



Gathering
for
Poway

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WASHTENAW

JEWISH NEWS

June/July/August 2019 Sivan/Tammuz/Av 5779

Volume XVIII Number 9

FREE

Elliot Sorkin retiring from BIC

Ruth Kraut, special to the WJN

On July 1, 1998, Elliot Sorkin walked into Beth Israel Congregation and became its first Executive Director. Whether an Executive Director was needed had been hotly debated. Then-president Richard Seid and Vice President Ellen Moss argued strongly that it would expand the capacity of the congregation and make a difference.

Twenty-one years later, a lot has changed, but much has remained the same. As Elliot himself notes, much of the office work has moved online – including banking. At the same time, Beth Israel's membership has remained stable, and the participatory nature of the congregation has remained. Services are still largely led by congregants. Elliot himself, blessed with a nice voice, can often be found at the beginning of Shabbat morning services chanting the first part of the service, *p'sukei d'zimra*. Later on in the service, you might find him greeting members and visitors at the sanctuary door, or adjusting the temperature in the sanctuary.

Beth Israel's Communications and Administrative Coordinator, Beth Jarvis, shared that "I really appreciated and will



Elliot Sorkin

miss Elliot's knowledge of Judaism and his willingness to explain practices and concepts to me. Not being Jewish myself, being able to understand the 'why' behind holidays, services, and practices made it more enjoyable and fulfilling to do my duties at Beth Israel."

When asked to reflect on working with Elliot, former Beth Israel president Jeff Bernstein said "He was conscientious in his work, made me laugh frequently with his understated humor, and never lost sight

of the fact that he was doing holy work as executive director."

Although many people think of a synagogue executive director as managing the "non-profit" type work of a synagogue (dealing with members, finance, building maintenance, etc.), when Elliot was asked what he was proudest of, he highlighted directing the Torah Renovation Fundraiser, which raised money to repair all six of Beth Israel's Torahs, including documentation of the history of each Torah.

As for that "understated sense of humor?" It could often be found in the plot lines of some of Beth Israel's most-renowned Purim plays – Elliot was often both a writer and an actor.

Elliot recently reflected on the fact on the past few years security has become a rising issue. He applied for and received two Homeland Security grants, which allowed Beth Israel to make several security improvements for the synagogue, including recently improving the security lighting on the premises.

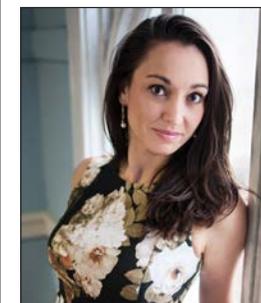
Notes Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, Beth Israel's Rabbi Emeritus, "It was a great privilege to work

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Ann Arbor Art Fair Featured Artist Sara O'Connor

Leslie Pardo, special to the WJN

Ann Arbor will transform into an lover's paradise Thursday, July 18 – Sunday, July 21 when visitors and locals alike will enjoy original works of art, street performances, live music, fabulous restaurants and culinary treats and a variety of sidewalk sales and boutique shopping—all part of The Ann Arbor Art Fair.



Sara O'Connor

The largest juried art fair in the country, the Ann Arbor Art Fair features more than 1,000 artists and has become a Midwest tradition that draws nearly half a million attendees over four days. The Ann Arbor Art Fair is comprised of four non-profit juried art fairs that span 30 city blocks: the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, the Original; the Ann Arbor State Street Art Fair; Ann Arbor's South University Art Fair; and the Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair which is celebrating 50 years.

We sat down with artist Sara O'Connor, a painter originally from Pittsburgh, to talk about her art. This will be O'Connor's third year exhibiting at the Ann Arbor Art Fair (booth SU824 on South University).

WJN: What inspired you to become an artist and leave the practice of law?

O'Connor: The short answer is my desire to destroy the starving artist myth. The longer answer is I believed I needed to pursue a white-collar corporate profession to be responsible and successful. When I went on medical leave in late 2015, I began painting. I built up a portfolio and soon people started asking to collect my work which was an incredible feeling. Fast forward one year, I left the practice of law and focused on my art. Since then, I have been exhibiting across the nation. I even had the opportunity to exhibit during the international art mecca—Miami Art Week.

WJN: Your maternal grandmother and Pap-Pap are Holocaust survivors. How has your family's background and your Jewish heritage impacted your artistry?

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Literati brings Jennifer Weiner and Cynthia Canty to the J

by Karen Freedland, special to the WJN

Literati Bookstore will be hosting author Jennifer Weiner at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor in support of her latest novel *Mrs. Everything* on Wednesday, June 19, 7 p.m. The program will feature a conversation with Cynthia Canty, host of "Stateside" on Michigan Radio. A book signing will follow with light refreshments.

Tickets are general admission and include a hardcover copy of *Mrs. Everything*, to be picked up at the event. Copies of Jennifer Weiner's previous titles will also be available for purchase at the event. To purchase tickets visit literatibookstore.com.

In *Mrs. Everything* Jo and Bethie Kaufman were born into a world full of promise. Growing up in 1950s Detroit, they live in a perfect "Dick and Jane" house, where their roles in the family are clearly defined. Jo is the tomboy,



Jennifer Weiner

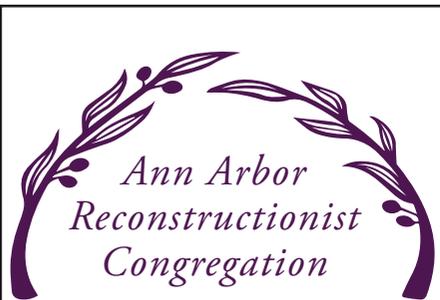
the bookish rebel with a passion to make the world more fair, while Bethie is the pretty, feminine good girl, a would-be star who enjoys the power her beauty confers and dreams of a traditional life. But the truth ends up looking differently than what the girls imagined.

Jo and Bethie survive traumas and tragedies. As their lives unfold against the background of free love and Vietnam, Woodstock, and Women's Liberation, Bethie becomes an

adventure-loving wild child who dives headlong into the counterculture, and is up for anything (except settling down). Meanwhile, Jo becomes a proper young mother in Connecticut, a witness to the changing world instead of a participant. Neither woman inhabits the world she dreams of, or has a life that feels authentic, or brings her joy. Is it too late for the women to finally stake a claim on happily ever after? In her most ambitious novel yet, Weiner tells a story of two sisters who, with their different dreams and different paths, offer answers to the question: How should a woman be in the world?

Weiner is a *New York Times* bestselling author of sixteen books, including *Good in Bed*, *In Her Shoes*, and her memoir, *Hungry Heart: Adventures in Life, Love, and Writing*. She is a graduate of Princeton University and contributor to the *New York Times* Opinion section.

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From the Editor

Hello summer! The sun is setting as I write this, welcoming Lag B'Omer, the 33rd day after Passover, and perhaps the first day of true summer in the Jewish calendar. The cycles of the Jewish year are unchanging, and that constancy feels reassuring, even joyful. Yet each season is unique; this is the only summer of 5779 we will ever experience. Though summers will continue indefinitely, each of us will enjoy only a



Clare Kinberg

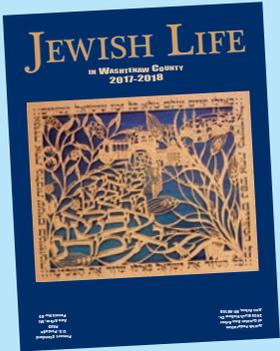
limited number, there is a beginning and an end to each life.

Though Lag B'Omer is a joyous time, I am feeling somber and pensive. We Jews have experienced so many periods of

violent antisemitism. With each, we protect ourselves as best we can. We organize, pray for guidance, try to understand why, and we survive. I wonder, though, are the waves of antisemitism a cycle, like the seasons? Or, is our story a pathway that leads to the end of antisemitism, an end to violence, oppression and injustice?

During the Passover seder we eat the "Hillel Sandwich," and remember his dictum: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am for myself only, what am I? And if not now, when?" In 1985, in a speech in Ann Arbor, Adrienne Rich added a fourth question, "And if not with others, how?" These are my thoughts as I put this summer issue of *WJN* to bed.

Jewish Life in Washtenaw County will be out in August. There won't be another issue of *WJN* until September, so hold on to this one. ■



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Elliot Sorkin, continued from page 1

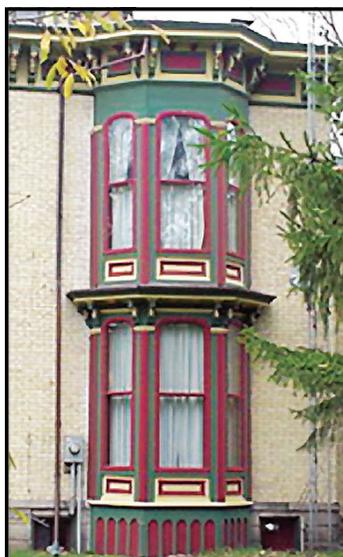
with Elliot for so many years. Elliot's complete dedication to Beth Israel, his consistent effort and attention to detail in a position which requires such varied areas of concern have made such an impact on our congregation."

Friends of Elliot on Facebook know that Elliot is a big history buff (especially military history), that he majored in Hebrew in college, and that he loves music. So it might not be a surprise that when Elliot was asked what he hopes to do with his "free" time, he said, "I look forward to reading more military memoirs in Hebrew and in English, visiting more Civil War re-enactments

and battle sites, attending more Celtic music festivals and Drum Corp International events, and more walking and biking. I also hope to be involved in literacy projects for children, and possibly for adults."



Saturday, June 8th is T-shirt Shabbat at Beth Israel (wear your favorite t-shirt!). That is also the day Beth Israel will celebrate Elliot Sorkin's 21 years and his retirement with a special Kiddush luncheon. The community is invited to celebrate with Elliot Sorkin and give him best wishes for a healthy and fulfilling retirement. ■



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Extra copies of the *Washtenaw Jewish News*
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Washtenaw County.

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A Gathering: To Shine the Light

by Sandra McDevitt

As I entered Chabad House on that Tuesday evening following the shooting in Poway, California, I was greeted by an armed police officer. It was a reminder to me exactly why I was there and my heart was heavy with sadness. Could a light ever shine out of this tragedy, I wondered.

Once inside the mood was reflective, almost somber. The evening opened with Alter Goldstein, son of Rabbi Aharon Goldstein of Chabad House and nephew of Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein, welcoming us. People continued to stream in well past his opening remarks. Every space in Chabad House was taken; not one more person could have been squeezed in to the crowd of over 200.

The evening began with a video of Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein's firsthand account of the shooting in Poway. The Rabbi described how he came face-to-face with the shooter, so close they looked each other in the eye. He described the point blank shooting, the death of Lori Gilbert-Kaye and how her husband tried to revive her, and his collapse as his sobbing daughter looked on. I was no longer in Chabad in Ann Arbor. I was transported by the Rabbi's vivid recollection to Chabad in Poway. In my mind I saw him rush to save the small children, including his grandchildren; I saw the shooter's gun jam; I heard the Rabbi ask, "Why?" Why in the United States where people come from all over the world for religious freedom? His "why" echoed off the walls of Chabad Ann Arbor; his "why"

echoed through the streets of the city; his "why" echoed across the state and the nation.

Then, Rabbi Goldstein uttered three

words. They were uttered in both strength and defiance to all that had happened. As he uttered the words, "Am Yisrael Chai!", I could feel the mood in the room instantly change from reflective and somber to strong and resolved. Here was a man who had suffered so much strengthening all of us. Truly an incredible individual. Several rabbis each gave short but stirring talks. They spoke of the perseverance of the Jewish people not to back down in the



Solidarity gathering at Chabad House, April 30, in response to April 27 shooting at the Poway California Chabad synagogue

Congregation Beth Israel; and Rabbi Jared Anstanding, Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan.

The Mayor of Ann Arbor, Christopher Taylor, spoke of his continued support of the Jewish people. The Chief of Police, Robert Pfannes, vowed the protection of the Ann Arbor Police Department. Also in attendance was Fr. Ed Fride who is a pastor of local Catholic parish. Fr. Fride, a supporter of Chabad, was there to show solidarity with the Jewish people.

After the men had finished speaking, it was time for the ladies. When Esther Goldstein, wife of Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, began to speak I was reminded why Hashem was not finished when he created Adam. Esther spoke lovingly of her brother-in-law Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein and how he received his training in Ann Arbor from his brother Rabbi Aharon Goldstein and how he hoped one day to have a Chabad like his brother's. She spoke powerfully to the Jewish women encouraging them, if they were not already doing so, to light the Shabbat candle, cover their eyes, spread their hands, and say the prayer. Then she spoke of Lori Gilbert-Kaye and how we were to think of a mitzvah to perform in her name, thus sending hundreds of mitzvot to Hashem. We were all encouraged to take a candle when leaving.

Esther's daughter Shterni then spoke reflecting on why it is we just get together for sad occasions; the Jewish people should come together as one to celebrate joyful times as well. It would not have been a Jewish gathering without singing. Spontaneously, over 200 people began singing "Am Yisrael Chai." Hearts were uplifted.

As I took my candle upon leaving that evening, I was reminded of the phrase how one small light can dispel the darkness. Tuesday evening over 200 lights from over 200 candles surely dispelled the darkness not only in Ann Arbor but across the whole world. Am Yisrael Chai! ■



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Ann Arbor sends large delegation to JCC Maccabi Games & Arts Fest

by Clara Silver, special to the WJN

The Ann Arbor delegation to the 2019 JCC Maccabi Games and Arts Fest includes 16 teens, both athletes and artists, who will compete during these Olympic style games. The JCC Maccabi

excited to join the team and cannot wait to have folks taste her delicious concoctions. Jessie notes that she has never eaten at Olive Garden despite (or possibly because) one side of her family is Italian.

Participants to the Games have to pay entrance fees, transportation costs, and provide their own equipment. Ryan notes that some athletes cannot afford all of the costs associated and so, “we work hard to

the 2019 JCC Maccabi Games and Arts Fest delegation. We are so thankful to the folks who have already taken advantage of this match challenge and donated, and we hope lots more will do so.” Ryan can be reached at



Deborah Ryan



Zach N.



Hannah M.



Jillian B.



Jessie S.



Lewis P.

Games are the largest single gathering of Jewish teens in North America. The 2019 Games will be held August 4-9 in nearby Detroit, Michigan, hosted by the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit. The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor has been partnering with the Detroit JCC to help raise funds and bring awareness about the Ann Arbor area. The Ann Arbor delegation also welcomes six athletes from Moshav Nahalal in Israel, its partnership region in the Central Galilee.

The five days of competition and bonding with a couple thousand Jewish teens is expected to be an unforgettable, transformative experience. David Stone, executive director of the Ann Arbor JCC, has many years of Maccabi Games experience, including as an athlete in his youth, a delegation head, and as the lead professional when the Metro Detroit JCC hosted the games multiple times. Stone notes that, “the Games aren’t just a chance to compete, but they give Jewish kids a chance to connect with other Jewish kids from all over the world. They form friendships that last a lifetime and learn about competition and community service through a Jewish lens. The Opening Ceremonies alone are tremendous and I encourage everyone to attend and see these young folks march. The pride they feel is contagious!”

These are the teens representing the Ann Arbor JCC at the 2019 Games:

Zach N. is a returning athlete, having participated in other JCC Maccabi Games. Zach is from Ann Arbor and competes in basketball, but he also plays percussion when he’s not on the court. Zach is 16 years old, which means, sadly, this will be his final year of eligibility for the Games.

Hannah M., age 14, is another returning athlete with the Ann Arbor delegation. She is an excellent and passionate soccer player, as she proved last year on the field and will again this summer. Hannah is originally from the south, drinks sweet tea, and has six pets – two dogs, two cats, and two fish. Hannah is excited to return this year.

Jillian B., age 15, is attending the games for the second year in a row, and will be competing as a swimmer. She says that she is, “really uncoordinated at dancing, however, I’m like a fish in the pool.”

Jessie S., age 15, will be participating in the JCC Maccabi Arts Fest as the Ann Arbor delegation’s very first culinary artist. Jessie is



Dylan P.



Elijah K.



Jesse N.



Jonah K.



Noah B.

Lewis P., age 14, is a first year Maccabi athlete, and is playing basketball at the 2019 Games. One of his fascinating hobbies outside of sports is collecting shoes.

Dylan P., age 14, is from Ann Arbor, and will be joining our cohort of basketball players. Basketball is one of Dylan’s passions in life.

Elijah K., age 15, is another first year Maccabi athlete. He will be playing basketball as well. In addition to basketball, Elijah likes to play the guitar in his spare time.

Jesse N., age 13, will be attending the Games for the first time. His sport is also basketball, so he will be in good company.

Jonah K., age 13, will be attending the Games for the first time. He’ll be the Ann Arbor delegation’s first tennis player. In his spare time Jonah likes to play volleyball, tennis, and also practice art. Jonah is also Red Cross certified in babysitting.

Noah B., age 14, will be attending the Games for the first time. He is from Ann Arbor, and will be playing baseball. Noah also plays basketball and enjoys downhill skiing!

Also joining the Ann Arbor delegation are six athletes from Moshav Nahalal in Israel. Nevo and Tal will be joining our basketball crew, Uri will compete in soccer, Shahaf and Gal will be competing as swimmers. Omri will be joining as an artist who will be participating in the Rock Band as a piano player.

The Ann Arbor JCC Maccabi delegation for 2019 is a strong and diverse group. Delegation Head, Deborah Ryan says, “if anyone is interested in cheering on the Ann Arbor team at the spectacular opening ceremonies at the Little Caesar’s Arena in Detroit on August 4th, just reach out to me – we would love to have a loud Ann Arbor cheering section!”

raise funds to make sure every teen that wants to join us can do so. We are really excited that we have an anonymous donor who has offered to match 100% any donation made to

deborahryan@jccannarbor.org or (734) 971-0990 to obtain spectator credentials at no cost, or for more information on the Games or making a gift of support. ■

Ann Arbor Celebrates Yom Ha’atzmaut

Jessica Weil, special to the WJN

On May 8, over 80 people gathered at the Ann Arbor JCC to celebrate Israel’s 71st Yom Ha’atzmaut with a dance party and Tel Aviv Café. The event was presented by the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor in partnership with the

moving transition ceremony marking the shift from Yom Hazikaron to Yom Ha’atzmaut and ended with an upbeat sing-along with Tal.

Rabbi Jared Anstandig, Rabbi of the Orthodox Community said, “I enjoyed the fact that this event crossed the lines of religious



Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. It featured an Israeli dance party led by DJ PhunkMaster Freed and a Tel Aviv Café with live acoustic music from performers Ian Sharpe, Yuval Katz, Kevin Lieberman, Orr Viznitser, and special guest, Israeli singer-songwriter Tal Madyuni. Tal has appeared on The Voice Israel and is the Music Director at Tamarack Camps. The evening began with a

denominations. I was able to spend the evening with many Ann Arborites whom I hadn’t met yet. In light of the tragic events that have recently brought us together, I found it meaningful to come gather this time for a celebration.”

The celebration of Israel’s 71st continues on Sunday, June 2, 3-6 p.m. at the JCC. For more information visit www.jewishannarbor.org/israel71. ■

Alternative Movements in Judaism

by Clara Silver, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will host a panel on three of the six main branches of Judaism on Thursday, June 20, 2019 from noon to 1 p.m., as part of its ongoing “Third Thursday at the J” lunch and learn series.

these three movements, all of which have long served the Ann Arbor Jewish community.

The panel is free and open to the public. Guests are invited to bring their own lunch, which must be meat, shellfish, and nut free, or they can reserve a meal from the Ann Arbor



Soo Ji Min-Maranda



Clare Kinberg



Julie Gales

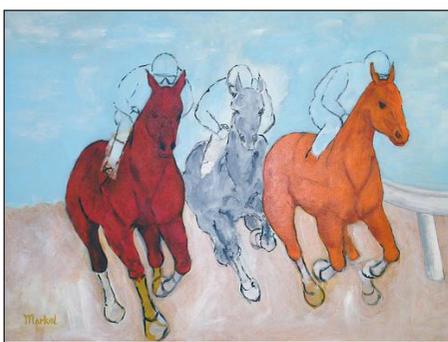
Panelists will include the Executive Director of ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal, Soo Ji Min-Maranda; the Beit Sefer Director of the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation; Clare Kinberg, as well as the Madrikha of the Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society, Julie Gales. Jewish Renewal, Reconstructing Judaism, and Humanistic Judaism are part of the Jewish denominational main stream, but as younger movements compared to their Orthodox, Reform, and Conservative counterparts, they are often not as well understood. This panel is an opportunity for the community to explore

JCC’s Lunch Café in advance. Lunch costs \$5.50 per meal. Through special funding from the Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development, for those 60 and over, lunch is provided for a suggested donation of only \$3.00. Guests can reserve a lunch by calling (734) 971-0990. Those new to lunch are asked to complete a Washtenaw County meal registration form which helps the County document the impact of its funding. For more information visit jccannarbor.org or contact Clara Silver, director of operations, at clarasilver@jccannarbor.org. ■

Shel Markel at Amster Gallery

by Karen Freedland, special to the WJN

Artist Shel Markel will present “Subject Medium,” an exhibition of drawings and paintings at the Amster Gallery in the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor opening June 11 and continuing through August 11. There will be a special reception for the exhibition and artist on Sunday, June 16 from 4 to 6 p.m.



Markel’s drawings and paintings of people, horses, and still life reveal the artistic effects that various subjects and media have on each other. He is an emerging artist who began this second career several years before he retired after nearly 40 years of medical practice, mostly at St. Joe’s Hospital in Ann Arbor. His works have been shown at a number of galleries and exhibitions.

The reception is free and open to the public. For more information contact Karen Freedland at karenfreedland@jccannarbor.org or (734) 971-0990. ■



Welcome to Paradise, set in the Caribbean, centers around two people, who, despite their age difference, find love and acceptance in each other. With a generation gap (or more) between them, they discover they have more in common with each other than they thought. At what age can one find one’s soulmate? Are there boundaries to true friendship and affection? What, exactly, is the meaning and nature of love?

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Our motto is Truth and Mercy

by Jessica Primus, student reporter, special to the WJN

The Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor school newspaper has changed a lot over the years, but has kept the same values and morals. The names have changed, as has its regularity and the technology used to produce it. One thing that hasn't changed is the motto, truth and mercy, whose message communicates some of the important ideals to which this newspaper aspires.

The newspaper has existed for a long period of time under many different names. There was a version of the publication called *The Big Toe*, another named *The HDS Free Press*, and a third under the name *The HDS Times*. A few years ago, Samantha Caminker, a student at Hebrew Day School, read *The Laundry News* by Andrew Clements for a literature circles assignment in her 3rd/4th grade classroom. The book centers around a girl, Cara Landry, who moves to a new school and starts a school newspaper. "It was from this book we had the idea to create the newspaper and got our motto 'Truth and Mercy,'" reported Evyatar Eliav, one of the founders of this latest iteration of the newspaper and the student photographer.

Samantha remembered fondly, "I, thinking Cara Landry was pretty awesome, immediately knew that I wanted to be the editor-in-chief and write editorials, just like Cara. Evyatar jumped at the photographer job, and another student wanted to be a columnist. Later that day, in gym, Evyatar came over to me and pitched his idea for the name: *The Untold Myth*. It was great - we had pretty much created a newspaper club in a couple hours, all because of this book we'd read together."

Samantha and Evyatar partnered with HDS teacher Morah Pasek, who later became the newspaper club advisor. Morah Pasek was a journalism major in college and brought tremendous expertise as an advisor. The newspaper started out as a google document printed every week. Samantha gathered together a group of students who wrote and submitted articles and ads to her newspaper. "I had to write the columns and my editorial at obscure times like during recess, at lunch, and even on the drive home from school. It was definitely a struggle, but I had so much fun seeing the end result that I didn't mind," Samantha commented.

When Samantha graduated from Hebrew Day School, she worked with Morah Pasek and together they passed *The Untold Myth*



Jessica Primus

down to rising fifth grader, Lily Wright. Lily took *The Untold Myth* to the next level, forming a new club for the newspaper. "One of the biggest challenges of turning the newspaper into a club was trying to get people involved as well as figuring out how we were going to give everybody an opportunity to learn and have fun at newspaper," Lily told me.

She renamed the paper *The HDS Press* with the help of other staff members and readers. Together they recruited a new class of students who gathered together every Thursday. "I liked that Lily really gave the newspaper an opportunity to expand and gave a lot of people a chance to improve their writing skills," Molly Greenberg, a newspaper staff writer reflected. The staff's writing improved immensely and the formatting of *The HDS Press* changed too. Morah Pasek introduced a formatting app to make the newspaper look more like a serious publication. There was a wide range of articles at this point and the editor in chief, Lily Wright, made the newspaper into an excellent publication.

When it was time for her to graduate,

Lily, Morah Pasek, and Morah Jen (the HDS Head of School), created an extensive job description and application for students applying for the editor position. They used the information gathered from the application and a writing sample to select the new editor. I was extremely excited to be selected. I tried my best to make sure that the publication still ran well and improved. I thought about what *The HDS Press* might need and worked with others to figure out just what our publication could improve on. We received a \$500 grant from Walmart and used the money to buy a green screen, lighting, and audio. We put up a newspaper website, www.hdsaa.org/thehdspress and gave the club an email address. Every issue, a green screen video and the written newspaper is featured on our website. In addition, our articles have been published in Ann Arbor newspapers and we've welcomed interesting guest speakers to come in and teach us about how to become better reporters and writers.

"I think that *The HDS Press* has changed a lot over the last few years. Now we have a green screen, podcast, and website that we didn't a couple of years ago," Lilah Stein, a fifth grade newspaper club member reports. Many things have changed in the school newspaper, but one thing has not. We have

kept the same motto all throughout: Truth and Mercy. I think that truth and mercy may be the two most important things to focus on when writing a story. Truth. Without truth, a story would have no real meaning or virtue. It would be a fake. Journalism is about stories. When we say mercy, we try to remind people that in stories there are always many sides of a character, and we should always be kind and compassionate to the person we are writing about. We encourage everyone to write their stories using these values.

Now we print over sixty copies of our paper every month and we share it even more widely with our community through our website and podcast. While not as many as this newspaper, the *Washtenaw Jewish News*, it's a large distribution for an elementary school. Maybe some students from the newspaper club will even go on to write in other Jewish newspapers like WJN. To me, the newspaper is a place where you can express yourself and make an impact on others. And to think what an impact a group of students and a book made on our school. From a small newspaper to a big one, our newspaper has definitely evolved and grown.

Jessica Primus is a fifth grade student at Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor and editor-in-chief of *The HDS Press*. ■

BIRS grows with new programs

Mira Sussman, special to the WJN

The past semester at Beth Israel Religious School has been a time of exploration. As Interim Religious School Director, Mira Sussman implemented new programs and tried out new things. Sunday mornings began with all-school Havdallah services in the main sanctuary, and she implemented middle school electives in January on topics such as "International Jewry," "How to be a Jewish Rebel," and "Jewish Cooking."

"My favorite new experiences this year were the field trip and visits to meet with leaders of different denominations within Judaism," said Rebecca Harvey, parent of a fourth grader and a sixth grader. "These experiences gave the kids insight to the fact that although there are differences among Jews, we are all still together."

The school also held its first Saturday School on March 9th, and parents were encouraged to participate in services while the students were in religious school.

In response to requests from several parents and students, BIRS started a mixed-grade, middle school advanced/conversational Hebrew class on Sunday mornings. This class served as a bridge between elementary school and the Jewish Federation-sponsored high school Keshet program for students who want to maintain and continue to strengthen their Hebrew skills.

"Both of my children have previously attended HDS, and this is their first year attending BIRS," says parent Tanya Wright. "They've both really enjoyed their experiences. My younger daughter learned so much and had lots of fun with Morah Carol Feldman. My sixth grader really enjoyed conversational Hebrew, the opportunity

to choose an elective, and the Jewish community aspects, like seeing her Jewish



friends and former HDS classmates. Both girls particularly enjoyed all of the singing and the Havdalah service on Sundays. In May, when it was time for Hebrew School to end, both kids said that they would miss attending and look forward to starting again next year."

Also new this year was a program called KvellFest, a sort of academic fair for the school. "I wanted to have a line of open communication between the school, the parents, and the synagogue community," Sussman stated. Parents, congregants, and board members were invited into the religious school classrooms at the end of each semester.

If you are interested in learning more about Beth Israel Religious School, please email Mira Sussman at school@bethisrael-aa.org. ■

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HMC exhibits *Power of Change* school competition winners

Leslie Pardo, special the WJN

The Holocaust Memorial Center will display the winning submissions from the third annual Kappy Family Anne Frank Art & Writing Competition mid-June through the end of September 2019. The display will feature the winning art and writing submissions from local high school students. The theme of this year's competition was The Power of Change. Students were invited to create a written or artistic response to a quote by Anne Frank, "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve

the world." The competition included three art categories: drawing, painting and photography, as well as three writing categories: poetry, fiction and non-fiction.

The competition is presented with support from the Kappy family. Garry Kappy is the last surviving member of his family. He was born in Opatow, Poland, and was imprisoned in different labor camps when he was 15 years old. He survived the horrors of the Buchenwald and Auschwitz concentration camps. While Kappy recognizes the importance of memorializing

the victims of the Holocaust, he felt it was crucial to educate and help prevent future genocides. It was this inspiration that led to the Kappy Family Anne Frank Art & Writing Competition.

The Holocaust Memorial Center is home to one of the saplings from the chestnut tree that grew outside of Anne Frank's hiding place. During nearly two years in hiding, her exposure to the outside world was limited to what she could see outside her window. "From my favorite spot on the floor, I look up at the blue sky and the bare chestnut

tree, on whose branches little raindrops shine, appearing like silver," she wrote in 1944. "When I looked outside right into the depth of nature and God, then I was happy, really happy." The sapling spent three years in quarantine before being planted on-site at the museum during a dedication ceremony in 2013 at the Viola and Garry Kappy Anne Frank Tree Exhibit and Garden.

The display is free to members or with museum admission. ■



7-8th Grade Division – 1st Place – Claire Kase St. Regis Catholic School, 8th Grade

My artwork is about the power we hold that can change the world. I drew two hands, side by side, each with the Earth imprinted on them. The hands are coming together in unity. My artwork shows that the power to change the world is in the palm of each person's hand. Each hand is beautiful on its own, but when joined together they form a complete picture. Like Mother Teresa says, "I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things." That quote inspired my work, it shows that the true power to change is to change together.

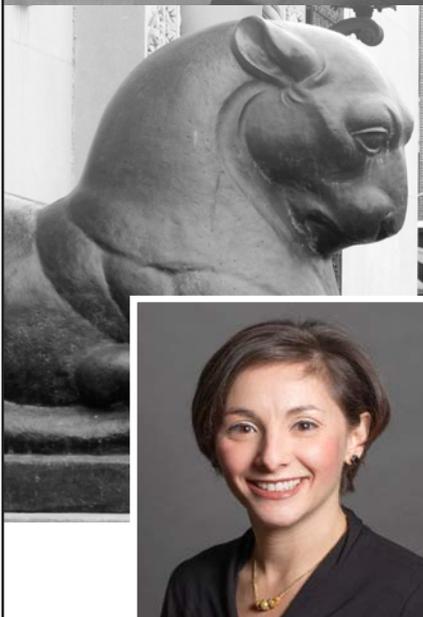


9-12th Grade Division – 1st Place – Hannah Nemeth Stoney Creek High School, 11th Grade

In this drawing, flipping a light switch is much more than turning on the lights. Anne Frank said, "How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world", and it is, in fact very true. Taking the first step to making change is just like flipping on a light switch, its simple, but it ends up lighting up a whole room. By deciding to take the small step of changing the world, there is much light one can bring to it.

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Celebrating JCLP's Eighth Cohort

by Paige Walker, JCLP Program Coordinator

On Sunday, May 5, friends, family, and community from across the country gathered to celebrate the graduation of the Jewish Communal Leadership Program's 2019 cohort at the University of Michigan School of Social Work. More than 90 were in attendance



to support the eighth cohort of JCLP graduates: Emily Cloch, Ali Duhan, Daniel Kaplan, Jordyn Rosenzweig, and Rachel

Wall. The Sunday morning event rounded out a busy ceremonial weekend. More intimate and low-key than other events, guests congregated and congratulated students while enjoying a Zingerman's nosh before the ceremony which included remarks from School of Social Work's Dean Lynn Videka, Frankel Center for Judaic Studies Professor Julian Levinson, JCLP's Director Karla Goldman, speeches from each of the 2019 graduates, introductions to the graduates, and keynote remarks. Rabbi Emeritus of Beth Israel Congregation (where he served for over 30 years), Robert Dobrusin, was chosen unanimously by the graduates to deliver the keynote remarks. Among his many accolades, Rabbi Dobrusin was named by "the Forward" as one of the top 33 most inspiring rabbis in the United States. The entire ceremony captured the essence of JCLP – those present experienced it as thoughtful, engaging, intimate, and community-building.

The members of the JCLP Class of 2019 have actively and creatively engaged in the Ann Arbor community over the last two years. They've contributed to dynamic and engaging programs – from this year's communal conversation event "The Jewish Future is Feminist" to "Why on this Night: A Social Justice Seder" in April. They've shared their talents with local organizations – from

the Michigan Section of the National Council of Jewish Women to the Metro Detroit Federation and Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County. They each possess the extraordinary skills and infectious passions to challenge the Jewish community to be the best version of itself.

Their presence will be missed but each of them have post-graduation plans to keep doing the work they've started here. Emily Cloch has accepted a clinical therapist position with BaMidbar, a Jewish wilderness therapy program that is supported by Ramah in the Rockies. After graduation, Ali Duhan plans to move home to Baltimore where she will work as a Senior Development Associate at The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore. Before getting back to his passion of professionally organizing around social justice issues within the Jewish community, Daniel Kaplan will spend the summer traveling through Belarus and Lithuania. He'll be connecting with the history and sites of significant Jewish cultural and political development through the Yiddishkayt Helix fellowship. Rachel Wall is working as the Director of Community-Based Services at JARC in Bloomfield Hills, coordinating residential services for adults with developmental disabilities through a Jewish lens. Jordyn

Rosenzweig will finish the year as a school social work intern at Doherty Elementary in West Bloomfield.

As we say goodbye to JCLP's beloved eighth cohort, we are reminded that our time together is limited as students come



Rabbi Robert Dobrusin delivers keynote

and go, and we are thankful for the endless opportunities to engage in and contribute to this community. We continue to build the JCLP community by welcoming the incoming JCLP Class of 2021 with our annual Community Welcome Breakfast (most likely on Monday, August 26th – time and location to be determined). We hope that you will keep joining us. ■



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- **TASTE** traditional olive oil, tahini, goat cheese, and wine, and see how they are made today.
- **VISIT** a women's slow food cooperative in the Palestinian town of Nablus.
- **SEE** innovations like desert agriculture and seaweed farming.



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Literati, continued from page 1



Cynthia Canty

In 2015, Slate praised Jen's "power-tweeting. . . feminist brand" and her mastery of the "haterbrag," "a bit of social media sleight-of-hand that turns an insult into an asset."

Jen uses her social media platform to encourage women's voices, self-esteem, and body positivity. In the summer of 2016, she posted a picture of herself in a bathing suit with the #weartheswimsuit

hashtag, encouraging women of all ages and sizes to put on their bathing suits and get in the water. The movement, which was covered in media outlets including PopSugar, Time, Kveller, The Today Show and Good Morning America, encouraged hundreds of women to shuck their cover-ups, skip the heat rash, get in the water and post shots of themselves in their swimsuits.

For questions regarding tickets or Literati, contact John@LiteratiBookstore.com. For other questions, contact Karen Freedland, director of Jewish cultural arts and education at karenfreedland@jccannarbor.org or (734) 971-0990. ■

Susan Ayer

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Do'ikayt and khavershaft

by Danny Kaplan, JCLP class of 2019

The year is 1969. In Washington DC, a radical social justice collective called Jews for Urban Justice hosts the very first Freedom Seder. This interfaith, interracial, intercommunal Passover observance connected Civil Rights and Black liberation struggles to remembering the Israelite release from the house of bondage. While many Jewish communities continue to organize their own freedom seders 50 years on, few people remember Jews for Urban Justice. Perhaps this has something to do with JUJ's protests outside of synagogues where segregationist developers and architects of the Vietnam War were members. Their activism was bold, controversial, and didn't exempt their own Jewish communities from rebuke.

JUJ did what they did because they saw the pursuit of justice (*tzedek*), loving-kindness (*hesed*), and moral obligation (*mitzvah*) as intrinsically Jewish imperatives. In 1969, JUJ members also began identifying "do'ikayt" as a grounding principle in their activism and collective Jewish identity. Unlike *hesed*, *mitzvah*, and *tzedek*, *do'ikayt* doesn't originate from the Torah. It's a Yiddish word popularized by the Bund, a Jewish socialist organization that thrived in Eastern Europe at the turn of the last century. *Do'ikayt* means "hereness," as in, wherever Jews are, whatever countries we live in, it's our obligation to stay in "hereness" and transform our societies for the sake of ourselves and our neighbors. As JUJ weathered the turbulence of the late 1960s, they drew inspiration from ancestors who also lived in dangerous times and arrived at similar conclusions about the future they needed to build.

The year is 2018. I'm reading a book about American Jews in the 20th century for Karla Goldman's course, "Jews and Social Justice in the United States." As I read the chapter about Jews for Urban Justice, I'm realizing that these 1960s radicals have found inspiration from the same seemingly lost Jewish history that I cherish. Before I enrolled in graduate school, I lived in a collective home in Chicago called "Doykeit." We chose this name for our house because we understood showing up for our city and neighbors as a fundamental part of who we are as Jews. My life mission is rooted in *do'ikayt*. It's why I was a community organizer at the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs. It's why I'm returning to a career in the Jewish social justice world. And it's why I decided to pursue a graduate education in the

Jewish Communal Leadership Program.

Jewish history and tradition play an important role in informing how Jews choose to build community and interact with a broader global society. This is why Jewish learning is such a core component of the program we're graduating from. In order to make an impact on the world, we need to know ourselves, and we need to know how to lead our own people. Over the past two years, I've gotten to learn how my fellow JCLPeers connect their passions and drives to their Judaism. We all came to this program for different reasons. We have different career aspirations and different relationships to Jewish culture, practice, and community. But I know we all have learned a great deal from each other about how these differences inform our own sense of self. I'm personally grateful to my peers for teaching me more about the importance of moving marginalized Jewish experiences to the center, of building organizations without gender and racial pay gaps, of the transformative power of wilderness and camp experiences, and of destigmatizing financial instability and providing economically accessible Jewish community. In ways great and small, you all have challenged me to refine my life mission and how my Jewish identity fits into it. I'm grateful for your *khavershaft*, your camaraderie, and I'm so excited to see how you all will stake out your respective corners in this world we are building together.

Ali, Emily, Jacqui, Jordyn, and Rachel, I thank you for everything you've taught me these past two years. Thank you to Dr. Karla Goldman for your wisdom, your unshakeable commitment to American Jewish community building, and your deep love for your students. Thank you to my parents and my brother for your support and for believing in me. Lastly, thank you to my grandparents and ancestors. Though you are here only in memory, I think of you constantly for financially supporting my education and for the struggles you and your peers engaged in to build a better world. Our ancestors sacrificed so much for us. I know we will pay it forward. ■

Editor's note: do'ikayt is the most accurate transliteration of the Yiddish, Danny's collective house name was Doikeit.

Herman Wouk, dies at 103

By Rachel Gordan

BOSTON (JTA) — Herman Wouk, the bestselling Orthodox Jewish author whose literary career spanned nearly seven decades and who helped usher Judaism into the American mainstream, died May 17 at the age of 103.

Wouk was the author of two dozen novels and works of nonfiction, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning "The Caine Mutiny" from 1951, which was a fixture on best-seller lists for two years, and the best-selling "Marjorie Morningstar" from 1955. Both books were later adapted for the screen.

His novels "The Winds of War" and "War and Remembrance" both became successful television miniseries. By the mid-1950s, Wouk's popular and financial success as an American Jewish novelist was unmatched.

Even more unusual for a writer of Wouk's celebrity was his Orthodox observance and treatment of Jewish religious practice in his writing. Wouk embodied the new postwar possibilities for American Jews and his writing was both cause and effect of the normalization of Judaism within the larger American Judeo-Christian tradition.

When he appeared on the cover of Time in 1955, the magazine described Wouk's blend of worldly success and Jewish religious observance as paradoxical.

At the time, Wouk's fame seemed like an incredible feat for an Orthodox Jew. Unlike other Jewish novelists, who had focused on Jewish immigrant culture and tended to portray religious Judaism as foreign and exotic, Wouk made Jewish religious observance appear mainstream in his books. Scenes of a Passover seder and a bar mitzvah service became scenes of middle-class American life in "Marjorie Morningstar."

From his debut novel, "Aurora Dawn," in 1947, to his last book, "Sailor and Fiddler: Reflections of a 100-Year-Old Author" — published in 2015 when he had reached a century — Wouk wove themes central to the American Jewish experience throughout his work. Even "The Caine Mutiny," a less Jewish novel than later works, included Lt. Barney Greenwald, who gives a moving speech in defense of a lieutenant who helped keep Greenwald's Jewish mother from being "melted down into a bar of soap" by the Nazis.

Set in the 1930s and '40s, Wouk's fourth book, "Marjorie Morningstar," heralded a new era for American Jews. The novel followed the

journey of a New York Jewish protagonist no different from any other bright and beautiful young woman of the era, an image further cemented by Natalie Wood's portrayal of Marjorie in the 1958 film version.

Marjorie also marked a turning point in his writing career. With confidence that he had readers who would follow him to less popular subjects, Wouk's fourth book, his first work of nonfiction, took on the subject of Orthodox Judaism. Published in 1959, "This Is My God" was a primer about the Jewish religion intended for both Jewish and non-Jewish readers.

Born in the Bronx borough of New York City on May 27, 1915, Wouk was the second of three children of Esther and Abraham Wouk, both immigrants from Belarus. Abraham Wouk began work as a laundry laborer and found financial success in the laundry business. Herman spent his early years in the Bronx receiving basic Hebrew training from his grandfather. His childhood included the teasing and bullying that was common for bookish boys in rough neighborhoods.

Upon graduating from college, Wouk briefly abandoned his religious lifestyle when he became a radio dramatist, writing for the comedian Fred Allen. Although the work was lucrative, Wouk felt a void in a life without Jewish learning and religion, and he eventually returned to his previous level of observance.

In the coming years he would reside in the Virgin Islands, New York's Fire Island, Washington, D.C., Manhattan and Palm Springs, California — and in all those locales he was involved in setting up Jewish study and prayer groups.

Following Pearl Harbor, Wouk joined the Navy and served in the Pacific, where he was an officer aboard two destroyers, participated in eight invasions and won several battle stars. Wouk also started to write "Aurora Dawn" while aboard ship. While his ship was being repaired in California, Wouk met Betty Sarah Brown, a graduate of the University of Southern California and a civilian Navy employee. After her conversion to Judaism, the couple married in 1945 and had three sons. Betty, who died in 2011, would eventually become her husband's literary agent.

Wouk is survived by two sons, Nathaniel and Joseph, and three grandchildren. His oldest son, Abraham, died in a 1951 swimming pool accident. ■

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Ann Arbor ORT Spring Dinner

Joan Levitt, special to the WJN

The Ann Arbor chapter of ORT America will hold its annual Spring Dinner on Monday, June 3.

Babette Daskin, ORT Ann Arbor's Donor Co-Chair and a member of the Board of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, will be the speaker. Babette and her husband Mark had the opportunity to spend two months in Israel in Fall, 2018. Among her other activities, Babette visited the ORT Kadima Mada ("Science Journey") programs at the Kfar Silver Youth Village and the Yitzchak Rabin High School in Kiryat Yam. The Ann Arbor chapter of ORT America raised enough money this year to fund a smart classroom in the Kfar Silver Youth Village. Babette will share her experiences and insights from the visits and how Ann Arbor's contribution will



Babette Daskin with students from Kfar Silver Youth Village

benefit these wonderful World ORT Kadima Mada Network schools.

The dinner will provide ORT members and prospective members the opportunity

to honor the chapter's generous donors. Donors' contributions to ORT America are essential for ORT's programs to serve the needs of 300,000 students annually in many countries throughout the world.

ORT transforms students' lives, empowering the next generation with increased access to quality education. In Israel, World ORT Kadima Mada programs focus on empowering

disadvantaged students in the country's under-resourced periphery to become self-sufficient and gain confidence in their ability to succeed. ORT's innovative programs and quality instruction in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), enable the ORT students in Israel to obtain transferable skills that can meet the demands of the 21st-century job market.

The dinner will be held 6:30 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor, 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, Ann Arbor. The dinner, with an Israeli menu catered by Amanda's Kitchen Catering, will cost \$36 per person. Rides to the dinner will be available to those who need them. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Joan Levitt at jflevitt2@gmail.com by May 22. ■

How does America respond now?

[Editor's note: On April 23, Eastern Michigan University professor Martin Shichtman, director of EMU's Center for Jewish Studies, delivered the keynote at Michigan's annual Holocaust Commemoration at the state capitol. Here are his remarks.]

The Holocaust has become, and with very good reason, the foundation on which many modern Jews—certainly American Jews—have constructed a significant portion of their identities. When asked, in the landmark 2013 Pew survey, A Portrait of Jewish Americans, "what does being Jewish mean in America today?" 73% of US Jews responded that "remembering the Holocaust" is fundamental to their understanding of themselves as Jewish. No other answer received such support, not "leading an ethical life" (69%); not "working for justice and equality" (56%); not "being intellectually curious" (49%); not "caring about Israel" (43%); not even "having a good sense of humor" (42%). Without a doubt Jews have prospered in America—according to the Pew survey "fully one-quarter of American Jews (25%) say they have a household income exceeding \$150,000, compared with 8% of adults in the public as a whole." Not surprisingly, "Jews have high levels of educational attainment. Most Jews are college graduates (58%), including 28% who say they have earned a post-graduate degree. By comparison, 29% of U.S. adults say they graduated from college, including 10% who have a post-graduate degree." With all of this success, how can it be that we are still haunted by a genocide that took place in another part of the world more than 70 years ago? How is it that we so vacillate between "it can't happen here" and "never again?" What is it about the Holocaust that continues to place our many achievements in doubt, demanding that we play back, over and over again, the destruction of 6,000,000 Jews? Might it be that we need to remind ourselves that those Jews once felt secure in their citizenship, in their assimilation, in their friendships and partnerships with non-Jews; once felt safe in a society that had other ideas about them?

As a so-called "model minority," American Jews have largely managed to escape many of the daily struggles and humiliations other minorities endure. But there is always that genocide, lurking in the not-so-distant past. With all of our security, we remind ourselves with prayers, with pilgrimages to death camps, with state-mandated high school classes, with museums, to remember how easily our security

can be put into jeopardy, with catastrophic effect. But, just in case we become too certain of our American-ness, there are always others, eager to refuse us participation in the American experiment, perhaps even determined to seek our annihilation. Into our society spills both the sewage of the radical right, once again staking out the claim, as it did in the 2017 Charlottesville "Unite the Right" march, that "Jews will not replace us"; and, perhaps, just as dangerous, the left—historically a Jewish-American comfort zone—where, for some, Jews have become the quintessential colonialists, oppressors, murderers of indigenous peoples.



Holocaust Keynote

Of late, Jewish complacency has been very much rattled—even in "safe spaces" like college campuses. Anti-Semitism—with some new twists—has crept into the discourses of both America's left and right; both progressives and reactionaries have embraced narratives that call on conspiracy theories blaming Jews for, well, everything. Some Jews continue to insist on the exceptionalism of our country, and the exceptionalism of our time, believing our allies incapable of betrayal and our enemies weak and pathetic, foolish outliers whose ideologies have been refuted by modernity, by the American way. But many other Jews are no longer so sure—and I find myself among the nervous. As I witness growing hostility toward Jews throughout Europe—often encoded in any number of socially acceptable euphemisms—and the rise of out-in-the-open bigotry at home, I can no longer even pretend to believe myself safe.

When bad things happen in the world—pretty much all bad things—Jews are held responsible for them. If the twenty-first century has proven anything, it is that anti-Semitism offers equal opportunity across the political spectrum. The list of conspiracy theories involving Jews goes on and on:

- Jews control the banks
- Jews control the Federal Reserve
- Jews control the unions
- Jews control the media
- Jews control the entertainment industry
- Jews are responsible for wars, all wars—and profit from them
- Jews financed the American slave trade—and were powerful slave owners
- Jews were responsible for 9/11
- Jews are responsible for training racist, American police
- Jews are responsible for AIDS
- Jews kill children—this conspiracy theory harkens back to the medieval "blood libel," which insisted that Jews kidnap children and make a ritual of killing them
- Jews commit genocide—no we don't; and we have a pretty good idea what the word means.

And we haven't even gotten to the theories surrounding Israel, which, according to some, is in control of entire governments, including not only the government of the United States but even those of the Jewish state's darkest enemies.

You don't have to be a Nazi to hate Jews—but you sure have to share some Nazi fantasies. To put it bluntly, Jews are not trusted. When I say that I support the LGBTQ community, I am accused of "pinkwashing." When I say that I worry for the ecological condition of my planet, "greenwashing" is my crime. No matter what a Jew believes, for far too many, he must be harboring some deep, dark, horrific agenda that involves taking advantage of others. Well, I will not smile and be nice when I see a Swastika held next to a Star of David—as we have seen nearly every week, for more than 13 years now, outside the Beth Israel Congregation in Ann Arbor, where members of Witness for Peace (described as a "hate group" by the Southern Poverty Law Center) demonstrate, they say, in opposition to Israel, but in reality, in opposition to Jews. I will not forgive the radical left for making excuses when demonstrators shout "gas the Jews," any

more than I forgive the radical right for leafletting my campus, Eastern Michigan University, looking for recruits. Michigan Identity Evropa claims that "We are not supremacists of any kind and we reject the term 'white supremacist' as an anti-White pejorative used to silence anyone who dares to stand up for the legitimate interests of European Americans." Nevertheless, on college campuses, they seek members, they say, "not of Semitic heritage." Michigan Identity Evropa's tagline is "Our future belongs to us." I think we all know which people have no part of that future.

The Anti-Defamation League recorded a 57-percent rise in anti-Semitic incidents in the United States in 2017, compared to the previous year — including assaults, vandalism, bomb threats and anti-Semitic literature on college campuses. On October 27, 2018, during morning Shabbat services, a gunman entered the Tree of Life Congregation in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. When he was done, eleven people were murdered, seven injured, the deadliest attack on the Jewish community in American history. Throughout our country—and certainly throughout Europe—synagogues, Jewish schools, Jewish centers, Jewish cemeteries continue to be desecrated, individual Jews continue to be attacked.

Still, I am not without hope. Two years ago, African-American, Jewish, gay culinary historian Michael Twitty spoke at Eastern Michigan University. Michael has been subjected to multiple kinds of hatred his entire life. Not a day goes by that he is not the target of a slur, victim of some sort of violence. He insists: "America is the only place on earth where I'm possible, and that is the dirty little secret behind these hate groups. They are here to take away the possibilities that America the Ideal represents." If we desire a bright future for ourselves, our children, our grandchildren, hope lies in creating alliances. Unless Jews, African-Americans, Muslims, LGBTQ people, Asians, Native-Americans, and people of Spanish descent—indeed, all Americans—find a way to work together, we go down, let me assure you—perhaps one group not as quickly as the other, but eventually all. America may not be as exceptional as we hoped it would be in 2019, but together we can yet make it so. ■

Unity Through Diversity

Rabbi Aaron Goldstein, special to the WJN

This year, the holiday of Shavuot begins on Saturday night, June 8, and it goes through Sunday and Monday June 9 and 10. The Torah tells us that the Jewish people arrived at and set up camp at Mount Sinai on the first day of the Hebrew month of Sivan. Until Sinai, it describes the act of camping in the plural. It says, "they" came to the desert of Sinai - "they" camped in the desert. Then when they arrived at Mt Sinai it says "he," the Jewish people, camped there in front of the mountain (Exodus 19:2). Here the pronouns change to singular. Our Rabbis tell us, in the Midrash Mechilta, that the Torah is trying to tell us that the encampment around Mt. Sinai was a very special one because all the Jewish people were united as one person with one heart. This was an exclusive and unique situation that had not existed up to that point. Nor has it ever existed again since - to the same degree of unity as at Mt. Sinai. Prior and subsequent to Mt. Sinai, the Jewish people were arguing and/or disagreeing on some or another issue. But at the Sinai encampment everyone was of one heart as one person. This was the proper preparation for the receiving of the Torah.

The Lubavitcher Rebbe asks a question: What is so unique about this degree of unity

that took place at Mt. Sinai? This encampment occurred in the month of Sivan, but just two months earlier, in Nissan, the Jewish people were highly unified in their departure from Egypt. As it says in Exodus 12:11, the army of God left Egypt as one army - one group. The fact that the Torah describes them as an army indicates that they are unified in their mission - soldiers all have the same objective and are unified in the endeavor.

The unity of the Jewish people as they left Egypt was different from the unity they accomplished just prior to receiving the Torah. When they left Egypt there was no division between the religious, social or political aspects of the nation. For example, there was no distinction between the Kohanim, the Levites and the Israelites. God took them out as a single group. Since there was no division, the type of unity they experienced was not of the highest order. Only when there are definite distinctions and divisions which are overcome does a higher magnitude of unity emerge. The type of unity at the Exodus from Egypt was a natural one - everyone was on the same level and it was easier to be unified. At Sinai overcoming the existing distinctions led to a greater level of unity.

At Sinai, in addition to the aforementioned religious distinctions, there were many different opinions and arguments amongst the Nation. There were even conflicts with Moses. Here the Torah tells us that despite the fact that there were already many divisions on other matters, the people put them aside

in order to be unified in the acceptance of the Torah.

This will also explain why the Torah was given in the third month of the year rather than the first month. In Judaism, unity comes with the number three but not with the number one. Why is this so? It would seem that the first month and the number one would indicate the ultimate level of unity. One is all and there is nothing else. But in truth, this is not a true unity. Since there is no division or conflict to be overcome, there cannot be true unity. Starting with the number two, there is the beginning of divisions or duality. There are two sides. They can be merely different from each other or they can be in full-fledged opposition to each other.

Sometimes in the Torah we find two contradictory verses. But then comes a third verse which resolves the conflict and unites the contradictory aspects of the verses. This is where we find true unity. Despite the fact that there are differences, somehow we can bring them together in unity. This is in contradistinction to the number one, with which there is no difference to unify because it is all one.

This is one of the special qualities of Sivan, the third month of the year. By then, there had developed divisions within the Jewish people. Nevertheless, even though there were these divisions, they were able to come together to a complete unity. As Rashi says, "like one person and one heart."

So now that we are getting ready to

commemorate and celebrate the holiday of Shavuot (the holiday of receiving the Torah), what is the lesson we can take from here? We, here in our day, have to work together to be united with each other. We have a unique ability to be united with our Torah, which we all have in common. This unification should be throughout the year and every year.

We must remember that this unity can only be a true unity after there is division and distinction and even argument. Torah can then unite us all together and make us all one. This unity is the vessel with which we can receive God's blessings until the ultimate blessing which is the redemption of Moshiach, the coming of the Moshiach, quickly in our days. ■



Rabbi Aharon Goldstein

Challenge of revelation

Rabbi Ora Nitkin-Kaner

Shavuot commemorates the gift of the Torah at Mount Sinai. Recently, I've been thinking about whether the English word we use to describe that moment - 'Revelation' - is fitting, given that by all accounts it was an experience of profound disorientation.

Exodus 20:15 describes revelation as a kind of synesthetic moment in which

the Israelites 'saw thunder'; Shemot Rabbah depicts the Israelites as totally overwhelmed, trembling and losing consciousness; and the 19th century rabbi Naftali Tzvi Horowitz suggests that the only sound at Sinai was one



Rabbi Ora Nitkin-Kaner

prolonged 'ahh.'

Given its name, revelation should be a clarifying moment. But often what is supposed to be clear contains a great deal of mystery. From *matan Torah* through today, our work as Jews is to engage with our given tradition and reach for meaning, not in spite of the confusion but because of it.

EMU Fall Lecture Series

Martin B. Shichtman, special to the WJN

The Eastern Michigan University Center for Jewish Studies opens its fall Lecture/Performance Series with "Yiddish Glory: Lost and Found Songs of World War

history in this all-new concert and lecture program. Collected by Moisei Beregovsky and other scientists of the Kiev Cabinet for Jewish Culture, these previously unknown Yiddish songs were confiscated and hidden by the Soviet government in 1949, and have only recently come to light. They tell stories of how Soviet Jews lived and died under the German occupation, documented Nazi atrocities, fought in the Red Army, worked in the home front, and made sense of it all through Yiddish music. None of these songs were known until they were accidentally discovered in the basement of the Ukrainian National Library in the 1990s. The lecture/concert features the performance of these previously unknown materials, giving voice to Soviet Jewish women, children and men who never got to tell their stories. "Yiddish Glory: The Lost Songs of World War II," a program that Howard Reich of the Chicago Tribune has called "revelatory," and Andy Herrman of NPR Music, "a minor miracle," will be performed on Sunday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Ballroom of the Eastern Michigan University Student Center, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. Tickets for this event are \$36 (\$10 for students with ID) and include dinner. For more information, please contact Celia Murkowski at: cmurkows@emich.edu.

On Monday, October 28, Dr. Pamela S. Nadell will talk about and sign copies of her new book *America's Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to Today* (Norton, 2019). Dr. Nadell is Professor and Patrick Clendenen

Chair in Women's & Gender History; Chair, Critical Race, Gender, and Culture Studies Collaborative; and Director, Jewish Studies Program of American University; and is a past



Psoy Korolenko and Anna Shtershis

president of the Association for Jewish Studies. About her new book, Jonathan D. Sarna, Joseph H. and Belle R. Braun Professor of American Jewish History, Brandeis University has said, "Authoritative, comprehensive, and readable, this long-awaited book by one of the field's premier scholars is destined to become an instant classic. It takes its place as the definitive history of Jewish women in America." Jordana Horn, in her *New York Times* review, noted, "It's truly remarkable to read this book and appreciate how these women—numerically small, qualitatively great—made such a tremendous impact on this nation." The event will take place at 7:00 p.m. in the EMU Student Center Ballroom. Admission to this presentation is free. For further information please contact jewish.studies@emich.edu. ■



Pamela S. Nadell

II" followed by "America's Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to Today."

"With "Yiddish Glory," singer-songwriter Psoy Korolenko (Moscow - New York) and historian Anna Shtershis (University of Toronto) bring to life a nearly vanished musical

Wendell Berry The Real Work

*It may be that when we no longer know
what to do
we have come to our real work,*

*and that when we no longer know
which way to go
we have come to our real journey.*

*The mind that is not baffled is not
employed.*

*The impeded stream is the one that
sings.*

Words are from Wendell Berry's "Poetry and Marriage" in his collection of essays titled *Standing By Words*.

**Special Exhibit at the
Holocaust Memorial Center
On display July 1 - December 31**



Created by Yeshiva University Museum and the Leo Baeck Institute, the exhibition illuminates the story of the Kindertransport (German for “Children’s Transport”), the organized rescue effort that brought thousands of Jewish children from Nazi Europe to Great Britain in the late 1930s. The exhibition explores the children’s difficult and often heartbreaking journeys through original artifacts, personal stories, and engaging media. *Kindertransport - Rescuing Children on the Brink of War* is open Sunday through Friday and is included with museum admission.

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Sara O'Connor, continued from page 1

O’Conner: My grandparents’ tenacity, perseverance and willingness to find and create love despite the horrors they experienced are values I try to infuse into all aspects of my life. My maternal grandmother and pap-pap survived concentration camps when they were incredibly young, Stutthof and Auschwitz-Birkenau,

how horrid the storm, the beauty of this world will never be fully destroyed. Second, many of my works are painted on an incredibly dark blue background with vibrant circles of color dancing on its surface. It mirrors my desire to reflect that we can find calm, soothing beauty and bright shocking vibrancies even in the darkest of times. Third, I am mindful that people have vastly different perspectives, but we share a common joy in exploring and discussing art together. Art is my way of connecting with people no matter their background.



WJN: Tell us about your artistic process and the technique you use, heavy-textured pointillism.

O’Conner: Stemming from my love of playing with tiny colorful beads as a young girl and dabbling in ceramics and stained glass as a teenager, I desired to combine my favorite qualities of these mediums to create a near 3D effect to traditional 2D pointillism paintings. After creating a formula that achieves my desired effect, I apply thousands of dots to create flowing movement of color with extreme precision and care. I feel a bit like Willy Wonka. The only difference is that my wonderland is filled with color instead of candy. There are more than 650 distinct colors in my studio. The time it takes to prepare the materials can be almost as long as the amount of time to create the art. While I generally have an overarching color palette and design in mind for each new painting, I allow my decision-making to evolve during the creative process. What I paint embodies a moment of self-reflection. ■

respectively. My grandmother fought for her survival for five years and finally saw liberation when she was 13 years old. She should have been enjoying her bat mitzvah at that age. Following the war, my grandparents met in America and now have four grandchildren who will be, in her words, “the voice when I’m gone.” My family’s background and Jewish heritage have impacted my artistry in three significant ways. First, my Torah portion (the rainbow) is featured on the back of my business card. To me, it stands as a shining beacon of colorful hope that, no matter



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9 writers who perfectly capture what it's like for Jews of color

by Nylah Burton, this story originally appeared on Alma.

I recently decided to start writing full-time, a decision that's been both enormously liberating and incredibly isolating. But there are some real perks to not having to be in an office all day, and one of them is getting to sit on the couch and read a good book smack dab in the middle of the afternoon.

As a black Jewish writer, I obviously want to read books written by and highlighting the stories of Jews of color. That's easier said than done, though. It's not that these stories don't exist — Jewish literature is an amazing, rich genre of diasporic Jewish stories. However, the narratives of Jews of color are often left out of the Jewish literary canon, and we suffer for it.

With that in mind, I decided to make a list of books you should be reading — all written by Jews of color or featuring Jews of color. Some of the stories here aren't explicitly Jewish, but there may be a good reason for that. When asked if he would ever write a Jewish character, mystery novelist Walter Mosley replied, "Not if he wasn't black ... Hardly anybody in America has written about black male heroes. There are black male protagonists and black male supporting characters, but nobody else writes about black male heroes."

Jewish writers of color may shy away from writing explicitly Jewish stories for a number of reasons, like fearing that the demand for these narratives simply isn't there. Or maybe, like Mosley, they feel more compelled to highlight the stories of groups who have been historically erased from popular narratives. Whatever the reason, though, and whatever the content of their work, these writers remain unequivocally and deeply Jewish.

1. Jamaica Kincaid's *Lucy*

I studied Caribbean literature in college, so the Antiguan-American novelist Jamaica Kincaid is one of my heroes. A lot of people don't know that Kincaid is Jewish, and that could be because her work isn't explicitly so. Kincaid converted to Judaism in 1993, after over a decade of being married to the Jewish composer Allen Shawn. Telling *Tablet* magazine of her decision to convert, Kincaid said a rabbi told her that she and her children wouldn't be buried in the same cemetery if she didn't. Kincaid remembers thinking, "What if there's a Jewish heaven and I'm in the other heaven and I'd have to send them letters?" I couldn't bear to be separated from them." After her divorce, when people asked Kincaid if she would return to Christianity,

she thought it was ludicrous, saying, "People ask me if I'm still a Jew and it's like, do you think Judaism is a fashionable skirt?"

Kincaid's work may not be explicitly Jewish, but it's firmly rooted in an experience that many Caribbean Jews of Color can identify with. Themes of colonial legacies, complicated familial relationships, racism, and class ripple through her writing. There are so many books of Kincaid's to read and they're all worth it, but I would suggest starting with *Lucy*, the story of a West Indian girl who leaves her home to work for a white family. The story is loosely autobiographical, mirroring Kincaid's own experiences.

2. Roya Hakakian's *Journey from the Land of No: A Girlhood Caught in Revolutionary Iran*

Hakakian is such an inspiring force for change. She's a Persian-Jewish writer with bylines in *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* and is a founding member of the Iran Human Rights Documentation Center. She's the author of two collections of poetry, in Persian, and in 2008 she won the Guggenheim prize for non-fiction.

Honestly... I could go on and on about Hakakian's accomplishments, but her work simply speaks for itself. I recommend immediately buying her memoir *Journey from the Land of No: A Girlhood Caught in Revolutionary Iran*. Persian Jews have one of the longest, richest Jewish histories in the entire diaspora. However, we rarely listen to or are presented with opportunities to view Persian-Jewish perspectives. The narratives and stories of all Persian Jews are deeply important, which is what makes Hakakian's work so vital.

3. Denice Frohman, assorted poems

Now, a lot of people aren't "into" poetry, but you should definitely check out this poet before you write it off completely. Frohman is a queer Latina with Puerto Rican and Jewish heritage. And she's a badass poet who's been published widely and has appeared on lots of international stages. Her bio says that her work "focuses on identity, lineage, subverting traditional notions of power, and celebrating the parts of ourselves deemed unworthy." She's been featured in poetry anthologies like *Nepantla: An Anthology for Queer Poets of Color*, *Women of Resistance: Poems for a New Feminism* and the forthcoming *What Saves Us: Poems of Empathy and Outrage in the Age of Trump*.

Frohman's work is powerful, and it makes

a clear message on the societal problems we face today. For example, she takes on racial hatred and gun violence in her heart-stopping poem, "The Hour Dylann Roof Sat In The Church."

4. MaNishtana's *Ariel Samson: Freelance Rabbi*

Under his pen name, MaNishtana, Orthodox rabbi Shais Rishon seeks to diversify the American Jewish literary canon, telling JTA that Jewish writers of color are "invisible, pretty much."

Ariel Samson, the main character in his latest semi-autobiographical novel, is challenging that invisibility merely by being present and illustrating some of the many challenges that Jews of Color face in their communities. A black Orthodox Jew, Ariel deals with racism at a Shabbat table (that also comes from another Jew of color) and he has to navigate the awful experience of seeing an Orthodox New York assemblyman wearing blackface on Purim — a situation that may refer to the real experience Rishon had with Dov Hikind, who was criticized for donning the racist costume in 2013.

5. Michael Twitty's *The Cooking Gene: A Journey Through African American Culinary History in the Old South*

Full disclosure: I feel like I've known Michael for a long time. Even though we missed each other, we went to the same college (Howard University) and had the same adviser. Our adviser, who is Jewish, always told me how proud she was of Twitty and all the amazing things he was accomplishing. So I went through college knowing that Twitty was GOALS.

And he's pretty awesome — making black and Jewish history every day. As a food historian, Twitty's work focuses on retracing African heritage through Southern cuisine. His amazing book will make you laugh and cry and be amazed at the richness of African-American food traditions. Buy it. Buy it now.

6. T Kira Madden's *Long Live the Tribe of Fatherless Girls*

Queer, Jewish, Chinese, and Hawaiian... writer T Kira Madden's new memoir explores her unique background, growing up in Boca Raton, and having parents who struggled with addiction. Her ethnic heritage was a source of confusion and searching in her early years, but Madden says that she's "so grateful" that her parents gave her the freedom to identify as she wished. Madden

told Alma that she hopes people read her book and "... feel the power of being an outsider. I hope people can recognize some version of themselves, or some element of themselves, in the book."

7. Brandy Colbert's *Little and Lion*

The main character here, Suzette, is black, queer and Jewish. *Little and Lion*, a novel, portrays a tense sibling relationship that is complicated by mental illness, but Suzette's story is also about feeling out of place. Lots of black Jews will relate to Suzette, who thinks that "people have too many questions when you're black and Jewish." There's also little scenes showing the beautiful intimacy of Jewish home life, like braiding challah before Shabbat. While Colbert herself is not Jewish, she has written one of the best depictions of Jewish adolescence in the Young Adult genre. And for that, we salute her.

8. Rosebud Ben-Oni, assorted poems

Born to a Mexican mother and a Jewish father, Ben-Oni graduated from New York University and did postgraduate research at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. I love this poem of hers, "I Guess We'll Have to Be Secretly In Love with Each Other and Leave It At That," which has a few Jewish references. Her poem "Poet Wrestling with Angels in the Dark" was recently commissioned by the National September 11 Memorial & Museum in New York City. You can find more of Ben-Oni's work at The Kenyon Review blog, where she writes weekly.

9. Karl Taro Greenfeld's *Speed Tribes and Triburbia*

Greenfeld is Japanese and Jewish and is the former managing editor of *TIMES Asia* and the former editor of *Sports Illustrated*. He wrote *Speed Tribes* after moving from Japan back to the U.S., and the novel is about parts of Japanese society that often go unexamined in the West. *Triburbia* is a novel about families in Manhattan dealing with their complicated, messy lives. Greenfeld told Kvellor that he "could not have written this book before I had children" because the novel includes insightful observations about how children socialize with each other — specifically, how cruel bullying and exclusion can be at that age. Greenfeld has written many other amazing books, including the dystopian novel *The Subprimes*. ■

Unspoken Truths: The Holocaust through Women's Voices

Leslie Pardo, special to the WJN

On Sun., June 23 at 11:15 a.m., the Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus is hosting Northwestern University Professor Phyllis Lassner who will speak about female Holocaust victims and survivors through sharing their stories of suffering, endurance, and resistance.

The program, Unspoken Truths: The Holocaust through Women's Voices, will be an intimate look at the experiences of female Holocaust victims. Most people know about the Holocaust through memoirs and movies about male survivors like Elie Wiesel and rescuers like

Oskar Schindler. Our understanding of the Holocaust is incomplete without the inclusion of women's voices.

The lecture will begin at 11:15 a.m. Cake and coffee will be served at 10:30 a.m. prior to the lecture. The lecture is generously supported by Wayne State College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Guy Stern Endowment in Exile and Holocaust Studies, the Holocaust Memorial Center, the Jewish News, Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies, Hillel of Metro Detroit and the PNC Foundation.

Visitors to the Holocaust Memorial Center

have the unique opportunity to hear first-hand accounts of the Holocaust. Holocaust survivor speakers speak on a regular basis at the Holocaust Memorial Center, including female Holocaust survivors who speak weekly, sharing their experiences and personal stories.

The mission of the Holocaust Memorial Center is to engage, educate and empower by remembering the Holocaust. By offering important and diverse programming, visitors to the Holocaust Memorial Center will understand that history is made through a series of choices and that every choice has a consequence. The

goal of the Holocaust Memorial Center is to teach critical thinking and ethical decision making, inspiring individuals to choose to stand up and speak out against hateful words and acts.

The event is free to members or with museum admission. RSVP by June 20 to 248-536-9616 or www.holocaustcenter.org/June. The Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus is located at 28123 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48334. ■

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My father and the moon landing

by San Slomovits

On the evening of July 21, 1969, my father and I were walking home from synagogue after evening prayers. The previous day our family had watched TV together as astronaut Neil Armstrong uttered his famous words, “One small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.”

Now I pointed up at the faint crescent moon in the still light sky and said to my father, “Isn’t it amazing to think that there was a man walking around up there?”

My father didn’t even look up. Staring intently ahead, he said with conviction. “There were no people up there.”

I was flabbergasted.

“What do you mean there were no people up there,” I exclaimed with some heat. “We just saw it on TV!”

Taking little note of my outburst, my father went on in a condescending tone.

“They faked those scenes in some desert.”

(To be fair, my father was by no means alone in believing the various conspiracy theories that began circulating even before Apollo 11 blasted off from Cape Canaveral. Various polls have found that up to 20% of Americans believed that the moon missions were faked.)

Before I could begin to argue against the preposterousness of this theory, he added, “They can’t be on the moon. It says in the Psalms, ‘The heavens are for God, but the earth he gave to mankind.’”

Well, that was that. There was no arguing with my father on matters of God, dogma and religion. I was then 20 years old, he was 58. He was a cantor and had studied the texts of Judaism all his life. He could always pull rank. We walked the rest of the way home in an angry silence.

Fifty years ago, there were many other things about which my father and I could not talk. In particular, we never talked about his life before I was born. It was my mother who told me, when I was about sixteen, that she was my father’s second wife. That his first wife and three young children, as well as his parents, three sisters, his only brother, and countless other relatives and friends were all murdered in Auschwitz. That he’d been in a work lager in Poland for much of the war and had almost starved to death. It was silently understood in our family that no one mentioned these things in front of my father.

It took me many years to begin to understand the effect of that tragedy, those enormous

losses, and especially of that silence, on my father’s life and on mine. Eventually, gradually, my father and I did begin talking — even about his slaughtered family. And I started to see how, and why, he might have taken such an absolutist stance about the moon landing, and about all other matters pertaining to religion. I began to consider the possibility that, having lost almost everything, including nearly his own life, my father might have felt it essential to cling so literally to his faith, almost the only thing that remained of the life he led before the Holocaust. That perhaps it was this faith that allowed him to start over and reconstruct his life, and even might have helped him give me a solid foundation for starting mine.

In 1999, just before the 30th anniversary of the moon landing, I again asked my father about it. Wanting to protect his dignity, I did not remind him of what he had said 30 years before.

“Did you know,” he asked, “that they changed the Kiddush Levana after the moon landing?” (The Kiddush Levana is a prayer thanking God for the gift of the moon.) I said, no, I had not heard that. He continued. “In that prayer, we say to the moon, ‘Just as I leap toward you but cannot touch you, so may my enemies be unable to touch me harmfully.’ Well, they had to change that once people actually ‘touched’ the moon.”

I found it fascinating that my nearly 90-year-old father had come to tacitly accept the reality of the moon landing and had even found a way to bring it into concordance with his faith.

After talking with him, I asked several rabbis about the prayer and they all said that it has not been changed. One of them, though, did remember much discussion at the time of the moon landing about whether an alteration was necessary.

(Now that I am older, and have my own “senior moments,” I can readily see how my father might have confused hearing about discussions of a possible change, with an actual change.)

I never told my father what the rabbis said. The Kiddush Levana has not changed—it was enough for me to know that he and I had.

This July 20th will be the 50th anniversary of that first moon landing. My father has been gone for twelve years now, but I still regularly reflect on what he endured, how he persevered, and on his legacy in my life. ■



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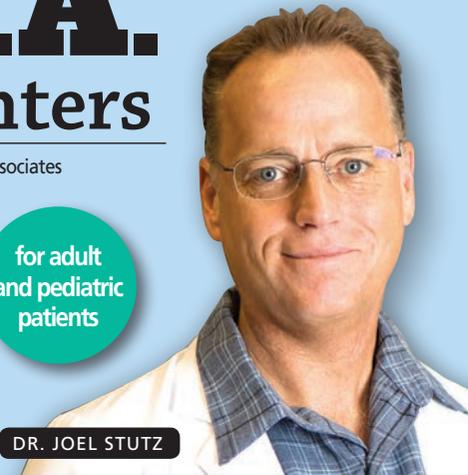
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Standing together

by David Erik Nelson

As I sit to write this it's just 15 days since the assaults and murder at Chabad of Poway synagogue in California. I don't know why, but that attack hit me much harder than the Tree of Life synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh, just six months earlier. In the week after Poway I couldn't find pleasure in anything. I couldn't focus on my work or follow conversations. My mind and body dragged behind me, like a corpse handcuffed to my ankle. Each breath took effort, and it was a challenge to muster that effort – especially knowing that I'd just have to do it all over again for the next breath, and the next one, and the next one, and so on.

Perhaps it was that awful new phrase we discovered we needed: "Another synagogue shooting."

Perhaps it was that the Poway shooting had come just a month after 51 people were murdered and 50 more injured while at prayer in two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand. On that day – another very hard day, oppressively rainy and dark here in Ann Arbor – many Jews from Washtenaw County joined our Muslim brothers and sisters at the Islamic Center of Ann Arbor for Friday prayers.

I was there. I was intensely uncomfortable. As a policy I, don't leave the house if I can avoid it. When I can't avoid going out, I certainly avoid crowds, strain to avoid new places, and bend every effort to avoid places where I do not have a very clear idea of exactly what to expect.

A crowded mosque fits none of those

conditions.

A crowded mosque on a gloomy day that is also the very day that a white supremacist has murdered dozens of people in crowded mosques? You'd have to work hard to craft a more uncomfortable situation for me.

But it was so obviously right to go there that day, to stand in quiet solidarity and support.

So I went.

I'd never been inside a mosque in my life. The words were different, but the rhythm was something I recognized. The carpet was very pretty. Men approached me, took my hand, embraced me, thanked me.

I'm a sketchy-looking White man. I have a lifetime of being stopped by police and security, asked "just a few questions," warned that I'm "probably in the wrong place, sir." As a young man I was perpetually mistaken for a drug dealer. Now middle-aged, I look like "Deranged Hippie #4" from a mid-'80s slasher flick. Someday soon, I'll look like the old man who wandered away from his group home.

That awful Friday after Christchurch would have been a very reasonable day for someone at the mosque to tackle me well before I reached the doors. Instead, they invited me in, embraced me, and told me where to put my shoes. They were gracious on their Worst Day.

Remembering that helped me keep moving after Poway.

In case it isn't obvious:

Our lives and freedom are bound up together with those of our Muslim brothers and sisters. We're facing the same threats from the same people, are getting singed by the same flames, which are being fanned by the same vitriolic voices. The shooter who stormed into the Poway synagogue also set fire to a mosque in Escondido, California. In his manifesto, he voiced his admiration for both the Tree of Life synagogue shooter and the man who attacked those mosques in Christchurch.

But maybe more importantly: Our lives aren't bound up together *just* when someone is shooting at us. It's easy to know you've got to *do something* when disaster strikes. If your neighbor's roof was on fire, you wouldn't hesitate to bang on their door until you knew they were out and safe. But it's somehow so much harder to ring the doorbell on a sunny day.

So last week I left my house midday, despite having plenty of perfectly valid excuses to stay safely at home at my computer. I went to visit businesses I'd never been to before, despite having no business to conduct there. I left the house to wish a happy Ramadan to a series of virtual strangers, because they had been gracious toward me on their Worst Day.

And because we need to stand together in the face of adversity – but we also need to just stand around together, on all the ordinary days. ■

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Our Neighbors

Muslim-Jewish Relations Need Strengthening to Confront White Supremacy

By Dawud Walid

Anti-Muslim bigotry has steadily been on the rise in Michigan and America in general, especially after the 2008 Presidential election cycle. With the election of America's first Black president Barack Obama who also had Muslim heritage, overtly white supremacist organizations as well as the Birther Movement within the Tea Party Movement gave rise to more outward expressions of racism and xenophobia which have always existed. In the era of President Donald Trump, unabashed bigotry within our nation has now reached a level which has not been seen in America since the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. Mosques are routinely threatened, including a bomb threat which led to the arrest of a man in Southwestern Michigan in April. A mosque in Detroit was twice a target of arson in recent months. Hate crimes, school bullying, and work place discrimination have steadily been on the rise as well. There must be a united front in addressing hatred which is spreading at an alarming rate.



Dawud Walid

We are also very aware that our fellow Americans within the Jewish community share similar concerns about the increased targeting of their community. The fatal shootings in recent months of Jewish Americans at synagogues in the Pittsburgh and San Diego areas has caused Jewish centers to increase security measures, including armed security, as have many mosques in recent years, particularly after the anti-Muslim New Zealand attack. Jewish cemeteries are being desecrated at higher rates in recent years than in the past. With a backdrop of anti-Muslim and anti-Jewish sentiments rising in America are armed militias roaming in some southern border states detaining Latinos who do not look American enough, meaning white enough. African Americans including African American Muslims who have always been targets of institutionalized racism are now having the police called on us for simply cleaning up in front of our homes, mowing our lawns and going to community swimming pools.

These forms of bigotry have varying layers of interconnectedness. The false ideology of white supremacy, which is unfortunately part of the fabric of the founding of our nation, has Americans looking at one another as not only enemies but some viewing others as less human. Within this moment, I believe it is incumbent that people of good conscience feel morally obligated to work in coalition to confront those who overtly and covertly promulgate that the racial construct of whiteness is superior, that this construct is the bar for what truly defines being an authentic American, and by extrapolation that Americans are an exceptional people to

the exclusion of other humans outside of the West.

There is historical precedence for Muslims and Jewish people cooperating with each other in the face of racial chauvinism. The Spanish Inquisition is one such example of mutual persecution which led both groups to flee the Iberian Peninsula for North Africa. When German and Italian fascist forces invaded North Africa during World War II, Muslims protected Jewish residents from their common adversaries. Though we are not at the extreme point of an inquisition, we must put forth more effort now with hopes that history does not repeat itself.

The need for us to band together against the rising tide of racism that has us feeling vulnerable does not necessitate ignoring real tensions within segments of the American Muslim and Jewish American communities. This tension has been put on centerstage this year in particular surrounding the first Muslim congresswoman from Minnesota, Ilhan Omar and her views on Palestine and Israel. I suggest that if we are to move forward to confront the eminent threat of white supremacist violence and intimidation here, we must be willing to have candid conversations and not intentionally erase or sideline organizations and leaders who legitimately represent segments of the grassroots of our respective communities.

Based upon the 2016 presidential election cycle, we should expect even more racist bombast in 2020. Now is the time for our communities to work closer together to deal with the common challenge of white supremacist bigotry that is on the rise. In order to do that, we need to be open and honest as Muslims and Jews about our issues of conflict that we have among us without shutting each other down in the process.

Dawud Walid is the executive director of the Michigan chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-MI), a member of the Michigan Imams Council and a senior fellow at the Auburn Seminary based in New York, NY. ■

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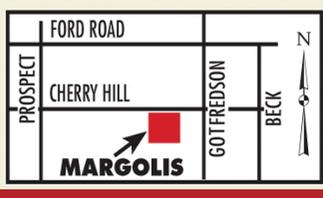
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Frankel Center

Judaic Studies Spring Grads

Kelsey Robinette Keeves, special to the WJN

The Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies celebrated fifteen Judaic Studies minors, five majors, two PhDs, and one master's student at this year's graduation reception on May 3 in the Thayer Building.

Several students will continue their educations at graduate school. Max Topel, who was awarded the Outstanding Undergraduate Award, will be starting in the doctoral program in molecular engineering at the University of Chicago. Erica Schuman will be attending University of Michigan's Law School and Madeline Jacobson will be studying maritime civilizations at the University of Haifa.

Shira Brandhandler, who is moving to Chicago to work as the Director of Youth Engagement at Temple Jeremiah, praised her Judaic Studies classes for allowing her to "get to know each subject deeply and participate in meaningful ways." Judaic Studies minor Ali Rosenblatt will also be engaging in Jewish communal leadership as an Eisendrath Legislative Assistant Fellow at the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism.

Sarah Prendergast studied acting, creative writing, and Judaic Studies while at U-M and is pursuing a career in the arts. "Judaic Studies offers a wide range of engaging and diverse classes," she said, "that both encourage one to look back and examine the long, rich religious and ethnic history of the Jewish people, as well as challenges one to question what it means to be a 'Jew' in today's political and cultural climate. I have learned so much about myself, the world, and humanity as a whole. I am a more informed, creative, and empathetic person because of the classes I took at the Frankel Center."

Judaic Studies minor Henry Zou majored in Psychology and is taking a gap year. Zou stated, "Judaic Studies provided me with the valuable opportunity to improve my understanding of a global culture different from my own. It also helped me to better understand social justice from the Jewish perspective and improve my awareness of the challenges and successes of Jewish communities." Judaic Studies major Amanda Smith will also be taking a gap year at Friendship Circle in West Bloomfield.

Rachel Ohayon majored in both Judaic Studies and Sociology. She recalled that "as an alum of Yeshiva Day school K-12 I was unsure what Judaic Studies would have to offer me," but "now that I have completed the program, I have learned so much new information, history, and viewpoints that I had not been exposed to previously and I am so grateful for that...Judaic Studies has shaped my future, my interests, and my opinions."

Yaakov Herskovitz, a graduating Judaic Studies certificate student, defended his PhD, "Linguistic Limbo: Writing and Rewriting in Hebrew and Yiddish," in Middle East Studies under the direction of Frankel faculty Shachar Pinsker, Maya Barzilai, Mikhail Krutikov, and Anita Norich. His dissertation analyzed little known literary works by three important writers, who published in both Hebrew and Yiddish. Herskovitz will be joining the Frankel Institute as a fellow for the 2019-2020 academic year under head fellow Julian Levinson. William Runyan, whose 2018 dissertation "Global Form and Fantasy in Yiddish Literary Culture: Visions from Mexico City and Buenos Aires" was also supervised by Norich and Krutikov, taught first and second year Yiddish in 2019. He received

a translation fellowship through the Yiddish Book Center and will be translating selections from the 1935 poetry collection *Shtot in profil* (City in Profile) by Yankev Shternberg, a leading Yiddish cultural figure in interwar Bucharest.

Logan Wall received the Michael Bernstein Dissertation Prize, which is awarded to a recent University of Michigan graduate based on excellence of scholarship, originality of research, quality of writing, and significance of contribution to Jewish Studies. Wall successfully defended his dissertation, "Covenantal Poetics: Jewish, Irish, and African American Modernisms Beyond the Lyric," in January. Professor Deborah Dash Moore, who worked with Wall, wrote that his dissertation "exemplifies the best in interdisciplinary scholarship that draws not only on his knowledge of 20th century American literature but also on his mastery of Judaic Studies."

This year's Marshall Weinberg prize, given annually to an outstanding graduate student who is engaged in writing a dissertation, was awarded to Yael Kenan, a doctoral student in the Department of Comparative Literature. Her dissertation, "Communities of Loss: National Mourning in Israeli and Palestinian Literature after 1948," looks at the relationship between mourning and national formation. The prize is given annually to an outstanding graduate student who is engaged in writing his or her dissertation. Professor Emerita Anita Norich and Associate Professor Maya Barzilai wrote, "Having read Kenan's work over the years and witnessed her participation in the field of Jewish studies, both on campus and internationally, we can attest that she is an exceptional writer and thinker, as well as a promising future colleague."

Yosef Gross received the Outstanding Yiddish Student Award, which is given to a student whose classwork and commitment to Yiddish stands out. Yiddish language instructor Michael Yashinsky noted that "He is taking the language not because it is integral to his academic study or career path, but rather because he has a love for Yiddish, for its words and sounds and history."

The 2019 graduates and student award winners join a distinguished group of Frankel Center alumni.

PhD Graduates	Minors
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Will Runyan	Sarah Conwisar
	Delesiya Davis
Master of Arts	Lindsey Davis
Jacqueline Dressler	Emily Duchene
	Dalia Gatoff
Majors	Madeline Jacobson
Shira Brandhandler	Michael McGrath
Evan Heugel	Sarah Prendergast
Rachel Ohayon	Ali Rosenblatt
Amanda Smith	Erica Schuman
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Planned giving for community's future

Sharyn J. Gallatin, Esq., special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Ann Arbor, the planned giving arm of the Jewish Federation, was founded to ensure the continuity and quality of Jewish life in our community by developing endowment funds to support local Jewish institutions. Through the Foundation, donors support innovative and transformational projects and ensure future financial sustainability for our community.

During the past year, a newly reenergized Foundation Committee has been meeting monthly to review Foundation systems, procedures and documents as they plan for a significant increase in activity in the coming years. The committee includes both at-large members and representatives of the Foundation's organizational partners – Beth Israel Congregation, Temple Beth Emeth, Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County (JFS), the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor (JCC), the Jewish Cultural Society, and the Hebrew Day School. The committee looks forward to expanding relationships with local financial advisors and attorneys, increasing marketing and outreach efforts, and providing educational opportunities for community members to learn more about how they can impact the organizations and projects they love through the Jewish Community Foundation.

The Foundation provides a range of options for donors to support the Federation, partner organizations, special projects or interests, as well as other qualified 501(c)(3) organizations they hold dear.

The Donor Advised Fund has always been an excellent way for donors to set aside funds in a financially beneficial manner to make contributions to non-profits they wish to support. Given recent tax law changes, particularly related to charitable deductions, the tax advantages of this vehicle have even greater impact for those wishing to make a difference through their financial contributions. In addition to the tax benefits achieved by opening a donor advised fund, donors can take pride that their charitable contributions to their favorite causes are identified as coming from the Jewish Community Foundation. This fosters good will between the Jewish community and the broader world in which we live. Charitable contributions to qualified 501(c)(3) organizations through the Foundation are easily made through a phone call to the

Federation office or via the Foundation's online donor portal.

Endowments are also a great way to leave a legacy. An endowment may be set up for the benefit of a particular program, project or agency. Zelma Weisfeld z"l planned for the future by leaving a bequest to the Jewish Federation. Because of her passion for the arts, and in consultation with her estate, the Zelma H. Weisfeld Fund for Culture and Education was established in the Foundation. The community will benefit from her generosity well into the future, as money will be distributed to support community-wide arts and culture programming.

Phyllis and David Herzig created the Herzig Fund for Senior Programming at the JCC and a fund for the benefit of JFS which has supported important programs about which they care deeply. David said "You don't have to wait until you have fifty million to give it away. You can start right now."

When Malcolm and Judy Cohen, longtime generous donors to the Federation, decided they wanted to create a legacy gift to ensure their contributions to the community through Federation would continue long into the future, they created an endowment in the Foundation. When asked why, Malcolm said "When you look at the world, you see how much need there is, and there is never enough money to help everyone." With the Cohens' generous gift, many members of our Jewish community will be helped, well after the Cohens are no longer here.

This is true of any legacy gift. One does not have to be fabulously wealthy to ensure long-term support of important causes and organizations. Many donors leave a bequest in their wills or name the Federation or other organizations as beneficiaries of a life insurance policy. It is not necessary to have a lot of money at the time you create a legacy. What is important is leaving *your* mark on the Ann Arbor Jewish community.

The Jewish Community Foundation is here to serve the Jewish community of Ann Arbor. In the coming months, the Foundation will be offering many opportunities to learn more about how it can help donors of all ages and means meet their philanthropic dreams. For more information concerning the Foundation, to set up a fund, or to make a legacy gift, please contact Sharyn J. Gallatin, Esq. at 734-773-3533 or sharyn@jewishannarbor.org. ■

Federation annual meeting June 5

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

The community is invited to the Jewish Federation and Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Ann Arbor's 2019 Annual Meeting, Wednesday, June 5, 7p.m. at the Jewish Community Center.

This year, Federation welcomes Michael Masters, National Director and CEO of the Secure Community Network (SCN) as its keynote speaker. Masters' talk, "Community Preparedness – Lessons After Pittsburgh," will provide important



Michael Masters

context around Jewish community security and preparedness in a time of increased anti-Semitism and attacks against houses of worship. SCN is the national homeland security initiative of The Jewish Federations of North America and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Prior to joining SCN, Mr. Masters served as the Senior Vice President of The Soufan Group, a strategic advisory firm that assists organizations in the public and private sectors address emergent threats, and as the CEO of CivicScape, an advanced analytics company that provides risk assessments to public and private sector entities. He previously served as the Executive Director of the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for Cook County, Illinois, and as the Chief of Staff for the Chicago Police Department. A Truman and a Gates Cambridge Trust Scholar, Mr. Masters received his B.A. from the University of Michigan, MPhil in International Relations from the University of Cambridge and his J.D. from Harvard Law School. Certified as a peace officer and a Special Weapons and Tactics operator, Mr. Masters continues to serve his community as a part-time police officer. Mr. Masters received an officer's commission in the United States Marine Corps, where he attained the rank of Captain.

The Annual Meeting is when the community gathers to celebrate a year of accomplishments and to share Federation's vision and plan for the future. It is also an opportunity to thank outgoing board members and welcome new leaders to its ranks.

This year, four valued and experienced board members will be recognized and

appreciated for their service to the community.

Alan Brilliant has been on the board since 2012 and has ably served the community as board treasurer and finance committee chair. In addition, Alan served as chair of the Jewish Community Foundation which has seen renewed activity in the past year. Jennifer Lewis has been on the board since 2013, most recently serving as board governance chair. In that role, she shepherded the adoption of new Federation by-laws and focused greater attention on board process and evaluation. Federation was honored to have former president Hillary Murt join the board for a special one-year term as Vice President for 2018-19. Her historical perspective and leadership were invaluable during a year of transition.

Steve Gerber has served on the Federation board and as Campaign Chair since 2013 when he took the helm of the 2014 Annual Community Campaign. Steve's commitment and dedication to the Ann Arbor Jewish community is immeasurable, and he will receive special recognition during the program.

"Our outgoing board members have demonstrated leadership, enthusiasm, creativity and thoughtfulness throughout their terms," said Federation Board President Stephen Aronson. "We have benefited from their wisdom and dedication and wish them well as they pursue other ways to add value to the community." A list of the incoming board for 2019-2020 may be viewed on the Federation website, www.jewishannarbor.org.

A traditional highlight of the Annual Meeting is the awarding of the Susan L. Lichter Memorial Scholarship for teen travel to Israel. This year's recipients are Eva Zaiantz and Renee Starosta. Selected by a committee whose members reviewed each applicant's essays anonymously, these recipients demonstrated a clear sense of purpose and maturity. They will each share an excerpt from their essays at the event.

The Annual Meeting commences at 7:00 p.m. with light refreshments and schmooze time. Musical atmosphere will be provided by Ethan White, a freshman at Skyline and participant in the 2019 Ann Arbor/Nahalal Student Exchange. The official program will start at 7:30 p.m.

The Annual Meeting is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is recommended at www.jewishannarbor.org. For more information, please contact Isaac Ellis at isaac@jewishannarbor.org or 734-773-3535. ■

Addressing Security Needs

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor and local area Jewish communal organizations have long attended to issues of community safety and security. Over the years, improvements to several area facilities have been achieved through Homeland Security Grants, and significant time and effort has been paid to developing security protocols.

Recent events, particularly the attacks against synagogues in Pittsburgh and Poway, have demonstrated the critical importance of focusing even more effort as a community to develop communication protocols; provide

training to staff, volunteers and community members; assess risks and address physical vulnerabilities; share knowledge and experience; and implement a sound security strategy which those involved hope will never have to be used.

Since November, Federation has convened community leaders to discuss security issues, and this group continues to meet on a regular basis. In concert with the community-wide process, each of the communal organizations have convened and activated security committees and have been thoughtfully and seriously assessing

their own needs and developing and implementing protocols.

Community volunteer and professional leaders have met with law enforcement officials to learn about resources and develop relationships with the front-line personnel who are the community's partners in training, prevention and response. Contact lists were exchanged and there has been regular contact between local organizations and these important resources. The Ann Arbor Police Department has been particularly helpful in providing additional protection during community events for

Yom Ha'Shoah, Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut which came just on the heels of the Poway shooting.

"We are living in a new reality," says Federation Board President Stephen Aronson. "We are working hard - as we have for several years - with individual organizations in the community to ensure access to grants, access to training, and access to the expertise that will keep us vigilant and safe."

Federation has been seeking advice and consultation from the Secure Community

continued on next page

*Addressing Security Needs,
continued from previous page*

Network (SCN), the national homeland security initiative of The Jewish Federations of North America & the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Through information sharing, security awareness, training and security consultation, SCN strives to empower individuals, organizations and communities in establishing a culture of security awareness, preparedness and resiliency. A state-of-the-art emergency notification and communication system (SCNAlert), made available and affordable by the Secure Community Network, has been acquired and implemented, and the security committee continues to enhance communications technology and protocols.

The National Director and CEO of SCN, Michael Masters, will address the community at the Jewish Federation's Annual Meeting, Wednesday, June 5 at 7 p.m. at the JCC. During his visit, Michael will consult with the community security committee and with individual organizations to help prioritize next steps needed to provide for a more prepared and secure community.

For more information about community security or to become involved, please contact Eileen Freed at eileenfreed@jewishannarbor.org or (734-773-3537). ■

Human Trafficking Panel Raises Awareness

Sharyn J. Gallatin, Esq., special to the WJN

On Wednesday, April 10, the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor's Women's Philanthropy presented The Real Truth About Human Trafficking: A Panel Discussion.

The event began with a special pre-glow dinner celebrating our Lions of Judah

Trafficking, Deborah Monroe, a human trafficking survivor, Edee Franklin, founder of Sanctum House, the first long-term safe house for adult survivors of human trafficking, and Shrina Eadeh, LMSW, of Jewish Family Services.

Each panelist shared their story and their

fortitude she demonstrated by leaving that life and becoming a peer counselor to others. After the panel presentations, there was an engaging question and answer period where attendees asked thoughtful questions regarding how to identify victims of human trafficking and how to further educate our community.

The program was the final campaign event of the year, and Women's Philanthropy co-chairs Joyce Gerber and Sara Wohl spoke about the impact of Women's Philanthropy on the Federation's Annual Community Campaign. To date, women have contributed over \$261,900, which is approximately 20% of the overall community campaign! They look forward to building stronger, even more vibrant Women's Philanthropy engagement aimed at growing a community of women who have similar interests and commitments, in particular around community-building and philanthropy.

In addition to Joyce and Sara, the event planning committee included Carol Hoffer, Alyse Tankenow, Marci Sukenic, and Elyssa Koiden Schmier.

For more information on Women's Philanthropy, please visit www.jewishannarbor.org. If you would like to get more involved in planning future Women's Philanthropy events, please contact Sharyn J. Gallatin at 734-773-3533 or sharyn@jewishannarbor.org. ■



Elyssa Koidin Schmier, Eileen Freed, Sarah Wohl, Joyce Gerber, Babette Levy-Daskin, and Marci Sukenic

& Pomegranates in gratitude for their philanthropic leadership.

Following dinner, over sixty women gathered to hear from a remarkable panel: Lt. Wendy Reyes of Oakland County's Sheriff's Department Task Force on Human

experience related to human trafficking. Attendees were particularly moved by Deborah's story of how her trafficker took advantage of her youth and emotional vulnerability to essentially imprison her as a sex worker. All were impressed by the bravery and

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Milk and Honey Dishes for Shavuot

Lonnie Sussman, staff writer

Just one month ago I finished the column for Mothers' Day. A few days later my mother, Simi Cutler, died. There has hardly been a column in the past two years of writing these columns that didn't have its genesis or inspiration from her. I recently found more of her cookbooks and hundreds and hundreds of recipe cards

placed in card files and folders filled as well as articles and recipes cut out from newspaper columns. I know that all future columns will continue to be written under her influence. In her final days we heard numerous stories about people, places and times that related to food. It is in her honor and memory that I dedicate this column.

Shavuot, the holiday celebrating the Giving of the Torah, had its origins in an ancient grain harvest festival. Shavuot was also one of the three pilgrimage holidays

where people brought gifts from their harvests to the Temple in Jerusalem. Shavuot is described as the holiday of the "first fruits". There were celebratory meals and all were fed, including the poor, the widow, orphan and stranger. I'll leave the explanations and interpretations of the holiday and its customs and traditions to the rabbis and scholars, but it's hard to miss the connections between basic physical and spiritual/emotional needs.

The tradition of having a dairy meal rather than a meat meal also goes back to biblical times. There are many reasons given to explain the tradition of a dairy meal, but I particularly love these two. First, in Shir Hashirim, Song of Songs, the Torah is compared to milk and honey and in the book of Deuteronomy the land of Israel is described as "flowing with milk and honey". Second, in late spring baby calves and kids and lambs are born and there is an abundance of milk that is turned into cheese.

Fast forward to celebrating Shavuot in Jewish communities all over the Diaspora and we find recipes for blintzes, kugels, wheat and cheesecakes. Here are some recipes with milk and honey (or sugar) to help you celebrate the Chag.

mix in the apples, raisins and walnuts and stir to combine. Finally add in the pineapple and fruit cocktail. Add a small amount of the syrup from the crushed pineapple to moisten the kugel. Bake at 350 degrees in a large baking dish for 70-75 minutes.

Milk and Rice Pudding

The Book of Jewish Food, Claudia Roden, serves 6

Here is a basic recipe with variations that Jews from the Middle East used as a regular dairy dessert. It uses ground rice to thicken the pudding. You can use rice flour or cornstarch or a mixture of the two.

- ¼ cup rice flour
- 5½ cups cold milk (use whole for richer flavor)
- ½ cup sugar

Mix the rice flour with one cup of the cold milk, slowly and mixing carefully to avoid lumps. Meanwhile, bring the rest of the milk to a boil in a pot. Pour the rice and milk mixture in, stirring vigorously and then cook on very low heat, stirring continuously until the mixture thickens. This may take 15-20 minutes. The goal is no lumps. Let the mixture cook for a few more minutes. And then stir in the sugar and cook until it dissolves. Stir with a wooden spoon but don't scrape the bottom of the pot because sometimes the milk sticks and you don't want that in the final pudding product. The milk pudding will continue to thicken as it

cools. Pour into a large pan or into smaller serving bowls and serve cold.

Variations:

1-2 tablespoons orange blossom water or rose water towards the end of the cooking. Garnish with chopped pistachios or almonds. Add 1 teaspoon cardamom and 1 tablespoon rose water a few minutes before the end of cooking.

Boil the milk with a stick of vanilla or add a few drops of vanilla extract or the zest of ½ lemon and serve with a sprinkling of cinnamon.

Strawberry Soup, The Kosher Palette

Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy, edited by Susie Fishbein, serves 4

Shavuot is also the time the first fruits of the season were brought to the Temple. In Michigan, one of our first fruits are strawberries.

- 1- pint fresh strawberries, stems removed
- 1- tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 -ripe peach, peeled and chopped
- 5-6 Tb. sugar
- 1-1/2 cups pineapple juice
- ½ of an 8 oz. container of yogurt, plain or vanilla

Combine strawberries, peach, juice, vanilla, and sugar in a blender or food processor. Process until smooth. Stir in yogurt. Serve chilled

Cheese Blintzes

Jewish Cookery by Leah W. Leonard makes about 12 blintzes

- 2 eggs
- ½ cup flour
- ¾ cup water
- 1 Tbs. melted butter
- Pinch of salt

Beat the eggs and add flour and water alternatively while beating with a fork. Work in the melted butter and salt until you have a thin batter. Add more butter to a pan and pour in a thin layer of the batter. As soon as the underside is lightly browned, turn out on a double layer of kitchen towel, browned side up. Repeat until the batter is done.

Filling for the cheese blintzes

- 1 -pound cottage cheese or cream cheese
- 2 Tbs. sugar
- 1 egg yolk

Dash of salt and cinnamon

Mix with a fork to a spreadable consistency. Spread evenly and roll up each blintz, tucking in the ends. Cut in two, and then fry

them in butter until nicely-browned on both sides. Serve with sour cream, stewed berries or other fruit compote.

[Editor's note: My mom often made blintzes for Jewish and other occasions. She had a special small cast iron pan that she tapped (well, slammed, if you know my mom) on a towel on the kitchen table to get the crepe out of the pan before filling it. I can still hear the sound and try to replicate it when I make blintzes. She used the recipe from Jewish Cookery by Leah Leonard (her mother's sister), which I use, too.]

Harrise

Serves 8-10 This is a traditional Yemenite dish from the Jewish community now in Israel. Leah Hadad wrote this recipe and writes about Jewish Yemenite food on the Web.

- 3- cups water
- 2 cups coarse bulgur or kasha (roasted buckwheat)
- 1 tsp. salt
- 4 sticks unsalted butter
- 6 fenugreek seeds, optional
- A cinnamon stick, optional
- A clean glass jar
- Honey

Boil the water in one pot. Place the bulgur and salt in a separate pot and add the boiling water to it. Cover the pot, leaving a small space for steam to escape. Simmer on low for 25-30 minutes. Stir with a fork to break up lumps.

Roast the fenugreek seeds in a small pan over low heat for a few minutes, shaking often. Add the butter and cook on low for about 20 minutes. The milk solids will burn and sink to the bottom and foam will form on top. Remove the foam from the top as it appears and stir occasionally. While butter is cooking, you can hold the cinnamon stick over the stove flame so that it smokes, then hold the jar upside down over the smoking cinnamon stick to fill it with the smoke. Cover the jar and let it stand for a few minutes. Repeat 3 times. When butter is amber gold, turn off the burner and let stand for 5 minutes. Pour the clarified butter into the smoked jar but leave the residue on the bottom of the pot. Let cool to room temperature. Cover and put in refrigerator and use as needed.

To assemble the harrises, scoop 2/3 cup of hot bulgur into a bowl. Add a teaspoon of clarified butter and a teaspoon of honey or to taste.

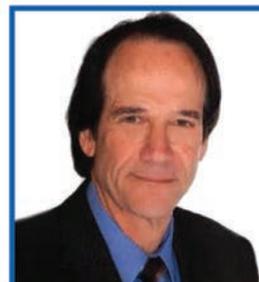
Jayne Harary's Famous Lukshen Kugel

Dairy, serves 8-10

Jayne Harary was a lovely, sweet soul who passed away last year. Tom, one of her sons, related this story about her kugel. She learned to make it from her mother in the early 1900s. When she came to Ann Arbor she made the kugel for her family and for many friends. It was often a gift to welcome people new to the community. She also made it in smaller batches to sell for fundraisers at the JCC.

- 1-lb medium egg noodles
- 2 Tbs. canola oil
- ½-cup brown sugar
- 1tsp. cinnamon
- 6 eggs, well beaten
- 1- cup walnuts
- 1-cup raisins
- 3-cups apples peeled, sliced thin and diced
- 1- 15-oz. can fruit cocktail, remove cherries
- 1- 20-oz. can crushed pineapple. save syrup

Cook the noodles according to the directions on the package. Drain in colander and pour hot water over them to rinse, drain again. Place in large bowl and add 2 Tbs. oil on top of the noodles and mix well. Mix cinnamon and sugar together and add to the beaten eggs, mixing well. Combine the cinnamon, sugar, egg mixture with the noodles. Then



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Congregations

TBE Events June, July and August 2019

Nellie Stansbury, special to the WJN

Families with Young Children (FYC): Tot Shabbat Service

Fridays, June 7, 14 & 21, July 5, 12, 19, 26 and August 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 5:45 p.m., TBE Sanctuary 5:45 p.m. | Tot (0-5 year olds) Shabbat Services with Rabbi Whinston and Cantor Hayut 6:15 p.m. Dinner for Tot Shabbat | 6:45 p.m. Shira Service

All of your favorite songs led by TBE's tot team, Cantor Hayut and Rabbi Whinston.

Join us for macaroni and cheese, fish sticks, applesauce, and a salad bar immediately following the short service. Dinner is just \$5 per person. Buy a punch card ahead of time for a discounted price. Punch cards are available in the TBE office.



TBE delegation to the Religious Action Center's Consultation on Conscience, May 19-21. Cantor Regina Lambert-Hayut, Trina Fuller, Ken Wachsberger, AJ Egherman, Sonya Nagel Lewis, Rabbi Josh Whinston and Carol Freedman-Doan.

Weekly Lunch & Learn

Fridays, June 7, 14, 21 & 28, July 5, 12, 19, 26 and August 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, TBE Adult Lounge, Noon Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch.

Women of TBE:

Historical Novel Reading Group

Monday, June 10, 12:30 p.m., TBE Library
The WTBE Reading Group meets on the second Monday of each month, October through June. Contact Molly Lindner, burnham@umich.edu.

Saturday Torah Study

Saturdays, June 8, 15, 22 & 29, July 6, 13, 20, 17 and August 12, 10, 17, 24 & 31, 8:50 a.m.
Join us for this weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston.

Women's Torah Study

Mondays, June 10 & 24, July 8 and August 6, 7:00 p.m.

An in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Cantor Regina Hayut. The group will explore various passages from the portion looking at several translations and commentaries from a variety of scholars from Talmudic times to the modern day. No Hebrew knowledge necessary to participate in the discussion. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org.

Guitar-led Shabbat Service

Fridays, June 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m., TBE Sanctuary
A special, song-filled, musical celebration with singing, dancing, guitar, and a big dose of ruach. It's how we provide another gateway to prayer.

This service takes the place of Shabbat Achat and falls on the fourth Friday of each month.

Euchre Night

Saturday, June 1, July 6 and August 3, 8:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., TBE Adult Lounge
Grab a partner or come alone! All levels welcome. Contact Dave Ostreicher, djostrei@umich.edu, with questions.

Advanced Meditation with Linda Greene

Thursdays, June 6, 13, 20 & 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25 and August 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 1:00 p.m., TBE Chapel
Linda Greene offers brief Jewish teachings and

leads a 20-30 minute meditation time. Contact Linda Greene, lingreene@gmail.com, with questions.

Shavuot Study Session

Saturday, June 8, 8:00 p.m., TBE Adult Lounge
Join us as we discuss Shavuot and eat cheesecake with Rabbi Whinston, Cantor Hayut, Rabbi Alter and others!

Shavuot Yizkor Service & Luncheon

Monday, June 10, 11:00 a.m., TBE Chapel & Social Hall
Join TBE for our annual Shavuot service and luncheon.

Pride Shabbat

Friday, June 28, 6:30 p.m., TBE Sanctuary
Join TBE for a Pride Shabbat Service, celebrating LGBTQ people and their contributions to our community. Enjoy a dinner catered by a queer-friendly/owned local restaurant at 5:45 pm before the service and a display of Abbie Lawrence-Jacob's artwork.

Introduction to the Sephirot

Thursdays, June 6, 13, 20 & 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25 and August 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2:00 p.m., TBE Chapel
Learn about the names of the sephirot and their history in Jewish tradition and mysticism, led by Linda Greene. Contact Linda Greene, lingreene@gmail.com, with questions.

Brotherhood BBQ

Brotherhood serves BBQ to the congregation in this annual rite of summer. Menu includes the following: hotdogs and buns, potato salad, cole slaw, pickles, coffee and lemonade. A link for registration and payment will be emailed out in TBE's weekly announcements. Contact Bill Parkus, parkus@comcast.net, with questions. ■

Beth Israel Summer Events

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

Annual Congregation Meeting and Dessert Reception

Sunday, June 16, 7 p.m.

Beth Israel's Annual Congregation Meeting includes a dessert reception, the election of new Beth Israel board members and officers for the 2019-2020 membership year and their installation, the presentation of Honorable Menschen Awards to volunteers who have made a difference over the past year, and the approval of the budget for the coming fiscal year. Beth Israel's achievements over the past year will be marked, and goals for the upcoming year will be announced.

T-shirt and Baseball Cap Shabbat with Kiddush Honoring Elliot Sorkin on his Retirement

Saturday, June 8, 9:30 a.m.

This is the Shabbat when both congregants and visitors are encouraged to wear a T-Shirt (university/camp/vacation spot) along with one's favorite baseball cap. Coordinated T-Shirt/Baseball cap outfits are especially welcome. Elliot Sorkin will lead the Psukei D'zimra service, and chant the Haftarah. After 21 years of service, he is retiring as the first Executive Director of Beth Israel Congregation. The service concludes with a Hot Dog and Veggie Dog Kiddush.

Shavuot at Beth Israel

Saturday, June 8, 9 p.m. Tikkun Leil Shavuot
Sunday and Monday June 10 and June 11, morning service at 9:30 a.m.

Beth Israel's celebration of Shavuot includes study sessions (Tikkun Leil Shavuot) on Saturday evening, with a Maariv service at 9:00 p.m. and a delicious cheesecake oneg. For more information about the Tikkun, please visit Beth Israel's website.

Shavuot, the "Feast of Weeks," is celebrated seven weeks after Passover. Since the counting of this period begins on the second evening of Passover, Shavuot takes place exactly 50 days after the first seder. It marks both the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai and the time of the ancient grain harvest festival. The book of Ruth is chanted during this holiday at Beth Israel on the first day of the holiday). Its story takes place during a barley harvest and Ruth's assumption of Naomi's religion is said to reflect the Israelites' acceptance of the Torah at Sinai. Shavuot is one of the holidays on which both Hallel, the Psalms of Praise, is sung and Yizkor, the memorial service, is observed. Yizkor takes place on June 11 at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Mini Minyan

Saturday, June 8 and 22, 11:15 a.m.

Every second and fourth Shabbat of the month, at 11:15 a.m., Beth Israel offers a service for elementary school age children. The service includes Shabbat prayers and fun educational activities. The children will join the main congregation for the final prayers in the sanctuary. Mini Minyan is led by Aaron Brody.

Tot Shabbat

Saturday, June 8 and 22, July 13 and 27, and August 10 and 24, 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat is our special Shabbat morning program for preschoolers and their parents with songs, stories, prayers, and the Shabbat "Mystery Box" It is led by Alona Henig. Tot

Shabbat meets on the second and fourth Saturday of each month downstairs in room 15. This program is also open to nonmembers.

Family Service and Dinner

June 14, 5:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Families, individuals, and everyone else are invited to participate in a family-friendly service and dinner. From 5:45 – 6:30 p.m., folks gather around a gigantic Shabbat table filled with candles, tzedakah boxes, and challot, and sing while accompanied by camp-style guitar. In the glow of candles, Shabbat prayers are sung, and a brief teaching is given by Rabbi Caine. Then kiddush is sung followed by a family-friendly dairy dinner. There is no charge for the dinner, but RSVPs must be made to Beth at office@bethisrael-aa.org. The dinner is sponsored by Jack and Surry Scheerer, and Beverly Gershowitz.

Beth Israel Presents: A County Fair!

Sunday, June 23, 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Come one, come all, to the Beth Israel County Fair! This family-friendly event is for everyone, individuals, couples, and families with children of all ages and features games (a dunk tank, cupcake walk, and a basketball throw to just name a few), handmade crafts available for sale in the crafts tent, refreshments, and a festive dairy dinner served family style. Entertainment includes a roving fiddler and square dancing with a Jewish spin. As part of the festivities at the Beth Israel County Fair, a beautiful Kaffe Fassett Mystery Quilt will be raffled off. Kaffe Fassett is an internationally recognized artist, whose knit patterns and quilt designs, both in fabric, are projects that are bright, colorful, and always interesting. Raffle tickets can be pre-purchased or purchased on the night of the event for the mystery quilt and other items. New this year - children 12 and under are free and encouraged to attend. Youth from ages 13 – 24 are \$18 per person. Adults tickets, based on contribution levels, start at \$36 per person. Contact the Beth Israel office for more information at office@bethisrael-aa.org.

Boogie, Bounce, Barbecue and Barchu

Friday July 12 5:30 p.m. (Bounce House) 6 p.m. Dinner

This is Beth Israel's first barbecue of the season for individuals, couples and families. Diners will enjoy a delicious grilled hamburger and hot dog dinner (veggie alternatives available) followed by an outdoor Friday evening service in Beth Israel's courtyard. The cost is \$13 for adults, \$9 for children aged four to ten, and children three and under are free. RSVP by to Beth at office@bethisrael-aa.org or register online at www.bethisrael-aa.org. Payment will be accepted before the meal.

Courtyard Musical Shabbat

Friday, July 19, 6 p.m.

Participants enjoy a peaceful introduction to Shabbat with a Beatles inspired Kabbalat Shabbat Service led by Rav Nadav, along with a Ian Sharpe on guitar, in Beth Israel's outdoor courtyard.

Backyard Shabbat

Friday July 26

Young Families are invited to enjoy a relaxing backyard Shabbat experience with a dairy dinner, pot luck side dishes, and desserts held at

Continued on page 24

Calendar

BIC, Continued from page 23

a private home. Interested families are asked to contact the Beth Israel office at 665-9897.

Family Days at the Beth Israel Garden at County Farm Park

Sunday, July 21 and August 18, 10:00 a.m. - noon
Please join Beth Israel Congregation's Activities Department and Social Action Committee for a morning at its Faith and Food garden in County Farm Park (2230 Platt Rd., Ann Arbor). All ages are welcome regardless of gardening experience. Participants will be weeding, planting, picking produce as it's ready, and enjoying the wonders of burgeoning life, fresh air, and sunshine. County Farm Park also has a delightful playground, paved and unpaved walking trails, and restrooms, making it a lovely destination for all ages, whether you can help in the garden for 20 minutes or 2 hours. Meet at the entrance to the garden at 10:00 a.m. or find the Beth Israel garden by taking the first path up the hill on the left after entering the garden area. As a requirement of the Faith and Food program, the majority of produce from the garden is donated to Food Gatherers of Washtenaw County.

Shabbat in the Park

Friday August 9, 6 p.m.

County Farm Park (2230 Platt Rd., Ann Arbor) Shabbat in the Park is Beth Israel's annual outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat service and potluck dinner at County Farm Park. Participants are asked to meet at 6:00 p.m. under the pavilions just inside the Platt Rd. park entrance. They are asked to bring a vegetarian (dairy or pareve) dish to share. Beth Israel will provide vegetarian lasagna, macaroni and cheese, drinks, and place settings, as well as grape juice for kiddush and challah for motzi. In case of inclement weather, the event will be moved to Beth Israel with the potluck held at the Garfunkel-Schteingart Activities Building at 2010 Washtenaw

Tisha B'av (The 9th of Av)

Saturday night, August 10, 9:15 p.m. and Sunday, August 11, 9:30 a.m.

The 9th of Av marks the destruction of the first and second temples and other tragedies occurring in Jewish history. Both services include the chanting of Megillat Eichah, the Book of Lamentations. This book, read only on Tisha B'av, is full of poignant images of destruction and pain and yet, underneath all of its sadness, is a hope for a return and a reconciliation with God.

Shabbat at Rav Nadav's House with Potluck

Friday, August 16 and 23, 6 p.m.

Rav Nadav hosts these very warm and "homey" musical Friday night services and dinners at his own home. Everyone is welcome to attend, even if they are not bringing a dish to pass. Watch the Beth Israel website (www.bethisrael-aa.org) for more information and signup.

All Programs Open to General Community.

All of Beth Israel's events, educational offerings, and recreational programs are open to the general community. If you would like further information, please call 665-9897 or visit www.bethisrael-aa.org, or Beth Israel's facebook page.

June 2019

Saturday 1

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. For tots ages 0-5 years old and their families with singing, storytime, and a kids' Kiddush to follow. Non-members welcome and encouraged to attend. For details, email welcome@annarborminyan.org. 11:15 a.m. - noon.

Bat Mitzvah Service: Leila Bank: TBE. 10:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Euchre Night: TBE. Adult Lounge. Grab a partner or come alone! All levels welcome. Contact Dave Ostreicher, djostrei@umich.edu, with questions. 8-9:30 p.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 2

Tanya-Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Sundays.

Celebrate Israel Family Festival: JCC. 3 - 6 p.m.

Monday 3

ORT Ann Arbor Spring Dinner: JCC. "Meeting Educational Challenges in Israel through ORT: A View from the Ground," The speaker will be Babette Daskin, who visited Kadima Mada ("Science Journey") schools in Israel in Fall, 2018. Members and prospective members are invited to attend. Please RSVP with a check for \$36 to Joan Levitt, jflevitt2@gmail.com. Rides are available if needed. 6:30 p.m.

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE, Adult Lounge. All are welcome - beginners to experts, we help each other to get better at our craft. We have some project ideas and materials to help you out. As a group we will be knitting hats for cancer patients that can be completed successfully as a beginner. For more information contact Martha Weintraub at weintraub.martha@gmail.com. 7:30-9 p.m.

Tuesday 4

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m.

Wednesday 5

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yiddish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. After many years at the Michigan League, we now meet at the Ann Arbor JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, Conference Room. We're experimenting with combining the long-time Yiddish reading group and the conversational one, about 37½ minutes each of conversation and reading. Free and open to all who are interested in Yiddish language and culture, no matter what level of proficiency, regardless of age. All manner of topics are covered with an effort to improve participants' Yiddish speaking and reading skills, especially vocabulary. Everyone is welcome to join in at any time, or to just listen. For more information and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:45 a.m.

Annual Meeting: Jewish Federation and Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Ann Arbor. At the JCC, 7p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 6

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4-7 p.m.

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Talmud-Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study from the original Talmud tractate. 8 p.m. *Thursdays*.

Friday 7

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon-1 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45-6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15-6:45 p.m. 6:45 p.m. Shira Service

Shabbat Service and Confirmation: TBE. 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 8

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 8:50-9:50 a.m.

T-shirt and Baseball Cap Shabbat with Kiddush Honoring Elliot Sorkin on his Retirement BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Eli Revzen Bar Mitzvah: AARC. At the JCC. 10 a.m.
Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m. - noon.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. This special Shabbat morning program is for preschoolers and their parents with songs, stories, prayers, and the Shabbat "Mystery Box." It is led by Alona Henig. Tot Shabbat meets on the second and fourth Saturday of each month downstairs in room 15. This program is also open to nonmembers. 11:15 a.m.

Mini Minyan: BIC. The service for elementary school age children will include Shabbat prayers and fun educational activities. The children will join the main congregation for the final prayers in the sanctuary. 11:15 a.m.

Shavuot Study Session: TBE 8 p.m.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot: BIC. 9 p.m.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot (Night of Learning): AARC. At the JCC. AARC joins with Kehillat Israel, the Lansing Reconstructionist Congregation, for. The service is followed by a dairy dessert potluck and havdalah. More info at aarecon.org. 6:30 p.m.

Celebration of Shavuot: Chabad. Afternoon and evening services, followed by Festive meal and all night learning. 8:50 p.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 9

Shavuot Morning Service: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Shavuot morning services: Chabad. All children are invited to come and hear the Ten Commandments, Ice Cream party for the children, and then followed by our annual festive dairy meal for everyone. 9:45 a.m.

Shavuot afternoon and evening services: Chabad. 7 p.m.

Grillin' 2019: Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds 5055 Ann Arbor Saline Rd. Tickets are \$75 in advance or \$85 at the door. Kids (ages 3-13) are \$10, and kids under 3 are free. 3 - 8 p.m.

Monday 10

Shavuot Morning Service: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Shavuot services: Chabad. 9:45 a.m. morning services, at 11:00 a.m., Yizkor Memorial Services, 8:45 p.m. fternoon and evening services.

Shavuot Yizkor Service and Luncheon: TBE. 11 a.m.

WTBE Historical Novel Reading Group: TBE. 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. An in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Cantor Regina Hayut. The group will explore various passages from the portion looking at several translations and commentaries from a variety of scholars from Talmudic times to the modern day. No Hebrew knowledge necessary to participate in the discussion. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7-9 p.m.

Tuesday 11

June Cookout Picnic at the J: Noon-1 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m.

Brotherhood Hebrew Bible Study: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Wednesday 12

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yiddish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. See first Wednesday 10:45 a.m.

Thursday 13

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4-7 p.m.

JCC Annual Meeting: JCC. 7 - 8 p.m.

Talmud-Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays*.

Friday 14

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon-1 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45-6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15-6:45 p.m. 6:45 p.m. Shira Service.

Family Service and Dinner: BIC. RSVP online at www.bethisrael-aa.org. 5:45 p.m.

Shabbat Service with adult choir Kol Halev: TBE. 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 15

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.– noon.
Shabbat services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Sunday 16

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Reception for artist Shel Markel at the Amster Gallery: JCC 4 - 6:00 p.m.

Monday 17

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE, Adult Lounge. For more information contact Martha Weintraub at weintraub.martha@gmail.com. 7:30–9 p.m.

Tuesday 18

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *See first Tuesday of month.*

Wednesday 19

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yiddish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. For more information and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:45 a.m.

Author Jennifer Weiner and Cynthia Canti: Literati Bookstore at the JCC. 7:00 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 20

Third Thursday @ the J: JCC. The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor (734) 971-0990. Alternative Movements in Judaism. With SooJi Min-Miranda, Julie Gales and Clare Kinberg. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

TBE Brotherhood Guy's Night Out: offsite. 6:30-8 p.m.

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Friday 21

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. 6:45 p.m. Shira Service.

Brotherhood BBQ: TBE. 6–7:15 p.m.

Family Shabbat: JCS. At the JCC. Dinner from a local restaurant follows a short observance that includes secular readings, songs, candle lighting, wine, and challah. Children are welcome. Dinner is free for JCS members. The cost of dinner for non-members is \$10/person or \$25/family. Registration is required: www.jewishculturalsociety.org/observances/shabbat/. 6:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 22

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30-10:30a.m.

B'not Mitzvah Service: Juliana Brenner and Naya Loftus: TBE. 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. See June 8 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.– noon.

Mini Minyan: BIC. The service for elementary school age children will include Shabbat prayers and fun educational activities. The children will join the main congregation for the final prayers in the sanctuary. 11:15 a.m.

Shabbat services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Sunday 23

TBE Families Monthly Meet-Up: Offsite. 10a.m.-Noon.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Unspoken Truths: The Holocaust through Women's Voices, lecture by Phyllis Lassner: HMC. 11:15 a.m.

A County Fair: BIC. 5–9 p.m

Monday 24

Tuesday 25

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *See first Tuesday of month.*

Wednesday 26

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yiddish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. See first Wednesday 10:45 a.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 27

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE 7:30–9 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 28

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Tot Dinner: TBE 6–6:30 p.m.

Pride Shabbat and Guitar-led Shabbat Service: TBE. Sanctuary 6:30–8 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 29

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Bat Mitzvah Service: Kayla Wiseman: TBE.

10-11a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.– noon.
Shabbat services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Sunday 30

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

July 2019

Monday 1

Kindertransport Special Exhibit opens: HMC. Will be on display until December.

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE, Adult Lounge. For more information contact Martha Weintraub at weintraub.martha@gmail.com. 7:30–9 p.m.

Tuesday 2

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE 7:30–9 p.m.

Wednesday 3

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yiddish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. For more information and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:45 a.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 4

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 5

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. 6:45 p.m. Shira Service

Lay Led Shabbat Service: TBE. 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 6

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30–10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.– noon.

Euchre Night: TBE. Adult Lounge. Grab a partner or come alone! All levels welcome. Contact Dave Ostreicher, djostrei@umich.edu, with questions. 8–9:30 p.m.

Shabbat services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Sunday 7

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Monday 8

Women's Torah Study: TBE.. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7–9 p.m.

Tuesday 9

July Cookout Picnic at the J: Noon-1 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m.

Brotherhood Hebrew Bible Study: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Wednesday 10

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yiddish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. For more information and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:45 a.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 11

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE 7:30–9 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 12

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon–1 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m.

Boogie, Bounce, Barbecue and Barchu: BIC. 6 p.m.

Lay-led Shabbat Service: TBE. Sanctuary 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 13

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30–10:30 a.m.

Otto Nelson Bar Mitzvah: AARC. At the JCC. 10 a.m. Tot Shabbat: BIC. See June 8 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.– noon.

Shabbat services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Sunday 14

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Calendar

Monday 15

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE, Adult Lounge. For more information contact Martha Weintraub at weintraub.martha@gmail.com. 7:30-9 p.m.

Tuesday 16

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. See first Tuesday of month.

Wednesday 17

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. For more information and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:45 a.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 18

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4-7 p.m.

TBE Brotherhood Guy's Night Out: offsite. 6:30-8 p.m.

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Talmud-Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 19

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon-1 p.m.

Courtyard Musical Shabbat. BIC. 6 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. 5:45 - 6:15p.m.

Brotherhood BBQ: TBE.6 - 7:15 p.m.

Lay-led Shabbat Service: TBE. Sanctuary 7:30-9 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 20

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.- noon.

Shabbat services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Sunday 21

Fast of 17 Tamuz: Chabad. Fast begins at 4:30 AM, Morning services 9 a.m., afternoon and evening services at 8:35 p.m. Fast ends at 9:50 p.m.,

Family Days at the Beth Israel Garden at County Farm Park: 10 a.m.- Noon

Monday 22

Tuesday 23

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. See first Tuesday of month.

Wednesday 24

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. For more information and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:45 a.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 25

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4-7 p.m.

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Talmud-Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 26

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon-1 p.m.

Backyard Shabbat: BIC. At family homes. Contact BIC office 734-665-9897.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. 5:45 - 6:15p.m.

Brotherhood BBQ: TBE.6 - 7:15 p.m.

Lay-led Shabbat Service: TBE. Sanctuary 7:30-9 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 27

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. See June 8 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.- noon.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 28

TBE Families Monthly Meet-Up: Offsite. 10a.m.- Noon.

Tanya-Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Monday 29

Tuesday 30

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. See first Tuesday of month.

Wednesday 31

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. For more information and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:45 a.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

August 2019

Thursday 1

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4-7 p.m.

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Talmud-Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study from the original Talmud tractate. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 2

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon-1 p.m.

Family Shabbat: JCS. At the JCC. Dinner from a local restaurant follows a short observance that includes secular readings, songs, candle lighting, wine, and challah. Children are welcome. Dinner is free for JCS members. The cost of dinner for non-members is \$10/person or \$25/family. Registration is required: www.jewishculturalsociety.org/observances/shabbat/.6:30 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45-6:15 p.m.

Brotherhood BBQ: TBE.6 - 7:15 p.m.

Lay-led Shabbat Service: TBE. Sanctuary 7:30-9 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 3

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.- noon.

Euchre Night: TBE. 8:00-9:30 p.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Sunday 4

JCC Maccabi Games and Arts Fest

Tanya-Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Monday 5

JCC Maccabi Games and Arts Fest

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE, Adult Lounge. For more information contact Martha Weintraub at weintraub.martha@gmail.com. 7:30-9 p.m.

Tuesday 6

JCC Maccabi Games and Arts Fest

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Torah may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study of the text with the classical Rashi commentary. 8 p.m.

Wednesday 7

JCC Maccabi Games and Arts Fest

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. For more information and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:45 a.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 8

JCC Maccabi Games and Arts Fest

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4-7 p.m.

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Talmud-Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 9

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon-1 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat (0-5yrs) from 5:45-6:15 p.m.

Brotherhood BBQ: TBE.6 - 7:15 p.m.

Lay-led Shabbat Service: TBE. Sanctuary 7:30-9 p.m.

Shabbat in the Park: BIC at County Farm Park (2230 Platt Rd., Ann Arbor). 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of the calendar.

Saturday 10, Erev Tisha B'Av

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.- noon.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. See June 8 11:15 a.m.

Tisha B'Av Maariv Service: BIC. 9:15 p.m.

Evening Services for Tisha B'Ov: Chabad. Fast begins on Saturday evening August 10, at sundown 8:43 p.m., services at 9:40 p.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 11, Tisha B'Av

Tisha B'Av Shaharit Service: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Tisha B'Ov Morning service: Chabad. 9 a.m. Afternoon and evening services at 8:00 p.m., fast ends on at 9:20 p.m.

Monday 12

Women's Torah Study: TBE.. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7-9 p.m.

Tuesday 13

Brotherhood Hebrew Bible Study: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. See first Tuesday of month.

Wednesday 14

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. For more information and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:45 a.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 15

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4-7 p.m.
Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Friday 16

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon-1 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. 5:45-6:15 p.m.

Brotherhood BBQ: TBE.6-7:15 p.m.

Lay-led Shabbat Service: TBE. Sanctuary 7:30-9 p.m. Shabbat at Rav Nadav's House with Potluck: BIC. 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 17

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.-noon.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 18

Family Days at the Beth Israel Garden at County Farm Park: 10 a.m.- Noon.

Tanya-Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Monday 19

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE, Adult Lounge. For more information contact Martha Weintraub at weintraub.martha@gmail.com. 7:30-9 p.m.

Tuesday 20

Tea and Torah on Tuesday-for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. See first Tuesday of month.

Wednesday 21

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. For more information and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:45 a.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 22

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4-7 p.m.
Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Talmud-Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays*.

Friday 23

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon-1 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. 5:45-6:15 p.m.

Brotherhood BBQ: TBE.6-7:15 p.m.

Lay-led Shabbat Service: TBE. Sanctuary 7:30-9 p.m. Shabbat at Rav Nadav's House with Potluck: BIC. 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 24

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. See June 8 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.-noon.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 25

TBE Families Monthly Meet-Up: Offsite. 10a.m.-Noon.

Welcome Back Religious School Event: TBE. TIME TBD.

Tanya-Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Monday 26

Tuesday 27

Tea and Torah on Tuesday-for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. See first Tuesday of month.

Wednesday 28

All My Heart: Chabad. Class on Jewish prayer. 9:30a.m. and 7:30p.m.

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): JCC. For more information and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please e-mail Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu or call Lily Ladin at (734) 662-6613 at least one day before scheduled meeting day. 10:45 a.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC - GSAC 2010 Lower Level. Join the Theology Book Club to read and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. 8 p.m.

Thursday 29

Jewish Meditation with Linda Greene: TBE. Advanced 1-2 p.m.,

Introduction to Sephirot with Linda Greene: TBE. 2 p.m.

Back Door Food Pantry: TBE. 4-7 p.m.

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE. 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Talmud-Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays*.

Friday 30

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Adult Lounge. Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring your lunch. Noon-1 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. 5:45-6:15 p.m.

Brotherhood BBQ: TBE.6-7:15 p.m.

Lay-led Shabbat Service: TBE. Sanctuary 7:30-9 p.m. Shabbat at Rav Nadav's House with Potluck: BIC. 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 31

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion led by Rabbi Whinston 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: AAOM, Hillel 1429 Hill St. Spirited and lively Tot friendly service. 11:15 a.m.-noon.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Weekly Friday night Shabbat services

Shabbat Service: AAOM. Services held at UM Hillel at candle lighting. Contact rabbii@annarborminyan.org to confirm time.

Shabbat Service: BIC. 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 6 p.m., followed by tot dinner. Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m. Once a month Middle School Service at 7:30 p.m. For information, call (734) 665-4744.

Shabbat Service: AARC. Every fourth Friday at the JCC. Tot Shabbat from 5:45-6:15 p.m. Pizza for the little ones at 6:15 p.m. Service at 6:30 p.m., followed by vegetarian potluck at 8 p.m. Child-care during service. All are welcome to attend. For information, email info@aaecon.org, phone (734) 445-1910, or visit www.aaecon.org.

Shabbat Service: Chabad. Begins at candle lighting time. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals and Jewish holidays. Call (734) 995-3276 in advance.

Weekly Shabbat services

Shabbat Services: AAOM. Morning service at UM Hillel, 9:30 a.m. Home Hospitality for Shabbat and Holiday Meals: Contact: welcom@annarborminyan.org.

Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m. For other service times, visit www.bethisrael-aa.org.

Shabbat Services: AARC. Second Saturday of each month at the JCC. 10 a.m. Ta-Shma/Come and Learn. Service begins at 10:30 a.m. Traditional liturgy with music, chanting and contemporary readings and discussion. For information, email info@aaecon.org, phone (734) 445-1910, or visit www.aaecon.org.

Shabbat Services: Chabad. Friday night services at Shabbat candle lighting time. Saturday morning services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon Mincha services 45 minutes before sundown. Call (734) 995-3276 for Home Hospitality and Meals for Shabbat and Jewish Holidays.

Shabbat Services: Pardes Hannah. Generally meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call (734) 663-4039 for more information. 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg.

Shabbat Services: TBE. Torah Study at 8:50 a.m. Morning Minyan with Rabbi Josh Whinston and Cantor Regina Lambert-Hayut at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m. most weeks. Call the office at (734) 665-4744 or consult website at www.templebethemeth.org for service details.

Home Hospitality and Meals: Chabad. Every Shabbat and Holiday. Call (734) 995-3276 in advance.

Frequently listed Phone numbers and addresses of organizations:

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM)
1429 Hill Street 248-408-3269
Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation (AARC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 913-9705
Beth Israel Congregation (BIC)
2000 Washtenaw Ave. 665-9897
Chabad House
715 Hill Street 995-3276
Jewish Community Center (JCC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 971-0990
Jewish Cultural Society (JCS)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 975-9872
Jewish Family Services (JFS)
2245 South State Street 769-0209
Jewish Federation
2939 Birch Hollow Drive 677-0100
Pardes Hannah
2010 Washtenaw Ave. 761-5324
Temple Beth Emeth (TBE)
2309 Packard Road 665-4744
UM Hillel
1429 Hill Street 769-0500

Shabbat Candlelighting

May 31 8:46 pm
June 7 8:51 pm
June 14 8:55 pm
June 21 8:57 pm
June 28 8:58 pm

July 5, 8:56 pm
July 12 8:54 pm
July 19 8:49 pm
July 26 8:43 pm

August 2 8:35 pm
August 9 8:26 pm
August 16 8:17 pm
August 23 8:06 pm
August 30 7:55 pm

Havdallah

June 1 9:56 pm
June 8 10:02 pm
June 15 10:06 pm
June 22 10:08 pm
June 29 10:08 pm

July 6 10:06 pm
July 13 10:02 pm
July 20 9:56 pm
July 27 9:48 pm

August 3 9:39 pm
August 10 9:29 pm
August 17 9:18 pm
August 24, 9:06 pm
August 31 8:54 pm

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William Shakespeare's *TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA*: Valentine leaves his best friend, Proteus, to travel to Milan. Proteus, deeply in love with Julia, misses his best friend and is thrilled to learn that Valentine has fallen in love with Sylvia, daughter of the Duke of Milan. When Proteus' father sends him to visit the court, he and Julia exchange vows of love, rings, and intentions to marry—vows he breaks when, traveling to see his friend, he too falls in love with Sylvia. Shakespeare's first romantic comedy combines silly fun with heartfelt connection and redemption. Directed by Artistic Associate Robert Kauzlaric.

Edmond Rostand's *CYRANO DE BERGERAC*: Cyrano de Bergerac is the most dangerous soldier, the most romantic poet, and the most brilliant wit in 1640s Paris. He also has the largest nose Paris has ever seen—a humiliation that prevents him from revealing his deep love for the beautiful Roxane. When Christian expresses interest in her, Cyrano agrees to help the handsome-yet-dim young man by giving him the words to woo her. Edmond Rostand's 1897 epic, translated by Brian Hooker, is a romantic, adventurous, and glorious comic-drama that has instilled itself as part of the classical cannon and introduced theatre goers to the concept of "panache." Directed by Artistic Director Janice L Blixt and featuring Artistic Associate and Festival Fight Director David Blixt.

For tickets, visit our website
www.MichiganShakespeareFestival.com



Great theatre anniversary seasons

Emily Slomovits, staff writer

Two mainstays of Michigan theatre will celebrate monumental anniversaries this year. The Michigan Shakespeare Festival, Michigan's premier source for Shakespeare, celebrates 25 years, and the Jewish theatre tradition is alive and well in Michigan thanks to 30 years of the Jewish Ensemble Theatre. I spoke to MSF Artistic Director Janice Blixt and JET Development Director Linda Ramsay-Detherage about these milestones.

WJN: How and when did you get involved with your theatre companies?

Ramsay-Detherage: I have been affiliated with JET for 10 years – in every possible capacity. I have worked for them as an actor, a director, a playwright, and a board member. I have been employed since 2014 as their Development Director – so I write the grants and work with community outreach. However, everyone at the theatre does a little bit of everything, so we all work very hard.

Blixt: In 1997, just after grad school in Detroit, I was hired to play Kate in *The Taming of the Shrew* at the MSF. The actor playing Petruchio was David Blixt and we became friends. After that I went on tour for a while and worked as an actor but was hired again in 2000 by the MSF to play Titania in *Midsummer* and Elizabeth in *Richard III*. I returned to Chicago (where I grew up) to work as an actor and director – and teacher – and married the aforementioned Blixt. David returned to the MSF in 2007 to play Macbeth and light directed for the Festival a few times in the interim. In late 2009, John Neville-Andrews (the Artistic Director who had been the director of the 1997 *Shrew*, the 2000 *Midsummer*, and the 2007 *Macbeth*) announced his retirement and the Board began a search for a new AD. John reached out to David and I to check our interest, and the rest is history, I took over for the 2010 MainStage Season.

WJN: How did JET get started, and what was the inspiration for creating a Jewish-themed company?

Ramsay-Detherage: JET was started by a group of women theatre professionals. Our Founding Artistic Director Emeritus was Evelyn Orbach. Many of our founding board members still serve on our current board, which speaks to a well-established legacy of continuity and care. Jewish Theatre historically was one of the pillars of this artistic form. In JET's case, the spirit of Jewish traditions has to honor our historical theatrical/cultural roots as well as address the changing Jewish culture and its place within our current American culture. For JET, inclusivity and lessons of tolerance, family, and humanity have always been a priority. We seek to honor Jewish expression – which sometimes does not manifest in the actual story of a production, but rather through the eyes of the playwright.

WJN: And what about MSF?

Blixt: It started out in Ella Sharpe Park in Jackson in 1995 – a final project done by a bunch of students and local actors who

had taken a Shakespeare class and *loved* it. The show was *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. That show went so well and was so enjoyed by the friends and family and neighbors who came to see it, that they raised money through local businesses and built a stage out in the park for 1996 and they hired a few young pros in addition to the original group and did *Romeo & Juliet* (starring David Blixt as Mercutio). And the Festival took off – growing each year, adding contracts and building audience. In 2003 the Festival moved inside to The Potter Center to allow expansion in design, more union contracts, and, quite simply, protection from rain-outs which are severely problematic to professional productions. In 2004 the Governor and Legislature decreed us "The Official Shakespeare Festival of the State of Michigan."

WJN: What can you tell us about your upcoming seasons? What went into the selection of plays?

Blixt: It's going to be *epic*. We're doing *King Lear*, starring John Lepard as Lear and Alan Ball as Gloucester. For anyone who's going to be missing "Game of Thrones," we're here for you. This show is all about beautiful brutality – love and hate and betrayal in Iron Age Britain. We're also doing a delightful *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. Shakespeare's first rom-com, *Two Gents* is all about mistaken identities and accidental decisions. Directed by Robert Kauzlaric, the show has been trimmed down to an intermission-less 90 minutes of silly comedy and delightful fun. And our final show is the iconographic *Cyrano de Bergerac* by Edmond Rostand. This beautiful 1897 comedy is the story of a brilliant wit, soldier, and poet who feels himself less-than because of his very large nose. He's in love with Roxane, but is sure she will never love him in return, so he helps the handsome but shallow Christian woo her by writing letters and dictating the words to use. That production stars David Blixt as Cyrano and Vanessa Sawson as Roxane.

Ramsay-Detherage: We are pivoting our season to run from spring to late fall. Most theatre seasons run concurrent with school years (fall to summer) but because of the timing of the completion of the new space, we are shifting our season to run over the summer. Walled Lake is a summer, lakeside community with restaurants, beaches, and festivals. We are excited to be a part of that. Additionally, many of our subscribers winter in the south, so this allows us to take advantage of a more favorable calendar. In the winter months, we will be looking at additional programming, which might include youth programs, children's theatre, or comedy. We are working with Walled Lake businesses right now to develop dinner/theatre packages and discounts specific to our patrons. Christopher Bremer, our Executive Director, makes the final selection of plays – but the discussion prior to the move involved selecting familiar, American plays with wide appeal. As we make a location move, it is important for us to be able to generate new audiences. We are presenting: *The Odd Couple* – June

14th-July 14th with an opening gala on June 10th, *Ain't Misbehavin'* (featuring Alvin Waddles) August 2nd to 25th, *On Golden Pond* September 6th -28th, and *Cabaret* October 10th – November 3rd. Tickets are \$16 for Students, \$41 for Seniors/Military, \$44 for Adults. Season tickets are \$148.

WJN: In addition to its regular festival season, MSF also tours different productions to high schools across Michigan. What does it mean to you to share Shakespeare with high school students?

Blixt: This was the first project I spearheaded when I was hired at the end of 2009. I had already created a program in Chicago that I knew would work in Michigan: giving day-jobs to young professional actors while bringing live classical theatre to schools in Michigan, northern Ohio, and northern Indiana. And it did and I'm thrilled. We average between 8-10 thousand students each season, a large percentage in rural, urban, and underserved schools – so many of whom had never seen live theatre before. A study was done concerning people who attend live theatre and those who don't and the biggest factor seems to be having seen live theatre in their youth – seeing theatre as a valid entertainment option. And for theatre to survive, we need to keep young people interested, involved, and excited about that connection between audience and artists in the same room.

WJN: Linda, why do you think it's important to have a theatre company that presents Jewish work?

Ramsay-Detherage: Our mission is to present high quality, professional theatre

from a Jewish perspective while serving to provide a bridge of understanding to the community at large. JET tries to find that voice by producing plays that either feature Jewish content or characters, Jewish philosophy, or are written by Jewish playwrights. Sometimes JET has produced plays that seem to have no connection to the Jewish culture on their face, but rather impart messages that serve our mission. We are currently experiencing a rise in hate crimes by over 17% generally, and a 58% rise in antisemitism specifically. Part of JET's legacy is to address topics that serve to express our general humanity, and introduce our principals through vehicles that those outside of the community can relate to. For example, JET has produced "The Diary of Anne Frank" each year for over two decades. This production provides student matinees at the DIA (and in 2020 in Phoenix, AZ for one week), and over 100,000 students from all backgrounds have experienced this play. While the characters are specifically Jewish, and are experiencing hardship for being Jewish, the student audiences identify with and develop empathy through the common experience of the title character's adolescence. The social lesson is imparted through the language of family, young love, and relationship. Similarly, through the unique vehicle of live theatre and a shared experience, the expression of our culture, community, and values can be understood on an emotional level. ■

For more information about MSF and JET, please visit michiganshakespearefestival.com and jettheatre.org.

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Vitals

Obituary

Dr. Paul Vanek, 82 of Hendersonville, died Wednesday, May 1, 2019 in Hendersonville, NC. A native of Toronto, Canada, he was the son of the late Thomas Vanek and Anna Wolgeruch Vanek. He was also preceded in death by two brothers: Sheldon and Roy Vanek. He was a graduate of the University of Toronto with a Bachelor's and Doctorate Degrees in Dentistry. He continued his education at the University of Michigan with a concentration in Endodontic Dentistry. He not only practiced but also taught dentistry in Ann Arbor, Michigan as well as in Toronto, Canada. In Ann Arbor, he was a founder of Temple Beth Emeth and served as President. Paul served for many years on the North American Board of the Union of Reform Judaism including on the Technology Committee, the National Commission on Rabbinic-Congregation Relations, the Conference of Presidents Steering Committee, the Biennial Program Committee, the Biennial Executive Sub-committee, the Special Nominating Committee, the Task Force working with the Argentinian Jewish Community, and the URJ Board Alumni Committee. Paul served on the board at the same time as his daughter Julie. At the time, Rabbi Eric Yoffie told Paul and Julie that they were the first father-daughter team to serve on the URJ board simultaneously.

After he relocated to Hendersonville over 20 years ago, he became an active member of the Agudas Israel Congregation and served two terms as their President. He is survived by his wife of over 30 years, Iris Vanek. He is also survived by two daughters: Julie Vanek of Newton, MA, and Jodi Vanek Wallo and her husband, Bill of Ann Arbor. He is also survived by sisters-in-law, Ellen Vanek and Rhonda Vanek and brother-in-law Jay Thorpe and his wife, Roberta. He is also survived by step children: Karen Franco and David Davis, Janet and Larry Gordon, Susie Franco and Steve Krakow all of Miami, FL, and Steve and Kelly Franco of Austin, TX. Twelve grandchildren: Jake Pasternack and his wife, Emma, Alex Pasternack, Josh Gordon, and his wife, Yocheved, Zack Gordon, Eli Gordon, Bari Gordon, Sophie Gordon, Gaby Martinez, Julia Franco, Isabelle Franco, Zeldia Franco, and Nick Franco. He is also survived by six great grandchildren: Mia Pasternack, Ava Pasternack, Aaron Gordon, Ilan Gordon, Nili Gordon and Judah Gordon. The funeral service was Friday May 3, 2019 at Agudus Israel Congregation in Hendersonville with the Rabbi Rachael Jackson officiating.

Condolences

Jack (Stephane) Zaiantz on the death of his grandmother, April 23.
Naomi Zikmund-Fisher on the death of her father, Franklin Fisher, April 30.
Jodi Wallo on the death of her father, Paul Vanek, May 1.
Jeffrey Pickell on the death of his brother, Ira Stephen Pickell, May 5.
Deborah Ball on the death of her aunt, Marianne Davis, May 6

Mazal Tov

Harriet Bakalar & Edwin Tobes on the birth of their granddaughter, Eliana Robin Tobes, daughter of Erin & Daniel Tobes.
Rachel Perlman on her bat mitzvah, June 1.
Leila Bank on her bat mitzvah, June 1.
Eli Revzen on his bar mitzvah June 8
Ruth Shikanov on her bat mitzvah, June 15.
Levi Rosenberg on his bar mitzvah, June 22.
Naya Loftus on her bat mitzvah, June 22.
Juliana Brenner on her bat mitzvah, June 22.
Kayla Wiseman on her bat mitzvah, June 29.
Otto Nelson on his bar mitzvah July 12
Jessica Beaver on her bat mitzvah, August 24.

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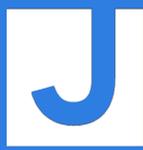
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