

 Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CELEBRATIONS & SIMCHAS

JFNH Annual Meeting 2025: Highlights



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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
Weekly services from July through Simchat Torah with Zoom services and Torah study from November to June. Please check our website for service times and event information.

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

1½ Hood Road, Derry
Reform, Affiliated URJ
(603) 432-0004
www.etzhayim.org
office@etzhayim.org, rabbi@etzhayim.org
Services: Fridays 7:15 PM,
Saturday 9:30 AM.
Torah Study - Sundays 9:00 AM. Check the website for updates
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 9:30 AM.
Shabbat morning services on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:30 AM.
Meditation and Pirkei Avot study on the 4th Saturday of each month at 10:30 AM.
All services are in-person and online.
Check the website for schedule changes and Zoom links.

LACONIA

TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL

Rabbi Andy Bachman
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 MANCHESTER

Rabbi Marc Philippe
66 Salmon Street, Manchester
Conservative Affiliated USCJ
(603) 622-6171
office@templeisraelmht.org
www.templeisraelmht.org
Shabbat Services: Every month we offer

one Friday night Shabbat with a catered community dinner (rsvp required), and two Saturday Shabbat services followed by a light kiddush (no rsvp necessary). Every Wednesday, we offer a 7:00 AM in-person morning minyan and a 6:30 PM Torah study via ZOOM. Please check our website www.templeisraelmht.org, call our office at (603) 622-6171 or email office@templeisraelmht.org for information on specific service dates and times.

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 Monday-Thursday at 7:30 PM
All services are in-person and on Zoom (check our website for schedule changes and Zoom links)

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 Rosalind Glazer
200 State Street, Portsmouth
Conservative, Affiliated USCJ
(603) 436-5301
www.templeisraelnh.org
templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org
Services: Friday, 6:00 PM
Saturday, 10 AM
Tues. minyan 5:30 PM
Temple Israel has a fully licensed M-F preschool.

The New Hampshire Jewish Reporter

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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)



October 3	6:05 PM
October 10	5:53 PM
October 17	5:41 PM
October 24	5:31 PM

Celebrations and Simchas

As Jews, we live with both memory and hope, sorrow and joy. Our history has taught us that even in the darkest moments, we carry forward a deep responsibility to keep living, to keep celebrating, and to keep building Jewish life. This year, as we mark the second anniversary of the October 7th attacks in Israel, we hold that tension especially close to our hearts. The pain of that day, and of everything that followed, remains with us. Yet at the same time, we continue to gather for simchas—moments of joy—that remind us of our resilience and our shared story.

Simchas are not only personal milestones like weddings, baby namings, b'nai mitzvah, anniversaries, or graduations. They are communal celebrations. When one Jewish family marks a simcha, the glow of their joy spreads throughout the

Erik Martin

**JFNH
Executive
Director**



community. Each simcha strengthens us as a people, helping us remember that life, hope, and connection are at the very center of our Jewish tradition.

At the Federation, our work is rooted in this belief. While we respond to urgent needs and advocate on behalf of the Jewish people, we are also here to create opportunities for joy, for gathering, and for writing our story together as a community. That's why I hope you will join us on October 19th for "One Heart, Many Colors," a statewide art program that will in-

vite us to express, to reflect, and to heal together. Through the power of art, we will honor the memory of October 7th while reaffirming our strength and our capacity for joy. It will be a space where each individual brushstroke contributes to something larger than ourselves, symbolizing how we carry one another through both grief and celebration.

Beyond this important gathering, our work at JFNH continues to create moments of connection and simcha. The New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival brings us together through culture and storytelling. PJ Library delights children and their families with books and programs that nurture Jewish identity. Our community Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration fills the spring with song, dance, and pride. Each of these programs is more than an event—they are threads in

the larger fabric of Jewish life across our state.

As we look to the year ahead, our strategic plan commits us to deepening these efforts: expanding our presence statewide, strengthening partnerships with synagogues and organizations, and offering new opportunities for Jews across New Hampshire to come together. We will also continue to advocate boldly against anti-semitism, to speak about Israel with both strength and respect for diverse perspectives, and to build bridges with non-Jewish partners who share our values.

October 7th reminds us of the fragility of life, but simchas remind us of its beauty. My hope as your new Executive Director is that we hold both truths close. Mourning and celebrating together as we build a future that is strong, connected, and full of simchas.

Shana Tova: Wishing each one of you a sweet, healthy, and prosperous year ahead

By Jeremy Berger, JFNH Board Chair

As this issue comes to you, the festival of Sukkot will soon be underway, celebrated by Jews around the world. This joyful holiday, also known as the Festival (or Feast) of Booths or Tabernacles, holds deep meanings both ancient and evergreen. We dwell in temporary structures — sukkot — and use the "Four Species" (lulav, etrog, hadas, and aravah). The sukkah recalls the fragile booths our ancestors inhabited during their 40-years journey through the desert after the Exodus from Egypt, while the agricultural aspect of Sukkot reflects thanksgiving for the-harvest and God's providence.

I want to share with you some highlights from our community's opening program of the season, "Narratives of Coexistence" with Yahya Mahamid, presented in partnership with Temple Israel Portsmouth. It was a sold-out evening with a large and engaged audience. Yahya is an Israeli-Arab educator, and his story provides both insight and hope. Yahya spoke powerfully about working together, about Jews and Arabs living alongside each other despite long histories of tension. He noted something striking: while the older generation among Arabs often carry fewer of the anti-Israel prejudices that seem more prevalent among younger people, bridging that gap requires stories, dialogue, and a commitment to seeing one another. He reminded us: *"It is easy to*

spread hate; my purpose is to spread hope."

One of the more thought-provoking topics was when Yahya was asked about the Haredim (ultra-Orthodox) and their participation in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). He offered a perspective that many of us had not heard before, yet found fascinating. Yahya said that when he sees Haredim on a military base, he "gets scared" — not because he feels threatened, but because their presence signals that something serious is happening. In his view, "there is nobody better at deciphering intelligence and strategy than the Haredim." Theirs, he suggested, is often a quiet strength, not always visible in public discourse.

Regarding the current government in Israel, Yahya was diplomatic and firm. He expressed support for Israel as a democracy: "This is a freely elected government; I support my country no matter who is in charge." He challenged those in the Diaspora who object to the elected government to consider making Aliyah so they can participate directly, including voting. He also shared what it means to be an Israeli Arab Muslim: he has full citizenship and rights in Israel, yet because of his identity cannot visit many Arab countries — he experiences discrimination simply for being who he is. These are difficult truths, but they are essential to understand if we are to foster empathy and connection. That "Narratives of Coexistence" event, our first in

the new community speaker series, showed the strength we have when we work together. While not everyone will agree with every comment, question, or perspective raised, what is most important is that we continue to provide fair and open dialogues in our community.

Looking ahead: over the coming year, the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire plans many more programs that offer different perspectives and insights. These will complement the strong foundation of our existing offerings like PJ Library and the Jewish Film Festival. Among the future programs in the works are ones on:

- Israel education
- Combating antisemitism

- Understanding media bias
- Holocaust remembrance

And, of course, what is a Jewish event without good food? We are planning an event featuring **Raif Rashed**, a member of the Druze community who survived the October 7 massacre at the Nova Music Festival. Raif will come to New Hampshire to prepare a meal and share his stories. Details will be forthcoming. Please join us for these engaging presentations and dialogues. And if you have thoughts or suggestions for events you'd like to see, reach out to us at the Federation office — your voice matters in shaping our shared path forward.

With hope, partnership, and warm wishes for a year of growth and peace.

Glitter, Rugelach, and Going Overboard: The Serious Art of Hiddur Mitzvah

I love celebrating. I love it so much that I sometimes forget to wait for an "official" holiday to roll around. Give me the tiniest excuse and I will be in costume, face painted and glittered, surrounded by themed snacks. My family just celebrated my son's 8th birthday Mario-style, and let's just say: if Princess Peach and Yoshi ever need a party planner, I'm ready. We've also been known to throw a wild Halloween bash with themed foods, over-the-top

Dinah Berch

**JFNH
Program
Coordinator**



photo boards, and as much spooky silliness as we can pack into one night.

Hiddur Mitzvah continued on page 6

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.

See Page 10 for High Holiday and Fall Festival observances.

Yom Kippur

Begins sunset Wednesday, October 1 – ends sunset Thursday, October 2.

Friday, October 3

TAY Religious Response to Hunger

10:00 AM, Temple Adath Yeshurun, 152 Prospect Street, Manchester, NH
Bring non-perishable food donations between Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur Day. Contact Karen Roth at office@taynh.org.

Zoom ONLY Family Shabbat

6:00 PM, Temple Adath Yeshurun, 152 Prospect Street, Manchester, NH
TAY Family Shabbat. Contact Karen Roth at office@taynh.org with questions.

Sunday, October 5

Stuffies in the Sukkah

10:30 AM, Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1 1/2 Hood Rd, Derry, NH
PJ Library New Hampshire and Etz Hayim Synagogue present: Stuffies in the Sukkah, a Sukkot-themed story time, crafts and brunch. Bring your favorite stuffie and join us in the sukkah! We'll read a few PJ Library books about Sukkot, make some sukkah decorations together, and enjoy a light bagel brunch. FREE PJ Library program in partnership with Etz Hayim Synagogue. Non-members welcome. PJ Library events are geared towards families with children aged 0-8; siblings, grownups and grand friends encouraged! Email dinah.berch@jewishnh.org with questions. Plus: Bring your gently used PJ Library and PJ Our Way books to exchange for new-to-you titles for a Fall Library Refresh! Contact Dinah Berch at 603-627-7679 or dinah.berch@jewishnh.org for more information, or visit our calendar at jewishnh.org/community-calendar to register.

Sukkot

Sukkot begins at sundown on Mon, Oct 6.

Monday, October 6

Erev Sukkot Potluck at Strawberry Banke

5:30PM, Strawberry Banke, 14 Hancock Street, Portsmouth
Bring a dairy, vegetarian, or pareve dish to share at this outdoor event to welcome Sukkot. Some picnic tables will be available. You are welcome to bring your own picnic blanket or folding chairs. All ages are welcome! Contact Ryan Bernstein at attempleoffice@templeisraelnh.org with questions.

Wednesday, October 8

Pizza in the Hut

5:30PM, Temple Israel Portsmouth, 200 State Street, Portsmouth

Shake the lulav, smell the etrog, say the blessings, and eat pizza in the TI sukkah. All ages welcome! Contact Ryan Bernstein at attempleoffice@templeisraelnh.org with questions.

Thursday, October 9

Etz Hayim Synagogue Presents: Exploring Faith Through Poetry

7:00 PM, Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH

At synagogue, we say prayers that assume faith, talking to or about God, regardless of how we picture God in our own minds. Poems about faith give us a lot more leeway to explore that picture however we choose. We can admire, question, doubt, even challenge God directly. And a poem doesn't have to be about faith to be about faith. Poems about spaghetti sauce, guinea pigs, whales, and baseball can also be about faith. In this discussion we'll explore all the ways poems can help us understand what faith means to us. Feel free to bring a poem on the topic to share. Midge Goldberg is the author of three books of poetry, including her most recent, *To Be Opened After My Death*, as well as the editor of *Outer Space: 100 Poems*, published by Cambridge University Press. She has published poems about faith (disguised as snowmen, Skisaws, and junk mail) in numerous Jewish, Catholic, Christian, and nonreligious journals and anthologies. The presentation is part of Etz Hayim Synagogue's Adult Continuing Education Program, Hot Topics and Cool Contemporary Stuff. We are located at 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH. Please visit www.etzhayim.org/learn/adult-learning for a complete listing of Hot Topics. For more information, please contact Stephen Soreff, MD, at soreffs15@aol.com or 603-895-6120.

Friday, October 10

Etz Hayim Synagogue - Shabbat in the Sukkah

6:00 PM, Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH
Eating in the Sukkah is a mitzvah (commandment). Join us for Shabbat in the Sukkah. Please bring your own meal as we join together to eat dinner in the sukkah. Our service will be led by Rabbi Jonathan Biatch. Contact Connie at 6034320004 or at office@etzhayim.org for more information.

TAY Family Shabbat Service

6:00 PM, Temple Adath Yeshurun, 152 Prospect St, Manchester, NH
Family Shabbat Service and Pizza. Contact Karen Roth at office@taynh.org with questions.

Friday, October 10 – Sunday, October 12

The Diary of Anne Frank

7:30 PM, The Colonial Theatre, 609 Main St, Laconia, NH
Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative, the award-winning resident theatre company of the Colonial Theatre in Laconia, NH presents Wendy Kesselman's adaptation of Goodrich and Hackett's play, *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Performances are October 10-12, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm and Sunday at 2 pm at the Colonial Theatre in Laconia NH. Tickets are \$18-\$24 and should only be purchased through coloniallaconia.com or powerhousenh.org to avoid third party sites that inflate the prices. Contact Bryan Halperin at 9144509946 or at bryanh@halperin@gmail.com or visit <http://powerhousenh.org> for more information.

Sunday, October 12

Shavua Tov Story Time - Simchat Torah

8:30 AM via Zoom

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 from 8:30am to 9:00am. Each month will have a different theme! Register once for \$18.00 per family to receive monthly 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 the Shavua Tov Story Time Coordinator Corri Wilson at corri.wilson@jewishnh.org. The zoom link will be provided to registered families each Monday ahead of the program. Visit our calendar at jewishnh.org/community-calendar to register. Grandparents and out-of-state grandchildren welcome!

Etz Hayim Synagogue - Sunday Family Camp

10:00 AM, Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH

This Month's Theme is Sukkot! Do you have little ones ages 4-6? Join us to help decorate and have a snack in the sukkah and (weather permitting). RSVP to sarahjohnplater@aol.com by 8:00 AM Saturday, October 11 to ensure we have enough materials for the project. Etz Hayim Synagogue hosts monthly Sunday Family Camp for ages 4-6. Our teacher uses a mix of music, crafts and games to introduce students to the Jewish calendar, prayer, Torah and Hebrew. Funding for this program is provided by The L Lou Schloss Memorial Education Fund. We are located at 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH. Visit <https://www.etzhayim.org/learn/grades-0-1> for more information. Sponsor: The L. Lou Schloss Memorial Education Fund

Simchat Torah

Simchat Torah begins at sundown on Oct 14.

Thursday, October 16

Manchester Chapter of Hadassah Chapter Meeting

1:00 PM, Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, 273 South River Road, Unit 5, Bedford, NH 03110
Chapter Meeting open to all members. Contact Michele Bank at michele.bank@gmail.com with questions.

Sunday, October 19

One Heart, Many Colors: A Community Art Project in Remembrance of October 7th

2:00 PM, Camp Yavneh, 18 Lucas Pond Road, Northwood, NH
On October 7, our community, like the Jewish people everywhere, was shaken to its core. "One Heart, Many Colors" offers a space to process, remember, and begin to heal together through the power of art. Join us in creating a unique community project: paint a heart-shaped canvas to express your own emotions, and watch as your piece becomes part of a larger whole. Together, our individual feelings will form a shared work of resilience and memory, helping us face the pain of that day and all that has followed. Contact Erik Martin at erik.martin@jewishnh.org with questions and visit our calendar at jewishnh.org/community-calendar to register.

Monday, October 20

Encountering the Past: Primary Sources and the Holocaust

5:30 PM, Mason Library at Keene State College
This hands-on workshop will demonstrate how original archival materials (documents, photos, and artifacts) are used to teach students to remember and learn about the Holocaust through Keene State College's Special Collections & Archives. Attendees, under the guidance of the Archives staff, will have

an opportunity to handle, examine, and analyze documents from the college's special collection in Holocaust Studies. This event is free and open to everyone – students, faculty, staff, community members, local educators, and more! – but advanced registration is requested as space is limited. Registration is available here: <https://keenestate.wufoo.com/forms/p3umeox1i0eof3/>
This workshop is part of a series of events being co-hosted by the KSC Archives and the Cohen Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies during the 2025-2026 academic year. Please email coheninstitute@keene.edu with any questions.

Wednesday, October 22

Minot-Sleeper Library Jewish Holiday Story Time

10:30 AM, Minot-Sleeper Library, 35 Pleasant Street, Bristol, NH
Join Dinah Berch, PJ Library Program Coordinator for New Hampshire, and volunteers from Temple B'nai Israel in Laconia, for a special story time all about the Jewish High Holidays and Fall Festivals! Dinah will bring books and a small craft project. Free program - registration not required. Contact Dinah Berch at dinah.berch@jewishnh.org or visit <https://www.minotsleeperlibrary.org/> for more information.

Thursday, October 23

Displays of Belonging

7:00 PM, Yiddish Book Center, 1021 West St, Amherst, MA and on Zoom
Sarah Zarrow discusses Jewish collectors and museums in prewar Poland, offering insight into how Jews preserved their heritage and expressed cultural belonging in a rapidly changing world. Contact the Yiddish Book Center at 4132564900 or email updates@yiddishbookcenter.org for more information. <https://www.yiddishbookcenter.org/events/upcoming-public-programs/displays-belonging-sarah-zarrow>

Saturday, October 25

TAY Blessing of the Animals

9:00 AM, Temple Adath Yeshurun, 152 Prospect St, Manchester, NH
Please join Temple Adath Yeshurun for the blessing of the animals. Bring your pets!
Contact Karen Roth at office@taynh.org with questions.

Upper Valley Tot Shabbat L'dor Vador: From Generation to Generation

10:30AM, Kilton Library, 80 Main Street, Lebanon, NH
Join us for Tot Shabbat at the Kilton Library! Music, stories, crafts and of course FREE BOOKS! Bring your grandparents and grandfriends for special projects all about passing on traditions. Contact Melissa Herman at school@uvjc.org with questions. Registration Not Required. Sponsor: JCVT, JFNH, Kol Ha'Emek UVJC, Shir Shalom.

Read It & Roll It: A PJOW \$150,000 Rugelach Adventure

4:00PM, Roth Center, 5 Occom Ridge, Hanover, NH 9-12yo PJ Our Way Kids! Join us on Saturday, October 25th at 4pm at the Roth Center in Hanover, NH for a book club and baking bonanza! We'll discuss the PJ Our Way book \$150,000 Rugelach with some fun trivia and make our own rugelach together. This event is FREE! All supplies will be provided, including your own PJOW apron. PLUS: Pizza & Havdalah! Program facilitated by JFNH Program Coordinator Dinah Berch in partnership with JCVT, Shir Shalom Synagogue and Kol Ha'emek, the Upper Valley

Calendar continued on page 5

Statewide Calendar of Events

Calendar

continued from page 4

Jewish Community. Children do not need to be actively enrolled in PJ Our Way to participate, provided they are between the ages of 9 and 12 years old. FREE program; registration required to ensure enough supplies. Arrange to receive your FREE book with registration! Will YOUR rugelach be the best? Sponsor: JFNH, JCVT, Shir Shalom Synagogue and Kol Ha'emek, the Upper Valley Jewish Community. Register at <https://bit.ly/rugelachNH> or contact Dinah at dinah.berch@jewishnh.org.

The Jersey Tenors

7:30 PM, Inter-Lakes Community Auditorium, 1 Laker Lane, Meredith, NH
The Jersey Tenors return to the Inter-Lakes Community Auditorium in Meredith with an all new show-The Ultimate Tribute to the 70's. Net proceeds go directly to Meredith Altrusa, a volunteer community service organization dedicated to community betterment and improving the quality of life for those in need. For tickets go to www.tbinh.org. Contact Stuart Needleman at stuneedleman@gmail.com or visit <http://www.tbinh.org> for more information. Tickets cost \$42.00.

Tuesday, October 28

Film Screening of 999: The Forgotten Girls

7:00 PM, Cohen Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies Showroom, 20 Commercial St, Keene, NH
Join the Cohen Institute and The Colonial

Performing Arts Center for a special screening of 999: The Forgotten Girls, a documentary that focuses on the first women deported to Auschwitz. The film will be followed by a Q&A with Dr. Dana Smith, Associate Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College. Work by students in Dr. Smith's "Women and the Holocaust" class will also provide context on the film. About the Film: Edith Grosman was seventeen when Slovak officials ordered unmarried Jewish girls to register for work service. Filled with a sense of national pride, she joined hundreds of other innocent young women who were under the false impression their patriotic duty would benefit their families. Instead, they were deported to Auschwitz as expendable slave labor. The Slovak government paid the Nazis the equivalent of \$3,000 to deport each girl. Through first-person testimony and rare archival material, we learn the little-known facts of the women's camp in 1942 and how a handful of the girls managed against all odds to survive over three long years of hell on earth. This event is free and open to the public but advanced registration is required as seating is limited at the screening. Registration is available here: <https://keenestate.wufoo.com/forms/p1g2u64y0sq88j1/>
This event is part of the 2025-2026 series on "Gender and Genocide" being offered by the Cohen Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College. Speakers in this series represent a wide range of scholarly research and views; our guests' perspectives

should not be taken as representative of the Cohen Institute or Keene State College as a whole. The film showing is made possible through donor

funding. If you would like to make a gift to support this lecture or other Institute offerings, please visit: <https://giving.keene.edu/cihgs/>

A gift from the
Jewish Federation of New Hampshire



SIGN UP Ages birth through 8
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Ages 9 through 12
pjourway.org

Sign up your children ages birth through 12 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
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FINANCIAL PLANNING • INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT • INDEPENDENT ADVICE

Popsicles in the Playground, Franconia



PJ Library families from Vermont and New Hampshire came together at a playground in Franconia, NH on September 7th for fun with new friends, popsicles, tie-dye and of course, **FREE BOOKS!**



Hiddur Mitzvah

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Here's the thing: So often, creativity gets treated like it's "extra." You do the real task—and then if there's time, maybe you add the decorations or the music or the fun. But in Judaism, it's not enough to just do a mitzvah or mark an occasion. We are taught to beautify it—to add the song, the sparkle, the silly touches that make it feel alive. This idea is called *hiddur mitzvah*, and it's grounded in the belief that being creative isn't an optional bonus—it's part of being made *b'tzelem Elohim*, in the image of God, the first Creator. Making art, music, or festive food isn't extra. It's how we bring out the holiness of the moment.

So when I go overboard with cos-

tumes, themed foods, glitter, or outrageous photo boards, I remind myself and my family: I'm not just being ridiculous (though of course I am). I'm living out a strong Jewish value – *hiddur mitzvah* and *simcha*—beautifying joy itself.

PJ Library offers wonderful books that celebrate creativity and expression for the youngest kids. Try *Engineer Ari and the Sukkah Express* by Deborah Bodin Cohen, where Ari and his friends decorate a sukkah with beauty and care. In *Beautiful Yetta: The Yiddish Chicken* by Daniel Pinkwater, a brave hen finds friendship and reminds us that being true to ourselves is its own mitzvah. And little ones will love *One, Two, Three, Sukkot!* by Naomi Shulman, a playful counting book that captures the fun of building and decorating together.

For our PJ Our Way readers (ages

Seniors Forever Young



On Thursday, September 11th Seniors Forever Young enjoyed a Lunch & Learn with guests Attorney Lee Goldberg and Paralegal Antonia Tello from 603LegalAid. Lee and Tony presented on Scams and Identity Theft, giving valuable tips for protecting oneself. Copies of the presentation and flyers are available through the JFNH office.



9–12), the spotlight this month is on *\$150,000 Rugelach* by Allison and Wayne Marks. It's a funny, fast-paced story about kids who turn a school baking project into a whirlwind of creativity, competition, and community. It's also the inspiration behind our upcoming program—"Read It, Roll It: A PJ Our Way \$150,000 Rugelach Adventure"—where kids will get to bake, taste, and maybe even invent the next great rugelach flavor.

October is packed with opportunities to celebrate—our way, together. Join me in Derry for "Stuffedies in the Sukkah" on October 5. Come check out a Jewish holiday story time in Bristol on October 22. Then find me in the Upper Valley, first at the L'dor VaDor Tot Shabbat at the Kilton Library in Lebanon, and then in Hanover for our PJ Our Way Rugelach

Adventure, both on October 25! Register and learn more about these events at www.jewishnh.org/community-calendar (or scan the QR code).



This is my favorite time of year in New Hampshire—even the trees show off their fanciest colors! Whether your sukkah is glammed out with the latest string lights and popcorn chains or is a box fort with the top cut off, whether you dance in the streets on Simchat Torah or just dance around the house in your pajamas with your favorite book, whether you're in glitter, face paint, or just holding a warm rugelach, remember: creativity isn't "extra." It's part of the celebration itself. Here's to making every *simcha* a little more beautiful.

Your Federation at Work

Narratives of Coexistence with Yahya Mahamid



On Thursday evening, September 11th, Jewish Federation of New Hampshire and Temple Israel Portsmouth partnered to bring Narratives of Coexistence with Yahya Mahamid to a private home in Dover. Yahya is an Israeli-Arab and educator. In this deeply personal evening, Yahya shared his life's journey from growing up in Umm al-Fahm with hostility toward Israel and the Jewish people, to his transformative path of confronting misinformation, embracing coexistence, and dedicating his life to fostering dialogue and understanding. A recording of this event is available upon request for personal use only and is not available online. Thank you to Jeremy Berger and to the Craigs for all of their hard work to make this program a success.



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 through the JFNH Office at
603-627-7679



THE STRENGTH OF A PEOPLE.
THE POWER OF COMMUNITY.

Calling All Preschoolers and Your Grown-Ups

By Corri Wilson, JFNH Shavua Tov Story Time Coordinator

For those who do not know me, I am Corri Wilson, your new Shavua Tov Story Time Coordinator. I am taking over

for Alane Sabel who has retired from running this program over many years. I have been a member of our New Hampshire Jewish Community for more than 28 years and have enjoyed participating in this program with my own grandchild-

dren the past two years.

Join us on Zoom one Sunday per month from 8:30-9:00 am for JFNH's Shavua Tov Story Time! We will share a story, song, and do-at-home crafts surrounding that month's theme/holiday, all geared toward ages 2-5. Under 2 are welcome to join in the fun.

One registration covers your entire family, with space on the form to list each child's name and age. Because story time is on Zoom, children and their grownups do not need to be in the same place and you can get on the Zoom from anywhere you have access. Whether you are parents and children in the same house, Bubbe and Zayde in New Hampshire/grandkids in New York, GGs in Florida/great-grandkids in New Hampshire, or even on vacation and still want to attend, just click on the Zoom link we send you from wherever you are.

The one-time fee for 10 months (Sep-

tember-June) is \$18 and includes everything mentioned below. If finances are a concern, please reach out to me directly. This should never be a barrier to you and your child/grandchild participating. Link and craft packets will only be sent to registered families. Please register even if you cannot attend all sessions; we would love to see you as often as possible and you will still receive your packet.

You can register here <http://bit.ly/3K5Nizm> just once for the entire 2025/2026 season to receive:

- 10 months of story time on zoom (September-June)
- Crafts and other items related to that month's theme mailed directly to the children at home
- Zoom link sent at the beginning of the week

I hope you will join me each month. Please reach out to corri.wilson@jewishnh.org with any questions.

Etz Hayim Synagogue: Sunday Family Camp for Sukkot!

Do you have little ones ages 4-6? Join us to help decorate and have a snack in the sukkah (weather permitting). RSVP to sarahjohnplater@aol.com by 8:00 AM Saturday, October 11 to ensure we have enough materials for the project.

Etz Hayim Synagogue hosts monthly Sunday Family Camp for ages 4-6. Our teacher uses a mix of music, crafts and games to introduce students to the Jewish calendar, prayer, Torah and Hebrew. Funding for this program is provided by The L Lou Schloss Memorial Education



Fund. We are located at 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH.

Visit <https://www.etzhayim.org/learn/grades-0-1> for more information.



Shavua Tov Story Time

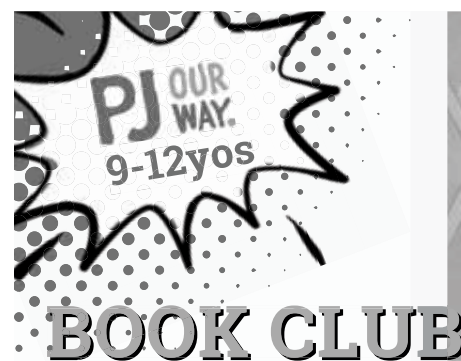
A program for families with children ages 2-5

Join us for a 20-minute interactive story time on Zoom one Sunday each month from 8:30am to 9:00am. Register once for \$18.00 per family to receive monthly crafts in the mail for the year! The zoom link will be provided to registered families each Monday ahead of the program. Scan QR code to register or go to <https://bit.ly/shavuatovNH>.



September 21 Theme: Rosh Hashanah	February 15 Theme: Purim
October 12 Theme: Simchat Torah	March 29 Theme: Passover
November 16 Theme: Shabbat	April 19 Theme: Lag B'Omer
December 14 Theme: Chanukah	May 17 Theme: Shavuot
January 25 Theme: Tu B'Shevat	June 7 Theme: Mitzvot

No Shavua Tov Story Time July or August for Summer Vacation



READ IT & ROLL IT:

A PJOW \$150,000 RUGELACH ADVENTURE

Saturday, Oct. 25th, 4pm
Roth Center, Hanover

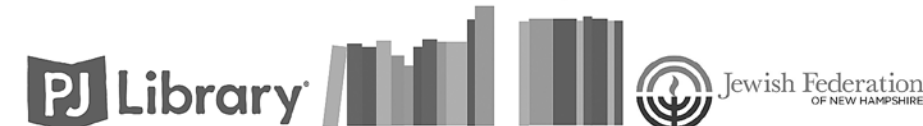
9-12 year olds - join us for a fun book discussion, trivia and make your own rugelach! All supplies will be provided, including your own PJOW apron. PLUS: Pizza & Havdalah!
Will YOUR rugelach be the best?



Program facilitated by JFNH Program Coordinator Dinah Berch in partnership with JCVT, Shir Shalom Synagogue and Kol Ha'emek, the Upper Valley Jewish Community. FREE program; registration required to ensure enough supplies. Arrange to receive your FREE book with registration!



Scan QR Code to register or email Dinah with questions: dinah.berch@jewishnh.org



Visit <https://bit.ly/shavuatovNH> to register or email info@jewishnh.org with questions.

Etz Hayim Synagogue Announces New Education Center

Thanks to the generous support of the Sandler and Schloss Families, we have established The Harry Sandler Educational Center and The L Lou Schloss Memorial Education Fund to bring all of our educational programs under one umbrella of learning, to foster the Jewish education of our children, “v’shinantam l’vanecha” (“and you shall teach your children”) and expand access to learning by removing financial barriers.

The Education Center will be overseen by Mike Schloss as Education Director, Irina Rubenshteyn as Religious School Director, and Steve Soreff as our Adult Education Director. Our programs are tailored for every member of the family and for every level of knowledge and are free to our members.

The Center has been beautifully renovated and upgraded thanks to an anonymous donor. We are also grateful to our new President Milt Zweig who created a mission to learn, to grow, and to connect, and for the artistic vision of Kristina Zweig, reorganization efforts by Irina and our teachers Arielle Welch, Sarah Plater and Sandra Whitman, and the handiwork by Milt Zweig, Jay Madnick, Aaron Madnick and Alex Rasner. Our religious school program includes the following levels of learning. Visit www.etzhayim.org/learn for more information:

- **SUNDAY FAMILY CAMP** (Ages 4-6) - Sunday Camp meets one Sunday per month for two hours. Our Sunday Camp Teacher uses a mix of music, crafts and games to introduce students

to the Jewish calendar, prayer, Torah and Hebrew. No synagogue membership is required for this program.

- **YOUTH EDUCATION** - Our Youth Education program meets weekly for students ages 7 to 18 in grades 2+. Synagogue membership is required for these programs:
- **KITAH ALEPH** (Grade 2) **AND KITAH BET** (Grade 3): These classes enable students to learn the basics of Hebrew letter recognition and decoding in order to begin to learn to read. Students will also learn about holiday observance, Tzedakah and Jewish living.
- **KITAH GIMEL AND KITAH DALET** (Grades 4 and up): Students start with building Hebrew reading skills, working up to leading prayer for our older students, as well as learning Jewish ethics, history and Judaica. Liturgical and Judaic knowledge and skills are taught in preparation for becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah.
- **BAR/BAT MITZVAH** - The B’nai Mitzvah program prepares students to take their place as adults within the Jewish Community. This program includes a focus on leading prayer, Jewish History, Judaica, and preparation of D’Var Torah. Visit etzhayim.org/learn/b-nai-mitzvah for more information.
- **CONFIRMATION** - Confirmation students also meet on Tuesday night with a focus on advanced Jewish education which includes classroom discussion along with the opportunity to



be a Teacher’s aide for our younger students. Religion, identity, nationality, ethnicity, self-definition will be a framework for discussion.

- **ADULT LEARNING** - The Adult Continuing Education Program is held monthly. A wide variety of speakers and topics are presented to appeal to

both our Jewish audience and the greater community. Visit www.etzhayim.org/learn/adult-learning for this year’s lineup of programming.

We invite you to visit Etz Hayim Synagogue at 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, NH to tour and explore. Visit www.etzhayim.org to stay current and connected.

Foundation for Jewish Camp Launches New England Regional Center with Combined Jewish Philanthropies and Support from The Krupp Foundation

Partnership builds on decades of collaboration to expand access to and strengthen the impact of Jewish camps across the region

BOSTON — Foundation for Jewish Camp (FJC) and Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP) today announced a new FJC New England regional center, with additional financial support from The Krupp Foundation. The center will work to deepen support for Jewish day and overnight camps across the region; help camps deliver safe, joyful, and meaningful Jewish experiences for thousands of young people; and offer new scholarship opportunities for campers. Recruitment for a New England regional director is now underway.

The new center will increase the number

of Jewish kids going to camp and provide camps with the resources they need to thrive. Together, these steps build the foundation of Jewish life and a vibrant Jewish future: Jewish camp is a proven pathway for identity, community, leadership, and growth — values that will be woven throughout the regional hub’s work.

FJC’s New England regional center builds on a longstanding partnership between FJC and CJP. Since 2008, CJP has partnered with FJC on its signature One Happy Camper® (OHC) program, which provides need-blind incentive grants for first-time campers. To date, FJC and its over 100 partners have awarded more than 130,000 OHC grants. This summer, CJP distributed over \$900,000 in OHC grants

and need-based scholarships, helping more than 400 new and returning campers experience the magic of Jewish camp.

“FJC is thrilled to partner with CJP to open our new regional center in New England, our first hub in collaboration with a federation,” said Jamie Simon, CEO of Foundation for Jewish Camp. “Regional centers boost participation in professional learning and grant opportunities, and bolster local philanthropic relationships to better support camps. Having a leader on the ground enables us to tailor support to local trends, pilot ideas, and scale what works across the field. We are also grateful for The Krupp Foundation’s commitment to making this vision possible.”

FJC’s regional model embeds local ex-

pertise and relationships to serve camps and communities more effectively. Since launching its first center in Los Angeles in 2019, FJC has expanded to the Midwest (Chicago) and Southeast (Atlanta), with each center tailored to its local ecosystem but united in convening stakeholders, strengthening staff, providing local funding to camps, offering advisory support, and inspiring families to send their kids to Jewish camp. The New England center will be FJC’s fourth, and will bring the organization’s approach to the region’s dozens of day and overnight camps.

CJP works to make camp more accessible for families and supports the professionals serving those families. The New

Jewish Camp continued on page 12

High Holidays & Fall Festivals

New Hampshire High Holidays Service Guide 2025

Service Times by Synagogue

Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation, Bethlehem

We want to let the Jewish community of New Hampshire know that we will be offering a full schedule of High Holidays services and activities, free and open to all with advance registration.

Although we do not expect any disruptions, due to heightened security concerns we have decided to not publish the dates and times of the services in The Reporter. Please visit our website at <https://www.bethlehemsynagogue.org/high-holiday-rsvp> to obtain more information and to register. Thank you for your understanding.

Chabad Center for Jewish Living, Manchester

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service – 7:15 PM
 - Rosh Hashanah Dinner at Chabad on September 22, 2025, following services. Reservations required at chabadofnh.com/dinner.
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 1 – 10:00 AM
- Tashlich – September 23, 5:30 PM (Stark Park, Manchester, NH)
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 2 – 10:00 AM
- Shofar Blowing both days of Rosh Hashanah at Chabad – 12:15 PM

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre – 6:30 PM
- Yom Kippur Morning Service – 10:00 AM
 - Yizkor – 12:30 PM
 - Yom Kippur Afternoon/Mincha Service – 5:00 PM
 - Ne'ilah – 6:00 PM
 - Break Fast at conclusion of the fast – 7:07 PM

In Person Only

Additional Information: www.chabadofnh.com/services. Contact Chanchie Krinsky at chanchie@chabadofnh.com.

Sukkot

- Sukkot Party – Sunday, October 12, 2025, 5:00 PM
- Hakafot Simchat Torah – Tuesday, October 14, 2025, 6:45 PM

Congregation Ahavas Achim, Keene

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service – 7:00 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 1 – 9:00 AM
- Children's Service – September 23, 10:30 AM
- Tashlich – September 23, 4:00 PM (Ashuelot River Park, Keene)
- Rosh Hashanah Service, Day 2 – 4:00 PM

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre – 6:00 PM
- Yom Kippur Morning Service – 9:00 AM
 - Children's Service – 10:30 AM
 - Torah Service – 11:00 AM
 - Yizkor – 1:00 PM
 - Guided Meditation – 4:00 PM
 - Yom Kippur Afternoon/Mincha Service – 4:45 PM
 - Ne'ilah – 6:00 PM

Sukkot & Simchat Torah

- Family Storytime and Sukkah Decorating – Sunday, October 5, 8:30 AM
- Sukkot Festival Service with Rabbi Dan and Lainee Ginsberg, followed by light lunch in the Sukkah (please register for lunch at office@keenesynagogue.org) – Tuesday, October 7, 9:30 AM
- Shabbat Morning Service with Yizkor by Lainee Ginsberg and Rabbi Dan – Saturday, October 11, 9:30 AM
- Torah Discovery and Dance Party for Families – Tuesday, October 14, 5:00 PM
- Simchat Torah Celebration – Tuesday, October 14, 6:30 PM

Hybrid

Additional Information: Contact Daniella Yitzchak at office@keenesynagogue.com or 603-352-6747, or visit www.keenesynagogue.org.

Congregation Betenu, Amherst

Services will be held at Congregation Beth Abraham in Nashua. See their listing for full information.

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service – 7:30 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 1 – 9 :00 AM (Sanctuary Service), 9:45AM (Family Service) 10:30 AM (Betenu Service)
- Tashlich at the Nashua River (after services): 1:30 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 2 - 9 :00 AM (Sanctuary Service), 9:45AM (Family Service)

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre – 6:00 PM (Sanctuary Service), 7:30 PM (Betenu Service)
- Yom Kippur Morning Service – 10:30 AM
 - Yom Kippur Afternoon/Mincha Service – 3:30 PM
 - Yizkor Service –
 - Sanctuary Service 9:00-1:30 (Yizkor around 11:45)
 - Family Service 9:45-11:00am
 - Betenu Service 10:30-1:00
 - Discussion and singing experiences at 10:00 and 12:00
 - Jonah-theme program 3:30-4:30
 - Sanctuary Mincha and Neilah service 4:45-7:15pm
 - Betenu Yizkor 5:30-6:00, Neilah 6:00-7:15 Ne'ilah – 6:00 PM
- Sukkot/Shabbat Service – Friday, October 10, 7:30 PM (hybrid, location TBD, no cost, email office@betenu.org)

Hybrid

Additional Information: Contact Elsa Conrad at 603-879-9189 or office@betenu.org.

Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry

Selichot

- Selichot/Shabbat Service – Friday, September 12, 7:15 PM

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service – 7:15 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 1 – 9:30 AM
- Tashlich – 12:00 PM (Hood Pond Park, 4 Rollins Street, Derry)
- Family Service – September 23, 2:00 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 2 – 9:30 AM
- Rosh Hashanah Brunch – September 24, 11:30 AM

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre – 7:15 PM
- Yom Kippur Morning Service – 9:30 AM
- Yom Kippur Discussion – 1:00 PM
- Yom Kippur Family Service – 2:30 PM
- Ne'ilah Services – 4:00 PM
- Yom Kippur Break Fast – 6:30 PM

Sukkot & Simchat Torah

- Potluck & Shabbat in the Sukkah – Friday, October 10, 6:00 PM
- Simchat Torah Service – Tuesday, October 14, 6:00 PM

Hybrid

Additional Information: Contact Bruce Wechsler at brucejwechsler@comcast.net.

Kehilat Har Lavan Community, Bartlett Village, NH

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service – 6:30 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Day – 9:30 AM
- Tashlich – 12:30 PM

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre – 6:00 PM
- Yom Kippur Day Service – 10:00 AM
- Mincha- 5:00 PM
- Ne'ilah Services – 6:00 PM
- Yom Kippur Break Fast – 7:00 PM

Additional Information: 207-256-0060 or harlavancommunity@gmail.com

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High Holidays & Fall Festivals

High Holidays Service Guide

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Kol Ha'Emek, The Upper Valley Jewish Community, Hanover

Please visit uvjc.org/jewish-spiritual-life/high-holidays for the updated schedule.

Seacoast Chabad Jewish Center, Newington

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service – 6:30 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Dinner (RSVP required) – Monday, September 22, 7:00 PM, at The Seacoast Jewish Community Center
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 1 – 10:00 AM
 - Children's Program – Monday, September 22, 10:30 AM, at The Seacoast Jewish Community Center
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 2 – 10:00 AM
 - Shofar Blowing followed by Kiddush/Light Buffet – Wednesday, September 24, 11:30 AM

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre – 7:30 PM
- Yom Kippur Morning Service – 10:00 AM
 - Yom Kippur Children's Program – 10:30 AM
 - Yizkor – 12:00 PM
 - Ne'ilah – 6:00 PM

In Person Only

Additional Information: Contact Hannah at hannah@jewishseacoast.com.

Temple Adath Yeshurun, Manchester

Selichot & Pre-Holiday Events

- Selichot Service – Saturday, September 13, 7:00 PM
- High Holy Day Warm Up Service – Friday, September 19, 7:00 PM

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service – 8:00 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 1 – 10:00 AM
- Children's Rosh Hashanah Service – 3:00 PM
- Tashlich – 4:00 PM (Dorr's Pond)
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 2 – 10:00 AM

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre – 8:00 PM
- Yom Kippur – 10:00 AM
 - Children's Yom Kippur Service – Thursday, October 2, 2:00 PM
 - Adult Study Group – 3:00 PM
 - Yom Kippur Afternoon/Mincha Service – 4:00 PM
 - Yizkor Service – approximately 5:00 PM
 - Ne'ilah – 5:30 PM

TAY Religious Response to Hunger (Kol Nidre through Yom Kippur): Please bring non-perishable food donations to TAY for Families in Transition.

Sukkot

- Sukkot - All welcome - Monday, October 6 at 6:00 PM
- Sukkot Service – Friday, October 10, 6:00 PM (RSVP required by October 8)
Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah
- Pizza at TAY and Simchat Torah Service – Tuesday, October 14, 6:00 PM

Hybrid

Contact: office@taynh.org

Temple B'Nai Israel, Laconia

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service - 7:30 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 1st Day - 10 AM
- Tashlich at the beach following the morning service.
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, 2nd Day - Alternative Service 10 AM

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre - 7:30 PM
- Yom Kippur Morning Service - 10:00 AM
- Yizkor following the morning service
- Afternoon, Ne'ilah Service - 4:45 PM
- Community Break-Fast immediately following.

In-Person, Virtual or Hybrid: Hybrid

Additional Information: ALL NON-MEMBERS must register to attend services. This includes family members not residing with a TBI member, as well as friends who plan to attend with a member. Email info@tbinh.org to request Zoom links or visit www.tbinh.org.

Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service – 8:00 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 1 – 9:00 AM
 - Avodat Halev Meditation – 9:00 AM
 - Family Service – 9:45 AM
 - Betenu Service – 10:30 AM
 - Singing and Discussion Experiences – 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM
- Tashlich – 1:30 PM (off Franklin Street by the Nashua River)
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 2 – 9:00 AM

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre – 6:00 PM
- Betenu Kol Nidre – 7:30 PM
- Yom Kippur – 9:00 AM
 - Avodat Halev Meditation – 9:00 AM
 - Family Service – 9:45 AM
 - Betenu Morning Service – 10:30 AM
 - Jonah-Themed Program – 3:30 PM
 - Yom Kippur Afternoon/Mincha Service – 4:45 PM
 - Betenu Yizkor and Ne'ilah – 5:30 PM
 - TBA Ne'ilah – 6:00 PM

Sukkot & Simchat Torah

- Sukkah Dinner and Celebration – Monday, October 6, 4:30 PM
- First Day Morning Services – Tuesday, October 7, 10:00 AM
- Second Night Evening Services – Tuesday, October 7, 7:30 PM
- Second Day Morning Services – Wednesday, October 8, 10:00 AM
- Shabbat Chol Hamoed Sukkot Evening Services – Friday, October 10, 8:00 PM
- Shabbat Chol Hamoed Sukkot Morning Services – Saturday, October 11, 10:00 AM
- Shabbat Neshama/Soul Shabbat in the Sukkah – Saturday, October 11, 9:45 AM
- Family Shabbat in the Sukkah – Saturday, October 11, 11:00 AM
- Shabbat Lunch in the Sukkah – Saturday, October 11 (following services)
- Shemini Atzeret Evening Services – Monday, October 13, 7:30 PM
- Shemini Atzeret Morning Services and Yizkor – Tuesday, October 14, 9:30 AM
- Afternoon Yizkor – Tuesday, October 14, 5:00 PM
- Simchat Torah Dinner and Celebration – Tuesday, October 14, 5:30 PM
- Simchat Torah Morning Service – Wednesday, October 15, 9:30 AM

Hybrid

Additional Information: Register at www.tbanashua.org. Contact Rebecca White at rebecca@tbanashua.org.

Temple Beth Jacob, Concord

Selichot

- Selichot Service – Saturday, September 13, 7:30 PM

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service – 7:30 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 1 – 9:30 AM
 - Youth Service – Tuesday, September 23, 10:00 AM, at TBJ
 - Kiddush sponsored by Sisterhood – September 23, approximately 12:30 PM, at TBJ
 - Family Service (for families with children age 7 or younger) – September 23, 1:30 PM, on the grass by Everett Arena Boat Ramp
 - Alternative Rosh Hashanah Observance – September 23, 1:30 PM, off-site (details TBA)
- Tashlich – September 23, 2:15 PM, Everett Arena Boat Ramp
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 2 – 9:30 AM

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre – 7:30 PM
- Yom Kippur – 9:30 AM
 - Youth Service – Thursday, October 2, 10:00 AM, at TBJ
 - Family Service (for families with children age 7 or younger) – October 2, 1:30 PM, TBJ backyard
 - Alternative Yom Kippur Observance – October 2, 1:30 PM, off-site (details TBA)
 - Ark open for quiet sitting – October 2, 2:15 PM
 - Yom Kippur Afternoon/Mincha Service – 3:30 PM

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Jewish Camp

continued from page 9

England center will build on CJP's OHC grants and scholarships, further ensuring that Jewish camp remains a valuable aspect of the teen community's experience in Greater Boston. This initiative aligns with CJP's broad commitment to meaningful, relevant, and joyful Judaism and Jewish Peoplehood.

"We are a community that is deeply committed to inspiring our future generations, and CJP has a longstanding commitment to young families and teens," said Rabbi Marc Baker, CEO of CJP. "In this moment, our partnership with FJC will strengthen the power of Jewish camp as one of the most joyful and transformative expressions of Jewish life. This center will inspire, nurture, and empower the next generation of Jews in New England and beyond."

As part of the new effort, The Krupp Foundation will provide additional support that helps launch the center and expands scholarships for New England overnight campers. This investment reflects a growing coalition of local partners who see Jewish camp as a powerful pathway for identity, community, and leadership.

"Jewish overnight camp offers something increasingly rare: a safe, immersive environment where young people build joyful, lasting connections to Jewish life," said Douglas and Judi Krupp, founders and board members of The Krupp Foundation. The Krupp Foundation is proud to partner with FJC and CJP to ensure

more children and families have access to this transformative experience."

About Foundation for Jewish Camp

FJC's mission is to grow, support, and strengthen the Jewish camp movement, leveraging more than \$15 million of philanthropic giving annually to scale programs and resources that benefit more than 300 Jewish day and overnight camps across North America. jewishcamp.org

About Combined Jewish Philanthropies

Founded in 1895, Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP) is Greater Boston's Jewish Federation and was created with the purpose of building vibrant Jewish communities and igniting positive change at home, in Israel, and around the world. As a philanthropic organization driven by Jewish values, learning, and culture, CJP mobilizes communal philanthropy and provides grants, builds partnerships, and brings Greater Boston's diverse Jewish community together. For more information, please visit www.cjp.org.

About The Krupp Foundation

The Krupp Foundation is a multigenerational family foundation based in Boston and New York. Guided by a deep commitment to the Jewish values of social justice, The Krupp Foundation supports organizations and leaders working to build and sustain vibrant, inclusive, and connected communities across three primary program areas: Environment, Education, and Jewish Life. While grounded in these core areas, The Krupp Foundation aspires to remain open and responsive to emerging needs and opportunities that may lay outside of its strategic priorities.

High Holidays & Fall Festivals

High Holidays Service Guide

continued from page 11

- Yizkor – approximately 5:00 PM
- Ne'ilah – approximately 6:00 PM
- Break Fast sponsored by Sisterhood at the conclusion of Ne'ilah

Sukkot & Simchat Torah

- Erev Sukkot Service – Monday, October 6, 7:00 PM
- Shabbat Sukkot Family Service – Friday, October 10, 6:00 PM
- Sukkot Yizkor Service – Monday, October 13, 9:30 AM
- Simchat Torah Service and Consecration of New Kadimah Students – Monday, October 13, 5:00 PM

Hybrid

Additional Information: RSVP for childcare to office@tbjconcord.org. Call 603-228-8581, email office@tbjconcord.org, or visit tbjconcord.org.

Temple Israel, Manchester

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service – 6:00 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 1 – 9:15 AM
- Tashlich – 5:00 PM (Livingston Park, Manchester)
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 2 – 9:15 AM

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre – 5:30 PM
- Yom Kippur Morning Service – 9:15 AM
- Yom Kippur Afternoon Service (Mincha) – 4:45 PM

Sukkot & Simchat Torah

- Sukkot First Day – Tuesday, October 7, 9:45 AM
- Shabbat Sukkot Dinner – Friday, October 10, 6:00 PM
- Shemini Atzeret with Yizkor – Tuesday, October 14, 9:45 AM
- Simchat Torah – Tuesday, October 14, 6:00 PM

Hybrid

Additional Information: Visit templeisraelmht.org or call 603-622-6171.

Temple Israel, Portsmouth

Pre-Holiday Event

- Reverse Tashlich – Sunday, September 28 (time TBD)

Rosh Hashanah

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service – 6:30 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service, Day 1 – 9:00 AM
- Tashlich – Immediately after services at Prescott Park Pier (Portsmouth), and at 3:30 PM at Henry Law Park (Dover) and Swasey Park Boat Launch (Exeter)

Yom Kippur

- Kol Nidre – 5:45 PM (arrive before start to ensure admittance)
- Yom Kippur Morning Service – 9:00 AM
- Yom Kippur Afternoon Service (Mincha/Jonah) – 4:30 PM
- Neilah – 5:45 PM
- Community Break-the-Fast Meal – 7:15 PM (registration required)

Sukkot & Simchat Torah

- Erev Sukkot Potluck at Strawberry Banke Sukkah – Monday, October 6, 5:30 PM
- Sukkot Day 1 Yom Tov Service – Tuesday, October 7, 10:00 AM
- October 7 Commemoration – Tuesday, October 7 (time TBD)
- Friday Night Potluck (Strawberry Banke Sukkah) – Friday, October 10, 5:30 PM
- Pizza in the Hut (Temple Israel Sukkah) – Wednesday, October 8, 5:30 PM
- Hoshana Rabba – Monday, October 13, 10:00 AM (private sukkah hosting)

Hybrid

Additional Information: All attendees must preregister for in-person or virtual access. Visit templeisraelnh.org or call (603) 436-5301 ext. 10.

L'Shana tova u' metuka!

**Best wishes for a happy, healthy,
and peaceful New Year!**

– Roberta Gordenstein

**Warm wishes for a sweet New Year full of health,
happiness and peace.**

– Michele and Michael Bank

**Best wishes for a peaceful
and healthy New Year**

– Linda and Sol
Rockenmacher

Happy New Year!



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Behind the Bimah

A man came home from the hospital after visiting his mother-in-law. His wife asked, “So, how is she doing?” He sighed and said, “The doctor told me to prepare for the worst.” She gasped, “What?! She’s moving in with us?!”

We laugh because life often catches us off guard. We brace ourselves for the worst, when in truth, G-d is inviting us to discover the best. And that, in many ways, is the message of Sukkot.

After the powerful days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, when we’ve prayed, reflected, and elevated our souls, the question becomes: how do we carry that inspiration back into daily life? We can’t stay in the synagogue forever. We need to eat, drink, work, and raise our families. Sukkot gives us the answer: holiness doesn’t end with Yom Kippur—it comes with us. Eating, drinking, laughing, and celebrating in the Sukkah all be-



come mitzvot. The walls of the Sukkah are like G-d’s hug, reminding us that His love surrounds not only our prayers, but our ordinary routines as well.

There is a story told about a family in Brooklyn. Their teenage son had stormed out of the house and moved away, leaving his parents heartbroken. His mother couldn’t sleep at night, worrying about what he was eating, where he was sleeping, and whether he was safe.

One day, she went to see the Lubavitcher Rebbe and asked: “How

can I bring my son home?” The Rebbe’s answer surprised her: “Invest in your Shabbat table.”

She was puzzled. What did the Shabbat table have to do with a son who hadn’t come home in months? But she and her husband decided to follow the Rebbe’s advice. That week, she asked each child what their favorite food was, and she made sure it was waiting for them at the table with a note that said, “I love you.” Her husband came home early, shared a thought of Torah, and showed real interest in each child. The table was calm, joyful, and filled with laughter.

At first, their wayward son didn’t believe the reports from his siblings. He remembered a tense, critical home, not one of warmth and love. But curiosity won him over. One Friday night, he came back “just for a meal.” The welcome he received was so warm, so differ-

ent from what he remembered, that he came again the next week—and then earlier the week after that—until, slowly, he returned home for good.

That’s the essence of Sukkot. Holiness is not only in lofty prayers or synagogue rituals—it begins at the table, in the home, in the way we treat one another, and in the love and joy we bring into daily life. The Sukkah reminds us that the greatest blessings are already with us. It teaches us to recognize the sacred in the simple: a shared meal, a warm embrace, a family gathering.

As we sit in the Sukkah this year, may we discover holiness in our everyday lives, may our homes be filled with warmth and love, and may we all feel the comforting embrace of G-d.

Chag Sameach,
Rabbi Berel

Upper Valley Tot Shabbat

L'dor Vador: From Generation to Generation

Join us for Tot Shabbat at the Kilton Library! Music, stories, crafts and of course FREE BOOKS! Bring your grandparents and grandfriends for special projects all about passing on traditions.

Are there special songs that our family sings together?

Can you remember a story about when Grandma/Grandpa were younger?

Do you know any stories about when Mom/Dad were little? Can you share them?

Saturday, October 25th
10:30AM
Kilton Library
80 Main Street, West Lebanon, NH

Registration Not Required

PJ Library **JCAVT** **Jewish Federation of New Hampshire** **SHIR SHALOM VERMONT**

PJ Library

Stuffies in the Sukkah

Bring your favorite stuffie and join us for story time in the sukkah! Then enjoy a craft project followed by a bagel brunch.

PJ Library events are geared towards families with children ages 0-8; siblings, grownups and grandfriends welcome!

Sunday, October 5th
10:30 AM
Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry

Registration Required

Scan QR code or visit <https://forms.gle/qqC9MA2t9cBdYTPX8>

Jewish Federation of New Hampshire

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

In the Community

JFNH Annual Meeting 2025: Highlights

continued from page 1



In the Community



ADMISSION OPEN HOUSE **SUNDAY**
NOVEMBER 2
1:00 p.m.

Register Today!



Information Session:

OCTOBER 14 : Virtual, 7:00 p.m.

- Merit scholarships available
- Offering five bus routes across southern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts
- Daily lunch included in tuition

An independent day school welcoming bright, motivated students in grades 6-12

A BBYO Chapter is Growing in New Hampshire!

By Ariel Berger

Being a Jewish teen in New Hampshire can sometimes feel like you're the only one. That's exactly why I decided to start a BBYO chapter here—to create a community where Jewish teens can come together, connect, and have fun.

For those who don't know, BBYO is an international, teen-led youth organization for 8th through 12th graders. It's all about leadership, friendship, and Jewish identity. BBYO gives teens a place to explore who they are, take on leadership roles, and build lifelong friendships. There are chapters all over the world, and now, finally, there's one here in southern New Hampshire.

Our goal is simple: To unify Jewish teens across the state. Whether you're from Manchester, Nashua, Portsmouth, or anywhere in between, this is a space where you'll instantly feel welcome. The best part? Everything we do is planned by teens, for teens. That means the programs reflect what we actually want—fun, meaningful experiences with people who get us.

We already have some exciting events in the works. This winter, we'll be going ice skating—a perfect way to hang out, laugh, and maybe even show off some skating skills (or just try not to fall too much!). When the weather warms up, we're planning a pool party to kick off the summer. And that's just the beginning. From holiday celebrations to com-

munity service projects to just hanging out and having fun, the possibilities are endless when you are part of BBYO.

But BBYO isn't just about local events. One of the coolest parts is being connected to the national and even international organization. Teens from all over come together every year for International Convention—thousands of Jewish teens in one place, celebrating, learning, and having the time of their lives. Imagine representing New Hampshire on that stage, meeting people from across the U.S. and the world, and knowing you're part of something bigger. That's what we're working toward as a chapter.

Starting something new is never easy, but the energy is already building. We're

creating something that will last, not just for us, but for the next generations of Jewish teens in New Hampshire. If you've ever wanted to be part of something fun, meaningful, and full of new friendships, now is the time to get involved.

Join our Instagram @bbyo.southern.new.hampshire to stay updated, sign up for events, and make new friends. This is your chance to help shape the future of Jewish teen life in New Hampshire—and to be part of a global movement that's been empowering Jewish teens for nearly 100 years. Let's build this together. Let's make BBYO New Hampshire something unforgettable. For more information, please reach out to ariel.berger27@gmail.com.

We Made History at the 4th New Hampshire Jewish Festival

By Hannah Cohen

NEWINGTON, NH — A remarkable milestone was reached this summer when over 600 people gathered for the 4th New Hampshire Jewish Festival at the Seacoast Chabad Jewish Center. It was a day filled with joy, pride, and unity—and has earned its place as the largest Jewish event in the history of New Hampshire.

A Festival of Jewish Unity

From the first notes of live music to the last conversations at the food court, the atmosphere brimmed with Jewish pride and togetherness. Attendees explored an array of joyful activities: Children scaled the towering rock wall, families laughed their way through trackless train rides, and crowds collectively reveled beneath a playful foam machine. The Wall of Hope, inspired by Jerusalem's Western Wall, stood as a powerful centerpiece, where participants of all ages wrote messages

and prayers infused with hope and unity.

Performances by Meir Green and Yaeko Miranda Elmaleh set the tone for dancing and celebration, weaving Israeli and Jewish melodies into every moment. Meanwhile, delicious offerings from The Brooklyn Café—especially their famed NY-style bagels and falafel—infused the day with comfort, flavor, and connection through food.

Leaders Stand with the Jewish Community

The impact of the festival was amplified by strong gestures of support from public officials. Senators, Congressmen, local Mayors, and the President of UNH all offered heartfelt remarks celebrating cultural pride and solidarity. Notably, Governor Kelly Ayotte sent a warm message, expressing admiration for the vibrancy of Jewish life in New Hampshire and her appreciation for such a historic gathering.

One attendee beautifully summed it

up: "To see Jews from every corner of New Hampshire come together—it shows that our community is not only surviving but thriving."

Community Spirit and Sponsors

This powerful day was made possible through the generous support of organizations dedicated to fostering Jewish life statewide. Groups like Stand With Us, the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, and others provided vital backing that allowed the festival to bloom on the Seacoast—bringing together communities in celebration of identity, unity, and heritage.

Infusing added zest, the Cohen Camps joined the festival with youthful energy, weaving fun, connection, and the promise of the next generation into every moment.

Looking Ahead

This event wasn't just a day of celebration—it was a milestone in Jewish history for New Hampshire. Over six hundred Jews and friends from across the state

stood together in unity, reaffirming our cultural strength and shared future.

Rabbi Berel Slavaticki perfectly captured the spirit: "A little bit of light pushes away a lot of darkness. This festival was our light—it reminded us that Jewish life in New Hampshire is vibrant, joyous, and here to stay."

With that energy in our hearts, we're already envisioning the 5th New Hampshire Jewish Festival—bigger, brighter, and more connected than ever. We welcome synagogues, Jewish foundations, and community organizations across the state to join us in this journey, and we remain proud partners with the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire. If your synagogue or organization would like to participate, please reach out to office@jewishseacoast.com.

This year proved what's possible. Next year, we'll build something even more unifying, joyous, and meaningful for Jewish life in New Hampshire.

Temple Beth Abraham discusses "Zionism through a contemporary lens" on Sunday, November

On Sunday, November 16, Rabbi David Starr will lead us in a discussion about Zionism at Temple Beth Abraham in Nashua. A light lunch will precede the discussion. There is no charge to attend; however, donations are appreciated to help fund this event and others like it.

Rabbi Starr will look at the roots of Zionism and how the concept is viewed

through a contemporary lens. He will also discuss how to confront antisemitism when it emerges within left-leaning spaces and how we can express solidarity with Israel even while critiquing the actions of its government.

Rabbi David Starr leads



the Mishkan Tefila Congregation in Brookline, Massachusetts. He has Rabbinic Ordination from The Jewish Theological Seminary of America and holds a Ph.D. in History and Jewish Studies from Columbia University. He grew

up mostly in Boston and Minnesota. He has worked in Washington D.C. and Israel, and now lives in the Boston area with his family.

Rabbi Starr founded the widely popular Me'ah program, an in-depth adult learning experience studying the narrative of the Jewish people. To register for the event, go to <https://tinyurl.com/3fpr5mvj>

In the Community

Continuing the High Holiday Season: Sukkot at Temple Israel Portsmouth

Sukkot, beginning the evening of Monday, October 6, continues the spiritual momentum of the High Holidays at Temple Israel Portsmouth. This joyful festival highlights themes of gratitude, community, and connection with nature, welcoming everyone—regardless of background or level of observance—to participate in its spirit of reflection and celebration.

We invite you to join us for a week of meaningful and family-friendly events:

- Monday, October 6 – Celebrate the start of Sukkot with a service and vegetarian/dairy potluck dinner at Strawberry Banke Museum.
- Wednesday, October 8 – Don't miss Pizza in the Hut, a relaxed and fun

outdoor evening event for families.

- Friday, October 10 – Gather for a Shabbos Tisch potluck, also at Strawberry Banke.

Two sukkahs—temporary outdoor shelters recalling the Israelites' journey through the wilderness—will be set up at Temple Israel and Strawberry Banke, and will remain open throughout the week. Drop by to share a meal, enjoy a quiet moment, or simply experience the tradition. All are welcome! If you're interested in attending any of the events, please contact the office to find out more and register at 603-436-5301 ext. 10 or email Templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org. We look forward to celebrating with you.



The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club: NH Through the Lense of a Local Media Editor

New Hampshire, as seen through though the lens of a Granite State Local Media Editor after being away for two decades, will be the topic explored in a presentation by Michael Cote, New Hampshire Editor, Yankee Publishing on Sunday, October 26th at 10:00 am, live at Temple Beth Abraham. The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club is proud to present this interesting and informative discussion. The Men's Club breakfast will be served at 9:30 am before the speaker begins.

Michael Cote grew up in New Hampshire and earned his BA in English and Communications from the University of New Hampshire in 1984. Following graduation, Michael relocated to Colorado earning his Master's Degree in Communication and Media Studies from the University of Colorado in 1989. After graduate school, Mike spent the next 23 years working in various Editorial positions while also serving as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Colorado School of Journalism and Mass Communications. Upon returning to New Hampshire in 2012, Mike spent the next 11 years in various Editorial positions at the New Hampshire Union Leader. In June 2023 Mike accepted a position as the New Hampshire Editor at Yankee Publishing. Mike is currently responsible for both NH Magazine (publisher of NH's Top Docs), the New Hampshire Business Review and New Hampshire Home. Mike's discussion will cover landscape changes in the

publishing industry, business model changes including business segments such as custom publishing, podcasts and special events.

Following his presentation, Michael will conduct a question-and-answer period. Please be sure to join us on Sunday, October 26th for Michael's interesting and informative talk. This special presentation is free of charge and open to the public. Please register in advance by emailing breakfastsvp@snhjmc.org to confirm your registration and indicate whether you plan to join us for breakfast or just the presentation.

The SNHJMC Kitchen Crew will be preparing a sumptuous feast of scrambled eggs, hash brown potatoes, bagels, lox, and whitefish salad with veggies, fruit, orange juice, milk, coffee, and water. The Men's Club Breakfast will start at 9:30 am. The cost for breakfast is \$10 for all members of the SNHJMC in good standing and any of those members' guests. The cost for breakfast for non-members will be \$18. New members will be able to join on the spot should they wish to take advantage of the breakfast discount. Membership in the Men's Club is available for a suggested donation of \$36. Please contact our Treasurer should a financial constraint be a concern. As always, your membership may be paid when you arrive for breakfast or by mailing a check to SNHJMC Treasurer c/o Temple Beth Abraham, 4 Raymond Street, Nashua, NH 03064. Online membership registration is



Michael Cote

also available on the Temple website: <https://tbanashua.shulcloud.com/form/mens-club-registration-2025-26.html>

About The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club

The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club, founded in 1982, conducts monthly breakfast meetings. The Club's mission is based on building a brotherhood of like-minded men who wish to share their commitment and values with those in the greater Southern New Hampshire Jewish community. The Southern New Hampshire Jewish Men's Club is a non-profit organization serving Jewish men and husbands of Jewish women from all southern NH's Jewish communities regardless of synagogue membership for over forty years. If you or someone you know would like to join our Men's Club please contact our president, Monroe Kahn, via email: president@snhjmc.org or visit our website at <http://www.snhjmc.org>.



Etz Hayim Synagogue Announces New Spiritual Leadership

Etz Hayim Synagogue is pleased to announce rabbinical coverage for our community through August 1, 2026! In order to meet the unique needs of our congregation during this transitional time, Etz Hayim will be welcoming not one, but two highly accomplished rabbis to guide us in the coming year. The Rabbi Search Committee is hard at work not only seeking a permanent Rabbi for next year but also to supplement this year's transitional rabbi schedule. Stay tuned!

Meet Rabbi Jonathan Biatch: We are honored to introduce Rabbi Jonathan Biatch who will serve as our High Holiday Rabbi this year and will also lead our monthly Family Shabbats. Rabbi Biatch recently concluded an interim post in



Rabbi Jonathan Biatch

Tempe, Arizona and previously led congregations in Madison, Wisconsin (for nearly 20 years) and Virginia for six years. He has recently moved to Connecticut where his wife is taking on a new Rabbinical position herself. His thoughtful leadership and inspiring High Holiday and Family Shabbat services are sure to be deeply meaningful for us all.

Meet Rabbi Marcia Plumb: Rabbi Plumb will be visiting monthly to lead



Rabbi Marcia Plumb

erev Shabbat, and Saturday morning Shabbat and Torah Study. Rabbi Plumb brings decades of experience in both pulpit leadership and Jewish education. Ordained at HUC-NY in 1988 with a Master's in Hebrew Literature that she received in 1985 at the same institute, she has served communities across both the U.S. and the U.K. She also served as rabbi and chaplain for Hebrew Senior Life. She lived in London, England for 25 years, and served as

a congregational and day school rabbi and founded and directed the Spiritual Formation program at Leo Baeck College (a rabbinic seminary). She was ordained at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York. She studied at St. John's Seminary in California and earned her Master's in Feminist Spirituality with the Immaculate Heart Center in Los Angeles. She was the program director for Seminarians Interacting, which took students from 25 seminaries to study at each other's seminaries, then on retreat together. Her focus is on Mussar, prayer, interfaith and social justice work, and spirituality. She lives in Needham, MA with her husband. They have two children in graduate school.

Summer at BHC Draws to a Close

The Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation (BHC) enjoyed a successful 105th summer season, welcoming a mix of year-round residents and summer visitors to its "destination-adjacent" synagogue in the White Mountains. The season was marked by a rich array of cultural events as part of its "Building Community Through the Arts" program.

The Books of Jewish Interest Club, organized by Gail Robinson, captivated readers with an exploration of the lives of the innovative Jewish merchants who changed retail forever. A highlight was the special discussion with author Stephanie Deutsch, who participated via Zoom to talk about her book, *You Need a Schoolhouse*, which chronicles the philanthropic partnership between Booker T. Washington and Julius Rosenwald, who was the head of Sears-Roebuck. The tastiest discussion was of *The Joy of Costco*, at which Melissa Potter served the well-loved Costco pies. Watch for next summer's reading list, which will feature Jewish memoirs.

The Sounds in the Sanctuary classical music series once again brought extraordinary music to the historic BHC synagogue, thanks to the unstinting support of our donors. Of particular note were Halcyon Chorale's rich and moving performance of Eric Whitacre's *The Sacred Veil*, and the sensational return performance by Israeli-American cellist Amit Peled, accompanied by pianist Martin Labazevitch. Their compelling virtuosity was a perfect way to end a season filled with beautiful music. Also of note was the musical tribute to the Mautner-Robinson Family sponsored by Dorothea

Mautner. Bernard Rose will return to open next summer's season, and pianist Richard Kogan is already engaged for an August performance.

The White Mountain Jewish Film Festival brought the community together for a thought-provoking series of films with some particularly notable guest speakers.

The screening of *Midas Man*, a film about the Beatles' manager Brian Epstein, featured Eric Taros, a renowned rock 'n' roll and Beatles historian. Taros shared fascinating insights into the manager's life and the band's history. The guest speakers for *Daniel*, based on the lives of the children of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, were their son Robert Meeropol and his wife, novelist Ellen Meeropol, along with a returning WMJFF favorite, Rick Winston. The season concluded with a screening of *Treasure*, which depicts the tragicomic journey to Poland of an American daughter and her Holocaust-survivor father. The discussion with Lori Lefkowitz, a professor of Jewish Studies and a child of Holocaust survivors, was particularly interesting and informative for the audience. As always, the patio parties were a treat, thanks to WMJFF's generous volunteers. We also thank WMJFF's selection committee



for watching dozens of movies to pick the best ones for us to screen.

For further details about each of our summer programs, please visit the BHC website bethlehemsynagogue.org and se-

lect the "Programs" menu. And as the summer draws to a close, we turn our thoughts to the High Holidays and look to what we hope will be a good year ahead in Bethlehem.



A Community Art Project in Remembrance of October 7th

Sun, Oct 19
2:00 PM
Camp Yavneh
Northwood, NH

On October 7, our community, like the Jewish people everywhere, was shaken to its core. **One Heart, Many Colors** offers a space to process, remember, and begin to heal together through the power of art.



Join us in creating a unique community project: paint a heart-shaped canvas to express your own emotions, and watch as your piece becomes part of a larger whole. Together, our individual feelings will form a shared work of resilience and memory, helping us face the pain of that day and all that has followed.



Scan the QR to sign up
or visit JewishNH.org



Book Review

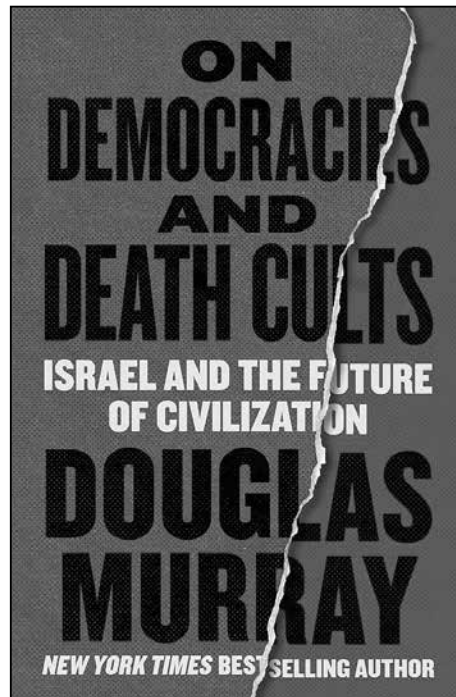
Reviewed by Richard England

On Democracies and Death Cults: Israel and the Future of Civilization By Douglas Murray

Some journalists with leading news organizations cover wars in the Middle East from the comfort and safety of hotel lobbies in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem. Douglas Murray is a different breed of journalist. In his 2025 New York Times bestseller, Murray provides an eye-witness description of the multi-front war that Israel has faced since the October 7, 2023, massacre and kidnapping of Israelis by Hamas invaders.

During the weeks and months after the atrocities of October 7, Murray traveled the length of Israel from the ravaged kibbutzim near Gaza to Kiryat Shmona near the Lebanese border (Kiryat Shmona is the home of Avia, a former slichah to New Hampshire). The author interviewed survivors of the October 7 attack, first responders who saved many lives, medical professionals who treated the physically and mentally wounded, Israeli families displaced from their homes by the war, and IDF soldiers who mobilized to pursue Hamas into Gaza.

In addition to telling their personal stories, Murray provides some historical context for the events of October 7. The atrocities committed by Hamas in 2023



are far from unique. In 1941, a Nazi-inspired pogrom in Baghdad left six hundred Iraqi Jews dead. During Israel's 1948 war for independence, Jews were either murdered or expelled from Jerusalem's Old City by the Jordanian army.

Survivors of that pogrom were unable to return to their homes until the IDF defeated Arab armies in 1967. Israel captured Gaza from the Egyptian army during that Six Days War, but the IDF withdrew from Gaza in 2005 and forced Jewish residents to evacuate. Ever since, Hamas has used Gaza as a military base with which to attack villages and cities in southern Israel.

Although some passages in Murray's book are sobering, others are surprisingly inspirational. Nimrod, a father of two and thirty-something reservist, drove south on October 7 armed only with a pistol. He joined a small IDF unit near Kibbutz Alumim. Together, they killed thirty Hamas terrorists who had been hunting Israeli civilians. Months later, thousands of young IDF conscripts and middle-aged reservists entered Gaza in an effort to rescue hostages and eliminate Hamas terrorists. Their rules of engagement sought to protect Israeli hostages and Palestinian noncombatants even though this placed IDF soldiers at greater risk of death or injury. After observing these IDF soldiers in combat, Murray concludes that "none took delight in

their task. They could feel victorious on occasion, proud to have completed a mission ... [But they] did it not because they loved death but exactly because they love life. They fought for ... the survival of their families, their nation, and their people" (p. 197).

Douglas Murray is an Oxford-educated writer, editor and playwright. He has published eight books on biography, history and politics. His opinion pieces have appeared in outlets such as The Wall Street Journal, Times of London, and New York Post. In April 2024, Murray was recognized by Israeli President Isaac Herzog for "his notable efforts since the October 7 massacre." According to Israel's Diaspora Affairs Minister, "Douglas stands as a fearless truth-teller amidst a symphony of lies, a beacon of light in these dark times. He quickly grasped that the conflict we're engaged in transcends the future of Gaza, the State of Israel, or the Middle East. It's an existential fight for the future of the West..." Douglas Murray's book is an excellent source of insights into the situation faced by Israelis and Diaspora Jews alike.

Powerhouse Produces the Powerful Play 'The Diary of Anne Frank'

Laconia, NH- Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative, the resident theatre company of the Colonial Theatre in Laconia, is pleased to announce its October Colonial Series show, Wendy Kesselman's adaptation of the Pulitzer Prize winning play The Diary of Anne Frank by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett. The original 1956 play was scripted based on the newly published diary, one of the most important works of literature in the 20th Century. The 2025 Colonial Series is sponsored by BNH and The Home Beautiful.

Powerhouse is a non-profit professionally managed community theatre company with hundreds of performers of all ages who come from all over New Hampshire to participate in Powerhouse productions. Powerhouse has quickly become known for the high quality of its productions and has been awarded the Best Community Musical award the past two years by the New Hampshire The-

atre Alliance's Theatre Awards. Powerhouse performs plays and musicals, classics and more modern works, and also original works by New Hampshire playwrights. Besides its 5 show Colonial Series, it performs smaller cabarets, readings, short plays, and theatre adventures in collaboration with other non-profits including BNH Stage, Prescott Farm, the Taylor Community, local libraries and more.

The cast of The Diary of Anne Frank includes many Powerhouse veterans as well as a couple of newcomers to the group. Anne will be played by Maci Johnson who was recognized as outstanding actress in a musical at last year's NH Theatre Awards for her performance as Winnie Foster in Tuck Everlasting. She is joined by Powerhouse vets Jakob Stone and Kate Flower as her parents, Tamara McGonagle, Logan Currier, and Kenny Aber as the Van Daan family, Jim Gocha as Mr Dussel, Emilee Thompson

as Miep, and newcomers to Powerhouse Estelle Carr as Margot and Dan Arlen as Mr Kraler. Rounding out the cast are Brendan Berube, Connor Butt, and Chuck Fray.

The cast will be directed by Powerhouse's Bryan Halperin who is the Producer of Powerhouse along with his wife, Johanna. The Halperins were given the Shem Tov Award from the Jewish Federation of NH several years ago for their annual Holocaust Remembrance theatre programs at the Winnepesaukee Playhouse. Halperin was inspired to put Anne Frank on this year's schedule when he saw one of the Powerhouse kids reading the diary during a rehearsal for another show last season. "I asked the girl if she was reading the book for school and she said that she was just reading it because she was interested in it. I asked a few of the kids around her if they knew of the diary and they all did. I thought it was worth bringing the story to life since so

many kids were aware of the book and/or had read it."

This production is sponsored by Boothby Therapy Services, The Laconia Daily Sun, and the Greater Laconia Ministerial Association and is part of the 2025 Powerhouse season sponsored by Meredith Village Savings Bank, Grapone Automotive Group and Lavalley Middleton Building Supply. To find out how you can become a sponsor of the 2026 Powerhouse season contact info@powerhousenh.org.

Tickets for The Diary of Anne Frank can be purchased from coloniallaconia.com or powerhousenh.org - please avoid third party ticket sites that mark up the prices. All tickets are between \$18-\$24, and group rates for 10 or more are available through the box office. For all the details on Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative, auditions, and other events in the 2025 season check out powerhousenh.org or email info@powerhousenh.org.

Movie Review

Reviewed by Zach Camenker, NH JFF Steering Committee

The Sunshine Boys

If you ever find yourself in need of some good laughs or a story about the bygone days of vaudeville in New York, look no further than the 1975 film adaptation of Neil Simon's play *The Sunshine Boys*. It's a treat that is sure to make you feel a pang of longing for what was and happiness for what is at the same time.

Like the majority of Neil Simon's works, the film feels as Jewish as a New York bagel with a good schmear and some lox. Both Walter Matthau and George Burns, sons of Jewish immigrants, play characters who closely resemble many of the Jewish vaudevillians, early Broadway stars, and film moguls of times past.

The story centers around the deteriorated relationship between long-time vaudeville partners Willy Clark (Matthau) and Al Lewis (Burns). Years after Lewis forces them into retirement and Clark hangs onto life with little zest left, the promise of a return to showbiz

is presented. Clark jumps at it, but Lewis struggles to see why he should leave his comfortable retirement, especially given the falling out that occurred over a decade ago.

Both Matthau and Burns are delightful in their respective roles. As the curmudgeonly bore, Matthau brings a sense of lifelessness and apathy that fits the signature "poker face" that he carried throughout his career. Burns, on the other hand, offers an affable and loving portrayal of aging grandfather Al Lewis that makes you want to hug him and sit down for a cup of coffee.

The way these two "frenemies" play off each other is brilliant comic acting at its finest. They clearly have an established rapport as performers that trans-



lates well to their rapport as characters, albeit in the professional sense. Their fractured relationship blends beautifully, especially in the scenes where they fight, Matthau in full force and Burns with a sense of angst.

The movie is two hours of sheer pleasure mixed with total annoyance. While that might seem somewhat of an oxymoron, you'll have to see it to understand why I've assigned it that designation. It's hard not to grow fond of both Willy and Al yet also find them both unbearable at times. This relationship is a signature to many Neil Simon works and this film is no exception.

Matthau and Burns have the great support of a young Richard Benjamin, who plays Matthau's nephew and

agent. Benjamin's anxious portrayal of Ben Clark is a very funny, realistic, and endearing characterization of what one might imagine from a young guy who wants to make it in the business like his much revered uncle did.

Interestingly, while it may seem that Matthau and Burns are co-leads and Benjamin their support, the film does center a bit more around Matthau, which is likely why Burns was nominated for Best Supporting Actor at the Oscars. He won for his role and at age 79, he remains one of the oldest winners for acting in Academy history. Moreover, it was his first film in 37 years and his absence from the silver screen does not show for one minute.

You can catch *The Sunshine Boys* on most streaming services. As it celebrates its 50th anniversary this year, I highly recommend it as a way to pay tribute to a time past that seems like forever ago even though it's only been about a century.

Dartmouth College Film Events

By Zach Camenker, NH JFF Steering Committee

The Jewish Federation and New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival are pleased to collaborate with Dartmouth College in Hanover for two film events this fall, both of which will be held at the Loew Auditorium at the Hopkins Center for the Arts. As we remain committed to the mission of the Film Festival, we feel it is important to show additional movies throughout the calendar year that highlight topics of interest for our Granite State audiences in all regions.

On Thursday, October 30 at 7 PM, the new film *Tatami* will be screened in partnership with Dartmouth's Department of Film and Media Studies. Co-directed by Guy Nattiv, who brought us the 2023 *Golda*, and *Zar Amir*, who also stars in the film, *Tatami* follows Iranian female judoka Leila and her coach, who travel to the World Judo Championships with the intent of bringing home Iran's first gold medal.

When scheduled to face an Israeli opponent, Iranian government agents threaten to harm *Tatami*'s family if she doesn't fake an injury or withdraw. Inspired by a true story, the movie explores



impossible choices and risks. Filmed in black-and-white, it is the first feature length film to be co-directed by an Iranian and an Israeli.

The following Thursday, November 6, also at 7 PM, we will return to the Hopkins Center for a showing of the new documentary *Holding Liat*. Another narrative detailing the morning of October 7, 2023 and the weeks following, this piece chronicles Liat Atzili's Israeli-American family as they face their own conflicting perspectives to fight for her release and the future of the places they call home.

One of 12 American citizens kidnapped by Hamas and held in Gaza, the film highlights the challenges of maintaining international diplomacy amidst a rapidly escalating war. As Liat's family awaits her return, they face their own uncertainty and conflicting political perspectives in the pursuit of Liat and Aviv's



release. The process is agonizing but through the intimate lens of a family's experience, this thoughtful documentary poses complex questions of intergenera-

tional identity and global conflict unfolding in real-time.

We are pleased that 2006 Dartmouth alumnus Lance Kramer, who produced the film, will be present in person with a discussion to immediately follow the film. The John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding at Dartmouth is also sponsoring the evening.

Please visit www.hop.dartmouth.edu/film/now for more information on tickets, pricing, and event logistics. We hope to see you up in Hanover!



Temple B'nai Israel of Laconia: The Jersey Tenors Bring 'The Ultimate Tribute to the '70s' to the Lakes Region

Get ready to groove on Saturday, October 25, 2025, as the popular entertainment quartet, The Jersey Tenors, returns to the Lakes Region for a concert to benefit the Meredith Altrusa Club. Hosted by the We Care initiative of Temple B'nai Israel, this one-night-only event will feature their brand-new show, "The Ultimate Tribute to the '70s." Prepare to be trans-



ported back to the "Age of Aquarius" for a night of '70s nostalgia with a high-en-

ergy show celebrating iconic artists like Elton John, The Bee Gees, and Creedence Clearwater Revival. The Jersey Tenors are known for their dynamic voices and captivating performance style. For a sneak peek, you can watch a performance here: <https://tbinh.org/we-care-concerts/>. Prepare to be amazed!

The concert will take place at the Inter-Lakes High School Community Auditorium, located at 1 Laker Lane in Meredith on Saturday, October 25, beginning at 7:30 pm. Tickets are just \$42 (no additional fees) and are available online and at select retail locations in the Lakes Region. Visit the temple's website, <https://tbinh.org/we-care-concerts/>, to purchase tickets and more information. For those unable to attend, you can still show your support by purchasing tickets to be donated to senior citizens who are served by

the Meredith Altrusa Club.

The We Care initiative has been "Lending a Helping Hand to Lakes Region Non-Profits" since 2013, raising more than \$400,000 for various local agencies. We Care provides a ready-made fundraising platform for local non-profits, allowing them to focus on their mission. We Care is proud to support the Meredith Altrusa Club (<https://www.altrusameridithnh.org/>), a volunteer community service organization that provides essential programs for children, adults, and seniors throughout the greater Lakes Region.

We Care thanks its generous sponsors: Audi Nashua, Interlakes Family Dental, Miracle Farms Landscaping, and The Platinum Group of RE/MAX Bayside Realty and advertisers in the TBI Lakes Region Business Directory.



We Care Presents

THE JERSEY TENORS

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

in an all new show!

Saturday, October 25, 2025



**Inter-Lakes High School Community Auditorium
Showtime 7:30 pm**

The Ultimate Tribute to the 70's!

FEATURING ICONIC HITS FROM

The Bee Gees ~ Queen ~ Elton John ~ Billy Joel
Earth Wind and Fire ~ The Eagles ~ Jackson 5
Creedence Clearwater Revival

Tickets

\$42

Available online and
at select retail locations
(see website)

<https://tbinh.org>

Benefitting



Temple Adath Yeshurun Religious Response to Hunger 2025

Food donations will be collected on Wednesday evening and Thursday, October 1 & 2, in our parking lot, at 152 Prospect Street.

As we approach the Jewish High Holy Days, our Jewish community is committed to taking necessary steps to prepare for an ever-growing rise in food insecurity across the state. The problem 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. In addition, 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 help at the Families in Transition-New Horizons Food Pantry. For over 35 years, Temple

Adath Yeshurun, Temple Israel, and New Hampshire's religious community have 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 running low, the Families In Transition-New Horizons Food Pantry relies on our 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.

Local food banks are diligently working to increase our food purchasing, doubling meal production, establishing modified mobile food pantries and working with our agencies across the state. Maria Devlin, President & CEO of Families in Transition-New Horizons says "Service and good will are vital in fulfilling the basic needs of those who are underserved and facing unique challenges when it comes to

food insecurity."

Our Religious Response to Hunger will begin in the days leading up to Rosh Hashanah, when congregation members can stop by the Temple to pick up reusable bags donated by Whole Foods in Bedford. You are asked to take the bags home, fill them with the equivalent of non-perishable food you and your family would have eaten during the High Holy Days, add some more and then return the bags to the Temple on Yom Kippur on Wednesday evening and Thursday, October 1 & 2. The bags will then be taken to the Families in Transition-New Horizon Food Pantry on Friday, October 3, which in past years has received more than 3 tons of donated food from our members and our goal is to exceed that this year. When we deliver it all to the Food Pantry, it is so uplifting seeing that empty shelves will soon be filled because of our Jewish community.

"Community food drives like this help us keep our regular food pantry operations going for families in need," added Kim Fennel in the Food Pantry. "It's beautiful to see people come together around a common purpose and make this kind of difference."

Our Religious Response to Hunger calls on all of us to give more for the growing number of people who need more. There could be no better way to start the New Year than the mitzvah of giving.

High Demand Food Items

- Coffee
- Baby Formula
- Grains (rice, pasta, bread, oatmeal)
- Cereal
- Jelly (Grape or Strawberry)
- Canned Food (tuna, beans, soups)
- Healthy, non-perishable individually wrapped
- Snacks

Jewish Journeys

The Story of Judit Price: Growing Up Jewish in Hungary Amid the Nazis, the Holocaust, & Soviet Antisemitism

By Paul Etkind

On July 12, Judit Price spoke to a Shabbat Lunch and Learn gathering at Kol Ha'Emek, The Upper Valley Jewish Community, in Hanover about the history of Jewish people in Hungary and her personal history of surviving the Holocaust and growing up Jewish under a Communist regime.

The history of the Hungarian Jews extends back to the 2nd century C.E., when the country, then known as Pannonia, was part of the Roman Empire. It has not always been a comfortable relationship. In between a few periods of relative freedom and open participation in civic and political affairs, there were often times of social, civic and business restrictions, including Jews forced to live in ghettos, wear identifying red badges, and prohibitions on operating synagogues or using Hebrew and Yiddish in official documents. Jews were frequently viewed as being foreigners.

The modern era for Hungarian Jews began after the uniting of the Austrian and Hungarian monarchies in 1867. In spite of the persistent antisemitism, some prominent Jews successfully entered into civic life. The period from 1867 to 1919

was a golden period for Hungarian Jewry. Budapest was the fastest growing city in the world during this time. It is ironic that of all people, Theodore Herzl, the visionary of Zionism, was born in a country where the majority of Jews firmly rejected the Zionist idea. The Orthodox community saw Zionism as a false messiah movement that could hasten the end of days, whereas the Neologist community supported assimilation. At the end of the 19th century, Enlightenment had reached a peak in western and central Europe. An enormous amount of intellect, ability and talent that had been restricted to the yeshivas for hundreds of years exploded into the new Hungarian intelligentsia. Hungarian Jews accomplished immense achievements in all fields, especially in the humanities and literature.

After WWI, Hungary lost approximately two thirds of its territory. During the 1920 and 1930s, Hungary was home to a "soft antisemitism," under the regime of Regent Miklos Horthy. Pressured by domestic radical nationalists and fascists, Hungary fell increasingly under the influence of Germany as the Nazi regime in Germany consolidated itself in the 1930s.

The Jews of Hungary were largely

spared from the horrors of the Holocaust until March of 1944 when the Nazis invaded Hungary. Miklos Horthy left office and SS officer Adolf Eichmann arrived to take charge. His sole goal was to execute the entire Jewish population of Budapest and surrounding areas. On June 30, 1944, the Germans began to restrict Jews to certain parts of the city and plans were made to begin their deportation. Jews couldn't believe these atrocities could happen in a civilized and cultured society. At the beginning of the war, there were approximately 750,000 Jews in the country. Only 30,000 (4%) survived.

Judit was born in 1944, weeks after her father was shipped to Auschwitz. Her mother hid in the basement of a building her family had once owned. She was saved by a papers obtained from the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg. He had arrived in Budapest with his mission to save as many Jews as possible by issuing Swedish ID cards to people to protect them from Eichmann's monstrous acts and to organize safe houses for mothers and children. Both parents survived the Nazi atrocities, reunited after the war ended, and remained in Budapest under Soviet occupation.

There was terrible chaos after libera-

tion. Within four years the communists had established themselves as the exclusive power. "The Communists claimed they were all about the workers and peasants. Anyone who did not fit the mold was an outcast," Judith explained. "Being Jewish in a Communist country meant you had to be out of sight, but you could not be out of mind. It meant you were branded with a hyphen: pro-Zionist, pro-capitalist, anti-democratic, anti-worker and so forth. Religious persecution was officially frowned on, but all religions were considered an enemy of the state."

The Jews who survived and did not or could not flee were not necessarily persecuted on religious grounds. Many joined the Communist party, perhaps for survival and for material things, food, a decent place to live. Some were true believers. Some saw opportunities for stature and acceptance. Who can truly say what is in the hearts of people who are forced to make such decisions in challenging times. Some of these were Judit's parents' and their Jewish friends. There were also industrialists, businessmen, property owners and others with relatives in capitalist countries. The Communists viewed these as enemies of the state. Homes were

Judit Price continued on page 24

Jewish Journeys

Judit Price

continued from page 23

confiscated, personal property was taken, many were exiled to the countryside and reduced to poverty. To this day, she does not know how her family escaped the horror, while so many others suffered.

The head of the new regime was Matyas Rakosi. Rakosi and his chief lieutenants—his deputy, the head of the security police, and the culture minister—were all Moscow-trained, all Jewish by birth, all secularized, all with changed names.

Judit grew up watching her parents worry about Communist informers and they were afraid to say anything in public in case someone overheard and denounced them to the Communist Party. While her father had his coat manufacturing business, they lived very well by the measurement of times, but in constant fear. They had a summer cottage in the Budapest hills. Her mother had a live-in maid. However, they had to be ultra-cautious. One never knew when they were going to be denounced. Whenever

her parents needed to discuss something, they had to go into the bathroom or outside to make sure no one in the apartment could overhear them.

“My father had his own business but knew the communists would eventually take it away, which they did. If the doorbell rang late at night we feared it was the secret police, and an arrest would follow based on bogus accusations. Nevertheless, his business survived for 17 years before the inevitable occurred and the Communists nationalized it permanently.

Her father was a successful businessman, but having one's own business was called capitalism and being a capitalist was a crime. In order to continue his enterprise, he pretended he was a simple tailor who prepared coats himself. He had a sewing machine and an iron and ironing board and a few partially completed coats hanging in the back of the store. “Every morning, my father got into a cab, and he went to his 20 employees, picking up the completed coats and brought them to the store. He fooled the Communists for 17 years until they discovered his ruse and

nationalized his business. The government took everything away from him and made him pay a hefty fine.” Judit was 18; he was 60. “He could not find work. No one was hiring a 60-year-old Jew who defied the Communist Party and had his own business all his life. To make a living he started to work on the black market and smuggled his and other peoples' money to Switzerland. Needless to say, this was a very dangerous career. He also worked for Simon Wiesenthal, who was a Nazi hunter.” Her father did research and publicity. Her mother needed to work to make ends meet and got a position as a secretary.

Antisemitism was also increasing in Budapest. Judit was frequently called a “dirty Jew” while attending a public school. It was very difficult for her. As a result, her father enrolled her in a Jewish School. She attended Hanna Szenes Gymnasium and loved it. “I learned more about Judaism and had Jewish friends to reinforce the pride and knowledge we were gaining.” However, she could not outwardly show this pride or live an openly Jewish life. She refused to join the Pioneer Club, a Communist youth group, and wear the symbolic red kerchief around my neck and march with classmates on May Day, a Communist holiday.

She graduated from high school and had to forego college and took a job. She worked at the Indonesian Embassy as a document translator and interpreter to the Indonesian Press Attache. She loved the job and had a very nice salary. She became the prime provider for the family. “One of the perks in this job was the ability to frequently travel to Vienna since I spoke German and English. I used these opportunities to augment my family's income by smuggling fine fashion items from Vienna, like silk scarves, cashmere sweaters, nylon stockings, and cosmetics. I carried these black-market goods back to Budapest and sold them to people she knew. It was risky, but I did what I had to do.”

Families were not allowed to leave the country. “So, we planned that my father would first leave the country first, and two months later my mother and I would follow him. Those were the days with no internet, no social media, no computers, so the communists could not track us to ensure my father was back in Budapest by the time my mother and I left.”

“In addition, my parents believed that a Hungarian Communist Party Official wanted our apartment and ultimately that is why we all got passports to leave/defect. My parents had to start all over again in Dusseldorf. They both got jobs and eventually they received their Holocaust compensation from the German Government.”

It was in Dusseldorf where Judit met her husband. They fell in love and got married six months later. Richard Price was a soldier in the US Army in an Intelligence unit. Since her parents were new immigrants, and a Jewish wedding in Dusseldorf, Germany was very rare, the Jewish Community sponsored the wedding. “It was lovely. My husband's parents came from America and much of the local Jewish community attended. The Army was not thrilled that he wanted to marry someone who left the Iron Curtain just a short while ago. They suspected it was either a spy or a prostitute.”

She was only 21, but her husband encouraged me and supported her aspirations. Love conquered all. They are still married after 58 years. She attended college in the US, earning a bachelor's and two master's degrees. They settled in the Boston area and founded her management consulting company. After retirement they moved to Naples, FL, with summers spent in the Upper Valley. They have been very happy.

Judit has mixed feelings about her native Hungary. “Life there was challenging. Being Jewish was difficult, regardless of whether the government was Hungarian, Nazi, or Communist. Being accepted into society and being Jewish was difficult regardless of who or which ideology was in power. On the other hand, many Hungarian Jews came to America and made significant contributions to this country.” In cinema, there has been Bernard Schwartz, better known as Hollywood star Tony Curtis, and Casablanca director Mihaly Kertesz, who changed his name to Michael Curtiz when he immigrated to America. In business, Estee Lauder and her son Ronald created the internationally known cosmetics named after them. In Science, there is Edward Teller, a theoretical physicist who is known colloquially as “the father of the hydrogen bomb.” Even in sports, considered a quintessentially “non-Jewish” activity, Jews stood out, winning almost 33% of all Olympic medals awarded to Hungarian athletes in the early 20th century. One, Ilona Elek, has been hailed as the greatest female fencer of all time. She won Gold in both 1936 and 1948, and a Silver in 1952 when aged 45.

Judit is eternally grateful to this country for the life she has had with a wonderful husband, 3 very successful children, 4 beautiful granddaughters, and the ability to be a Jew without fear of retribution or limitations. “These are just some of the people the Nazis didn't want to live, but thanks to Raoul Wallenberg and a willingness to challenge the status quo, we all survived.”

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.

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- Drug or alcohol addiction
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All calls and assistance are confidential.



Jewish Federation
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



October Hadassah Update

By Michele Bank

The Manchester Chapter of Hadassah will meet at the next chapter meeting on Thursday, October 16, 2026 at 1 PM. The location is the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, 273 South River Road, Unit 5, Bedford. All members are invited to attend.

There is still time to register to walk with members of the Manchester Chapter of Hadassah. They hope that you will join them at Hadassah New England's (HNE) Walk for Women's Health on Sunday, October 19th at the Chestnut Hill Reservoir, Boston. You may register/donate at <https://events.hadassah.org/hnewalk25register>. Alternatively, you can donate to this writer's walk at <https://hwzoa.networkforgood.com/projects/257763-michele-bank-s-fundraiser>. The fee to walk is \$30 per person and children under 12 are free. Volunteers are needed to help make the day amazing. With your help, we can achieve our goal of raising \$90,000 in support of Hadassah's critical work in women's health. Ask your friends and family to join in the fun. It is a great way to show your support, honor someone special, or just be part of something big. Every step we take sends a message: Women's health matters.

On December 6 and 7 – members of the chapter will attend the HNE's Region Retreat at Publick House Inn in Sturbridge, MA. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet and mingle with other like-minded members from across the region, hear inspiring and interesting talks, and

feel proud and good about being a member of this wonderful organization.

On February 22 and 23, 2026, members of the Hadassah Attorneys and Judges Council Members, will have the opportunity to participate in a US Supreme Court visit: They will enjoy a welcome dinner with colleagues, hear a special guest speaker, and have a private tour of the exclusive Supreme Court Library. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for lawyers and judges to be sworn in at the Court. To register to join this council = attorneysandjudgescouncil@hadassah.org.

Hadassah has a long history of standing up, elevating the voices of women and empowering members to advocate in the US at the local, state, and federal levels. Hadassah remains steadfast in its dedication to foster an informed, en-

gaged, and inclusive citizenry. Tuesday, March 10, 2026 is a National Assembly and Day on the Hill in Washington DC. Hadassah advocates from across the country will gather to meet with political leaders to discuss pressing issues and, advocate for Hadassah's priorities. This opportunity is open to all Hadassah members. The Northern New England Region's donor event will be held on Sunday, April 26, 2026 at Café Espadrille in Burlington, MA. Ellen Finkelstein, CEO of Hadassah WZO will speak. The keynote speaker is Kimberly Bookman of 7 News in Boston. There will be a VIP reception prior to the event with both speakers. It promises to be a fun event.

For additional information about Hadassah or any of the above events, please contact Michele.bank@gmail.com.

IDF Speaker at Seacoast Chabad

By Richard England

On August 24, Seacoast Chabad Jewish Community Center hosted an Israeli speaker who shared his personal perspectives on the war that began with the October 7, 2023, attack on Israel from Gaza. Lt. Col. Jordan Herzberg is a reserve paratrooper officer who has served in the IDF for nearly three decades. He has also served several Israeli prime ministers as an unofficial negotiator with Arab leaders and officials. Herzberg was born in Montreal and grew up in Miami before making *aliyah* to Israel. A resident of Jerusalem, he is a tour operator when not in uniform.

Herzberg reminded his audience that the present conflict is the longest war that Israel has experienced since its founding in 1948. The war has taken its toll on hundreds of thousands of reservists, many of them middle-aged, who have served for months at a time since October 7. Some have lost their jobs or have seen their small businesses fail. Others have suffered physical wounds or PTSD.

Despite the trauma of October 7, Israel's citizen military has managed to reduce or eliminate major security threats on several fronts. Hamas has been degraded as a military force and now pursues guerrilla warfare in Gaza in an attempt to hold onto power. Hezbollah, a



Lt. Col. (Res.) Jordan Herzberg, Seacoast Chabad speaker.

major threat based in Lebanon and sponsored by Iran, has been defeated by the IDF. According to Herzberg, there is hope that Lebanon can once again become a peaceful, multi-ethnic country. Finally, the Israeli and U.S. air forces have severely degraded the nuclear threat from Iran. In addition, the overthrow of the Assad dictatorship in Syria has disrupted the flow of Iranian weapons and trainers to Hezbollah.

Following his presentation, Herzberg participated in a lively discussion with members of the audience before the group adjourned for refreshments.

OBITUARIES

Anita Gayle (Rader) Sonis May 21, 1942 – August 17, 2025

Anita Gayle (Rader) Sonis of Manchester, NH, passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 17, 2025, at 83 years of age. Daughter of the late Ruth (Lasky) and Joseph Rader. Loving wife of the late Gerald A. Sonis. She was predeceased by her brother, Lewis Rader of Randolph, MA. Beloved mother of Craig Sonis and his wife Dana of Billerica, MA; and Stefanie and her husband Dr. Matthew Marino of Merritt Island, FL. Cherished grandmother of Justine, Eli and Joshua.

Anita was born in Boston on May 21, 1942, and raised in Dorchester, MA. She was a loving and devoted presence in the lives of her family and friends. Her passions were thrift stores, shopping, eBaying, singing, and playing mah-jongg weekly. She lived the majority of her adult life



with her family in Manchester, N.H., where she was always ready with a clever remark or a playful joke that could lighten any room. She really cherished her time with loved ones and left a lasting impression on everyone she met, and her memory will be fondly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a Funeral Service on Sunday, August 24, 2025 at 2:00 PM at Stanetsky Memorial Chapel, 475 Washington Street, Canton, MA. Burial will immediately follow at Sharon Memorial Park, 40 Dedham Street, Sharon, MA.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Anita's memory may be made to support Brain Tumor Research at Johns Hopkins Medicine. Contributions can be made online to Henry Brem, MD (select from the pulldown menu) at <https://secure.jhu.edu/form/neurosrg>

Click here to learn more about Dr. Brem and his groundbreaking research: <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/news/articles/2025/06/25-years-of-advances-in-neurosurgery>

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JFNH Tributes

Received by September 10, 2025

Film Festival

In memory of Martin Fabian's brother, William Fabian. ~ Leslie Hoff

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 S. River Road Unit 5, PO Box 10041, Bedford, NH 03110

Simchas

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 S. River Road Unit 5, PO Box 10041, Bedford, NH 03110

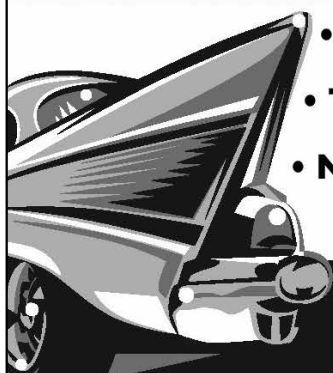
When submitting a Letter to the Editor, please include your name, town of residence, and contact information. Letters to the Editor must be under 300 words in length to be considered for publication. Send your letter by email to the reporter@jewishnh.org with "letter to the editor" in the subject line.

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

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

To get involved, contact thereporter@jewishnh.org

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