

» L'SHANA TOVA!

# Jewish Observer

A publication of the Jewish Federation of Central New York

## of Central New York

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## High Holidays in the COVID-19 World



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## From the Editor



Barbara Davis

### Thoughts About the New Year

New years usually begin with happy thoughts, but as 5781 begins, we are forced to confront the reality that our future will not look like our past nor will it resemble the present. In a season which is usually the highpoint of synagogue participation, when so

many Jews find spiritual renewal and the joy of connection with families and community members in their sanctuaries, we instead find ourselves upholding the Jewish tenet of *pi-kuach nefesh* - protecting life supersedes all else. This year's High Holidays will be unlike any in our memory.

And we will need to face other facts. Jews are not affiliating the way they used to and things will be different in the years ahead. In 5781, just as we are finding new ways to worship, many Jewish entities will need to find new ways to exist, and the demographics and needs of our community will not be the way they once were.

But there is a Talmudic saying, *Gam zu l'tova* or "this too is for good." Despite its disastrous effects, COVID-19 has taught us to appreciate much that we used to take for granted: schools and teachers, the freedom to go to stores, libraries, movies, concerts and theaters, the ability to watch and cheer for the sports we love. We have also learned to appreciate the valor of front-line workers, the kindness of those who reach out to the elderly and vulnerable, the generosity of those who donate to emergency funds, and the creativity of those who use social media to make music, dance, art and comedy. Somehow we've improved air quality, reduced noise pollution and swapped cars for bicycles. We've learned that we can work from home remotely, use telemedicine and connect through videoconferencing with distant members of our communities and families.

The terrible effects of the pandemic on certain segments of our population have also increased our awareness of the disparities in wealth, health and historical treatment of many citizens of the United States. American Jewry has had its consciousness raised. *Tikkun olam*, the repair of the world, has come to the fore on many agendas. We are a different Jewish people now and will be in the future. Most American Jews are no longer immigrants from or even children of immigrants from Eastern Europe. We need to recognize a multiplicity of new identities and see them as an opportunity for positive communal growth. As Rabbi Leah Fein, formerly of Syracuse Hillel, wrote, "To only consider stereotypes and affiliation statistics is to miss those yearnings for Jewish meaning and connection which are very much alive in our next generation of Jewish leaders."

We all wish we could know when and how the "new normal" will come into being, but as we approach the Days of Awe, we have to focus on staying healthy, keeping safe, realizing our goals and strengthening our families and our community. The months ahead will be challenging, but we must use them to create a different kind of future, stronger and better perhaps than the one we anticipated before the pandemic struck.

May 5781 bring all of the *JO's* readers and their loved ones a year of new approaches, greater meaning, deep happiness, good health, success and prosperity. *Shanah tovah um'tukah!*

### D'var Torah

## Looking Behind the Curtain

by Rabbi David Kunin

In *The Wizard of Oz*, the voice of the wonderful wizard resounds with the words, "Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain." Yet, of course, the large fiery head was a mask, and the hidden man was Oz. Masks, therefore, often hide truths, but sometimes they can be revealing as well.



While in Japan, I experienced a strange festival, the *Menkake Gyoretsu* procession of more than ten grotesquely masked figures that march with a large following for several hours in Kamakura. The masked figures make for quite a spectacle, making funny gestures and funny faces as they walk through the streets. Many of the over two-hundred-year-old wooden masks were quite humorous in design, with exaggerated features and expressions. While some were human-like, others were mythical creatures or monsters.

Remembering this procession has led me to think about masks during our holiday season. Though they cannot be seen, I believe that many of us wear masks in our interactions with others, even as we look at ourselves. This is true, especially of those who aspire to seats of power. Sometimes the mask can be our occupation, while for others, it may exemplify a quality that we aspire to, whether positive or negative. Indeed, wearing masks may not even be a choice, as the expectations of a community can impose it. The variety of these masks we wear was captured in those depicted in the *Menkake Gyoretsu* procession. Some were noble and some monsters, but each was exaggerated out of all reality.

In many cultures, the ceremonial wearing of the mask transforms the wearer. For the Hopi and Zuni, the Kachina dancer embodies the god for the duration of the dance. When the mask is removed, however, the dancer returns to himself. During this holiday season, I believe that it is essential for each of us to engage in introspection and consider the masks we wear. Whether positive or negative, we need to take the time to see ourselves for who we indeed are. It is that person who needs to grow and improve through the process of *teshuvah* during the high holidays. Even a positive mask is still an illusion unless we, in our essence, attempt to embody that value truly.

The ritual masks of the procession also exemplify a separate truth. As they wear the masks, the marchers lose their identity, and now embody the values expressed through the masks, be they monstrous or noble. The masks, therefore, reveal truths that are often hidden. In the same way, though the Eternal is beyond all knowledge and apprehension, the world of materiality can be a mask through which the divine is revealed to us. In the *Tanya*, the Alter Rebbe teaches that though God is beyond understanding, God can be experienced through his/her garments. Therefore, when we see a flower or the face of a child, we can, if we open our hearts and minds, experience the divine truth. We show love for God when we show love to another human or respect for the world around us. Even here, however, there is a danger. We must still be careful not to mistake the mask for reality. Too often, it is tempting to take the image (the mask) that we have for God, determining it is absolute for us, our tradition, or even all humanity.

On behalf of Shelley and myself we would like to wish the entire community *Shana Tova*. May we all be inscribed for blessing in the Book of Life.

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## Debbie Rosenbaum

### 2021 Campaign Chair



Seneca Lake. In high school, she became involved with BBYO and spent a summer in Israel with Camp Ramah.

At Xerox, Debbie worked in a variety of ways -- full-time, part-time and job-sharing -- to accommodate a busy life and in a variety of positions in sales, management and marketing. In 2012, she was chosen by Xerox for their Social Service Leave program, which allowed her to work full time in the community for "Say Yes to Education," helping to support its scholarship program, fundraise and oversee internship and apprenticeship programs.

Debbie feels a strong commitment to the Jewish Federation of Central New York. "As newcomers to the community many years ago, we were welcomed warmly and joined the Federation Young Leadership program," she recalls. She became involved in the Women's Leadership group, chaired Super Sunday and had the opportunity to attend a National Federation Conference. For the past two years, she has been a member of the Federation Campaign Cabinet. With this background, it is not surprising that she was asked to take on a leadership role at this particularly fraught time.

She recognizes the difficulty of fundraising during a pandemic, but says that it is her hope that, "through the generosity of our community, we can provide the agencies with the financial support they need." It is important to her that "we better educate our donors as to what the needs of the community are" and "to reach out to those who have not previously been engaged to help them understand how the Federation may serve them." She wants the community to know that the mission and vision of the Federation of Central New York are grounded in and guided by the Jewish values of *Torah* (Jewish learning), *tzedakah* (charity, respect, and social justice), *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), and *l'dor v'dor* (identity and continuity from generation to generation). "These values are eternal," Debbie points out. "We will honor them and transmit them, no matter how challenging the present times."

**"I felt that the time was right to give back to a community whose Jewish organizations have been an integral part of our family's life, and that my business experience would lend itself well to this role," said Debbie Rosenbaum, explaining the reason she accepted the position of Federation Campaign Chair for 2021/5781. "That, and a strong nudge from my husband," she added, smiling.**

Debbie is married to Neil Rosenbaum, the Federation's new president. She met him on her first day of work at the Xerox Corporation in 1981. They were married three years later and settled in Syracuse where they raised their four children, all of whom attended the JCC preschool, graduated from the Syracuse Hebrew Day School and became *b'nai mitzvah* at Temple Adath Yeshurun. They also attended and worked at Camp Seneca Lake for many summers and, through the Birthright program, had the opportunity to spend part of a summer in Israel.

Debbie grew up in Rochester. Her father had escaped from Nazi Germany as a child and both of her parents were very involved in the Jewish community through roles at Temple Beth El, B'nai B'rith and Federation. As a youngster, she frequented the Rochester JCC, attended Hebrew school, became *bat mitzvah* at Temple Beth El and went to Camp

## Michael Balanoff

### President/CEO



**When the coronavirus pandemic hit, rites and rituals which had sustained the Jewish people for so long were curtailed, postponed, made virtual or simply abandoned. In the midst of a pandemic we can't blow the shofar in shul on Rosh HaShanah. What will the Jewish community look like when this is over? Will people flock to synagogues seeking community and consolation after months of quarantine? Will our community – especially its younger members – reevaluate and reassert the importance of the Jewish institutions that have been its backbone: the synagogues, the schools, the Jewish Community Center, Menorah Park?**

The Jewish Federation of Central New York responded to the challenge of COVID-19 in many ways. It reasserted its role as community umbrella, distributing face masks to our community, setting up a food pantry to aid health care workers, donating significant additional dollars to Menorah Park for personal protective equipment and sustaining the core funding upon which so many communal institutions depend.

While continuing to recognize and thank the members of our community who have been our traditional and generous supporters, without whom our community could not thrive, the Federation is also engaging in outreach to others who are equally a part of our community but who may not have heretofore engaged with us. We are trying to listen to a variety of other voices, hearing their concerns and issues, working to be inclusive. We recognize that 21st century Jews and their families will seek to belong to and participate in many spaces. Federation welcomes this desire for multiple entry points into Jewish life.

Federation's overriding goal, as the community's umbrella, is for all members of our community to have a feeling of belonging in Judaism and Jewish life. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us that we need one another, that we need to work collaboratively, that we are stronger when we are united. Together with Central New York's synagogues, agencies and other Jewish organizations, Federation's goal is to engage the

energy and commitment that young, diverse and enthusiastic Jewish and Jewish-adjacent people can bring to the table, joining with those whose wisdom, experience and knowledge have guided us for so long. We want Judaism – its Torah, its teachings, its values, its heritage -- to continue to be a source of pride, identity, family ties and communal affiliation in Central New York now and forever. *L'shana tova tikatevu!* May you and those you love be inscribed for a year of sweetness, good health, prosperity and success.

Attorney Sid Manes wrote the following in response to Michael's request for comment:

Why I never forget to tell people I am Jewish

It is my connection to my heritage, which connects me to my community. It means if I see an injustice or an inequity that I shall respond and not turn away. I shall support and participate in rectifying what I perceive as a wrong or a denigration of another human being. I shall, by reason of my past, come forward and provide testimony to defend a wrong and, by my contribution, make what was wrong, right. I am, as a Jew, prepared to accept the scorn to right the wrong and to stand with the accused or the bullied. I shall, as a Jew, never again not rise up because I have been there.

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# New Congregational Leadership For 5781



**Sally F. Cutler**, a 20+ year member of Temple Concord, will serve as its president, completing the term begun by Ken Steiger, who is leaving the area. Sally's previous role was as TC's first vice president. She has been a member of TC's volunteer choir for a number of years and chairs the temple's library committee. Recently, she has been actively engaged in helping to communicate TC's historic decisions about its future location.

Sally's professional background is in technical writing, document design and governance. Now retired, for 30 years she was president of Word-Wrights Incorporated, teaching writing skills worldwide in corporate, not-for-profit, and government entities with a specialization in reporting by internal-auditing and risk professionals. With these clients, she also consulted on reporting processes and document design. She is the author of several books on these subjects.

Born and raised on Long Island, Sally attended SUNY Albany, earning a bachelor's degree in English and graduating *summa cum laude*. She went on to earn a master's degree from the creative writing

program at Syracuse University, studying with David Owen and poets W.D. Snodgrass and Philip Booth.

She met her husband, Lewis Cutler, an environmental scientist and forest botanist, at SUNY Albany. Their daughter, Julia Furlong, became bat mitzvah at Temple Concord. The Cutlers live in rural northern Cayuga County, where they are avid gardeners. Sally also enjoys cross-country skiing, kayaking, learning to paint in watercolors and playing piano.



**Norman Poltenson**, publisher emeritus of *The Business Journals* and former president of BizEventz, Inc. is the new president of Shaarei Torah Orthodox Congregation of Syracuse. In his professional life, Norman was a columnist, emcee, panelist and moderator at many events. Born and educated in Syracuse, he has a B.A. in history from St. Lawrence University and an M.A. in history from the University of Wisconsin. He served in the Army in Germany in the 1960s. Norm has been a very active community member, serving as president of the Syracuse Jewish Federation, president of the Menorah Park Campus Foun-

dation, board chair of Junior Achievement of Central New York and a member of the boards of the Inter-Religious Council, the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce and St. Lawrence University.

Norm and his wife of 55 years, Joan, have three children. The oldest, Meir, lives on the Golan and works in Tzfat. Daughter Marny lives in Fayetteville and owns and operates the *Business Journals* and BizEventz. Yehoshua is a rovt at Lev HaTorah, a yeshiva in Ramat Beit Shemesh. The Poltensons are blessed with sixteen grandchildren. Norm grew up in Temple Adath Yeshurun and joined Temple Beth El in 1968. He and Joan were among the founders of Shaarei Torah 38 years ago. They were eager to create a centrist-orthodox Jewish congregation in the community.

Norm assumed the presidency of STOCs "in order to support Rabbi Shore and the *kehilla* in strengthening our *minyanim*, promoting the spiritual growth of the congregants, and sharing the beauty of Judaism through continuing educational immersion." His goal is "to serve the members, strengthen the Syracuse Jewish community and be an oasis to the hundreds of visitors who join us annually." He hopes to expand the shul's educational resources, while "strengthening our commitment to Judaism and Israel, involving more members in the myriad activities offered by the shul, and maintaining a strong financial position."

**Jeffrey M. Stanton**, the new president of Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevra Shas, is a professor at the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University. He earned his Ph.D. in organizational psychology and currently teaches and does



research in a new area known as data science. His research applies principles of behavioral science to understanding the interactions of people and technology in institutional contexts. He served as co-principal investigator on Syracuse University's NSF-ADVANCE institutional transformation project to improve recruiting, retention and career development for women faculty in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Jeff has done organizational development in a variety of firms, including creating and deploying performance management systems, organizational surveys, information security assessments, climate assessments, training and coaching.

Jeff has authored or co-authored four books: *Reasoning with Data: An Introduction to Traditional and Bayesian Statistics Using R*; *An Introduction to Data Science*; *Information Nation: Education and Careers in the Emerging Information Professions*; and *The Visible Employee: Using Workplace Monitoring and Surveillance to Protect Information Assets Without Compromising Employee Privacy or Trust*. Jeff is married to violinist Judith Stanton; they have an adult son, Abraham, who became Bar Mitzvah at CBS-CS and who now lives in the Syracuse area.

Jeff has previously served Beth Sholom in several capacities, including chairing the congregation's strategic planning effort and serving as vice president for finance. Jeff was executive vice president from July 2018 to June 2020. When asked about why he became president of the congregation, Jeff said, "CBS-CS has provided a supportive community for my family and me for nearly 20 years, and I wanted to give back to the congregation by volunteering my time and energy. My goal for this year is to help the board, staff, volunteers and congregants deal effectively with the many challenges caused by the pandemic."

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## The High Holidays in the COVID-19 World

The Syracuse Rabbinical Council is pleased to announce two evenings of presentations focusing upon the High Holidays in the COVID-19 World. On Wednesday and Thursday, September 9 and 10 at 6 pm, seven Syracuse rabbis will explore the dynamics and difficulties of preparing for and observing the Days of Awe in 2020.

Each session will last for 70 minutes and include a ten-minute presentation by each of the rabbis. Login information for the Zoom program will be sent out in early September. Participants are Rabbis Beigel, Fellman, Goldstein, Jezer, Kunin, Shore and Zehavi.

**For further information, please contact Rabbi Evan Shore, president of the Syracuse Rabbinical Council, at [ravsyr@gmail.com](mailto:ravsyr@gmail.com).**

## High Holy Day Drive-Up at TAY

by Barbara Simon

On Sunday, September 13, at 1 pm, the clergy, presidents and staff of Temple Adath Yeshurun will greet congregants with a High Holy Day Drive-Up. TAY co-president Andrea Knoller said, “The past six months have brought about changes in synagogue life that we never could have imagined. Our paramount concern for *pikuach nefesh*, the health and safety of the community, and all the health measures it entails – wearing masks, social distancing, no physical contact -- challenges us to find new ways to connect with each other.”

TAY members will drive around the circle, and receive a warm hello and a holiday gift bag. In addition to apples and honey, the bag will contain a *Mahzor* for use during holiday services at home. Special bags for families with children ages 0-13 will contain *shofarot*, flashlights for *havdalah* and holiday activities and crafts. Congregants are encouraged to bring a bag of canned food for Operation Isaiah, to be distributed to a food bank.

Cantor Esa Jaffe commented, “The clergy and staff look forward to seeing our congregants in person to wish them a sweet New Year, even if it is for a brief time. We want them to know that our community and our connections are strong and that we are here for them during these unusual and difficult times.”

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# Young Leadership for the New Year

The Young Leadership group, chaired by Seth Goldberg, had its activities curtailed by the pandemic. Prior to the shutdown, the group had gone apple picking, attended a baseball game together, held a Chanukah party at which they made birthday bags for the Temple Concord food pantry and participated in Super Sunday. Hopes are high that 5781 will bring new opportunities for the group to get together and make positive changes in society.



The JO wanted to introduce the members of Young Leadership to our readers, as they are young adults of whom we may all be proud. **Hanah Ehrenreich** is a business program navigator at Cooperative Federal Credit Union in Syracuse, focusing on sustainable business models operating on a triple bottom line (environmental, social and economic). A Syracuse native, Hanah is a graduate of Smith College and the mother of two. **Zachary Field**, also a native Syracusan, is a student of geography and advocate for environmental and social justice. **Amira Kipnis** is a nurse practitioner in the primary care offices of Crouse Medical Practice. She is married to Adam Goldberg and is the mother of a

one-year-old daughter. **Gabi Koren** is an Iowa native, a graduate of the University of Iowa, and currently a Human Resources Early Career Leadership Program Associate at Belden Inc. **Seth Goldberg** is a sports talk radio host and play-by-play announcer at ESPN Radio in Syracuse. **Melissa Harkavy** is the executive director of Congregation Beth Shalom-Chevre Shas. She has a B.A. from Penn State and an M.A. from the University of Colorado. **Kendall Malkin** is a certified child life specialist at Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital. She moved to Syracuse from the Midwest, having attended college and graduate school at the university of Missouri. Kendall enjoys cooking, following



Chicago sports, being adventurous outside and working out. **Juliet Maloff** is the communications manager at the Central New York Community Foundation. The Syracuse native has a degree in communications from Syracuse University and is president of the board of directors of the Public Relations Society of America - Central New York Chapter. **Elyssa Rosenbaum** is a physical education teacher at OCM BOCES. **Lauren Rosenstein** has an M.S.W. from Syracuse University and is a social worker in Fulton. She is married to Eric Lefevre. **Sam Saloff-Coste** is a data scientist and mathematician at Inficon. A native of France and graduate of Cornell, Sam works on theoretical and algorithmic design for tools to automatically process mass spectrometry and gc-ms data for chemical identification. **Emma Spector** is a field manager with the Democratic congressional campaign committee. She has experience in grassroots organizing and social science research. The Massachusetts native was a political science and French double major and is also a ballet dancer. **Jon Zella**, a native New Yorker, studied history at the State University of New York at Oswego.

## Teen Funders Act for Social Justice

No pizza. No soda. No meeting in person. But that didn't stop the Teen Funders. Donating monies from their accounts with the Jewish Foundation of Central New York into a pot, fourteen teens contributed a pool of \$1550 to be distributed through an allocations process at a Zoom meeting in July. Part of the funding came from a matching grant from the Pomeranz Shankman Martin Charitable Foundation.



The teens advocated for favorite causes, focusing on social justice and COVID-19 assistance. Ably documented by Rachel Scheer, the teens described organizations they favored and provided the rationales for supporting them. After discussion, participants listed their top three choices and suggested donation amounts. Consensus was reached that \$400 would be donated to the Food Bank of Central New York and Menorah Park. \$500 was allocated to The Bail Project, which works to assure equitable pretrial incarceration. A grant of \$200 was made to the Rescue Mission Alliance of Syracuse and \$50 was awarded to the Equal Justice Initiative, which works to end mass incarceration, excessive punishment and racial inequality.

The Teen Funders meetings have been convened by Federation board member Jeffrey Scheer for several years. Jeff understands teens well and skillfully allows them to lead meaningful discussions and reach informed consensus. He is dedicated to helping them understand the true meaning of *tzedakah* as well as interacting with their peers to reach well thought-out decisions.

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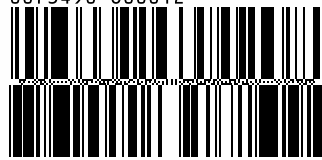
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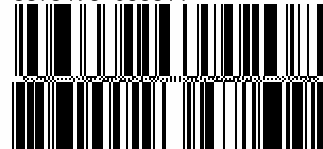
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## » Book Review

## A New Book for the New Year

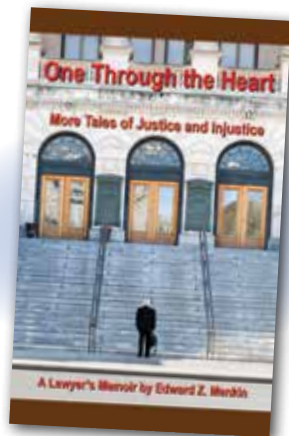
by Jackie Miron

“One thing I would like you to know,” says attorney Edward Z. Menkin on his website, is that “practicing law is not a hobby or a pastime for me. It is my life’s work and as serious a commitment to my clients as a lawyer can make professionally.” But practicing law is not all that Ed Menkin does. He also writes books.

In Ed’s first book, *Death on the Doorstep and Other Stories*, we are introduced to some of the cases he worked on in his criminal defense practice right here in Central New York. The memoir was humorous, perceptive, astute and displayed his unique and flamboyant intelligence and wisdom. In the current unsettled times, it’s fun to sit down with a laugh-out-loud funny book written by someone local about something local.

Menkin recounts vivid facts and enlivens the lawyers, criminals, judges and juries. His attention to detail will be of interest to legal professionals as well as helping novices understand the complications, emotions and elements of our legal system in the works.

Ed’s new book, *One Through the Heart*, is a continuation of the first. He avoids (or perhaps just defers) talking about two of the most controversial cases of his career, defending men accused of murdering their wives. He claims that every case in his career “was unforgettable in one fashion or another,” and that the cases he includes have “heightened interest for those who remember them because they lived through them, or had some sort of connection to the history.” Still, the reader wants more cases, more



details and more facts.

Some find Ed’s writing uproarious, with its mixture of hubris and humility. Take this passage, from a case where he defended a man accused of purse-snatching: “I wasn’t exactly letting [the district attorney] roll over us or get away with anything, but there’s really not much you can do if you are trying to cross-examine an 81-year-old purse snatch victim who is clear-eyed and sure of herself in identifying the client as the perp. And you are asking the questions in front of the judge who recalls her warmly as one of his staff. Well, the trial, such as it was, was rolling on uneventfully. Rich was doing a workman-like job and I did my best not to resemble a potted plant.”

Menkin tries to emphasize the humanity of his clients’ situations, but some may reasonably argue that there is an emotional cost to injecting humor into these situations, which are actually social tragedies. These are stories of shootings, drugs, possession, and defendants of all ages. However, Ed makes the

most of his storytelling, and ultimately the reader surrenders to the enjoyment of his sense of humor and to the sarcasm, wit, irony, derision and cynicism that you can read between the lines.

Ed has been involved in the local Jewish community through the Federation and Temple Concord. He enjoys his “mostly retired” time in Central New York but spends a bit of time in Florida during the winter. He certainly is a colorful personality, yet there are moments of candor in his book which are reveal-

ing. “There’s a list that I carry around in my head,” he reveals. “It’s not a long one. It’s composed of things that I’d really like to have happen in my life but I know that they aren’t going to. Like becoming six feet tall. I’m 76 years old and 5’9”. I’m still working on it. Another item on my wish list is being able to sit in and listen to a jury deliberate one of the cases I’ve tried. For all the drama and mystery of the trial work I’ve done, what has gone on behind those closed doors has remained unknown and unknowable for me.” Still, thanks to his memoirs, Central New York readers will gain a deeper understanding of his stressful career and the challenges of being a defense attorney.

## Whatsa Maggid?

Or, for that matter, what’s a *maggid*? *Maggid* is the traditional title for a Jewish inspirational speaker or “preacher.” Some people mistakenly confuse a *maggid* with a storyteller. Instead, a *maggid* fills a spiritual role: to draw people closer to God. A Jewish storyteller can be purely secular, even if only Jewish religious tales are told. Without the motive to bring people to a deeper spirituality, such a person would not be a *maggid*. So how is that the Central New York Jewish community is blessed with not only a *maggid*, but a *maggid*?

Well, once upon a time, there was a clinical psychologist, who moved into the field of artificial intelligence, was a successful entrepreneur and then a regulatory expert in health care. But he encountered a radically different ethnic spirituality while living in the Philippines and was drawn to the insights and transformative connections that sprang from encountering other cultures and faith traditions. On a trip to Israel, he met with the Sufi Sheikh of Nazareth; on trips to India and Japan he immersed himself in streams of Buddhism; he met with a Hindu guru in Nepal and with the Lakota Sioux in the United States. And that is how *Maggid* Uriel David – better known as Jim Brulé – began “this joyful journey we call life, wrestling together with G’d, working hard for healing, and embracing the Eternal’s manifestation in this world.”

For *Maggid* Galia Rina, also known as Jessie Kerr-Whitt, the journey was different. “After retirement from teaching at the day school and Temple Concord’s religious school, I was pretty depressed. I joined the Temple Concord choir with my younger daughter, a resident at Beit Tikvah, and my husband, who missed the wonderful Jewish music he’d taught at the day school. I led services monthly at The Oaks, and being with the seniors was profoundly meaningful and important to me. Then one day Jim Brulé mentioned that he was beginning a training session for spiritual storytellers, based on his studies with Yitzhak Buxbaum. I’d listened to the stories of his



studies and, I confess, had always been a bit jealous of him. Studying with him sounded wonderful, so I committed myself to the two-year program. It quickly became clear that it was exactly where I was meant to be.”

The *maggidut* tradition is lineage-based. Jim was trained by Yitzhak Buxbaum, who was trained by Shlomo Carlebach. Jessie was trained by Jim. For Jessie, who always loved telling stories when she was teaching, “sharing the spiritual stories of our tradition, teaching the wisdom of our history, and helping people grow in their relationship with the holy in our lives is a profound, moving, and fulfilling privilege.” For Jim, “stories contain and unlock our deeper yearnings and our spiritual selves. Telling them with an open heart opens both the teller and the listeners to these holy places within and between us.”



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# Jewish Cook of the Month

Aveeya Dinkin is a health educator, singer and songwriter whose husband Jonathan, a composer and musician, has a version of Shalom Chaverim featured on thejewishkitchen.com, a website devoted to Jewish food. Aveeya was introduced to vegetarian cooking while living and working in Ithaca, home of the Moosewood Restaurant. "Since that time, and several cookbooks later, I have been plant-based in my orientation toward food," she says.

Aveeya likes to cook because she believes in "food's power to heal us or harm us." She says that it is very important to make mindful choices about what we cook and eat because she considers health a spiritual matter. "Torah commands us to 'Guard your soul [physical health] very much.' Devarim 4:15. She notes that Maimonides, the 12th century healer, philosopher and rabbi, declared that "No illness which can be treated by diet should be treated by any other means" and that every plant has healing properties. She believes that modern science supports the Rambam's teaching that the food we consume can be health promoting or health degrading, adding, "In an Ayurvedic proverb one learns that 'When

diet is wrong, medicine is of no use. When diet is correct, medicine is of no need."

Because she sees the standard American diet (SAD) as one of fast-food and processed foods which is "health sabotaging and toxic," Aveeya prefers to cook and eat her own foods "so that I can be in charge of what goes on my plate." She no longer makes so many of the labor-intensive recipes in the Moosewood cookbooks and instead cooks using real whole organic plant-based foods and prepares simple recipes like Buddha bowls, wraps and salads. She enjoys nourishing and delicious breakfast smoothies, all plant-based, organic, containing a protein source and healthy liquid, including pure water, additional protein and/or healthy

## Aveeya Dinkin



fats like coconut oil, almond butter, sprouted walnuts or half of an avocado, fruits or greens.

Mindfulness is Aveeya's cooking secret. "Ask yourself three questions," she recommends. "1. What am I doing? 2. How am I feeling? 3. Who do I want to inspire? Also include in your morning

prayers: help in breaking old habits, the willingness to be healthy and for supportive friends on the same spiritual path." One cooking shortcut she recommends is buying onions in advance and chopping and freezing them. Then if a recipe calls for fresh and she has "a need for speed," she just pulls out a bag of the frozen pre-chopped onions and proceeds.

Aveeya was happy to share "an awesome non-dairy cream sauce for every occasion" with JO readers:

### Non-Dairy Cream Sauce

#### INGREDIENTS

3 tablespoons tahini  
2 tablespoons sweet white miso  
1 tablespoon of fresh lemon juice  
or apple cider vinegar  
1/3 cup water, more or less as needed

#### DIRECTIONS

Combine the tahini, miso and lemon juice in a small bowl, mixing well to make a thick paste. Gradually stir or whisk in the water, beating well after each addition until smooth, using just enough to achieve the desired consistency.

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# Bouncing Back for 5781

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought to light a phenomenon that is currently small, but which may possibly – and positively – accelerate. The term being loosely applied is “rubberbanding,” and refers to adult children who return to their hometown, often with their young families, to escape the stress and strains of living in fast-paced, crowded urban environments. “Rubberbanding” is different from “boomeranging,” a sociological term describing college students who return to their parents’ homes after college, turning “empty nests” into “cluttered” or “crowded nests.” Those who rubberband are established career professionals, whose decision to move back to their hometowns is a conscious lifestyle choice based on careful consideration of the pros and cons of their situation and the flexibility afforded by the increasing ability to work remotely.

“I grew up in Central New York and am happy to be moving back to the area with my family to serve the mental health needs of the adults and children in our community,” says Dr. Stephanie Rabin Scherr, a licensed clinical psychologist who recently joined Skaneateles Psychology Associates. A graduate of the Syracuse Hebrew Day School, the Epstein School and J-D High School, Stephanie did her undergraduate work at Cornell and earned her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Drexel University.

Describing her work, Dr. Scherr says, “Anxiety disorders and OCD can present in many different ways, including avoidance, irritability, severe shyness, panic attacks, uncontrollable worries, phobias, and repetitive thoughts and behaviors. Many sufferers find themselves avoiding work, school and social interactions because of their anxiety. The family members of my patients often feel helpless or frustrated, but find themselves unsure of how to help.” She specializes in evidence-based treatment for these common and debilitating disorders, working with tweens through adults.

Stephanie, her husband Jon and their daughter moved back to Central New York this year. “We love the area and all that it has to offer,” says Stephanie. “Our day-to-day lives are a little less stressful



here compared to the larger urban area we were in before. We love having more space for our daughter to play and lots of outdoor activities. We also love being closer to family.” Jon is a senior manager for the accounting firm CohnReznick; he is able to conduct forensic financial investigations remotely.



The Scherrs are very happy with their decision. “Although we did not plan to move during the pandemic,” Stephanie says, “it was helpful to be moving to an area that was already familiar to us.” Once the pandemic subsides, they are looking forward to meeting other families in the Jewish community and participating in activities. “I have many happy memories of being part of the close-knit Jewish community in CNY when I was growing up,” Stephanie notes, “and I look forward to getting involved again.”

Dr. Brian Raphael is a dermatologist in private practice at Empire Dermatology. After graduating from

the University of Pennsylvania with a major in economics, he completed his medical training at the Perelman School of Medicine and his residency at Emory University. After completing fellowships in Mohs micrographic surgery and reconstruction and cosmetic dermatology, he moved back to Central New York. “I wanted to move closer to my family as well as practice medicine in a community that was the ideal size for me. Syracuse fit this requirement,” he explains.

While in Atlanta, Brian met his wife, Michal, who currently works as a physician assistant at Hematology Oncology Associates. They are both glad they made the move back. “The patients and community have been very welcoming. There are very few other places where we could afford a house that is close to both work and friends (and of course Wegmans).” As a native, Brian is used to and doesn’t mind the weather, and he really appreciates “the quality and pace of life” here. Shortly after returning, he started a young adult kickball league at the JCC and was surprised at the turnout and participation. “Although our Jewish community is small, it is friendly and people are motivated to



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help if given the opportunity,” he notes.

Another returnee to Central New York is Ariella Goldberg, although her stay here with her husband Ran Aharon and daughter Liat is not intended to be permanent. “Being in a COVID hot spot with a toddler and pregnant, we knew we wanted

to leave New York City. Coming home to Syracuse is a wonderful temporary solution,” she says.

Joshua Safran, a graduate of F-M High School and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, recently left his studio apartment in the SOHO area of Manhattan to return to

Syracuse. He moved into the renovated lofts at Franklin Square and is very excited to have access to the gardens of Franklin Square, the Armory and Creek Walk. Moving back to Central New York, he found his rent was more than halved and the space was doubled. His NYC company, GameChanger, where he is a software engineer, is allowing their staff to continue to work remotely given the uncertain real estate issues in Manhattan. While Josh misses being two blocks from Katz’s

Deli, he’s more than pleased to be close to family and friends.

There are many who hope the rubberbanding trend will (pardon the pun) expand. As the *JO* was going to press, Brian reported that his sister and her family had just decided to return to the area also. “They were living in New York and realized they can work from afar virtually, so they decided to move here.” Our Jewish community will definitely be enriched by this new phenomenon.



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# ★ New Babies and Grandbabies

Our Jewish tradition urges us to seek comfort during difficult times and what can be more comforting than to celebrate new life? The JO thanks the parents who shared the photos below, some local and some from out of town, reminding us of the need to create vibrant, joyful new chapters in the Book of Life. [Grandparents names are in brackets.]



**Eliana with Andrew**  
Eliana & Riley  
[Liz and Steve]



**Madeleine, Margot and Eloise**  
Mara & Adam  
[Connie and Larry]



**Charlie**  
Dana & Matt [Sondra and Steven]



**Noa**  
Rebecca & Max



**Emilia**  
Samantha & Lukasz  
[Andrea and Shelden]



**Adina**  
Danielle & Arthur



**Jonah**  
Cari & Jason

[Linda and Jeffrey]





# for the New Year★



**Wesley**  
Jessica & Ari  
[Bobbi and Cliff]



**Asher**  
Monica & Tim  
[Susan and Leonard]



**Ronen**  
Jana & Matthew  
[Barbara and David]



**Oren**  
Miriam & Jeremy  
[Robin and Neil]



**Rosalie**  
Johanna & Kyle  
[Sharon]



**Calder**  
Kelly & Louis



**Zoë and Elia**  
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## Art to Heart Project

“Creativity has always been my voice, spirit and saving grace,” says artist Robin Kasowitz. She attended Alfred University as a sculpture major, then moved in another direction professionally as a therapist. Art, however, remains her passion, and she works regularly in her home studio.

Robin is particularly sensitive to the impact the coronavirus pandemic has had on front-line workers and the arts. Robin’s motivations and creative themes are “human value, insight, knowledge, debate, awareness, gifts, giving, injustice and righting wrongs.” She wanted to take action in a tangible way. So she developed a unique project, which she called The Art to Heart Project. “The world around us has become increasingly erratic, desperate and uncertain,” Robin explains. “COVID-19 has killed more than half a million people globally and over one hundred sixty thousand in the United States alone. Individuals, businesses and community supports are facing devastating personal and financial losses.” She started the Art to Heart Project to leverage her creative energy and ignite a series of positive events and outcomes. The project focuses on giving thanks, creating resources and giving back.

Just as the virus is novel, so is this project. Robin creates personalized acrylic paintings on gesso canvases that are gifts of gratitude and respect for the sacrifices made by front-line/essential workers. You can donate to the purchase of these gifts. The money received is then matched by Robin and given to an artist(s) and art organization(s) hit hard by COVID-19. The paintings come in four sizes, either as single



works or triptychs and are delivered by Robin to local recipients with the benefactor’s names included. Prices range from \$50 to \$160. People can donate any amount toward the purchase of the pieces. The recipients are local workers from hospitals, shelters and transportation companies identified by Robin. All progress will be posted on Facebook and Instagram. Robin hopes that others will join in to recognize these heroes and support the arts by donating and gifting these paintings that are “vibrant, abstract reflections of the triumphant human spirit” and a testament to the people receiving them. **For more information or to participate, email Robin at [arttoheartproject@gmail.com](mailto:arttoheartproject@gmail.com).**

## Jewish Community Foundation of CNY Annual Meeting

*The Jewish Community Foundation held its annual meeting on August 6 on Zoom. The Chair of the Board, Neil Bronstein, presented the following report to donors, supporters and guests.*

Times of crisis are also times when supporters emerge who want to make a difference in their community. Right now, when people are feeling out of control, supporting a nonprofit provides a source of inspiration and empowerment. That is why the Foundation is working hard to invite in new supporters to be part of changing the world for the better.

We are proud of the fact that the Foundation has been able to contribute almost \$250,000 to the Federation both last year and this year. We are proud of the fact that our stewardship of our community’s resources has been successful. We are proud of the fact that so many members of our community have come to value the Foundation and see it as an integral part of our community’s future.

As the country deals with ever-greater personal loss and stress, charitable organizations can no longer do business as usual. The line between supporters and the supported has grown hazier. All of us will need help, and all of us will need to do our best to provide help to others. In the weeks and months ahead, nonprofits will need a major infusion of cash to keep staff on the payroll, to pay rent and utilities, to provide a semblance of services during this period of social isolation, and, simply, to survive. No one knows what will happen in the longer term, or which organizations will survive.

But the one thing we do know is that the Jewish Community Foundation of Central New York is in it for the long haul, that we will continue to do our best to wisely invest the funds with which we are entrusted and we will provide a way for those who care about our community to have the greatest impact on the wide range of issues that they care about.

On behalf of the Board of the Foundation, I want to express our sincerest thanks to our fundholders and donors for their trust and their belief in our mission. With their faithful financial contributions over the years, they have demonstrated their deep commitment to our work of ensuring the continuity and vitality of Jewish life in Central New York.

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# New Federation Board Members



**MELISSA HARKAVY** is the Executive Director of Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevra Shas, having recently been promoted from the youth and program directorship. She is a New Jersey native and a graduate of Penn State University where she earned a bachelor's degree in geography, climatology and African studies. She pursued graduate work at the University of Colorado, where she served as a teaching assistant for courses in Gender and the Global Economy, Geographies of Global Change, and Human Geography, facilitated lectures on race and feminist theory and led a workshop for the graduate teaching program on anti-racist pedagogy before receiving her M.A. in geography.

Before starting her career in Jewish education and synagogue administration, Melissa took a winding road through the field of geography, where she discovered her passion for social justice. She worked in Tanzania facilitating and documenting field activities in rural villages in both Swahili and English. She provided logistical support for a National Science Foundation-supported project on "Property, empowerment, and gender-based violence in rural Tanzania." She also served as research coordinator for Black Women's Blueprint in Brooklyn. One of her prized accomplishments was representing the organization during negotiations with the Department of State for the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Melissa enjoys dance and animal rescue. When she's not working, she loves going on adventures with her partner, Zach, and Angel, her geriatric Maltipoo.



**ELYSSA ROSENBAUM** is a physical education teacher at OCM BOCES and the assistant varsity gymnastics coach for the JD-FM team. She was born and raised in Syracuse and is a graduate of the Syracuse Hebrew Day School. She earned a B.A. from James Madison University and a Masters of Education from Canisius College. She left Syracuse briefly for college and to live in Israel for two years, but Central New York "will always be home."

In 2019, she competed in the Pan American Maccabi Games in Mexico, representing the USA in triathlon. She won two gold medals in cycling, and silver medals in triathlon and the Maccabian competitions.

Elyssa is a very proud alumna of the OTZMA Israel program, a Federation program that brought young adults to Israel to volunteer with the neediest of Israel's population. As part of the program, she was introduced to all that the Federation offers in Israel and at home. Returning from Israel in 2014, she taught physical education and Hebrew at the Day School and served as co-principal of the CBS-CS Religious School. She is a member of Shaarei Torah Orthodox Congregation of Syracuse. She joined the Federation Young Leadership program last year and was thrilled to be asked to join the board this past spring. She will be serving as co-chair of the Young Leadership program with Seth Goldberg.

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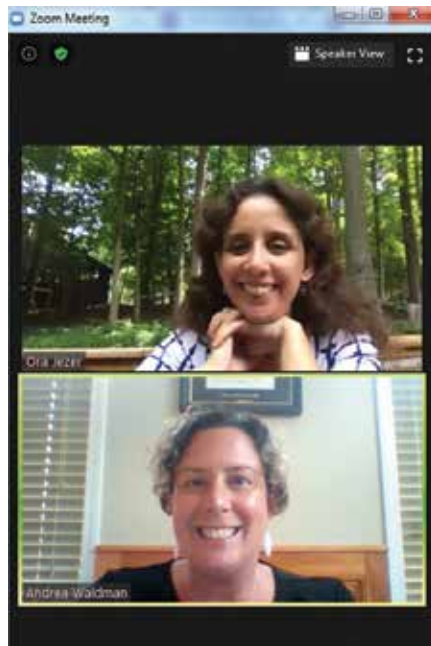
# Community Hebrew School Starts Off Virtually

by Andrea Waldman

The Syracuse Community Hebrew School has an innovative Jewish education team devoted to developing students in their study of Hebrew, *t'filah* and Jewish community. SCHS is excited to be back in session for the fifth year in a contemporary format. The school made the decision to stay on-line and hold classes over Zoom. While the teachers and directors really miss interacting with the students, going virtual has its benefits. Teachers are using a more individualized approach to learning and each student works either one-on-one with a teacher or in a small group. This allows instruction to be focused on the specific needs of each student. Being on-line also allows parents the opportunity to hear their children speaking Hebrew and to be “in the classroom.” A special addition to the schedule this year is a 20-25-minute class session designed to help create a sense of community.



The school is welcoming back Ora Jezer as education director and Jeanette Myshrall as president of the Board of



Directors. Ora has been involved in the school since its inception and is very active in the Syracuse Jewish community. Andrea Waldman is beginning her first year with the school as its administrative director and brings years of business experience to the position. She is also the parent of two children in the school.

The Syracuse Community Hebrew School meets on Wednesdays from 4 to 6 pm. The school is always looking for primary teachers and assistant teachers in grades 3 through 7, modeling small group cooperative learning. **Anyone who would like to become involved with SCHS is encouraged to email [schs.syracuse@gmail.com](mailto:schs.syracuse@gmail.com).**

# SHDS Reverses Enrollment Trend

by Abby Scheer

Most Central New York schools are seeing a decline in enrollment, but the Syracuse Hebrew Day School is experiencing an increase for the first time in years. Head of School Laura Lavine receives calls daily from families asking if there is room for their children. Parents appreciate SHDS's success with online learning during the pandemic lockdown, its focus on safety and security, small class sizes and the ability for children to attend school daily instead of in shifts.

So many new students have been enrolled that several grade levels have been capped and additional sections are being considered. “The prospect of hiring additional teachers is something about which we have only dreamed,” said Lavine, “but if this trend continues, we will be interviewing candidates and preparing new classroom spaces for them.”

New York State loses residents at the

highest rate of any state in the country, and school districts have lost thousands of students. “That means that each new student at SHDS is a significant achievement to be celebrated,” Lavine noted. “It appears that we will have a 30% increase in student population. We cannot wait to roll out the red carpet to welcome them.”

Lavine understands that this is a challenging time for families as they decide how to educate their children. “We believe that SHDS provides a safe environment allowing teachers and students to focus on learning. In addition, we are poised to shift to structured online learning again if in-person instruction is not possible.”

SHDS Board president Jay Sinclair is elated with the school's growth. “SHDS is marking its sixtieth year. It has a well-earned reputation for educational excellence, and we are delighted that more families want their children to benefit from it.” **For information about the Syracuse Hebrew Day School, call 315-446-1900.**

# Epstein's 50th Year Begins September 8

by Aaron Spitzer

Faculty and staff at the Rabbi Jacob H. Epstein School of Jewish Studies are excited to begin the 50th year of community teen education on Tuesday, September 8. Classes this fall will be online; when possible, students will gather monthly for *Tikkun Olam* activities and to safely spend time together in person. Each Tuesday, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, students in 8th-12th grades will have two class periods. During the first hour, students learn with their grade level cohort; second hour classes are electives. First hour classes include Rabbi Shore's very popular “Moral and Ethical Choices” for 7th & 8th grades, 9th grade Torah study and “Studying the Shoah” for 10th grade. Juniors and seniors will tackle issues and

topics they face as they prepare to transition from high school to independent adulthood through a Jewish lens.

Exciting new electives being offered this fall include: Hebrew; How to be a Jewish Antiracist; Jewish Lens (photography); and Jews and the 2020 Election. On opening night, September 8th, after learning more about each option, students will rank their elective choices. Epstein is a great way to work towards Tikkun Olam through social justice projects with classmates, and a great way to make lifelong friends. If you are a student in 8th - 12th grade, please join us. If you've not attended Epstein before, feel free to come check us out on September 8. **Email [epsteincny@gmail.com](mailto:epsteincny@gmail.com) with questions. For more information and to register online, go to [EpsteinCNY.org](http://EpsteinCNY.org).**



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## » SHDS Alumni Profiles

## Julian David-Drori, SHDS '09

Julian David-Drori is a founder. At the Day School, he founded the Mitzvah Detective Agency, a club which did “nice things for nice people.” At Jamesville-Dewitt High School, he was the founder of the Civil War Re-Enactors Club. When he went to college, he founded the Reenactment Company of SUNY Geneseo, geared both towards portraying history and to making the hobby accessible to those with disabilities.

Julian says that one of the most important lessons he learned at the Day School was taught by Rabbi Shore: “the greatest thing that you can do is be a *mensh*.” “I love to help people,” Julian says, “not just one person at a time, but through teaching and research, affecting the next generation.” At Geneseo, he had a dual major in psychology and history and also served as a medic, training with the Geneseo fire department. He is an American Health Heart Association healthcare provider, a CPR-certified emergency medical technician and a certified “Stop the Bleed” instructor. In addition, he volunteered with the L.I.V.E.S. program assisting college-age students with intellectual disabilities.

Learning about all that Julian has accomplished, that he was co-winner of a 2019 Outstanding Research Contribution award, and that this month he begins study for his master’s degree in the neuroscience and education program at Columbia University with plans to get a Ph.D. in clinical psychology, one would never imagine that he has learning disabilities. Yet he does. “I have ADHD and dysgraphia,” he explains. “Both impacted me heav-



ily, and I faced discrimination because of them, especially as an EMT.” But he confronted the issues head on. “I knew that I had to work hard and that working hard was the way to beat the challenge.” A fan of military history, Julian describes his methodology in terms of war. “I knew that I could be something more. Perseverance was the way. My motto became ‘divide and conquer’ and my method is: find the problem, isolate the problem, solve the problem.”

His experience working as a stage manager for the Day School Players helped shape his outlook. “Kids would run up to me backstage with shards, crying ‘fix this.’ I learned to have tools hidden in special spots for moments like that, and we did a lot with tape, but mostly I learned to solve problems.” His life goal is to help people with autism and neurodevelopmental disabilities get diagnosed and tested better and find ways to succeed at the level of their peers. He wants to achieve an “unholy trifecta” of teaching, research and clinical work. As someone with dysgraphia, he says, “I can’t think of a better slap in the face than to write a giant paper.”

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## DAZZLE

The dictionary defines “dazzle” three ways: 1: to lose clear vision especially from looking at bright light; 2: to shine brilliantly and 3: to arouse admiration by an impressive display. All three definitions apply to Dazzle, a unique boutique and gift shop in Manlius owned and operated by Lois Ross.

Taking a little girl to Dazzle for the first time is to see that loss of clear vision – instead, the eyes glaze over at this little glimpse of heaven. There are so many glittery, girly, adorable, can’t-live-without-‘em things. Grandmothers, beware!

The second definition, of shining brilliantly, applies to the beautiful displays of lovely jewelry in a wide range of shades of color and designs, not exorbitantly priced, but definitely trendy and expensive-looking.

There is no doubt that Dazzle will



fulfill the third definition, arousing admiration by its impressive display. It truly does have gifts for every member of the family: toys, fashion accessories and, around Chanukah, some special products just for the holiday. Where else can you find Mazel Toffee candy? Lois is an active member of the Jewish community; she is a Lion of Judah and a member of the board of the Jewish Community Foundation.

Lois started Dazzle twelve years ago. “I had my own line of clothing and jewelry that I developed and designed and was selling wholesale throughout the country,” she explains. “People would see me wearing my products and wanted to buy them. The most wonderful part of her business, Lois says, is working with the public. “I LOVE when I can help someone find the perfect outfit or gift. It truly makes me happy,” she says. Dazzle is located at 119 West Seneca Street in Manlius. For things that are unique, trendy and hand-selected, Dazzle is the place to shop.

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## JCC Pool a Hotspot of Activity This Summer

This summer's hot weather has caused members of the Sam Pomeranz Jewish Community Center to flock to the JCC's outdoor pool for some cool, refreshing fun. With reduced capacity and an online reservation system due to the coronavirus pandemic, the pool was pretty much booked full every weekend since opening on July 4. Swimming lessons have also been very popular as parents looked to retain some normal activities for their children this summer. Pictured is JCC Camp Romano school-age summer camp



participant Evelyn Kinder (left) during a camp swim lesson with JCC lifeguard Alex Feliu. There's still time to get to the pool! The last day the JCC pool will be open this season is Monday, September 7.

## JCC Fitness Center Offers Outdoor Classes



Pictured is the JCC's Tom DeFrancisco, line dancing instructor (foreground, center), leading a line dancing class in the JCC Fitness Center parking lot on July 28. This was the first line dancing class DeFrancisco has held at the JCC in over four months.

While Central New York continued to slowly reopen amid the coronavirus pandemic in early summer, gyms and fitness centers were left behind with no set reopening date or timeframe. So the JCC's Neulander Family Sports & Fitness Center took to the great outdoors. On July 13 the JCC Fitness Center began offering its members socially distanced outdoor group exercise classes, pickleball and personal training. It also continued offering free online Zoom exercise classes for those not quite ready to venture out of their homes to work out.

"We've had a great response to our outdoor exercise classes," said Patrick Scott, JCC sports and fitness director. "Social distancing and no sharing of weights or equipment provided the foundation for us to safely offer outdoor classes and activities. Our members were very happy to see their instructors and work out with their friends again. Everything has been going smoothly and we've recently added more classes such as line dancing."

As of early August, the JCC Fitness Center reopened its indoor running/walking track and basketball court by appointment only. However, the JCC still doesn't know when it will be able to reopen its indoor workout facilities/equipment. When that time does come, the JCC will do so according to all state and local guidelines for the health and safety of its members.

**For more information about the JCC Fitness Center, call 315-445-2360, visit [www.jccsy.org](http://www.jccsy.org) or email Patrick Scott at [pscott@jccsy.org](mailto:pscott@jccsy.org).**

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## JCC Wraps Up a Different Kind of Summer Camp Season

Hand washing, face masks and social distancing were some of the new health and safety features that made this year's JCC Camp Joe & Lynne Romano quite different from previous years. Despite the necessary changes and reduced enrollment due to the coronavirus pandemic, the JCC once again wrapped up a successful summer day camp season. About 240 campers ranging in age from infants to school-age children attended Camp Romano from July 6 – Aug. 21. Even with the changes, there was no shortage of summertime fun.



this spring. Everyone did great with the new health and safety protocols, and it was wonderful to see the kids just being kids again."

From arts and crafts, games and swimming, there was plenty of fun and excitement to go around for all JCC campers. "Summer camp at the JCC is all about the children," said Ranieri. "Luckily, that didn't get lost this year. It was actually pretty easy to focus on the children and make each day a fun and safe experience. There's nothing like summer camp at the JCC—even during a pandemic."

## JCC's Senior Lunch Curbside Pickup Rolls On

While the coronavirus pandemic continues to spread worldwide, the Sam Pomeranz Jewish Community Center's Senior Kosher Lunch Program is showing no indications of slowing down its curbside pickup service. The weekday program is now serving more seniors than when curbside service started on June 1. Lunch curbside pickup for seniors age 60+ runs Monday-Friday from 12-12:30 pm. There is a \$4.25 suggested contribution per meal. Cash or JCC Senior Meal Coupon only are accepted. Reservations are required by noon at least one business day before the meal date by calling 315-



445-2360. Pictured (L-R) is the JCC's Alan Coffey, maintenance, and Cindy Stein, director of adult and senior programming, getting ready for William Licker to pick up his lunch in July.



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## MARLENE GRASS PAIKOFF

July 28, 2020

Marlene Grass Paikoff, 85, formerly of Syracuse and Dewitt, died July 28, 2020 in Fort Myers Florida, surrounded by her children.

Born in 1934 in Syracuse to the late Leon and Florence Grass, she was predeceased by her brothers Bobby and Ben and husband Sidney Paikoff. Marlene graduated from Nottingham High School, Cornell University and received a Master's Degree in Education from Syracuse University. She worked briefly as a fifth grade teacher before starting her family. Marlene served as a bookkeeper for Sidney's pharmacy and later worked for Flex-Hose, Inc. in East Syracuse and the Jewish Home of Central New York in Syracuse.

Marlene was known for her welcoming nature, infectious kindness, and sympathetic ear. Anyone who met her felt welcomed immediately by her open arms and hospitality. Staff at Calusa found her to be a comforting listener and would often come up to her room to chat. Throughout her life, Marlene was active at Temple Adath Yeshurun as well as Hadassah.

She is survived by her children, Roberta (Keith Holzmüller), Eric, Mark (Miriam Kinman) and Sari, grandchildren Nathan, Aaron, Ezra, Zachary, and Ava. She is also survived by Nephews David and Robert Grass and Edward, Lawrence and Richard Paikoff as well as numerous cousins.

A private service and burial for the immediate family were conducted in Syracuse, New York. Please consider a donation to Gratuity Fund at Calusa Harbor for the frontline workers who helped her survive the first months of a global pandemic. Make checks payable to Calusa Harbor Gratuity Fund, note Marlene Paikoff on the check, and send to Calusa Harbor, 2525 First Street, Fort Myers, FL, 33901. Donations may also be made to Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger at [mazon.org](http://mazon.org).

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## BEVERLY COTTON GOLDBERG

July 26, 2020

Beverly Cotton Goldberg, 90, of Boynton Beach, FL, passed away Sunday in the comfort of her home, comforted by her husband at her side. She is survived by her husband of 69 years, Frank Goldberg; their two children, Andrew Goldberg and Joan Picone; daughter-in-law Beth Goldberg; three grandchildren, Benjamin, Julie, and Gregory Goldberg and Gregory's fiancé Camilla, and her sister Dorothy Pemstein of Boston.

Beverly was born on September 17, 1928 in Worcester, MA to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cotton. After graduating from The Bancroft School, she moved to Syracuse for college where she met Frank, raised a family, and became an integral part of the Jewish community. As a member of Temple Adath Yeshurun, Beverly volunteered with USY and the Sisterhood of the Temple. She was also involved in Hadassah, and Planned Parenthood. In 2013 Beverly and Frank endowed a PACE fund for the benefit of the Jewish Community Foundation of CNY.

Beverly was an avid gardener who loved being among her plants, flowers, and trees. She also grew lovely tomatoes, which she especially enjoyed sharing with her grandchildren. As a child, Beverly enjoyed camping in the summer and for the rest of her life she delighted in participating in such summer activities as swimming and boating. Her family will miss seeing her enjoy a martini or nosh a brownie, but most of all her presence.

Private graveside services were in Adath Yeshurun Cemetery. Contributions to perpetuate her memory may be made to a deserving charity of your choice.

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## LEONARD JAFFE

July 17, 2020

Leonard Jaffe died in Syracuse, New York at age 94 of COVID-19.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Leonard and his wife Elaine raised their family on Silver Spring, MD until moving to Syracuse in 2011 to be closer to family.

Leonard served in the U.S. Navy (1944–46). He joined what later became the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as research engineer (1948), was the chief of the Data Systems Branch (1955), chief of communications satellites (1959), and director of the communication and navigation satellite programs of the Office of Space Science and Applications Satellites from 1963. When Leonard was Deputy Associate Administrator for Space Applications, his office was responsible for all NASA Space Applications Satellite Projects, starting with Echo Balloon (1960). Leonard worked with governments around the globe to establish the world's first geosynchronous satellite communication program, and worked with the United Nations to develop and adopt international space law.

In 1979 Leonard headed the technical team of the President's Commission on the Accident at Three Mile Island. In 1981, he joined the Computer Sciences Corp. as vice president for product management and quality assurance and later became president of their Systems Division. From 1994 to 2001, he was president and chief operating officer of the Earth Sciences Corp. He was president of the International Astronautics Federation in 1975 and 1976 and a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, the American Astronautical Society, and the Society of Space Professionals International. Over the years Leonard received numerous awards from these organizations as well as from the U.S. government, and in 1989 he was inducted into the Space and Satellite Hall of Fame.

Leonard loved his family. He enjoyed fishing, wood sculpting and photography.

Leonard was preceded in death by his loving wife of 68 years, Elaine, and their daughter Barbara. He is survived by his sons Ronald and Norman, their wives Maizie and May, and his grandchildren – Anna, Gail, Josh, Samantha and Danielle.

Private graveside services for the immediate family were in Workman's Circle Cemetery.

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## THEODORE KRAWITZ

July 18, 2020

Theodore Krawitz passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, July 18, 2020, surrounded by his loving family. He was 85.

Ted was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He was born and raised in Syracuse, NY. After graduating Nottingham High School, Ted studied Finance at Syracuse University. He graduated in 1956 from what is now the Whitman School of Management. As a student, he was President of the Traditions Commission. He was also nominated by the Chancellor to become a member of Tau Theta Upsilon Senior Men's Honorary Fraternity. As a proud member of the fraternity Zeta Beta Tau, he maintained and cherished his friendships and memories for a lifetime.

Ted pursued a long and successful career in the financial services industry, serving as a Financial Advisor and First Vice President of Investments in the Syracuse office of Wells Fargo Securities for 47 years. He appeared Friday mornings on WSTM-TV to discuss the stock market with news anchor Paula Garell. He was frequently visited by the media when financial crises arose. He retired at age 70.

He was very proud that both of his daughters followed in his footsteps and became Syracuse University alumnae. His Orange pride remained strong throughout his life. Not only was he a die-hard basketball and football fan, but he also spent 60 years as the chairman of his class reunion, spearheading a dozen reunions.

He was a member of Temple Adath Yeshurun, LaFayette Country Club, and the Cavalry Club.

Ted will forever be remembered for his warm smile, contagious laugh and the twinkle in his eye.

He is survived by his loving wife of 52 years Beverley, daughters Jackie (Jeff) Berger and Kim (Jonathan) Stadin and grandchildren Andrew, Matthew, Jocelyn and Ava.

Private graveside services were in Adath Yeshurun Cemetery.

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## SHIRLEY "SHUSH" MARTIN

July 18, 2020

Shirley "Shush" Martin, 95, died Saturday morning with her children by her side. Born in Syracuse on August 1, 1924 to Hyman and Ida Siven Koldin, Shush was the last surviving of their six children.

Shush had an incredible zest for life; once you were in her orbit, you never left. She was loving, caring, supportive and always concerned about your life before her own.

During her working career she was the secretary at H.W. Smith School in Syracuse. Shush was a former member of Ahavath Achim Shul, Temple Beth El, and a member of Temple Adath Yeshurun.

Shush will be forever remembered for her great teiglach, her sponge cakes and her overflowing love of life. Her laugh was infectious.

She was predeceased by her sisters Sylvia Burdick, Norma Zahn, and Ruth Zuckerman; her brother "Big Sam" Koldin and her twin brother Carl "Bucky" Koldin. She is survived by her children Rita Martin, Cheryl (Mike) Martin-Schroeder, and A. Larry (Andrea) Martin; her grandchildren Julia (Daniel), Adam (Anne), Adina, Rebecca, Joseph; and her great-grandson Samuel Martin-Ticonia.

Private graveside services were conducted in Poiley Tzedek Cemetery. Contributions to perpetuate her memory may be made to the Senior Lunch Program at the Jewish Community Center or Menorah Park.

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## SUZANNE K. DEVORSETZ

July 25, 2020

Suzanne K. Devorsetz ("Zsuzsi") was born in Budapest in 1939. She was a "hidden child" during the Holocaust in Hungary. Her immediate family miraculously survived the war, escaped Communism in 1948, eventually resettling in Munich, Germany.

Suzanne studied and spoke six languages, was hired by Lufthansa and then by El Al airlines as an interpreter-hostess, and was transferred by El Al to JFK.

Suzanne met Sid, her husband of 59 years, moved to Syracuse and raised three sons, Marc, Andy, and Cary.

She founded Advantage Travel of CNY, Inc. which represented scores of colleges and universities in their international travel semester-abroad programs.

Suzanne particularly enjoyed her work, theater, dance, tennis and skiing, and was profoundly devoted to her family, friends, and her faith. Suzanne was a very private person; those who were fortunate to know her enjoyed her continental charm, grace, hospitality, and wisdom.

She is survived by her husband, sons, daughter-in-law, and four grandchildren. Funeral services and burial in Frumah Packard Cemetery were private.

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**Gold's Borscht**  
24 oz. • Original or Low Calorie or Manischewitz With Diced Beets 24 oz.



**2/\$6 -1<sup>00</sup>**

AdvantEdge Retail

Coupon Savings

**2/\$5**

with AdvantEdge Card & Coupon Below  
**Kedem Sparkling Juice**  
25.4 oz. • Select Varieties



**2/\$7**

with AdvantEdge Card  
**Mrs. Adler's Gefilte Fish**  
24 oz.  
Select Varieties



**2/\$5**

with AdvantEdge Card  
**Savon Fruit Slices**  
6 oz.



**5/\$3**

with AdvantEdge Card  
**Kedem Tea Biscuits**  
4.2 oz.  
Select Varieties  
Where Available



**4<sup>99</sup>**

with AdvantEdge Card  
**Vita Herring in Sour Cream**  
12 oz. or In Wine Sauce



**2/\$1**

with AdvantEdge Card  
**Rokeach Yahrzeit Candle**



**4<sup>99</sup>**

with AdvantEdge Card  
**Rokeach Shabbos Candles**  
72 Ct.



Offers effective Sunday, August 30 thru Saturday, October 3, 2020 in all Market 32, Price Chopper and Market Bistro stores located in CT, MA, NH, NY, PA & VT. Not all items are available in all stores.

MANUFACTURER'S COUPON • EXPIRES 10/3/2020

**Price Chopper** **MARKET 32**

**\$1 off 2**

**Kedem Sparkling Juice**  
25.4 oz.  
Select Varieties

Limit one coupon per purchase. Not to be combined with any other coupon(s). Void if reproduced, sold or transferred or where prohibited or restricted by law. Misuse constitutes fraud. Consumer pays CRV and sales tax. RETAILER: We will reimburse the face value plus 8¢ handling if submitted in accordance with our coupon redemption policy (available upon request). Mail coupons to: Inmar Dept #73490, Kenover Marketing/DBA Kayco, 1 Fawcett Drive, El Rio, TX 78840. Cash value 1/100¢.

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