

# Life at Hevreh

September 1 – October 31, 2019



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Shabbat at Hevreh	4
From Rabbi Hirsch	6
Shabbat and Holiday	4
Learning and Events	5
Learning Opportunities	6
Letters from Hevreh.	7
B'nai Mitzvah, More Events	8
Volunteer Opportunities	9
Library News.	10
Donations, Letter	.11
Sponsors	.12 - 14
Jewish Festival of Books	15
Ragtime	back



# HEVREH OF SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE 5780 HIGH HOLY DAY SCHEDULE



## Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 29

*Erev Rosh Hashanah*

7:30 pm Service

## Monday, September 30

*First Day of Rosh Hashanah*

9:00 am Family Service

10:30 am Morning Service

4:00 pm Tashlich Service  
*Meet at Great Barrington  
River Walk Next to the  
Searles School*

## Tuesday, October 1

*Second Day of Rosh Hashanah*

10:30 am Morning Service

## Selichot

Saturday, September 21

*Leil Selichot*

8:00 pm Dessert Reception  
Spiritual Study & Selichot  
Service

## Child Care at Hevreh

Hevreh will offer childcare during the adult services on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning. We will provide trained professionals in classrooms designated for children potty-trained and up to age 10.

Families are expected to sign up in advance for childcare as we can not offer a drop-in service. To learn more and sign up, contact Jodie Friedman at [jfriedman@hevreh.org](mailto:jfriedman@hevreh.org) or call Hevreh at 413-528-6378 ext. 11.

## Sukkot

Sunday, October 13

*Erev Sukkot*

10:00 am Religious School  
*Yachad Sukkot Program*

## Friday, October 18

6:15 pm Shabbat Service with  
Yizkor

## Yom Kippur

Tuesday, October 8

*Kol Nidrei*

7:30 pm Service

## Wednesday, October 9

*Yom Kippur*

9:00 am Family Service

10:30 am Morning Service

1:30 pm Spiritual Study and  
Meditation

2:45 pm Afternoon Service  
*Includes Yizkor & Neilah*

A festive Break Fast will follow  
Neilah.

## Simchat Torah

Sunday, October 20

*Erev Simchat Torah*

6 pm Celebration with  
Consecration  
*oneg reception*

## Monday, October 21

*Simchat Torah & Shimini Atzeret*

9:30 am Service with the  
Berkshire Minyan

## HEVREH OF SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE

270 State Road  
Great Barrington, MA 01230  
413-528-6378  
[www.hevreh.org/hhd](http://www.hevreh.org/hhd)



FROM THE RABBI

RABBI NEIL P.G. HIRSCH

## The High Holy Days are a time for transition.

The shift is natural, after all. Take a look around at the changing seasons. In the Berkshires, we move from the Tanglewood lawn to leaf peeping; in Israel, they move from the dry, hot summer to the first rains that come by Sukkot. And the transition is at the core of the holiday experience. We evaluate the past year, and we look to the next. We ask that we might close out this year for blessing, and be sealed in the Book of Life for the future.

As the holidays invite us to take stock of our own blessings, we can also do so for the community. Looking around at our Hevreh community, let me count a few of our blessings:

1. I am grateful to work with an incredible **staff**. Rabbi Gordon, Janet, Jodie, Rebecca, and now with our new Early Childhood Center Director, Ellen Marcus, on board, we have a creative, energetic, and dedicated team. It is a blessing to come to work each day with these talented individuals.
2. And the staff does not do it all. We are also blessed with dedicated **board members, committee chairs, and volunteers**. Looking back on this past summer, from the Discussion Communities to our Tzedek Honor Community Picnic, from our Breaking Bread Kitchen and People's Pantry volunteers to our Book Festival committee, Hevreh was blessed by all of you who gave your time to bring us all together, to make community with one another. You make Hevreh a true *hevreh*. Thank you.
3. This year, we reintroduced regular Wednesday **Lunch n' Learn**. I am blessed to be teaching this group. The level of conversation and study has been remarkable over these past several months of learning together. Lunch n' Learn continues, and I hope you'll come join in the fun. 11:45 AM to 1:00 PM, in the library, each and every Wednesday. If you're not here in the Berkshires, but want to take part, please let me know — you can join in by video or phone conferencing.

4. Rabbi Gordon and Jodie Friedman have been hard at work at the close of the summer to get our Religious School and Hebrew Skills programs up and running for 5780. Our late beloved member, Al Vorspan, described Hevreh as the little shul that could. Our youth are a testament to that sentiment. It is a blessing to watch these students dance into our building and dance out. Unlike the drudgery of the religious-school-of-yore, our students want to be here. Our amazing teachers who help to instill in them a love of the Jewish people and a love of Torah is what makes for the sticky connections they have with us. What a blessing.
5. Finally, I am grateful for the sacred space we create together, best done by bringing music into our Shabbat Services. And so, I want to thank our band, Rising Spirit, led by Alan Binder, for all they've done this year to elevate us spiritually. I want to thank Arlene Symons for the music she brings. Thank you to Amy Renak and our Hevreh choir for all of they are doing for these holy days. And I want to especially thank our student cantors—last year's intern, Shani Cohen, and this year's Gabe Snyder. If Hevreh is to be both a singing congregation and a spiritual laboratory, it takes everyone with their musical talents to come together and create those sacred sounds in our sanctuary.

We are a blessed community, and I am grateful to serve as one of your rabbis. Looking toward 5780, I pray that this will be a good year for blessing and renewal:

*We enter the gates, grateful  
for the blessing of renewal.  
Let us bless the flow of life  
that revives us,  
sustains us,  
and brings us to this time.  
—Marcia Falk*

Rabbi Neil P.G. Hirsch

# SHabbat at HEVREH

<b>Friday, Sept 6</b> <b>Saturday, Sept 7</b>	Shabbat Service 5:45 pm Shabbat Service and Torah Study 10:00 am Parashat Shoftim: Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9
<b>Friday, Sept 13</b>	Shabbat Service 5:45 pm, Back to School Shabbat Family Dinner 5 pm
<b>Saturday, Sept 14</b>	Shabbat Service and Bar Mitzvah of Rowan Novich 10:00 am Parashat Ki Teitzei: Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19
<b>Friday, Sept 20</b> <b>Saturday, Sept 21</b>	Shabbat Shalom 5:45 pm Shabbat Service and Torah Study 10:00 am Parashat Ki Tavo: Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8 Selichot Service 8:00 pm
<b>Friday, Sept 27</b> <b>Saturday, Sept 28</b>	Shabbat Service 5:45 pm Shabbat Service and Torah Study 10:00 am Parashat Nitzavim: Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20
<b>Sunday, Sept 29</b> <b>Monday, Sept 30</b> <b>Tuesday, Oct 1</b>	Rosh Hashanah, Erev Service 7:30 pm Rosh Hashanah, First Day 10:30 am Rosh Hashanah, Second Day 10:30 am
<b>Friday, Oct 4</b> <b>Saturday, Oct 5</b>	Shabbat Service 5:45 pm Shabbat Service and Torah Study 10:00 am Parashat Vayeilech: Deuteronomy 31:1-30
<b>Tuesday, Oct 8</b> <b>Wednesday, Oct 9</b>	Yom Kippur, Kol Nidre 7:30 pm Yom Kippur, Morning Service 10:30 am Yom Kippur, Afternoon Service 2:45 pm
<b>Friday, Oct 11</b> <b>Saturday, Oct 12</b>	Shabbat Service 5:45 pm Shabbat Service and Torah Study 10:00 am Parashat Ha'azinu: Deuteronomy 32:1-32:52
<b>Friday, Oct 18</b>	Shabbat Service 5:45 pm, Scholar-in-Residence, Sonja Pilz
<b>Saturday, Oct 19</b>	Shabbat Service and Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Chol HaMoed Sukkot: Exodus 33:12-34:26 Consecration & Simchat Torah Celebration 5:30 pm
<b>Sunday, Oct 20</b>	
<b>Friday, Oct 25</b> <b>Saturday, Oct 26</b>	Shabbat Service 5:45 pm Shabbat Service and Torah Study 10:00 am Parashat B'reishit: Genesis 1:1-6:8
For a complete list of High Holy Day service dates and times, refer to our High Holy Days at a glance printed on the inside cover of this bulletin.  The Berkshire Minyan will be meeting for Shabbat Services on Saturday mornings beginning at 9:30 am after Labor Day.	

HEVREH OF SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE

Great Barrington, MA 01230  
413.528.6378  
413.528.0454 (fax)  
info@hevreh.org

## RABBINIC STAFF

**Neil P.G. Hirsch**  
*Rabbi*

**Jodie Gordon**  
*Rabbi & Education Director*

**Deborah Zecher**  
*Rabbi Emerita*

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**Janet Lee**  
*Executive Director*

**Ellen Marcus**  
*Early Childhood Center Director*

**Jodie Friedman**  
*Program Associate*

**Rebecca Wagner**  
*Clergy Assistant*

## BOARD

**Rik Kabel**  
*President*

**Rebecca Wolin**  
*Treasurer*

**Alan Kaufman**  
*Secretary*

**Julie Kalt Gale**  
*Vice President*

**Michele Krieg Bauer**  
*Vice President*

**John Lipkowitz**  
*Vice President*

**Matt Mozian**  
*Vice President*

**Suzanne Sawyer**  
*Immediate Past President*

Nerissa Bardfeld  
Carol Beyer  
Hinda Bodinger  
Rob Cohen  
Larry Frankel  
Betsy Gross  
Brian Grossman  
Deborah Harris  
Elihu Katzman  
Jeff Lazarus  
Terri Sash  
Lisa Sloane

# HEVREH HAPPENINGS

Saturday, September 21 at 8 pm

## SELICHOT: UNEXPECTED AWAKENINGS

Doesn't it always feel like the High Holy Days sneak up on us, and we're never quite ready? As Rabbi Alan Lew taught, 'this is real, and you are completely unprepared.' Selichot offers us that opportunity to tune in, and this year we will search for the sacred in unexpected places through contemporary writings, prayer, and song. The service will be led by Rabbis Gordon and Hirsch.

Sunday, September 22

## ELUL TEACHING WITH THE BERKSHIRE MINYAN

Look for more information in our weekly emails about an opportunity to study with the Berkshire Minyan during Elul.

Sunday, October

## AN OPEN CONVERSATION ON IMMIGRATION

Sukkot is a celebration of the Israelite's forty-year migration through the *Midbar*, through the wilderness. For many American Jews, the immigration story is relatively recent in our family histories. And today, we continue to see major waves of migration around the world, as different nations grapple with how to handle that. In the United States, we are engaged in a profound debate about the place of the foreigner here. In the spirit of Sukkot, we invite you to an open conversation on immigration today. Rabbi Hirsch and Rabbi Gordon will facilitate the conversation, rooting us in our textual tradition as well. Please join us for an important conversation and study. For questions, please email Rabbi Hirsch at nhirsch@hevreh.org.

Friday, October 18 and Saturday, October 19

## SACRED SPACES: SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE RABBI SONJA K. PILZ PHD

Sukkot invites us to consider the holiness found in space: we build a temporary, fragile dwelling as a way of teaching ourselves that holiness is found within. Over the course of Shabbat Sukkot, we'll have three unique occasions to learn from, and with, Rabbi Pilz.

Friday, October 18:	5:45pm: Yizkor, followed by Kabbalat Shabbat services. Rabbi Pilz will be speaking during Shabbat services. 7:30pm-9pm: Dinner & Creative Liturgy Workshop with Rabbi Pilz (RSVP encouraged) "Writing A Blessing for Your Home"
Saturday, October 19:	10am: Shabbat morning service & Torah Study 11:45am-1:15pm: Kiddush Lunch & Talk with Rabbi Pilz "Paradigms and practices: Jewish Sacred Spaces"

*Rabbi Sonja K. Pilz earned a doctorate from the department of Rabbinic Literature at Potsdam University, Germany; she holds Rabbinic Ordination from Abraham Geiger College, Germany. Prior to joining the CCAR Press as editor, Sonja taught Jewish liturgy, worship, and ritual at HUC-JIR, NY; the School of Jewish Theology at Potsdam University; and in many congregational settings. She served as a visiting rabbi and cantorial soloist in congregations in Germany, Switzerland, Israel, and the US.*



Sunday, October 20, 5:30 pm

## CONSECRATION & SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION

At the end of Sukkot, join Hevreh to bless our newest additions to the Religious School and this year's B'nai Mitzvah class. Together we'll read the last verse followed by the first verse of Torah, as well as sing and dance. This festive occasion marks milestones for students in our Religious School and all are invited to take part in an evening of simchat! All are invited for a casual pizza dinner at 5 pm.

# religious school information

Dear Families,

We are so excited to welcome you and your kids back to Hevreh for another great year of learning, community, and fun. Whether you're a continuing student in our confirmation class and Madrikhim programs, a first time Tiny Talmidim family, or something in between, we hope that coming to Hevreh will feel like coming home.

This year, each class will have it's own special Yachad day of learning for parents and students together with the classroom teacher. Each class will have a unique learning goal, supported by a classroom learning experience led by the teacher, as well as a "special" (either cooking, music, or yoga). The overarching theme for the year is;

## TO LIFE!: SHABBAT

Each grade will focus on a different value or sub-theme of Shabbat. The idea of "To Life" has a double meaning: first, how can we make Shabbat a part of our lives, and secondly, how can the rest and specialness of Shabbat improve our lives.

Below is important information about the many exciting things happening over the next two months- we hope you'll make note of these events and opportunities on your family calendar, and be in touch with any questions!

Warmly,

The Education Team

*Rabbi Jodie Gordon and Jodie Friedman*

**Don't forget:** school registration for Tiny Talmidim, Kindergarten-7th Grade, Pre-Confirmation and Confirmation Classes is available [www.hevreh.org/school](http://www.hevreh.org/school)

Friday, September 13, 5 pm

### Back To School Shabbat Family Dinner

All Religious School Families are invited to enjoy a casual pre-Shabbat and the opportunity to meet our new cantorial intern, Gabe Snyder, before Kabbalat Shabbat Services at 5:45 pm

Please let us know if you are coming!  
RSVP to Jodie Friedman, [jfriedman@hevreh.org](mailto:jfriedman@hevreh.org)

Sunday, September 15 at 10 am

### First Day of Religious School

We look forward to welcoming new and returning students in Kindergarten-7th Grade as we kick off another year of fun, friendship, and learning. See below for important details:

**10 am:**

Students arrive to classrooms

**10:15-11am:**

Bagels & Shmooze in the lobby

Join Religious School Committee Co-Chairs Betsy Gross and Oren Cass and the rabbis for an informal parent gathering: find out more about what you can anticipate in the year ahead, and ways that you can get involved.

**12 pm:**

Opening Ritual in Sanctuary & Picnic Lunch  
(families are invited and encouraged to join us!)

**Be sure to check out our *Families at Hevreh* page on inside front cover of this bulletin for more information about programs and opportunities for families with young children!**

Sunday, October 20

### Consecration & Simchat Torah Celebration

Pizza dinner 5 pm; Service at 5:30 pm

At the end of Sukkot, join Hevreh to bless our newest additions to the Religious School and this year's B'nai Mitzvah class. Together we'll read the last verse followed by the first verse of Torah, as well as sing and dance. This festive occasion marks milestones for students in our Religious School and all are invited to take part in an evening of simchat!

### Important Dates

**Friday, September 13**

Back To School Shabbat Family Dinner

**Sunday, September 15**

First Day of Religious School for Kindergarten-7th Grade

**Wednesday, September 18**

First Day of Hebrew Skills for 3rd-7th Grade

**Sunday, September 22**

First Day of Pre-Confirmation and Confirmation Class

**Sunday, September 29**

No School – Erev Rosh Hashanah

**Sunday, October 13**

Yachad Sukkot (Family Program for Kindergarten-7th Grade)

**Sunday, October 20**

Consecration & Simchat Torah



## MEET OUR NEW EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR ELLEN MARCUS

As a lifetime New Yorker, much of it spent in Westchester County, I am excited to be starting a new life chapter in the Berkshires as part of the Hevreh community. My husband, Eric, and I have three daughters, Rachel, Sarah, and Becca - all of whom are in varying stages of college and graduate school. Early childhood education is a second career for me - the first being in health care policy and planning. Returning to school after my youngest was born, I earned my Master in Teaching and in doing so I discovered a calling. Every age has something to recommend it, but I find myself drawn to children in the youngest years. Not only do they allow me to join in on their journey of exploration and growth, but I also have the pleasure of working closely with their families. Combining my love of early childhood education with my connection to Judaism makes the work even more special.

As a bit of background about myself, I am an alum of Cornell University, New York University, and Manhattanville College. My teaching career has primarily focused on Jewish early childhood centers in Westchester and New York City. On a personal level, I love a good pun, enjoy indulging in the occasional piece of dark chocolate, and consider dark coffee a daily necessity. I can often be found immersed in a good book and am especially partial to mysteries.

Working with the Hevreh community to build an exceptional ECC for our children is an honor, and one which I expect will be both fun and fulfilling. An invitation goes out to all who may be interested in learning more about the ECC at Hevreh. I'd be delighted to take you out for coffee so that we can meet and discuss what you may be looking for in an early childhood program. Please reach out to connect at [emarcus@hevreh.org](mailto:emarcus@hevreh.org).



## LIBRARY NEWS

**What better way to get ready for the New Year than to revive your "Basic Judaism"?** We actually have a category for that, and here's one book, a BIG compendium, to help you on your way.

*Jewish Literacy* by Rabbi Joseph Telushkin first appeared in 1991, and was reissued in 2001. In over 700 pages, Rabbi Telushkin covers everything from History and Contemporary Life, to Beliefs, Ethics and Rituals, Jewish Holidays, and Life Cycle. As the book jacket states, "Authoritative and rigorously scholarly—yet leavened with folklore, anecdotes, and humor—*Jewish Literacy* is 'the book' for anyone seeking a better understanding of Judaism."

In other words, this book contains "The Most Important Things to Know About the Jewish Religion, Its People, and Its History." The organization into 15 Parts is helpful. Each part contains discussions pertinent to its title. For example, Part 1, Bible, includes a discussion of *Tanakh*, or Torah, and entries on the 5 Books of Moses, plus entries on the Early Prophets, the Later Prophets, and the Ketuvim or Writings.

A tour through history, from the *Mishna* and the *Talmud*, through the Medieval Period to the Modern Period, Zionism, Israel and the Holocaust, brings us to Part 8, American-Jewish Life. This part is intriguing. It begins with a discussion of George Washington's Letter to the Jews of Newport, Rhode Island, 1790, and continues with thumbnail sketches of such Jewish figures as Henrietta Szold, Louis Brandeis, Albert Einstein, and Rabbi Soloveitchik, among others.

After covering Soviet Jewry, Antisemitism, and Jewish Texts, Part 12 presents over 40 entries on Jewish Ethics and Basic Beliefs. It is interesting to read Telushkin's commentary on such Commandments as "Do not put a stumbling block in front of a blind man," "Justice, Justice you shall pursue," or the Commandments around redeeming captives.

The book continues with Parts on The Hebrew Calendar and Jewish Holidays, and Life Cycle, and concludes with Part 15, Synagogue and Prayers. This is timely: it explains not only the idea of the Temple/Synagogue/*Shul* but also the Service and the *Siddur* in accessible language. Appropriately, *Jewish Literacy* concludes with a discussion of Blessings. Telushkin writes, "The word for blessing in Hebrew is *brakha*, which comes from the word *berekh*, meaning 'knee'; thus, the word suggests a bended knee, the proper posture for one who is approaching God." And he ends this massive study with the *Shehechiyanu*: "Blessed are You, Eternal our God, for granting us life, sustaining us, and enabling us to reach this day." A fitting conclusion to this book, and a good start for our entry into the High Holy Days and the Jewish New Year.

In his book *The Ten Commandments: From the Shadow of Eden to the Promise of Canaan*, Rabbi Dennis Ross explains, "Judaism is a world-engaging religion—the road to spiritual truth is not taken in isolation but by looking outward. We reach spiritual truth by engaging with the world, the family, and the community." May we experience this unity in ourselves, our family and friends as we embark together on our journey.

Sharon Flitterman-King, Ph.D.

*Library Committee Co-Chair*

## THANK YOU TO ELAINE FRIEDMAN

On June 20, the Library Committee, consisting of Elaine Friedman, Sharon Flitterman-King, Lou Levine, Fay Zabarsky and Harold Hastings (not pictured) and joined by David King, met to say thank you to Elaine Friedman as she steps down from her co-chair position with Sharon Flitterman-King. Elaine has worked tirelessly, for years in the library, much of it on her own. We greatly appreciate all her hard work. Our new co-chair will be Lou Levine. All Hevreh members are welcome to join us on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 11 am to help keep the library a viable Hevreh asset.







## TREASURER'S REPORT

As I'm sure you have heard by now, our Tzedek Circle of Honor Picnic fundraiser was a huge success. We raised approximately over \$20,000. Thanks go first and foremost to our Picnic fundraising chairs, Lisa Sloane, Dave ..., Sharon Mozian, and ..... Thanks also to Janet Lee, Jodie Friedman, the entire Committee and the many volunteers who helped with the event. Finally, thanks to all our members and guests who supported the fundraiser by coming to the picnic, buying raffle tickets, and all the tributes in the program to our honoree Shelly.

As a result of the fundraising success we have met and even exceeded our event fundraising goal for this budget year. But one of the keys to our long-range financial stability is to have a similarly successful fundraising event every budget year. We know the congregation is willing to support these efforts, but what we need is for volunteers to step forward and make it happen. Other operating budget numbers this year, income and expenses, are, so far, within expectations based on historical experience.

As the treasurer, my role, along with members of the finance committee, is to think about, monitor and manage revenue and expenses. But, as I have said before, the financial support of the congregation and the work of the finance committee are not ends in themselves. The work is guided by and entirely in support of our mission to keep Hevreh thriving as the center for Jewish life, learning and community. With our collective financial support, exciting things will continue to happen at Hevreh. L'Shana Tovah!

Rebecca Wolin  
Hevreh Treasurer

Dear Hevreh Community,

I am grateful beyond words to have been selected as the honoree for this year's Tzedek Circle of Honor. To everyone who was part of planning such a fabulous picnic, beautiful Tribute Book and meaningful Shabbat service, I say thank you. For everyone who set up, cleaned up, made decorations and toiled with all the details, I say thank you. For everyone who made a contribution to the synagogue as part of the Tribute Book or apart from it, I say thank you. For everyone who donated a basket and bought raffle tickets, I say thank you. For everyone sent me warm messages, in person, in the wish box, by card, phone call or from a distance, I say thank you. Everything was absolutely perfect.

As time passes, people ask me "Have you come down to earth yet?" The only reply possible is "I'm not sure I will ever come down to earth". I will carry this very special Hevreh love with me forever. It has always been, and continues to be, a blessing to be part of this special, sacred community.

From the bottom of my heart, which is still overflowing, I say THANK YOU.





Friday, September 20 & Saturday, September 21

ROSH CHODESH

CELEBRATING THE START OF 5780

Retreat at URJ Eisner Camp

The first event of the new year for the Rosh Chodesh group will be the annual retreat at URJ Eisner Camp. For those who have never attended, this is a wonderful and bonding experience. Our event begins Friday afternoon, with workshops followed by a welcome mocktail party, Shabbat dinner and service, and concludes with a bonfire complete with s’mores. Saturday we have breakfast, Torah study, hikes or yoga, lunch and more workshops. The program ends in the late afternoon. We have a few more openings for Hevreh women — if you are interested, please email Michele Krieg Bauer at talktome8888@ymail.com ASAP.

The retreat and all other gatherings focus to varying degrees on the theme for the year. This year the theme is Rituals: Enduring and Changing. The next meeting will be on Tuesday evening October 29, with detail to be announced. If you are interested in being on the Rosh Chodesh email list, again please email Michele.

We look forward to another inspiring year together — all female members of Hevreh are welcome!

Wednesday, September 4, 11:45 am

THE DRUZE: A CRUCIAL ETHNIC/RELIGIOUS ISRAELI MINORITY

SPECIAL LUNCH N’ LEARN WITH HEVREH MEMBER BENNY BARAK

The discussion will focus on the historical inception, early in the eleventh century, of the Druze as a separate people with a separate secret religion. The program will also consider how during Israel’s war of Independence, the Druze supported the IDF, became part of Israel’s military draft (only the men), as well as how their highly successful integration in Israeli society lead them to be among the most trust-worthy Israelis in present-day Israeli society.



Dr. Benny Barak is Professor Emeritus of Marketing and International Business at the Zarb School of Business of Hofstra University. Prior to academe he served as a career officer in the IDF in the 1960s which lead to his first personal acquaintance with the Druze.

Monday, September 23, 10:20-11:20 am

Wednesday September 30 & October 23, 10:20 -11:20 am

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO PRESERVE THE LIFE STORY OF A LOVED ONE OR PERHAPS HAVE YOUR OWN LIFE STORY COLLECTED?

Anthropology students from Bard College at Simon’s Rock are looking for 12 participants to take part in a series of three hour-long life history interviews throughout the fall semester. Interviews will take place at Hevreh and students will present their completed life history narratives to participants the week following Thanksgiving break.

Contact Katie Boswell (kboswell@simons-rock.edu) with additional questions or to participate.

Informational and Planning Meeting on September 18, 7 pm

INTERESTED IN A NEW BOOK CLUB AT HEVREH?

If you are interested in reading and discussing thoughtful books please join us on September organizational meeting. Light refreshments will be served. This program is sponsored by our weEngage Committee.

If you have questions, please contact Elizabeth Rosenberg at rbookster@gmail.com

Wednesdays, 11:45 to 1:00 pm in the Library

OCTOBER LUNCH N’ LEARN

THE BOOK OF JUDGES

We have something good going on: weekly lunch n’ learn sessions with Rabbi Hirsch. This group meets in the library each week to wrestle with provocative biblical text. Currently, we are studying the Book of Judges, which tells the stories of the Israelites as they attempted to settle the Land of Israel. It’s a story of one people encountering others, the tensions that exist between those parties, and the complicated, ongoing relationship of a Covenantal Nation with its God.

While the study is ongoing, we welcome people whenever they may be available to join. For more information, please reach out to Rabbi Hirsch at nhirsch@hevreh.org.

## HEVREH'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

As we enter the High Holidays, Hevreh's Board members are looking back at a year of achievement and looking forward to a year of fulfilling our goals. This summer, we celebrated Shelley Rolf and her caring involvement with Hevreh over many years. Part of that celebration was a fund-raising picnic and gift-basket raffle in which we raised money both for general operations and for the Tzedek fund. Thank you to all who made this possible by working to make it happen, and all who attended. We are now planning next year's event, and invite your suggestions. As you can see by the remodeling of classrooms in the classroom wing, we have been preparing for the opening of our Early Childhood Center. We have a director, Ellen Marcus, who brings her experience in similar schools to us from New York. We hope to open near the beginning of 2020. The ritual committee, working with the Rabbis, has been reviewing how

we approach Shabbat. Thank you to all who have responded to the survey.

The security task force has been reviewing our preparedness for threatening events. This is a difficult issue with no clear-cut solutions, but there are many small steps we are taking to improve our readiness, including training for staff, teachers, and others who want to participate. We are working with the Jewish Federation of the Berkshires on this, along with SCN, the Secure Communities Network, and through them the ADL and government agencies.

The major responsibility of the Board of Trustees is to guide the course that Hevreh takes and ensure that we have the funds to get there. We want to continue to provide spiritual, educational, and social programs that define and enrich our community and support the greater community in which

we live. Our focus has been to create a community that is an open and inclusive center for Jewish learning and social action guided by that learning. At the same time we need to keep membership dues affordable. Doing this requires the involvement of the whole community – not just through financial support but also by participation. There are many active committees that welcome your input and participation; WeEngage for outreach and membership, Ritual for framing how we approach God, Social Action for extending our obligation for Tikkun Olam across the wider community, and the House committee for the care of our building and grounds. Please get involved, please tell us what you want to see, and please enjoy the benefits of our community.

Rik Kabel

*President of the Board of Trustees*  
rkabel@hevreh.org

## LANDSCAPING REPORT

Hevreh's beautiful gardens and landscaping are getting a makeover.

The House Committee established a garden committee this year to survey our landscape and determine what we needed to keep our plants, trees and shrubs flourishing in the coming years. With the assistance of Carol Beyer and Marion Adler, co-chairs of the original Tu B-Shevat Committee, we reached out to Tom Ingersoll, certified arborist, and David Valbracht, landscape architect, who provided the original designs. They were delighted to return to Hevreh to help us and quickly surveyed our property.

This past spring, Tom's crews pruned many of our trees, including the Sargentii Cherries, Japanese Katsura, Sugar Maples, Red Oak, Red Maple, Callery Pear, and Hemlocks. Climbing grapevine was cut and removed.

Removal of some dead trees and invasive plants is scheduled for the area at the end of the main parking lot.

David Valbracht produced a new plan for the large oval and planters around the main entrance to Hevreh. With the help of Hevreh volunteers, more than 80 flowering perennials and shrubs were planted. Please enjoy the Hydrangea, Spirea, Inkberries, Rhododendron, Mountain Laurel and Japanese Andromeda, Salvia, Liatris, Catmint, Shasta Daisy, Coneflower and Liatris. The goal is to create gardens that blend with all our existing plantings... junipers, Viburnum, Lilac, Serviceberries, Daylilies, Iris and Anemone, and to provide flowers from spring to fall.

The garden committee has also begun to prune our existing shrubs, water all the plants and trees, mulch the trees and garden beds, and establish a compost area.

Dave Halley, Peter Gale, Jan and Rik Kabel, Marion Adler and Gail Grollman all helped with the planning and pitched in "on the ground" to plant, prune and water the plants. A special thank you goes to Suzanne Sawyer for all her efforts over the past few years.

More work is planned: Over the fall and spring we will remove invasive plant species and dead shrubs, fertilize all plants and trees, and establish a pollinator garden.

The Board and donors provided the funds needed for professional consulting and the purchase of plants and shrubs. The hard work of our volunteers helped to keep costs down.

This project will continue over the next few years. You can be a part of this effort. You can help by donating to the Tu-B'Shevat Fund, or volunteer to work in the gardens. Please visit the Hevreh office to donate or volunteer.

## WEENGAGE COMMITTEE

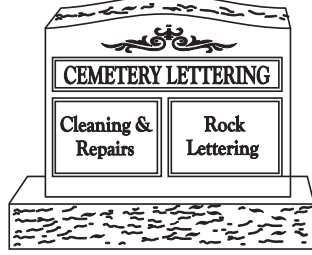
As the High Holiday season approaches weEngage is busy preparing to welcome new members to our Hevreh community. Our process for greeting each new member is to send them a welcoming email as soon as we find out they have joined (or in some cases are seriously considering joining), then, based on any information we have about them, ask a weEngage member to contact them and to start a relationship. We try to ask weEngage members whom we believe have something in common with the new member, in order to make that initial discussion easier. We stress that the purpose of the initial meeting is not to sell Hevreh, but to form a bond. As we all know, Jews tend to all be connected by only a degree and a half of separation, and we try to cut that down to a degree and a quarter. Our goal is that when new members walk into our doors they will see at least one friendly face that they recognize.

Please help us in achieving our goal. When you come to Hevreh for any reason and see someone you don't recognize (be they new members or members of longer duration), smile, say hello, and introduce yourself. It's amazing how just one or two sentences into a conversation you will often find a connection.

Shana Tova to all,

Debbie Harris, Julie Gale and Shelley Rolf  
*weEngage Chairs*

*A & A*  
*Cemetery Services & Memorials*



**Richard Atwood Jr.**  
**(413) 528-9671**  
**(413) 329-3672 Cell**  
**(413) 528-3927 Fax**  
Email: aacemeteryservices@gmail.com

The Berkshires...  
I Live It,  
I Know It,  
I Love It



Steve Erenburg  
Associate  
413 663 0457

**COHEN + WHITE**  
ASSOCIATES  
DISTINCTIVE TOWN and COUNTRY PROPERTIES

413 637 1086 lenox, ma  
cohenwhiteassoc.com

## S'MACHOT

**A huge Mazel Tov goes out to...**

Mazel Tov to Phyllis Epstein on the birth of her grandson, Alex Edward Epstein

Mazel Tov to Steve Klein and Nancy Barbe on their twin granddaughters Eleanore Miriam & Grace Liora.

Mazel Tov to Ann and Jeff Novick on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Rowan

Mazel Tov to Helice and Steve Picheny on the marriage of Alexis to Eric Orzech

Mazel Tov to Erice and Jane Singer on the birth of their son, Henry Owen

Mazel Tov to Claudia Ricci and Richard Kirsch on the birth of their granddaughter, Dani Marcella

## SORROWS

**Our heartfelt Condolences go out to...**

John and Rebecca Schreiber, on the passing of John's mother

Roger and Lara Brown on the passing of Roger's mother, Ann, passed away

Ellen Greenberg on the passing of her husband, Mel

Harold Hastings on the passing of his wife, Gretchen

Arnie Angerman and Shira Nichaman on the passing of Arnie's mother

## ONEG

**Thank you**

Carol Noble

Julie and Peter Gale for facilitating our Tanglewood Shabbats

The Tzedek Circle of Honor Committee

The Jewish Book Festival Committee

Beth Laster Nathan and Michael Nathan

Suzanne and Tom Sawyer



**MAHAIWE**  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
**OPEN YEAR-ROUND!**  
Great Barrington • 413.528.0100 • mahaiwe.org

**Beer • Wine • Liquor**  
**Domaney's**  
Fine Wine • Unique Beer • Discount Liquors  
Temperature Controlled Wine Room • Cigar Humidor  
66 Main St. Great Barrington, MA 01230  
p. (413) 528-0024 • f. (413) 528-6093  
www.domaney.com

**YOUR FULL SERVICE TRAVEL AGENCY**

**CALL TODAY**  
For all your travel needs, contact  
Ambassador Tours, your San  
Francisco family owned &  
operated travel agency since 1955.  
**Larry Friedman, CTC**  
Lenox, MA

**WE OFFER**  
• Personalized Service  
• Exclusive Savings &  
Amenities  
• Unique & Affordable  
Vacation Packages &  
Itineraries  
• Escorted Cruise Vacations

**Ambassador Tours**  
cruise and land vacations  
You'll Travel Better For Less  
www.ambassadortours.com

**800.989.9000**  
Mon-Thu 11am-7pm • Fri 11am-3pm  
Eastern Standard Time

**MAHAIWE**  
**CHIROPRACTIC**  
**& HEALTH**  
**SERVICES**

*Dr. Lawrence Bronstein*  
Chiropractor, Board Certified Nutritionist

15 Mahaiwe Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

(413) 528-2948  
www.DrBronstein.com

**DAVID M. LAZAN** Attorney at Law  
Lazan Glover & Puciloski, LLP

GT. BARRINGTON 785 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230  
(413) 644-0200 Fax (413) 644-0201  
Email: lazan@lazzanlaw.com

**Eco Dry Cleaners & Tailoring**  
(413) 528-0004  
165 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm  
Sat: 9am-4pm

Organic Dry Cleaning  
~ No more Bacteria  
~ No more Odor  
~ Rinses Clean with No Irritating  
Residue  
Professional Tailoring  
~ Wedding and Party Dresses

Fur & Rug Cleaning  
~ Oriental & Handmade  
Shoe & Zipper Repair  
~ 35 Years of Experience  
Home Decoration  
~ Custom Made Curatins &  
Drapery

*The Gateways Inn*  
A LENOX LANDMARK


**ELEGANT LODGING  
FINE DINING  
SOPHISTICATED BAR  
LIVE MUSIC**

*Michele & Eiran Gazit, your hosts*

51 WALKER ST, LENOX, MA 01240 | 413.637.2532 | WWW.GATEWAYSINN.COM

**Your Source For Buying &  
Selling Real Estate in NYC.**

Andrew Gordon  
Licensed Associate RE Broker  
516.2412947

 COMPASS

Since 1960


**Barbato**  
Disposal

"Your Local, Friendly Disposal & Recycle Company"

Serving Columbia and Berkshire Counties  
518-325-3331 — Route 23, Hillsdale, NY

**Peter A. Gale Real Estate, LLC**  
Personal Real Estate Consulting Services in Westchester, The Hudson Valley & The Berkshires  
914-420-6459  
pgale@fairpoint.net

**Peter A. Gale, MBA, ABR, SRES**  
Licensed Real Estate Broker NY, CT, MA  
www.westchestersoundshoreproperties.com



**"I Save  
You  
Time  
and  
Money!"**

**BUYING? BUILDING? REMODELING?**

*Is this house right for me?  
How much should my remodel cost?  
Is my contractor being cost efficient?*

**1 HOUR CONSULTATION ADDRESSES YOUR  
QUESTIONS & PROVIDES PRACTICAL ADVICE.**

"You can rely on Howard for his wealth of experience.  
I recommend involving him early on for optimal  
results." — Jeff, Alford client

**Howard Chezar**  
HOME CONSULTANT  
**413-528-1576**  
hmchezar@gmail.com www.howardchezar.com

**CAMPOLI • MONTELEONE • MOZIAN**  
Attorneys at Law

**MATTHEW MOZIAN**  
mmoian@campolilaw.com

268 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230  
(413) 528-5522  
www.campolilaw.com

**Birches-Roy Funeral Home**

*Joe Roy, Funeral Director & Embalmer - Type 3*  
*Tim Roy, Funeral Director & Embalmer - Type 6*

33 South Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230  
birchesroyfuneralservices.com  
413-528-3080 Fax 413-528-5229 birroyfh@gmail.com



**Sachs Reisman, Inc.**

jewelry design & fabrication  
appraisers & diamond brokers  
buyers of gold, platinum,  
& bulk silver

25 Maple Avenue ~ Sheffield, Ma.  
413-229-0050  
www.sachsreisman.com

**GREAT BARRINGTON RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL**

**Free Puppet Play for Young Children**  
Matrushka, Great Barrington  
Saturday 3/10 • 10:30am and 11:30am

**Puppet Play and Play Date at Steiner School**  
Saturday 4/7 • 10:30am

**Steiner Spring Classroom Tour**  
Friday 5/12 • 9-11am



**Waldorf Education in the Berkshires**  
413.528.4015 • gbrss.org

## Carol R. Noble, Ph.D.

Licensed Psychologist

*Transforming Life's Challenges  
into Growth Opportunities*

- Relationships
- Life Transitions
- Insomnia

Great Barrington, MA

(413) 644-8880

cell (516) 650-5475

More information: [www.psychologytoday.com](http://www.psychologytoday.com)



## Julie Gale's

At the Kitchen Table Cooking School  
& Catering Services NY State ServSafe Certified

International Home Cooking using Local & Organic Ingredients  
Located between the Hudson Valley & the Berkshire Mountains  
214 Dawson Rd., Hillsdale, NY 12529  
Phone 914.261.1316  
[atthekitchentable@fairpoint.net](mailto:atthekitchentable@fairpoint.net)  
[www.atthekitchentablecookingschool.com](http://www.atthekitchentablecookingschool.com)  
Private and Group Cooking Classes Gift Certificates Available  
New: Private Classes for Individuals with Eating Challenges



NEW YORK STYLE DELI • PASTRAMI  
CORNED BEEF • REUBENS • LARGE  
SELECTION OF SMOKED FISH  
THE BEST WHITEFISH SALAD EVER!  
HOMEMADE SOUPS & SALADS  
CATERING FOR ALL OCCASIONS  
BAGELS BAKED FRESH DAILY  
BERKSHIRE RECORD'S BEST OF 2015  
—VOTED BEST BAGEL SHOP &  
NEW YORK STYLE DELI

777 MAIN ST. GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230, 413.528.9055, GBBAGEL.COM



1920 NORTH MAIN STREET, SHEFFIELD MA 01257  
413-528-6744 • FAX 413-528-6749

[GRANEYMETAL@VERIZON.NET](mailto:GRANEYMETAL@VERIZON.NET) • [GRANEYMETALDESIGN.COM](http://GRANEYMETALDESIGN.COM)

Contemporary & Classic Metalwork in all Styles

## THE SNAP SHOP

14 Railroad Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230  
413.528.4725

Photographic equipment  
and supplies.



[steve.snapshot@gmail.com](mailto:steve.snapshot@gmail.com)



CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY

Great Barrington • (413) 645-3421 • [www.bernayfineart.com](http://www.bernayfineart.com)



## Finnerty & Stevens Funeral Home, Inc.



*Four generations caring for our community.*

426 Main Street • Great Barrington, MA 01230  
(413) 528-1900

Visit us at [www.finnertyandstevens.com](http://www.finnertyandstevens.com)

Director • Meghan L. Finnerty

# Young Families at Hevreh

## Welcome to Hevreh!

Hevreh means community and we are proud to be  
a place that your family can call home.

Don't just take our word for it—  
here's what our families have to say about Hevreh:

"Hevreh is the ideal modern Jewish  
community that connects us to our  
heritage and provides a loving and meaningful  
environment for our  
children to learn and have fun."

"It has been an absolute joy for me to participate  
in Tot Shabbat by bringing my grandson to the  
monthly gatherings. It is our special time  
together."

## Grow With Us

For more information about Young Families  
at Hevreh programs, the Early Childhood  
Center at Hevreh, to connect with one of our  
rabbis, be in touch with Rabbi Jodie Gordon.

[jgordon@hevreh.org](mailto:jgordon@hevreh.org) | 413-528-6378

## Families at Hevreh

## Tot Shabbat

A monthly, musical Shabbat experience  
for tots and their grown-ups!  
Saturdays at 9 am

Sept 14 | Oct 19 | Nov 16  
Dec 7 | Jan 18 | Feb 8  
Mar 21 | April 25 | May 16  
June 13

## Tiny Talmidim

For our littlest learners and their  
parents: a monthly Jewish Holiday  
values based program  
Sundays at 10 am

Sept 22 | Oct 20 | Nov 17  
Dec 15 | Jan 26 | Mar 15 |  
April 19 | May 17

## Holidays at Hevreh

Family Services for Rosh Hashanah  
Monday, September 30 | 9 am - 9:45 am

Family Services for Yom Kippur  
Wednesday, October 9 | 9 am - 9:45 am

Chanukah Celebration  
Sunday, December 22, 2019

Purim Carnival  
Sunday, March 15, 2020







270 State Road  
Great Barrington MA 01230

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit #95  
Great Barrington  
MA 01230

Established 1975

*Connecting Jewish Lives for 40 years*

