Who Will Write Our History
In honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day, film screening and memorial candle lighting

PITTSFIELD – Discover the fascinating story of the clandestine effort by a band of journalists, scholars, and community leaders that vowed to defeat Nazi lies and propaganda in the feature documentary Who Will Write Our History, part of a special program in honor of Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Remembrance Day at the Berkshire Museum on Sunday, May 5 from 2 to 4 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public, and is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. After the film, please join us for candle lighting and prayers in memory of those murdered in the Holocaust.

In November 1940, days after the Nazis sealed 450,000 Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto, a secret band of journalists, scholars, and community leaders decided to fight back. Led by historian Emanuel Ringelblum and known by the code name Oyneg Shabes, this clandestine group vowed to defeat Nazi lies and propaganda not with guns or fists but with pen and paper. They detailed life in the Ghetto from the Jewish perspective. They commissioned diaries, modern “Renaissance Man” Rube Goldberg at the Rockwell

Rube Goldberg

On my way back from Stockbridge after seeing the Norman Rockwell Museum’s entertaining show of Rube Goldberg’s illustrations, I noticed a billboard advertising another local exhibition featuring fanciful contraptions with lots of moving parts – “Leonardo da Vinci: Machines in Motion,” now on view at the Berkshire Museum.

There are some superficial similarities between the careers of these very different artists. Both were astonishingly prolific, with Goldberg (1883-1970) producing more than 50,000 illustrations over the 72 years he was active. Goldberg was also a true “Renaissance man” of his time, and if you enjoy Jewish illuminated manuscripts, subscribe to the British Library’s Il! Hebrew Project Twitter feed at @BLS_HebrewMSK.
Rabbi Reflections

Truly, the Best Night Ever – Until the Next Night

By Rabbi Jodie Gordon

As we boarded our flight bound for Tel Aviv, one of my students asked me, “How many times have you been to Israel?” I passed and thought – and answered honestly, “I don’t remember. More than ten times? Fewer than twenty?”

The question stayed with me as our pilot announced our initial descent into Tel Aviv. And like the students and chaparones, I found myself eagerly looking out the window as the city came into view below. How many times do we have to travel someplace before it feels familiar? How many times before it feels “like home”? How many times must we go someplace before we feel we’ve seen and done it all – that’s where, maybe, a little boredom of going there?

These questions reminded me of a famous essay by travel writer Pico Ayer, who wrote: “We travel, initially, to lose ourselves; and we travel, next, to find ourselves. We travel to open our hearts and eyes and learn more about the world than our newspapers will accommodate. We travel to bring what little we can, in ignorance and knowledge, to those parts of the globe whose riches are differently dispersed. And we travel, in essence, to become young fools again — to slow time down and get taken in, and fall in love once more.”

This past February, I had the distinct honor and privilege to travel to Israel with Hevreh’s Pre-Confirmation class and chaparones atop Mt. Shaul in the Gilboa region. Members of Hevreh’s pre-confirmation class and chaparones atop Mt. Shaul in the Gilboa region with Hevreh’s Pre Confirmation Class, which included six students and four parents. As this trip has evolved into its second year, it has truly become a family experience: the opportunity for a group of parents and young teens to discover together and apart, all of the beauties and complexities of the modern State of Israel. The eight days we spend together traveling around Israel are, of course, amazing, the nights, sounds, smells and of tastes of Israel weave a sort of magic around the group. Both students and parents came with a hunger and curiosity to explore and encounter, and with that openness, the trip unfolded beautifully. What we have created isn’t rocket science: there are literally hundreds of ways to travel to Israel for our young people, among them semester in Israel study programs, summer teen tours. Soon enough, they’ll be eligible for Birthright Israel trips.

So, what makes this trip so uniquely impactful? The answer is relationships. This trip is grounded in a relationship that has been cultivated and funded by the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, which also provided Israel travel scholarships to our students. The experience of spending time in the Berkshires Partnership together community of Afula Gilboa anchors the experience in a way that elevates the trip from tour to encounter. Anchors the experience in a way that elevates the trip from tour to encounter.

The program was inspired by a teen who had been hanging out in Itzik’s teen Moshof club and picked up some of his dinner that night to bring home. Noticing that the teen hadn’t finished his dinner, Itzik asked, and was told that the boy wanted to bring the extra food home for his brother. Now, they provide more than one thousand extra meals each week to Afula schoolchildren. Our Hevreh group joined them to help make those lunches and were then treated to a full on party: in preparation for our visit, their group had decorated their community hall, and even had a musical presentation. On the bus on the way back to the kibbutz that night our teens asked if there was any way to go back and visit with the Sandwich Club group again before we left — and just then, I got a message on my phone from the mom of one of the teens from the kibbutz: “Can the Hevreh kids come hang out on the basketball court tonight?”

Truly, the best night ever.

Aria Grossman, one of our teen travelers remarked “Throughout this trip, we have been astounding by the warm and generous people who have hosted and helped us along the way. Israel truly is a magical place.”

Israel is a small country with oversized possibilities for engagement: our itinerary was packed with opportunities for us to learn about the history and culture of modern Israel, and to engage with Jewish life in Israel today, and so much more.

As I reflect upon my travels to Israel, I am reminded of a famous essay by travel writer Pico Ayer, which this was truly a trip that helped each of us to open our hearts and our eyes, and to find ourselves anew.

Rabbi Jodie Gordon is a rabbi and educational director at Hevreh of Southern Berkshire in Great Barrington.

The Jewish Transportation Network Discount Taxi Vouchers for Jewish residents aged 65 years and older

Purchase $50 worth of taxi coupons for $5 ($6 if requested via mail)

Coupuns are valid for three months and can be used with Tunnel City Taxi of North Adams, Rainbow Taxi of Pittsfield or Taxico of Great Barrington and Lee.

Some restrictions apply. Limit 10 voucher booklets per person/per year.

Purchase vouchers at the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires 196 South St., Pittsfield, MA 01201. (413) 442-4360, ext. 10

This program is funded by the Jewish Women’s Foundation of Berkshire County and administered by the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires.
Editor's Note

Stop the Presses! BJV Features to Be Linked Online!

By Albert Stern / BJV Editor

So with the 21st Century now almost one-fifth over, the Berkshire Jewish Voice has joined the late 20th century and has started posting direct links to feature stories online at the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires’ website, www.jewishberkshires.org.

While pdf versions of our newspaper have been available online for several years, we were unable to link directly on our website to individual stories we publish due to limitations with the platform used to power our website.

That platform has recently been improved, and so we can now offer links to the feature stories in the print version of the BJV, making it easier to share the stories you may have enjoyed (or perhaps even been featured in) via email and social media.

Here’s how you’ll find our online stories:

• At jewishberkshires.org, on the primary navigation bar hover your cursor on Community & Events. On the dropdown that appears, click Berkshire Jewish Voice.

• On the right side of Berkshire Jewish Voice page that appears, under the Berkshire Jewish Voice Highlights heading, you’ll see a list of five or six recently published stories listed. Clicking on a story’s short title/tagline takes you to a new page with that story, with a URL you can copy and paste into an email or social media post.

• Clicking the Berkshire Jewish Voice Highlights heading takes you to the Berkshire Jewish Voice Highlights page, which will feature an archive of all the stories we publish online, along with an image and a summary of the article. Click the numbers at the bottom of this page for more stories.

Note that links to pdf versions of past BJV’s will remain on the Berkshire Jewish Voice page, an archive of complete newspapers dating back to 2017. Only feature stories will appear online – continue to use our Community Calendar for the most up-to-date information on Federation events and other local programs of Jewish interest. Our Berkshire Jewish Summer guide will also appear in pdf format on the Berkshire Jewish Voice page.

As time permits, we will be posting some of the noteworthy articles that have appeared in the BJV over the past five years to Berkshire-Jewish Voice Highlights. Local scholars, rabbis, humorists, novelists, essayists, memoirists, and artists have all contributed interesting work with lasting value to the BJV over the years, and we’ll be getting as much of it online as we can.

And start looking for links to BJV stories in the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires’ Facebook feed. If you haven’t done so already, by all means, like our page on Facebook!

So “stop the presses”? Hardly so. This Federation believes that a print newspaper that reaches our community members in their homes – and visitors to the Berkshires at high-traffic distribution points throughout the county – is an effective way to publicize the first-rate Jewish programming that we, our affiliates, and our cultural institutions offer.

But most importantly, the Berkshire Jewish Voice remains essential in spreading this Federation’s message and building community in the Berkshires. We hope you’ll continue to support your local Jewish newspaper as readers and donors, and that our new online capacity will enhance your enjoyment of our work and your engagement with Federation.

The Process of Aging, with Maggie Bittman

On Monday, April 22 at 10:45 a.m., the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires presents "The Process of Aging" with therapist Maggie Bittman. This free program at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, in Pittsfield, is part of the Federation's Connecting With Community series.

This program will provide an opportunity to be part of a group dialogue, created and facilitated by Bittman, who will explain her outlook and approach, emphasizing that aging begins at birth. She will discuss how all of us are confronted with four existential truths as we age: the search to find meaning and purpose; facing mortality; experiencing aloneness; and engaging free will.

Bittman will highlight how this is a lifelong process, and the ways people return to these existential truths at each stage of life with the added wisdom that comes with aging. Within this context, participants will discuss, share and offer support, as they explore these existential truths.

IF YOU GO

Sponsor: Jewish Federation of the Berkshires / Connecting With Community
Venue: Knesset Israel
Date & Time: Monday, April 22 at 10:45 a.m., followed by lunch (see page 14).

Therapist Maggie Bittman
Your Federation Presents

Kosher Community Seder – April 19

PITTSFIELD – The Jewish Federation of the Berkshires will host a kosher community逾越节 Seder at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 19 at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road. Participants will enjoy a traditional kosher Seder experience with plenty of explanation, insight, and song, while enjoying all the ritual foods, ceremonial wine, and a delicious four-course Passover meal.

Catered by Crown Market of West Hartford, the Seder meal will feature a brisket entre. A vegetarian option is available upon advance request. Attendees are invited to bring their own Afikomen leader. Children of all ages, extended family, and community friends are welcome. Children will enjoy plague bags and be invited to hunt for the Afikomen. Prizes will be awarded to all.

The $442-4360, ext. 10 or online at www.jewishberkshires.org. Prizes will be awarded to all.

We Knead You to Help Bake Challot – Lots of Them!

By Susan Frisch Lehrer, PJ Library Coordinator

WILLIAMSTOWN – On Sunday, May 5 from 10 to noon, PJ Library and the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires invite local families to join with Williams College Jewish Association (WCJA) to bake challot for the Challah for Hunger Project. We’ll be baking at the Williams College Jewish Religious Center, 24 Stetson Court (behind the Admissions Office). It’s free, but RSVP is required by May 1 (413) 442-4360, ext. 10 or federation@jewishberkshires.org.

Learn about food insecurity in Berkshire County, participate in a mitzvah, and have fun! Emma Lebzig, a junior from Pittsfield and currently Tzedek director for WCJA said that “once or twice each semester, we bake about 72 miniature challot and sell them in our student center to raise money to combat food insecurity. Half the money goes to Mazon and half goes to the Berkshire Food Project.”

Emma was instrumental in organizing this program and reached out to the Federation along with Molly Berensen, WCJA’s kitchen director and Challah for Hunger co-chair, as well as Rabbi Seth Wax, WCJA advisor and Jewish chaplain.

We will include a PJ Library story for the younger kids with a challah theme or one on feeding the hungry. And of course snacks will be included. Emma also added, “It would be a fun activity teaching the kids to braid the challah and a tzedek project for them, too. This would be a huge help in our work – and we would do a bit of teaching on food insecurity.”

We look forward to this fun morning and hope to see many families joining us.

For more information, please email me at slehrer@jewishberkshires.org or call (413) 442-4360, ext. 14.

PJ Library is made possible for Berkshire families through a community partnership of the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, the Spitz Tuchman Family Fund, the Jewish Women’s Foundation, and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Three-part Series: “The German Jewish Experience,” with David Levinson, Ph.D.

Starting on Monday, April 29 at 10:45 a.m., Connecting With Community hosts David Levinson, a cultural anthropologist, author, and son of a Holocaust survivor for a special three-ses-

On Thursday, April 11 and Thursday, May 9 at 10:45 a.m., join Professor Rubin in consultation with the class and in preparation for the final exam. Topics will be chosen by Professor Rubin in consultation with the class and in preparation for the final exam. Members will be encouraged to participate in discussions to express views and opinions in a supportive and informal atmosphere.

Professor Steven J. Rubin

The Rise and Demise of the Brooklyn Dodgers was broadcast live on National Public Radio in December 2017 and can be currently heard online.

IF YOU GO

Sponsor: Jewish Federation of the Berkshires/Connecting With Community

Venue: Knesset Israel

Date & Time: Thursday, April 11 and Thursday, May 9 at 10:45 a.m., followed by lunch (see page 14).

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Venue: Knesset Israel

Date & Time: Thursday, April 11 and Thursday, May 9 at 10:45 a.m., followed by lunch (see page 14).
Seuss in Springfield

On Monday, April 8 at 10:45 a.m., we welcome Karen Fisk, director of Marketing and Communication Strategy for The Springfield Museums, home of The Amazing World of Dr. Seuss. She’ll talk about “Seuss in Springfield.” This free program at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road in Pittsfield is part of the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires’ Connecting With Community series.

A Dr. Seuss museum was the number one request of the more than 4 million people who visited the Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden at the Springfield Museums when it opened in 2002. The garden celebrates Theodor Seuss Geisel, aka Dr. Seuss, in the city in which he was born and raised. Fifteen years later, the Springfield Museums opened The Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum, which has doubled attendance and has generated more than $16,000,000 impact on the City of Springfield.

How is Seuss in Springfield a gateway for the world to experience Western Massachusetts? Karen Fisk will explain.

Jewish Women’s Foundation Issues Request for Proposals to Support Unmet Needs in Berkshire County

PITTSFIELD – The Jewish Women’s Foundation of Berkshire County, an associate of the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, is soliciting grant proposals from not-for-profit Berkshire-based organizations for projects and programs aimed at fulfilling unmet needs in the Berkshire community. Specifically, those that:

• Meet clients’ basic needs for shelter, food, and clothing,
• Promote the development of life skills including communication, academics, literacy, and empowerment.

Both Jewish and non-Jewish non-profit organizations are encouraged to apply for grants up to $3,500. The Foundation will accept grant proposals beginning on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 via an online grant application available at www.jewish-berkshires.org/jewish-women-foundation. Deadline for submitting a proposal is Thursday, May 30, 2019. Final decisions will be announced in September.

In 2018, the Foundation awarded $32,000 to fourteen local organizations. Recipients included: Berkshire Christian Center, Berkshire Immigrant Center, Backyard Bounty of the Berkshires, Berkshire Community Diaper Project, Berkshire Grown, Boys and Girls Club, Berkshire South Community Suppers, Congregation Beth Israel/Take and Eat Program, Community Health Program, Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center, Project Connection at Berkshire Hills Regional School District, Alchemy Initiative/Pittsfield Farmers Market, Railroad Street Youth Project, and the Northern Berkshire Interfaith Action Initiative.

Additional support was provided to ongoing initiatives and projects within the Berkshire Jewish community. Guided by the Jewish value of tikkun olam (Hebrew for repairing the world), the Jewish Women’s Foundation of Berkshire County is dedicated to sharing its Jewish values by meeting unmet needs in the community and supporting social action.

Chair Yoga: Easy Yoga for Mobility and Peace of Mind

On Thursday, April 25 at 10:45 a.m., join Linda Novick for “Chair Yoga: Easy Yoga for Mobility, Peace of Mind.” This free program at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road in Pittsfield is part of the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires’ Connecting With Community series.

Linda Novick says: “Chair Yoga is appropriate for people of all levels of mobility. It is a series of breathing and stretching exercises done in a chair, which increases mobility of the joints, breathability, strength and stamina. Some of the exercises are performed standing behind the chair, while holding on. Participants will learn breathing techniques to enhance lung capacity, as well as easy stretches and yoga postures. Yoga is good for all bodies. Beginners are welcome.”

Linda Novick, MFA, is an author, teacher, artist, and professional level Kripalu Yoga teacher. She currently teaches yoga at Berkshire West Fitness Center and Kimball Farms, and all over the Commonwealth with the Massachusetts Housing Authority.

She explains that her approach to yoga encourages everyone to listen and love their body. Her yoga classes encourage gentle stretching, proper breathing, strength and balance. She attended Pratt Institute in Brooklyn and has a BFA in art education, and has taught art for 50 years.

She’s been teaching yoga since 1997, and lately has been focusing on easy yoga for elders. She taught on staff at Kripalu Center for 7 years, and is now a regular presenter, offering programs that combine painting and yoga. She’s the author of the book, The Painting Path: Embodied Spiritual Discovery through Yoga, Brush and Color.

900 Hamantashen Delivered on Purim

Thank you to all of the volunteers who baked, packed, decorated bags, and delivered a Purim gift to hundreds of local seniors who are homebound, in senior facilities, or in the hospital as part of Joe’s Project.
“Woody Guthrie’s Holy Ground: The Yiddish Connection”
Nora Guthrie on her musical family’s Jewish influences at the May 31 Knosh & Knowledge

GREAT BARRINGTON – On Friday, May 31 at 10:45 a.m., Knosh & Knowledge welcomes Nora Guthrie, whose topic will be “Woody Guthrie’s Holy Ground: The Yiddish Connection.” In this program, Nora Guthrie discusses the artistic implications of her father Woody’s relationship with his Jewish mother-in-law, Yiddish poet, Aliza Greenblatt. The program includes a presentation of photographs, music excerpts, writings, and artwork that illuminate their personal and creative relationship.

This Jewish Federation of the Berkshires program will take place at Hevreh of Southern Berkshire at 10:45 a.m., and will be followed by lunch.

One of Nora’s particular focuses involves creating projects which bring Woody Guthrie’s vast cultural and creative legacy to the public. She once told an interviewer that her father “was a poet and lyricist who wrote about everything. I don’t want to see him turned into a freeze-dried Dust Bowl icon. Guthrie, culminating in hundreds of new songs with contemporary artists. Her newest CD, Del and Woody with blue-grass master Del McCoury, was released in 2016. In 1996, Nora co-produced the Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame Tribute to Woody Guthrie with performers Arlo Guthrie, Bruce Springsteen, and the Indigo Girls, among others, which was the catalyst for opening the Woody Guthrie Archives to the public for research. Nora curated the first major exhibition on Guthrie, This Land Is Your Land, for the Smithsonian Institution, which toured museums throughout the country from 2001 – 2003. Nora again worked with the Grammy Museum in 2012 to celebrate Woody’s centennial year, where she co-produced a new camaderie with Woody Guthrie in Performance 1949.

The Klezmatics’ Wonder Wheel

IF YOU GO
Sponsor: Jewish Federation of the Berkshires
Date & Time: Friday, May 31 at 10:45 a.m.
Venue: Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington
Cost: $11 with fresh buffet lunch. Free admission to program only. Advance lunch reservations required for this event.

“Woody Guthrie’s Holy Ground: The Yiddish Connection”

IF YOU GO
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Cost: $11 with fresh buffet lunch. Free admission to program only. Advance lunch reservations required for this event.

Join Abby as she shares tales of the music industry, and how she helped nurture a vital arts community in the Berkshires for 40 years.

“Issy’s Hebrew Exceptionalism”
Nora Guthrie on her musical family’s Jewish influences

GREAT BARRINGTON – On Friday, April 12 at 10:45 a.m., Knosh & Knowledge invites you to join Berkshire music and theater impresario Abby Schroeder as she shares tales and insights from her life with her husband, renowned song-writer Aaron Schroeder, her career in the music industry, and her work on the Berkshires cultural scene. This Jewish Federation of the Berkshires program will take place at Hevreh of Southern Berkshire at 10:45 a.m., and will be followed by lunch.

In her early twenties, Abby Steinberg became the youngest woman executive at the top level of the music business, as COO of A. Schroeder International, created in 1960 by Aaron Schroeder, who she later married. Known for innovative publishing practices and record production, Abby and Aaron discovered, guided and developed careers of extraordinary composers, lyricists, and performers such as Randy Newman, Al Kooper, Blood, Sweat and Tears, Barry White, Jimi Hendrix, and others. Five of Aaron’s 17 songs recorded by Elvis Presley reached the top spot on the charts, including “I Got Stung” and “It’s Now or Never.” Aaron also discovered Gore Piteit, managed his career, and produced his Oscar-nominated hit “Town Without Pity.”

As a creator/business manager, Abby negotiated major contracts for music used in television, films, and commercials, as well as for Broadway productions and Las Vegas revues.

In the Berkshires, Abby has organized star-studded galas for the Berkshire Theatre Group and Social Needs in the Berkshires Since 1984

Nisan / Iyar 5779 Berkshires Jewish Voice • jewishberkshires.org Page 7

ISRAEL TRAVEL & STUDY GRANTS FOR YOUTH
The Michael Nathaniel Shute Endowment Fund provides grants to Berkshire area youth for formal educational travel or study in Israel.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Awards are made within 45 days of receiving the application. Additional funding is available through the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Download an application at www.jewishberkshires.org or pick one up at the Federation’s office 196 South Street, Pittsfield, MA (413) 442-4360, ext 10

Supporting the Arts, Culture, Environment, and Social Needs in the Berkshires Since 1984

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Youth Aliyah: 85 Years of Saving Young People in Israel

Hadasshah fundraiser on May 14

By Joanna Fribush

To celebrate the 85th anniversary of Youth Aliyah, the Berkshire Hills Chapter of Hadassah is sponsoring a dessert reception on Tuesday, May 14 at the home of Judith Cook.

Funds raised will benefit the Meir Shfeyah Village in honor of the memory of Andrea Lipton Becker’s mother, Bonnie Lipton, a past president of National Hadassah, the Berkshire Hills Chapter, and the Western New England Region of Hadassah.

National Hadassah has honored Bonnie with the establishment of the Bonnie Lipton fund and the name of the Meir Shfeyah Village.

In 1934 Recha Freier and Henrietta Shapira began their work rescuing children from the Nazi horrors awaiting them in Germany. In this rescue mission, parents gave their children to Youth Aliyah to ensure their survival in Palestine.

Hadassah, through its founder Henrietta Szold, had established facilities to provide a safe haven for their growth and development. Rescue work did not end when the war ended.

It continues today rescuing young at-risk immigrants and native Israelis suffering from abuse, poverty, behavioral problems, and other disadvantages.

To date more than 300,000 young people from 80 countries have graduated from Youth Aliyah and have become productive, contributing members of Israeli society.

Hadassah maintains three villages – Meir Shfeyah, Hadassah Neurim, and Ramat Hadassah Soold – where at-risk students from diverse religious backgrounds and many countries live and study together.

These villages include both residential and day students. Jews, Arabs, Christians, Druse, Muslims, Bedouins, and immigrants from around the world receive a general education as well as vocational, athletic, music, art, and agricultural instruction. Emotional support and remedial learning needs are also part of each village’s curriculum.

Adjusting to life in a new country may not be easy for young immigrants.

For example, many young Ethiopian immigrants do not understand their own heritage, which causes a generational divide.

To inform them, the Meir Shfeyah Village offers a class on the history of Ethiopian Jews, which is the only course of its kind in Israel. This village also has developed a model ancestral Ethiopian Village with mud huts, chicken and vegetable farming, where older generations work together with younger ones to improve understanding between them.

Hadassah’s goal is to transform lives of uncertainty and misery into lives of fulfillment, trust and growth to “fulfill our Zionist mission of creating a stronger, healthier, kinder and more inclusive Jewish state.”

Surely these are worthwhile goals and Hadassah’s funding is essential to their fulfillment.

Contact Hadassah at (413) 443-4386 or berkshirehillshadassah@gmail.com for further information.

Editor’s Note: We are always proud to note that the BJV’s own “Traveling With Jewish Taste” columnist, Carol Goodman Kroumian, is the National Hadassah Chair of Youth Aliyah.

Temple Anshe Amunim Salutes Israel’s 71st Birthday

FITTSFIELD – On Friday, May 10 at 5:30 p.m., Temple Anshe Amunim, invites the community to join in celebration of Israel’s 71st birthday.

The Temple will hold a special Yom Haatzmaut (Israel’s Birthday) Shabbat service followed by a festive dinner. The dinner will feature traditional Israeli foods, music, and more.

At 5 p.m., families with young children are invited to a Kabbalat Shabbat, led by Rabbi Liz Hirsch. There will be singing, blessings, and snacks.

The Kabbalat Shabbat makes it easy for parents with children ages 0-5 and their siblings to celebrate Shabbat together.

The cost for the dinner is $18 per person for members ($10 per person for non-members) and $15 per person for non-members.

Pre-paid reservations are required by Sunday, April 14.


For further information on all Jewish Federation of the Berkshires programs, please call Nancy Maurice Rogers, Program Director, at (413) 442-4360, ext. 15.
Congregation Ahavath Sholom to Host Second Night Seder at Apple Tree Inn

LENIX – Congregation Ahavath Sholom will hold a second night Seder on Saturday, April 20 at the Apple Tree Inn, 10 Richmond Mountain Road in Lenox. On Saturday, April 27 at 10 a.m., CAS holds its Shabbat service with Yizkor for the conclusion of Pesach at 15 North Street in Great Barrington. Please visit the CAS website at www.ahavathsholom.com for details, or call (413) 528-4197.

Yachad Yom Ha’atzmaut and HoTY Shabbat at Hevreh

GREAT BARRINGTON – On Sunday, May 5, at 10 a.m., join Hevreh’s Religious School as they get ready to say “Tovitoo” (see you later) to the school year by celebrating the sights, sounds, and tastes of Israel! Joining in this joyful event is open to all who would like to experience a Passover Seder.”

Temple Anshe Amunim Hosts Second Night Passover Seder and Other Passover Events

PITTSFIELD – Temple Anshe Amunim will hold its annual Second Night Passover Seder on Saturday, April 20, at 26 Broad Street. The Seder, which will begin at 5:30 p.m., will be led by Rabbi Liz P.G. Hirsch. “Passover celebrates the emancipation of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt and the hope for all to be free from oppression today, and the Temple’s Seder participants will recount the Exodus in story and song.”

Chabad of the Berkshires to Host a First Night Seder, Passover Events

PITTSFIELD – Chabad of the Berkshires will host a communal Passover Seder on the first night of Passover, Friday, April 19 at 7:30 p.m., at 450 South Street. The Seder, the theme of which is “The Unbroken Chain of Jewish Existence,” will take participants through the wondrous liberation of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage, as well as help participants understand the Seder’s relevance to today’s Jews. Included in the Seder will be the traditional, hand-baked shmurah matzoh, the ritual four cups of wine, and a delicious full-course Passover meal including gefilte fish, an array of unique salads, hot soup, a main dish, and a delectable dessert.

Days of Wine and Kugels, at Spirited

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For reservations, more information, or to sponsor a family, call Sara Volovik at (413) 499-9899.

Ashkenazi Haggadah (Southern Germany c. 1460)
of these influential works participants will learn how authors make food "Jewish" in the first place? Exploring rabbinic rhetoric about Islam today, much of which also seeks to influence internal audiences? Understanding the underlying messages can help us to better understand current relations among Jews, Christians, and Muslims.

To attend the Shabbat luncheon preceding the final session with Dr. Freidenreich, please call (413) 445-4872. ext. 10 to reserve space. The Wildman Endowment generously provides this lunch and learning opportunity to those who register in advance.

About the Speaker
After receiving a B.A. from Brandeis University, Dr. Freidenreich earned his Ph.D. at Columbia University and rabbinic ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary. His award-winning first book, Foreigners and Their Food: Constructing Otherness in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Law, explores attitudes toward adherents of foreign religions expressed in ancient and medieval laws about sharing food. He is currently studying the ways Christians have used ideas about Jews to think about Muslims.

"Food and Jewishness: Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Perspectives"
Shabbat study at Knesset Israel, sponsored by the Wildman Fund

PITTSFIELD – On Friday, May 3 and Saturday, May 4, Knesset Israel will host its annual weekend of learning and celebration endowed by the Wildman Fund.

This year, the congregation welcomes Rabbi Dr. David M. Freidenreich, the Pulver Family Associate Professor of Jewish Studies at Colby College in Maine. As director of the Jewish studies program, associate director of the Center for Small Town Jewish Life, and member of the Religious Studies department, Dr. Freidenreich teaches a wide range of courses on Judaism, Jewish history, and comparative religion.

"The Wildman Fund endows weekend scholars for the continuing Jewish education of Knesset Israel members and the greater Jewish community," writes Director of Adult Education Myrna Hammerling. "Judy Wildman and her extended family honor her parents, Chaim and Dorothy Wildman, who personalized by their example the happy pursuit of lifelong Jewish learning."

Kabbalat Shabbat
Friday evening begins with a musical Kabbalat Shabbat service from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner. After dinner, Rabbi Freidenreich will introduce the weekend’s theme: "Food and Jewishness: Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Perspectives."

"Why should one eat—or avoid—Jewish food? What makes food "Jewish" in the first place? Exploring rabbinic and other Jewish texts as well as classical sources of Christianity and Islam, participants will learn how authors of these influential works disagree over what food to eat and, more fundamentally, over what Jewishness is. But all sources agree that the difference between Jews and non-Jews matters. To what extent does that difference still matter in today's era of multiculturalism?"

To attend this dinner, online please go to www.knessetisrael.org and register for Shirei Shabbat dinner, or send a check to Knesset Israel at 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, or visit the RI congregational office during business hours. Adults $820; teens $815; and children are free (family maximum $856).

Shabbat Service and Lunch
During the Shabbat morning service, Dr. Freidenreich asks "In What Ways Should Jews Be Different?" In the Torah portion of that week, Acharei Mot, God instructs the Children of Israel to behave differently from the surrounding peoples. Rabbinic interpreters understood that to refer not only the practices of ancient Egyptians and Canaanites but also to those of Christians and Muslims in their own day. How are Jews supposed to be different? In what ways might these traditions be relevant to our own understandings of Jewishness?

After lunch, the final session of the weekend will ask: "Why Did Christians Use Ideas about Jews to Think about Muslims?" From the earliest days of Islam into modern times, Christians frequently portrayed Muslims as Jewish (or, more precisely, Jew-ish). The primary target of this rhetoric, however, was not Muslims or even Jews, but rather fellow Christians - its goal was to reinforce fundamental Christian beliefs and practices through contrast with timeless and fearsome enemies. What are the parallel dynamics in contemporary rhetoric about Islam today, much of which also seeks to influence internal audiences? Understanding the underlying messages can help us to better understand current relations among Jews, Christians, and Muslims.

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Temple Anshe Amunim Commemorates the Legacy of the Holocaust
PITTSFIELD – Temple Anshe Amunim invites the community to a service commemorating Yom Ha'Shosh (Holocaust Remembrance Day) at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, May 3.

This intergenerational experience will feature music, poetry, and reflections about this important date. Attendees will also join in a symbolic candle lighting to honor those who perished.

As part of the service, leaders will tell the story of the Temple’s Holocaust scroll and its enduring meaning for our community.

Together, attendees will preserve the memory of the Holocaust and ensure that the lessons of history are never forgotten.

No reservation is necessary – this is a free event for the general public.

Temple Anshe Amunim is located at 20 Broad Street in Pittsfield. The temple office can be reached at (413) 442-5910.

You may request that the Berkshire Jewish Voice be mailed to your home. Just email us at federation@jewishberkshires.org for information.
Happy PASSOVER
Everything for your Passover table

$5.99
/lb.
Empire Fresh Kosher Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast
3596522

$5.00
/ea.
Acme Smoked Nova Salmon
4 oz. pkg. 3411223

$3.99
/lb.
Fresh Horseradish
3365632

$3.99
/ea.
Kedem Grape Juice Selected Varieties, 64 fl. oz. btl.
3553578

2/4
Kedem Apple Juice 64 fl. oz. btl.
3546996

2/$4
Manischewitz, Streit’s, Yehuda or Aviv 5 lb Matzos
80 oz. pkg. 3556356

Try something new!

3/$10
Tuscanini Potato Chips Selected Varieties, 4.6 oz. pkg.
3365525

2/$6
Manischewitz Egg Matzos 12 oz. pkg. 3419365

Baking needs

2/$5
Manischewitz Cake Meal or Matzo Meal Selected Varieties, 16 oz. cont.
3415600

2/$6
Gunter’s Honey Bear 12 oz. btl.
3402272

3/$5
Manischewitz Potato Pancake Mix Selected Varieties, 6 oz. box
3412798

$3.99
/ea.
Manischewitz Cake Mixes Selected Varieties, 11–14.1 oz. pkg.
3376516

Sweet confections

$7.99
/ea.
Lilly’s Passover Assorted Cookies 32 oz. pkg. 34010414

2/$4
Elite Chocolate Bars Selected Varieties, 3.5 oz. bar
3379597

2/$4
Goodman’s Macaroons Selected Varieties, 10 oz. canister
3421495

Grocery

4/$5
Streit’s Matzo Ball and Matzo Ball Soup Mix Selected Varieties, 4.5 oz. pkg.
3370902

2/$6
Mrs. Adler’s Gefilte Fish Selected Varieties, 24 oz. jar
3370903

2/$5
Streit’s Matzo Ball and Matzo Ball Soup Mix Selected Varieties, 4.5 oz. pkg.
3370902

2/$5
Mrs. Adler’s Gefilte Fish Selected Varieties, 24 oz. jar
3370903

2/$5
Tabatchnick Chicken Broth 32 oz. cont. 3376529

$69¢
Store Brand Seltzer 31.8 fl. oz. btl.
3189396

2/$5
Manischewitz Tam Crackers Selected Varieties, 8 oz. pkg.
3379216

2/$5
Seasoned Skillet & Boneless Sardines Selected Varieties, 2.5 oz. pkg.
3401894

2/$5
Tabatchnick Chicken Broth 32 oz. cont. 3376529

2/$5
Seasoned Skillet & Boneless Sardines Selected Varieties, 2.5 oz. pkg.
3401894

$3.99
/ea.
Osem Consomme 14 oz. cont. 3411231

Use your Stop & Shop card and save on items on this page.
We sell kosher and non-kosher foods. Not all products kosher for Passover. Not all items available in all stores. While supplies last.
Warming Up with Berkshire Friends in Florida

Thank you to the many Federation supporters who came out to connect with Dara Kaufman and other Berkshire friends during our recent get-togethers in Palm Beach and Naples. A special thank you to Paula Lustbader and Anne Schnesel for their warm hospitality in hosting these events on behalf of the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. Here are some photos from the Palm Beach gathering—we apologize for not taking pictures in Naples.

New Torah Covers to be Dedicated at Knesset Israel

PITTSFIELD – On Saturday, May 18 during Shabbat services starting at 9:30 a.m., Knesset Israel will continue the renewal of its sanctuary with the dedication of six new Torah covers.

The project was conceived and initiated by KI artists Susan Miller and Naomi Schwartz, whose love of color inspired them to look into vibrant Torah covers that would enhance the updated sanctuary. They were given the go ahead to interview designers and settled on Jeanette Kuvin Oren, an artist specializing in design.

With studios in Connecticut and Jerusalem, Jeanette has over 20 years of experience and has completed 350 Torah covers that reside in synagogues all over the world. Each hand-crafted cover is made up of several layers of fabric, solid wood mantles and rings, and is specific to the congregation for which it is designed. The artist visited to experience the spiritual space for herself, and listened to congregants’ ideas.

Each of the six scrolls is commemo-rated by its donor(s) and donor names will be noted by a fabric inscription of the inside of each cover. One of the covers was for the congregation so that each individual or family had the opportunity to participate in the project with a donation.
SALE EFFECTIVE IN OUR GREAT BARRINGTON AND LEE STORES ONLY APRIL 8 TO MAY 12, 2019.

**Happy Passover!**

**Passover begins sunset Fri., Apr. 19, 2019**

Happy Passover!

IN OUR PRODUCE DEPT.

HONEYDEW_MELONS

**2 FOR $7**

ROYAL GALA APPLES

**1 69 lb**

IN OUR SEAFOOD DEPT.

VITA WILD NOVA SALMON

3 oz, Previously Frozen

**4 49**

VITA HERRING IN WINE SAUCE or Sour Cream or Homestyle

30 to 32 oz

**7 99**

IN OUR GROCERY DEPT.

YEHUDA MATZOS

80 oz

**4 99**

GEFEN MACAROONS

10 oz, Assorted Varieties

**2 FOR $4**

KEDEM GRAPE JUICE

22 oz, Assorted Varieties

**2 FOR $4**

YEHUDA MEMORIAL CANDLES

**2 FOR $1**

IN OUR FROZEN AISLE

TABATCHNICK SOUP

14.5 to 15 oz, Assorted Varieties

**2 FOR $4**

IN OUR DAIRY AISLE

GOLD’S HORSERADISH

8 oz

**1 99**

ACME WHITEFISH SALAD

7 oz

**5 49**

Visit bigy.com and your local Big Y for more Passover Savings!
## Connecting with Community

**Nourish Your Body, Mind, and Soul!**

Enjoy an educational program followed by a delicious kosher hot lunch!
Programs take place on most Mondays and Thursdays at 10:45 a.m. Lunch is served Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at noon.

Advanced reservations are required to attend lunch.
Please call (413) 442-2200 no later than 9 a.m. on the day you would like to attend. Open to the public. All are welcome! Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA.

*Adults 60 and over:* $2 suggested donation  
*Adults under 60:* $7 per person  
Program only if free!

When making a reservation please inform us if a person in your party has a food allergy. The Federation’s kosher hot lunch program is offered in collaboration with Elder Services of Berkshire County.

### What’s for Lunch?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Seuss in Springfield. Lunch: Roasted chicken**, asparagus cuts n tips, oven roasted potatoes, bread and dessert to be announced and tea.</td>
<td>Tuesday: Leftovers and tea. Thursday: Leftovers and tea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
<td>No Connecting With Community program or lunch due to Passover preparations.</td>
<td>Monday: No Connecting With Community program or lunch due to Passover preparations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>The German Jewish Experience, 1st session. Lunch: Malaysian curry chicken**, brown rice noodles, Oriental vegetables, multigrain bread, pineapple and tea.</td>
<td>Tuesday: No Connecting With Community program or lunch due to Passover preparations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Program to be announced. Lunch: Tuna salad &amp; cottage cheese platters**, rolls, ice cream and cookies, coffee, tea and milk for coffee.</td>
<td>Thursday: Program to be announced. Lunch: Fresh fish**, tomato juice, kugel, asparagus cuts n tips, scones, mandarin oranges, coffee, tea and milk for coffee.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA.
Volunteers Needed!
Super Sunday
MAY 19th

Join the Berkshire Jewish Community as we come together to raise money for the Jewish Federation’s 2019 Annual Campaign. Together, we can build, strengthen and care for our Jewish Community across the Berkshires, in Israel and around the world!

MAKE THE CALL
Two convenient phone-a-thon locations. Food, fun, and training provided!

Jewish Federation of the Berkshires
196 South Street, Pittsfield
8:30 am-12:30 pm

Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center at their Administrative Office
244 Main St, Suite #3, Great Barrington
8:30 am-12:30 pm

Follow up phone-a-thons also need volunteers!
Tues, May 28, 3-5 pm or 6-7:30 pm at Federation
Mon, June 3, 3-6 pm at Hevreh
Thurs, June 13, 3-5 pm or 6-8 pm at Federation

Thank you to these organizations for their support:

Anonymous (10)
Ed Abrahams
Norman Avnet*
Barbara Baschevkin
Robert Baschevkin
Linda J. L. Becker
Robert Berend
Shelley Berend
Helene Berke
Lee & Sydelle Blatt
Betty Braun*
Capota Brown
Barbara Cohen
Mark Cohen*
Mimi Cohen
C. Jeffrey & Judith Cook
Gerry & Lynn Denmark
Jonathan & Laura Denmark
Shelita K. Donath
Melva Eidelberg
Monro England, in memory of
Monroe B. & Isabel England
Dr. Armand V. Feigenbaum*
Dr. Donald S. Feigenbaum*
Steven Feiner
Diana & Stanley Feld
Stuart M. Fishman
Lee & William Foggle
Elaine Friedman
Eitan Gannot
Jeffrey Goldwasser &
Jonquil Wolfson
Jordan & Laura Green
Harold Grinspoon
Ellen Hefflan
Ed Jaffe*
Eliahu Katzman
Maury Katzman
Dara Kaufman
Howard & Nancy* Kaufman
Lawrence Klein
Sarah Klein
ARTHUR KIRGES
Fred & Brenda Landes
Beth Lastes-Nathan
Andrew S. Levine*
Toby H. Levine
Erna Lindner-Gilbert*
Amy Lindner-Leiser
Helen Maislen*
Ellen Masters
Stuart Masters
Estelle Miller
Robert Newman*
Wendy Robbins
Ken & Fran Rubenstein
Stella Schecter*
Arlene D. Schiff
Gary Schiff
Stephen & Deborah Schreier
Marvin Silver
Sylvia Silverberg, in memory of
Jerome Silverberg
Richard A. Simon & Marcie
Greenfield Simon
Mark & Elisa Snowise
Harold Sparr*
Lisa Fletcher-Udel
Edward Udel
Michael & Joan Ury
Mark & Judy Usof
Henry* & Beatrice* Vorenberg
Alexandra Warshaw
Florence Weinberg*
Rabbi Deborah Zecher &
Rabbi Dennis Ross
*Of blessed memory

ANSWER THE CALL
When your phone rings on Super Sunday, answer it. Your gift to the Federation’s annual campaign — whatever it is you can give — will feed the hungry, comfort the elderly and care for Jews in need. You’ll help connect young people to their Jewish identity, and help people of all ages, regardless of affiliation, build vital community connections. Together we will create a caring and compassionate Jewish community across the Berkshires, in Israel, and around the world.

BE A SUPER HERO TO YOUR COMMUNITY
RSVP to volunteer at (413) 442-4360, ext 10 or register online at jewishberkshires.org

As my parents planted for me before I was born, so do I plant for those who come after me. – Talmud

Thank you to these individuals who through their gift to the Legacy Circle will ensure that the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires thrives long into the future. May your name be a Blessing, and may the example you set inspire others to create their own Jewish Legacy.

ENJOY KOSHER & MEVUSHAL WINES
Special Selections include...

Nonite Italian Prosecco, Italy
Gran Sarao Cava Brut, Spain
Gabriele Pinot Grigio, Italy
Guillermo de Mendoza Malbec, Argentina
Burka Classic Malol, Cabernet & Pinot Noir, Israel
Tribbi Sauvignon Blanc & Reserve Cabernet, Israel
Golan Cabernet Sauvignon, Galilee
O’Dwyers Creek Sauvignon Blanc, New Zealand
Ricanici Chardonnay & Cabernet, Galilee
spired-wines.com

SPIRITED
mine • food • spirits
444 Pittsfield Road, Lenox, MA 01240
413.443.2274

Nisan / Iyar 5779
Berkshire Jewish Voice • jewishberkshires.org
Page 15
Carol F. Reich, 83, keen mind and undeniable determination

MIAMI, FL. – Carol F. Reich, 83, died Wednesday, April 3, 2019, at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. She was born on February 14, 1936, to Louis Yusin and Celia Valentine's Day, February 14, 1924, to Louis Yusin and Celia Valentine. She was predeceased by her husband, Paul E. Rokoff, her son Aaron Reich, and her beloved son-in-law, Michael Stern Pasternak. R. Finkelstein, her son, Aaron Reich, and her beloved son-in-law, Michael Stern Pasternak. R. Finkelstein, her son, Aaron Reich, and her beloved son-in-law, Michael Stern Pasternak.

Carole Friedman was a lover of music and regulars at the Tanglewood Symphony for over a decade. On moving to Miami, she became a regular at the Miami Music Project, where she endowed a new school for their work. Anyone who came in contact with Carole knew her to be a French teacher who was a kind and unassuming determinist who enjoyed her grand-children, good food, and the company of the loyal network of friends and family that surrounded her.

Gifts in her memory can be made to the Miami Music Project, where she endowed a new school for their work.

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Mazel Tov to…

Rabbi David Weiner of Raaness Israel for being chosen as one of the 40 Under Forty, distinguished for professional and personal achievements and contributions to the Berkshires. The award is presented by the Berkshire Community College Foundation.

Pat is survived by two daughters, Emily and Jill; sons-in-law Scott Key and Peter Peirce; grandchildren Ruslan and Michael; brother James Selkin and his daughter Joelle Selkin Wedel; and many dear friends.

A graveside service was held Tuesday, February 19 in the Beth El Cemetery, Oradell, NJ. A memorial service will be held in Teaneck in the spring. Please contact the family at 800-824-7242 or jepm@ comcast.net if you would like to attend.

Marlene Brager, wife, sister, mother, grandmother

Long involved in the Stamford-Jewish community, Cohen was a former executive director of the Stamford JCC. He has served on the executive and governing committees of Jewish Family Service (JFS), and has used his expertise in market research and strategic planning to help Stamford-area synagogues and Jewish organizations. Cohen received the JFS Mitzvah Award in 2005.

Saul was the beloved husband of Mimi; loving father of Amy (Carl Krugak and Rena Joosh) Kopelman; proud grandfather of Aly, Eric, Elana and Jacob; dear brother of Jerry (Miriam) Cohen; uncle to many and friend to everyone. Donations in his memory can be made to Elyane and James Schoke Jewish Family Service of Fairfield County.

The funeral was held on Friday, March 15 at Congregation Agudath Sholom, Stamford. Burial followed at Beth David Cemetery in Elmont, NY.
New JPPI Analysis of Attitudes and Practice of Israeli Jews

By Shmuel Rosner, Professor Camil Fuchs, & Noah Slepkov / JPPI

New JPPI Analysis of Attitudes and Practice of Israeli Jews

“Jews,” who are mostly Haredi Israelis); and those who, relatively speaking, practice mostly Jewish traditions and many fewer Israeli customs (17 percent we call tend to come from secular quarters of the old-fashioned Labor Party Zionists and practicing tradition and nationality (“Jewraelis,” the 55 percent majority); those of the Jewish population), get a point for non-nationalism.

Independence Day. Those who raise it get a point for nationalism. Those who say a point for tradition. If they shop on Shabbat, they get a point for non-tradition.

To reach this conclusion, we scanned many thousands of data points and utilized several methodologies of statistical analysis. Our most telling model was locating the Jews of Israel on a graph with two dimensions — one for tradition, one for nationality. We used 32 questions from the survey to create a map. If a Jew lights candles on Friday night, they get a point for tradition. If they shop on Shabbat, they get a point for non-tradition.

We measure points of Jewish tradition, such as keeping Shabbat laws, and we measure behaviors of Israeli nationalism, such as raising the Israeli flag on Independence Day. Those who raise it get a point for nationalism. Those who say that Israel should not be a Jewish but rather a civil state (about 9 percent of the Jewish population), get a point for non-nationalism.

Our map shows a Jewish population unequally divided into four groups. Those practicing tradition and nationality (“Jewraelis,” the 55 percent majority); those who mostly practice nationality (15 percent we call “Israelis” in the book, who tend to come from secular quarters of the old-fashioned Labor Party Zionists and whose culture is relatively devoid of keeping Jewish traditions); those who practice mostly Jewish traditions and many fewer Israeli customs (17 percent we call “Jews,” who are mostly Haredi Israelis); and those who, relatively speaking, practice neither (13 percent we call “Universalists” — urban, liberal, left leaning and often alienated from other Israelis).

4 Types of Israeli Jews

The Israeli Jew practices Judaism like no Jew before. Israeli Judaism is unique to a place and to a time, an amalgamation of tradition and nationality. In many cases it is very hard — maybe impossible — to determine where the Jew ends and the Israeli begins, or where the Israeli ends and the Jew begins.

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Zionism and the “New Jew”

Zionist thinkers, from their early days, believed that the role of a national homeland was to rescue the Jews and Judaism from their cosmopolitan condition. The historian Ben-Zion Dinur expressed that view without mincing words: “There’s one problem with Judaism, and it is called exile.” Thus, political Zionism stressed the need to offer the Jews a physical refuge from anti-Semitism. Its adherents had woken up from the dream of integrating among others and realized that only a defined and secure geographic territory could sustain the Jews. Spiritual Zionism emphasized the need to offer the Jews a cultural refuge from assimilation. Its adherents realized that the prospect of preserving Judaism when among other nations wasn’t viable. They believed that only a defined geographic territory could supply Judaism with the spiritual energy for its continued existence.

All Zionist streams strived to create a new Jew. But they argued bitterly about what this new Jewish should be like. Some wanted to abandon Jewish traditions, others wanted to revitalize them, still others wanted to create new traditions. Still, the idea of the “new Jew,” like the principle of Diaspora negation, explained Prof. Yizhak Conforti of Bar Ilan University, “provided a middle ground for all forms of Zionism.” All Zionists rejected the Diaspora, “and all saw a need to create and educate a new Jew. However, each of the various forms created a type of new Jew that reflected its particular ideology.

So, Zionists expected a new Jew to emerge. They were correct in their assessment — a new Jew was born. It was born, has grown, and is now standing on both feet. This Jew is confident about continuity, attributes a high level of importance to being Jewish, mixes Israeli nationality with Judaism, and shows a strong tendency to practice Jewish tradition.

Jewish Practice in Israel

Jews in Israel, on average, practice a lot more Jewish tradition than other Jews. This is one benefit of living in a society in which Jewish practice and Hebrew language are given. In 65 percent of Israeli Jewish homes, candles are lit on Friday night. In 68 percent of these homes, Israelis make a Kiddush. More than 80 percent of Jewish Israelis have a family meal on Friday night — that’s tradition. Jewish Israelis keep many of the Jewish traditions, but without the need to be religious or follow the script dictated by ancient religious texts.

Israeli Jews also have the habit of mixing Jewishness and Israeliness. Thus, Independence Day becomes a Jewish holiday — not just an Israeli holiday. Most people who celebrate it are Jews. The flag they raise is Jewishly themed. The ceremony on Mount Herzl includes 12 torches lit by 12 Israelis who represent the 12 tribes. Why 12? Read the Torah and find out. Why torches? Go to the Mishna and find out. The themes of the day make it Jewish, as do the views of those celebrating it.

We asked the Jews of Israel many questions about their beliefs and values, and from their answers it is easy to extract a simple reality: many of them no longer see a difference between being a good, patriotic Israeli that makes a contribution to Israeli society to being a good Jew. There are non-Jews serving in Israeli military, such as Druze and Bedouins; nevertheless, more than 70 percent of Jewish Israelis believe that to be a “good Jew” one must serve in the Israeli army.

Jewish Continuity

What about Jewish continuity? For many Israelis that’s a weird question — a question for the Diaspora. The modernity of Israel’s Jewish culture is very much ensured by the environment in which they live. When we asked Israeli Jews about their level of confidence that their children and grandchildren will be Jewish, the outcome was remarkable. Almost all of them are confident that their children will be Jewish (86%). A similar number are confident that their grandchildren will be Jewish (79%).

A strong majority of Jewish Israelis, 61 percent, have complete confidence — that is, a 10 out of possible 10 – that their children will also be Jewish. A vast majority, 86 percent, rank it from 8 to 10. And when we asked the same question about whether their grandchildren will be Jewish, the number of responses ranking confidence from 8 to 10 were only slightly lower — 79 percent.
Calendar – Ongoing Events

Around the Community

Continuous – Chabad of the Berkshires
“Smile on Seniors,” or “S.O.S.,” volunteer program to serve senior citizens in the Berkshires. Information for families who can benefit and volunteers: Rabbi Levi Volovik at (413) 499-9899 or visit www.jewishberkshires.com.

Monthly, fourth or fifth Sunday – Volunteers from Congregation Beth Israel, 53 Lois Street, North Adams “Take and Eat” program cook, package, and deliver hot meals for all North Adams clients of “Meals on Wheels.” Information: (413) 663-5830 or office@cbiweb.org.


Tuesdays, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. – Torah Portion of the Week study group at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield. Facilitator Myrna Hammerling guides the group through the triennial cycle, year-round in the KI Library. Newcomers always welcome to this gathering of students of diverse ages, backgrounds, and perspectives who search together to deepen understanding of our foundational text. Free. Information: (413) 445-4872, ext. 16.

Wednesday, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. – Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, offers an hour of “Shalom Yoga, Gentle Stretch and Meditation” with Nina Lipkowitz a certified Kripalu and Jewish yoga and meditation teacher. Check https://hevreh.org/calendar/ for updates. All levels welcome. Contact Nina at nina@lipkowitz@gmail.com with any questions.

Wednesdays at Knesset Israel – “Enhanced Prayer Class for Adults” 10-11:30 a.m. at 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, KI library. What are we saying when we read prayers at a service? How does the siddur language connect with my life today? How can I build my Hebrew reading fluency and practice my reading skills? How can I be more comfortable with the language and process of prayer? Facilitated by Myrna Hammerling. Newcomers always welcome. Information: (413) 445-4872, ext. 16.

Wednesdays at Hevreh – “Lunch N Learn: Early Prophets” with Rabbi Neil Hirsch at 11:45 a.m. is open to anyone who wants to deepen their relationship to Jewish study through text and discussion. Says Rabbi Hirsch: “Our tradition teaches that when two (or more) sit together, and discuss words of Torah, God dwells with them. Study is one of the many ways we as a Jewish community experience the sacred and the spiritual.” Classes available via video conference or conference call. Email Rabbi Hirsch a nhirsch@hevreh.org to find out how to join remotely.

Thursdays (fourth of each month) – Hadassah Book Club. For times, locations of meetings, and further information about the books: Patti Lipman, pilipman@fairpoint.net.

Fridays, at 9 a.m. – Meditation with Rabbi Rachel Barenblat in the Congregation Beth Israel sanctuary, 53 Lois Street, North Adams, overlooking the Berkshire mountains. Silence, chanting, and meditation designed to help prepare for Shabbat. All welcomed. Information: (413) 663-5830 and www.cbiweb.org.

Fridays, once a month at 5:30 p.m. (followed by a family style Shabbat dinner at 6:30 p.m.) – Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield. Shirei Shabbat (“Songs of Shabbat”). Unique service combines melodies from Carlebach, Debbie Friedman, and Camp Ramah to create a ruach filled (“spirited”) family friendly experience. Cost for dinner $20 adult, $15 teens, children free. Dinner reservations are due by the Monday before services. Full information: (413) 445-4872, ext 10.


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Saturdays at 8:45 a.m. – at Hevreh, 270 State Road in Great Barrington. Every Shabbat morning, gather in Rabbi Neil Hirsch’s study and dive into the less-often read books of the Bible. All are welcome to begin the day with coffee while studying and relaxing on Shabbat. Sessions will be between 45 and 60 minutes. Please be in touch with Rabbi Hirsch for further information: nhirsch@hevreh.org.

Saturdays at 9 a.m. – Temple Anshe Amunim, 26 Broad Street, Pittsfield. Rabbi Liz P.G. Hirsch leads a meditation and light yoga group. Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. – Temple Anshe Amunim, 26 Broad Street, Pittsfield. “Torah Plus: Exploring Jewish Text and Culture.” Join Rabbi Liz P.G. Hirsch for a conversation based on the texts of the Jewish people and reflect on Jewish values and thinking and what it means “to be Jewish.” All texts are offered in English. Free and open to the public. Information (413) 442-5910 or templeoffice@ansheamunim.org.
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Traveling with Jewish Taste

Shayna Knaidel
By Carol Goodman Kaufman

You can call them matzo balls. Or knaidlach. And you can transliterate the latter any one of nine ways the YIVO Institute provides for the yummy orb. However, if by chance you are a participant in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, you must abide by its official dictionary, Webster’s Third New International. Webster’s, and therefore bee sponsor Scripps, insists on knaidlach for the singular.

Whatever you call them or however you spell them, these delicious dumplings are iconic in Ashkenazi cuisine.

The matzo ball is so beloved that many metropolitan areas are home to a Christmas Eve dance called – you guessed it – the Matzoball, hailed by organizers as “the nation’s #1 holiday party.”

The knaidel has even been the focus of competition, with chefs from California to New Jersey vying for the honor of having made the largest one. The current record holder is Noam Sokolow of Noah’s Ark Deli in Teaneck, New Jersey. According to the Guinness Book of World Records, this 2009 creation (shown below right) weighed 267 pounds and was made from 1,000 eggs, 80 pounds of margarine, 200 pounds of matzo meal, and 20 pounds of chicken base. Befitting the status accorded a cultural icon, police escorted it to Manhattan where an adoring crowd devoured it.

Whether you’re a “floater” fan or a “sinker” supporter, it’s just not chicken – obviously – without that big beige ball sitting in the middle. (For the record, I’m a floater margarine, 9.07 kg (20 lb) chicken base and 90.71 kg (200 lb) matzo meal. 74.16 cm (29.2 in) in diameter. It was made of 1,000 eggs, 36.28 kg (80 lb) of margarine, 200 pounds of matzo meal, and 20 pounds of chicken base.

For a heartier knaidel than the standard, Joan Nathan introduces a Lithuanian-beef-stuffed model in her Jewish Holiday Kitchen cookbook. The knaidlach are boiled first and then baked in a muffin tin with cinnamon sprinkled over the tops. Although some of my ancestors include Lithuanians, I had never heard of this dish. But I can’t wait to try it.

And down South, matzo balls are a totally different kettle of, well, soup. In Nathan’s Jewish Cooking in America, she introduces a Cajun recipe made with whole matzos, scallions, garlic, and chipotle pepper that she says came with immigrants from southern Germany.

The Nosher website tells us that other cousins down South have devised a vegan twist on the savory sphere that they pair with a potlikker soup. (Potlikker is the liquid that is left behind after boiling greens or beans.) These matzo balls are made with traditional Southern ingredients such as collard greens, jalapeno pepper, scallions, corn kernels, and cornmeal – obviously not kosher for Passover but good the other 51 weeks of the year.

The recipe below was adapted from Marcie Cohen Ferris’ Matzo Ball Gumbo: Culinary Tales of the Jewish South. The book, an adaptation of her doctoral dissertation, tells the stories of Jewish immigrants throughout the South and how they managed to balance and blend their Southern and Jewish identities through food. (BTW, this book includes an interview with Shirley Pailt Frisch (z”l), the mother of our own Susan Frisch Lehrer.)

### Creole Matzo Balls

Makes 12 matzo balls or 6 servings.

**Ingredients:**

- 2 tablespoons canola oil, divided
- 1/4 cup finely chopped onion
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 2 to 2 1/2 teaspoons Creole seasoning
- 2 cups water
- 1/2 cup matzo meal
- 1 large egg
- Kosher salt

**Directions:**

In a small nonstick skillet, heat 1 tablespoon oil over medium heat. Add onion and cook, stirring often, until tender, to 2 to 3 minutes. Stir in parsley and Creole seasoning to taste and cook, stirring, for 30 seconds.

Scrape onion mixture into a medium bowl and let cool before next step. Add eggs and remaining 1 tablespoon oil. Mix with a fork until eggs are well broken up. Add matzo meal and mix until blended. Cover and refrigerate for 20 minutes or a few hours.

Meanwhile, fill a large saucepan with salted water. Cover and bring to a boil.

Moisten your hands and form the matzo ball mixture into 12 balls, using a heaping tablespoon mixture for each. Gently lower the matzo balls into the water with a slotted spoon. Cover and bring to a boil.

Reduce heat to low and simmer for 15 minutes, or until cooked. Gently lower the matzo balls into the water with a slotted spoon. Cover and simmer for 15 minutes, or until cooked through.

![Christmas Eve Matzoblal mash pit](image-url)
CULTURE AND ARTS

RUBE GOLDBERG, continued from page 1

working in vaudeville, live action and animated film, prose, poetry, songwriting, radio, television, political cartooning, and (at the end of his life) sculpture. But Leonardo's inventions reflected the same aspirant human spirit and ingenuity that, in the modern age, would send men to the moon, the point of Goldberg's intricate devices was to show, as fellow cartoonist Walt Kelly (of Pogo fame) put it, that "it remains true that those things which make us human are, curiously enough, always close at hand."

Unlike some of Leonardo's machines, none of Goldberg's could actually work if constructed — for one, all of them depend on uncertainty (say, a golf ball hitting a watering can just so) or the agency of a captive human being or animal at rather through mishap. From Goldberg's wacky descriptions of the machines: "Professor Butts is operated on for fallen arches and while under the ether thinks of a handy self-working sunshine..." "Professor Butts trolls between two sets of gangsters having a machine gun battle and is struck by an idea for keeping a buttonhole flower fresh..." And my favorite: "Professor Butts goes over Niagara Falls in a collapsible oat-can and hits upon an idea for a simple way to take a picture." After a sequence involving a mosquito, a mouse, an "Arabian midget," and various household objects, the description concludes: "If the picture is no good, don't blame the invention. It's the way you look."

A Goldberg machine devised for Haifa's Technion

some point in the process to complete the chain of events. But if Leonardo's invention — the show's curator Jesse Kowalski, they are not enclosed. Following his limitations, but rather how "man is always trying to transcend his limitations, but rather through that newfangled contraption, the safety bicycle. By the end of his long life in 1970, the illustrator had seen automobiles and jet planes transform Americans lives and the landscape they inhabited, and man had even walked on the moon. "Goldberg understood how the average man felt about technology," writes Kowalski in his exhibition notes, "not only the wonder and delight around the usefulness of a new invention, but also the difficulty and frustration that came with using the devices."

As the editorial cartoons on view at the Rockwell demonstrate, Goldberg also understood the average man's anxiety at the sweeping changes that transformed political life and international affairs during the 20th century. A staunch opponent of Nazism in the 1930s and later Communism, Goldberg won a Pulitzer Prize for "Peace Today," which depicts a family relaxing at home atop an atomic bomb tettering upon a precipice of "world conquest.

As befits such a singular character, Goldberg's Jewish journey was also non-conventional. He was born Reuben Garrett Goldberg in San Francisco, the third of seven children. His father, Max, immigrated to California from Germany, worked as a bank appraiser and political operative, and was at various times San Francisco's police chief and the commissioner — certainly not the kind of jobs one might expect an immigrant to hold in the far western United States in the 19th century. "Goldberg remembered how his father would hang out with politicians and real estate people," says Kowalski, adding that the cartoonist enjoyed making fun of wheeling-and-dealing machers in his work throughout his career. Young Reuben always wanted to be an illustrator (he was largely self-taught), but was pressured by his father to enroll in University of California Berkeley's engineering program to secure a more practical way of making a living. Upon graduating in 1904, Goldberg worked as a draftsman for San Francisco's sewer department but, after some success cartooning, left the West Coast for greater opportunity back East.

In 1907, Goldberg began cartooning for the New York Evening Mail, for which he produced a wide variety of comic strips such as "Boob McNutt" and "Ike & Mike," and one-panel gags such as "Foolish Questions" — their humor value, I have to say, has dwindled a bit over the last hundred years. Goldberg, his most popular cartoon — the weekly "The Inventions of Professor Butts is operated on for fallen arches and while under the ether thinks of a handy self-working sunshine..." "Professor Butts trolls between two sets of gangsters having a machine gun battle and is struck by an idea for keeping a buttonhole flower fresh..." And my favorite: "Professor Butts goes over Niagara Falls in a collapsible oat-can and hits upon an idea for a simple way to take a picture." After a sequence involving a mosquito, a mouse, an "Arabian midget," and various household objects, the description concludes: "If the picture is no good, don't blame the invention. It's the way you look."

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RUBE GOLDBERG, continued from previous page

be done simply.” (It also didn’t hurt Goldberg’s bottom line that his wife, Irma, was heir-ess to the White Rose supermarket fortune.)

“His job as an illustra-tor was to tell a story with-out words,” says Kowalski. “He was not the best artist, but as an illustrator, he was absolutely one of the best. He was always catching on to what was going on in popu-lar culture – for example, he first popularized the word ‘bal-bom.’”

He wasn’t just an observer of technological advances – he was an early adopter of every new media that enabled him to reach larger audiences. After a brief career performing in vaudeville, Goldberg branched out into animation, which was a form of moviemaking then in its infancy. Kowalski says he ultimately worked on 70 ani-mated films, as well as script-ing the first Three Stooges short, and was friendly with Charlie Chaplin, George Gershwin, Harry Houdini, and Grouch Marx. In 1948, he hosted a television program on WPIX, just two weeks after the New York station began broadcasting.

In 1930, Goldberg started to contribute three political cartoons each week to the New York Sun, increased to five weekly cartoons after the end of World War II. After shifting his focus to political cartooning, Goldberg became alarmed by anti-Semitic hate mail he started to receive, and strove to protect his family by having his sons change their surname. (According to one account, Goldberg’s actions were also influenced by stories of European anti-Semitism his immigrant parents had shared with him when he was growing up.)

As recounted in The Times of Israel: “Goldberg called his sons, Thomas and George, into his office. Noting that they would be going away to college, he asked them to change their last name, under the pretext of not wanting their father’s work to its Museum of Art, the source of several of the machine drawings and comic strips on view at the Rockwell. (George George went on to write for television shows like Gunsmoke and Bonanza, and is also credited as screen-writer of the 1980s art house film My Dinner With Andre. His brother Thomas was a noted abstract artist.)

Many of the political car-toons and archival material were selected from a sub-stantial 2014 donation of to the Rockwell Museum from the Famous Artists School, which offered correspondence courses in various types of illustration and design. Norman Rockwell was one of the founding artists, and Goldberg worked for the school starting in 1948 as an instruc-tor in editorial cartooning. Rube Goldberg seems to be having a cultural moment – a successful exhibit mounted by the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia is currently touring museums around the country, and a kid-cen-tric version of that show is on view at the Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh through early May.

Kowalski worked on the Rockwell exhibitions for approximately 18 months, and has curated a concise overview that touches on Goldberg’s career highlights in a way that illuminates the breadth of his accomplishment working in a multitude of modes.

To use a machine meta-phor, Goldberg was a dynamo, propelled by a desire to stay both productive and relevant. Says Kowalski: “At a certain point, he saw that illustra-tors who were once well-known were being forgotten. He thought that some of their ideas did not stay with the times. He always tried to stay with the times.”

“The Art and Wit of Rube Goldberg” will be on view through June 9 at the Norman Rockwell Museum, located at 9 Glendale Road / Route 183 in Stockbridge, MA. For more information, visit www.nrm.org.

Paul Green CD Release Party: A Bissel Rhythm

PITTSFIELD – On Sunday, May 5, at 4 p.m., Paul Green and his band, Two Worlds, invites the community to a CD release party for A Bissel Rhythm, Green’s second Jewish-Jazz fusion album.

The concert will be Taft Recital Hall at the Berkshire Music School, 30 Wendell Avenue in Pittsfield.

A virtuoso clarinetist equally adept at classical, jazz, and klezmer, Green has gone beyond arranging existing tunes, as he did in his first album, Music Coming Together. Now, he is com-poser as well as arranger as he continues to explore, in his own compositions, the rela-tionships between jazz and klezmer music.

At the concert, CDs will be available for purchase and there will be a champagne reception to follow. A free will donation at the door will benefit the Berkshire Music School.

CULTURE AND ARTS

Join us for an Open House April 4 or May 9, or schedule a visit at your convenience

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Back To The Wall

Having transformed ‘The Shuk,’ Solomon Souza brings his Jewish-inflected street art to the US

In September 2016, the Berkshire Jewish Voice shared images created by street artist Solomon Souza for a project that would transform the after-hours character of Jerusalem’s Mahane Yehuda market – aka, “The Shuk.”

In the past, after shopkeepers shuttered their stalls at night and on Shabbat, the center city neighborhood was mostly unvisited. That changed after Souza, then 23 years old, was commissioned to spray paint graffiti art-inspired images on approximately 150 of the market’s 360 shutters. Souza mostly portrayed Jewish and Zionist icons, although for an additional contribution a shopkeeper could commission his or her own portrait.

He partnered with the business-minded Berel Hahn, who arranged permissions with the shop owners, secured funding, and otherwise worked to make The Shuk a tourist, nightlife, and art scene destination.

Souza, who is largely self-taught, is the grandson of Francis Newton Souza, a modernist painter and the first post-independence Indian artist whose work became known in the West. His mother, Keren Souza-Kohn, is also a painter. Solomon came to Israel at age 17 to study at the yeshiva, and met Berel Hahn in Jerusalem. In recent years, Souza has visited cities across the US and produced murals and portraits (some commissioned, some spontaneous) that possess astonishing energy and creative force. We’ve enjoyed following his career on Facebook and www.solomonsouza.com, and are pleased Solomon has allowed us to share some of his recent work.

“We were slaves... drawing to an end of the festival of the remembrance of exodus from Egypt... are we truly free yet?” (2018)

Chicago, IL

Miami, FL

7 Marcus Garvey Boulevard in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn, NY

Tel-Aviv’s Yemenite Keren HaTemanim neighborhood (collaboration with Mexican artists Libre HEM and Polexo)

Left: Zoological depiction of the matzah – Hispano-Moresque Hagadah (Castile, Spain c.1300)
Above, left: Ashkenazi Haggadah (Southern Germany c. 1460)
Above, right: Barcelona Haggadah (Catalonia, Spain 14th century)