

jca

הקהילה היהודית של אמהרסט

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST

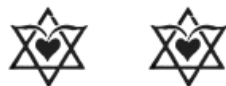


Affiliated with the
Jewish Reconstructionist
Movement

CANDLE LIGHTING

August 2 ~ 7:50 pm
August 9 ~ 7:41 pm
August 16 ~ 7:31 pm
August 23 ~ 7:20 pm
August 30 ~ 7:09 pm

*Times shown are 18 minutes
before sunset for Amherst, MA*



SPECIAL EVENTS

August 1

Art Walk and Reception

August 2

Shabbat Under The Sky
(at Groff Park)

August 31

Selichot Program & Service



MEETINGS

August 7

Education Committee
Ritual Life Committee

August 26

School Committee

August 30

Adult Ed Committee



Message from Co-President

Eva Rosenn, 549-6672, hestia_26@yahoo.com

When I was a little girl living in Brazil, my father and I went to services in places as diverse as the soaring modernist reform temple in Rio to a stone Sephardic temple with a central bima to a tiny hospital-green room down a back alley furnished with a couple of benches and lit by a bare bulb. Despite their diversity of culture, language, and practice, these congregations invariably offered my father an aliyah, the honor of reciting the blessing for the Torah reading. This warm hospitality to a visiting Jew impressed me mightily. Wherever we went, we were made welcome.

As I write this, Tisha B'Av, the ninth of the month of Av, draws near. Tisha B'Av marks the destruction of both the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem. The Temple was the place where G-d was manifest for the Jewish people, and its destruction had profound consequences for Jews that continue even now, throughout the years and the diaspora.

Whether G-d might be manifest at the JCA I leave to you; likewise, the question of whether the JCA may be a Temple with a capital T. Certainly, the JCA is a beit tefilah, a house of prayer. It is also our beit midrash, a house of study. And it is our beit kneset, a house of assembly.

I am enormously proud that at the Semi-Annual meeting, we voted overwhelmingly to change our dues structure so that it both aligns with our stated values and our need to be financially viable. In this way, may we continue to be one of those accepting congregations that so impressed me as a child, where members and visitors alike feel welcome.

By the time you read this, Tisha B'Av will be over. Perhaps you are on vacation. But the High Holidays are around the corner—they are early this year. (You know the joke—the Jewish holidays are always either early or late, but never on time.)

Enjoy the last days of summer.

B'shalom, Eva



At the Celebration of 2013 Harold Grinspoon Awards for Excellence in Jewish Education: L to R: Rabbi Weiner, Rachael Goren-Watts (Unsung Hero 2009), Cara Michelle Silverberg & Melissa Zeitz (2013 Recipients), Ruth Love Barer (2007) & Jody Rosenbloom (2003). Not shown, this year's Unsung Hero Award winner Rabbi Devorah Jacobson.

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 Benjamin Weiner

Rabbi David Dunn Bauer (2003-2010)

Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg (1989-2002)

Rabbi Emeritus Yechiael Lander

Director of Lifelong Learning: Jody Rosenbloom (256-0160 ext. 203)

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: Richard Cohen (256-6145)

Eva Rosenn (549-6672)

First Vice President: Maryann Barakso (549-5155)

Second Vice President: Michael Burkart (256-8139)

Clerk: Donna Baron (549-7246)

Treasurer: Jonathan Shefftz (256-1101)

Members:

Molly Goren-Watts, Eli Kwartler, Patty Levine,

Andra Rose, Amy Rothenberg, Bob Solosko, William Zimmer

Membership: Tobi Sznajderman (549-1795)

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

Administrative Assistants: Nora Mariano, Susan Thomas, (256-0160)

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

Events Coordinator: Karen Loeb (413-575-0774, kloeb@comcast.net)

For a list of committee chairs and members, go to:

<http://www.j-c-a.org/committees.html>

Please refer to your Guidebook for contact information.
 (If you have not received your Guidebook, 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 2013, Vol. 12, 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@gmail.com

Rob Okun: 253-9372
 raokun@verizon.net

Kitty Talan: 253-2248
 kittytalan@comcast.net

Haim Gunner: 549-0447
 haim_gunner@yahoo.com

JCA 2013/5774 High Holidays Service Schedule

Rosh Hashanah Eve – Wednesday, September 4

Reconstructionist Service: 6:00 pm

Teen Service: 6:00 pm

Masorti Service: 8:00 pm

1st Day Rosh Hashanah – Thursday, September 5

Reconstructionist Service: 9:00 - 11:00 am

Masorti Service with Musaf: 9:30 am

(Musaf: 12:15 pm, approximately)

Youth Activity Time: 9:00 am

Shofarot Program: 10:00 am

Family Service: 11:30 am

Tashlich at Groff Park: 4:00 pm

2nd Day Rosh Hashanah - Friday, September 6

Masorti Service with Musaf: 9:30 am

(Musaf: 12:15 pm, approximately)

Mountain Service: 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

(Meet at Notch Visitor's Center, Route 116)

Kol Nidre – Friday, September 13

Reconstructionist Service: 6:00 pm

Masorti Service: 8:00 pm

Yom Kippur – Saturday, September 14

Reconstructionist Service: 9:00 - 11:00 am

Masorti Service with Yiskor and Musaf: 9:30 am

(Yiskor: 11:45 am, Musaf: 12:15 pm, approximately)

Youth Activity Time: 9:00 am

Shofarot Program: 10:00 am

Family Service: 11:30 am

Minchah Service: 5:45 pm

Ne'ilah Service: 7:15 pm (approximately)

Tekiah Gedolah: 7:43 pm

Rabbi Liaison Committee

The committee meets monthly with the rabbi.

The purpose of the Rabbi Liaison Committee is to support and enhance the rabbi-congregational relationship by:

1. Serving as a channel to communicate comments, issues and/or complaints from congregants who would prefer not to contact the rabbi directly.
2. Meeting with the rabbi to help with processing and thinking through issues or concerns that are raised either by congregants or by the rabbi.

All congregants are encouraged to speak to members of the committee about any concerns they may have that they would like to be brought to the rabbi's attention.

All information is shared only with the rabbi and the committee and will be held in confidence.

Amy Mittelman 256-0883, amGU@hampshire.edu

David Levit 548-1083, dblevit@crocker.com

Aaron Bousel 253-3544, abousel@comcast.net

Barbara Burkart 256-8139, barbruth@comcast.net

Deb Fine 256-1572, zohar01@comcast.net

Ted Slovin 253-3518, tslovin@acad.umass.edu



Ritual Life Committee

Yossi Bryer-Charette, Co-chair, 860-559-4926, pcharette@lightingaffiliates.com
Sarah Thomson, Co-chair, 413-253-2930, allset22@verizon.net

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

August 2, Friday

5:30 PM- Shabbat Under the Sky, at Groff Park
Service, and poluck supper with storytelling with Rona
Leventhal. Challah, juice and dessert provided (see page 9)
Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

August 3, Saturday

10:00 AM
Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



August 6/7, Tuesday/Wednesday-

Rosh Chodesh Elul



Shabbat Shofetim, *Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9*

August 9, Friday

6:15 PM
Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

August 10, Saturday

10:00 AM
Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



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

August 16, Friday

6:15 PM
Farbrengen Friday
Service Leader: To be announced

August 17, Saturday

10:00 AM
Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



Shabbat Ki Tavo, *Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8*

August 23, Friday

6:15 PM
Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

August 24, Saturday

10:00 AM
Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



Shabbat Nitzavim/Vayelech

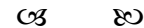
Deuteronomy 29:9-31:30

August 30, Friday

6:15 PM-
Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
Speaker: Simone Alter-Muir will speak about her work
currently on display in the JCA Hall Gallery.

August 31, Saturday

10:00 AM
Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



August 31, Saturday- Selichot

8:30 PM
Program and Selichot Service (see next page for details)



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

Meditation Minyan

The weekday meditation minyan continues
to meet every Wednesday at 7:30 am
in the small sanctuary.

Shacharit (morning) Minyan

The weekday shacharit minyan continues
to meet every Tuesday at 7:30 am
in the small sanctuary.

Kiddush and Oneg Sponsors

July 13-

Barbara and Gordon Freed, in honor of Gordon's 60th birthday

July 20-

Bernie and Elissa Rubinstein, in celebration of a summer of family simchat

August 3-

Jayne Pearl in honor of her parents

If you would like to help with or sponsor a kiddush, please contact Karen Loeb at: 413-575-0774 or at kloeb@comcast.net

First Friday Evening Family Service

Please join us on the first Friday of the 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. This month's service will be held at Groff Park as part of the Shabbat Under The Sky series and will feature storytelling by Rona Leventhal.

Farbrengen Friday

The tradition of a farbrengen, a joyous gathering for melody and learning in honor of holy Jewish time, comes out of Chabad-Lubavitch Hasidism. The JCA's farbrengen begins with a Kabbalat Shabbat service in which we emphasize the singing of, and absorption in, Jewish liturgical music over and above excessive words of orientation and explanation--something that can captivate the spirit even if you don't happen to be an expert in this music.

Following the service, we have a potluck supper, and as we sit around sharing our Shabbat meal, we sing zemirot and niggunim, (songs and wordless melodies) and invite people to offer words of Torah and wisdom, and maybe even explore other ways to experience our creativity in celebration of Shabbat.

We hope you will join us in the evolution of this program.

Torah Reading Co-ordination

If you are interested in reading Torah and would like to schedule a time to read, please contact:

Robert Friedman, robertofriedman@hotmail.com (for reading in September)

Eliza Gouverneur, elizagouv@msn.com, 256-6145 (for reading in October)

If you would like to learn to read Torah, or would like help choosing or preparing a reading, please contact **Batya Perman, 549-4853, batya1818@gmail.com**.

Thank You To Volunteers

The ritual life committee would like to thank those who have given their time and expertise in service to the ritual life of the community:

- our June and July Torah readers: **Joseph Boucher, Aaron Bousel, Vera Broekhuysen, Roi Hill-Cohen, Jan Levy, Noah Madowitz, Batya Perman, Bernie and Elissa Rubinstein, Miriam Trobaugh and family and friends**
- our July 20 Haftorah reader: **Aaron Rubinstein**
- June and July lay service leaders: **Ruth Love Barer, Aaron Bousel, Diana Brewer, Yossi Charette, Gordon Freed, Eliza Gouverneur and Richard Cohen, Talya Laster, Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser**
- June and July d'var Torah givers: **Gordon Freed, Robin Harmatz, Noah Madowitz, Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser, Bernie Rubinstein, Miriam Trobaugh**
- Tisha b'Av: **Ruth Love Barer** for leading the service, **Eliza Gouverneur** for bringing the poetry we read

Selichot

Community Selichot Service: *I Have a Dream*

Preparing for the High Holydays

26 Elul 5773 ~ Saturday, Aug 31, 8:30 p.m.

Joint Community Program at the JCA

Led by the Rabbis of Beit Ahavah, Congregation B'nai Israel, Jewish Community of Amherst and Temple Israel of Greenfield

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 the JCA. Thank you.

Prayerbook Fund

The focus of the Prayerbook Fund is now the purchase of the recently published ***Mahzor Lev Shalem*** to be used in the masorti high holiday services.

We expect to begin transitioning to ***Mahzor Lev Shalem*** at this year's high holiday masorti services.

You can order books for yourself and for the JCA. Dedication plates are available at no extra charge for books ordered for the JCA.

Order forms and more information are available on the JCA website at:

<http://j-c-a.org/mahzor-order.pdf>

and in the JCA lobby.

Education News

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



NewCAJE – JCA Sends Three Attendees

With the national Jewish education conference NewCAJE in Massachusetts this July, representation from the JCA included **Jody Rosenbloom, Marlene Rachelle** (5th Grade teacher & family educator) and **Ariella Schwell** (Tot Shabbat leader and member of JCATots advisory & education committees). The conference brought together Jewish educators from across the movements, education programs, and Judiac resources to study and network with the intention of sharing the best practices for Jewish education. Registration fees and transportation were underwritten thanks to professional development grants through the **Resource Center for Jewish Education** and our own JCA teacher professional development fund.

For Fall Programs: Recruit and Register Now

August is the time for preparing for the new year. Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur will bring our community together in early September. We need families planning to have their children in JCA School to register now as we finalize staffing and resources in order for the opening of school. Registration information was sent to families with students currently enrolled in JCA School in May. 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.* Encourage any of your friends or acquaintances that may be interested in starting their children in JCA School, to contact the office.

Report Card for our 2012-13 Education Priorities

In JCA School we continued with three specific goals: 1) Continuity (children want to get to know teachers, classmates and the material), 2) Flexibility (options other than traditional classes, more community learning activities) and 3) Quality of teachers/learning experience. As we reflect on this past year:

- **We Retained vital programming amidst multiple transitions.** Despite a significant turnover in JCA School staff, a new administrative assistant and two family leaves (new babies to Rabbi Weiner and Rachael Goren Watts) we had strong community programming and support. Volunteers helped out. Competent staff was hired and veteran staff was asked to work more hours to smooth transitions, so we incurred increased but anticipated salary expenses for the year.
- **We enhanced holiday programs open to families**

and adult community members and built on the influx of families with young children. In November, February & March, we brought the community together for **Shabbat B’Yachad** to include school age children and their families in place of Sunday School. This included a Shabbat morning family service with multiple approaches to Torah study, music & prayer. We started a JCA Tot’s advisory committee to look at offerings for families with young children. Tot Shabbat took place each month on the first Friday. **Upcoming:** Enrich holiday connections & Shabbat morning service options with Shabbat B’Yachad. Explore **Tot Shabbat** offerings on Saturday mornings. Evaluate monthly Havurah Ketana havdallah programming on Saturday afternoons.

- **We collaborated within the JCA on programs.** Mitzvah Day was a great success and we plan to have another one this upcoming year.
- **We experimented with using technology to support activities:** The Shalom Sunday class year was summarized with a video/slide show DVD presentation, teen programs used on-line registration, 4th grade participated in a phone call/Skype interview of a mitzvah hero, and the 7th grade made some UTube videos of learner’s minyan prayers. And while the education and school committees discussed some of

continued on next page

Calendar

Fri, Aug. 2	Shabbat Family Service at Groff Park at 5:30 followed by a potluck dinner with guest storyteller, Rona Leventhal. Sponsored by Rekindle Shabbat.
Wed, Aug. 7	Education Committee from 5:45-7:00pm
Mon, Aug. 26	School Committee from 7:00-8:30pm
Wed, Sept. 18	Open House for School & Teen programs from 4:00-5:30 Sukkot Family Festivities from 4:00-7:00 pm
Sat, Sept. 21	Opening Day for 7th graders with parents 10:00 - 11:00am
Sun, Sept. 22	JCA School Opening Day – Students in Grades 1-6
Sat, Sept. 28	Josh Wilkinson becomes Bar Mitzvah
Sun, Sept. 29	Shalom Sunday from 10:00 am-11:45 pm

continued from previous page

the on-line learning initiatives available in the market place (e.g. Shalom Learning), the decision was made to focus on teacher strengths and community building without investing in hardware and technology at this time.

- **B'Tzelem Elohim/In God's Image:** The on-going parent education & support group for building Jewish identity with children with special needs is moving to a new stage of involvement – looking to work with the school and congregation to mentor, educate and share in developing resources for direct service for our activities.
- **We are building on the resources we share as part of the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts.** Our initial seed money went toward purchasing more copies of Kol Noar – our children's prayerbook that is regularly used as our tot Shabbat programs boom and attendance at learners minyan is increasing. We have seen an increased comfort and familiar-

ity with services.

- **Camp Shemesh is strengthening administrative systems and counselor quality under the leadership of director, Cara Michelle Silverberg.** We made steps to clarifying links and supervision within camp and between camp committee and JCA infrastructure. Cara received a Gendler Grapevine grant to further the programming that connects Judaism with agriculture, environment and greening at the JCA.

The Education Committee shares responsibility to build, coordinate and vitalize lifelong education at the JCA and monitor our progress (chair, **Andra Rose**). The School Committee focuses specifically on formal education in grades PK-7 (chair, **Amy Kroin**). We are looking for new membership in both committees.

Thank-You To:

Deborah Evans for her years on our school and education committees.



In The Works For Fall Teen Programming

The High Holiday Teen Service:

Gather with other teens for a pizza dinner, a simple service and discussion about the new year, and to learn about the JCAs teen programs for upcoming year. Join us in the Social Hall erev Rosh Hashanah – the first night of the new year.

JVCorps:

Jewish Volunteer Corps for Teens allows teens to volunteer at the Amherst Survival Center (once a month on a Thursday) to prepare, serve, and clean-up a meal for the visitors. Teens can volunteer as often or infrequently as they are able. Teens can volunteer for the early slot (3:45-5:30 pm) or late slot (5:15-7:00 pm). Sessions are chaperoned by a trained madrich(a) (assistant in 11th or 12th grade) and parent volunteers. Register for this program if you are interested in volunteering during the 2013-14 year. This program is sponsored by the JCA and open to any interested teen (you do not need to be a member of the JCA) in grades 7 and above. Contact: Janet Kannel.

Teva Torah For Grades 7-9:

After a successful pilot year we are continuing to offer "Teva Torah," a Jewish environmental education and leadership series led by Cara Michelle Silverberg, our Camp Shemesh Director. This program meets monthly to build community, practice earth living skills, and explore nature-based Jewish traditions and teachings. It is sponsored by the JCA and is open to any interested teen in grades 7-9. Contact: Cara Michelle Silverberg at jcateengroup@gmail.com.

Confirmation Class:

Confirmation class offers a unique opportunity for teens to continue their Jewish education post-b'nai mitzvah with Rabbi Weiner and other educators in our community. This 3-segment program will include sessions on comparative religions with field trips, Jewish perspectives in current event & ethical dilemmas, and Torah study in preparation for the Confirmation Shavuot service in early June. In addition, there will be travel outside of Western Massachusetts (TBD). Confirmation runs from October through May and is open to any interested teen in grades 10-12. Contact: Jody Rosenbloom.

Teva Torah Summer Adventure
(see next page)

Teva Torah Summer Adventure!

Shabbat Canoe Trip – August 16 - 18, 2013
Paddle, hike and explore around Gillette Castle on
the CT River!

Open to teens entering 7th -9th grades.

Registration Information:

- Sliding scale of \$410-\$450 includes all food, transportation and van rental, highly qualified staff, gear, day and evening programming, and campsite fees.
- Up to 50% of registration fees are eligible for funding by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation Year Round Youth Grant! Apply by July 26.
- Register by emailing jcateengroup@gmail.com for registration forms, or by stopping by the information table in the JCA lobby.

Teva Torah is a program of the Jewish Community of Amherst serving 7th-9th graders and is open to all teens in the Valley. It meets once per month throughout the school year to build community, practice earth living skills, and explore nature-based Jewish traditions and teachings. Most of our events take place in Wendell, MA on Sundays. For more information or to register for the 2013-2014 school year, visit <http://jcateens.eventbrite.com> or contact Cara Michelle Silverberg at jcateengroup@gmail.com.



Shabbat
under the
Sky

August 2
Amherst • Groff Park
Springfield • JCC Picnic Grove

August 16
Greenfield • Green River Rec. Park
Northampton • Look Park

All Events
5:30 - 7:30 pm
rain or shine

Connect with old friends
and meet some new ones!
Enjoy a short musical service
to welcome Shabbat with
a sing along, story-telling or
a puppet show and shofar
blowing practice for the
New Year.
Bring a vegetarian potluck
to share. Challah, juice,
dessert, and paper products
provided.

Shabbat Under the Sky is sponsored by Rekindle Shabbat,
a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.
Picnic co-sponsors: Beit Ahavah/Florence,
Congregation B'nai Israel, Northampton,
Gan Keshet Jewish Community Preschool/Northampton,
Jewish Community of Amherst,
Lander-Grinspoon Academy/Northampton,
Camp Shemesh/Amherst,
the Springfield Jewish Community Center
and Temple Israel/Greenfield.

Info
and directions
www.rekindleshabbat.org

Shabbat Under The Sky

August 2—South Amherst

Location: Groff Park
Address: Route 116
Entertainment: Storytelling by Rona Leventhal

August 2—Springfield

Location: Jewish Community Center Picnic Grove
Address: 1160 Dickinson Street
Entertainment: Stories and puppets by Kate Holdsworth

August 16—Greenfield

Location: Green River Swimming & Recreation Area
Address: Nash's Mill Road
Entertainment: Music and stories by Felicia Sloin

August 16—Northampton

Location: Look Park
Address: Route 9, Westwoods Shelter
Entertainment: Puppet show by JCA member Anna Sobel

Organizers will provide challah bread, juice, dessert, and paper products. Participants should bring a vegetarian potluck item to share.

The Shabbat Under the Sky picnic series is sponsored by Rekindle Shabbat, a program supported by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. Picnic co-sponsors include Beit Ahavah/Florence, Congregation B'nai Israel/Northampton, Gan Keshet Jewish Community Preschool/Northampton, Jewish Community of Amherst, Lander-Grinspoon Academy/Northampton, Camp Shemesh/Amherst, the Springfield Jewish Community Center, and Temple Israel/Greenfield.

JCA Adult Reading Group

The first of four meetings of the year of the ARG will be on Thursday October 4, 2013, at 7:30 PM in the JCA library. We will be discussing the work of a woman author, Anouk Markovits, and the book is: *I Am Forbidden*, which is available in paperback and kindle. We will discuss 4 books from September through May. We alternate female and male Jewish writers. Most of the time we choose fiction and all the time we have a rich and worthwhile discussion. Come join us-for one time or all 4 times; new participants are always welcome! Any questions, please call Ken Talan, 253-2248.

Ride To Provide

Save Sunday, October 6 for UMass Hillel's 7th annual Ride to Provide. Enjoy the beautiful fall countryside with your choice of 9, 18 or 36 mile bike ride or 5k Stride to Provide. Registration begins August 1 at www.umasshillel.org/ridetoprovide. A great award-winning event for all ages that supports Hillel's community service programs and environmentally friendly projects. Sign up as part of a team of 5 or more to share proceeds 50/50 with your organization or as an individual rider. Don't miss this wonderful Valley-wide event! For more information contact Courtney Pupkin: cpupkin@external.umass.edu.

Visit the Rekindle Shabbat page on Facebook
and share with friends!

<http://www.facebook.com/RekindleShabbat>

Yom Kippur Food Collection

Of course, your food contributions are welcome and encouraged all year long but traditionally we make an extra effort on Yom Kippur. During Yom Kippur, the Haftarah we read includes Prophet Isaiah's words imploring us, as we fast, *to share your bread with the hungry* (58:7). Please bring non-perishable food donations to help stock the Amherst Survival Center's Emergency Food Pantry, serving those in need in our community. The number of families depending on the Survival Center has increased dramatically over the past several years. As you may know, funding and other sources of food have significantly decreased. When you enter the JCA lobby on Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur Day, please deposit your greatly needed donations, perhaps the equivalent of one day's food, in the collection boxes. A collection box will be in place anytime before or after Yom Kippur if you wish to contribute then. THANK YOU!

EVERYONE

GET READY FOR...

THE GRAND JCA AUCTION!COMING NOVEMBER 16TH, 2013**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**
GET OFF YOUR TUCHES!HOW WILL YOU PARTICIPATE?
WHAT WILL YOU DONATE?
JOIN THE COMMITTEE!Plenty of tasks large & small await
willing hands in coming weeks and months:Stuffing envelopes; computer work; picking
up donations; setting up tables...**Teens** are very welcome –
in fact 2 have already committed!**Contact Maryann now to let her know
how you will help.**~~~~~
Let's make this the
BEST JCA AUCTION YET!

jca.auction2013@gmail.com

*Create Your Jewish Legacy...**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.

...through a gift in Your Estate

To learn more, please contact
David Sharken, chair of JCA's
Ldor Vdor committee at
413.297.5500 or
ledorvador@j-c-a.org
or go to
www.jewishlegacywesternmass.org



**Leave a
Jewish Legacy**

Have you checked out the
JCA Judaica Store lately?
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Project Backpack

Collecting new backpacks and school supplies for Amherst students until August 9

Once again, the JCA will participate with the Amherst schools in collecting backpacks and school supplies for **Project Backpack**, which assists income eligible students in having necessary school supplies.

Please bring new backpacks and school supplies to put in the collecting box in the foyer of the JCA. The Tikkun Olam committee will deliver the materials to the school in time for distribution to students in mid-August.

The Project Backpack initiative is designed to support and assist income-eligible families in the districts to acquire the necessary and grade-appropriate school supplies children need on the first day of school and academic year. The goal of the program is to provide 900 back packs for elementary, middle and high school students. Under the direction of the Office of the Superintendent and in keeping with the Social Justice Commitment of the Amherst-Pelham and Regional Public Schools, Project Backpack aspires toward equity of opportunity, inclusion, respect and community-building in and out of the classroom. New backpacks and supplies will be accepted from June 1-August 9.

Our goal is to help ease the financial burden the start of the school year can mean for families struggling financially, states Amherst Regional Public Schools Superintendent Ma-

ria Geryk. *Project Backpack is made possible by the generosity of the entire community. This program provides backpacks filled with appropriate, grade-level supplies to families who qualify for income-eligible families. We have once again partnered with groups in our community to make Project Backpack a tremendous success. In 2012, through the generosity of individuals, businesses, civic organizations, and faith groups in the greater Amherst community, over 400 backpacks with supplies were distributed. In addition, \$300 was received in support of the project and those funds were used to purchase additional backpacks and supplies. I am deeply grateful for the community's outreach, involvement and support of this initiative.*

School Supplies List

Pre-K- 5th Grade: new/unused backpacks, assignment books, notebooks (single subject), construction paper, English/Spanish dictionary, atlas, thesaurus, erasers, 2-pocket folders, glue sticks, markers, crayons, pencils #2, pens (blue/black/red), colored pencils, pencil sharpeners, pencil cases, bookmarks, rulers

6th -12th Grade: new/unused backpacks, assignment books, notebooks (single subject), loose leaf paper, graph paper, 2-pocket folders, 3-ring binders, 3-ring pencil cases, calculators (basic, scientific, or graphing), rulers, protractors, compasses, flash drives, English dictionary, English/Spanish dictionary, atlas, thesaurus, pens (blue/black/red), pencils #2

Thank You For Your Generous Donations To Project Rehovot

Barbara and Gordon Freed
Yaffa Gunner
Henia Lewin
Eva Rosenn in honor of Yaffa Gunner's 90th Birthday

Tech Savvy Volunteer Needed for Very Important and Specific Task!

The JCA wants to update our website, allowing for improved appearance and use for our community, easier updating of content, and integration of social media. We're hoping to use the Drupal platform. We expect to hire someone to migrate our website to a new design and platform. We have a couple of people who are willing to help with the process but we need a leader. Is it you?!

If you or someone you know is knowledgeable about website creation, especially on content management systems, and can help facilitate the process of hiring and coordinating with a consultant to redesign our community website, we need your help! This is a volunteer position that will likely take a few months. Once the new website is created, your job will be complete!

Please contact Molly Goren-Watts with any questions or to volunteer! m.gorenwatts@gmail.com



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JCA Hall Gallery

Exhibit: No One Is Home: Barcodes Suburbia And The Holocaust

Simone Alter-Muri And Harriet Graicerstein

Dates: August 1 - October 25, 2013

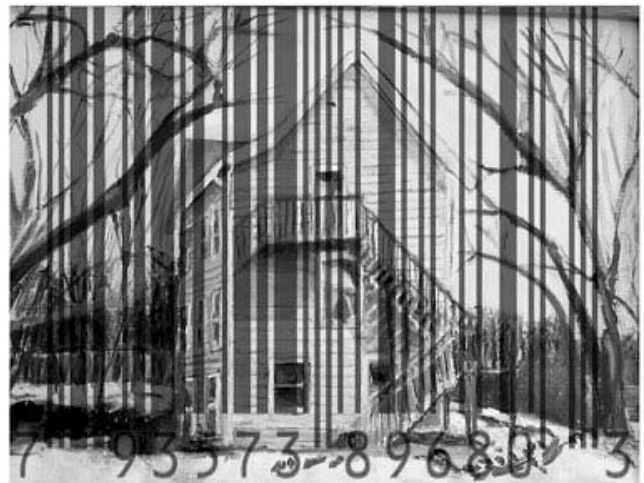
This mother daughter collaboration evokes reflections about labels, identity, and inhumanity. Today, barcodes are everywhere; we take them for granted. Just as people are dehumanized during genocides, Simone’s artwork explores the connection between using prisoner tattoos to “count” persons while “dis-counting” their personal identities and the barcodes in today’s society that interpose abstraction between people and products. The exhibit looks at surveillance in the past, and also makes reference to the role of modern technology, and how it can be used to spy on people. In both cases, surveillance and control are facilitated.

Simone’s artwork developed during her Holocaust series, inspired by a research trip to Auschwitz, Poland that was a personal pilgrimage as well as an aspect of her academic research. Not only did she have relatives who were killed there, but Simone was named after an uncle, Seymour, killed in the war. Thus her name bears the legacy of man’s inhumanity towards man.

Connections to the past are exemplified by Simone’s collaboration with the art of her mother Harriet, an artist celebrating her 85th birthday. Harriet’s paintings depict empty suburban houses surrounded by natural landscapes. Like snapshots that appear real, they evoke questions about whether the people who live there actually see the beauty around them. These houses relate to Simone’s experience in Auschwitz and other

concentration camps, where she saw the beauties of nature and homes behind the gates of the concentration camp.

This exhibit makes us wonder about the many things we may take for granted, such as labels, lines, and being at home but not looking outside. It extends beyond the usual mission of Holocaust exhibitions which exhort the public “not to forget” about the genocide and inhumanity of the past, but to confront the prevailing prejudice in the present. It explores the parallels between the social aspects of the Holocaust, such as the erosion of the rights of the Jewish people and the willful ignorance of the general populace. This awareness is reflected in contemporary indifference in suburbia, and suggests that humanity harbors the potential to foster genocide once again.




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News From The Jewish Reconstructionist Movement

A Unique Opportunity: RRC President's Job Description

The presidential search committee has released the president's job description, and we are asking for your help circulating it. The movement is seeking a visionary leader to head our restructured organization. The new president will lead and manage the organization, provide leadership for the communities and individuals affiliated with Reconstructionist Judaism, and head outreach to other Jewish and progressive audiences. In addition, he or she will support and strengthen the rabbinical training program in its commitment to both rigorous academics and spiritual and practical wisdom. The president serves as chief executive officer, intellectual lead, and development lead.

For the full job description, please visit www.JewishRecon.org/presidentsjob.

Meet the Newest Reconstructionist Rabbis

In June, the Reconstructionist movement gave the world eight new rabbis. Doris Dyen, Anne Feibelman, Lori Feldstein Gardner, Leslie Hilgeman, Shulamit Izen, Kelilah Miller, Saul Oresky and Alanna Sklover graduated from RRC in a beautiful ceremony held at a local synagogue. Learn more about the 2013 graduating class and watch a video of the response they delivered on graduation day at www.rrc.edu/2013grads.

Under the Rainbow Huppah

Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum, RRC '90, and several of her congregants at Congregation Beit Simchat Torah in New York City—the world's largest LGBT congregation—speak compellingly in a Jewish Forward video following the Supreme Court's DOMA ruling. Watch the video and read the article at <http://www.rrc.edu/news-media/news/under-rainbow-huppah>.

Time to Buy Your Mahzor

The High Holidays will be here before you know it. The first day of Rosh HaShanah is September 5. It's time to order mahzors.

Our mahzor is an inclusive, comprehensive volume for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services—one that is rooted in the traditional Hebrew liturgy, yet fully contemporary. Orders must be placed by Monday, August 26 in order to ensure delivery in time for the holiday.

The Press is also offering 5774 / 2013-2014 Jewish pocket calendars. Quantities are limited and calendars are sold on a first come, first served basis. Purchase your mahzor, calendar and more at www.jewishrecon-books.org.

Celebrating Babies

Know any new babies in the community?

The JCA's Chesed and Membership Committees have teamed up with Havurah K'tana (Little Friends Circle) to welcome new babies into our community with a Shalom Baby Basket.

Please contact us when you learn of families with a new baby (JCA members or potential members).

We will stop by with a decorated basket containing a menorah, PJ Library book, and a card made by children in the JCA Religious School as well as information about area Jewish resources for families. We'll also bring a meal and a plate of goodies for the family!

Please contact Ariella Schwell at ariellachef@yahoo.com or 230-3694 or Reed Alper at reedmangels@comcast.net or 549-0438.

The Deadline for the September Newsletter is August 12th

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 253-3544

Food For The Hungry

The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts estimates that over 100,000 people in Western Mass struggle with hunger. No one should be hungry. If we are able, when we come to the JCA, let us make it our practice to bring a donation of non-perishable food to be distributed to those in need.

 <p>Moving MENTOR Guiding you through the moving process</p> <p><i>We can help you move life along</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do you need to organize your life? ■ Get paperwork under control? ■ Clear some space? ■ Plan a move? <p>Rethinking Moving Since 1996 www.movingmentor.com 413-549-1039</p>	<p><i>Hands of Patience</i></p> <p>Patience Meigs Bousel, CTP, CSE, LMT Certified Trager® Practitioner, Clinical Somatic Educator, Licensed Massage Therapist</p> <p><i>Experience peace and calm through deeply relaxing touch.</i></p> <p><i>Discover the joy of moving with freedom and ease.</i></p> <p>413-218-7815 800 Main St., Amherst, MA pmbousel@comcast.net</p> 
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The Garden of Martyrs


A New Opera by JCA Member Eric Sawyer (composer) and Harley Erdman (librettist)

The *Garden of Martyrs* is a new American opera making its world premiere on September 20 & 22, 2013, at Northampton's historic Academy of Music <<http://www.academyofmusictheatre.com/>>, with the Springfield Symphony Orchestra <<http://www.springfieldsymphony.org/>>, conducted by maestro Kevin Rhodes.

The opera, a creation of JCA member and composer Eric Sawyer and librettist Harley Erdman, powerfully recounts an incident that transfixed our region two centuries ago--the trial of Dominic Daley and James Halligan, two Irishmen condemned and hung for a murder they did not commit. Combining the dramatic reality of these men's final days with moments of reverie and magic, *The Garden of Martyrs* asks us to open our minds and hearts to outsiders among us.


Tickets are available at the Academy of Music Box office. See www.thegardenofmartyrsopera.com for more details.

	Mak'hela The Jewish Chorus of Western Massachusetts מקהלה
	<h1>Open Rehearsal</h1>
	Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2013 7:30PM
	Lander-Grinspoon Academy (LGA Schechter) 257 Prospect Street, Northampton
	Mak'hela performs diverse music from our Jewish heritage: classical tradition, sacred and secular music, folk and world music, in Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino, and English. We strive to build sacred bridges to understanding and respect, using the universal language of music.
	Mak'hela rehearses every Tuesday evening at LGA Schechter, and performs in synagogues and concert halls throughout the Pioneer Valley.
	Prospective members are welcome. We seek choral singers for all voice parts.
	For more information, contact Bonnie Mikesh bpmikesh@comcast.net or 413-567-3297 or visit us online at www.makhela.org
	<small>Supported in part by a grant from the Jewish Arts & Culture Initiative of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation</small>



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Detail: A Wimpel for Isaac, 2009



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Jacqueline Mosselson & Scott Ardizzone

Diana & Sara Brewer

Talya & Christopher Kingston

Leah & John Mosimann

James Seltzer & Holly Perry

General Fund

Cynthia & Joseph Gensheimer

Sigrid & Robert Pollin

Melanie Klein

Joy Ladin

In memory of Maralin Weinberg (Barbara & Michael Burkart)

Leah & John Mosimann

In memory of Alex Chajes (Lewis & Caden Mainzer)

Remembering my father, Morris Greenblatt's Yartzheit (Joan Rabin)

Guidebook Donation

Elissa & Bernie Rubinstein

Judy & Allen Davis

Judy Glaser & Robert Stern

Caden & Lewis Mainzer

Elaine & Arnold Trehub

Jeanne & Robert Potash

Judy Young

Prayerbook Fund

In memory of my sister, Lois Litt, at the commemoration of her Yahrzeit (Allan Feldman)

Elissa & Bernie Rubinstein

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Freida Howards

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Summer Camp Fund

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Rachel Schwab-Rehorka & Gary Rehorka

Karen & Aaron Saiewitz

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World Jewish Concerns

In honor of Yaffa Gunner's 90th Birthday

Freida Howards

Eli Kwartler & Barbara Jenkins

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Angela Fina

Judy Glaser & Robert Stern

Jane & James Wald

Condolences

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

Irma Bennett Mednicoff, mother of David Mednicoff, mother-in-law of Joya Misra and grandmother of Amina and Rabi.

Dr. Raghunath P. Misra, father of Joya Misra, father-in-law of David Mednicoff and grandfather of Amina and Rabi.

Elsa Roth, wife of Herbert Roth; mother of Debbi Roth-Howe and Janet Walters; mother-in-law of Jeff Roth-Howe and Anthony Walters; grandmother of Leah Roth-Howe, Carl Siebing, Evan Roth-Howe, Daniel Walters, Rachel Walters, and Jessica Walters; and great-grandmother of Tuva Siebing.

Arnold Brainin, father of Robert Brainin, grandfather of Sam and Philip Brainin and father-in-law of Ruth Hutton.

Harry Bernstein, father of Herb Bernstein and father-in-law of Mary Bernstein.

Ruth Laur, mother of Joe Laur, mother-in-law of Sara Schley and grandmother of Maya and Samuel.

New or Returning Members

We warmly welcome the following people to the JCA community:

Jane Myers

Steven & Betty Schwartz

If someone in your family, or someone you know in the community, is ill and/or in the hospital, please contact 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.

Community Announcements

Florence Melton Adult Mini-School

The popular **Florence Melton Adult Mini-School** course on Jewish living is enrolling now for the coming year.

Thirty weeks of two courses per night will be held at Lander Grinspoon Academy in Northampton from 7:00-9:00pm on Wednesday nights, beginning October 9, 2013.

Year One Topics include: "The Rhythms of Jewish Living" and "The Purposes of Jewish Living."

No prior knowledge needed; no homework; lively discussions; interfaith family members welcome!

Cost: \$380. (Fee may be paid in three installments.)

Contact Shoshana Zonderman (Upper Valley Melton Coordinator) with questions 584-7743 or _srz35@comcast.net.

To enroll, contact Nanci Martine (registrar) at 413-584-3593 or bnai.israel@verizon.net <<mailto:bnai.israel@verizon.net>>.

Fliers with enrollment forms are in the JCA office.

The Adoption And Jewish Identity Project Is Looking For Stories!

Are you, or is someone you know, an adoptee between the ages of 18 and 36 who was raised in a family that identified at least in part as Jewish?

In the coming year, we will be gathering stories from young adult adoptees raised in American Jewish families. This effort is part of a research study by the Adoption and Jewish Identity Project (AJIP), which aims to improve the lives of Jewish adoptive families by creating broader understanding of the unique religious, cultural, and identity issues they face.

If you are an adoptee interested in sharing your story, please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AJIPAdopteeQuestionnaire> to tell us a little bit about yourself, and we'll be back in touch with you with more details.

We will keep all information provided in these questionnaires completely confidential. Adoptees will be given the opportunity to choose whether to be identified by name or to remain anonymous in any publications or products that result from this project.

Please note: Adoptees do not have to identify currently as Jewish in order to participate.

Questions? Please email us at: adoptionandjewishidentity@gmail.com.

The Adoption and Jewish Identity Project is dedicated to improving the lives of adoptees raised in Jewish families by creating broader understanding of the unique religious, cultural, and identity issues they and their families face. AJIP is directed by Dr. Jennifer Sartori and Dr. Jayne Guberman. Sartori is Associate Director of Jewish Studies at Northeastern University, and Guberman is an independent scholar and oral history consultant.

Amherst Survival Center

Got couches, chairs, desks, bureaus or other gently used furniture you'd like to move along?

Consider donating it to the Amherst Survival Center this summer.

All contributions are tax deductible.

We'll even pick it up for a small fee!

See our website or contact us for more information or to arrange for pickup or drop-off.

www.amherstsurvival.org

Hadassah and The Israel Committee of Congregation B'nai Israel Presents:

When the C word – "Collaboration" is not a dirty word

The Israel Committee of Congregation B'nai Israel and The Northampton-Amherst Chapter of Hadassah Present: When the C word – "Collaboration"-- is not a dirty word: How Hadassah leads in Israeli-Palestinian efforts to bring peace and prosperity to a very tense region. Guest speaker: CAROL GOODMAN KAUFMAN Ph.D. Carol Good-

man Kaufman of Worcester, Mass, is the Chair of Hadassah Academic College, the only accredited institution in downtown Jerusalem. It attracts and offers many scholarships to non-traditional students, whether Jewish, Moslem or Christian. Carol is the author of *Sins Of Omission: the Jewish Community's Reaction to Domestic Violence*. She currently chairs the Jewish Community Relations Council of Central Mass and the Latino-Jewish Roundtable. Carol was President of the Western New England Region of Hadassah and introduced the first programs on organ donations adopted by Hadassah Medical Organization. Sunday, September 22, 2013, 2:00 p.m. Congregation B'nai Israel.

Meditation Group

Thursday Morning "Lecha Dumiyah Tehillah"* Meditation Group
Every Thursday in the CBI Library,
from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

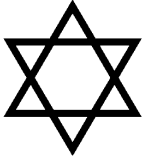
Led by Rabbi Nancy Flam

Please know this 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.

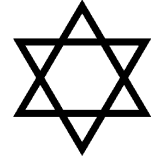
- Arrive & Settling In:
8:00 – 8:15 a.m.
- Setting of Kavvanah/Teaching:
8:15 – 8:25 a.m.
- Bell to begin silent meditation:
8:25 a.m.
- Bell to end silent meditation:
8:55 a.m.

* "To You silence is praise."
Psalm 65:2

Community announcements should be brief and of interest to the local Jewish community. Announcements will be listed as space permits.



JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST
August 2013
 25 Av ~ 25 Elul



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 25 AV 5:00 pm Art Walk and Reception (see page 12)	2 26 AV 7:50 5:30 pm Shabbat Under the Sky at Groff Park (see page 9)	3 27 AV Re'eh 10:00 am Shabbat Services
4 28 AV	5 29 AV	6 30 AV Rosh Chodesh Elul - I 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	7 1 ELUL Rosh Chodesh Elul - II 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 12:15 pm Lunch and Learn 5:45 pm Education Committee 7:30 pm Ritual Life Committee	8 2 ELUL 7:00 pm Adult Ed-Klezmer Music Brian Bender	9 3 ELUL 7:41 6:15 pm Shabbat Services	10 4 ELUL Shoftim 10:00 am Shabbat Services
11 5 ELUL	12 6 ELUL	13 7 ELUL 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	14 8 ELUL 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 12:15 pm Lunch and Learn	15 9 ELUL	16 10 ELUL 7:31 6:15 pm Farbrengen Friday	17 11 ELUL Ki Tetze 10:00 am Shabbat Services
18 12 ELUL	19 13 ELUL	20 14 ELUL 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	21 15 ELUL 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 12:15 pm Lunch and Learn	22 16 ELUL 7:00 pm Adult Ed-Klezmer Music Brian Bender 7:00 pm Adult Ed-Spiritual Writing Merle Feld	23 17 ELUL 7:20 6:15 pm Shabbat Services	24 18 ELUL Ki Tavo 10:00 am Shabbat Services
25 19 ELUL 7:00 pm Mah Jong	26 20 ELUL 7:00 pm School Committee	27 21 ELUL 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	28 22 ELUL 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 12:15 pm Lunch and Learn	29 23 ELUL	30 24 ELUL 7:09 6:15 pm Shabbat Services 12:00 Noon Adult Ed Committee Meeting	31 25 ELUL Nitzavim - Vayelech 10:00 am Shabbat Services 8:30 pm Joint Community Selichot Service at JCA, With Beit Ahavah, Congregation B'nai Israel, and Temple Israel of Greenfield (see page 5)

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