



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
Rabbi's Message	1
Life Long Learning	1
Condolences	2
Volunteers Needed	2
Shabbat Dinners	3
Special Thanks	3
Peter Yarrow to Appear	3
New Library Book	3
Tag Sale Reminder	4

From the President



We are in great shape at ICM. Our membership is solid. Our finances are good. Our rabbi and Lisa, our Temple Administrator, keep our community going. Most importantly, it is you, our congregants, that we have to thank for this. Let me share a story: The rabbi called me after the last Tot Shabbat to tell me that the families, on their own, were gathering for a seder on the first night of Passover. The reason this makes me so happy is that it shows, once again, that ICM has been, and continues to be a place where good things start -- and then are continued outside of our building's walls. These Tot Shabbat families are our future, a future we invest in.

It continues to be a privilege and
continued on page 3



From the Rabbi

When people come to Manchester Center and stumble upon Israel Congregation for the first time, they are simply amazed to see a congregation of our size. From Main Street our building looks modest, fitting for what appears to be a rural Vermont community. Walk through our doors, though, and people are struck by our building: its warmth, and most of all, its size. It is touching to experience people's realization that Jewish life is strong here.

Our congregation oozes a welcoming vibe. It is impossible to remain untouched by the care we put into each relationship. I am delighted when our own congregants repeatedly say that ICM is unique in how we care and connect to each other. It is our humanity that animates our values, and it is our humanity that makes ICM the extraordinary community that we are.

Enjoy Spring and Summer!

Rabbi David Novak

BIG NEWS... Return of the Marvelous Moveable Feast

Save the Date:
Saturday August 9
Drinks and Dinner at a
Congregant's Home
Followed by a Dessert
Extravaganza and
Auction Extraordinaire
at ICM

Life Long Learning Summer 2014

The Life Long Learning Committee programs for Summer 2014 are both exciting and timely. They are free and open to our congregation and the community.

Wednesday, May 7 at 7:00 pm

Dr. Ronald Sobel, Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Emanuel-El in New York City will speak about "Words We No Longer Use: a Study in Language and Culture" at the First Congregational Church here in Manchester. He will be introduced by Rabbi Novak. ICM is co-sponsoring this *First Wednesdays* program with the Vermont Humanities Council and the Mark Skinner Library.

Wednesday, June 11 at 7:30 pm

ICM, in co-operation with the Northshire Bookstore, will host Harry Rosenfeld, author of *From Kristallnacht to Watergate: Memoirs of a Newspaperman*.

continued on page 2

Life Long Learning Summer 2014

continued from page 1

Wednesday, June 11 at 7:30 pm

In this powerful and riveting memoir, Harry Rosenfeld describes his life, from growing up in Hitler's Berlin to finding refuge in America. He describes his years as an editor at the New York Herald Tribune, The Washington Post and The Albany Times-Union. At the Post, Rosenfeld oversaw Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein when they broke the Watergate story, which earned the paper the Pulitzer Prize Gold Medal for Public Service.

At a time when newspapers and other media are under financial pressure to cut back on investigative reporting, *From Kristallnacht to Watergate* reminds us why and how good journalism is essential to our democracy.

Wednesday, July 23 at 7:30 pm

Rob Mermin, founder of Circus Smirkus and student of the legendary French mimes Marcel Marceau and his teacher Etienne Decroux, will present *The Silent Language of the Soul: a Tribute to Marcel Marceau*. Rob will demonstrate pantomime techniques, relate personal anecdotes, and show rare film clips of Marceau and Decroux performing and teaching. Decroux is known as the Father of Mime, and Marceau remains an icon of 20th century theater.

For those who remember seeing Marceau, who died in 2007, it will be a treat to rediscover the essence of the art form he made popular around the world.

Friday, August 15 at 6:30 pm and Sunday August 17 at 10:00 am

This year's *Miller Scholar is Residence* will be Mark Weitzman, Director of Governmental Affairs and of the the Task Force Against Hate and Terrorism at the Simon Wiesenthal Center. He also serves as chief representative for the Center at the United Nations. Mr. Weitzman will give two presentations about internet cyber hate. He will speak to us at Friday Shabbat services and at a special brunch on Sunday morning—providing our members with a unique opportunity to learn about a major threat from the man who is at the epicenter of information and action.

Volunteers Needed

May is ICM's month to volunteer at the Community Food Cupboard. To claim your shift, contact Micki Lisman at 802.362.4332 or msloane.esq@mindspring.com or Judy Hirschberg at judyhirschberg@yahoo.com or 802.297.2356.

The Tikkun ha Nefesh (Hebrew for "repair of the soul") Committee is seeking volunteer participation in a range of local projects that enhance Manchester:

--For Vermont Reading Partners, we are collecting new and slightly-used children's books in a box in the coat room of ICM.

--Habitat for Humanity continues to build houses in Manchester--you don't need to know how to do construction to participate. Contact Habitat at 367.1000 to let them know you are coming.

--Our Red Cross Blood Drive participation has changed to July 30--if you would like to make food for blood donors, please contact Barbara Pepper at 297.2830 or peppersix@yahoo.com.

Tikkun ha Nefesh is always seeking congregants to participate in our good deeds throughout the community. Please contact Cathy Rano, at 362.4843 or cathyrano@gmail.com. Volunteering is one of the most exciting ways to give back to our community!

Condolences

— **The Levis Family** on the loss of their wife, mother and grandmother, Georgette Levis

— **George (Barbara) Kramer and Susan Kramer** on the loss of their mother and grandmother, Adeline Kramer

— **Estelle Schwartz and Bill (Ivy) Schwartz** on the loss of their brother and uncle, Martin Markovits

A Note from Our Shabbat Dinner Chair

As we approach ICM's year-end I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who made Shabbat dinners so enjoyable this year. The Shabbat dinner committee came up with some unique and fun ideas that attracted many congregants.

To everyone who contributed to our common table, we thank you for the delicious food that we all enjoyed. Our kitchen staff, as usual, was fabulous and thanks to Oliver Levis, Lee Fox and Irene Glazer we always had wonderful challot.

And most importantly, I want to thank everyone who came to the dinners for being there and adding to the enjoyment of the evenings.

Mindy Bloom



Special Thanks To...

...The Lisman, Rano, Rappaport and Sischy families for hosting UVM students.

...Micki Lisman and Jon and Lisa Prial for organizing and cooking for the Interfaith and Community Seders.

From the President

continued from page 1

pleasure serving as president of ICM. Just as all of our officers and board members and I donate our time and effort, I hope that you, too, will find a way to volunteer on behalf of our community as we enter our new fiscal year.

Enjoy the warmer weather--and see you in shul and on the golf course.

Ed Glazer

Peter Yarrow to Appear

On June 29 at 4:00 pm Peter Yarrow, of Peter, Paul, & Mary fame, will perform a benefit concert for the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies at Israel Congregation. ICM's connection to The Arava Institute goes back to its founding in 1996 when Rabbi Michael Cohen was a part of the original faculty. The Institute is the premier environmental teaching and research program in the Middle East, preparing future Arab and Jewish leaders to cooperatively solve the region's environmental challenges. When Mr. Yarrow was asked to do the concert in Manchester he asked that the concert be held at the Israel Congregation. The concert is also made possible by the generous support of Paul and Carol Miller. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the Northshire Bookstore. For further information call Rabbi Michael at 362.7220.

News from the Library Committee

In this magnificently illustrated cultural history—the tie-in to the PBS and BBC series *The Story of the Jews*—Simon Schama details the story of the Jewish experience, tracing it across millennia, from their beginnings as an ancient tribal people to the opening of the New World in 1492. Volume 2 will bring this tale to the modern day.

It is a story like no other: an epic of endurance against destruction, of creativity in oppression, joy amidst grief, the affirmation of life against the steepest of odds.

It takes you to unimagined places: a Jewish kingdom in the mountains of southern Arabia; a Syrian synagogue glowing with radiant wall paintings; the palm groves of the Jewish dead in the Roman catacombs. And its voices ring loud and clear, from the severities and ecstasies of the Bible writers to the love poems of wine bibbers in a garden in Muslim Spain.

A great story unfolds. Not—as often imagined—of a culture apart, but of a Jewish world immersed in and imprinted by the peoples among whom they have dwelled, from the Egyptians to the Greeks, from the Arabs to the Christians.

Marion Muller

Israel Congregation has about 180 member units from diverse Jewish backgrounds, both full-time and part-time residents of southern Vermont. We provide weekly Shabbat and holiday services, a religious school, adult education, life-cycle events, and cultural and social programming in a warm and welcoming environment.

An integral part of Jewish life in the Northshire for almost 90 years, Israel Congregation has been at its current location on Route 7A, 1.2 miles north of Route 11/30, since 1985. Our building is ADA accessible.

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Friday Evening Shabbat Services, 6:30 pm
Preneg at 5:45 pm; services are followed by a Communal Dinner

Saturday Morning Shabbat Services, 9:30 am
Tot Shabbat: 9:00 am, second monthly Shabbat morning; services begin at 10:15 am

Rabbi David Novak, Rabbi

Rabbi Michael Cohen, *Rabbi Emeritus*

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Shofar Editorial Committee

Doris Bass, Marisa Eisemann, Marlene Skulnik, Laurie Sullivan

Time to Donate to the 2014 ICM Tag Sale

ICM's popular Tag Sale is scheduled for Sunday, July 13. That means it's time for all of us in the ICM community to begin to collect clothing, tshtshkes (bric-a-brac), furniture, artwork, and other items that you would like to donate. *Starting now and until July 11*, bring your donations to the classroom at the far end of the hall on the right. The ICM Tag Sale continues to be one of our best fundraisers. Please remember that the following items will not be accepted: computers, televisions, electronic equipment, or skis. Any questions, please give ICM a call.



The Fixer Uppers
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802-867-0375

Division of DML Corp.

David Skulnik Chief Fixer Upper