

# Jewish Community of Amherst

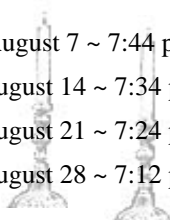
הקהילה היהודית של אמהרסט



Jewish Reconstructionist  
Federation 

## Candle Lighting

August 7 ~ 7:44 pm  
August 14 ~ 7:34 pm  
August 21 ~ 7:24 pm  
August 28 ~ 7:12 pm



Times shown are 18 minutes  
before sunset for Amherst, MA



## Special Events

**August 5**  
JCA Red Cross Blood Drive

**September 3**  
New and Prospective  
Member Open House



## Meetings

**August 3**  
Chesed Committee

**August 5**  
Religion Committee

**August 6**  
Board Meeting



## Message from Co-president

Lisa Perl binder, 230-3055, lperl binder@aol.com

August 2009

Av/Elul 5769

Vol. 8, Issue No. 7

## Deuteronomy: Looking back and Going Forward

My Dearest Chaverim. It's summer which is usually a time when we and our loved ones travel. Sometimes we return to familiar spots like my in laws' beach house; and some of us go to new and exotic places. Each time we go, we come back with experiences and memories that inform our future thoughts and actions. So it is with where we are in the torah cycle and where we are at this juncture in the story of the JCA.

In the Torah, we are reading Deuteronomy. Moses reflects on the Israelite's past and reiterates the laws and commandments, the worship of one G-d, the obligation to teach our faith to our children, and the importance of keeping the covenant as the condition to which the Jews will settle in the land of Israel. G-d has been the leader working through Moses, but ultimately relying on the Israelites and their community to carry out the laws and establish themselves in their homeland. In fact, "the people Israel" are addressed by Moses as a united entity and it is through the people that all of the promises made by G-d will come to fruition. Moses and Aaron have directed the "process", but now the people must move the process forward to create the lives and community they want within a Jewish context.

As always, the wisdom of the torah is an analogy for where we are in the story of the JCA. We have excellent professional and lay leaders who are passionate about our community. We have a new first Vice President, Guy Wood, who will serve as co-president with me next year after the Annual Meeting in December. Our staff is well poised to carry us through the summer, into the school year and through the chaggim (holidays). We have a superb fundraising committee (Jay-

mie Chernoff, Fred Levine, Steve Woolf, Eli Kwartler) executing the first ever JCA Guidebook and with your financial support, this calendar/address book/directory will be an annual fundraiser and a resource for current members, potential members and community and business leaders. We also have an amazing camp committee (Larry Goldbaum, Hollie Kalkstein, Aaron Kropf and Jodi Levine) who are making Camp Shemesh a wonderful place for Jewish children throughout the valley from Wendell to NoHo to Amherst under the direction of Rabbi Steve Nathan and Rachel Smith. Thus, our leadership is strong and working with the community to continue the life of the JCA and the Jewish home we all have come to love and depend upon.

Now our lay leadership and the community are faced with important strategic decisions resulting from the departure of Rabbi Bauer. As your designated leaders, we are working on a process for change that will invite every community member to share their thoughts, vision, and desires for the road ahead. The Jewish Reconstructionist Federation is helping us to identify the best way to make this an inclusive process. By mid-September, the Board will have a well thought out recommendation on how to proceed to synthesize the needs of the community and how to identify the right leadership to meet those needs.

This will be shared by mail, in meetings, via email and the newsletter so that everyone has the opportunity to be aware, informed and included. In the mean time, please do not hesitate to send your thoughts to the Board, and the Executive Committee, and feel free to contact John or myself. Continuity, growth, and service to the JCA are the highest priorities for us all so let's move forward together.

Lisa

## *Jewish Community of Amherst, Inc.*

742 Main Street, Amherst, MA 01002  
 (413) 256-0160, fax (413) 256-1588  
 Religious School (413) 256-0160 ext. 203  
 email: info@j-c-a.org; On line at: www.j-c-a.org

**Rabbi David Dunn Bauer**

**Rabbi Emerita Sheila Weinberg**

**Rabbi Emeritus Yechiael Lander** (586-1137)

**Director of Life Long Learning: Jody Rosenbloom** (256-0160 ext. 203)

**Teen Program: Rachael Goren** (256-0160 ext. 208)

### **Office Hours:**

Tuesday - Friday: 10:30 - 4:00

Wednesday: 4:00 - 6:00 & Sunday 9:00 - 1:00

*(When Religious School is in session)*

### **Board of Directors**

#### **Officers:**

**Co-presidents: John Loeb** (253-0336), **Lisa Perl binder** (230-3055)

**First Vice President: Guy Wood**

**Second Vice President: Ted Trobaugh** (549-5468)

**Third Vice President: Eli Kwartler** (253-2929)

**Treasurer: Alan Peterfreund** (253-5485)

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 Fred Levine, Andra Rose, Sarah Thomson, Phil Weilerstein,  
 Marian Wolfsun

**Membership: Robyn Miller** (549-4060), **Oran Kaufman** (548-8139)

**Office Administrator: Marcia Howard** (256-0160, info@j-c-a.org)

**Administrative Assistants: Bonnie Webster, Eric Delisle** (256-0160)

For information about using JCA space including  
 renting the Social Hall, contact:

**Events Co-ordinator: Linda Cooper** (256-0160 ext. 207)

For a list of committee chairs and members, go to:  
<http://www.j-c-a.org/committees.html>

Please refer to your Membership Directory for contact information.  
 (If you have not received your Membership Directory, call the office.)

### **NEWSLETTER**

**Editor/Graphic Designer: Aaron Bousel**

(Voice: 253-3544, Voice & Fax: 253-3846; news@j-c-a.org)

**Proofreader: Sarah Thomson**

**Deadline for the September issue is August 12th**

*August 2009, Vol. 8, Issue No. 7*

*Newsletter is published 11 times per year.*

*Subscription price is included in membership.*

### **Chesed Committee**

The Chesed Committee assists JCA members in times of joy, sorrow and need, coordinating volunteers to help with meals, rides, errands, visits, shiva minyans, and other needs. We also welcome new members and babies! Please contact us if you would like to join the committee or be added to our list of volunteers.

Also, if you, someone in your family, or someone in the community is ill, hospitalized, or in need of assistance, please contact us right away. Even if visits or phone calls are not desired, it is important to us as a community to be aware of the health and well-being of our members and their families. We realize that providing this kind of information feels awkward to many people, but it is an important facet of being in community. We cannot help if we do not know.

Contact the Chesed Committee through the JCA office at 256-0160.

### **Beit Shalom Committee**

The Beit Shalom Committee is available to members of the JCA congregation wishing assistance in addressing personal differences that have arisen between individuals, among committees, or with those in leadership positions within the JCA. Accordingly, if you have concerns or disagreements, or feel a desire to enhance communication with another member, a committee, or leader, please contact a Beit Shalom Committee member to facilitate this process. All such communications will be kept strictly confidential unless agreed upon differently by the participants.

Committee members are:

Eva Metzger Brown: 256-8066  
 embrown13@comcast.net

Josette Henschel: 213-0186  
 josette.henschel@aic.edu

Rob Okun: 253-9372  
 raokun@verizon.net

Kitty Talan: 253-2248  
 kittytalan@comcast.net

Haim Gunner: 549-0447  
 haim\_gunner@yahoo.com



**Devarim:**  
**Words from Rabbi David Dunn Bauer**

This is my first newsletter column after announcing my impending withdrawal from my role as rabbi of the JCA. I want to express again the intensity of my love for the JCA as a whole and for so many individuals within the community. I am deeply grateful for all the letters and emails of affection and regard I have received. They mean much more to me than I can fully express here.

Off the top of my head (just under the kipa) I can name three projects I would like to see move forward in this coming year. They're a diverse lot but they are linked in my mind as efforts to bring some components of JCA life into synch with its values and the ethos of the community. Here's my current wish list:

- 1) Childcare at services.
- 2) Updating our mission statement to include trans folk among those we welcome.
- 3) Replacing the outdated chumashim (Bible editions) in our sanctuary.

I'll address them in separate newsletter articles over the next few months. Today I'm starting with:

**Childcare at services.**

There are parents (or other adult guardians) of young children who would love to attend Shabbat morning services beyond our Shabbat Shalom mornings. We all want everyone in the JCA to have access to the amazing range of worship opportunities we provide. We don't have regular childcare, we don't have family attendance at services, and this is a problem.

We have a history of awkwardness around this. We had very few parents bring children, so eventually we stopped paying for childcare (usually UMass students). Then when any parents did come, there was no childcare, so they gave up trying to attend. Then it becomes a game of "Who goes first?" Between the voices of "We'll

come if there's child care," and "If enough people promise to come, we'll arrange childcare," families don't come and childcare doesn't happen.

The whole enterprise needs to be seen as one, in my opinion. I wish that JCA families would commit to coming to services and create a childcare cooperative in which parents/grandparents take turns being with the children and being in the services. This would benefit the religious life of the community. We need the energy of all our membership at services. We need adults in the room to make a minyan, and we need children who laugh, play, cry, wander in and out, and basically behave like children. We need more kids in the room so everyone grows accustomed to the experience.

JCA services should be events where parents or grandparents and children are comfortable for as long as patience and attention span hold out. The basis of Jewish worship is not silence. That said, certain levels of energy are beyond what the atmosphere of services can contain, and certain Torah discussions and moments of liturgy won't appeal to youngsters. Adults must take responsibility to guide their children to notice and to contribute to the quiet of prayer. But the presence of children and their parents in services, coming in and out as necessary, enlivens and enhances the prayer life of a community.

Conclusion: Come to services. Bring your children. Work with other families to make it possible for everyone. Make it a community commitment among you and the other parents and grandparents you know. It will take some organizing, but given that we're a community of facilitators and organizers, I refuse to believe that this is beyond us. The JCA needs to make the cultural shift towards seeing Shabbat services as a place for family events.

*Rabbi Bauer*

**Rabbi Liaison Committee**

The Rabbi Liaison Committee's charge is "to provide an effective process that will expand and enhance both the functional and personal relationships between the Rabbi and the JCA community." If there is an issue that you would like the committee to consider with Rabbi Bauer, please contact a Rabbi Liaison Committee member:

- Aaron Bousel (253-3544),
- Judy Glaser (253-9607),
- Haim Gunner (549-0447),
- Ruth Kane-Levit (548-1083),
- Eli Kwartler (253-2929).

**Introducing Ruhi Sophia Rubenstein,**

who will be leading the Shofarot and Children's Services for the JCA High Holidays this year!

Ruhi Sophia Rubenstein is beginning her first year at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, after working for 2 years as a Jewish environmental educator and administrator for the Teva Learning Center and leading the Teva program at Camp JRF. She graduated from Smith College in 2007 where she majored in Religion with a minor in Physics and where she was active in Smith Hillel. She served as a guest chazzanit at Smith for Rosh Hashanah 2008 and taught Sunday school and Hebrew school at Beit Ahavah throughout her college years. Ruhi Sophia also worked with the Leverett Havurah and she is delighted to be returning to the Pioneer Valley for her first High Holiday "gig."



## Religion Committee

Paul Charette, Co-chair, 860-559-4926, cyclone411@charter.net

Sarah Thomson, Co-chair, 413-253-2930, allset22@verizon.net

### RELIGION CALENDAR

#### Shabbat Nachamu ~ Parashat Va'etchanan Deuteronomy 3:21-7:11

July 31, Friday

6:15 PM

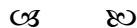
Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

August 1, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Catherine Madsen

D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer



#### Shabbat Ekev, Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25

August 7, Friday

5:30 PM

Intergenerational Family Service followed by potluck supper

Service Leader: Rhonda Shapiro Rieser

August 8, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Ruth Love Barer

D'var Torah: To be announced



#### Shabbat Re'eh, Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17

August 14, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: To be announced

August 15, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rhonda Shapiro Rieser

D'var Torah: To be announced



#### August 20/21, Thursday/Friday-Rosh Chodesh Elul



Shabbat Shofetim, Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9

August 21, Friday

6:15 PM

Carlebach Style Service followed by potluck supper

Service Leader: To be announced

August 22, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Paul Charette

D'var Torah: To be announced



Shabbat Ki Tetze, Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19

August 28, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

August 29, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer



Check the JCA website at:  
[www.j-c-a.org/services.html](http://www.j-c-a.org/services.html)  
for updated religion calendar information.

### *Bring Beauty to the High Holidays!*

Do you like to see the immediate effects of your efforts? Join the clean up crew for the High Holidays. We will make the building shine inside and out on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend, September 6th, from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. We'll supply the plants, supplies, and tools, you supply the gevurah (strength, focus). This is a meaningful way to contribute to the community while preparing your body and soul for the Holidays. Kids welcome!

Contact Guy Wood, [guy@svcable.net](mailto:guy@svcable.net), or  
Andra Rose, [ar@andrarose.com](mailto:ar@andrarose.com),  
to volunteer or just show up!

### **Kiddush and Oneg Sponsors**

#### **June 13-**

Annette Herda in honor of her son Henry Abramowitz becoming Bar Mitzvah

**Please make sure you speak to Linda Cooper and fill out a Kiddush/Oneg sponsor form to assure that the date you want will be reserved.**

### **Weekday Minyanim**

**The Tuesday and Wednesday morning minyanim will not be meeting in August. They will resume after Labor Day.**

If you have need of a minyan, please contact either Saul Gladstone, 253-0631, or Sarah Thomson, 253-2930

### **First Friday Night Service and Potluck Supper**

Please join us on the first Friday of each month at 5:30 pm for a brief child oriented service followed by a potluck supper. Although the service is geared towards young children, it contains all the elements of a regular Friday evening service, including mourner's kaddish. People of all ages are encouraged to attend. It's a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

### **Masorti Lay-led Shabbat Minyan**

The next Masorti Minyan will be on Saturday, September 5th at 10:00 am

All, including families with children, are welcome to attend and to take a leadership role. For details contact: Catherine Madsen, 253-2930

### **Foot Stomping Melodies for Welcoming Shabbat**

The next Carlebach-style service will be on August 21st at 6:15 pm.

The melodies are beautiful, the spirit/ruach is incredible.

There will be a potluck supper following the service.

### **Chemical Sensitivities**

A number of our members have allergies to perfumes, colognes and other fragrances. Please try to minimize the use of these products when coming to JCA services and other events. Please inform your guests about this policy as well

### **Join the Welcome Crew for the High Holidays!**

Remember last year at High Holidays how welcomed you felt coming into services? We had dozens of members volunteer to greet people, to meet new guests, and to welcome old friends who were able to be at JCA services again because we did not require tickets. The Open Door policy was so popular and successful that we are doing it again. If you want to be part of the welcoming committee, please let us know.


Contact Guy Wood, [guy@svcable.net](mailto:guy@svcable.net), or Andra Rose, [ar@andarose.com](mailto:ar@andarose.com), to volunteer.

### **Are you a Jewish Foodie?**

Who doesn't love dipping apples in honey or tasting that first delicious bite after fasting? You can be the first one to sample the delicious honey cakes our best bakers donate for the Rosh Hashanah Oneg. Help organize, set up, or clean up the food that we all love to gather around at the High Holidays. We're looking for bagel haulers and break fast menu planners.

Contact Guy Wood, [guy@svcable.net](mailto:guy@svcable.net), or Andra Rose, [ar@andarose.com](mailto:ar@andarose.com), to volunteer.

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### **Don't Forget The Food Collection Box**

As you enter the JCA, between the outside and lobby doors, there is a food collection box. The next time you're going shopping, why not pick up a few extra non-perishable items for the box? Items will be delivered to The Amherst Survival Center.

## Education News

**Jody Rosenbloom, Director of Life Long Learning, 256-0160, ext. 203**



### **Recruitment and Registration for School Year 5770**

Lots of planning for JCA School happened over the summer. We met new families and considered placement of their children. We hired teachers, set up rooms and made adjustments to curriculum. We considered class composition; smaller classes may be combined, larger classes may be split. Registration information was sent to families with students previously enrolled in JCA School in June. If you are interested in beginning JCA School, call 256-0160 for registration information. Registration is processed only if you are current in fulfilling your financial obligations to the JCA. So take the time to get your registration in as soon as possible. Encourage any of your friends or acquaintances that may be interested in starting their children in JCA School, to contact the office. Students typically begin regular Sunday school attendance in 1st grade. Students beginning after 3rd grade are required to meet with the Education Director prior to placement. Admit packets will be sent in late August to families with students registered for school. The sooner we know who will be attending JCA School in the fall, the better.

### **Students Contribute Tzedakah and Community Service**

By early June, the count was in – this year, JCA School students had raised about \$150 for tzedakah. As a school wide lesson in tikkun olam, repairing the world, students were encouraged to bring either food for the food shelf, money for their class pushke or a description of a mitzvah they performed. Each class voted on where their tzedakah money went, and were encouraged to choose both a Jewish organization and a non-Jewish organization. This year, students funds went to: Jewish Family Service, Daiken Animal Shelter, Mazon (A Jewish Response to Hunger), Yad LaKashish (Support services for the elderly in Jerusalem) & the Amherst Survival Center. In addition, students recycled paper in their classrooms and helped with three projects to help stock the Amherst Survival Center: 1) brought toiletries, 2) made goodie bags “matanot l’evyonim” for children as part of the Purim Carnival, and 3) brought food in during the year or Sukkot Food Drive. The thank-you notes that arrived over the summer will be posted in the school at the beginning of the year.

### **Life Long Learning - Havurot/Small Learning Communities**

Have a special interest? Want to gather for Shabbat with a group of families with the same age children or Jews in your

neighborhood of varied ages? That’s what Havurot/Small groups of friends, are for. Examples of the havurot that have formed in our community include the Families with Young Children Havdallah Group, several interfaith couples groups, and adult b’nai mitzvah classes. Sharing the life long journey of Jewish education opens the door to more comfort in learning together, experimenting with Jewish practice, finding friendships, and joining in community events. There is more information to starting havurot on the website of the National Havurah Institute.

### **Building a Connection with a Day School Our Relationship with the Lander Grinspoon Academy**

We are fortunate to have a vibrant Jewish day school, the Lander Grinspoon Academy, close by in Northampton. Our paths cross and enrich each other when our congregants attend community events at the school, some of the LGA families attend events at the JCA, or our teachers attend some of the same Jewish education professional development workshops. In fact, each year a portion of our congregants, seek out quality private school or a more encompassing Jewish education and send their children to LGA. When a JCA member becomes a student at LGA, we maintain a connection. They are included in invitations to peer grade level events and Family Education programs with our JCA Schoolers. When a JCA member/LGA student is ready to begin preparing to become bar or bat mitzvah, they attend our workshops and join the JCA School 7th grade program. Some years we collaborate on regional events, and this year we look forward to hosting: 1) LGA 5th & 6th Grade students as they tour the area synagogues as part of their study and 2) “Havdallah B’Yachad.”

### **Thank-You To:**

**The Orlinky/Kohler** family for the donation of a Jewish children’s board game.

**The Rudolph/Fiero** family for the donation of adult resource books.

## Calendar

Sat, Sept. 12	Opening Day for Grade 7 (10:00-11:00 am) Shabbat Shalom (for 4-6 year olds) begins 10:30 am- 12:00 pm
Sun, Sept. 13	Opening Day for Grades 1-6 (10:00 am-12:15 pm) Parents are invited and expected to attend their child’s opening program

## Arts and Culture Committee

### New Exhibits in September

We are pleased to announce that new member Susan Pepper Aisenberg will be exhibiting some of her work at the JCA starting at the the middle of September. In addition, we will be having a display of drawings by children from Darfur in the social hall. This exhibit is part of the ongoing work of the Pioneer Valley Darfur Committee. Member Devorah Jacobson is the JCA representative.

Have you checked out the JCA Judaica Store lately? Books by JCA members and others, siddurim, chumashim, tallitot, mezzuzot and many lovely gift items. You can shop whenever the office is open.

## Dean's Beans Fundraiser Exceeds Goal

Thanks to our many Dean's Beans Coffee supporters, we exceeded our goal for season three! Profits exceeded **\$2,540.00** which translated to over 860lbs of java from September through July!



What better or easier way to support the JCA than with a daily dose of free-trade, organic, locally roasted coffee? Your involvement also supports indigenous coffee growers and their communities world-wide. It's like doing a mitzvah with every pound purchased!

So, please join us as we enter our fourth season. Contact Sue Weinstein, susanweinstein1@yahoo.com or 548-9552 to get on the e list for monthly reminders. The 2009-2010 schedule is as follows:

Order Due Dates: 9/6/09 10/4/09 11/1/09 12/6/09  
1/3/10 1/31/10 3/7/10 4/4/10 5/2/10 6/6/10 7/4/10

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## Adult Reading Group

The first meeting of the reading cycle for the JCA Adult Reading Group will take place on Wednesday, September 2, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room. The book for discussion is *The Jewel Trader of Pegu: A Novel* by Jeffrey Hantover. From Publishers Weekly, "Jewish jewel trader Abraham, a widower at 28, leaves Venice in 1598 for Pegu, a Burmese kingdom halfway around the world, where he is to settle and acquire high-quality gems for the family business. In his letters home, which comprise much of the novel, Abraham, liberated from the ghetto, delights in the freedom to walk when and where he will, but soon discovers that foreigners are expected to perform a specific service to bring luck to the marriages of young brides, one that is forbidden by Jewish law."

This is the first meeting of four for the year, which goes from September through June. New group members are always welcome. If you have any questions, please call Ken Talan at 253-2248.

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## SAVE THE DATE!!

The Jewish Community of Amherst  
Will be Having its Annual

### **New and Prospective Member Open House**

on

**Thursday, September 3, 2009**

**5:30 to 7:00 PM**

If you are new to the JCA or considering  
joining the JCA please join us.

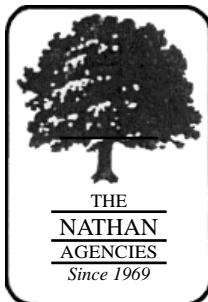
Please pass this on to anyone you know who  
might be interested or considering the JCA.

More details will be forthcoming.

For more information:

[info@j-c-a.org](mailto:info@j-c-a.org)

or call Oran Kaufman, 256-1575



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### Photos Needed For Open House

In preparation for the annual JCA open house in September, I am collecting photographs of events at the JCA for a short slide show. Here are some ideas of possible photographs

If you have pictures of :

Holiday celebrations- Chanukah, Purim, Lag B'Omer, Pesach or any other JCA holiday celebration.

JCA Israel trip

Auction

Dinner dance

Bar/Bat Mitzvas

Work day

Havdallahs

Teen events

Speakers or other community events

Israel independence day celebration

Community education programs

JCA Hebrew school

Please send them via email to Oran@orankaufman.com.

Thank you.

### Harmoniyah 2nd Biennial Retreat

**Thursday, October 29-  
Sunday, November 1, 2009  
in Bethesda, Maryland  
(just outside Washington, DC)**

Experience a wonderful opportunity for learning, professional development, spiritual growth, lots of music-making and seeing old and new friends in the JRF world.

This year's retreat is hosted by Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation in Bethesda, Maryland.

More information to come. Check the JRF website:  
<http://www.jrf.org/>

Harmoniyah is the music network of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation. It is a group of talented musicians, both professional and volunteer, who serve JRF congregations in a myriad of musical and spiritual ways.



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#### What will be your legacy?

Bring your charitable dreams to life with a planned gift to the JCA through the Create a Jewish Legacy of Western Massachusetts program. There are many different ways to leave your own legacy. Your legacy can reflect everything that is most important and meaningful to you. The act of creating a legacy empowers you to complete the work of your heart, and to enjoy the peace that it brings. You are assured that your work will continue and the Jewish future will be bright.

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To learn more, please contact David Sharken, chair of JCA's Ldor Vdor committee at 413.439.1955 or [ledorvador@j-c-a.org](mailto:ledorvador@j-c-a.org) or go to [www.jewishlegacywesternmass.org](http://www.jewishlegacywesternmass.org)



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## World Jewish Concerns and Action Committee

### Update on the Boycott of Trader Joe's which was scheduled to take place nationally on June 19, 2009

The Jewish Federation of Western Mass sent out an urgent email on Friday, June 18th informing us that they had received word from the national Jewish Council of Public Affairs (JCPA) that anti-Israel activists in Pittsburgh walked into a Trader Joe's and proceeded to pull Israeli goods off the shelves and began to distribute misinformation materials to customers before being removed for trespassing. Additionally the Jewish Council has heard word about this from the JCRCs in Nashville and Silicon Valley. They informed us that a national call to action by these anti-Israel activists was set for Saturday, June 19th and asked that we patronize Trader Joe's to support them and Israel by buying Israeli products which they stock such as Israeli Feta cheese, cous-cous, Dorot herbs, etc.

We requested our religion committee leaders to alert our members at the Friday night and Saturday morning services about the boycott scheduled for that Saturday and to enlist their support for Trader Joe's. We have since heard that the boycott did take place in Arizona, but generally fizzled out nationally. Fortunately, Trader Joe's in Hadley was not affected, nor intimidated and on the contrary benefited from the support shown by JCA members. Thanks to all who cooperated in sending the word out and to those who patronized Trader Joe's.

[www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2009/06/023869.php](http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2009/06/023869.php)

has the full text of the JCPA message including ways to support Trader Joe's and Israel.

*Yaffa Gunner*

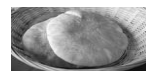
## Thank You To Those Who Have Generously Donated to Project Rehovot

Congregation B'nai Israel Religious School  
Yaffa Gunner in memory of Sholmit Cheyette  
Joya Misrat and David Mednicoff  
Sarah Steinitz and Zevey

## United Jewish Communities and The New Israel Fund

*The work of UJC and NIF helps strengthen Israel and world Jewry. Many thanks to those who generously contributed:*

Ruth Love Barer	Natalie Jarmon
Neoma Berger	Janet Klausner-Wise & Jeremy Wise
Betsy Brooks/Jon Machta	Eli Kwartler & Barbara Jenkins
Norman & Eva Brown	Susan Myers
Larry & Deb Fine	Mitchell & Janeen Resnick
Sam Gladstone & Joyce Duncan	Barbara & Ted Slovin
Marcia & Sheldon Goldman	Gerda Wald
Haim & Yaffa Gunner	Shirley & Harold Zalkind



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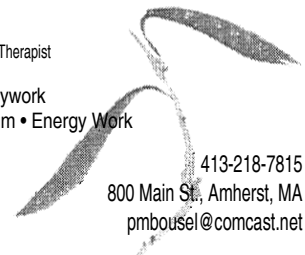
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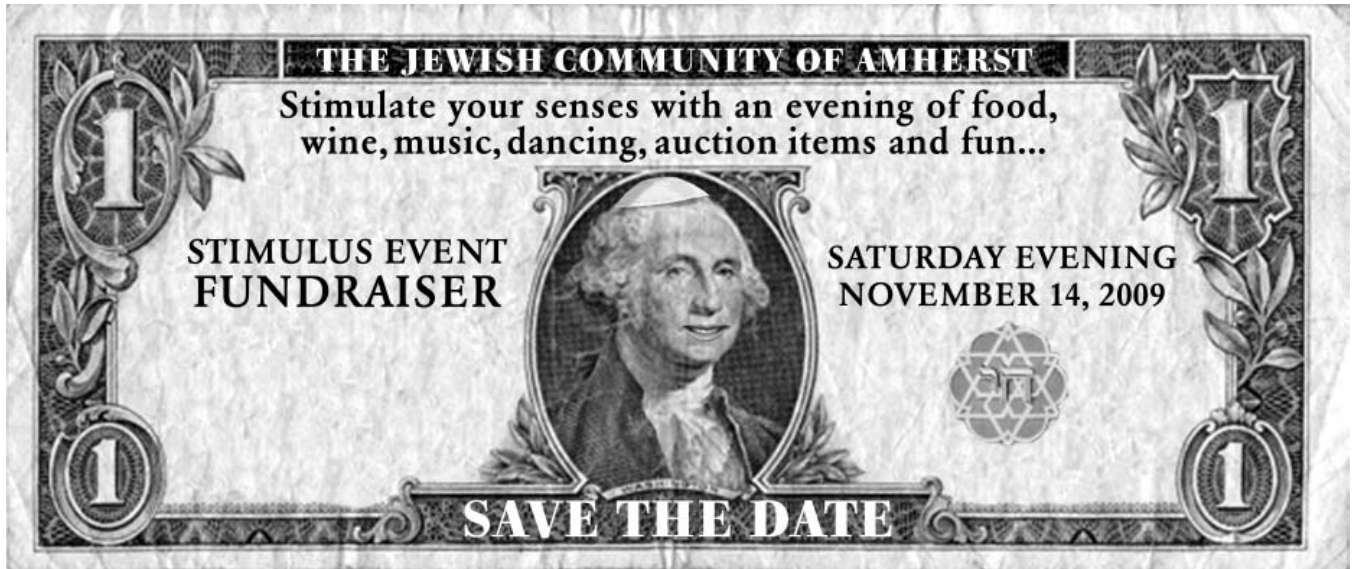
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***Get it on line!***

You can read the JCA Newsletter on line at:  
[www.j-c-a.org/news/current.pdf](http://www.j-c-a.org/news/current.pdf)

Many of our members have elected not to receive a printed copy of the Newsletter and read it on line instead (or print their own copy from the on line edition). This helps reduce the cost of producing the Newsletter each month.

Please contact the office if you no longer need to have the Newsletter mailed to you.

***The Deadline for the September Newsletter is August 12<sup>th</sup>***

All submissions MUST be made either by e-mail or e-mail with a file attached. If you do not have access to a computer or email, please contact the editor.

**PLEASE RESPECT THE DEADLINE!**

Thank you, Aaron Bousel, [news@j-c-a.org](mailto:news@j-c-a.org) 253-3544

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## ***Donations***

### **Building & Grounds**

For the new sanctuary railing (Sara & Sy Berger)

### **Chesed Committee**

In Memory of Marty Horowitz (Reed & Arnie Alper)

Batya Perman

In Memory of Marguerite Fogel (Trudee Wolkenbreit)

### **Children's Scholarship Fund**

Karen Helfer & Richard Madowitz

Holly Perry & James Selter

### **JCA General Fund**

Marcie & Richard Sclove

Ethan Resnick B'nai Tzedek Fund

In Memory of Jonathan Souweine (Joan Swerdlow-Brandt & Robert Brandt)

In Honor of the birth of Jacob Lev, grandson of Joan & Monroe Rabin (Johanna & Tom Plaut)

In Honor of the birth of Jacob, grandson of Barbara & Ted Slovin (Johanna & Tom Plaut)

In Memory of Jonathan Souweine (Judi & Kip Fonsh)

Neoma Berger

### **Prayerbook Fund**

In Memory of my father, Irving Feldman, at the commemoration of his Yahrzeit (Allan Feldman)

### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

In Memory of Marty Horowitz (Reed & Arnie Alper)

In Memory of Lucille Benda, mother-in-law of Eli Kwartler (Fran Saed)

A speedy recovery to Karen Loeb (Fran Saed)

### **Summer Camp Fund**

Joanie and Tim Cohen-Mitchell

Lisa and Deb Levheim

Rachel Schwab Rehorka and Gary Rehorka

Jana Silver and Aaron Kropf

Deborah Zeidenberg and Evan Shopper

Sara Schley and Joseph Laur

Karen and Shlomo Zilberstein

Hollie Kalkstein and Robert Weitzman

Shoshana Sokoloff and Jeff Rubin

### **Tzedakah Fund**

In Loving Memory of Pearl Hellman Levine (Elinor Levine & Scott Nielsen)

If someone in your family, or someone you know in the community, is ill and/or in the hospital, please contact Rabbi Bauer or the Chesed Committee by calling the office (256-0160). Even if visits or phone calls are not desired, it is important for us as a community to be aware of the health and well being of our members and their families. We cannot help if we don't know.

## ***Condolences***

*We offer our sympathy and heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those who have recently died:*

Lucille M. Benda, mother of Barbara Benda Jenkins and mother-in-law of Eli Kwartler

Fran Kaufman, mother of Jill Kaufman, mother-in-law of Av Harris and grandmother of Lily and Nora Harris

Brina Rotholz, mother of Pearl-Anne Margalit, mother-in-law of Nathan Margalit and grandmother of Dr. Danielle Margalit and Amy Margalit

Lillian Yellin Radler, mother of Karen Radler Hoffman and grandmother of Alexandra Hoffman

## ***New Members***

*We warmly welcome the following new members to the JCA community.*

Amy Kroin & Robert Radin and child Max

Jessica Wolff & Kevin Landau and children Nina and Harrison

Hilda & Louis Greenbaum



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Linda Cooper, Events Coordinator will make all the arrangements. Call her at 256-0160 ext. 207

## ***Are YOU the one?***

**Major mitzvah opportunity** for a special person with numerical know-how.

Our patient and knowledgeable treasurer, Alan Peterfreund, needs an understudy ... a person who will learn the ropes from Alan this year and become JCA Treasurer next year.

If you are good with numbers and think this might be the time for you to serve the JCA, or if you know of someone you think might be just the person for this important role, please contact nominating committee co-chair Judy Glaser at 253-9607 or at judyglaser@comcast.net.

## Community Announcements

### **Meditation Group**

Thursday Morning "Lecha Dumiyah Tehillah"\* Meditation Group

Every Thursday in the CBI Library, from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Led by Rabbis Nancy Flam and Sheila Peltz Weinberg

Please know that is not an instructional group. Rather, each of us comes with our own silent meditation or prayer practice and draws strength and affirmation for our deep, inner work by being together in community.

- Arrive & Settling In:  
8:00 – 8:15 a.m.
- Setting of Kavvanah/Teaching:  
8:15 – 8:25 a.m.
- Bell to begin silent meditation:  
8:25 a.m.
- Bell to end silent meditation:  
8:55 a.m.

\* "To You silence is praise."

Psalm 65:2

### **UMass Hillel's 3rd Annual Ride to Provide, September 13**

This year's Ride to Provide - a community bike ride to celebrate Sukkot and to help raise money to support Hillel's community service programs and projects - is on Sunday, September 13; just before Rosh Hashanah and coinciding with the new school year. "A New Year Ride" has planned 9, 18 and 36 mile bike routes, with a rest stop for apples and honey. Sponsorship and participation of groups from synagogues and other community organizations is needed! Last year's Ride to Provide raised more than \$52,000 for UMass Hillel students to participate in tikkun olam (repairing the world). For more info. contact: Courtney Pupkin at 781-857-2911 or cpupkin@external.umass.edu.

### **Hadassah**

Please Save The Date

September 9, 2009

Hadassah's Opening Meeting  
7:30 p.m.

Congregation B'nai Israel

Guest Speakers: Drs. Susan Schiffman and Lawrence Schiffman will speak about their recent tour of Hadassah Hospital at Ein Kerem.

Also, Len Kamins will share some of his beautiful photographs.

And, we will honor Lois Siegel for her many years of dedication and service to Hadassah.

Coffee, Tea and Dessert will be served.

### **Shabbat Under the Sky**

#### **Picnic Series in August**

**You're invited! Bring your friends!**

Later this summer, across the Pioneer Valley, Jews will connect with each other and their tradition with music, conversation, kid-friendly activities, and a picnic in beautiful outdoor settings. Choose from one or attend all: August 14 (5:30-7:30) in Northampton's Look Park/Dow Pavilion off Route 9; August 21 (6:00-7:30) at Longmeadow's Community Green & Community House, Route 5; and August 28 (5:3-7:30) at the Green River Swimming & Recreation Area, Nash's Mill Road in Greenfield. Come rain or shine. No prior knowledge of Hebrew or Jewish liturgy needed. The picnics are free and open to the public.

Gatherings will include shofar blowing practice for the upcoming Jewish New Year. One picnic will offer a puppet show, "The Shabbat Guest," based on a PJ Library book by the same name. Another picnic event features a swimming hole to cool off. Each program includes a short, guided musical

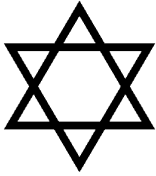
service to welcome the Sabbath ("Kabbalat Shabbat"). Look Park charges an entry fee of \$4.00/car though bikers and walkers can come free via the Bike Trail. Organizers will provide challah bread, juice, veggies & dip, and dessert. Participants should bring their own vegetarian picnic dinner (to Longmeadow and Northampton) or vegetarian potluck (to Greenfield). For more details and directions visit [www.RekindleShabbat.org](http://www.RekindleShabbat.org) or email [rekindle@jewishwestern-mass.org](mailto:rekindle@jewishwestern-mass.org)

Sponsored by the Rekindle Shabbat program in collaboration with Beit Ahavah/Florence, Congregation B'nai Israel/Northampton, Gan Keshet Preschool/Northampton, Harold Grinspoon Foundation, Jewish Community of Amherst, Heritage Academy/Longmeadow, Lander-Grinspoon Academy/Northampton, PJ Library, Sinai Temple/Springfield, Springfield JCC, Temple Beth El/Springfield, Temple Israel/Greenfield, and the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts.

### **Gan Keshet Preschool**

Gan Keshet Preschool has openings available for the 2009-10 school year. We offer a rich, stimulating play-based learning environment. Please note your family might qualify for a grant from the HGF Right Start Program. The eligibility guidelines are few. Visit the HGF website, [www.pjlibrary.org/right-start.php](http://www.pjlibrary.org/right-start.php) to learn more. Families, who qualify, receive \$500 - \$1000 towards tuition.

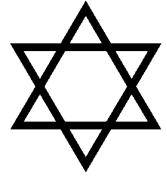
For additional information and/or to arrange a visit, please contact our Director, Wendy Stein at 584-3593 x204.



Jewish Community of Amherst

August 2009

11 Av ~ 11 Elul 5769



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <sup>11 AV</sup> Va'etchanan 10:00 am Service
2 <sup>12 AV</sup>	3 <sup>13 AV</sup> 7:30 pm Chesed Committee	4 <sup>14 AV</sup>	5 <sup>15 AV</sup> Tu B'Av 11:30 am-5:00 pm JCA Red Cross Blood Drive 7:30 pm Religion Committee	6 <sup>16 AV</sup> 7:30 pm Board Meeting	7 <sup>17 AV</sup> 7:44 5:30 pm Intergenerational family service followed by potluck supper	8 <sup>18 AV</sup> Ekev 10:00 am Service
9 <sup>19 AV</sup>	10 <sup>20 AV</sup>	11 <sup>21 AV</sup>	12 <sup>22 AV</sup> Deadline for September Newsletter	13 <sup>23 AV</sup>	14 <sup>24 AV</sup> 7:34 6:15 pm Carlebach style service followed by potluck supper	15 <sup>25 AV</sup> Re'eh 10:00 am Service
16 <sup>26 AV</sup>	17 <sup>27 AV</sup>	18 <sup>28 AV</sup>	19 <sup>29 AV</sup>	20 <sup>30 AV</sup> Rosh Chodesh Elul - Day 1	21 <sup>1 ELUL</sup> Rosh Chodesh Elul - Day 2 7:24 6:15 pm Service	22 <sup>2 ELUL</sup> Shofim 10:00 am Service
23 <sup>3 ELUL</sup>	24 <sup>4 ELUL</sup>	25 <sup>5 ELUL</sup>	26 <sup>6 ELUL</sup>	27 <sup>7 ELUL</sup>	28 <sup>8 ELUL</sup> 7:12 6:15 pm Service	29 <sup>9 ELUL</sup> Ki Tetze 10:00 am Service
30 <sup>10 ELUL</sup>	31 <sup>11 ELUL</sup>					

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