerance, patience and restraint. The Israeli Billy Joel, our national singer Shlomo Artzi, mentions November in almost every album of his. In all these songs, November is represented as a dark, rainy, boring month. Hopefully I can light it up for you, preparing you for the light of Hanukkah in December!

Making Mensches

continued from page 5

Jewish imperative to address the root causes of poverty and social injustice and the nature of obligation. Maybe we'll try to include the concept of "*mitzvah goreret mitzvah*" – the idea that one

good deed brings another good deed, no matter how small.

This #GivingTuesday (November 28th) please consider a donation to PJ Library so more children in New Hampshire can have access to these books and resources. Together, we raise more Jewish children to be tzaddiks and mensches.

"Justice, justice shall you pursue."

(Deuteronomy 16:20)

Tzedakah is the Jewish word used for charity. But the word actually means justice. Teaching this concept to your kids may be easier than you think.

0-2
years old



Children this age learn everything they need to know by watching and imitating. To teach kids about *tzedakah*, make sure your young child sees you doing it yourself.

Just as you may find yourself narrating a trip to the grocery store to your baby, make sure to **talk about your charitable acts** as you do in them.

3-5
years old



Preschoolers learn best by repetition. **Tie your giving to a weekly ritual** like Shabbat so that your children see it regularized and start to form positive habits.

The idea of sharing is also central to justice. Children this age are very concerned with what's "fair." By reminding your children of the importance of sharing, you're helping them engage in *tzedakah*.

6-8
years old



If you've started to give your children allowance, it's the perfect opportunity to instill in them the importance of **dedicating a certain portion of their money** to charity.

Talk together about how much to give and which organizations you want to support. Each family member can take a turn deciding where the money you have raised goes each month.



PJ Library

Join the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire's Chai Impact: Ensure the Future of Jewish New Hampshire

Your commitment to our community is the key to an unending legacy. By becoming a part of our Chai Impact, through your monthly reoccurring donation, you are ensuring that the circle of support for Jewish New Hampshire never ends.

With each monthly contribution, you are contributing to the lasting vibrancy of our community. Just as a circle has no end, your dedication will have a timeless impact on the lives of individuals and families across generations. Your consistent support empowers us to strengthen vital programs, foster cultural connections, and provide for those in need. Together, we're weaving a tapestry of traditions, values, and opportunities that will forever enrich Jewish life in New Hampshire.

Join us in our mission to keep the circle unbroken, ensuring that the future of Jewish New Hampshire shines brighter with each passing month. Your commitment is a testament to the enduring strength of our community and the limitless potential it holds.



Join the Chai Impact today and be a part of a legacy that never fades. Your monthly contribution truly makes a difference. Thank you for your unwavering support.



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eNEWS

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.

Friday, November 3

Tot Shabbat with Rabba Kaya

5:00PM – 5:45PM, Temple Israel, Portsmouth
Join Temple Israel Portsmouth congregants and community members for a kid-friendly musical Shabbat experience led monthly by Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman. Geared for children ages 5 and under, all are welcome. Please register via the temple website calendar. <http://www.templeisraelnh.org>

Sunday, November 5

Stories for the Sake of Argument Workshop

10:00AM – 12:00PM, Temple Israel, Portsmouth
Cost \$10/person
Sadly, many synagogues avoid conversations about Israel because discussions become too contentious. The authors of the book *Stories for the Sake of Argument* are Israeli educators who believe that we need to have more arguments, not fewer, but need the tools to talk with people with whom we disagree. This workshop, sponsored by the Israel Affairs Committee, will be held in the Social Hall where we will Zoom with a workshop leader in Israel. While the workshop is specifically geared to discussions about

Israel, attendees will learn tools to help with any discussion with others whose viewpoints differ. Workshop charge of \$10 will include a book. Register online: <https://templeisraelnh.shulcloud.com/event/for-the-sake-of-argument-workshop.html>

Friday, November 10

Elana Arian Artist-in-Residence at Temple Israel Portsmouth

6:00PM-8:00PM, Temple Israel, Portsmouth
Temple Israel Portsmouth congregants and friends look forward to welcoming composer, multi-instrumentalist, and prayer leader Elana Arian as Artist-in-Residence for a very special Shabbat. One of the leading voices in contemporary Jewish music across the globe, Elana will join Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman for a musical Kabbalat Shabbat service in the historic sanctuary. After the service, attendees are invited to a community potluck dinner in the Levenson Social Hall. All are encouraged to bring a dairy / vegetarian / pareve dish to share. Registration not required.

Saturday, November 11

Elana Arian In Concert at Temple Israel Portsmouth

7:00PM – 9:00PM, Temple Israel, Portsmouth
Temple Israel Portsmouth congregants and friends look forward to welcoming composer, multi-instrumentalist, and prayer leader Elana Arian as Artist-in-Residence for a very special Shabbat. One of the leading voices in contemporary Jewish music across the globe, Elana Arian's concert will feature her original compositions. Dessert will be served to end the evening on an even sweeter note. Register for concert tickets via the temple website calendar. Suggested ticket donation of \$18 benefits the Temple Israel Music Fund, the primary sponsor of this event. Elana Arian's visit was previously

scheduled for 2022; prior ticket contributions will be honored. <https://templeisraelnh.shulcloud.com/event/elana-arian-community-concert.html>
Elana will also join Rabba Kaya in the sanctuary to co-lead an uplifting and resonant Shabbat morning service on November 11th at 10am, followed by a catered kiddush luncheon.

Monday, November 13

JFNH Shaliach Presents Israel Insider - Sigd

11:00AM – 12:30PM, JFNH Community Room
The very successful Monday morning Shlichut program "Israel Report" is coming back, this time with a new name: "Israeli Insider"! On November 13th, in honor of the holiday of Sigd - our first topic will discuss the Jewish Ethiopian community! Register: <https://forms.gle/HuWhaCWJu1e3QJWP8>

Saturday, November 18

PJ Library Tot Shabbat Hop

10:00AM – 11:00AM Temple Israel Manchester
PJ Library's iBaby 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 requested. Register: <https://forms.gle/AWujFZy8xoXgyJPN7>

Sunday, November 19

Shavua Tov Storytime 2023-2024

8:30AM – 9:30AM Zoom
Cost \$18
A program designed for families with children ages 2-5. Join us for a 20-minute interactive story time on Zoom one Sunday each month. Each month will have a different theme! Register once for \$18 per family to receive crafts in the mail all year! Crafts will arrive for each child every month to use during the program. If cost is prohibitive, please reach out to Alane at alane.sabel@jewishnh.org.

Zoom link will be provided to registered families each Monday ahead of the program. Register: <https://forms.gle/AiFzw8mPNadfu5uU8>

Tuesday, November 21

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

7:15pm
Etz Hayim Synagogue and the Church of the Transfiguration not only share an interfaith campus but also work together on many activities. These include Elijah's Table and Interfaith Trips to Israel. One of the major events of this collaboration is the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. The site and sermon alternate between the two. This year Rabbi Peter Levy will lead the service at Etz Hayim Synagogue, and Reverend Ray Bonin will deliver the sermon. This service is of particular significance as these two spiritual leaders will soon be retiring. There will be light refreshments after the service. Contact Stephen Soreff at soreffs15@aol.com with questions.

Thursday, November 30

Lunch & Learn: "Project Preservation"

12:00PM – 2:00PM, JFNH Community Room, Bedford
Cost \$8/person
Join us on November 30th for a "Lunch & Learn" with Melissa Herman. Director of Education at Kol Ha"Emek, Upper Valley Jewish Community. In June 2023 Melissa led a trip to Poland through Project Preservation along with Rabbi Seth Linfield. Melissa will share stories and photos from her recent trip and then answer questions. Lunch provided. Project Preservation is a project designed by Dartmouth Hillel to take current Dartmouth students to Eastern Europe where they learn about the holocaust and do cemetery restoration work. The students begin weekly holocaust education in the spring quarter of the school year, then head over to Poland in June. Registration requested. Zoom link Available Upon Request. Register: <https://forms.gle/HYBnnsb4BQjWRAKFA>



GIVING
TUESDAY

For only \$40, a Jewish
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PJ Library
Bring Jewish stories home



#GivingTuesday | Nov 28, 2023
<https://givebutter.com/GivingTuesNH>

In the Community

November Update from the Temple Adath Yeshurun Brotherhood

By Mark Granoff, TAY Brotherhood President

I hope this note finds everyone well, having enjoyed the High Holidays in person once again. I find davening in person not only good for the soul, but also for a bolstered sense of community.



Once again, it was a special honor to sound the Shofar with David Rosenzweig, the TAY Ritual Committee Chair and my good friend. We shared this sacred task at the Wednesday minyans at Temple Israel in addition to the Rosh Hashana, Kol Nidre, and Yom Kippur services at TAY. It is thrilling to fill the temple with the startling sounds of the Shofar. The reward is the joy expressed in the smiles and eyes. Following the High Holidays, Bill Herlicka, Secretary Denis Paiste and yours truly joined in helping set up the Sukkah for the TAY Hebrew School students to enjoy for Sukkot. Thank you, Bill, for continuing this Herlicka tradition!



L to R: Bill, Mark, and Denis

Also coming up is our Chanukah Candle Drive in early November; remember Chanukah is early this year, starting on December 7. This important fundraiser is carried out in honor of the legendary Bud Baron, our beloved Brother who chaired this event for many years.



Bud Baron from some years ago. What a smile!

Please help us make this drive a success and watch for the upcoming mailing. Proceeds help with the TAY Social Action Committee programs and



Oct 15th "Concert & Scottish dessert" celebrating the MCTP Brigadoon performance

other community needs. Save the date for the TAY Brotherhood's community-wide Chanukah party, to be held December 10. Details will be coming out next month.

Here is the TAY Brotherhood Calendar: please join us as often as you can!

TAY BROTHERHOOD EVENTS

- Chanukah Candle Drive!! Mailing Nov. 12 (about that date)
- Chanukah Party – Dec. 10, after morning Hebrew School with Kugel the Klown

TAY continued on page 10

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In the Community

Welcome to the Presentations of Dr. Rabbi Gary P. Zola at Temple Adath Yeshurun and Temple Beth Jacob this November

By Rabbi Beth Davidson

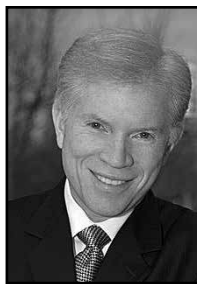
Temple Adath Yeshurun and Temple Beth Jacob are thrilled to announce that Dr. Rabbi Gary P. Zola will be our Scholar in Residence Nov. 10-12, 2023. This joint program celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Union for Reform Judaism.

Dr. Zola is the Executive Director Emeritus of The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives and the Edward M. Ackerman Family Distinguished Professor of the American Jewish Experience & Reform Jewish History at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dr. Zola will be sharing his expertise three times over Shabbat. On Friday night, Nov. 11, after services at TAY, his presentation will be: "The Americanization of the Jewish Prayer Book: The Story of the Union Prayer Book." The Union

Prayer Book is arguably the quintessential American Jewish prayer book. During the early decades of the 20th century, it was the best known non-Orthodox siddur in North America. The story of how this famous prayer book came into existence is, in large part, the story of the Americanization of the synagogue during the 19th century. Dr. Zola will unpack the interesting history of how Jewish prayer evolved in the New World. Services will use the Union Prayer Book, so that worshippers will have a firsthand experience of this seminal prayerbook.

On Shabbat morning, Nov. 12, after services at TBJ, Dr. Zola's presentation will be: "From UPB to Mishkan Tefillah: Homogeneity and Heterogeneity in American Reform Judaism." In November of 1885, 19 likeminded American



rabbis gathered in Pittsburgh to discuss the future of Jewish reform in America. Their gathering produced one of the most famous documents in all of Reform Jewish history, the 1885 *Declaration of Principles*, better known as "the Pittsburgh Platform." This session will focus on the development of Reform

Jewish ideology from 1885 to the present day. With textual examples from our platforms and prayer books, Dr. Zola will explicate the historical evolution of Reform Jewish principles and practice.

And on Saturday evening, after Havdalah at TBJ, Dr. Zola's topic will be: "We Wish Not to Overthrow, but to Rebuild: The Story of the First Organized Attempt to Reform Judaism in the USA." Many people are surprised to

learn that Charleston's Jewish community was, at one point in history, the largest in America. Similarly, many believe that Reform Judaism was an import from Central Europe. The first organized attempt to reform Judaism in North America began in 1824 in Charleston, South Carolina, and Dr. Zola will help us to explore Charleston's remarkable Jewish heritage and its role in giving birth to Jewish religious reform in America.

Services and presentations will be available on Zoom or Livestream. Services on Friday night will be preceded by a dinner and services on Shabbat morning will be followed by a lunch. If you are interested in attending any of these learning opportunities, please reach out to the TAY office, 603-669-5650, or the TBJ office, 603- 228- 8581 for more information.

Elana Arian Visits the NH Seacoast Nov. 10 & 11

Temple Israel Portsmouth congregants and friends look forward to welcoming composer, multi-instrumentalist, and prayer leader Elana Arian as Artist-in-Residence for a very special Shabbat. One of the leading voices in contemporary Jewish music across the globe, Elana will join Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman for a musical Kabbalat Shabbat service at 6:00 PM on Friday, November 10 in Temple Israel's historic sanctuary. After the service, attendees are invited to a community potluck dinner in the Levenson Social Hall. All are encouraged to bring a dairy/vegetarian/pareve dish to share.

Saturday morning, November 11, Elana will offer a musical program for students at 9:00 AM, then join Rabba Kaya in the sanctuary at 10:00 AM to co-lead an uplifting and resonant service, followed by a catered kiddush luncheon. The week-



end's festivities will conclude with a 7:00 PM concert that is open to the entire community. Dessert will be served to end the evening on an even sweeter note.

Register for concert tickets via the temple website calendar. Suggested ticket donation of \$18 benefits the Temple Israel Music Fund, the primary sponsor of this event. Elana Arian's visit was previously scheduled for 2022; prior ticket contributions will be honored. We are excited to hear Elana's beautiful voice and original compositions in person at last!

TAY

continued from page 9

- Christmas Mitzvah Program – Sunday & Monday, Dec. 24-25
- Brotherhood Breakfast – January or February Sunday morning (date TBD)
- Purim Party March 24 – all hands on deck!
- May 18 Event – Deli Night/Rabbi 20th Anniversary party
- Memorial Day Service at Manchester He-

brew Cemetery – Monday, May 27, 2024

- Brotherhood Annual Meeting & BBQ – June 4, 2024
- Brotherhood-Sisterhood Service – Friday, June 7 or 14, 2024
- If you would like to join our Brotherhood, please email me at memk-granoff@comcast.net and I will be happy to email you the sign-up forms. May you and your loved ones be in be inscribed in the Book of Life for the coming new year 5784! "Tekiah Gedolah!"



Jewish Federation of New Hampshire and the Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies present

L'DOUGH V'DOUGH

Hear personal stories of the Holocaust while braiding challah together.

Sunday, January 28th, 2pm

\$18 general tickets
\$9 students or youth

Spotlight Room
The Palace Theatre
80 Hanover Street
Manchester, NH



Scan QR code to register and pay online or call JFNH at 603-627-7879. Checks may be sent to Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, 273 South River Rd. #5, Bedford, NH 03110. Questions? Email JFNH at info@jewishnh.org.

KEENE STATE COLLEGE
Cohen Center for Holocaust
and Genocide Studies



Jewish Federation
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**The Great Jewish
New Hampshire
Bake-Off Presents:**

Sufganiyot Wars!!!

**Do YOU have what it takes to be
the next great Jewish baker?**

**Compete in a series of Chanukah Donut
decorating challenges to win
fantastic prizes!**

**Saturday, December 2
5:30pm - 8pm**

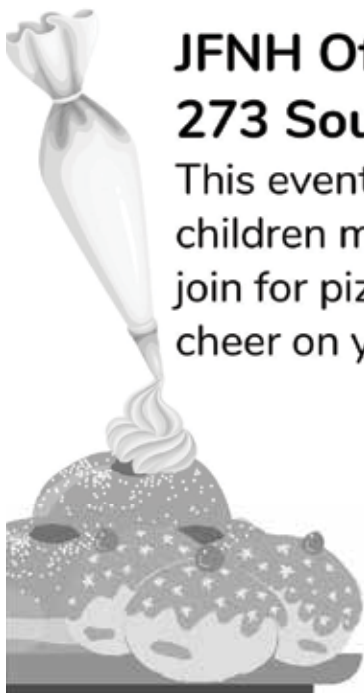
**Pizza & Havdalah
\$8/individual or \$10/family
(up to five people).**



JFNH Office

273 South River Road, Unit 5, Bedford

**This event is for PJ Our Way children aged 9-12 and PJOW-aged
children may be dropped off for the event. Family are also welcome to
join for pizza and Havdalah and then watch from our viewing area to
cheer on your baker!**



**Scan QR Code to RSVP online.
Please register by 11/25**

Dinah Berch | 603-627-7679 ext 1002 | dinah.berch@jewishnh.org



The Temple Adath Yeshurun Religious Response to Hunger

By Judith Jolton

We have all experienced what it is like being hungry: the physiological sensation caused by a lack of food. But for 49 million Americans, including 1 in 5 children, hunger and homelessness have been redefined to a more telling epidemic: "Food Insecurity," the inability to access food consistently, whether it be not being able

to afford it or not having access to it. The problem goes far beyond the homeless population and has embedded itself in communities like ours, where parents have to choose between paying their utility bill or buying food, or even going without food so their children can eat. For a growing number of seniors, the problem poses a different set of challenges, where many have the money to purchase food but do

not have the resources to access or prepare it. These are the people who find themselves at Families In Transition.

For over 40 years, Temple Adath Yeshurun has made it a High Holy Day tradition to help those in need with its Religious Response to Hunger. At a time when the need is high and pantry shelves are empty, Families In Transition relies on the community's donations to help put food on the table for thousands of

people without the security of knowing where their next meal will come from.

The Religious Response to Hunger begins each year on Rosh Hashanah and ends on Yom Kippur. Donations are left at the synagogue before being brought to Families in Transition. This year's goal was to donate 2,500 pounds of food; we were able to collect over 3,500 pounds and were honored by Governor Sununu with a Commendation.



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Review your favorite PJ Our Way book for The Reporter!


Do you have a favorite PJ Our Way book?
Something you just couldn't put down
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or email for details & question prompts.
We'll publish your review in
upcoming issues of **The Reporter**
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PJ Our Way sends FREE Jewish middle-grade books for
kids ages 9 through 12. Sign up at pjourway.org/enroll





SFY Chanukah Party

Tuesday, December 12th

11:00am

Please join JFNH's "Seniors Forever Young" at the JFNH office in Bedford for a special Chanukah party including games, soup, sandwiches and of course, latkes!

Jewish Federation of New Hampshire

273 South River Road, Unit #5
Bedford, NH 03110

Registration Required by December 5th.

Call 603-627-7679 to pay by credit card, scan QR code to register online or mail payment to:



JFNH
Attention: SFY
273 S. River Rd. #5
Bedford, NH 03110

\$18/person | In-Person Only | Catered Lunch



Funding in part by The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, The Ben and Zelma Dorson Fund, The Maurice Foster Fund, The Saul Sidore Fund, The Paul and Fran Gordon Fund and The Singer Family Trust Fund

In the Community

Sukkot Celebrations at Temple Israel Portsmouth

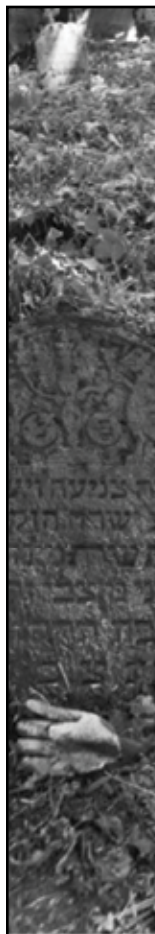
As Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman wrote in her October message to the Temple Israel community, “Sukkot is named by our rabbis as *z'man simchatinu*, the season of our joy, for many reasons. We have hopefully accomplished the deep spiritual work of forgiveness and renewal on Yom Kippur and our attention turns now to building

a new kind of home in the world, a fragile sukkah in which we rest in a renewed trusting relationship with our Creator. We rejoice in this beautiful harvest season, in gratitude for the physical and spiritual bounties we are blessed to enjoy.”

Reflecting on these optimistic ideas and reviewing the photos of Temple Is-

rael’s many and varied Sukkot festivities strikes a poignant note at this moment, after the recent dreadful attacks on Israel. But the joy expressed by all present, to be together, celebrating golden fall afternoons in community, likewise seems even more precious. Teens grazed on “Sushi in the Sukkah.” Families enjoyed eating pizza and

building candy shelters. Congregants participated in a Hoshana Rabbah service and enjoyed a potluck meal at Rabba Kaya and Steve Kaufman’s home. All events and activities were made possible by the cheerful contributions of parent and congregant volunteers, who prepped and shlepped, washed and swept. Thanks to all!



November 30, 2023, 12:00pm Lunch & Learn: "Project Preservation"

Join Jewish Federation of New Hampshire for a Lunch & Learn on “Project Preservation” with Melissa Herman, Director of Education at Kol Ha’Emek Upper Valley Jewish Community. Project Preservation is a project designed by Dartmouth Hillel to take current Dartmouth students to Eastern Europe where they learn about the holocaust and do cemetery restoration work. This year’s trip in June was led by Rabbi Seth Linfield and Melissa Herman. Melissa will share stories and photos from her recent trip and then answer questions. Lunch provided.

In person at:
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire
273 South River Road, Unit 5
Bedford, NH 03110
\$8/person. Registration requested.
Zoom link available upon request.



To register please scan the QR code below to pay online, call 603-627-7679 to pay by credit card over the phone, or mail payment to: JFNH
273 S. River Rd. #5
Bedford, NH 03110



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Funding in part by The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, The Ben and Zeima Dorson Fund, The Maurice Foster Fund, The Saul Sidore Fund, The Paul and Fran Gordon Fund and The Singer Family Trust Fund

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
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Book Review

Reviewed by Merle Carrus

One Hundred Saturdays by Michael Frank

One Hundred Saturdays is a memoir about a thriving Jewish community and the people who lived there: it follows everyday life in the Jewish neighborhood of Juderia, on the island of Rhodes, in the Aegean Sea off the coast of Greece.

Author Michael Frank first met Stella Levi, an elegant woman of 92 years, as he dropped into a lecture in the Department of Italian Studies at NYU. She questioned his reason for attending the lecture, and in the ensuing conversation, she explained how she grew up in Juderia and was among the 1,650 residents the Germans rounded up and shipped by boat, and then by train, to Auschwitz.

This memoir offers a fascinating look into the story of Stella Levi and her family's history and life before and during the war. During her 100 Saturday visits with the author, Stella shares how the experiences have shaped her entire

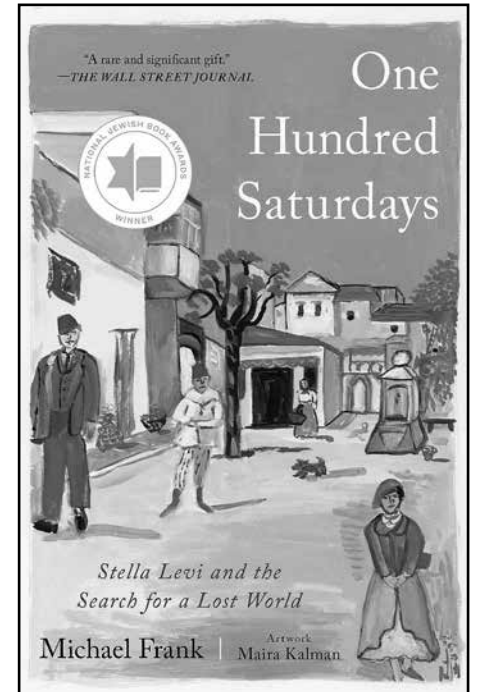
life—feelings and behaviors that were developed in reaction to the horrific experiences of the Holocaust, and that she has spent a lifetime trying to understand and work through. Meanwhile, the reader can't help but be engaged by the story of Juderia itself, a densely populated walled area of Rhodes where the Jewish families thrived for half a millennium until the Italians took control in 1923.

In the book, Stella describes the Nazis coming to the island and rounding up all the Jewish residents. They had no idea what was about to happen, no idea why they were being collected. "We thought they were taking us to a camp, maybe another island, to work. And that we would need money to pay for our food."

Stella could be one of the last Holocaust survivors still alive today. Hers is an incredible story that deserves to be

shared. The names of her family and friends help to recreate the picture of all the people who are not here to share their stories.

One Hundred Saturdays received a Natan Notable Book Award, two National Book Awards from the Jewish Book Council, and the Sophie Brody Award for outstanding achievement in Jewish literature. It was elected as one of the 10 best books of 2022 by *The Wall Street Journal*. Michael Frank is also the author of *What Is Missing*, a novel, and *The Mighty Franks*, a memoir, which was awarded the 2018 JQ Wingate Prize and was named one of the best books of the year by *The Telegraph* and *The New Statesman*. He also writes articles and short stories for many other publications. A 2020 Guggenheim Fellow, Frank lives in New York City and Camogli, Italy.




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 at a different location!

Stories, Singing, and Blessings followed by a Kiddie Kiddush



Saturday, November 18th, 2023
10AM
Temple Israel, Manchester

Registration Required

Scan QR code or

<https://forms.gle/hTNCGGa8nGVbZkZW6>



Jewish Federation
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SAVE THE DATE

The 16th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival
APRIL 4 to 14, 2024
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www.nhjewishfilmfestival.com



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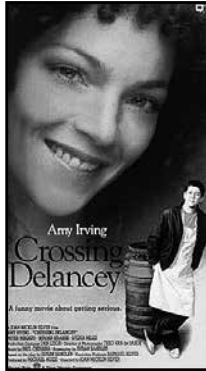
See what's happening in the community at www.jewishnh.org

Movie Review

Reviewed by Zach Camenker,
NH JFF Steering Committee

Crossing Delancey

Every now and then, a classic film shows signs of age when viewed many years after its release. More often than not, the best films of the past do stand the test of time, even if parts of the plot are dated. Now that I've finally seen it, I will count *Crossing Delancey* among films that hold up well, despite minor dated elements, and are still fun to watch.



Released in 1988 and often revered as a quintessential Jewish film, it follows Isabelle Grossman, a single woman who works for an independent bookstore in New York where she enjoys sharing her interest in the intellectual world with customers and visiting authors. Amy Irving stars as Isabelle, a wonderful character who is very different from her Oscar-nominated character Hadass in *Yentl*, released five years earlier. I was particularly intrigued to finally watch *Crossing Delancey* after our showing of *Yentl*, which also holds up quite well 40 years later, at the Federation in August. Both films tackle feminist themes through stories that are not alike in content but share similarities in their strong, independent female leads who go against the gender norms of their societies and faiths.

In *Crossing Delancey*, the single Isabelle resists her family's expectation to settle down, marry, and start a family much to the chagrin of her Bubbe. In a similar manner to how Mary Tyler Moore's protagonist Mary Richards approaches life, Isabelle stands out as a strong, independent woman who completely lacks the desire to conform to societal expectations. When Bubbe turns to a friend of hers who is a matchmaker, Isabelle gives in to her grandmother for a time. As the plot unfolds, we see a young woman face choices that she did not expect to encounter, all the while reminding herself that she does not have to give in to her family's traditional views.

Amy Irving is brilliant as the norm-defying Isabelle, bridging the gap nicely between her religious upbringing and her cross into the intellectual literary world. She gives off vibes not only of Mary Richards, but also of Diane Keaton's Annie Hall, in a charming and

adorable way. Her camaraderie with her grandmother, who is set in her ways but adores her granddaughter, is equally brilliant. Bubbe is played beautifully by Reizl Bozyk, a legend of the American Yiddish theatre scene who at age 74 appears in her first and only film role. Bozyk captures Bubbe's old world views, schmaltz, and love of kibitzing so well that it is hard not to think of memories of your own grandmother. Her performance is no small feat given her lack of work in the movies and in English-speaking roles. That said, it is no surprise as her career in the Yiddish world was long, extensive, and successful, culminating just before her death five years later in 1993.

Irving and Bozyk are joined by castmates Peter Riegert, who plays Sam the pickle shop owner, the legendary Sylvia Miles, who plays the matchmaker, and a host of other recognizable names and faces. Together, these roles of all sizes make the film all the more fun and enjoyable.

Crossing Delancey is a rare case of a classic film with female protagonists, as well as a female director (Joan Micklin Silver) and writer (Susan Sandler, who based it off her 1985 play). As a result, its themes of gender feel all the more authentic and meaningful, just as *Yentl* does. Much in the way that Nora Ephron wrote strong roles for women in her romantic comedies, Sandler and Silver created strong roles for women in the modern era, different from how "old Hollywood" would have showcased their stories.

Crossing Delancey remains a treat 35 years after its release and is regarded among many not only as one of the great romantic comedies of the 1980s, but also as one of the best Jewish-themed films of all time. It's a great example of the old world and the new world coming together across generations and the beauty of forging your own path. It's sure to make you smile widely and laugh quite a bit. The protagonist's relationship with her grandmother, who truly steals the show, is the icing on the cake and certainly make the film even more memorable.



Be part of the The 16th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival April 4 – 14, 2024

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Producer
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Screenwriter
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Friend of Festival
\$10 to \$249

Presented by the Jewish Federation of NH

JFNH offers its Film Festival Sponsors a wide array of benefits to this multi-access event:

- The opportunity to connect with the statewide Jewish community and general public.
- Sponsors receive broad exposure in a multitude of print, online and broadcast media channels.
- Introduce your business to the NH statewide Jewish community during the largest Jewish cultural event of the year.
- Reach an established and significant demographic of over 3,200 homes and a statewide filmgoing audience.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for this highly anticipated cultural event.

For details, e-mail filmfest@jewishnh.org
or go to our website www.nhjewishfilmfestival.com
or www.nhjewishfilmfestival.com/sponsor



Jewish Federation
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Jewish Journeys

Israel Experiences

Kayla Hyett:

My name is Kayla, and this summer I spent four and a half weeks traveling around Israel. For eight years I attended Jewish sleep-away camp, and each summer grew closer to my friends and counselors. Camp Pembroke, located in Pembroke, Massachusetts, is one of three Jewish sleep-away camps owned by the Cohen family. Tevya, Tel Noar, and Pembroke all send their oldest age group of 16-year-olds to Israel on a trip run by Keshet called Dor L'Dor. The 135 campers are split into three groups, and each group has its own counselors, tour guide, and bus. The buses have slightly different itineraries but overlap at certain points, and they generally do all of the same activities.

One large aspect of the trip was the travel. The flight to Israel was about nine hours long, and the flight home was around eleven. We flew with EL AL and ate Israeli food like hummus and olives. When in Israel, we would drive up to three hours to go from one city to another. However, usually our drives were less than an hour. Israel may be small, but even after spending over a month there, I know that there are some things I did not get to see.

A typical day in the life of a teen on Dor L'Dor 2023 began with breakfast served by the hotel, kibbutz, or hostel we were staying at. Then we would get on the bus and drive to either a hike, museum, or other activity. We would get lunch either from a restaurant or vendor on the street, or Keshet would deliver food for us. Most days we had falafel or schnitzel, as well as Israeli salad and French fries. We would do another activity in the afternoon and then go back to the hotel to rest and hang out for a few hours before dinner. We typically ate dinner at the place we were staying and did a bonding activity with the group before socializing and going to sleep. The temperature was highest in the afternoon, so our mornings were busier, and our afternoons were more relaxed.

While in Israel we did lots of walks and hikes. Some of my favorites were hiking up Masada and walking to the Rosh Hanikra Grottoes. We also swam in the Kinneret, Sachne Natural Pools, Jordan River, Achziv Beach, and lots of different swimming pools. It was so hot, with temperatures (Fahrenheit) ranging from the 90s to 100s that when we got to swim it was the highlight of the day. In addition to swimming and hiking, we spent five nights camping throughout the trip, and my personal favorite camping



trip was when we spent two nights sleeping in the Negev desert.

A huge part of our trip was learning about our own Jewish identities, Jewish/Israeli culture, and Jewish/Israeli history. We listened to educational talks and spent lots of time learning from our tour guides. Also, every Friday and Saturday we did Shabbat services. One Shabbat we got to spend at different local synagogues and the other three we led our own services. We also learned from Israeli teens who traveled around on our buses with us. Each bus had a couple of them, and we got to become close friends with them and learn about Israeli life from the perspective of a teen.

Overall, going to Israel was a life-changing experience. I learned so much about Judaism and my own history, and I cannot wait to go back as soon as I can!

Miles Borne:

Every Passover, my family gathers around our wooden dinner table, with the very familiar Haggadahs, and we say, "Next Year in Jerusalem." Next Year in



Jerusalem was something I just said without ever thinking too much about it. I always thought it was saying our Passover would be in Jerusalem, but maybe it means more than that.

This year I was in Jerusalem. I saw Jews gathering at the Western Wall. I was in a country where Jews are the majority, not the minority. I got to see where our ancestors wandered for 40 years. My trip was coordinated by Dor L'Dor, an organization that brings teens from the three Cohen Camps (Pembroke, Tevya, and Tel-Noar) to Israel for a month. During the trip, we went all the way from the Golan Heights to the southernmost city, Eilat.

One of my favorite memories was going to the Negev; it was a truly amazing experience. Our time in the Negev started with a walk in the vast open space of the Negev at sunset. We saw miles and miles of sand dunes, sandy mountains, and rocky cliffs that were incredible. We saw vegetation, mountain goats, and rats. It was certainly different from the green hills of New England. We camped and slept under the stars which were beautiful and the most vibrant that I have ever seen. It was incredible — the sky was clear and crisp with stars so bright that they looked like they were only a few miles away from you.

The next morning, our group woke up at 5 AM. The sky was light-filled with dim blue around, and then we saw the ball of fire—the sun, slowly rising up.

The sky turned all colors—from red, to pink, to orange, and finally blue—which lit up the sand all around. Breakfast was a simple bowl of cereal, but the beauty of the rising sun made it a breakfast I will remember for the rest of my life. Then, the hard part came: hiking while you are tired and you have to keep your eyes open in the dim light. It was difficult, until the sun was higher. Our group traveled a rocky path to a mountain under a sun that made the air hotter, hotter, and hotter. The breathtaking desert landscape pulled your thoughts away from the heat, to absorbing something so unfamiliar from the hills and oceans of New Hampshire. For miles and miles, there was sand and mountains, not the familiar ocean water and salty air. On the top of the mountain, we picked a spot and sat there to soak in and appreciate the moment.

I thought about my connection to the land as a Jew. How our ancestors wandered this land, and now in the present day; I'm here. It could not have been easy for those ancient Jews to get here. This was the moment that I realized, as Jews, we have this beautiful desert landscape where you can still feel the awe of Israel. This land is ours. The land we wandered for 40 years, the land we have a connection to. And it's a truly beautiful thing.

This year during Passover, when my family says, "next year in Jerusalem," I hope I'll be able to travel back to Israel with my family very soon.

Our Day of Infamy: October 27, 2018

By Norm Kushner, NH community member

Today is October 27th. Just another day on the calendar for most, but not for nine families, including mine. On this day exactly five years ago, on a dreary Shabbat morning, within a 20-minute period, evil invaded the lives of those nine families and the practice of Judaism in America will never be the same.

This was the day that, at approximately 9:50 AM a man named Robert G. Bowers entered Tree of Life Synagogue, opened fire with an AR-15 style rifle, and murdered 11 innocent congregants from nine families. The first person Bowers probably encountered was my cousin, Cecil Rosenthal. Cecil and his brother David, well known within the community as “the boys,” were special. They were born with the fragile X chromosome (FXS) and as a result, lived intellectually-challenged lives. However, they were never challenged in regard to their Judaism: both celebrated Bar Mitzvah and regularly attended Shabbat services each week. They were known as the “Mayors” of Forbes and Murray Avenues, always giving big hellos and questioning how you were—very personable.

Cecil was the “official greeter” at Tree of Life’s door, and welcomed everyone with a hearty “Good Shabbos.” David saw to it that everyone in the sanctuary was comfortable, had the correct prayer books and knew where the service had progressed to. I have been told he rushed to Cecil when the gunfire began so he could be with his brother. My cousins, just like the other victims, only wanted to pray and practice their Judaism. They were innocent, kind and generous souls extinguished for no reason other than they were Jewish, in the place they loved, at the wrong time.

It took nearly five years for Bowers to be brought to trial, convicted, and sentenced to death. Each of the nine families lived without closure—even if they have it now—until the end of the Federal proceedings against Bowers. Will the sentence ever be carried out? That is the subject which will consume and haunt us for many years to come, and any outcome will not return the 11 precious lives.

Trying to understand the full impact of the Tree of Life Massacre requires us to view it on a number of levels, kind of like peeling back the layers of an onion: the more you peel, the greater the burning of your eyes. The practice of Judaism (and in fact, all religions) was forever changed

by this heinous event. Most houses of worship have spent tens of thousands of dollars on increased security and often have armed security in place for services and events. Even religious day schools and Hebrew schools have been forced to add security to ensure the safety of our most precious asset, our children.

One would think that a cataclysmic event like the Tree of Life Massacre would have set off warning signals and seen red flags rise. Unfortunately, beyond increased security, not much has changed. In fact, the Anti-Defamation League which maintains statistics on antisemitism and other hate crimes, has seen antisemitic attacks and crimes increase to levels previously never seen since WWII. We have seen this ourselves, with the recent antisemitic vandalism in Laconia. Additionally, anti-Black, anti-Asian, anti-LGBTQ, and even anti-Christian attacks and crimes have significantly increased. What can we attribute this phenomenon to? Certainly, some of it can be seen in the rhetoric and vitriol that is spewed regularly. Some of our political and celebrity “leaders,” as well as the traditional media and social media sites, can be held responsible for providing platforms for this type of hate speech in an unverified environment. Just as yelling fire in a theater is not protected free speech, much of the hate that is transmitted via these platforms should not be protected. Calling for harm to be done to a person or people because of their religion, color of their skin, or sexual identity, is no different than yelling fire in that theater. That some of our elected leaders and celebrities instigate and initiate such speech is shameful and those responsible must be made accountable.

Another area to be unpeeled is gun violence. I am, personally, a supporter of the Second Amendment, and also have been the victim of gun violence. Although not owning a weapon myself, I do not have a problem with a citizen owning a weapon for self-protection or a sportsman owning a weapon for hunting. However, as with most issues in our society, there are limits. Do individuals need to have an AR-15, a weapon designed for war and killing, readily available to themselves? Unfortunately, that horse left the barn a long time ago. Currently there are substantially more guns in the USA than there are people. As of the end of September there have been more than 530 mass killings in the USA. To not acknowledge there is a problem is akin to believing that if you walk in the

rain without an umbrella you will not get wet. The gun lobbyists say that “Guns do not kill, people do” – but the killers need a trigger to pull. So how do we grab the issue and control it? Most likely, the solution is multi-generational and must include some restrictions on how, to whom, where and which guns are sold. Unfortunately, there are no easy or immediate solutions.

The onion still has many more layers. Mental health reform is an area needing to be addressed. Too many people who suffer mental health issues fall through the cracks of our society. It is time to begin patching those cracks. We need to be certain that the safety net that has been established is made stronger by training more mental health workers and establishing new mental health facilities, protocols and recovery plans that aid or cure mental health patients and does not allow them to be warehoused or incarcerated without proper treatments.

The recent outbreak of war in Israel will, unfortunately, exacerbate antisemitism, and perhaps other hate crime in the USA. Already, synagogues, Jewish organizations and other Jewish institutions

have been notified to increase our level of alertness as well as security. As has been suggested by a former professor from Brandeis now living in Israel, whose daughter and son-in-law were murdered by Hamas at the outset of the recent war, we may be seeing the beginning of a contemporary version of pogroms.

I have touched upon a few of the layers of the onion that confront us. Where do we begin? As always, the primary answer is education. My wife, a former teacher, has an old saying, “ducks have ducks.” Children initially learn hate from their parents, siblings, or friends. We need to find a way to stop the cycle. Here in New Hampshire, a beginning has been made. Last year as the result of efforts of rabbis, the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, and a cadre of dedicated individuals, Governor Sununu signed a bill into law mandating the teaching of Holocaust history in all public schools. This is a beginning, but certainly not an end. This program can provide the foundation for impeding the development of hate at younger ages. We must all be cognizant of who we are, where we are within con-

Opinion continued on page 22

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Hadassah on the US-Israel Alliance

By Michele Bank

A Hadassah press release reported that in September, Hadassah hosted “American Women Supporting Israel: Building Bridges and Making an Impact” in partnership with Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz (FL-25), a briefing showcasing women who are working to build support for Zionism and who believe America needs policies that support a strong alliance with Israel.

Hadassah convened influential American women to discuss the importance of continued support on Capitol Hill for the US-Israel relationship. Speakers included Rhoda Smolow, Hadassah National President; Naomi Adler, Hadassah CEO; Destiny Albritton, National Outreach Director of the Israel On Campus Coalition, Ana Sazonov, former Executive Director of the Columbia Jewish Federation in South Carolina; Michelle Rojas-Tal, Hadassah’s former

Zionist Scholar-in-Residence, and Danielle Rugoff, Head of Movement Activation, Product and Partnerships at Starts With Us.

“Women have always been a powerful voice to ensure Israel’s right to exist and to strengthen the close alliance between the US and Israel,” said Rhoda Smolow, Hadassah National President. “With nearly 300,000 members, donors and supporters in every congressional district across the country, Hadassah is the largest Jewish women’s organization and one of the oldest Zionist women’s organizations nationwide working to advance the US-Israel relationship for over 100 years.”

“A strong US-Israel relationship helps keep both our countries secure and facilitates opportunities and partnerships that accelerate innovation to solve global issues,” said Naomi Adler, Hadassah CEO. “As we celebrate Israel’s 75th anniversary, we’re proud to bring forward these ex-

traordinary women whose work shows the world that support for Israel is critical and widespread.”

“As a strong supporter of the US-Israel relationship and Florida’s first Jewish congresswoman, I know that advancing the strategic alliance between the countries and combating antisemitism are critical priorities, and I’m so grateful for Hadassah’s leadership in advocating for this critical relationship and uplifting the work of women working to support Israel,” said Representative Wasserman Schultz. “We must continue to support Israel’s ability to defend itself and thrive, as our ally and as a secure Jewish and democratic state.”

During the briefing, speakers discussed the importance of Congressional support for the US-Israel relationship, and the broad support for Israel and Zionism nationwide. “As someone who spends her days fighting for democracy and the American experiment, I believe strongly that support for the largest democracy in the Middle East is in America’s best interest,” said Danielle Rugoff, a lifetime member of Hadassah and Head of Movement Activation, Product and Partnerships at Starts With Us. “I’m proud to speak with the other amazing women on this panel who are passionate about a strong US-Israel relationship and to see the overwhelming bipartisan support for Israel in Congress.”

“The strategic alliance between Israel and the United States, which advances mutual security and enables cultural exchange, is strengthened by the average American’s understanding of its importance and impact,” said Michelle Rojas-Tal, Hadassah’s former Zionist Scholar-in-Residence. “That’s why it is critical that we are united in our advocacy for

the US-Israel relationship, regardless of our different backgrounds.”

“The Jewish community, both on and off campus, is experiencing antisemitism, and we as Americans must address it head-on together,” said Destiny Albritton, National Outreach Director of the Israel on Campus Coalition. “In my work, I teach students that Zionism is the movement for self-determination of the Jewish people in their ancestral homeland, but you do not have to be Jewish to be a Zionist.”

Speakers also discussed the impact of the US-Israel relationship worldwide, from humanitarian efforts to security partnerships to healthcare diplomacy, and the importance of supporting the mutual security of the two nations.

“Israel is on the forefront of helping with the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine,” said Ana Sazonov, former Executive Director of the Columbia Jewish Federation in South Carolina, who was born in Ukraine. “A strong and secure Israel is an active force for good in the world, and the US-Israel relationship and its strategic alliance are important not only to Israel’s security, but also to the security of all our allies.”

Hadassah has been the voice of American women who support Israel for over a century. In May, Hadassah released its inaugural list of “18 American Zionist Women You Should Know,” amplifying the work of a new generation of Zionists. On October 25 and 26, Hadassah hosted its first Zionism symposium, “Inspire Zionism,” which highlighted the innovators infusing new energy into the Zionist movement and featured conversations about the complexities of Zionism.

For information about Hadassah, please contact michele.bank@gmail.com.

Israeli Insider with Guy Ben David

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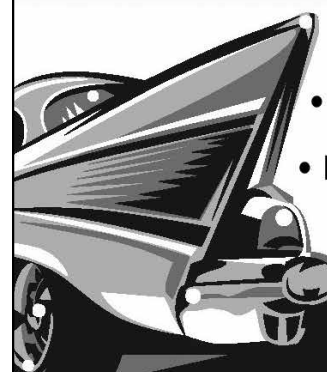


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Beer Sheva: Capital of the Negev

Tel Aviv and Jerusalem are favorite destinations for American visitors to Israel, but there are lots of other Israeli places that are worth visiting. One of these is Beer Sheva (or Beersheba), the unofficial capital of southern Israel. The Book of Genesis mentions this city as a place where Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Hagar walked during ancient times.

The modern city of Beer Sheva was founded by the Ottomans in 1900 to extend Turkish control over Bedouin Arabs in the Negev Desert. British-led forces captured the city from the Turks in 1917. Between World War I and Israel's War for Independence, Beer Sheva remained a dusty desert town of a few thousand residents.

During the 1950s and 60s, the city grew rapidly as thousands of Jewish olim, or immigrants, arrived from North Africa, Iraq, and Eastern Europe. During those years, Beer Sheva became a railroad and pipeline hub as well as a manufacturing center for chemicals, ceramics, and textiles. Israel's first military air base opened nearby.

Over the last four decades, Beer Sheva has continued to grow and evolve. Since 1983, the population of its metropolitan area has doubled and now numbers 659,000 residents. Even more significant is that this southern city is no longer mainly a reception center for poor immigrants to Israel. Some observers now refer to Beer Sheva as the "Silicon Valley of the Negev" because of its booming high-tech sector.

How did this growth and transformation of Beer Sheva come about? One reason is that several of the IDF's elite technological units are based in the Negev. Some veterans of these IDF units have remained in Beer Sheva after their military service and have started startups. New ventures linked to the Soroka Medical Center have launched biomedical research projects. These high-tech companies need engineering and other technical employees if they are to grow and succeed. Graduates of Ben Gurion University and other local colleges provide this skilled labor. The opening of several large industrial parks has also provided a home for Israeli startups and a growing number of foreign corporations such as IBM, Intel and Mastercard.

Attracting and retaining professional



and technical employees takes more than simply offering exciting jobs in high-tech companies. In other words, Beer Sheva has to be an attractive place to live and not just to work. The availability of less expensive housing only a two-hour train ride from Tel Aviv is one attraction. Another attraction is that Beer Sheva is building a second medical center to serve its residents. Still another is that improvements in the public schools are underway, including a new regional high school dedicated to excellence in the arts and sciences.

The Jewish National Fund has played a key role in making Beer Sheva a more attractive place to live. The centerpiece of JNF's efforts in the city is the development of a 1,300-acre river park, a \$300 million urban revitalization initiative that has turned what was once a massive junkyard into a greenway for pedestrians and bicyclists and a space for family celebrations and community festivals. Work is also underway on a 23-acre "desert oasis" that will be Israel's largest man-made lake. This lake will double as a reservoir to irrigate and care for the river park's needs. Water for the reservoir will be supplied by treated and recycled wastewater from the city. Beer Sheva is a contemporary example of Israel's commitment to "making the desert bloom."

On your next visit to Israel, consider taking a side trip to Beer Sheva. It's definitely a city of the future.

Richard England lives in Durham and loves to visit friends and relatives in Israel. He serves on the Federation's Israel Education & Engagement Committee.



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New! B'nai mitzvah, engagement, wedding or new baby in the family? Share your happiness with the community with a notice in the *Reporter's* new *Simchas* section. Your \$36 payment will support JFNH's nonprofit mission. Submit a short notice and photo to thereporter@jewishnh.org or JFNH, 273 South River Road, Unit #5, Bedford, NH 03110.

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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Jewish Federation
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Opinion

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temporary society, and strive to educate those from whom we differ about ourselves as Jews as well as other minorities. It is our destiny to do so. We must take pride in our Judaism if it is religious or cultural. We must project our story and our goals for the good of the entire soci-

ety we share with others.

Yes, on October 27, 2018, I lost two members of my family to a heinous and evil man and movement. But we all lost a little piece of how we practice being our Jewish selves, as have our Muslim and Christian friends. We must endeavor not to allow ourselves to submit to fear or intimidation. We are who we are, and we must take pride in it.

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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.

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- Programming including Film Festival, Momentum, PJ Library, Shlichut, and more
- Social services to those in need around our state
- Grants to send youth to Jewish overnight camp and Israel
- Allocations to Hebrew Schools across the state
- Response to antisemitism
- Local, national and international giving

One day, one call where
YOU can make a
difference in Jewish NH!



www.jewishnh.org



603-627-7679