

» Chag Sukkot Sameach!

Jewish Observer

A publication of the Jewish Federation of Central New York

of Central New York

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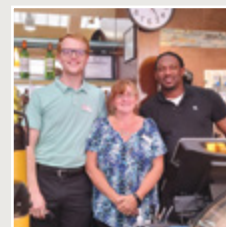
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Happy Sukkot!



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October 2022

From the Editor



Barbara Davis

In “The Decline of Jewish Public Space,” a fascinating article in the spring 2022 issue of the Jewish educational journal, *Ha Yidion*, Ezra Kopelowitz writes, “Individuals’ sense of Jewish belonging is an outcome of the ‘Jewish social spaces’ in which they live. These are spaces in which individuals are conscious that they belong to the Jewish people. In these spaces, individuals experience the Jewish past, present and future intersecting and gaining meaning in the context of relationships with other Jews.”

Kopelowitz goes on to say, “Relationships that one develops in these spaces are ideally informed by Jewish concerns, decisions and conversations with Jewish content” and notes that “a Jewish community includes both intentional and constructed spaces in which people live their Jewish lives. The rule is: More equals more. The more time one spends in Jewish spaces, the stronger one’s sense of belonging to the Jewish people, including motivation, curiosity to learn, and sense of responsibility to other Jews.”

During the fall holiday of Sukkot, we are especially conscious of space. Dwelling in a temporary hut, open on top to the stars and open on one side to the elements, makes us very aware of the contrast between the fragility of the sukkah and the sturdiness of the dwellings we inhabit year-round. This may be even more true in Central New York, where we are almost as likely to have snow falling on our sukkahs as rain and where strong winds may make a mockery of the hard work of sukkah-construction.

But the fragility of lived Jewish spaces is not limited to our sukkot. For most Jewish families in Central New York today, the experience of Jewish life, in which the family home and surrounding neighborhood are a lived Jewish space in which one forms a sense of Jewish belonging, is an unknown. While such experience can still be found in Teaneck, New Jersey, the Upper West Side of New York City or the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh, for most Jews in suburbia the ethnic neighborhood is a thing of the past. In those heavily Jewish areas, it was possible to develop a strong sense of identification with the Jewish people without receiving an intensive Jewish education. Outside of Orthodox Jewish communities, in which people live within walking distance of their shuls, most American Jews have only their extended families as primary sites of lived Jewish socialization.

Thus, the importance of constructed Jewish spaces is more vital than ever. Whether it is the synagogue, the community center, the day school or religious school or a kosher butcher, deli or restaurant (or even the Passover food aisle in the supermarket),

constructed Jewish spaces allow Jews to experience membership in the Jewish people as a natural part of their lives.

Day schools are an example of an intensive and holistic constructed Jewish spaces. In day schools, children spend a majority of their waking hours over the course of years interacting with other Jewish children and Jewish adults. In effect, a day school serves the function of a Jewish neighborhood. It’s a place where Jewish children come to associate membership in the Jewish people as natural part of their lives, recreating the experience of Jewish public life that was once found in the long-lost ethnic neighborhood. Jewish sleepaway camps serve a similar function.

In a Jewish community such as ours in Central New York, the importance of constructed Jewish spaces and experiences cannot be overemphasized. Every experience counts, and the more the better. It is an intricate weave in which everything supports everything else, with overlapping experiences reinforcing one another and creating a meaningful and joyous Jewish public life. Synagogues are at the center of the web, but there need to be many other strands of involvement.

One of the primary goals of Federation is the promulgation and support of Jewish constructed spaces and lived Jewish experiences. That is why it provides funding for our community’s Jewish schools, the JCC, the Jewish Family Service and Hillel. That is why it funds KlezFest, the Israel Independence Day celebration, the Teen Trip to Israel. That is why it provides camperships for kids, funds for educational Jewish programs for adults and supports connectors such as the *Jewish Observer*, Community Happenings and social media sites. It is why it takes safety and security of our Jewish social spaces so very seriously.

A fascinating study of Jewish public space [<https://tif.ssrc.org/2014/09/10/constructing-the-jewish-public-space-community-identity-and-collaboration/>] makes the point that “In the long millennia of diaspora, it has been rare for Jews to have spaces of their own; the vast majority of Jews have lived as minorities on alien soil, interspersed among majority populations that hold the primary claim to public lands and spaces. This has been particularly true for the past half-century, following the destruction of the ghetto and shtetl Jewries of Europe, and the gradual dissolution of urban Jewish enclaves in the Western democracies. Most contemporary Jews live lives inextricably entwined with those of gentiles—their workplaces, their neighborhoods, and often their marital beds are shared with members of other faiths.”

Sukkot offers us an opportunity to create and enjoy a constructed Jewish space, to partake of the holiday spirit and some delicious meals with others of our community. Whether you go to have Sushi in the Sukkah, Beers in the Booth, Tacos in the Tabernacle or Pizza in the Hut at a synagogue or stop in at the community sukkah at the JCC for a quick snack, we hope all *JO* readers will have a joyous Sukkot and a feeling of belonging to a people with a long, proud and meaningful history.

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Michael Balanoff

President, Jewish Federation of Central New York



As we embark upon a new year, I would like to ask everyone to consider the potential and possibilities that a new year holds. Optimism and enthusiasm should be our bywords this fall, as we cautiously and hopefully enter a post-COVID era, having learned much from living through a pandemic.

One of the things I have realized lately is how much we have to be proud of in our community, although we often sell ourselves short. Our Federation recently held a security meeting with community leaders and over 70 law enforcement personnel from local, state and federal levels. People from Washington, DC -- the FBI and Homeland Security -- told us how much

they knew of and admired Susan DeMari's work, which serves as a model for communities nationally. We were ahead of the curve on that one.

I recently convened the first-ever meeting of Upstate Federation executives to discuss issues of common concern. Executives from Buffalo, Rochester, Utica, Binghamton and Albany spent six hours engaged in quality conversation about issues of such as engagement, campaign, volunteerism, Israel and security. We were ahead of the curve on that one too.

It's nice to be ahead of the curve, and sometimes it's easier for a community our size to do that, because we don't have so much baggage. Our Climate Crisis committee is another example of taking the lead. We are probably one of the few federations that is tackling this issue, but it won't be long before others join us.

It's heartening that the Central New York Jewish community can assume a leadership position within the larger Jewish community and that we are held in high esteem and respected for what we do. While we don't have the glitz, glamour, money and demographics of other communities, we can make up in quality for what we don't have in quantity.

In that spirit, I would like to reiterate a couple of themes that I raise with you every chance I get.

One is the power of hello. How do we greet those who enter our space? Do we give them a warm and cheery greeting, or do we look at them with suspicion or, worse, not look at them at all? Do we go the extra mile to make people feel welcome, heard and valued, or do we give them the feeling that we really don't care about their views or their ideas? If we *are* doing these things, can we do them even better?

Another theme I have often raised is the need to *break down the silos*. I am delighted that we are making progress on this front. I know I have allies in our communal

leadership. I am delighted that we now have collaborative projects in Hebrew language learning and a Jewish cinema series as part of our learning landscape. We are partnering to celebrate the Ethiopian Jewish holiday of Sigd this fall.

Our synagogues, agencies and schools are working together on many collaborative projects. The joint projects of the Community Hebrew School, the Epstein School and Jewish Family Service and Menorah Park are a joy to see, as they are intergenerational and beautiful.

Our hopes for programming for the fall include a Reverse Tashlich and Shabbat Across CNY. Because we live in a time of rising antisemitism and increased concern about security, and because one of Federation's main responsibilities is the safety of our community, Federation is going to assume 25% of the costs of security for our community's congregations for the high holidays. We need to protect our Jewish people at the holiest time of the year.

We realize that times are changing. Every generation does things differently, and different isn't bad.

Our fundraising and funding models will also change. People are no longer as committed as they used to be to donating to an annual campaign, but they respond generously when asked for funds for an ambulance for Magen David Adom, for Ukraine, for KlezFest, for the resettlement of Ethiopian Jewry, for security or for the Human Milk Bank in Israel.

While we strongly believe that Federation must provide core support for our partner agencies, we also know that most of the agencies are in a stronger financial position today than they were decades ago.

Because we want to look ahead to the future, rather than back to the past, Federation will continue to fund new and innovative programming through the Holstein Community Program Fund. Great ideas come from lots of people. The Climate Change committee arose from the passion of Mark Field and drew upon the commitment of many in our community who want to try to improve our community's ecosystem. A group of four women (Robin Goldberg, Debbie Rosenbaum, Nan Fechtner and Ellen Weinstein) collected enough household goods from the community to fill 36 bins for the refugee families who will be integrated into our community through InterFaith Works. They raised the funds needed to purchase the incubator for the Milk Bank in Israel. Cantor Robert Lieberman went to Ukraine with donations from our community and returned to give us a first-hand account of what is happening there. All it takes is dedication and perseverance and we can make it happen.

This year, we all need to engage our Jewish families more. We need to celebrate our Jewish holidays whenever we can *as a community*, by which I do not mean *instead*

of synagogue services but *in addition* to them. The more touchpoints a young Jewish family has with Jewish life, the more likely they will want to continue living Jewishly. Now that COVID is no longer such a big factor in programming, let's renew our communal celebrations of Chanukah, Purim and *Yom HaAtzmaut*. Let's welcome the Israeli Scouts back to our community.

Let's look at new and interesting ways to "do Jewish" together. Let's follow the example of Leah Goldberg, a Federation board member and a member of the JFNA Young Leadership cabinet, who is bringing a prominent young entertainer to our community.

New years are always special. The new years that fall on the first of *Tishrei* are more meaningful and solemn than those that fall on the first of January, but whether we talk about New Year's resolutions or *t'shuvah*, returning to the path of righteousness, we can all benefit from considering where we have been in our lives, where we want to go and how we plan to get from here to there.

Together there is so much we can accomplish. *Shana tova!*

New Federation Board Members

The Jewish Federation recently elected three community members to serve on its Board.



Carrie Berse is a long-time non-profit executive, currently serving as Executive Director of the Syracuse-based William G. Pomeroy Foundation. Carrie says she is "honored to be asked to join the Federation Board because of its long and meaningful history of supporting critical programs and services in our local Jewish Community and beyond," adding, "I hope I can use my experience to assist the Federation's dedicated staff and volunteers."



David Reckess is Executive Director of 3GNY-Descendants of Holocaust Survivors. He joined the Federation Board because "I have always known that Federation plays an important role in our community, yet I hadn't fully understood how. Over the past few years, I have seen Federation's impact in how we engage together as Jews and as Central New Yorkers, keeping each other safe, supported and connected. I am honored to serve on the Federation Board to learn more and support this important work."



Mookey Van Orden is an educator, writer, actress, director, teacher and artist. She works in a school as an engagement specialist and is also involved in many theatre and performing arts companies. She is a 6 Under 36 Award winner. Federation is happy to have her join the Board.

» D'VAR TORAH

Sukkot/Thanksgiving- A Jewish Holiday

Rabbi Moshe Saks, Temple Adath Yeshurun

One of the emotions most keenly felt by Jews who live in a non-Jewish society can be a sense of alienation when we realize just how small a minority we really are. Just recently, my wife was out shopping for a new dress for Rosh HaShanah and remarked to the clerk that this dress was for the “upcoming holiday.” The clerk responded, “What holiday? There’s no holiday approaching.” She, of course, had never heard of Rosh HaShanah. Another example would be around the holiday of Christmas. Everyone seems so happy and upbeat, and yet it is hard to share in that experience because it is not our holiday. In fact, we make a point of teaching that we should not try to equate Hanukkah with the Christmas season.



However, there is one holiday in which we can equally share a common experience: the holiday of Thanksgiving. Unfortunately, in some cultures, Thanksgiving simply means turkey and football. But if we stop to think about the true meaning of this day, and its origins, then perhaps we could see the beauty of such a celebration. This is the one holiday which can encompass all faiths, for the notion of giving thanks to God for the blessings that He has bestowed upon us is a bedrock belief that is



shared by all the human family.

Thanksgiving is celebrated here in November, but in Canada (where I served at a congregation for 10 years), it’s observed at a time that is most appropriate — in October, when it usually falls near the holiday of Sukkot. In essence, then, Thanksgiving is a Jewish holiday. Why? If you study the origins of Thanksgiving, you discover that the early settlers were well-versed in their Bible and patterned this holiday of giving thanks to God after the Biblical one - The Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot).

Sukkot, to me, is the reward we get for all of the time we sat in shul for the High Holy Days. It’s a festival of beauty (*lulav* and *etrog*), of building and decorating (our *sukkot*) and inviting friends, family and community to share in the blessings of our lives.

So, take part in the festival of Sukkot, and celebrate the Jewish Thanksgiving!

Reverse Tashlich



On *Rosh HaShanah*, Jews around the world participate in the ancient ritual of Tashlich. We go to a body of water and symbolically cast off the sins of the past year into the water to start the new year with purity of heart.

However, this is not the only time humans cast their “sins” into the sea. Every year, approximately six million tons of human-made trash enter the water, posing health and safety hazards to the animals that call the sea their home. Marine debris is a blatant violation of the fundamental Jewish ethical principle of *Bal Tashchit*, the commandment to not destroy or waste items from the natural world. Reverse Tashlich adds a modern ritual to the Jewish tradition: a local clean-up on the Sunday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.



This year, Federation’s Climate Crisis committee invites the Central New York Jewish community to join 155 other communities across the United States to perform **Reverse Tashlich**. On Sunday, October 2 at 2:30 pm, those who would like to participate in Reverse Tashlich

will join together at 720 Van Rensselaer St, Syracuse, NY 13224. Participants can park along Shoecraft Rd and walk down the mulch path to the creek walk to the four Rain Gardens.

Kim Phan, a forestry technician with the Syracuse Department of Parks explained that “rain gardens have a very important role in keeping our larger water bodies clean. They help capture storm water and filter out pollutants, thus reducing pollutants and water overflow into the creek and Onondaga Lake.” At the Reverse Tashlich, participants will clear out the rain gardens by weeding, planting, and mulching. There will be short service. Tools will be provided, as will guidance from the Parks Department. Attire appropriate for the work is requested, including gloves, hats and protective footwear (no sandals or flipflops). **For more information or to sign up to participate, please email bdavis@jewishfederation.org.**

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The Estate Sale

by Edward Alderman



I'm driving on a suburban road, early in the morning, on my way to an estate sale in the eastern suburbs, not far from the inner city. As I drive, searching for the sale, I am surrounded by tired homes, once grand, and a testament to the financial and social success of their former immigrant owners. Confined to the 15th ward of this city, immigrants from Eastern Europe had escaped the terror of pogroms to seek a new land offering freedom of religion, freedom of association and the opportunity for financial success.

Many of these immigrants brought with them their brains, their brawn and their determination. They started families in America, built houses of worship and strove for financial success. Many succeeded financially, as exemplified by the homes that I am now passing. These immigrants were willing to exchange their rubles for American dollars with as much alacrity as one would remove threadbare clothing, transforming themselves into instant Americans.

The houses with their faded exteriors surround me. Once vibrant, the homes are now faded in their rectitude, but nevertheless proud that they are still standing. Each home appears eager to tell its story about the families that once lived there.

At first, I thought the early morning mist created these impressions, but once I reached the estate sale and entered its interior, I saw the relics of a bygone era. I realized that the home in which the estate sale was taking place had also passed its prime. Remnants of the deceased family's life now lay dormant on the tables, pleading for purchasers to remove them from this declining repose and hoping that new homes would once again include active and involved family members.

Not all of the houses were faded and tired, however. Occasionally a brightly maintained home would appear, but for the most part the homes stood as markers for the end of an era. As I left the estate sale, I felt like placing a stone of remembrance on the roof of each of



these homes, next to an imaginary fiddler, hoping that a resurrection of this neighborhood would occur sometime in the future.

As I slowly left the neighborhood, my memory took me back to 1948. World War II was over and my father and I were out looking for a new automobile. Before reaching the Cadillac dealership, we stopped at Sid's Delicatessen, where we each had a corned beef sandwich with pungent mustard. We then headed to the only Cadillac agency in town, where we met the owner of the dealership, who apparently knew my father. He started to address him in a heavy eastern European accent. "Solly, how are you? You've become such a big *macher* in the city. You need a new car. What color do you want? You can have a new Cadillac in your driveway in just two days after we polish it for you. You don't need a credit report. I know you. Your check will be fine." This heavily accented sales pitch, which I still remember after sixty years, is an example of the fortitude and personal skill of these Eastern European immigrants.

We didn't buy the Cadillac. It would have been too ostentatious. Rather, we purchased a modest Pontiac, now gone and forgotten, just as the unique characteristics of those forgotten immigrants. Like yeast to bread, the immigrants gave rise to a distinctive blend of Americans: feisty, dedicated, thankful and reverent towards their newfound country.

Edward Alderman is an attorney, grandfather and aspiring writer.



The Bistro

by Barbara Davis

"Is there a kosher restaurant in Syracuse?" a friend from New York City called me recently to ask.

"Sadly, there is not," I replied.

"But I saw something online," he responded. "The Bistro?"

"Oh," I said. "That's not really a restaurant..."

But it bothered me that I really didn't know what The Bistro was, although I had heard of it in passing. So I decided to go there one day for lunch with a friend. Was I ever surprised!! Not only was the food good, but it was also moderately priced and KOSHER. Whoever would have imagined? The Bistro might be the best kept secret in Jewish Central New York.

Can you believe this selection and these prices for breakfast?

- Two Eggs to Order \$2.31
- Home fries \$2.31
- Create Your Own Omelet \$2.78
Omelet toppings: tomatoes, peppers, onions, mushrooms, olives, Tofutti cheese



- Breakfast Sandwich
With Egg and Tofutti cheese \$3.50
With vegetable sausage \$4.50
With Kosher Turkey Bacon \$6.25
 - Bagels \$1.85 Plain or Cinnamon Raisin
 - Assorted Muffins (2) \$2.50
 - Croissant \$1.85
- And for lunch, this array of very tasty selections, hot off the grill:
- BBQ Chicken Sandwich: Chicken Breast topped with BBQ sauce, lettuce, tomato and crispy onions served on a Kaiser roll. \$6.90

- Bistro Hamburger: 1/4 lb. burger topped with lettuce, tomato and onion served on a roll. \$6.02
- Herb Grilled Chicken Breast: Herb-seasoned chicken breast topped with lettuce, tomato and onion served on a Kaiser roll. \$6.90
- Vegetable Burger: Vegetable patty topped with lettuce, tomato and onion served on a Kaiser roll. \$4.95
- Hot Dog with Sauerkraut: \$2.95
- Turkey Burger: Turkey patty topped with lettuce, tomato and onion served on a roll. \$4.17
- Cowboy Burger: 1/4 lb. burger topped with BBQ sauce, lettuce, tomato and crispy onions served on a roll. \$6.90
- Mushroom Burger: 1/4 lb. beef burger topped with sautéed mushrooms, lettuce, tomato and onion served on a roll. \$7.25
- South of the Border Chicken: Grilled chicken breast topped with lettuce, tomato and salsa served on a Kaiser roll. \$6.90

I had the mushroom burger. My friend had a chicken sandwich. We both agreed that they were not only good, but very good.

But that's not all The Bistro has to offer. Their Deli Delights menu includes the following sandwiches:

Turkey Pastrami (\$9.21), Turkey (\$6.02), Corned Beef (\$9.03), Chicken Salad (\$6.02), Tuna Salad

(\$5.95), Seafood Salad (\$6.50), Egg Salad (\$5.95). Sandwiches are served on white, wheat, rye or Italian bread or a Kaiser roll and can be garnished with lettuce, tomato, onion, olives, peppers and/or banana peppers. Let's face it: these prices are about half of what you would pay elsewhere, and the quality of the sandwiches is excellent.

In addition to daily specials, The Bistro offers Buffalo Chicken Wrap (sliced grilled chicken tossed in a hot and spicy "creamy" buffalo dressing with lettuce and tomato rolled in a flour tortilla) \$6.90, Potato Chip Chicken Tenders (breaded chicken tenders with choice of barbeque, honey mustard or hot sauce) for \$8.95, a Reuben (corned beef topped with sauerkraut and Russian dressing served on toasted marble rye) for \$10.42 and a Rachel (turkey topped with sauerkraut and Russian dressing served on toasted marble rye) for \$9.21.

Still hungry? Add some sides: Assorted Potato Chips (selection varies- Frito's, Lays Original, Ruffles, Lay's BBQ, Parve Cheese Curls) \$1.25, Baked Potato \$1.85, Potato Knish \$1.75, Deli (Protein) Salad \$4.50, Garden Side Salad \$4.95, Potato or Macaroni Salad \$1.62, Fresh Fruit Cup \$2.78 or the Soup du Jour for \$2.95.

There were no desserts listed on the menu, but there are some sweet treats available to finish off your meal. Black and White Cookies \$3.25, Gluten Free Brownies and Cookies \$3.85, Brownie Bars \$1.85, Assorted Fruit Danish \$1.85, Assorted Pound Cake \$1.85, Mike and Ike's or Hot Tamales \$1.85. Special desserts of the day, when available, cost \$1.85.

The Bistro (full name: Jim & Arlene Gerber Bistro) is located in the Abraham Shankman Wellness Pavilion at Menorah Park (4101 E Genesee St. Syracuse, NY). Fox's Den Sports Bar is also at the same location and offers modestly priced beer and wine. The Bistro is open Monday through Friday for breakfast from 7:30am to 10am and for lunch from 11am to 1:30pm. Currently dinner is served Monday through Thursday at the unusually early hours of 2:30-4:30pm. I guess that's the Super Early Bird Special. The Bistro menu is available all day during open hours. You can have an omelet at 4 pm if you want. Weekly specials are also posted to add variety to the menu.

The Bistro can be reached at (315) 446-9111 ext. 116. You can place an order to be ready for pick up or to enjoy when you arrive. If you don't want to drive to Menorah Park, GrubHub is also an option. The link for all the information you need, including the GrubHub link is <https://menorahparkofcny.com/programs/eating-recreation-learning/>. B'tay avon!

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Temple Brith Sholom

Pastry Palace Bakery

What makes a long-closed bakery so good that 1600 people belong to a FaceBook page commemorating it? The Snowflake Bakery phenomenon is an amalgam of memories of really, really good baked goods combined with family celebrations, birthday parties, bar/t mitzvahs and weddings. A story in a previous issue of the JO described the origins of the Snowflake Pastry Shoppe, which began as a family bakery in the Bronx, owned by Isidore Zeigler, who learned to bake in Hungary. The Zeigler family moved to Rochester and opened a bakery there called The New York Bakery. Then Izzy's son Milton came to Syracuse and opened the Snowflake Pastry Shoppe, which became a resounding success. No Jewish birthday party in Syracuse was complete without a Snowflake cake with its famous chocolate diamonds. "The lines at Snowflake were always out the door early in the morning when people still went to the bakery to buy their daily bread and morning pastries," a patron recalled.



reopened and can allow 21st century customers to enjoy the delectable pastries that made Snowflake such a memorable institution. While Fran does not create the bar mitzvah cakes with the Torah portion on a chocolate plaque of old, he does a fantastic job with strawberry chiffon, apricot, and



Snowflake closed, but Francis (Fran) Yemma, who had worked there, opened the Pastry Palace Bakery in Marcellus in 1994 and brought some of Snowflake's magic back to life. A second retail location was opened in Jamesville in 2006. In 2008, the shop in Marcellus was closed, and the bakery was centralized in Jamesville. Fran had the recipes for the strawberry and banana whipped cream cakes, rugelach, coffee cakes, half-moons, fruit flips and more.

Shuttered for a while by the coronavirus, the Pastry Palace has

seven-layer cakes, brownies with fudge frosting, sprinkle cookies and mocha drops. And he puts the famous chocolate diamonds on the birthday cakes.

If you want to learn what really good baked goods taste like, and take a step back in time, head on over to the little bakery at 6499 E. Seneca Turnpike in Jamesville, next to the post office. It's open Tuesday–Sunday from 9 to 5. [Unlike Snowflake, Pastry Palace is not under kosher supervision.] You can also call in an order at 315 492-1905.

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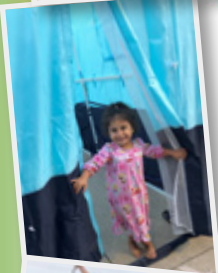
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The Symbolism of the Sukkah: From Sages of the Past and Present

***“You shall live in sukkot for seven days;
all citizens in Israel shall live in sukkot, in order that future generations may know
that I made the Israelite people live in sukkot when I brought them out of the land of Egypt,
I the Lord your God.”***

Leviticus 23

- The sukkah was built to show misfortune at a time of good fortune and to remind the rich of the poor.
- The sukkah serves as a caution not to become overconfident because of affluence.
- People must leave their permanent homes and move into a temporary abode that is devoid of wealth and security to remind them that they depend upon the Almighty.
- The sukkah is symbolic of Jewish wandering and homelessness.
- The sukkah commemorates the first booth built by Abraham when he greeted the three angels.
- The sukkah serves as a memorial to the miracles of the Exodus.
- The vision of a universal humankind is reflected in the sukkah, because the door and roof are open.
- The sukkah is a symbol of peace, known in Hebrew as the sukkat shalom.
- The sukkah teaches us that life is temporary, and we should not become too comfortable in this world.
- The sukkah is a symbol of hopefulness, reminding us that, in spite of our vulnerability to the storms of life, we can create beauty and joy.
- Rabbi Irvin Beigel
- The sukkah represents absolute faith and trust in the Almighty.
- Rabbi Evan Shore
- The sukkah is the sukkat shalom, the tabernacle of shalom when there will be Shalom and abundance for all people everywhere. - Rabbi Daniel Jezer
- The sukkah reminds us of our ancient experience of homelessness and commands empathy as we look at the homeless of our own time.
- Rabbi David Kunin
- Sukkot is called *zman simchateinu*, season of our joy, and during it we make the temporary sukkah our permanent home, reminding us that community and relationships – who we welcome in—makes us stronger and more joyful than any fixed structure or physical space. - Rabbi Ethan Bair
- Life is as fragile and temporary as a sukkah. So what to do? Decorate it. Make it beautiful. Enjoy it. - Rabbi David Katz



A Shelter for the Future: the Jewish Foundation of Central New York

The Jewish Community Foundation of Central New York held its 20th annual meeting on August 18. Board chair Neil Bronstein noted that “Twenty years ago, the Foundation declared, ‘We are on target towards our goal of \$2 million in assets under administration.’ Twenty years later, the Foundation is the proud administrator of more than ten times that amount, with \$25 million in assets under management.”

Foundation Executive Director Michael Balanoff noted that “As a people, we will be smaller in the future, with fewer institutions and resources and with even more diversity than we know today. Our Judaism will redefine itself with the emergence of new forms of religious and social expression, as it did during the pandemic when ‘Zoom,’ ‘hybrid’ and ‘live-streaming’ suddenly became adjectives modifying ‘services.’” He added, “But Judaism will survive, reshaped by its adherents, as has always been the case. For those who are committed to a Jewish Central New York, it is clear that we cannot wait to plant the seeds of our future. *The time to assure tomorrow is today.* The Foundation is ready and able to ensure that our community, through the Federation and its partner agencies, will always be able to meet our community’s needs in the areas of education, wellness, safety, support for Israel, seniors and those less fortunate. It’s up to all of us. Let us plant the seeds for our future now, so that our values and our legacies will live on.”

Nominating Committee Chair Cheryl Schotz presented the names of two new members of the Board, Neil Rube and Ellen Weinstein, who were unanimously approved. The following board members’ terms were extended for four years: Neil Bronstein, Allen Galson, Sandra Gingold, Neil Hoyt, Cheryl Schotz and Warren Wolfson. She also presented the slate of officers, who were elected with acclamation: Chair: Neil Bronstein, Vice-Chair: Lynn Smith, Treasurer: Howard Port, Secretary: Mark Field, Financial Vice-President: Neil Hoyt.

Finance Committee chair Howard Port presented a report describing the Foundation’s assets. He reported agency endowments of \$6,487,206, donor advised funds of \$5,672,944, PACE funds of \$3,961,976, other restricted endowments of \$4,536,853 and unrestricted endowments, \$2,069,858. Total contributions for the year were \$4,374,882. This was offset by our net investment loss of \$3,821,938 due to the fall of the market. The Foundation made grants of \$2,302,562 from donor advised funds and endowment funds. Total Foundation assets decreased for the year ended June 30, 2022, by \$1,008,892.

Investment committee chair Neil Hoyt was optimistic about the future of investments. He noted that the Foundation’s assets were in the hands of the best money managers, Vanguard and American Funds, and that the Investment Committee had taken management risk out of the portfolio. He said he looks forward to continued growth.

Cantor Robert Lieberman was the event’s keynote speaker. He brought the audience near tears as he described work of the Jewish organizations and agencies which he observed on his trip to the border of Ukraine as a community emissary. He told the stories of people he met on the trip, including a young Jewish woman who was going to be able to go to Israel. Though deeply saddened, when she heard the news, “her cheeks flushed pink and her eyes sparkled. It was her moment of hope, of *tikvah*, of saving her family and starting anew.” He thanked the Federation, the Foundation and the community for providing ongoing support for the victims of war in Ukraine.



Learning Together with Our Neighbors

by Robert Tornberg

“The best Sunday I spent at any [house of worship] in a long time.”

“This was the first time attending this program and I loved the idea that we all can come together under one roof and combine our hearts together.”

“Sr. Boys’ presentations and willingness to participate in dialogue with us was invaluable. The hospitality at the Temple was wonderful. The meal prepared by women from the Temple and the Muslim women was outstanding. I don’t know how that could measure up to another if there is another round for a Learning Together event.”

These are just a few of the comments made by participants in the recent *Learning Together with Our Neighbors* program held at Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevre Shas on June 26.

Learning Together with Our Neighbors, an interfaith learning program, is a collaboration among Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevre Shas, All Saints Church, Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ, CNY RISE Center (a Muslim group), Plymouth Congregational Church and St. Lucy’s Church. It was funded this year by a Holstein Community Program Fund grant from the Jewish Federation of Central New York. This was the third “annual” opportunity for the group to learn each other’s traditions in the “presence of the other.”

This year’s program was titled “Holy Envy: Learning About Myself By Learning About Others.” The keynote speaker was Sister Mary Boys, the Skinner and McAlpin Professor of Practical Theology at Union Theological Seminary in New York and a scholar of Jewish-Christian relations.

In addition to two presentations by Sr. Boys and a Q & A session with her, there was an opening “Getting to Know Each Other” activity, several facilitated, mixed-faith breakout sessions to discuss Sr. Boys’ presentations, opportunities for personal sharing, worship sessions for each group and a homemade kosher/halal dinner for all.

Each family unit was given a copy of the book, *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others* by Barbara Brown Taylor at the end of the program, and there will be a special session to discuss the book together in September. There are also plans to visit each partner’s worship services together as a group over the next few months.

The purpose of this program is to provide opportunities that will, unlike typical dialogues, bring Christians, Jews and Muslims together to study their own and each other’s traditions in the presence of each other. In faith-alike and mixed-faith groupings, participants had an opportunity to learn more about their own traditions and those of their neighbors. The assumptions behind the plan are several-fold:

- Gaining real knowledge of other traditions (and one’s own) and hearing the stories and convictions of those who believe differently, will increase understanding and prepare participants for deeper discussion, dialogue and interaction.
- Learning more about one’s own tradition and talking about it with people of different beliefs have the potential to reinforce the commitments to one’s own faith.
- Learning about and deeply sharing religious traditions together with those who believe differently will strengthen the community for all.

A committee made up of representatives from each of the partner organizations is looking forward to beginning to plan next year’s program, and they hope to expand to include other Syracuse area congregations.



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Onondaga Historical Association Commemorates Syracuse Jewish History

The Onondaga Historical Association Museum, located at 321 Montgomery Street in downtown Syracuse, is the repository of our community's history. The Judaic Heritage Center of CNY has established with OHA the collecting, preservation, archiving, storage and display of the history of Central New York's Jewish community.

The JHC has established a permanent Jewish heritage exhibit, located on the first floor of the museum, which emphasizes the Jewish role in advancing the social, religious, economic and political fabric of Syracuse and Onondaga County. The exhibit is divided into four sections: Community, Business, Entertainment and Athletics.

The Community section focuses on the old Jewish neighborhood, its synagogues and its people.

The Business section concentrates on Jewish-owned retail stores, factories

and other businesses, such as Flah's, Fleischman's, Oberdorfer Foundry, SYROCO and United Radio.

The Entertainment section highlights local composers, writers, authors, actors and singers who achieved fame on a national level and beyond, such as Harold Arlen, who wrote "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," Sime Silverman, who founded *Variety* magazine and the Shubert brothers, who amassed the largest theatrical empire in America.

The Athletics section features local Jewish athletes and sports teams that achieved regional, national and international fame.

Since there is limited wall space to present the extensive story of the Jewish community, the exhibit offers three touch-screen computer monitors so people can browse, in depth, the additional images, text and audio/visual interviews. In order to help keep the exhibit updated, the JHC is continually looking for new materials from the community to add to the exhibit.

Anyone interested in donating materials may contact Howard Port at 315-436-1990 or hport1943@gmail.com to learn more about the exhibit and the OHA collection of our community's Jewish history. As the proverb says, One man's trash is another man's treasure. What might be useless to you could be just the treasure the JHC is searching for.



The Sukkah and the Chuppah

The sukkah and the wedding chuppah are both open structures, both fragile, both filled with joy and gratitude and both inviting communal support and celebration.

A recent very special *aufruf* at Temple Adath Yeshurun, to be followed by a wedding on Long Island, serves as a reminder of the importance of Jewish customs and structures in Jewish social spaces, which may be surprising and enlightening to many.

Moshe Hezekiah Nwafor is a leader of Tikvat Israel Synagogue, a small but strong congregation of approximately 50 members in Kubwa, a village near Nigeria's capital city of Abuja, located in the center of the country. He's an IT technician and ride-sharing driver. Many Nigerians, including most of



those who identify as Jews, are part of the Igbo people, a meta-ethnicity with its own language and customs. Nigeria's thousands of Jews—estimates range from 2,000 to 40,000—are spread throughout the country, whose total population is more than 200 million and is split almost evenly between Christians and Muslims. As with other African Jewish communities, such as the Abayudaya of Uganda (visited not too long ago by Rabbi Daniel and Dr. Rhea Jezer), the Igbo

Jews believe they descend from one of the lost tribes of Israel.

Eliana Saks, daughter of Temple Adath Yeshurun's Rabbi Moshe and Meira Saks, lived in New York City and worked in the publishing field. By chance and through a shared connection with Camp Ramah, Eliana and Moshe began a FaceBook friendship which graduated to iMessage and FaceTime. After several weeks, it evolved into a romance. The full story appeared in Hadassah Magazine and may be read here: <https://www.hadassahmagazine.org/2021/07/07/finding-love-judaism-nigeria/>.

After their wedding, co-officiated by the bride's father, Rabbi Moshe Saks, and brother, Rabbi Ari Saks, the couple will make their home in Philadelphia. "Beyond that," Eliana says, "our happily ever after includes establishing an organization to aid the Jews of Nigeria and other African Jewish communities."



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The Sukkah of Security: Keeping Our Community Safe



Jewish Federations have always been dedicated to the safety and vitality of the Jewish community. With antisemitism on a dramatic rise, securing Jewish communities is more important than ever. Jews are the most targeted religious group in the United States. Only 2% of the U.S. population, Jews account for 60% of religious-based hate crimes. The threat against Jews is ever-present. It is Federation's responsibility to protect our community.

The Central New York Jewish community has made security a priority for over two decades. Security Liaison Susan DeMari has created a model security plan to protect all segments of our community. A security plan in a Jewish communal institution is as much a management issue as a technological one. It involves motivating and educating leaders and community stakeholders to understand the need for security and to create and implement a coherent security plan. "Security isn't just about cameras or locks. It's about people being aware of what's going on around them," noted DeMari. "It's about careful planning. It's about building relationships with local law enforcement and establishing protocols for best practices. It requires a commitment from a community, such as the Federation has made, to make security a part of our community's culture year-round and especially during the holidays." Part of the communications protocol according to DeMari includes a partnership with The Secure Community Network (SCN, pronounced "scan"), the official safety and security organization of the Jewish community in North America.

As part of her ongoing work, DeMari recently convened the members of the community – lay and professional leaders, agency heads and leadership -- for a four-hour exercise created by CISA, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, a federal agency under Department of Homeland Security oversight. The workshop focused on



domestic threats by those who call for violence against Jewish institutions in furtherance of ideological beliefs or personal grievances.

On August 11, members of the Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency conducted a tabletop exercise for the Jewish community and key law enforcement partners. Over 80 people participated. The purpose of the exercise was to strengthen information-sharing and develop coordinated responses to threats from domestic violent extremists. The program included scenarios and role plays of incidents such as threatening phone calls, bomb threats, suspicious persons or packages. Law enforcement discussed how they coordinate, inform, take action, work with partners, do sweeps and share information. Situational awareness was stressed and communication, collaboration and cooperation were emphasized. Participants appreciated the opportunity to learn from one another and to be better informed about risk and response.

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Hebrew Classes for Adults Sponsored by the Jewish Federation

by Ruth Stein

Many adults are hesitant to sign up for beginning Prayerbook and Torah Hebrew classes for various reasons. They're embarrassed that they never learned to read Hebrew when they were young, they converted to Judaism but never learned Hebrew or they're planning to convert to Judaism and want to learn Hebrew. They want to refresh their knowledge of Hebrew because they want to participate more actively, or their child is becoming bar or bat mitzvah, and they want an aliyah. Some sign up because they want to have an adult bar or bat mitzvah because they never had one. They are all welcome to take the beginning Hebrew classes for adults sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Central New York.

The adult Hebrew classes will be taught by Ruth Federman Stein and Jessie Kerr-Whitt. Ruth taught English on both the high school and college levels for many years and has a Ph.D. in Instructional Design from Syracuse University. Jessie has her master's degree in Curriculum Development and taught at the Syracuse Hebrew Day School for 35 years. She also taught Hebrew in Temple Concord's religious school for twenty years and tutored students for their bar or bat mitzvahs. After retirement, both Ruth and Jessie are very happy to continue teaching from a different perspective.

Lin Fields is an enthusiastic supporter of the classes. She said, "As a new member of Temple Concord, I was thrilled to take not only Ruth's beginning class, but also Jessie's Advanced Hebrew class. I had never learned Hebrew as a younger person, and studying with both of these wonderful women was a joy. Taking the classes on Zoom made it so much easier for me, since I live in Watertown. I highly recommend these classes to anyone,

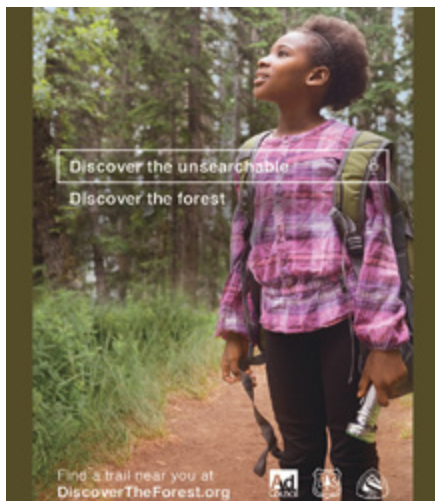
beginner or not. I have learned so much, and you will too."

The two classes are Prayer Book and Biblical Hebrew classes for adult and teen learners. The classes are open to all and will be held on Zoom through Congregation Beth Shalom-Chevre Shas.

Beginning Adult Hebrew, taught by Ruth Stein, will start on Tuesday, October 18 at 8:30 pm on Zoom. After that, starting on October 25, the class will begin at 7:00 pm for 10 sessions. This class introduces the Hebrew alphabet and progresses to simple reading, basic vocabulary and some prayers and songs. This is the class for you if you want to start from the beginning or need to review the basics. *L'Shon ha-Kodesh, A Beginning Hebrew Book for Adults* will be the text. For more information, please email Ruth at Stein.ruth@gmail.com or call (315) 751-5377.

The other class Advanced Hebrew will also begin on Tuesday. October 18, from 7:30-8:30 pm on Zoom. After that, starting on October 25, the class will meet from 6:00-7:00 pm on Zoom. This class will emphasize basic grammar and prayer book and biblical Hebrew vocabulary. There will be lots of opportunities to practice reading skills and review Hebrew word roots and other basic concepts. Come enjoy and build your Hebrew confidence. Jessie will teach the class. For questions, please contact Jessie at KerrWhitt@gmail.com. The text will be *Bet is for B'reishit* and students should have it for the first class.

Both classes have a minimum required enrollment. **To register, please contact the CBS-CS office at admin@CBSCS.org. Because the classes are sponsored by Federation, there is no fee.**



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Celebrating Hillel 75 YEARS of Buffalo

The Epstein School is excited to announce new programming for 5783. One of the highlights this year are three trips to regional Hillels — Syracuse University, SUNY Binghamton and SUNY Buffalo — for Epstein juniors and seniors. Students will get a taste for the rich programming Hillel communities offer, spending time with current students on each campus. Each visit will include a kosher meal and campus tour. As part of the Epstein School's commitment to preparing students to make Jewish choices in adulthood, the Hillel program will help high school students see the options available to them in college. "It is our hope that students will be excited about the rich, vibrant opportunities that await them on college campuses with Hillel communities," said Hannah Salomon, Epstein board member. The Hillel program makes learning in the "Jewish Choices in the Real World" come to life by giving students concrete experiences as they plan for post-high school life. Another fundamental component of the course is being able to discuss Israel in the real world. Thanks to a Philip L. Holstein Community Program Fund award submitted by Orit Antosh and Yochi Holstein, the Epstein School will offer a workshop for teens run by Fuel for Truth, which specializes in Israel education and advocacy.

The school is very proud to be deepening its partnership with Syracuse Jewish Family Service this year. Two faculty members from SJFS, Alise Gemmell and Judith Huober, are offering a year long course, "Art for the Ages," which teaches students best practices for working with adults with dementia. Students will work with Menorah Park residents, assisting them regularly in creating artwork. The art work will be featured in an art show in Spring 2023. This program is also generously sponsored by the Philip L. Holstein Community Program Fund.

Classes for the fall term began Tuesday, September 13th at Congregation Beth Shalom - Chevra Shas. First-hour classes include courses taught by Rabbi Shore and Rabbi Katz and a course on the history, culture and importance of Israel in Jewish life. Elective class choices for the second hour include *The Jewish Lens*, which culminates in submissions to the international photography competition where Epstein students have achieved special mention for the last three consecutive years; Modern Hebrew; Painting Creation; Jews in Politics: America & Israel; and Art for the Ages.

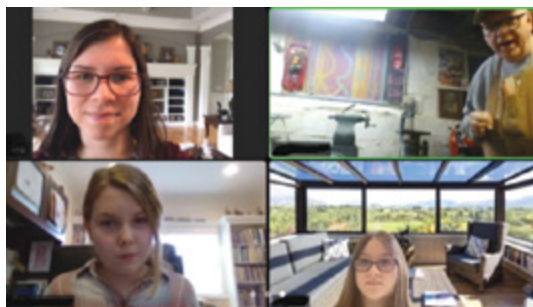
Students register at EpsteinCNY.org. For more information, email Epstein's head of school, Aaron Spitzer at EpsteinCNY@gmail.com.

The Spirit of Sukkot at SCHS

by Emily Chelnitsky

The spirit of Sukkot is in the air at the Syracuse Community Hebrew School. As we make holiday preparations, plan menus and decorate sukkahs, we are mindful of the customs of *ushpizin* and *hachnasat orchim*. The customs of inviting our ancestors into the sukkah and welcoming guests are a poignant reminder of the importance of reaching out to community members to ensure that everyone feels valued. For eight days, we share stories, lessons and ideas in our sukkahs. Why stop there when we can stay inspired all year long?

With inclusion in mind, SCHS



is excited to expand outreach this year with additional intergenerational programming. Under the direction of Ora Jezer, Head of School, 6th and 7th grade students will partner with senior residents at Menorah Park. SCHS students planted the seeds for intergenerational programming last year through regular video chats with Menorah Park residents. Some highlights included sharing about Passover and holiday experiences and taking advantage of technology to stay connected

during a snow day. One family built such a strong connection that they continued their visits over the summer, even planning their vacation around them!

This year, SCHS is excited to expand programming through additional activities with Menorah Park residents and leadership lessons for students. Students will be encouraged to think critically around themes like community service, empathy, healthy living and more while they prepare to lead discussions and activities with Menorah Park residents. They will welcome in guest speakers, honoring the unique knowledge of community members while keeping students engaged in learning.

No Booths! New Year, New Normal at the Syracuse Hebrew Day School



"I'm so glad to be back!"

"No more booths!"

"It's better that we don't have to wear masks."

The excited exclamations of the students entering or returning to the Syracuse Hebrew Day School on September 6 reflected their joy at discovering that the COVID booths that had protected them during the pandemic had been converted to study carrels, that they could now wear masks optionally (most opted not) and that things like assemblies and in-person schoolwide Shabbat celebrations could once again be part of their weekly school schedule.

Entering kindergarteners, of

course, were just happy to be in their classroom and to be introduced to their schoolmates at the first assembly and Shabbat celebration of the year. The school had very successfully weathered the COVID years through immediate virtual instruction at the beginning and carefully monitored and strictly observed protocols that permitted in-person and hybrid instruction thereafter. The school's enrollment increased because it adapted so smoothly to the crisis.

The Day School is eagerly anticipating the arrival of a new head of school this fall. In the interim, Dr. Barbara Davis has stepped into the role to assure that the transition will be a smooth one. Several

new teachers will join a staff dedicated to the school's commitment to high quality instruction in an environment in which students love to learn. "We have always set the bar high at SHDS," Davis commented, "and our students have always reached it. That is why they are so very successful in the schools to which they transfer upon graduation, in the synagogues in which they become *b'nai mitzvah* and in life in general. I am always thrilled to learn how accomplished our alumni are. We may be a small school, but we do great things."

Among the unique features of the Day School program this year are individual instrumental lessons for students, morning broadcasts in Hebrew from the school's media studio, a new Jewish social studies curriculum and possibly a Lego STEM curriculum. Favorite clubs such as chess and chorus are back and an American Sign Language option may be added. "SHDS has always been an exciting school with great teachers, and this year is no exception," said Davis. "We've turned the booths that protected our students during COVID to other uses, and we are thrilled to be able to create a 'new normal' without booths."

Mazal Tov

Lucy Kall, of Solon, Ohio, will become a bat mitzvah on Saturday, October 22nd at Temple Emanu El in Cleveland. She is the



granddaughter of Sheldon and Mateele Kall of Manlius and Richard (z"l) and Roberta Katzman of Pepper Pike, Ohio. She is the daughter of Matthew and Naomi Kall and sister of Hannah. Lucy is in the seventh grade at the Joseph and Florence Mandel Jewish Day School and enjoys reading and writing fiction, experiencing Broadway musicals and mastering computer technology. For her bat mitzvah project, Lucy is collecting books for the Cleveland Kids' Book Bank.

Thou Shalt Ride

by Joel Stein

The Jewish Motorcyclist Alliance's annual ride to promote Holocaust education will be held in San Diego in November as part of The Butterfly Project.



The Butterfly Project is a call to action through education, the arts and memorial making. It teaches social justice through lessons of the Holocaust, educating participants about the dangers of hatred and bigotry, to cultivate empathy and social responsibility. By painting ceramic butterflies, which are displayed as symbols of resilience and hope, participants remember the 1.5 million children killed during the Holocaust. In this work, The Butterfly Project honors our commitment to the Survivors to Never Forget. Please go to ride2remember.com to support the Butterfly Project. Shown in the photo are Dave Feldman and Beth Alseike, participants in the Jewish Motorcyclists Alliance's Ride2Remember 2022, during a stop in Owasco.

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JCC Senior Lunch Program

The new normal has not been easy for seniors. A gruesome pandemic put the elderly at an advanced health risk. In a world where seniors often struggle with loneliness and lack of direction, fear of contracting COVID made those struggles even more arduous. Seniors were already prone to staying at home and isolating themselves. Endangering oneself just by stepping outside and socializing was an unfortunate reality. The Senior Program at the JCC made sure to be there when things were bleak, and always will.



The JCC's senior meals don't have typical cafeteria food. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per meal. The program is subsidized by the Onondaga County Adult and Long-Term Care Service, which allows the JCC to keep the cost low. It wouldn't be unreasonable to expect a mundane meal with a taste that matched the inexpensive cost. Luckily, the JCC has a culinary institute-trained chef who works magic in the kitchen and runs one of the only kosher certified meal sites outside of New York City that serves meals five days per week. Senior lunches have become one of the best kept secrets in the county. It has become an experience that attendees don't just look forward to but crave.



satisfying those who eat to live, Chef Donna goes the extra mile and satisfies those who live to eat.

During the pandemic, when many places were shut down, the dining hall was closed but the kitchen was not. The JCC offered curbside delivery at the same cost. The servers maintained their relationships with the seniors on a first name basis. The food gave seniors a place to go and people to see, even if it was just at a distance.

Now that life has begun to settle down, the dining hall is again a place for seniors to enjoy their meals and make friends along the way. The JCC has created a safe environment where all are vaccinated and smiles can once again be met with smiles. 12pm from Monday-Friday has become a comforting time for seniors. It doesn't stop at lunch. The JCC also offers Shabbat meals where challah bread is broken and seniors do the prayers.

The JCC simply cares more about the people than money. The health of



the community is a constant point of emphasis. The facility is kept in pristine condition, free nutritional counseling is offered throughout the year, and flu clinics are offered during the fall. Every third Friday of the month, the JCC brings in a neighborhood advisor, and members of the community are given the opportunity to be heard. Events are thrown for national and Jewish holidays. Those who wish to celebrate among friends can do so at the JCC at no charge.



Seniors can struggle with feeling alone, now more than ever. At the JCC, there is a community to rely on. There are friends to be made.



"I have a major health condition and have a problem eating enough food, my appetite is severely diminished. It helps tremendously to sit and have a good conversation while eating good food," said Karen Nezelek. Instead of simply





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Jewish News from Israel and Around the World



World Humanitarian Day. To mark World Humanitarian Day, the Society for International Development-Israel compiled images to show the faces behind some of Israel's humanitarian organizations. Featured above is Ayelet Israeli, CEO of HalevAfrica, at a preschool for orphans and children from poor families in the village of Tsamaka in northern Tanzania. They've just received donated clothes and toys shipped for free by HalevAfrica partner Africa & More. <https://www.israel21c.org/18-images-of-israeli-humanitarian-aid-workers-in-action/>

World's largest wellness conference. Tel Aviv is to host the annual Global Wellness Summit, the largest conference of its kind in the world, from Oct 31 – Nov 03. Participants include entrepreneurs and executives in hospitality, tourism, health, beauty and spa, food tech, fitness, medical tech, manufacturing and more. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/worlds-largest-wellness-conference-to-make-tel-aviv-debut-this-year/>

Women at the top of Mossad. Israel's Intelligence Agency, Mossad, has appointed a woman, known as "A" as Director of the Intelligence Authority. She joins "K," another woman, who serves as head of the Iran Desk, the chief concern of the organization. It is the first time women have held two senior positions in the agency. <https://worldisraelnews.com/israel-women-break-the-glass-ceiling-in-top-intelligence-agency/>

Developing ties with Indonesia. An Israeli delegation of tech professionals, investors and trade officials recently returned from a trip to Indonesia to foster connections through technology ventures, social impact initiatives and investments. The most populous Muslim country has no diplomatic relations with Israel. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-delegation-fosters-tech-innovation-ties-in-indonesia/>

UN recognizes Zionism. The United Nations awarded NGO Special Consultative Status to the American Zionist Movement (AZM). The AZM can participate in UN events and debates, plus hold events within the framework of the UN. Israel's UN ambassador and AZM's president hailed it as a great day for Zionism. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/357577>

International Mathematics Competition winners. Students from Tel Aviv University won first place in the International Mathematics Competition for University Students (IMC) in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria. The TAU students beat prestigious teams including those from Cambridge UK and University College London. <https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/technology-science/1660661534-israeli-students-take-first-place-in-international-math-competition>

Turning non-recyclable trash into hydrogen. Israeli-Swedish-Polish startup Boson Energy uses Israeli technology to harvest hydrogen continuously from non-recyclable waste and biomass. Plasma Assisted Gasification (HPAG) generates hydrogen, captures CO2 and turns residual ash into usable glass material. <https://www.israel21c.org/startup-harvests-hydrogen-from-local-nonrecyclable-trash/>

PepsiCo's pallets from recycled plastic. PepsiCo is ordering 30,000 eco-friendly shipping thermoplastic pallets from Israel's UBQ that makes them out of household waste. PepsiCo used 830 UBQ pallets in a March trial as part of a pilot to reduce the carbon footprint of its shipping pallets. <https://nocamels.com/2022/08/pepsico-30000-ecofriendly-pallets-ubq/>

Another Israeli 5-minute EV battery recharger. Israel's EExion is developing "Energize-N'-Go" – an energy-storage technology that can rapid-charge e-mobility vehicles in just five minutes. It uses chemically manipulated supercapacitors, eliminating the need for the rare and hazardous metal lithium. <https://www.israel21c.org/5-minute-electric-vehicle-battery-recharge-could-come-soon/>

Air-con without electricity. Israel's Green Kensho has developed an outdoor air conditioner that needs no electricity. It silently blows out a jet of freezing (easily available) nitrogen gas at -14F that cools the surrounding area with no pollution. The first models are to be piloted in August at six Tel Aviv restaurants. <https://nocamels.com/2022/08/worlds-first-nitrogen-powered-air-con/>

Revolutionizing online restaurant booking. Israel's Ontopo has developed a restaurant seating management system that allows customers to reserve a table online. It works with 730 out of 1,300 restaurants in Israel. Some five million people have searched for a place through Ontopo, making about 1.6 million reservations. <https://www.calcalistech.com/ctechnews/article/32asz7uxc>

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Making a shidduch between Upstate New York and Israel

The America Israel Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1953 in NYC, closed in 2015 and was reborn in 2019 as NYICC – the New York Israeli Chamber of Commerce. COVID created challenges for the new organization, but a re-launch is underway. On August 16, Steve Wells brought NYICC's AI Kinel to meet with the executive directors of six upstate Jewish federations: Rob Kovach from Albany, Shelly Hubal from Binghamton, Rob Goldberg from Buffalo, Meredith Dragon from Rochester, Michael Balanoff from Syracuse and Victor Pearlman from Utica. Wells is the point person for Syracuse, with colleagues serving in that capacity in Rochester, Buffalo and Albany.



NYICC is a 501(c)6 not-for-profit dedicated to promoting and strengthening thought leadership, business, investment and trade relations between the business communities of New York State and Israel with the ultimate objective of enhancing the quality of life and economic prosperity for the citizens of both the state and the country.



NYICC bolsters New York economic development by attracting Israeli startups to establish headquarters, operations and jobs in the state and helps New York companies grow business in Israel and with Israeli startups as partners. It also seeks to establish links between companies, universities and state agencies within New York and Israeli startups to initiate and accelerate mutually beneficial research, collaboration and partnerships and help Israeli companies interested in US commerce connect with customers that may be interested in purchasing market-ready solutions, partners willing to jointly develop or pilot their solutions, service providers that help them successfully penetrate the US and potential investors including angels, venture capitalists

and strategic investors. NYICC also seeks to accelerate the adoption of Israeli innovations that hold promise for improving the health, security, quality of life or economic prosperity for the citizens of New York.

New York City has a long history of successfully engaging Israeli startups. However, NYICC believes that the eco-system and lower cost of doing business in upstate New York also hold tremendous business potential for Israeli startups and established companies. Upstate cities offer a much lower cost of living and an attractive quality of life for executives and employees. NYICC aims to promote each region's capabilities, key players and programs to Israeli startups and companies and to connect Israeli startups to the relevant players and programs within each region. The Syracuse and Binghamton Federations are collaborating on a program with NYICC that will feature Israeli advances in medical technology.

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later becomes
someday becomes
...when?



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SUSAN K. LEVINE
August 17, 2022



Surrounded by her loving family, Susan K. Levine of Juno Beach, FL, formerly of Jamesville, NY, died peacefully in West Palm Beach, FL on August 17 after an 18-month courageous battle with ovarian cancer. Susan was born in Syracuse, NY on November 29, 1946, to the late Leo Koldin and the late Frieda Cohen Koldin.

A 1964 graduate of William Nottingham High School, she received her undergraduate degree in early childhood education from SUNY Geneseo and her master's in education from Syracuse University. Susan began her teaching career at the Onondaga Nation Indian School in Lafayette before moving to Maryland where she was an elementary school teacher in Montgomery County. After she and her husband Ben returned to Syracuse, she focused her attention on raising her children before returning to teaching as the remedial reading specialist at Jamesville Elementary School, where she taught hundreds of children the essential skills to become avid readers.

Susan immersed herself in her children's education, serving as a volunteer parent in numerous school programs and attending all her children's music and sports programs, even through college. Susan contributed her time to the Syracuse Jewish community through her Temple's sisterhood and as the reservations chairperson for several years for the annual dinner dance of the Jewish Home of Central New York. She enjoyed spending her time with her friends at bridge, mah jong, golf and skiing.

Susan and Ben enjoyed many years boating with friends and family on the lakes and rivers of Central New York, on the St. Lawrence River, and in the U.S. and Canadian Thousand Islands. After retirement, Susan enjoyed her winters at their Florida home in Juno Beach. She was a lifelong member of Temple Concord. In Florida, Susan was an active member of Temple Judea in Palm Beach Gardens. Her number one joy was sharing and hosting holiday celebrations with friends and family. But perhaps her most treasured "possessions" were her four granddaughters whom she loved above all else and of whom she was so very proud. Susan was a sweet and caring individual who always placed the welfare of others ahead of her own.

Susan is survived by her husband of 53 years, Benjamin; her son Dr. Leonard (Dr. Erika) Levine, of Haddonfield, NJ; her daughter Jennifer (David) Rudnick, of Canton, MA; her grandchildren Phoebe Rudnick, Sage Rudnick, Sophie Levine and Rose Levine; her brother Dr. Malcolm Koldin, of Maryland Heights, MO; her sisters-in-law Dianne Katz of Smithtown, NY and Jacalyn Kaufman of Fayetteville, NY; her nieces, grand-nieces, nephew and grand-nephew; and several cousins, including Susan Schneiderman whose relationship was more akin to a sister.

Contributions in Susan's memory may be made to the Jewish Community Foundation of Central New York, 5655 Thompson Road, Dewitt, NY 13214, Temple Concord, 910 Madison Street, Syracuse, NY 13210 or to the charity of your choice

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**SHARRY WEBER
DOYLE**
August 21, 2022



Sharry Weber Doyle, 90, of Fayetteville, passed away peacefully at Francis House on August 21. Sharry was born in Yonkers, NY to Gladys and Alexander Weber. She met and married George Doyle in Clinton, NY. Sharry moved to Syracuse when George attended Syracuse University College of Law and thereafter resided in the Syracuse area.

Sharry raised her two daughters, was a cancer survivor in 1959 and went on to have a successful career. She worked for many years as an accountant and in 1982 opened a small business accounting and tax preparation practice. She practiced until she retired at age 89. In 1990, she proudly became an Enrolled Agent.

Sharry was involved with her community throughout her life. She was a board member and treasurer of the Syracuse Opera Company from its inception until 2009. She and her husband George were co-presidents of the Jamesville Dewitt High School Parent Teachers Organization. She was involved with the Syracuse Law School and the Everson Museum Members Council and trip committee. She was Treasurer of the Highbridge Landing Condominium Board of Managers from 1985 until 2010. Sharry was an avid bridge player and knitter and a treasured friend to many.

Sharry was predeceased by her husband George and their daughter Randi.

She is survived by her daughter Dr. Bonnie (Gary) Grossman, granddaughters Abby Grossman and Jenna Grossman, sister Bette (Robert) Mendes, nephews Jeff Mendes and Dr. Steven (Sarah) Mendes and several nieces, nephews and beloved cousins.

Contributions to perpetuate Sharry's memory may be made to the Everson Museum of Art, 401 Harrison Street, Syracuse, NY 13202.

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**RICHARD DAVID
MATLOW**
August 24, 2022



Richard "Dick" David Matlow, 86, a native son and longtime resident of Syracuse and Fayetteville, passed away peacefully on August 24 in the company of his family. Dick was educated at Nottingham High School where he excelled at basketball and baseball, The Manlius School and Yale University. He had careers in the family's scrap metal recycling firm and later as a stockbroker at Merrill Lynch. Dick passed a love of skiing through the family. He spent many happy and active retirement years in Pittsburgh, PA. Dick is survived by his daughters, Susan Matlow and Jennifer Matlow, grandchildren Morgan and Elijah Cook, partner Judith Anderson Moore, former wife Marcy (Richard) Berenson, brother Peter (Nancy) Matlow and nieces and nephews.

Please help honor his love of youth wellbeing and athletics via contributions to Boys Town (www.boystown.org).

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