



Where Life Begins, Berkshire Jewish

Film Festival

**Art & Film** 

Enriching and celebrating Jewish life in the Berkshires and beyond

**Books & Authors** 

American Values: Speaking Religious Truth to Political Power, with creator Rabbi Andrea Weiss, Ph.D.



# HUC-JIR in the Berkshires Connect, learn, and create together July 27 – 30, 2023

Join Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in the Berkshires for engaging programs with local Reform synagogues, community partners, and cultural institutions on and around Shabbat and Tisha B'Av, including:

- **Timely discussions** on the environment, food, social justice, spirituality, and Israel
- Enriching Torah study, book talks, workshops, and exhibitions
- Inspiring prayer, song and community gatherings throughout Shabbat
- Restorative outdoor experiences involving music, study, and meditation
- Unique experiences at The Clark Art Institute,
   Norman Rockwell Museum, and Tanglewood
- One-of-a-kind learning opportunities with HUC-JIR faculty, senior leadership, and recent alumni who are innovators of Jewish life



Join us for one or more of these programs; open to all.

#### Learn more at huc.edu/berkshires

Questions: Contact events@huc.edu

Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion is North America's premier institution of Jewish higher education and the professional leadership development center for Reform Judaism, building progressive Judaism in North America, Israel, and around the globe.

In collaboration with the Hevreh of Southern Berkshire and Temple Anshe Amunim, and a growing list of community partners and organizations.





### **BERKSHIRE JEWISH SUMMER 2023**

### **Welcome & Shalom**

The Jewish Federation of the Berkshires is pleased to present the 2023 Berkshire Jewish Summer. Whether you are a full time resident or just joining our community for the summer, we hope you will take some time to explore our Jewish communities and engage in many of the wonderful Jewish programs and events happening throughout the season.



### **Programming & Events**

The programs in this publication are presented by the **Jewish Federation of the Berkshires** and its affiliates:

Please call ahead to confirm program details. For more events and a full list of partner organizations, visit:

### jewishberkshires.org

**Jewish Federation Affiliate Partners:** 

**Berkshire Hills Hadassah** 

Berkshire Minyan

Conservative – berkshireminyan.org

**Chabad of the Berkshires** 

iewishberkshires.com

**Congregation Ahavath Sholom** 

Reconstructionist – ahavathsholom.com

**Congregation Beth Israel** 

Reform – cbiweb.org

**Hevreh of Southern Berkshire** 

Reform - hevreh.org

**Knesset Israel** 

Conservative - knessetisrael.org

**Temple Anshe Amunim** 

Reform – ansheamunim.org



#### **BUILDING, STRENGTHENING, CARING**

Federation is the place where we join hands and hearts to build a stronger Jewish community and a stronger Jewish future – for all.

When you make a gift to the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, you rescue those in peril and bring help, hope, and dignity to the elderly, the vulnerable, and the distressed. You educate the next generation and connect them to their Jewish heritage. You train young leaders and build vital community connections.

#### Please Give Generously!

We are not complete without every member of our Jewish community. That's why every gift, large and small, matters. It says, "I belong – I care."

\$36 \$72 \$180	\$360	\$540
□ \$1,000 □ \$1,800 Other \$		
☐ Contribution enclosed (Check#)		
Please charge my: $\square$ MC	Uvisa Visa	Amex
Credit Card #		
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Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone		
Email		

Mail to Jewish Federation of the Berkshires 196 South Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201 or donate online at jewishberkshires.org

# **{Ongoing}**

#### **Shabbat and Daily Services**

Shabbat Services and weekend minyans are available at most Berkshire County Congregations as listed on page 3. Please check with the congregations directly regarding times. For midweek minyan information please visit jewishberkshires.com or knessetisrael.org.

# Sundays, June 11, July 9, August 13, and September 10 – 9 a.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### **Holy Rollers**

Join with others from the Hevreh community for a casual 15-25 mile bike ride through the beautiful Berkshire hills. Each Holy Rollers ride is the chance to meet others from our community, get some exercise, and enjoy the beautiful scenery in which we live. The route will be set in advance. FREE. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. More info at: hevreh.org/summer or (413) 528-6378.

# For more program listings visit www.jewishberkshires.org



#### **Tuesdays, June 13, 20, 27** – 3 p.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### A Legacy of Values: Writing Your Ethical Will

What do Jacob, Nachmanides, Gluckel of Hameln, Sholem Aleichem, and Dr. Andrew Weil have in common? They each left ethical wills for their descendants. In this 3-session workshop, you will learn the history of ethical wills, read some classic and contemporary examples, and through different prompts, begin to write your own. Join Rabbi Pamela Wax for this hybrid class at Knesset Israel. Please pre-register. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org/event/ethical-wills.html or (413) 445-4872.

## Wednesdays, June 21 through July 19 – 7:30 p.m.

Chabad of the Berkshires, 450 South Street, Pittsfield, MA

### Talmud with Rabbi Levi – It's your heritage, learn it, live it, and love it!

Delve into the Talmud and discover a trove of priceless rabbinic lore. The class will be conducted in English and will be studying the second chapter of the tractate Megillah. The class will be a wonderful opportunity to feel like you



are in a Yeshivah for one hour a week! No previous experience is necessary. Refreshments will be served. Please call to reserve a space in the class. FREE. Sponsored by Chabad of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.com or (413) 499-9899.

#### **Thursdays, June 29 through Aug 10 –** 9:30 a.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, via Zoom

#### **Kitah Bet Plus**

Using "Hineni: Prayerbook Hebrew for Adults" as our textbook, this class is a continuation of the Spring 2023 class as we make our way through the second half of the learning. New students are welcome to join and are encouraged to reach out to Rabbi Gordon first to learn more. Registration required. \$36. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. More info at: hevreh.org/summer or (413) 528-6378.

#### Wednesdays, July 5 through July 26 -

11:45 a.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### **Lunch and Learn**

T'shuvah, understood as repentance, is often discussed but little undersood. Jewish texts keep things up in the rafters, when for each of us, the concerns about t'shuvah are fiercely personal. In this series led by Rabbi Hirsch, classic Jewish texts, understandings of T'shuvah from thinkers like Maimonides, and contemporary interpretations are used to explore \*how\* one actually performs t'shuvah. All are welcome. In person and on Zoom. Please bring a kosher-style bag lunch. FREE. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. More info at: hevreh.org/summer or (413) 528-6378.

### Tuesdays, July 18 through September 12 –

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### **Hevreh High Holy Day Choir**

Whether you sing all the time, or not in a long time, we warmly invite you to join us this year as we begin our preparations for the High Holy Days at Hevreh. Together with Rabbi Gordon, our choir director Amy Renak works with our choir all summer to teach and prepare beautiful music, both traditional and modern, for the High Holy Days. Interested to learn more? Reach out to Rabbi Gordon at jgordon@hevreh.org. FREE. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. More info at: hevreh.org/summer or (413) 528-6378.

### Wednesdays, August 23 through September 13 – 11:45 a.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

### Elul Lunch and Learn – Confession is Good for the Soul

Throughout the High Holy Days, we recite the vidui, a prayer in which we confess the sins we have committed in the past year. Reciting vidui is a critical element of making t'shuvah on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Join with Rabbi Hirsch and others to explore these particular prayers, and help deepen your spiritual preparations for the High Holy Days. All are welcome. In person and available online via Zoom. Please bring a kosher-style bag lunch. FREE. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. More info at: hevreh.org/summer or (413) 528-6378.

### **{JUNE}**

**June 15, 2023** – 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

### Current Events Seminar with Professor Steven Rubin

The Current Events Seminar will focus on the latest world happenings. Participants will have an opportunity to examine and discuss topical and newsworthy national and international issues, problems, and possible solutions. For each session, the moderator will suggest readings, introduce relevant topics, and offer discussion questions. The seminar will be conducted throughout in a collaborative and collegial manner, with all participants encouraged to voice their opinions. FREE program. \$3 suggested donation for Kosher Lunch following the program. Reservations required for lunch made by calling (413) 442-2200 before 9 a.m. on the day of the program. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

#### **June 16, 2023** – 6 p.m.

Congregation Beth Israel, 53 Lois Street, North Adams, MA

#### **Shabbat Across the Berkshires**

Join friends from across the Berkshire Jewish Community as we come together for a musical, family-friendly Shabbat service led by our local rabbis from across our Jewish Community. Followed by a festive oneg. FREE. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, Congregation Ahavath Sholom, Congregation Beth Israel, Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, Knesset Israel, Temple Anshe Amunim,

### {June 2023}

The Berkshire Minyan, and Berkshire Hills Hadassah. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

**June 17, 2023** – 10:45 a.m.

Temple Anshe Amunim, 26 Broad Street, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Shabbat Hike with Temple Anshe Amunim**

Join Temple Anshe Amunim for a Shabbat Hike at Canoe Meadows, Pittsfield. We will meet at the Temple at 10:45 am. Open to all levels. Pre-registration is required. FREE. Sponsored by Temple Anshe Amunim. More info at: tinyurl. com/TAAJune23ShabbatHikes or (413) 442-5910.

**June 19, 2023** – 7 p.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

### "My So-Called Selfish Life" Discussion and Text Study

In her documentary "My So-Called Selfish Life," filmmaker Therese Schecter challenges the social taboo of a childless life and the expectation that female identity be equated with motherhood, placing this decision firmly in the context of the larger conversation about reproductive choice. Join Rabbi Pamela Wax for conversation and text study of both secular and Jewish sources about decisions around choosing parenthood. After registration, you'll receive

information about streaming the film in June. This will be a hybrid session. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org/event/lets-discuss-my-so-called-selfish-life.html, or (413) 445-4872.

#### **June 20, 2023** – 7:30 p.m.

Shakespeare & Company, Elayne P. Bernstein Theatre, 70 Kemble Street, Lenox, MA

#### Jewish Federation of the Berkshires' 83rd Annual Meeting

The Berkshire Jewish community is invited to celebrate our work together with schmoozing followed by a brief annual meeting and board elections. Guest speaker Rabbi Aaron Fine, executive director of UMASS Hillel (Amherst), will share his insight on the challenges and opportunities



Knesset Israel Presents



Mondays - July 10

through

August 14 - 2023

Lenox Memorial Middle & High School 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

Show Times: 4:00pm - 8:00pm

FOR INFORMATION info@berkshirejewishfilmfestival.org

Supported in part by Berkshire Bank Foundation, Harold Grinspoon Foundation, Jessie & Bernard Wolfson Family Foundation, MountainOne, Marcia and Albert Schmier, John Bergman Charitable Trust, Spitz-Tuchman Charitable Trust and Greylock Federal Credit Union

### Finnerty & Stevens Funeral Home





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MEGHAN L. FINNERTY, DIRECTOR
WWW.FINNERTYANDSTEVENS.COM

for Jewish students on campus. FREE. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

#### **June 22, 2023** – 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### Social Justice and the American Musical



Laura Wetzler

Join Laura Wetzler, singer, songwriter, guitarist, recording artist and lecturer in a multimedia presentation that explores the themes of social justice as expressed in over 100 years of the American musical. Laura has devoted years of study and performance

to diverse, multicultural World music, as well as to the history of American popular entertainment and European Art Music. She takes particular joy in sharing the fascinating and beautiful contributions of Jewish-American and African-American artists to our musical cultural heritage.

FREE program. \$3 suggested donation for Kosher Lunch following the program. Reservations required for lunch made by calling (413) 442-2200 before 9 a.m. on the day of the program. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

#### **June 22, 2023** – 1 p.m.

Chabad of the Berkshires, 450 South Street, Pittsfield, MA

### Challah Bake with Sara - all you "knead" to know-Beginner? Pro? Great!

You are guaranteed to enjoy as you learn Challah baking tips and tricks and experiment with new flavors and techniques. Suggested Donation \$36. Sponsored by Chabad of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.com or (413) 499-9899.

#### **June 22, 2023** – 6 p.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### **Hevreh's 50th Anniversary Celebration**

We kick off Hevreh's 50th year with a celebration honoring Hevreh Tzedek Circle Honorees Steven & Helice

HEVREH HAS A FULL SCHEDULE AND IS EXCITED TO WELCOME YOU.

# SUMMER IS BACK

IN THE BERKSHIRES

VISIT HEVREH.ORG/SUMMER FOR OUR FULL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS.





Shabbat Services at Tanglewood

### {June 2023}

Picheny. The Tzedek Circle is an annual Hevreh award, honoring devoted community members whose passion and dedication reflect Hevreh's values and commitment to our community. Festive party will take place at Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. RSVP by June 2 please. \$150 per person. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. More info at: hevreh.org/celebrate or (413) 528-6378.



**June 25, 2023** – 10 a.m.

Parking lot at Bousquet Mountain, 101 Dan Fox Drive, Pittsfield, MA

#### Ramblin' with the Rav: Berkshire High Road

Join Rabbi David Weiner for a great hike, good company, and a little Torah when we walk a portion of the

Berkshire High Road, one-way from Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary to Bousquet in Pittsfield. We'll descend through a meadow to a stream crossing, then climb alongside a cascading brook. This hike is suitable for hikers who are physically prepared for a 5-mile hike up and down a hill and in the woods. Pre-registration is required. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael. org/rsvp or (413) 445-4872.

#### **June 28, 2023** – 12 p.m.

Chabad of the Berkshires, 450 South Street, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Torah and Tea Outdoor Luncheon**

Torah and Tea Luncheon is a forum for contemporary Jewish women, to explore, discover and connect. Please join Sara Volovik for an intriguing afternoon with an inspirational Torah discussion of the practical and mystical aspects of the Torah and its contemporary relevance. Torah and Tea is open to all. No background or affiliation is necessary. RSVP required to jewishberkshires@gmail.com FREE. Sponsored by Chabad of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.com or (413) 499-9899.

### New to the Berkshires? Let's Connect!

### **Shalom and Welcome!**

Whether you are joining us full time, on weekends, or seasonally, we are pleased that you have found a place in our Jewish Berkshires. As the central connecting point, the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires is your resource for Jewish life in the region. However you choose to "do" or "be" Jewish is welcomed and celebrated!

Visit us online to request a welcome packet, sign up for a free subscription to the *Berkshire Jewish Voice*, and register for weekly e-blasts which includes numerous opportunities to learn, volunteer, and engage.

### Visit us at jewishberkshires.org/welcome





**June 29, 2023** – 10 a.m.

Barrington Stage Company, Boyd-Quinson Stage, 122 North Street, Pittsfield, MA

### Reflections on Antisemitism and the Cautionary Tale of Cabaret



A discussion with Jewish thought leaders on the relevance of art and theater in promoting understanding and combating antisemitism. Moderated by Jeffrey Robbins, former US delegate to UN Human Rights Commission, with Barrington Stage Company

Artistic Director Alan Paul, Dr. Roselle Chartock, and Dr. Barbara Waldinger. 10 a.m. coffee and nosh, 10:45 a.m. panel discussion. FREE. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires and Barrington Stage Company. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

June 30,2023 - 5:45 p.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Shirei Shabbat with Community Shabbat Dinner**

Join the Knesset Israel Band for an upbeat musical Friday night service including many contemporary melodies. Weather permitting the service will be held under the tent in the backyard. Register in advance for the community dinner following the service. Dinner is \$20 for adults, free for under 18. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org/rsvp or (413) 445-4872.

### {JULY}

July 1, 2023 - 10:45 a.m.

Temple Anshe Amunim, 26 Broad Street, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Shabbat Hike with Temple Anshe Amunim**

Join Temple Anshe Amunim for a Shabbat Hike at Appalachian Trail at Kirchner Road, Dalton. We will meet at the Temple at 10:45 am. Open to all levels. Pre-registration is required. FREE. Sponsored by Temple Anshe Amunim. More info at: tinyurl. com/TAAJuly23ShabbatHikes or (413) 442-5910.

July 4, 2023 - 2 p.m.

Kennedy Park, 91 Pittsfield Road, Lenox, MA

#### **July 4th Community Hike**

Enjoy an exploratory nature hike with meaningful moments of spiritual connection led by Rabbi Levi Volovik. Topic: July 4th – American law VS Jewish law. We will meet at the Arcadian Shops. RSVP: jewishberkshires@gmail.com

# Jewish Federation of the Berkshires

# 83rd ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, June 20
7:30 pm
Shakespeare & Co
Elayne P. Bernstein Theatre
70 Kemble Street, Lenox

Join the Berkshire Jewish community for a celebratory reception and schmoozing, followed by a brief business meeting, board elections, and guest speaker.

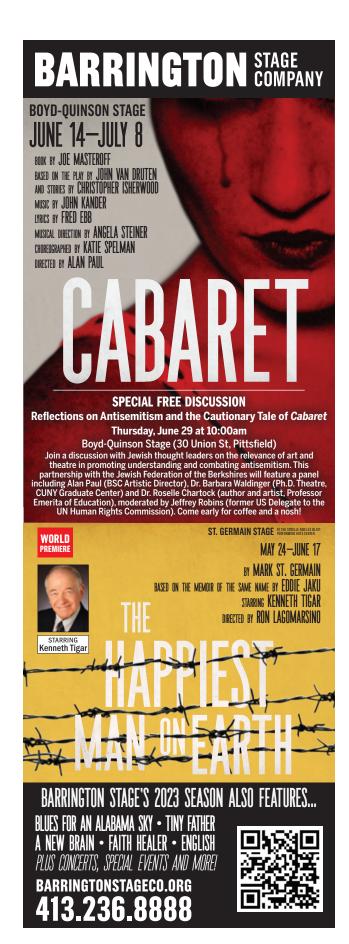
### The State of Jewish Life on Campus

with Rabbi Aaron Fine Executive Director UMASS Amherst Hillel



This event is free and open to all members of the Berkshire Jewish community.





# **{July 2023**}

FREE. Sponsored by Chabad of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.com or (413) 499-9899.

#### **July 4, 2023** – 4 p.m.

Chabad of the Berkshires, 450 South Street, Pittsfield, MA

#### **July 4th Community BBQ**

Join Chabad of the Berkshires for a fun summer BBQ as we greet new and old friends! RSVP required at Jewishberkshires@gmail.com. All are welcome regardless of background and affiliation. FREE. Sponsored by Chabad of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.com or (413) 499-9899.

#### July 6, 2023 - 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Puzzles and Solutions in Science and Torah**



Jon Greenberg

This presentation by Torah Flora botanist, author, and teacher Jon Greenberg, Ph.D. will challenge the idea of a hopeless conflict between Torah and science. Learn about the surprising ways that many apparent contradictions between these two ways of thinking have been resolved. Examples include questions that archaeology,

genetics, and the science of gravity have raised about the etroq used on Sukkot, and the meaning of a Talmudic passage about the effects of folk practices on learning and memory. FREE program. \$3 suggested donation for Kosher Lunch following the program. Reservations required for lunch made by calling (413) 442-2200 before 9 a.m. on the day of the program. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

#### **July 7, 2023** – 11 a.m.

Shakespeare and Company, Elayne P. Bernstein Theatre, 70 Kemble Street, Lenox, MA

#### JTS in the Berkshires: Revisiting Zionist Thought

Dr. Arnold M. Eisen, Chancellor Emeritus and Professor of Jewish Thought, JTS, will speak on "Revisiting Zionist Thought: Charting a Path Forward." Reflecting on Israel's 75th birthday and the recent crisis regarding judicial reform we



Dr. Arnold M. Eisen

will ask: What elements of past Zionist thought remain

indispensable to our thinking about Israel today? How should diaspora Jews think about Israel and vice versa? Have events of the past few months—or the past few years—changed our thinking about Zionism and/or Israel? Pre-registration requested. \$15. Sponsored in partnership with Knesset Israel and in cooperation with the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. Supported in part by Valerie Ann and Allen I. Hyman, MD; Brenda and Fred Landes, MD in memory of Harold Landes; and a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. More info at: inspired.jtsa.edu/ Berkshires2023 or (212) 678-8821.

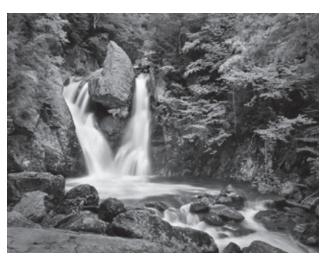
July 9, 2023 - 4:30 p.m.

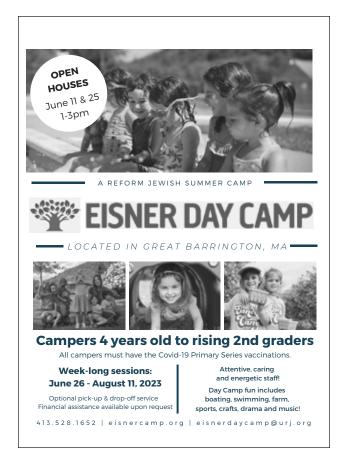
Elayne P. Bernstein Theatre, 70 Kemble St, Lenox, MA

#### The Workshop Artist Salon: Probing Collective Memory and Hybridity



Join members of The Workshop for a salon presentation showcasing 3 cutting edge artistic works-in-progress that explore the intersections of race, religion, identity and sacred text through music, storytelling, and film. The Workshop is North America's first arts fellowship centering the work of JOCISM (Jews of Color, Jewish-Indigenous, Sephardi & Mizrahi) artists & culture-makers. A talk-back with the artists and guided conversation with the audience led by Rabbi Kendell Pinkney, founding Artistic Director of The Workshop, will follow the performances. FREE. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, Shakespeare & Company, and The Workshop. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.







# {July 2023}



Film: Our (Almost Completely True) Story

#### July 10, 2023 - 4 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

### Berkshire Jewish Film Festival – Our (Almost Completely True) Story

Making an unlikely couple, both Jerry Sroka's and Mariette Hartley's characters bond over the indignities of being out-of-work actors of a certain age, while navigating the seniors' singles scene. A life-affirming dramedy that "sparkles with wit and depth as it celebrates love and romance while reflecting on the challenges of growing older." \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshirejewishfilmfestival. org or (413) 445-4872.



Film: Four Winters

#### **July 10, 2023** – 8 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

#### Berkshire Jewish Film Festival - Four Winters

Against extraordinary odds, over 25,000 Jewish partisans fought back against the Nazis and their collaborators

from deep within the forests of Eastern Europe, Ukraine, and Belarus. Along with stunning archival footage, the last surviving partisans relive their journey, sharing their stories of resistance. Transformed from young innocents raised in closely knit Jewish communities and families to fierce partisan soldiers with enduring hope and grit, they exhibited magnificent courage and deep humanity. \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshirejewishfilmfestival.org or (413) 445-4872.

#### July 12, 2023 - 12 p.m.

Chabad of the Berkshires, 450 South Street, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Torah and Tea Outdoor Luncheon**

Torah and Tea Luncheon is a forum for contemporary Jewish women, to explore, discover, and connect. Please join Sara Volovik for an intriguing afternoon with an inspirational Torah discussion of the practical and mystical aspects of the Torah and its contemporary relevance. Torah and Tea is open to all. No background or affiliation is necessary. RSVP required to jewishberkshires@gmail.com FREE. Sponsored by Chabad of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.com or (413) 499-9899.

#### July 13, 2023 - 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road. Pittsfield. MA

### The Comedians: The Good, The Bad, and the Dirty

Join Laura Wetzler, singer, songwriter, guitarist, recording artist and lecturer in a multimedia presentation that explores the breadth and influence of Jewish comedians including Eddie Cantor, Fannie Brice, Danny Kaye, Jerry Lewis, Sid Caesar, Imogene Coca, Jack Benny, Mel Brooks, Totie Fields, Belle Barth, Joan Rivers, Sarah Silverstein, and Amy Shumer. Laura has devoted years of study and performance to diverse, multicultural World music, as well as to the history of American popular entertainment and European Art Music. FREE program. \$3 suggested donation for Kosher Lunch following the program. Reservations required for lunch made by calling (413) 442-2200 before 9 a.m. on the day of the program. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

# For more program listings visit www.jewishberkshires.org

#### **July 14, 2023** – 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### **Shanda: A Memoir of Shame and Secrecy**



Letty Cottin Pogrebin

Letty Cottin Pogrebin, a founding editor of Ms. Magazine and Berkshires resident, is a writer, lecturer, social justice activist, and the author of twelve books. This book, Shanda, tells the story of three generations of complicated, intense 20th-century Jews for whom the desire to fit in and the fear of public humiliation

either drove their aspirations or crushed their spirit. This Knosh and Knowledge event is part of Jewish Literary Voices, a Federation Series in collaboration with Jewish Book Council. FREE. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

**July 15, 2023** – 10:45 a.m.

Temple Anshe Amunim, 26 Broad Street, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Shabbat Hike with Temple Anshe Amunim**

Join Temple Anshe Amunim for a Shabbat Hike at Shaker Trail, Hancock near Shaker Village. We will meet at the Temple. Open to all levels. Pre-registration is required. FREE. Sponsored by Temple Anshe Amunim. More info at: tinyurl.com/TAAJuly23ShabbatHikes or (413) 442-5910.

July 15, 2023 - 12:30 p.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### Judaism Disrupted with Rabbi Michael Strassfeld

Fifty years after the publication of The Jewish Catalog, a ground-breaking DIY guide to Judaism that he co-authored, Rabbi Michael Strassfeld has written Judaism Disrupted: A Spiritual Manifesto for the 21st Century. He will be in conversation with



Rabbi Michael Strassfeld

Rabbi Pamela Wax following Shabbat morning services. which begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by the lunch-and-learn. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org or (413) 445-4872.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2023 7:30 PM

### 56th Annual Hilda Vallin Feigenbaum Memorial Foundation Lecture

Guest Speaker, Admiral James Stavridis

Admiral James Stavridis is Vice Chair, Global Affairs of The Carlyle Group and Chair of the Board of Trustees, Rockefeller Foundation. He is a contributing editor for TIME Magazine and Chief International Security and Diplomacy Analyst for NBC News.

Seating will be limited. Masks are optional.

Pre-registration is required.

For more information, visit: www.ansheamunim.org

### Funded by:

THE HILDA VALLIN FEIGENBAUM LECTURE ENDOWMENT
TEMPLE ANSHE AMUNIM – 26 BROAD STREET – PITTSFIELD, MA – (413) 442-5910

# **{July 2023}**

**July 15, 2023** – 7 p.m.

Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker Street, Lenox, MA

#### Behind the Scenes Tales at the Wall Street Journal with Investigative Journalist Greg Zuckerman



Greg Zuckerman

Join for an intriguing evening engaging in behind the scenes tales at the Wall Street Journal: meeting Donald Trump, grilling Bernie Madoff, adjusting to dramatic changes in the media world, and getting home in time for Shabbat. FREE. Sponsored by Chabad of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.com or (413) 499-9899.

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#### www.jewishberkshires.org

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#### **July 15, 2023** – 7 p.m.

Tanglewood, 297 West Street, Lenox, MA

#### **Tanglewood Havdalah**

Pack your picnic gear, dinner, and beverages and join us on the lawn at Tanglewood for a brief Havdalah service followed by a BSO concert at 8 p.m. Look for the blue and white balloons! A ticket to the concert may be purchased at the gate or in advance online. FREE with lawn ticket from Tanglewood. Sponsored by Temple Anshe Amunim. More info at: ansheamunim.org or (413) 442-5910.

#### **July 17, 2023** – 4 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

### Berkshire Jewish Film Festival - The Muses of Isaac Bashevis Singer

In the mid 1960s, Bashevis Singer established an army of female translators - more than forty women - who helped spread his work. He chose his translators carefully, was inspired by their presence, often falling in love with them. Nine of the women who were intimately familiar with the man and work are still here. Theirs will be the only voices heard in the film, as they allow us a glimpse into his complex personality and personal life. \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshirejewishfilmfestival.org or (413) 445-4872.



Film: Reckonings

**July 17, 2023** – 8 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

#### **Berkshire Jewish Film Festival - Reckonings**

Reckonings is the first documentary feature to chronicle the harrowing process of negotiating German reparations for the Jewish people. It captures the anger on one side, the shame on the other and the anguish for all as talks broke down and failure seemed imminent. By confronting the past, German and Jewish leaders charted a better future for a desperate and traumatized people. \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshirejewishfilmfestival.org or (413) 445-4872.



### THE POWER OF THE JEWISH SOUL

One night only! New Moon Rising brings together three of the most dynamic and creative voices in Jewish music - Elana Arian, Deborah Sacks Mintz, and Chava Mirel. A trio of female powerhouses, New Moon Rising embodies the best that musical collaboration can be - a soulful oasis of rich harmonies, deep friendship, and pure Jewish joy.

# SUNDAY, AUG 6 7:30 PM

Duffin Theater, Lenox Memorial High School, 197 East St., Lenox, MA

### **GENERAL ADMISSION: \$25** Young adults under 30, \$20. Kids under 13 free

Proceeds to benefit the ADL's A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE Anti-bias Peer Training program in Berkshire County Schools



PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT JEWISHBERKSHIRES.ORG OR (413) 442-4360

Funded in part by generous underwriters and a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation

# **{July 2023}**

#### July 20, 2023 - 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### Current Events Seminar with Professor Steven Rubin



Steven Rubin

The Current Events Seminar will focus on the latest world happenings. Participants will have an opportunity to examine and discuss topical and newsworthy national and international issues, problems, and possible solutions. For each session, the moderator will suggest readings, introduce relevant topics, and offer discus-

sion questions. The seminar will be conducted throughout in a collaborative and collegial manner, with all participants encouraged to voice their opinions. FREE program. \$3 suggested donation for Kosher Lunch following the program. Reservations required for lunch made by calling (413) 442-2200 before 9 a.m. on the day of the program. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.



#### **July 21, 2023** – 11 a.m.

Shakespeare and Company, Elayne P. Bernstein Theatre, 70 Kemble Street, Lenox, MA

### JTS in the Berkshires: "In the Narrow Places: Jeremiah and His Artistic Interpreters"

Rabbi Gordon Tucker, Vice Chancellor for Religious Life and Engagement, JTS, will mark the final weekend of bein hametzarim, the dark period leading up to the Ninth of Av, by exploring some evocative passages in the Books of Jeremiah and Lamentations. He will also reflect on how Jeremiah's later interpreters in midrash, visual



Rabbi Gordon Tucker

art, and music (including Leonard Bernstein) continued to find meaning in these texts. Pre-registration is requested. \$15. Sponsored in partnership with Knesset Israel and in cooperation with the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. Supported in part by Valerie Ann and Allen I. Hyman, MD; Brenda and Fred Landes, MD in memory of Harold Landes; and a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. More info at: inspired.jtsa.edu/Berkshires2023 or (212) 678-8821.

#### **July 21, 2023** – 5:45 p.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Shirei Shabbat with Community Shabbat Dinner**

Join the Knesset Israel Band for an upbeat musical Friday night service including many contemporary melodies. Weather permitting the service will be held under the tent in the backyard. Register in advance for the community dinner following the service. Dinner is \$20 for adults, free for under 18. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org/rsvp or (413) 445-4872.

#### **July 23, 2023** – 9:30 a.m.

Berkshire Hills Country Club, 500 Benedict Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Federation's Major Donor Celebration**



Celebrating the leadership role major donors play in bringing comfort, care, and connection to our Jewish community across the Berkshires, in Israel, and around the world. Chairs: Carol and Irving

Smokler. Featuring excerpts from Shakespeare and Company's performance of "Golda's Balcony" by acclaimed

actor Annette Miller. This event is open to leadership donors who make a household contribution of \$1,000 or more to Jewish Federation of the Berkshires' 2023 Annual Campaign. \$40 couvert. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.



Film: Shttl

#### July 24, 2023 - 4 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

#### Berkshire Jewish Film Festival - Shttl

Shttl is the story of the inhabitants of a Yiddish Ukrainian village at the border of Poland, 24 hours before the Nazi invasion, known as Operation Barbarossa. In one unflinching shot, this film presents a day in the life of a Jewish



#### SHABBAT ACROSS THE BERKSHIRES

Join with the Berkshire Jewish Community as we come together to celebrate a joyous Kabbalat Shabbat with a musical family friendly service led by our local Rabbis, followed by a festive oneg.

#### Friday, June 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Hosted by

Congregation Beth Israel 53 Lois Street, North Adams, MA

**Sponsored by**: Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, Berkshire Minyan, Congregation Ahavath Sholom, Congregation Beth Israel, Knesset Israel, Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, Temple Anshe Amunim, and Berkshire Hills Hadassah



village before it disappears. \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshirejewishfilmfestival.org or (413) 445-4872.



Film: Karaoke

#### July 24, 2023 - 8 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

#### Berkshire Jewish Film Festival - Karaoke

Sleepwalking through marriage, an older couple beset with unspoken regret get a much-needed spark with the arrival of Itzik (the effortlessly magnetic Lior Ashkenazi), a sexy, middle-aged hedonist who loves hosting karaoke parties in his posh penthouse. \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshire-jewishfilmfestival.org or (413) 445-4872.

#### July 26, 2023 - 12 p.m.

Temple Anshe Amunim and via Zoom, 26 Broad Street, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Standing Up to Antisemitism in 2023**

"A Holocaust Journey: Lessons We Learned" directed by Lisa Reznik. Please join us for this film followed by a panel discussion. Panelists include Professor June Tooley, Holocaust survivor Pinchas Gutter, and Lisa Reznik. Preregistration is required. FREE. Sponsored by Temple Anshe Amunim Social Action Committee. More info at: tinyurl. com/TAAJuly26Film or (413) 442-5910.

#### **July 26, 2023** – 8 p.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### Tisha B'av Services

Knesset Israel commemorates Tisha B'av on July 26-27. The day of mourning marks the anniversary of the destruction of the First and Second Temples and provides an opportunity to reflect on loss and impermanence. Evening services on July 26 include the chanting of the book of Lamentations by candlelight. Morning services on July 27 include the traditional Torah and Haftarah readings. The fast commences at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 26, and continues until 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 27. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael. org or (413) 445-4872.

# **{July 2023}**

**July 27, 2023** – 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

### A Modern Day Benjamin Tudela: Around the World with Cruise Rabbi Arthur Starr

Benjamin of Tudela was a medieval Spanish Jewish Rabbi, traveler, and explorer. Serving recently as a Cruise Rabbi on a similar journey around the world, Rabbi Starr taught passengers about the Jewish communities that would be visited in the days ahead. He will share his research and experiences including fascinating facts of Jewish life in surprising locations. FREE program. \$3 suggested donation for Kosher Lunch following the program. Reservations required for lunch made by calling (413) 442-2200 before 9 a.m. on the day of the program. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

**July 27, 2023** – 2 p.m.

The Clark Art Institute, 225 South Street, Williamstown, MA

"I Created the World": Humans and the Environment in the Bible and Contemporary Art On Tisha B'Av afternoon, come reflect on the environment and our place in it by studying the book of Job with Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Bible professor Adriane Leveen, Ph.D., and touring the Humane Ecologies exhibit at The Clark Art Institute with curator Robert Wiesenberger, Ph.D. Following the program, guests may enjoy self-guided hikes and tours on the grounds of The Clark. Advance registration required. FREE. Sponsored by HUC-JIR, The Clark Art Institute, Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, and Anshe Amunim. More info at: huc.edu/berkshires or (413) 528-6378.

**July 28, 2023** – 9:30 a.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### Loaves of Torah: A Challah Shaping Workshop



Be inspired in this 2-hour hands-on workshop by Rabbi Vanessa Harper, Instagram innovator (@ lechlechallah) and author of Loaves of Torah. Rabbi Harper will show how challah dough can become a way to interpret the week's



# **HUC-JIR in the Berkshires**

Connect, learn, and create together

**July 27 - 30, 2023** 

Interested in exploring big questions about Jewish life and our contemporary world?

Looking for dynamic learning experiences with preeminent thought leaders in academia and the arts?



Join us for one or more of these programs; open to all.

**Learn more at huc.edu/berkshires** Questions: Contact events@huc.edu







Torah portion and, in conversation with Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Bible professor, Daniel Fisher-Livne, Ph.D., she will share what drives her to create such meaningful and delicious culinary creations. Advance registration required. FREE. Sponsored by HUC-JIR, Hevreh of Southern Berkshires, and Anshe Amunim. More info at: huc.edu/berkshires or (413) 528-6378.

#### **July 28, 2023** – 6 p.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### **Kabbalat Shabbat with the School of Sacred Music**

Join us for an uplifting Friday night service with Rabbi Neil Hirsch and Rabbi Jodie Gordon, featuring Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion cantorial faculty, students, and alumni, under the leadership of Cantor Jill Abramson, Director of the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music, and remarks from President Andrew Rehfeld, Ph.D. Advance registration required. FREE. Sponsored by HUC-JIR, Hevreh of Southern Berkshires, and Anshe Amunim. More info at: huc.edu/berkshires or (413) 528-6378.

#### **July 28, 2023** – 7:30 p.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

### Shabbat Dinner & Discussion: The Future of Jewish Leadership

Join us for a delicious and engaging community Shabbat dinner. The evening will include a discussion about Jewish leadership in a changing Jewish landscape, led by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion academic leaders: Andrew Rehfeld, Ph.D. (President), Rabbi Andrea Weiss, Ph.D. (Provost), Rabbi Shirley Idelson Ph.D. (Director of the Zelikow School of Jewish Nonprofit Management), and Cantor Jill Abramson (Director of the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music). Advance registration required. \$36. Sponsored by HUC-JIR, Hevreh of Southern Berkshires, and Anshe Amunim. More info at: huc.edu/berkshires or (413) 528-6378.

#### **July 29, 2023** – 9 a.m.

Location to be announced

#### **Trails and Torah**

Join us for a restorative and thought-provoking outdoor Torah study with Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion faculty, leading into a moderate hike. Study will be led by Rabbi Andrea Weiss, Ph.D. (Provost), Rabbi David Adelson (Dean of the HUC-JIR NY Campus), and Daniel Fisher-Livne, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor). Advance registration required. FREE. Sponsored by HUC-JIR, Hevreh of Southern Berkshires, and Anshe Amunim. More info at: huc.edu/berkshires or (413) 528-6378.

**July 29, 2023** – 4 p.m.

Location to be announced

### Israel at 75: Why Reform Judaism in Israel Matters Now More Than Ever

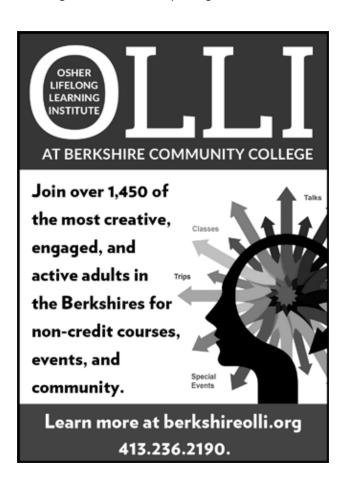
Join us for a conversation with Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion President Andrew Rehfeld, Ph.D. about the influential, transformative work of the students, faculty, and alumni of HUC-JIR's Israeli programs who are committed to creating dynamic, inclusive communities and inspiring Israelis to embrace their Judaism, while working hard to promote justice and democracy in Israel. FREE. Sponsored by HUC-JIR, Hevreh of Southern Berkshires, and Anshe Amunim. More info at: huc.edu/berkshires or (413) 528-6378.

**July 29, 2023** – 6 p.m.

Tanglewood, 297 West Street, Lenox, MA

#### Picnic, Havdalah, and Tanglewood

Bring a picnic and the whole family to Tanglewood for an evening of contemporary music, beginning with havdalah led by Cantor Jill Abramson (Director of the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music). During the Prelude, find the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute for Religion area for craft packages and activities for



### **August 2023**

children. Guests will need to purchase their own tickets to the Boston Symphony Orchestra's performance. FREE with lawn ticket from Tanglewood. Sponsored by HUC-JIR, Hevreh of Southern Berkshires, and Anshe Amunim. More info at: huc.edu/berkshires or (413) 528-6378.



**July 30, 2023** – 10 a.m. Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Judaism Disrupted - Book Discussion #1**

Following Rabbi Michael Strassfeld's guest appearance at KI on July 15, Rabbi Pamela Wax will convene the first of two conversations about his book *Judaism Disrupted: A Spiritual Manifesto for the 21st Century.* (The second conversation will take place following services on Saturday, August 26.) The book can be purchased at a discount from the KI office during regular business hours. Attend one or both lively conversations, regardless of whether you've read the book! Please pre-register. FREE. Sponsored by

Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org/event/book-talk-with-rabbi-pam-wax.html or (413) 445-4872.

**July 30, 2023** – 10 a.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

### Justice Shall You Pursue: Tzedek Boxes Pop-Up Exhibition



Come be the change you want to see in the world. Join recent HUC-JIR alum Rabbi Andrew Mandel for a pop-up exhibition of Tzedek Boxes and conversation about the future of the rabbinate with Rabbi Shirley Idelson, Ph.D. (Director of the Zelikow

School of Jewish Nonprofit Management). Light lunch will be provided. Advance registration required. FREE. Sponsored by HUC-JIR, Hevreh of Southern Berkshires, and Anshe Amunim. More info at: huc.edu/berkshires or (413) 528-6378.



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#### **July 30, 2023** – 12 p.m.

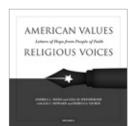
Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

### Women of Reform Judaism / Lilith Salon and Writing Workshop

Get creative with Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute for Religion alumna and incoming Executive Director of Women of Reform Judaism Rabbi Liz Hirsch and Sarah Seltzer, Executive Editor at Lilith Magazine, for a salon conversation and writing workshop. Advance registration required. FREE. Sponsored by HUC-JIR, Hevreh of Southern Berkshires, Anshe Amunim, Women of Reform Judaism, and Lilith Magazine. More info at: huc.edu/berkshires or (413) 528-6378.

#### **July 30, 2023** – 3:30 p.m.

Norman Rockwell Museum, 9 Glendale Road, Stockbridge, MA



#### American Values, Religious Voices: Speaking Religious Truth to Political Power

For the first 100 days of the Biden administration, a multi-faith group of religious scholars sent a letter a day to our elected officials in Washington, DC, as they

did in 2017 at the start of the Trump presidency. The project's creator, Rabbi Andrea Weiss, Ph.D., will converse with some local letter writers who contributed to the recent publication of *American Values, Religious Voices: Letters of Hope from People of Faith* (University of Cincinnati Press, 2023). Advance registration required. FREE. Sponsored by HUC-JIR, Hevreh of Southern Berkshires, and Anshe Amunim. More info at: huc.edu/berkshires or (413) 528-6378.



Film: Castles in the Sky

**July 31, 2023** – 4 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

#### Berkshire Jewish Film Festival - (2 films) Grossman and Castles in the Sky

David Grossman shares the rare and captivating connections between his life and his novels. The film takes the viewers on a personal journey into the soul and work of an exceptional human being. Pearl Gluck's provocative dramatic short film, *Castles in the Sky*, centers on Malke, a Holocaust survivor and sex-ed teacher who has been leading a secret life for decades performing slam poetry on the Lower East Side. Features Lynn Cohen and poet Venus Thrash. \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshirejewishfilmfestival.org or (413) 445-4872.



Film: Where Life Begins

#### July 31, 2023 - 8 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox. MA

#### Berkshire Jewish Film Festival - Where Life Begins

Each summer Esther travels with her French Ultra-Orthodox family to a farm in Calabria to harvest etrogs for Sukkot. Trapped by the suffocating rituals of her faith, the despairing and curious Esther captures the attention of the farm owner. Their brief encounters help Esther find her path. In this visually sumptuous and deeply moving film there is a subtle portrayal of self realization. \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshire-jewishfilmfestival.org or (413) 445-4872.

### **{AUGUST}**

**August 2, 2023** – 9 a.m.

The Boulders, 1011 Dalton Avenue, Pittsfield, MA

#### Ramblin' with the Rav - The Boulders

Join our Rabbi for a moderately paced, moderately strenuous hike, a little Torah, and good company. Registration required. More information available upon registration. A scenic stroll through a nature preserve in a surprising location. Wetlands, forest, and a hill with enormous erratic boulders and a commanding viewpoint over Pittsfield. Be prepared for some uphill walking on uneven trails. Dogs are welcome. The specs: easy, 5 miles, 521', about 2 hours. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org/rsvp or (413) 445-4872.

#### **August 3, 2023** – 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### Moving the Jewish Way: Judaism and Tai Chi

Jewish mystical tradition provides a road map both for insight into the mechanisms of divine activity and for

### {August 2023}-

development of road maps for emulating the divine. Led by Dr. Joel Friedman, this workshop will focus on single and partner-based learning of Tai-Chi type movements connecting to Jewish teaching as to how to incorporate the breath driven flow between expansion and contraction into movements that are relevant to health, sports, rituals, communication, and spiritual growth. FREE program. \$3 suggested donation for Kosher Lunch following the program. Reservations required for lunch made by calling (413) 442-2200 before 9 a.m. on the day of the program. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

#### **August 3, 2023** – 1 p.m.

Chabad of the Berkshires, 450 South Street, Pittsfield, MA

### Challah Babka Bake with Sara - All You "Knead" to Know - Beginner? Pro? Great!

Join for a fun and delicious afternoon creating Challah and Babka masterpieces! \$36. Sponsored by Chabad of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.com or (413) 499-9899.

#### August 4, 2023 - 11 a.m.

Shakespeare and Company, Elayne P. Bernstein Theatre, 70 Kemble Street, Lenox, MA

### JTS in the Berkshires: "The Mother's Perspective in Traditional Sources on Abortion"

Dr. Shira Billet, Assistant Professor of Jewish Thought and Ethics, JTS, will take a close look at Jewish sources to move us beyond the pro-life/pro-choice binary of American public discourse. By examining traditional sources that have

played a central role in constructing Jewish perspectives on abortion, we'll uncover a nuanced Jewish perspective on the topic, highlighting the complex interplay between the legal aspects of these sources and the stories from women's lives in which they are embedded. Pre-registration requested. \$15. Sponsored in partnership with Knesset Israel and in cooperation with the Jewish

Federation of the Berkshires. Supported in part by Valerie Ann and Allen I. Hyman, MD; Brenda and Fred Landes, MD in memory of Harold Landes; and a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. More info at: inspired.jtsa. edu/Berkshires2023 or (212) 678-8821.

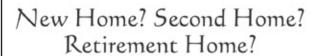


Dr. Shira Billet

**August 4, 2023** – 7 p.m. *Tanglewood, 297 West Street, Lenox, MA* 

#### **Tanglewood Shabbat**

Join us for a special evening on the lawn at Tanglewood. We'll gather in the middle of the lawn with the blue and white balloons to set up your picnic dinner, and bring a dessert to share. Kabbalat Shabbat will be at the back of the lawn. NOTE: there will be no services at Hevreh that evening. This is not a Boston Symphony/Tanglewood program, please call the Hevreh office with any questions. Tickets must be purchased in advance. FREE with lawn ticket from Tanglewood. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. More info at: hevreh.org/summer or (413) 528-6378.



Let me show you...

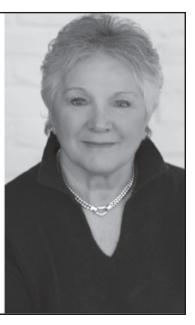
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For more program listings visit jewishberkshires.org

#### **August 6, 2023** – 10:30 a.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### **Great Ideas Series with Paul Krugman**



Paul Krugman

Each year we welcome leaders in the American Jewish community to share their greatest ideas with us. This year, we are thrilled to welcome economist, Nobel laureate, and *New York Times* opinion columnist Paul Krugman. He is the author of 27 books and countless articles focusing on the current trends in the American economy. He is a pro-

fessor in the Graduate Center Economics Ph.D. program and scholar at the Luxembourg Income Study Center at the City University of New York. FREE. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. More info at: hevreh.org/summer or (413) 528-6378.

#### August 6, 2023 - 7:30 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

### **Community Concert - Elana Arian and New Moon Rising**



New Moon Rising brings together three of the most dynamic and creative voices in Jewish music: Elana Arian, Deborah Sacks Mintz and Chava Mirel. A trio of female powerhouses, New Moon Rising embodies the best that musical collaboration

can be – a soulful oasis of rich harmonies, deep friendship, and pure Jewish joy.

Join in an evening of singing, friendship, and spiritual connection. Concert proceeds benefit the ADL's World of Difference® anti-bias peer training program in Berkshire County Schools. General Admission \$25; Young Adults under 30 \$20; Kids under 13 FREE. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.



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### **{August 2023**}

#### **August 7, 2023** – 4 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

#### Berkshire Jewish Film Festival - Queen of the Deuce

Born in Salonika, Greece, Chelly Wilson came from a religious Sephardic family. At the start of WWII, leaving her family and children behind, she emigrated to America and built a business that ultimately turned a dark yet lucrative corner when she entered the world of pornographic film theaters located alongside the X-rated shops on 8th Avenue, known as the Deuce. \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshire-jewishfilmfestival.org or (413) 445-4872.

#### **August 7, 2023** – 8 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

#### Berkshire Jewish Film Festival - March '68

Hania and Janek are students in Warsaw in 1968. When the government's persecution of Jews starts to gain strength, Janek, whose father is a government official, and Hania, who is Jewish and whose parents have lost their prominent jobs, join other university students protesting the

JULY 13-16, 2023 The Klezmatics The festival of new Sam Sadigursky Duo Yiddish Nigunim Trio. with special guest Merlin Shepherd David Krakauer's SPECIAL CLOSING Mazel Tov Cocktail Party CONCERT **Midwood** with Yidstock All-Stars including Frank London, Eleanor **Forshpil** Reissa, Socalled, and many others. 1021 West Street, Amherst, MA 01002 413.256.4900 yiddishbookcenter.org/yidstock government's actions, changing their lives forever. \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshirejewishfilmfestival.org or (413) 445-4872.



Film: March '68

#### August 9, 2023 - 11:45 a.m.

Temple Anshe Amunim and via Zoom, 26 Broad Street, Pittsfield, MA

#### Book Discussion: 2034: A Novel of the Next World War, by Admiral James Stavridis and Elliot Ackerman



In anticipation of the 56th Annual Feigenbaum Lecture on August 13 with speaker Admiral James Stavridis, join Barbara Viniar to discuss 2034: A Novel of the Next World War, co-written by Stavridis and Elliot Ackerman. A great read! You'll wonder if this is fiction or the front page of today's newspaper. Pre-registration is required. FREE.

Sponsored by Temple Anshe Amunim. More info at: tinyurl. com/TAAAugust9BookTalk or (413) 442-5910.

#### **August 10, 2023** – 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### Not on Yom Kippur: The Jewish Opera Stars

Join Laura Wetzler, singer, songwriter, guitarist, recording artist, and lecturer in a multimedia presentation that explores the breadth and influence of Jewish opera stars including Richard Tucker, Beverly Sills, Jan Peerce, Roberta Peters, and Robert Merrill. Laura has devoted years of study and performance to diverse, multicultural World music, as well as the history of American popular entertainment and European Art Music. She takes joy in sharing the beautiful contributions of Jewish-American and African-American artists to our musical cultural heritage. FREE program. \$3 suggested donation for Kosher Lunch following the program. Reservations required for lunch made by calling (413) 442-2200 before 9 a.m. on the day of the program. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

#### August 11, 2023 - 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

### Torah in the Tarot: Hidden Secrets of the Crypto-Jews

In this conversation moderated by Laura Mandel, Director of the Boston Jewish Arts Collaborative (JArts), Torah scholar Stav Appel and Berkshire artist Jonathan Prince examine the Tarot anew through a Judaic lens of understanding, to reveal its images as secret vessels for Hebrew letters, Judaic ritual objects, Jewish Holy Days, and legends of Torah. This Knosh and Knowledge program is offered in collaboration with the Boston area Jewish Arts Collaborative (JArts) as part of Federation's Celebration of Sephardic Culture. FREE. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

#### **August 11, 2023** – 5:45 p.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Shirei Shabbat with Community Shabbat Dinner**

Join the Knesset Israel Band for an upbeat musical Friday night service including many contemporary melodies. Weather permitting the service will be held under the tent in the backyard. Register in advance for the community dinner following the service. Dinner is \$20 for adults, free for under 18. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org/rsvp or (413) 445-4872.

#### **August 12, 2023** – 9 a.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### Tot Sh'Bubbles

Join us for a special summertime Tot Shabbat on the back patio at Hevreh as we introduce you to our new Tot Shabbat friend and musician, Jeff Howard! Jeff will join Rabbi Gordon as we sing and dance our way into Shabbat together with snack, and a bubble party! This event is open to all, and is most appropriate for children ages 0-5. FREE. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. More info at: hevreh.org/summer or (413) 528-6378.

#### **August 12, 2023** – 10:45 a.m.

Temple Anshe Amunim, 26 Broad Street, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Shabbat Hike with Temple Anshe Amunim**

Join Temple Anshe Amunim for a Shabbat Hike at Old Mill Trail, Hinsdale. We will meet at the Temple. Open to



### **{August 2023**}

all levels. Pre-registration is required. FREE. Sponsored by Temple Anshe Amunim. More info at: tinyurl.com/TAAAugust23ShabbatHikes or (413) 442-5910.

#### August 12, 2023 - 12:30 p.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

## Enlivening Jewish Practice Through Mindfulness with Rabbi Marc Margolius

Rabbi Margolius, Senior Core Faculty at the Institute for Jewish Spirituality, will address the topic of Jewish mindfulness and how it can help us experience greater depth and meaning in traditional Jewish practices like text study, prayer, and ritual practice. Shabbat services begin at 9:30 a.m. followed by the lunch-and-learn. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org or (413) 445-4872.

#### August 13, 2023 - 7:30 p.m.

Temple Anshe Amunim, 26 Broad Street, Pittsfield, MA

# 56th Annual Hilda Vallin Feigenbaum Lecture presents Admiral James Stavridis

56th Annual Hilda Vallin Feigenbaum Memorial Lecture presents Admiral James Stavridis, Global Affairs of The Carlyle Group and Chair of the Board of Trustees, Rockefeller Foundation. He is contributing editor for TIME Magazine and Chief International Security and Diplomacy Analyst for NBC News. Seating will be limited. Pre-registration is required. FREE. Sponsored by Hilda Vallin Feigenbaum Memorial Lecture Endowment. More info at: tinyurl.com/TAAFeigenbaum56 or (413) 442-5910.

#### **August 14, 2023** – 4 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

### Berkshire Jewish Film Festival - The City Without Jews

This tragi-comic story of the fictional Austrian city of Utopia follows the consequences of an anti-Semitic law forcing all Jews to leave the country. When the citizens of Utopia come to terms with the population loss and resulting economic decline, they must decide whether to invite the Jews back. The film has been restored with an original score by master silent film pianist Daniel Sosin and Alicia Svigals and will be performed live by the duo in this cine concert. \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshirejewishfilmfestival.org or (413) 445-4872.

#### **August 14, 2023** – 8 p.m.

Lenox Memorial Middle and High School, 197 East Street, Lenox, MA

### Berkshire Jewish Film Festival - Farewell Mr. Haffmann

In this gripping wartime thriller, a French-Jewish jeweler is caught in a Faustian pact. When the Nazis occupy Paris, Joseph Haffmann arranges for his family's escape and signs over his shop to trusted right-hand man Francois. As fortunes reverse, Haffmann is now at his employee-turned-collaborator's mercy, trapped hiding in the basement to avoid deportation. Impeccable performances and unpredictable twists mark this superbly crafted morality tale based on an award-winning play by Jean-Philippe Daguerre. \$15 per film. \$136 season pass. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: berkshirejewishfilmfestival.org or (413) 445-4872.

#### **August 16, 2023** – 9 a.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### Ramblin' with the Rav: Hopkins

Join Rabbi David Weiner for exercise, a beautiful view, good company, Torah, and conversation on the trail. The Hopkins Memorial Forest is a reserve with hiking trails spread out over 2,600 acres. The Williams College Center for Environmental Studies manages the area. The specs: moderate, 4.1 miles, 613′, 2.5 hours walking plus 35 minutes drive each way. Meet at KI at 9 a.m. We'll carpool to the trailhead in Williamstown and hike the lower & upper loop trails. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org/rsvp or (413) 445-4872.

#### **August 16, 2023** – 12 p.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Haviva Ner-David

Rabbi Haviva Ner-David is an author of fiction and memoir and she runs the only pluralist mikveh in Israel. She is building a shared society among Arabs and Jews in the Galilee, work that inspired her debut novel, Hope Valley. Her other books include Dreaming Against the Current: A Rabbi's Soul Journey; a novel, To Die in Secret, which takes place in Salem, MA; and Yonah and the Mikveh Fish, a children's book. Books will be sold at the event. FREE. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. More info at: hevreh.org/summer or (413) 528-6378.

### For more program listings visit

# jewishberkshires.org

#### August 17, 2023 - 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### Current Events Seminar with Professor Steven Rubin



Steven Rubin

The Current Events Seminar will focus on the latest world happenings. Participants will have an opportunity to examine and discuss topical and newsworthy national and international issues, problems, and possible solutions. For each session, the moderator will suggest readings, introduce relevant topics, and offer discus-

sion questions. The seminar will be conducted throughout in a collaborative and collegial manner, with all participants encouraged to voice their opinions. FREE program. \$3 suggested donation for Kosher Lunch following the program. Reservations required for lunch made by calling (413) 442-2200 before 9 a.m. on the day of the program. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

### There's More!

View more Jewish community events and happenings at

### JEWISHBERKSHIRES.ORG

### **Shabbat & Daily Services**

Shabbat Services are available at all Berkshire Congregations as listed on page 3.

Please check directly with the congregations regarding times.

#### **August 18, 2023** – 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### A Taste of the Sephardic Rosh HaShanah Seder

Chef Susan Barocas will lead an interactive cooking demo, food tasting and teaching on how to create meaningful, memorable Rosh Hashanah experiences with a Sephardic Seder of special blessings and symbolic foods deepening the experience of the holiday. All participants will receive a handout of the blessings and recipes to create your own delicious



Susan Barocas

Rosh Hashanah Seder for an anyada buena, dulse i alegre – a good, sweet new year! FREE. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.



# **{August 2023}**

#### August 18, 2023 - 6 p.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

### Ruth Messinger on the Role of Social and Racial Justice in Contemporary Judaism

County Wide Community Scholar-in-Residence, Ruth Messinger will speak on issues of justice, philosophies of tzedakah, human rights, and responses to world crises through the lens of contemporary Judaism at three locations across the Berkshires on August 18, August 19, and August 20. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, Congregation Ahavath Sholom, Congregation Beth Israel, Congregation Knesset Israel, First Congregational Church of Williamstown, Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, Temple Anshe Amunim, The Berkshire Minyan, Williams College Jewish Association. More info at: hevreh.org/summer or (413) 528-6378.

#### August 19, 2023 - 9:30 a.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

### Ruth Messinger on Immigrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers Then and Now

County Wide Community Scholar-in-Residence, Ruth Messinger will offer the Shabbat morning d'var Torah for Parashat Shoftim, the Torah portion which includes the passage, "Justice, justice shall you pursue." Following the service and a lunch, Messinger will speak on the topic of "Immigrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers Then and Now." Both the morning service and the talk following lunch (at approximately 12:45) will be live-streamed at https://www. knessetisrael.org/livestream. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel, Congregation Ahavath Sholom, Congregation Beth Israel, First Congregational Church of Williamstown, Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, Temple Anshe Amunim, The Berkshire Minyan, Williams College Jewish Association. More info at: knessetisrael.org or (413) 445-4872.

#### August 20, 2023 - 11:30 a.m.

Congregation Beth Israel, 53 Lois Street, North Adams, MA

# Ruth Messinger on Our Democracy: If We Can Keep It

County Wide Community Scholar-in-Residence, Ruth Messinger will speak on issues of justice, philosophies of tzedakah, human rights, and responses to world crises through the lens of contemporary Judaism at three locations across the Berkshires on August 18, August 19, and August 20. Sponsored by Congregation Beth Israel, Congregation Ahavath Sholom, Knesset Israel,

First Congregational Church of Williamstown, Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, Temple Anshe Amunim, The Berkshire Minyan, Williams College Jewish Association. More info at: cbiberkshires. com/event/ruth-messinger or (413) 663-5830.

#### **August 21, 2023** – 7 p.m.

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, 270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA

#### **Four Women, Four Stories**



Hevreh welcomes Deborah Zecher, Helane Blumfield, Peggy Schwartz, and Lynda Rodolitz for a performance of FOUR WOMEN, FOUR STORIES with Steven Ray Watkins on piano. With the music of 'mostly' Jewish songwriters, this show highlights our choices and the paths

our lives have taken. Audiences have responded with laughter, tears and the "aha" of recognizing their own life experience in the tales told on stage. \$25, \$10 for students. Sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire. More info at: hevreh.org/summer or (413) 528-6378.



**August 21, 2023** – 7:15 p.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Klezmer Concert**

Aaron Kula and the Klezmer Company Jazz Orchestra. This innovative group plays not only traditional Klezmer music but combines genres to delight audiences with Klezmer/Jazz, Tango, and others. Enjoyed by dancing and listening. Dessert reception to follow. \$36. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org/rsvp or (413) 445-4872.





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### **{August 2023}**

#### August 24, 2023 - 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

## Early American Jews Part 1: The Touro Synagogue: Shrine to Religious Freedom

Join Fitchburg State Professor Michael Hoberman for a two-part series on the present-day legacy of early Jewish American history. This first session will focus on the Touro Synagogue in Newport, Rl. Built and dedicated in 1763, Touro Synagogue is now a shrine to religious freedom and Jewish belonging in the US. How do we remember its history, and what does its legacy mean to us in the present? FREE program. \$3 suggested donation for Kosher Lunch following the program. Reservations required for lunch made by calling (413) 442-2200 before 9 a.m. on the day of the program. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

#### August 26, 2023 - 10:45 a.m.

Temple Anshe Amunim, 26 Broad Street, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Shabbat Hike with Temple Anshe Amunim**

Join Temple Anshe Amunim for a Shabbat Hike at Olivia's Overlook, Lenox. We will meet at the Temple. Open to all levels. Pre-registration is required. FREE. Sponsored by Temple Anshe Amunim. More info at: tinyurl.com/TAAAugust23ShabbatHikes or (413) 442-5910.

#### August 26, 2023 - 12:30 p.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### **Judaism Disrupted - Book Discussion #2**

Following Rabbi Michael Strassfeld's guest appearance at KI on July 15, Rabbi Pamela Wax will convene the second of two conversations about his book *Judaism Disrupted:* A Spiritual Manifesto for the 21st Century. The book can be purchased at a discount from the KI office during regular business hours. Attend this lively conversation, regardless of whether you've read the book or attended previously! Please pre-register. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org/event/book-talk-with-rabbi-pam-wax.html or (413) 445-4872.

#### **August 27, 2023** – 10 a.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

# True Crime Book Talk with Local Author Margery Metzger

Margery Metzger explores not only evil, but most importantly, justice served, in *Hidden Demons: Evil Visits a Small New England Town*, her book about a 1994 true crime tale in the Berkshires. Join the author for a discussion of the book, writing a true crime story, and questions that remain

unanswered. Light refreshments will be served. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael. org or (413) 445-4872.

#### August 27, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.

Hilton Garden Inn, 1032 South Street, Pittsfield, MA

#### L'Chayim - To Life

Compare Israeli vs Fine Single Malts with Charles Tower, scotch master extraordinaire, emcee. Biblical Stories of wine and spirits with Alex Rosenblum, scotch aficionado. Enjoy single malts, h'ors d'oeuvres, and good company. Suggested Chai donation: Contributor \$54, Underwriter \$108, Patron \$180\*, Benefactor \$360\*\* (Underwriters, Patrons, Benefactors names published in our program booklet. \*Patrons and Benefactors names will "sponsor" one bottle.\*\* Benefactors receive 2 tickets. Sponsored by Berkshire Hills Hadassah Associates. More info at: (413) 443-4386.

#### **August 30, 2023 –** 9 a.m.

Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

#### Ramblin' with the Ray - Arches

Join Rabbi David Weiner for exercise, a beautiful view, good company, Torah, and conversation on the trail. Come on your own or bring sure-footed children & grandchildren for an easy hike along a scenic section of the Westfield River; crossed by several early 20th century keystone arch bridges. The specs: easy, 3+ miles, <300' altitude, option to scramble & swim, 1.5 hours of walking, plus 35 minute drive each way. We'll meet at KI and carpool to the trailhead. FREE. Sponsored by Knesset Israel. More info at: knessetisrael.org/rsvp or (413) 445-4872.

#### **August 31, 2023 –** 10:45 a.m.

This Federation event takes place at Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

### Early American Jews Part 2: Family Stories About Colonial-Era Jews

Join Fitchburg State Professor Michael Hoberman for a two-part series on the present-day legacy of early Jewish American history. This second session will focus on recent genealogical research in the colonial era on the "first Jewish families." How do present-day descendants tell their families' stories



Michael Hoberman

and why are their stories important today? FREE Program. \$3 suggested donation for Kosher Lunch following the program. Reservations required for lunch made by calling (413) 442-2200 before 9 a.m. on the day of the program. Sponsored by Jewish Federation of the Berkshires. More info at: jewishberkshires.org or (413) 442-4360.

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