



Jewish Community of Amherst

## Kolot — JCA Voices | May 2016 | Nisan/Iyar 5776



Nava Tehila Jerusalem Ensemble  
*Coming soon to JCA!*

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## Highlights this Month

**Mitzvah Day, May 1**

**Yom Hashoah Observance, May 4**

**Yom Ha'atzma'ut Program, May 11**

**Nava Tehila Concert, May 14**

**Rabbi Arik Ascherman of Rabbis For Human Rights, May 21**



Photo: Joseph Kushick

The subtlety of Judaism lies in the way we mark the in-between time. Most people are familiar with the grandeur of the holidays, at least the big ones, knowing, more or less, what goes with *Rosh Hashanah*, and *Pesach*, and the weekly observance of Shabbat. These are moments that summon the attention of casual observers, perhaps leading them to some marking of Jewish time through traditional ritual, such as holding a *Seder* and eating matzah, lighting candles, or fasting, or hearing the *Shofar*. Less observed, but equally as significant, like the connective tissue to the major organs, are the periods of time that lead up to, or stretch between, the festivals: the

first eight days of Av, for instance, or the Ten Days of Repentance, or, more to the point, the *Omer*.

Now, with Passover in the rearview mirror and *Shavuot* ahead, we are counting the *Omer*, engaging in the ritual numbering of the seven weeks between redemption and revelation; between the two holidays of mythic re-experiencing that denote our release from slavery and our receiving of Torah. We know what to do on Passover, and have some sense of the customs of *Shavuot* (hint: late night study sessions and blintzes) but the real art—and I admit it’s an art I’m still laboring to acquire—is figuring out how to count the *Omer*.

On the face of it, it’s not very complicated. At the end of the evening prayer service, or in some moment ordained by a personal spiritual practice, you turn to a certain page of the siddur and rattle off the formula: this is the X day of the *Omer* that is equivalent to X weeks and X days of the *Omer*. And so on for all forty-nine days, each one somehow linked to a sheaf of barley (*Omer* being a Hebrew term for a measure of grain) that was presented as an offering in the ancient Temple.

But, again, the subtlety, beneath the tedium of this rote enumeration, lies in knowing what to make of the in-between time. Some people do it through the increasingly popular, Kabbalistic *sefirot* charts, or through some form of journaling, or introspection. But whatever the method the goal is to listen closely, to feel deeply, a spiritual shift that is akin to the changing of a season.

Between the crashing waters of the Sea of Reeds and the thunder and lightning at Mt. Sinai, there is a foretaste of the wilderness, in which, like our ancestors, we experience nothing more dramatic than the gradual forgetting of manacles, and the acquisition of an upright walk in which the heart and brain have the potential to expand into the capacity for new truth.

b’shalom, Rabbi Benjamin Weiner

Rabbi Weiner wants to make sure the community knows he is available and eager to visit at home, or in the hospital, with people who are unwell or otherwise in need of some spiritual support. The important step is to make sure he knows you are in need!

Please don’t hesitate to contact him directly at [rabiweiner@j-c-a.org](mailto:rabiweiner@j-c-a.org), or through the JCA office, if you would like a visit.

### New in Kolot

This month we are pleased to introduce a new feature contributed by JCA member **Julius Lester**. Julius is generously sharing his photographic art with us. Please see page 13.

## Programs and Events Calendar

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Mark your calendars for community activities, programs, study opportunities, and more. Please see the Ritual Life Calendar for information on Shabbat and other services.

### May 1, Sunday

#### MITZVAH DAY

**9:30 am until your mitzvah activity ends (all will be finished by 1 pm)**

Join the 4th annual Mitzvah Day with activities for all. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Help cook for the Chesed committee, clean up the building, organize the library, or do outdoor work at our cemetery, Mt. Warner or a local CSA. You can help children make cards and stepping stones, join a group sing at the Extended Care Facility, or make baskets for new babies. This is an opportunity to meet lots of JCA members and do important work. You can sign up in the lobby or online at: <https://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/1236441126061>. We will also be collecting food for the Survival Center and bedding, towels, and sanitary products for Craig's Doors. See the flier at: <http://j-c-a.org/mitzvah-day.pdf>.

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### May 3, Tuesday

#### A HISTORY OF DENOMINATIONAL JUDAISM WITH RABBI WEINER

**7:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

Adult Education class. Pre-registration required.

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### May 4, Wednesday

#### LUNCH AND LEARN WITH RABBI WEINER

**12:15 – 1:15 pm**

Lunch and Learn continues its investigation of *Halakha*, the tradition of Jewish law. We have been studying the laws and customs relating to death and mourning, working out of a 19th century text called the *Kitzur Shulkhan Aruch*. The discussion has helped us get a better handle on the Jewish way at the end of life, and has also provided opportunity for sharing personal feelings and experiences. If you have not already attended, it is never too late. You can come and go as you're able, and drop-ins are always welcome. Please remember that JCA kashrut rules allow only for dairy and pareve foods inside the building—no meat!

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### May 4, Wednesday

#### YOM HASHOAH OBSERVANCE

**7:00 pm**

The World Jewish Concerns Committee presents: Through Our Eyes – Memories of Jewish Life Before The War with Diana Brewer, soprano, Brian Bender, piano, and Aaron Bousel, accordion, and a candle-lighting ceremony honoring the memory of families lost in the Shoah with Rabbi Benjamin Weiner, JCA and Rabbi Jacob Fine, CBI. Sponsored by members of JCA and CBI.



## Programs and Events Calendar (continued)

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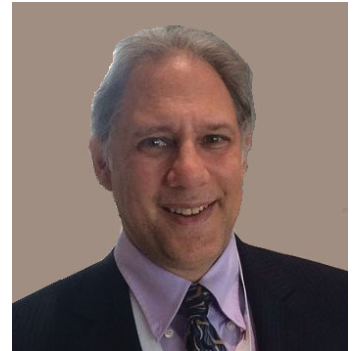
**May 8, Sunday**

### **JEWS, ARABS, AND ISLAMOPHOBIA**

**2:00 pm**

Led by Professor David Mednicoff, this panel discussion is to help people better understand contemporary Islamic political, legal, and spiritual diversity. Additional panelists will offer other perspectives on the topic. Professor David Mednicoff is Director of Accelerated Programs for the Center for Public Policy and Administration at UMass Amherst, as well as Director of Middle Eastern Studies in the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. He has a broad background in international law and politics. His research focuses on interdisciplinary connections between legal and political ideas and institutions at the national and transnational levels, particularly as these relate to current policy issues in the Middle East.

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**May 10, Tuesday**

### **A HISTORY OF DENOMINATIONAL JUDAISM**

**7:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

Adult Education class. Pre-registration required.

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**May 11, Wednesday**

### **LUNCH AND LEARN WITH RABBI WEINER**

**12:15 – 1:15 pm**

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**May 11, Wednesday**

### **YOM HA'ATZMA'UT PROGRAM**

**7:00 pm**

We are pleased to celebrate Israel Independence Day with a movie and traditional Israeli food, including a full falafel station. The movie is *Partner with the Enemy*, a moving documentary that captures the cost of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict through an Israeli's and a Palestinian woman's attempt to build a joint business.

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**May 12, Thursday**

### **JCA KLEZMER WORKSHOP**

**7:15 – 8:45 pm**

This is an ongoing workshop, meeting every other Thursday, for instrumentalists who are interested in learning how to play Klezmer music. Instructor Brian Bender (Wholesale Klezmer Band, Yiddishkeit Klezmer Ensemble, Little Shop of Horas) teaches Klezmer repertoire and style in a fun, relaxed setting. All instruments welcome. The workshop periodically performs as an ensemble for JCA events. Fee is \$15/class.

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## Programs and Events Calendar (continued)

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**May 14, Saturday**

### **NAVA TEHILA HAVDALLAH CONCERT**

**7:30 pm**

Join the musical prayer leaders of Nava Tehila, Hebrew for “beautiful praise”, for an evening of delight. Rooted in Middle Eastern, Hasidic, contemporary Israeli, and other “world” music, Nava Tehila Ensemble’s original compositions are alternately celebratory, meditative, joyful, and reflective and are sung in synagogues across Israel and throughout the globe. Daphna Rosenberg, Yoel Sykes, Jeremy Marais and Moshe Kedem invite us to bless the new week with holiness and joy, as we chant Psalms and step into Havdallah together, filling our hearts and uplifting our souls. Free and open to all.

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**May 18, Wednesday**

### **LUNCH AND LEARN WITH RABBI WEINER**

**12:15 – 1:15 pm**

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**May 25, Wednesday**

### **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

**10:30 am – 4:00 pm**

The Blood Drive is co-sponsored by the Chesed and Tikkun Olam Committees. You can make an appointment to give blood by going to:  
<http://www.redcross.org/rcbmobile/drive/driveSearch.jsp>

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**May 25, Wednesday**

### **LUNCH AND LEARN WITH RABBI WEINER**

**12:15 – 1:15 pm**

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**May 26, Thursday**

### **JCA KLEZMER WORKSHOP**

**7:15 – 8:45 pm**

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## **Our Community**

You are invited to attend the Normand Berlin Tree Dedication Ceremony on **Thursday, May 12 at 4:00 pm** at The Massachusetts Center for Interdisciplinary Renaissance Studies, 650 East Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA.

The unveiling of the stone for Normand Berlin will be on **Sunday, May 22 at 11:00 am** at the JCA Cemetery.



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## Upcoming Programs and Events

June 9, Thursday

### JCA ADULT READING GROUP

7:30 pm

Come join us as we discuss *The Betrayers* by David Bezmozgis - winner of the *National Jewish Book Award*. A NY Times reviewer wrote: "I consumed David Bezmozgis's third book (and second novel) *The Betrayers* - about an ex-Soviet Israeli politician who encounters the man who betrayed him to the K.G.B. decades before... (You know something special is happening when you plan to knock off for the day once you hit the next chapter break, and then sail past it.) This is a testament not to the simplicity of the work but to the exceptional skill and effort with which its author has constructed the narrative." It is in paperback and of course available through a library or Kindle. Our discussions are lively, and you almost always come away with a deeper appreciation of the book you have read; new participants are always welcome! Any questions, please call Ken Talan, 253-2248.

### Joining the Jewish Community of Amherst

If you would like to know more about becoming a member of the JCA, we encourage you to get in touch with Tobi Sznajderman of the Membership Committee at [membership@j-c-a.org](mailto:membership@j-c-a.org). If you are ready to receive membership application materials, please contact the JCA Office at 413-256-0160 or [admindir@j-c-a.org](mailto:admindir@j-c-a.org). Shalom, and welcome!

## Mazel Tov to Bar Mitzvah Benjamin Aaron Rehorka



Benjamin will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, May 28, 2016. He will be reading from *parshat B'har*. Benjamin has been attending Hebrew School at the Jewish Community of Amherst since he was in Kindergarten. He attends Amherst Pelham Regional Middle School, and he plays basketball in the Leisure Services program in Amherst. He plays violin in the middle school orchestra, and he has played violin since 3rd grade. Ben attended day camp at the Jewish Community Center, and the JCA Camp Shemesh for seven summers, Camp JRF for one year, and Camp Berkshire Hills-Eisenberg last summer and for this coming summer. Benjamin's three grandparents, Charlotte Schwab and Barbara and Frank Rehorka, will join us to celebrate this wonderful simcha.

### Seeking Your News

Many people who responded to the survey last year said they would like our newsletter to be more personal. So, we would like to hear from you! Please send us your good news. Maybe a new baby or addition to your family, a wedding, an award, an achievement, public recognition, anything significant you would like to share. We welcome your announcement up to 120 words and an accompanying jpeg photo up to 1MB in size. Please send by the 12th of the month for the upcoming newsletter to: [news@j-c-a.org](mailto:news@j-c-a.org).

## Message from JCA President

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Photo: Halley Gmeiner

**A**s of today, we have only 270 member households. Have we lost that many since we were quoting a membership of 330 only a few years ago, or 315 last year? (Were 330 or 315 even accurate?)

It's a fundamental need of an organization to know how many households are members, both for planning and budgetary reasons and as a statement about responsible management. Knowing the number you have is a basic and essential task. And yet, as I write this today, in the middle of April, we can only definitively count 270 member households, based on who has sent back a membership form and dues commitment.

Yes, I know that some of the 45 members from last year who have not yet sent in their forms are almost certainly going to confirm their membership, after our next few prompts. But I can't be sure how many will ultimately respond, and I genuinely don't know whether the number will settle in at 280 or 310.

The immediate dilemma for us is how to go about creating an annual budget for the community to vote on at the Semi-Annual Meeting on June 5th. One of the main reasons we switched our budget and fiscal year to July 1 is so we would know precisely what we could count on in dues in order to build a responsible budget. Last year's budget crisis was partly precipitated by our making overly optimistic projections about the 2015 dues, to the tune of \$30,000, and we have pledged never to get ourselves in that situation again. We are doing everything we can to contact members we have not yet heard from to reconcile the membership and dues numbers ASAP.

We have also committed ourselves to make cautious estimates of our fundraising capacity based on what we are confident is attainable, rather than what we need to plug in to balance the budget.

I have had to be a nag about membership issues because we have a long-standing cultural problem that needs to be addressed – namely, the lack of timely response to anything we send people about membership and dues on the part of a significant number of people. If we give a deadline of February 1, many members ignore that. If we send out personal reminders, a substantial number still don't respond. It shouldn't be this hard, and the board shouldn't have to expend this level of energy on a regular basis.

Being a member of a community brings many privileges and opportunities. However, it also comes with some responsibilities. They include the responsibility to make an affirmative statement every year about your desire to remain a member, and a dues pledge commensurate with your capacity and the principles our community has adopted as its guide to annual giving.

A timely response to this request is a way of reaffirming your commitment to the community and an acknowledgment of the work it takes to run the JCA in an effective way.

b'shalom, Bill Zimmer

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

#### May 2, Monday

Fundraising Committee  
2:00 pm

Chesed Committee  
7:15 pm

#### May 6, Friday

Adult Ed Committee  
12:15 pm

#### May 9, Monday

Membership Committee  
7:30 pm

#### May 11, Wednesday

Ritual Life Committee  
5:00 pm

#### May 12, Thursday

Cemetery Committee  
5:45 pm

#### May 13, Friday

Adult Ed Committee  
12:15 pm

#### May 16, Monday

Executive Meeting  
7:00 pm

#### May 18, Wednesday

Youth & Family  
Education  
6:30 pm

#### May 19, Thursday

Board Meeting  
7:00 pm  
Tikkun Olam Committee  
7:15 pm

# Ritual Life Calendar and Notes

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All services are in the main sanctuary unless a different location is specified.

## *Shabbat Aḥarei Mot Leviticus 16:1-18:30*

**May 6, Friday**

### **TOT SHABBAT**

**5:45 pm** in the small sanctuary

**May 7, Saturday**

### **SHABBAT YOGA**

**9:00 – 10:00 am** in the social hall

Teachers: Deborah Evans and Catherine Nagel

### **SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES**

**10:00 am**

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner

### **RENEWAL SERVICE**

**10:00 am** in the small sanctuary

Service Leaders: Felicia Mednick and Sara Schley

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## *Shabbat Kedoshim, Leviticus 19:1-20:27*

**May 13, Friday**

### **KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICES**

**6:15 pm** in the small sanctuary

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

**May 14, Saturday**

### **SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES**

**10:00 am**

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner

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## *Shabbat Emor, Leviticus 21:1-24:23*

**May 20, Friday**

### **SHABBAT NE'IMAH**

**6:15 pm**

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner with The Shabbat Band



### **Candle Lighting**

May 6, 7:36 pm

May 13, 7:43 pm

May 20, 7:50 pm

May 27, 7:57 pm

Times shown are 18 minutes before sunset for Amherst, MA

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### **Shacharit (morning) Minyan**

Every Tuesday at 7:30 am in the small sanctuary.

### **Meditation Minyan**

Every Wednesday at 7:30 am in the small sanctuary.

### **Mincha Minyan**

Every Thursday at 5:30 pm in the small sanctuary.

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### **Rosh Hodesh Iyar**

May 8/9,  
Sunday/Monday

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### **Lag B'Omer**

May 26, Thursday



## Ritual Life Calendar and Notes (continued)

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### *Shabbat Emor, Leviticus 21:1-24:23*

**May 21, Saturday**

#### **SHABBAT YOGA**

**9:00 – 10:00 am** in the social hall

Teachers: Deborah Evans and Catherine Nagel

#### **SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES**

**10:00 am**

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

D'var Torah: Rabbi Arik Ascherman of Rabbis for Human Rights

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### *Shabbat Behar, Leviticus 25:1-26:2*

**May 27, Friday**

#### **KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICES**

**6:15 pm** in the small sanctuary

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

**May 28, Saturday**

#### **SHABBAT SERVICES**

**10:00 am**

**Bar Mitzvah: Benjamin Rehorka**

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

D'var Torah: Benjamin Rehorka

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### **Thank You**

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:

Recent Torah readers: Hannah Blau, Aaron Bousel, Sam Gladstone, Hadar Grabel, Catherine Madsen, Jayne Pearl, Elissa Rubinstein, Yosef Rumshiskiy, Randi Stein, Ethan Wilkinson

Lay service leaders: Felicia Mednick and Sara Schley

D'var Torah giver: Ethan Wilkinson

Musicians: Aaron Bousel, Brian Bender, Joanna Morse (Purim Band), Shabbat Band

A special thank you to Tobi Sznjaderman for donating a replacement silver chain for the yad (pointer) from one of our Torahs.

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### **Torah Reading**

If you are interested in reading Torah and would like to schedule a time to read, please contact: Aaron Bousel at [abousel@comcast.net](mailto:abousel@comcast.net). If you would like to learn to read Torah, would like help choosing or preparing a reading, or would like to schedule a reading for a month when there is no designated coordinator, please contact Batya Perman, 549-4853.

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### **Kiddush & Oneg Sponsors**

If you would like to help with or sponsor a Kiddush, please contact Ann Wetherbee, our Administrative Director, at [admindir@j-c-a.org](mailto:admindir@j-c-a.org)

### **May 28-**

Rachel Schwab & Gary Rehorka, in honor of their son Benjamin becoming Bar Mitzvah

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### **Thank you to our kiddush sponsors for April:**

#### **April 9-**

Eric and Jessica Wilkinson, in honor of their son Ethan becoming Bar Mitzvah

#### **April 16-**

Elissa & Bernie Rubinstein, on the occasion of Elissa's father's yahrzeit.

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## Education

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Dear Community,

There is a whole lot that Keren Rhodes and I aim to include in our education programs during the school year. Parents of our students also have a whole lot they want us to include. Truthfully, it's impossible to pack it all in to 20 Sundays and Wednesdays plus some holiday, family and monthly teen programs - after which many students experience summer "brain drain" and come back in September remembering a fraction of what they learned the school year before. Good thing we have a summer component of our JCA Education program – Camp Shemesh.

Camp Shemesh is both a fun loving summer camp AND the summer component of the JCA's educational program. Yes, it is a place where children and teens get to build friendships, dig in gardens, play capture the flag and swim. It is also a place where children practice their Hebrew language skills, take time out of their day to do the deeply Jewish act of giving gratitude for that which we are given, read Jewish books and create personal art projects that integrate their Jewish learning.

Last year, we piloted a program called Hebrew's Happening through which we utilized games, stories, songs and everyday vocabulary words to build campers' Hebrew skills. This year, we will continue to develop Hebrew's Happening through every-day camp vocabulary, a partnership with PJ Library's literacy and arts curriculum, and through further incorporating Jewish themes and values into our activities. For example, before going on a bike ride, your camper might engage in a conversation about global climate change and how there really are choices they can make that have an impact on the world around them. Or perhaps as part of an animal yoga elective, campers will discuss the Jewish law of *shmirat ha'guf*, which commands us to honor and take care of our bodies.

Camp Shemesh also serves as a summer experience for teens in 7th-10th grades developing their leadership skills. Through a successive leadership development curriculum for teens, Camp Shemesh provides them a place where they can make the transition from camper to leader and counselor - and then apply these skills to employment opportunities at Camp Shemesh, in JCA School and beyond.

I have been at summer camps every summer since I was 6 years old. My sense of Jewish identity (and they weren't even Jewish summer camps), my leadership capacities, and the model of what safety and inclusion looks like for youth and teens comes from my time at summer camp.

Never been to Camp Shemesh? Try it out this summer: [www.j-c-a.org/shemesh.html](http://www.j-c-a.org/shemesh.html).

Many thanks,

Cara Michelle Silverberg  
*Youth and Teen Programs Coordinator*

### Calendar

#### May 1, Sunday

Mitzvah Day  
Last Day of School  
Thank You Breakfast

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#### May 6, Friday

Tot Shabbat

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#### May 15, Sunday

6th Grade Field Trip to  
Yiddish Book Center

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#### May 22, Sunday

Teva Torah

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Visit [www.j-c-a.org/education.html](http://www.j-c-a.org/education.html) for calendar, news, program information, registration, and more.

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PURIM 5776

### Chesed Committee

#### Thank You, Volunteers!

Thanks to everyone who has made a meal, provided a ride, lent a sympathetic ear, visited a person in need of companionship, or performed other acts of chesed (loving kindness).

### Tikkun Olam

The Tikkun Olam Committee invites you to join the JCA contingent at the annual Northampton LGBT Pride March on Saturday, May 7th. We will meet up in the Hampton Avenue parking lot opposite the Northampton Brewery at 11:30 am and march with thousands of other participants to the Northampton Fairgrounds. This is always a wonderful way to join together to celebrate our diverse community. Email Judith Souweine at [souweine@comcast.net](mailto:souweine@comcast.net) with any questions.

### JCA Hall Gallery

We are pleased to announce that the following artist will be represented in the JCA Hall Gallery from May 1 – August 1:

#### Sarah Belchetz-Swenson



My paintings, drawings and prints record my ongoing examination of the world around me, and my desire to celebrate and preserve what I love. I work in a range of techniques and I am interested in the physical properties of my materials and in their use historically, i.e. technical art history. I set out to be an artist when I was five. At eleven I began painting lessons, and at thirteen I started attending life-drawing classes on Saturdays at the Art Students' League of NY. My work has always been figurative and I specialize in commissioned and informal portraits. Here in the Valley, I have paintings of Jill Ker Conway at Smith,

Elizabeth Kennan at Mount Holyoke, and four paintings at Amherst, most recently portraits of Rose Olver and Richard Wilbur that hang in Johnson Chapel along with my earlier portrait of the Hon. William H. Hastie. My interest in printmaking developed as an art student at Oberlin College, and I have recently expanded my repertoire at Zea Mays Printmaking in Florence, MA.

#### A Compassionate Community

The Chesed Committee assists JCA members in times of joy, sorrow, and need, coordinating volunteers to help with meals, rides, errands, visits, shiva minyans, etc. We also welcome babies to the community.

Please let us know if you, someone in your family, or someone in the community is ill, hospitalized, or in need of assistance. We can't help if we don't know. Contact the Chesed Committee by email at [jcachesed@gmail.com](mailto:jcachesed@gmail.com) or by calling the office at (413) 256-0160 or by contacting a committee member (current members are listed on the website).

We encourage you to be a part of the JCA's growth as a compassionate community. New committee members are welcome at any time to participate in this mitzvah.

## Donations to the JCA

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### Children's Scholarship Fund

In honor of our daughter Shana Levi-Nielsen's marriage to Ian Heller (Elinor Levine & Scott Nielsen)

### General Fund

In honor of Larry Fine's retirement (Amy Rothenberg & Paul Herscu)

In memory of Bertram Francis Mayers (Mary & Herbert Bernstein)

In memory of Edith Ripnitz Bernstein (Mary & Herbert Bernstein)

### Music Fund

In memory of Hannah Zuckerman (Linda Zuckerman)

### Rabbi Discretionary Fund

Jonathan & Karen Zuckerman

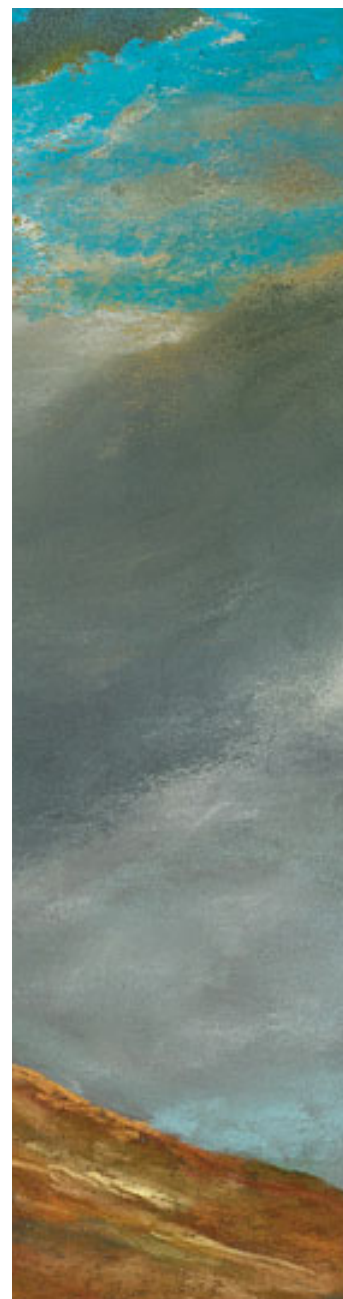
In honor of Rabbi Weiner and the Chesed Committee (Charlotte Schwab)

### Condolences:

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

**Harriet Brooks**, mother of Betsy Brooks, mother-in-law of Jon Machta, and grandmother of Rachel and Ben Machta

**Shenky (Shirley) Seife** Shenky was the oldest friend of Shirley Gladstone, "second mother" to Avi and Sam Gladstone, and grandmother to Shoshana, Miriam, Peter, Josh, and Gabe Gladstone.



From a painting by  
Richard Cohen

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## In the Valley

### Looking For Home To Rent In Summer

Friends from NYC are looking for a home to rent in Amherst for about four weeks this summer, preferably in July. Please contact Larry Fine, 256-1572, [lfine@mtholyoke.edu](mailto:lfine@mtholyoke.edu)

### Meditation Group at CBI

Morning "Lecha Dumiyah Tehillah"\* Meditation Group led by Rabbi Nancy Flam every Thursday in the CBI Library, from 8:00 to 9:00 am.

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 am
- Setting of Kavvanah/Teaching: 8:15 – 8:25 am
- Bell to begin silent meditation: 8:25 am
- Bell to end silent meditation: 8:55 am

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



*Live without hesitation.  
Dwell not on outcome or reward.  
Act with full attention.*

*Wisdom of the Jewish Sages  
Trans. by Rabbi Rami Shapiro*

*"Milan Dancing with Waves"  
Photographic Art © Julius Lester*



## Jewish Community of Amherst

742 Main Street, Amherst, MA 01002  
413-256-0160 | fax 413-256-1588  
info@j-c-a.org | www.j-c-a.org

**Rabbi Benjamin Weiner** (rabbiweiner@j-c-a.org)  
Rabbi David Dunn Bauer (2003 – 2010)  
Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg (1989 – 2002)  
Rabbi Emeritus Yechiael Lander

**School Principal & Family Programs Coordinator:**  
Keren Rhodes (kerenrhodes@j-c-a.org)

**Youth and Teen Programs Coordinator:**  
Cara Michelle Silverberg (cara@j-c-a.org)

### Board of Directors

**President:** Bill Zimmer (wdzimmer@gmail.com)  
**First Vice President:** Janis Levy (janisrlevy@gmail.com)  
**Second Vice President:** Bob Solosko (rbsolosko@verizon.net)  
**Third Vice President:** Eli Kwartler (elikwartler@gmail.com)  
**Treasurer:** Michael Burkart (maburk47@comcast.net)  
**Clerk:** Sarah Thomson (allset22@verizon.net)  
**Members at Large:** Barbara Schaffer Bacon, Eliza Gouverneur,  
Mara Hahn, Hans Herda, Jeff Roth-Howe, Jackie Katz, Amy Kroin,  
Connie Songer, Flo Stern

Just click on any email address to send a message. For further information and a full description of committees with contacts, please refer to your JCA Guidebook.

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**Administrative Director:** Ann Wetherbee (admindir@j-c-a.org)  
**Finance Assistant:** Susan Thomas (susan@j-c-a.org)  
**Education Administrative Assistant:** Misha Heij Mariano (edassist@j-c-a.org)  
**Administrative Assistant:** Dan Reynolds (dan@j-c-a.org)  
**Facility & Maintenance:** Santo Alers, Rob Kaufman

### Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday: 10:30 am – 4:00 pm  
Wednesday: 4:00 – 6:00 pm & Sunday: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm when  
JCA School is in session

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*Affiliated with the Jewish Reconstructionist Communities*

## Kolot — JCA Voices

May 2016

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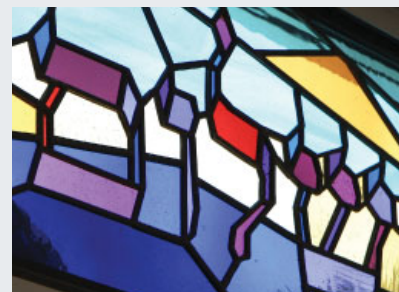
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Deadline for the June/July issue  
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