

120 Years • 1897 - 2017

Kayruv



קירוב

*Celebrating the past, Welcoming our future!*

November 2017

Cheshvan/Kislev 5778

## FROM THE RABBI



Dear Friends,

One of our most interesting Hebrew School days happened on Halloween. Our students were enthralled by the stories of ghosts and witches – many of which appear in the Talmud and in the Hasidic literature. And

then, of course, the next session brought one of our most interesting discussions: if all angels are doing God's wishes, what about the Angel of Death?

I had forgotten that one of the stories we read featured that angel prominently, but clearly the kids hadn't. "Well," I answered, "death is a wish of God." "But why would God need for us to die?" asked another of our scholars. This is one of the joys of teaching: questions that actually push us to grow.

We did an interesting exploration of the reasons, each student offering their ideas, and one of those ideas was that if you live forever you have no interest in going forward. Life, once explored in the first 200 or 300 years, "would become incredibly boring."

Being cognizant that good things actually end can make us value those things all the more. And knowing that bad moments also eventually finish can give us hope. But would you do it all over again?

One of my favorite Talmudic stories, but one which I have not told the students yet, is about Rav Nachman appearing to Rava after Rav Nachman's death, and Rava later appearing to his brother, Rav Seorim, after Rava's death. Of course, the Torah

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**Kayruv means "Welcoming."**



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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

forbids us calling the dead for any reason<sup>1</sup>, but it is a different story, of course, if the ghosts appear to a person without being directly called. In our story, the rabbis decided while alive that they would show up afterwards, and that seems to be all right.

Rav Nachman's appearance is the best: he proceeds to tell Rava that even though he was afraid of the Angel of Death, dying itself was "like taking hair from milk."<sup>2</sup> He then goes on to say that even though now he was aware of the gentleness of the process, he wouldn't come back to life because of the fear he felt, which he did not want to feel again.

I was always intrigued by Rav Nachman's analogy. What is the milk, and what is the hair? My first thought was that the milk symbolized the body, and the hair symbolized the soul, which was upsetting: after all, we toss away the hair. But if we flip the metaphor, then the body becomes the hair and the soul, the milk. That works in a deeper sense as well: we, our souls, are supposed to change with this process called life. Just as milk changes from milk to curdle to cheese.

The fear, however, remains. And that is, in part, what is interesting about Halloween: people dress in costumes that are full of gore, and decorate their lawns with the strangest monsters so as to forget their real fear. And behind all that lies the question: Why?

Which is one of the questions that we have explored in Hebrew School precisely because of Halloween.

Warmly,  
Rabbi Nelly Altenburger



Dear Friends,

Thank you to those members who completed the survey concerning the high holidays. I had hoped to use this article to summarize the results. However, to date, only 38% have been returned. Some might say that for a survey that is an excellent result, but I know Congregation B'nai Israel can do better. We are a community of caring individuals. Your leadership is here for you and wants to meet your needs. Please, if you have not already completed the survey, do it now. Another reminder is being sent. I hope to share the results in the December issue of the Kayruv.

Speaking of community, I am pleased to report that our food drive has been expanded to include not only Danbury food banks, but food banks in surrounding towns. Please drop off your nonperishable food items along with toiletries. Also, CBI, in cooperation with the Association of Religious Communities (ARC), will be a "Winter Warmth" location for families who have no place to go. If you would like to help with this program, please contact the office. We are all part of this community.

Our community has as one of its most basic foundations the concept of *Tzedakah*, a Hebrew word meaning justice or righteousness but commonly used to signify charity. We have a responsibility and duty to perform *Tzedakah*. The website *Learning to Give* defines *Tzedakah* as "the responsibility to give aid, assistance and money to the poor and needy, or to worthwhile causes." The food bank and homeless projects are just two ways you and we can provide *Tzedakah*.

I speak and write often about community. BrainyQuote.com defines it as "a body of people having common rights, privileges, or interests, or living in the same place under the same laws and regulations..." Simply put a community is a group of people with common interests and values. You

<sup>1</sup> See Leviticus/Vayikra 20:26; Deuteronomy/Devarim 18:11; and also the story of King Shaul calling the spirit of Samuel on I Samuel 28.

<sup>2</sup> See Moed Katan 28b

are part of one or more communities. How important is community in your daily life?

A community provides a sense of belonging. It provides the daily necessities of life, including security (police and fire protection), education, utilities and other requirements of life. I live in various communities. My family community is the most important for that community is the foundation for who I am. My condo community, and by extension my Danbury community, provides services I need. My work community provides friendship and challenges.

One of my most important communities is my synagogue community. It provides an extended family, friendship and a spiritual connection. It is a place I feel safe. I have the opportunity to reflect on who I am, who I want to be and how those around me help shape my vision of myself. During my Kol Nidre address (also the October article) I asked you to think about what drew you to CBI.

In an article for MyJewishLiving.com, Rabbi Jill Jacobs (Rabbi-in-Residence for the Jewish Fund for Justice) writes that "a synagogue offers a place for prayer, as well as for communal gatherings." Therefore Jewish families cannot live in isolation. We are, and need to be, part of a greater group -- our Jewish community. While we can pray at home, certain portions of our services require a minyan. These community services become more important as many Jews find themselves in more secular larger communities. The Jewish community helps fill the gaps found in some Jewish home life. The community is an equal partner in the establishment and continual development of our Jewish lives.

I am always asking for YOU to get involved; the same 10 people cannot do everything. We can see the importance of the community in our lives, but what is our responsibility to the community? Do you have a responsibility or will you just let the other person take care of it?

More important do we as members of our Jewish community have special obligations to the community? Rabbi Jacobs continued in her article, "Jewish texts treat participation in communal affairs not as an option, but as a religious obligation." One midrash likens removing oneself from the community to destroying the world. While I won't go that far, I do agree that unless we have community we will not have Congregation B'nai Israel. We have a wonderful 120-year past, we need you for the next 120 years.

My plea is not new. When I was president seven years ago, I wrote in a Kayruv article, "Jewish communities have changed over time but we share a common destiny; an obligation to care for each other, celebrate joys, offer support in times of sorrow. We are always weighing one obligation against another, family against work, work against community, and community against family. We are constantly pulled in many directions. It is not easy to prioritize conflicting obligations on our time when we have no control over the scheduling of those obligations. However, with some creative calendaring, and the cooperation of others, one is able to juggle things around and do more. Perhaps move the family vacation up or down a week so the family can attend a community program. Who knows, others in the family might want to vacation a different week one year. When we let our minds be inventive, the sky is the only limit."

We are the essence of a Jewish community. Please do what you can.

Thank you,  
Paul

## NOVEMBER EVENTS



NOV. 12. 17  
A project of the Aleph Society

### Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M. Global Day of Jewish Learning A 120<sup>th</sup> CBI Anniversary Event

Join us Sunday, November 12th when CBI will join over 500 synagogues and communities around the world in a learning experience on the topic "Beauty and Ugliness."

There will be discussions appropriate for all age groups from preschool to 120 years old, videos, experiential activities and peer led small group discussions.

The program agenda is as follows:

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM - Hebrew School  
10:00 AM Pancake Breakfast  
11:00 AM Beauty and Ugliness  
12:00 PM Hebrew School dismissed

### Thanksgiving Meals for Families in Need

As we have done for many years, CBI will once again be providing Thanksgiving meals for families in need in the Danbury area. The program is sponsored by the Interfaith AIDS Ministry.

We will be providing trimmings for six families. Please choose one or as many items as you'd like from the list of items BELOW. All items must be at the synagogue by **Sunday, November 19<sup>TH</sup> between 9:00 and Noon.**

Please email the office ([cbi193clap@gmail.com](mailto:cbi193clap@gmail.com)) with what and how many items you will be bringing. You can start bringing items to the synagogue and leave in the office on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 to 11:00 A.M., Tuesdays from 4:00 – 6:00 P.M., Sundays from 9:00 – Noon or call the office if you need to drop off at a different time. Items can be brought in starting Wednesday, November 8th.

6~boxes of mashed potatoes or bags of fresh potatoes  
6~ bottles of apple juice/other fruit juice  
6~ bags of dinner rolls  
6~canned vegetables  
6~bags of dinner rolls  
6~large cans of yams or fresh sweet potatoes  
6~cans of cranberry sauce  
6~large cans of chicken broth

\*\*Root vegetables, fresh fruits and pies that will keep for several days are also appreciated

### November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

ARC (Association of Religious Communities) will be hosting the Greater Danbury Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Service on Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M., at the United Jewish Center, 141 Deer Hill Road in Danbury.

Please join us for an evening of thanksgiving and prayer. ARC is asking that those who attend to bring canned goods for distribution to the needy.

### Donations for CBI's Year Long Food Drive



Our High Holiday food donation was a success. Why stop now? There are people in our Danbury community that need our help Let's make this a monthly donation program. Bring a little something whenever you can.

## SAVE THE DATE

**Weekend of February 2, 3, and 4, 2018  
Mentor In-Residence Program!!**



Please reserve the first weekend of February to attend a very special Mentor-in-Residence program at Congregation B'nai Israel. Our visiting Mentor will be Rabbi David Golinkin – Professor at the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem – and the title of the program is “Rediscovering the Art of Jewish Prayer.” The weekend will begin on Friday evening, February 2nd, with Kabbalat Shabbat services during which Rabbi Golinkin will speak on the subject of Why Pray? He says that he will offer us twelve – we’ll count them together – reasons for why to pray. The program continues during Saturday morning services on February 3rd. Rabbi Golinkin will focus on How Can We Improve/Reconnect to Our Prayer? A festive Kiddush luncheon will surely follow services. We’ll reconvene in the late afternoon for the traditional third Shabbat meal. It’s customary to sit around the table and sing during this meal and Rabbi Golinkin will share z’mirot (table songs) from around the world with us. Finally, we’ll mark the conclusion of Shabbat with Havdalah and then Rabbi Golinkin, who also sings and plays the guitar, will present a joyous concert of Shlomo Carlebach songs. You won’t want to miss this terrific program so please mark your calendars right now. And feel free to invite people from outside our synagogue community who would be interested in attending. For more information about Rabbi Golinkin, you can check this website: <http://oldschedu.com/StaffMember.aspx?ID=213&SM=1b&Dept=Seminary>

Oh, and Rabbi Golinkin will also be giving a talk on Sunday morning, February 4th. More on that in a future bulletin.

Sam Markind

## MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

You might say the Grabers (Gretchen and Ross and their sons, Isaac and Pierce), are good sports. And that, they are....literally. Since moving about a year ago from Suffern, NY, the family has immersed themselves in their sons’ various athletic activities (lacrosse, cross country, etc.), particularly ice hockey. Both on the same team, Isaac (age 12) and Pierce (age 10) play year-round at a rink in Ridgefield, their new home town.

Gretchen and Ross are busy people themselves. She works part-time in “corporate citizenship,” which, once it was explained to me, sounded fascinating: working in the financial sector consulting on volunteerism, grant opportunities, etc. Currently, Gretchen is winding up a gig with Allied Financial, expanding literacy programs in low and moderate-income communities. Ross is employed as a marketing analyst for a company, creatively named, Sirius Decisions. The couple met at SUNY Albany in 1992.

That this young couple seems always on the go is a good thing, for they did not waste any time in finding B’nai Israel soon after they arrived in the area. Ross was raised in the Conservative Jewish tradition and that made CBI attractive to him, but Gretchen, who converted to Judaism was struck that this was “the most diverse look of Judaism I had ever seen in a synagogue.” She liked our intimate size and the warm welcome they received whenever they came to services. With Isaac’s bar mitzvah on tap for June, 2018, “The boys,” she remarked, “really benefit from the one-room schoolhouse” concept of our religious school. “All together, all learning and enjoying each other’s company,” Gretchen said of the school. The same, I think, can be said for the congregation. Welcome!

Joel Levitt

## 1911-1920

- \* **1911** - Triangle Shirtwaist factory fire kills nearly 150 workers
- \* **1912** - Titanic sinks
  - Hadassah founded by Henrietta Szold
- \* **1913** - In Kiev, target of blood libel, Mendel Bellis, acquitted after trial
- \* **1914** - World War I begins
- \* **1915** - Leo Frank lynched by Georgia mob
- \* **1916** - Louis Brandeis becomes first Jewish Supreme Court justice
- \* **1917** - Balfour Doctrine declares that Britain favors establishment of Jewish homeland in Palestine.
  - On July 28, between ten and twenty thousand give Danbury contingent huge sendoff to military training camp
- \* **1918** - American Jewish Congress founded
  - Charles Jung invents fortune cookie
- \* **1919** - Prohibition begins
- \* **1920** - Constitutional amendment grants women right to vote



Yes, right here at CBI!!!

We are excited to be starting a new fundraiser for CBI which will not only help us, but help keep our earth clean and green.

Bring in your used inkjet or laser printer cartridges for disposal. We will be sending them to a company that will buy them back and reimburse CBI for them. This will be an ongoing fundraiser.

So tell your friends, family, businesses, etc. The more the merrier! Or the more we collect the more money we will make! A box is in the coatroom to put your cartridges in.

## SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

☆ **Shabbat, 22 Cheshvan, November 11, Haya**

**Sarah:** Sarah dies and Isaac is paired with Rebecca. *Haftarah:* I Kings 1:1-31

☆ **Shabbat, 29 Cheshvan, November 18,**

**Toledot:** The wrestling twins Jacob and Esau are born. *Haftarah:* I Sam.20:18-42

☆ **Shabbat, 7 Kislev, November 25, Vayetse:**

Jacob leaves home to make his own life. *Haftarah:* Hosea 12:13-14:10

☆ **Shabbat, 14 Kislev, December 2, Vayishlah:**

Jacob reunites with his brother Esau.

*Haftarah:* Obadiah 1:1-21

☆ **Shabbat, 21 Kislev, December 9, Vayeshev:**

Joseph, the favorite son, is sold by his brothers and taken down to Egypt. *Haftarah:* Amos 2:6-3:8

## CANDLE LIGHTING

November 10, 2017: 4:20 P.M.

November 17, 2017: 4:14 P.M.

November 24, 2017: 4:09 P.M.

December 1, 2017: 4:06 P.M.

December 8, 2017: 4:06 P.M.

## THANKS! THANKS!

### For the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Gail and Abe Boms in memory of Nada's mother Thais L. Ashkenas

### For the General Fund

☆ Susan and Henry Tritter in memory of Nada's mother Thais L. Ashkenas

☆ Pam Lampell in memory of Nada's mother Thais L. Ashkenas

☆ Pat and Alvin Goldman in memory of Nada's mother Thais L. Ashkenas

☆ Fran and Chris Kimball in memory of Nada's mother Thais L. Ashkenas

☆ Daniel Block in honor of Jessica Block

### For Their Generous Kiddush

☆ David Maser in memory of his father Rubin Maser

☆ Harriet and Glen Lebetkin in honor of friends and CBI community

## YAHARZEITS

**27 Cheshvan, November 16, 2017**

Clara Shenker (Martin Shenker)

Sylvia Steinberg (F. Richard Steinberg)

**28 Cheshvan, November 17, 2017**

Eugene Cahn (Charles Cahn and Claire Cahn)

**29 Cheshvan, November 18, 2017**

Fred Adler (Nada Adler)

**1 Kislev, November 19, 2017**

Sidney Steinberg (Jeff Steinberg)

**5 Kislev, November 23, 2017**

Jerry Simon (Paul Simon)

**6 Kislev, November 24, 2017**

Peter Ohring (Mary Ohring)

**7 Kislev, November 25, 2017**

Martin Schorr (Heather K. Mazarakos)

**10 Kislev, November 28, 2017**

Golde Rochma Kerstein (Michael Kerstein)

**12 Kislev, November 30, 2017**

Gloria Mark (Paula Cook)

**13 Kislev, December 1, 2017**

Barbara Salm (Joyce Shenker)

**16 Kislev, December 4, 2017**

Max Klein (Christine Gambino)

**17 Kislev, December 5, 2017**

Joseph Kaufman (Heather K. Mazarakos)

**18 Kislev, December 6, 2017**

Shlomo Boms (Abe Boms)

**19 Kislev, December 7, 2017**

Sidney Rudick (Charles Rudick and Grace Rudick)

**21 Kislev, December 9, 2017**

Robert Reynolds (Joyce and Martin Shenker)

**28 Kislev, December 16, 2017**

Pearl Wexler Bass (Gail Boms)



**WE ARE HERE IF YOU NEED US.... JUST REACH OUT!**

Tired of being kept on hold when dialing 211 or using other search engines? Unable to find help but don't know where else to go?

**JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF GREATER DANBURY/PUTNAM** is your answer. We're here when you need us at **(203) 794-1818** or through e-mail at [jfsdanbury@gmail.com](mailto:jfsdanbury@gmail.com). A live service provider will respond within a 24 hour period, Monday through Friday. Personal meetings can be arranged by appointment.

Please find us on Facebook: Jewish Family Services of Greater Danbury/Putnam.

Who are we? **JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES** is an independent social service organization for the Greater Danbury/Putnam area. We offer resource and referral information on a confidential, no-fee basis to all individuals and families residing in Bethel, Brookfield, Danbury, New Fairfield, New Milford, Newtown, Redding, Ridgefield and Sherman, CT, as well as Putnam County, NY. We are overseen by a 10-member volunteer board and administered by a dedicated, caring professional.

How have we helped? Here are some examples of the help we have provided:

1. Homecare resources provided to an adult daughter whose father has Alzheimer's disease and requires assistance with walking and daily living skills;
2. Furnished elder law referrals for children seeking conservatorship;
3. Disability resources furnished to a family caring for a disabled young person;
4. Assisted living and long term care options supplied to children of aging parents;
5. Mental health counseling referrals for individuals, couples and families.

**NOW LET US HELP YOU!**

We are a 501(c)3 organization. Your support is tax deductible.

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY**

Below are business cards of members of the Greater Danbury Community who have been instrumental and generous to us in the renovation of our building. We ask you to help show our thanks by supporting them whenever possible.

*moments pass  
memories fade  
photographs live on*

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## IN THE COMMUNITY



The Walzer Enrichment Center provides a dynamic list of program offerings for Jewish and non-Jewish individuals and families alike. Programs include educational, cultural and movement based children's classes. Our purpose is to provide individuals and families of all ages and stages with educational, supportive and enriching activities that strengthen individual and family identity, uphold Jewish values and positively impact the community at-large.

Our center offers teen activities, "mommy and me" classes and learning opportunities for adults. A list of course offerings for the Fall/Winter Schedule includes: Shalom Baby, Girls Night: A Night of Friendship and Fun for Moms, Interfaith Parenting Discussion, Mommy and Me Yoga, Infant, Mommy and Me Yoga, Toddler, FFXP Kids Bootcamp, PJ Library Storytime & Craft, Painting in Pairs, Girls Leadership Seminar, Parent/Teen Book Club, Teen Acting & Drama. Course registration is now open.

The William and Audrey Walzer Enrichment Center is located at 444 Main Street North, Southbury.

\*\*Join us Monday November 13<sup>th</sup> from 7-8pm for an important discussion on the trials and tribulations of interfaith parenting. An Interfaith Parenting Discussion brought to you by the William & Audrey Walzer Enrichment Center will be facilitated by PJ Library Coordinator Lisa Levi, someone who has personally experienced the challenges and joys of interfaith parenting. Together we can provide education, make new friends, and share in each other's experience and support. This is a free program, light refreshments will be provided. Call 203-267-3177 x 340 to register.

\*\***(SOUTHBURY, CT)** - The William & Audrey Walzer Enrichment Center is proud to present a brand new 6-week Teen Acting and Drama Class with professional actress and acting coach Meryl Hartstein. Classes are on-going from 4:00-5:30

pm on Wednesdays. Please call to reserve your spot!

This once in a lifetime opportunity will offer young teens ages 14-18 one on one experience with Meryl on learning stage presence, creating a character, improvisation and scene breakdowns. Only \$40 per session or \$200 for all six this class is not to be missed by the aspiring young actor or actress! Please call 203-267-3177 x340 to reserve your spot!.

The classes will be held at 444 Main Street North in Southbury. Register early as space is limited!!

\*\*The William & Audrey Walzer Enrichment Center is excited to offer a Painting in Pairs Session on Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> 2:00-4:00pm. Hosted by local artist Linda Richardson, students will work together on two separate canvases that result in one connected painting! November's session will feature a fall themed picture. Remember to register early as space is limited. Call 203-267-3177, x309 or 310 to sign up now! The cost for this session is \$35.00 per pair. Pairs may be made up of couples, parent/child, friends etc.

\*\***(Southbury)** The Jewish Federation of Western CT is hosting Ladies Night Out at its Enrichment Center! ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

Ladies! Join us Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm for an evening of holistic relaxation. The William & Audrey Walzer Enrichment Center presents Girl's Night: A night of friendship and fun for moms! Linda Dayton from Essential Healing Arts will be hosting a soothing evening of essential oils, chair massage and aromatherapy while local author and life coach Kylie Wolff discusses her book You Can Do Whatever the Hell You Want, an inspirational journey of one woman's commitment to take her life into her own hands. Only \$12 for the night and refreshments will be offered. Come meet some new women and let your hair down for a well-deserved night off! RSVP Required. 203-267-3177, x340.

\*\*Join us at the William & Audrey Enrichment Center every other Wednesday from 10-11:30 am for Shalom Baby, a fun social and educational group for new parents or parents to be. Hosted by local Southbury mother and daughter team Donna Cassity and Lindsay Gibson from Healthy Mom Happy Baby, this group will focus on all the trials

and tribulations of early parenthood, including such topics as infant sleep, relationship changes, nutrition, work/home balance, and much more. All are welcome regardless of faith or denomination!

Healthy Mom Happy Baby bring a wealth of experience and knowledge on holistic childbirth education, spiritual counseling, post-partum care and many other areas related to parenting. Please feel free to bring your little ones and light refreshments will be provided. Please remember to register early as space is limited! RSVP's can be taken at [203-267-3177 x309](tel:203-267-3177) or in person during regular business hours. Cost for this program is \$7 per session or \$30 for all 6 weeks.

### **\*\*Tribute to Dean Martin & Lunch**

(SOUTHBURY) The popular Love & Knishes Lunch Program promises to please at our lively luncheon! Come out to celebrate the fall with your friends. The public is invited to enjoy good cheer, live music and delicious food on Wednesday, November 15 at the Jewish Federation of Western CT at 444 Main St. North in Southbury. Lunch is served at 12 noon, followed by entertainment at 1:00 PM.

On November 15 Jack Lynn will perform a tribute to Dean Martin. He will perform all of your favorites and more, as you are transported to another time! The live performance will reaffirm that "Dino" was truly the "King of Cool."

Lunch reservations should be made by Monday for that week's program. All programs are open to the public, and there is a suggested lunch donation of \$7.50 for adults age 60 and better. To RSVP, call 203-267-3177, x340.

### **\*\*Alzheimer's Discussion at Federation**

(SOUTHBURY) The Life, Love and Friendship group at Federation is meeting on Thursday, November 16 at 1:30 pm in the afternoon. All area adults are invited to join in on the program at the Jewish Federation of Western [CT, 444 Main Street North](http://www.jccinsherman.org), in Southbury. This ongoing monthly workshop is designed for individuals who are looking to educate themselves on interesting topics related to enhancing their social life. Expect create a network of friends with whom you can enjoy life.

This month, Susan Possidente Good, MS, APRN, is an advanced practice registered nurse at the Alzheimer's Disease Research Unit at Yale University. She received her master's degree in

psychiatric nursing from the University of Rochester and brings over 30 years of experience conducting clinical trials and working with patients and their families.

The Alzheimer's Disease Research Unit is currently conducting over 15 clinical trials for both the prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's disease. Susan is a clinical faculty preceptor at the Yale School of Nursing, and she also runs a monthly support group for caregivers in conjunction with the Alzheimer's Association of Connecticut. A question and answer session will follow.

To RSVP please call 203-267-3177 ext. 340. Light refreshments will be served. Open to the public.



### **THE JCC IN SHERMAN**

#### **Great Decisions Sunday, November 12th**

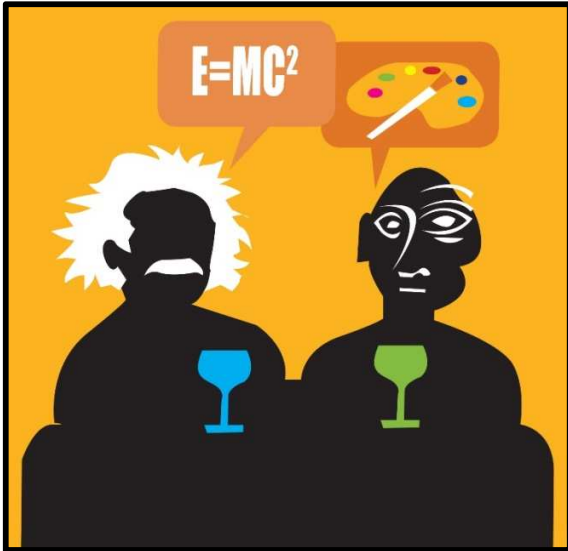
Join us for the last Great Decisions of the year at the JCC in Sherman. It will be held on Sunday, November 12 from 10AM-12PM. Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD and meeting in a Discussion Group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today.

The topic for November 12 will be on Nuclear Security. "Nuclear nonproliferation was a top priority for the Obama administration. While the Iran Deal was a diplomatic victory toward this end, major threats persist from both state and non-state actors. Countries like North Korea, Russia, and India and Pakistan continue to challenge nonproliferation efforts. The possibility that terrorists will carry out an attack using a "dirty bomb," made from captured nuclear materials, looks increasingly real. In a fractious world, which way forward for U.S. nuclear security policy?" - Todd Stephen Sechser

This event is free and open for the public. Please let us know if you plan on attending this program by Thursday, November 9th.  
[info@jccinsherman.org/860-355-8050](mailto:info@jccinsherman.org)  
[www.jccinsherman.org](http://www.jccinsherman.org)

**Dinner Theater at the JCC in Sherman**  
**Saturday, November 18th**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Cost: \$40**

The JCC in Sherman will be hosting a performance of Steve Martin's "Picasso at the Lapin Agile" on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. The play will be accompanied by a three-course meal to include light appetizers, dinner and dessert.



What would happen if Albert Einstein and Pablo Picasso met at a bar in 1904 right before Einstein publishes this theory of relativity and before Picasso paints *Les Femmes d'Alger*? This comedy has Einstein and Picasso having a lengthy debate about the value of genius and talent!

The production is directed by Sherman Playhouse President, Robin Frome, The cast includes Jared Emmanuemi, newcomer to the greater Danbury area theater scene. He was last seen in The Town Players of Newtown production of *Off, Off, Off Broadway*. Rufus De Rham has been acting in the area since 1986. He was last seen in the Sherman Playhouse's past season productions of *House of Blue Leaves* as Billy Einhorn and *Dark of the Moon* as Mr. Allen. His past credits include *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* and *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*. Missy Hanlon was last seen on the JCC Dinner Theater as Yvonne Fouchet in *The Dinner Party*. Her recent past productions include *Hedda Gabler*, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, and *Alice in Wonderland*. She is the children's theater director at The Ridgefield Theatre Barn. Karl Hinger is a recent graduate from WCSU's Theater Department. His past credits in other

theaters include *Zombie Prom* and *Next to Normal*. Kathleen Shaughnessy, whose debut was earlier this year in The Town Players of Newtown production of *Exit the Body*. This marks Kathleen's second theatrical production. Jeff Rossman has been seen in many local productions including *Opera Comique*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Run For Your Wife*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *The Rainmaker*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Life With Father* and *Dark of the Moon* at The Sherman Playhouse and *Bell, Book and Candle* at New Milford Theatreworks. Patrick was last seen as Damis in *Tartuffe* and Marvin Hudgeons in *Dark of the Moon* both at The Sherman Playhouse. He has also appeared in several productions at The Ridgefield Theatre Barn including *Calendar Girls*. Brian Feinberg has been seen in many productions in the area over the past 20 years. His last appearance at The Sherman Playhouse was in *Dividing the Estate*. Kimberly Marcus was seen on the JCC Dinner Theater stage in *Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of Black Peter* and *Ways and Means*. Her Sherman Playhouse credits include *See How They Run*, *Dividing the Estate* and *The Rocky Horror Show*. She was Lulu in Robin Frome's original play, *Tri State Trilogy* at The PACbox and has appeared on the stages of Town Players of Newtown, Ridgefield Barn Theater and TBTA. Chris Marker has been seen in several area productions mainly at The Sherman Playhouse whereby he is a board member. His past credits include *See How They Run*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Dark of the Moon*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Hair*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *A Radio Play* and *Life With Father* at the Playhouse and *Peter and the Starcatcher* at Theatreworks New Milford.

The JCC in Sherman has been a gathering place for the local communities in the Candlewood Lake area and nearby New York towns since 1994. The mission of the JCCS is to provide high quality educational, cultural, and social programs to Sherman, CT and the surrounding communities serving all people irrespective of age, race, or religion.

Reserve your tickets soon by registering online [www.jccinsherman.org](http://www.jccinsherman.org) or by phone 860-355-8050 as space is limited and this event fills up fast. Pre-paid reservations are required by November 15th.