

Heritage Highlights

A Publication of THE JEWISH HERITAGE MUSEUM OF MONMOUTH COUNTY

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Iyar, Sivan, Tammuz, Av, 5778

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The Swartz Family: Five Generations Of Monmouth County Commerce, Medicine, Literature, and Libraries

The Jewish Heritage Museum
of Monmouth County

TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday June 10, 2018 11 AM

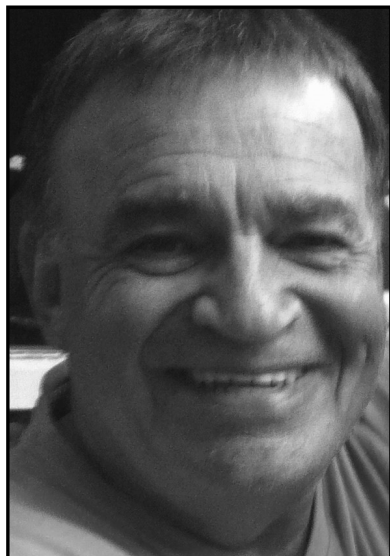
- Enjoy Bagels and Smears
- Call meeting to order and determine a Quorum
- Read and Approve minutes of 2017
- Read Annual Report
- Adoption of Budget
- Election of Trustees

Proposed budget and biographies of nominees for
Trustee positions starts on page 3.



Israel's 70th Birthday Official Logo

President's Message



Hopefully by the time you read this, *Winter* will finally be over and *Spring* will be in the air! Here at the JHMOMC we are looking forward to many events and undertakings to welcome in this seasonal transition. Many of you may know that I was "out of the box" for the past four months, recovering from heart surgery. With this in mind, I want to thank our Vice-President, Barbara Silvers, for stepping up in my place. Also, I want to thank our past Co-President, Alice Berman, for working with Barbara and making sure that all of the many day-to-day matters were handled. A thank you also goes to our faithful Administrative Assistant, Janice Friedland.

Also during this time, the Exhibits Committee, chaired by Alice Berman, curated and installed our current exhibit in honor of Congregation Sons of Israel's 100 Year Anniversary. This fabulous exhibit will join the Permanent Exhibit until the end of the summer. We hope everyone will visit the Museum to enjoy the beauty and meaning of these displays.

In this edition of *Heritage Highlights*, you will read about activities and events that are planned for the coming months. I look forward to seeing you here at "your" Museum. Because of your membership, this wonderful and dedicated undertaking belongs to "you." Please take advantage of this ownership by joining us for a bagel brunch at our **Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 10, 2018** as we review the past year and plan for the next with elections of Trustees and budget review. Consider becoming a **volunteer** and/or sponsor. **Visit** regularly, and most of all, **tell your family and friends** about this historical gem which continues to preserve and celebrate hundreds of years of Jewish heritage in Monmouth County and the surrounding areas.

- Vic Schioppo
President



Another way to demonstrate YOUR ownership of the success of the Museum is through a gift to this year's Annual Appeal, as this fiscal year draws to a close on June 30.

We hope you will give generously to support the work and viability of the Museum, and we appreciate gifts of any size - your support is what matters!

You can donate by check, by calling 723-252-6990, or online at www.jhmomc.org (Donate/annual appeal).

THANK YOU!

On the Cover: The Swartz Variety Store (c. 1910) in Highlands

Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County

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Funding has been made possible in part by an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a Division of the Department of State, through grant funds administered by the Monmouth County Historical Commission.

Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County Budget Analysis July 2018 - June 2019

	Budget	Actual	Budget
	June 30,	July 1 to March 31	June 30,
	2018	2018	2019
OPERATIONS			
Revenue			
4005 Admissions	800	866	800
4007 Exhibits Income	1,000		500
4010 Donations - Door	200	75	200
4015 Donations - Membership	6,000	4,091	6,000
4025 Donations - Other	4,000	6,727	5,000
4050 Membership Income	12,000	7,546	12,000
4100 Tribute Cards	200	88	200
4215 Fundraising - Bricks	680	739	800
4220 Fundraising-Leaves	320		0
4225 Fundraising - Events	7,500	4,083	10,000
4245 Fundraising - General	7,500	47	1,000
4250 Annual Appeal	5,000		5,000
4305 Grants	2,500	500	1,500
4320 Gaming Income	500		500
4500 Program Income	16,500	9,967	12,000
Sponsorship			
Total Revenue	64,700	34,739	55,500
Expenditures			
5001 Program Expenses	6,500	4,532	3,500
5005 Exhibit Expenses	2,500	314	1,500
5215 Fundraising Expenses - Bricks	150	180	200
5216 Fundraising Expenses - Leaves	100		0
5225 Fundraising Expenses - Events	4,000	1,322	4,000
5245 Fundraising Expenses - General	1,000	49	200
5250 Annual Appeal Expense	600		600
5305 Genealogy Expense	1,000		400
5325 History Expense	1,000	905	1,500
6000 Office Salaries	12,600	6,106	11,000
6001 Payroll Tax Expense	1,400	815	1,000
6005 Office Supplies and Expenses	4,500	2,128	3,000
6010 Building Maintenance	4,000	2,142	5,000
6020 Insurance Expense	5,000	3,524	5,000
6025 Membership Expense	800	296	800
6030 Technology Expense	1,500	150	500
6035 Publicity Expenses	2,500	1,038	2,500
6040 Publication Expenses	5,000	5,230	4,000
6050 Board Expenses	200	90	200
6065 Professional Affiliations	700	118	500
6070 Professional Fees	700	325	500
6075 Credit Card and Bank Fees	550	297	600
Rent or Lease - Storage Facility	1,100	1,414	1,200
Taxes & Licenses	300	178	300
Utilities	7,000	5,830	7,500
Total Expenditures	64,700	36,983	55,500
Net Operating Revenue	0	(2,244)	0

	Budget	Actual	Budget
	June 30,	July 1 To March 31	June 30,
	2018	2018	2019
OTHER ACTIVITY			
L'DOR VA'DOR			
4020 Donations - L'dor Va 'Dor			
5320 L'dor Va'dor Expenses	5,000	350	2,000
Net L'Dor Va'Dor Revenue	(5,000)	(350)	(2,000)
TIMELINE			
4315 Timeline Income	10,000	6,878	1,500
5315 Timeline Expenses	4,500	1,031	1,000
Net Timeline Revenue	5,500	5,847	500
CHILDREN'S EDUCATION			
4300 Children's Education Income	500		500
5300 Children's Education Expenses	1,000	20	1,000
Net Children's Education Revenue	(500)	20	(500)
Net Other Activity Revenue	0	5,477	(2,500)
OTHER REVENUE AND EXPENSE			
4405 Interest Income		21	
Investment income		265	
Depreciation		(619)	
Total Other Revenue and Expense	0	(333)	0
Net Revenue	0	2,900	(2,000)

Board of Trustees Nominees for a Two Year Term

Gloria Berman

After 41 years in education - as a 1st, 3rd, and 5th grade classroom teacher, 8th grade art specialist, and 25 years as a Learning Consultant member of the Child Study Team, school liaison, and past President of the New Jersey State Organization of Learning Consultants - Gloria retired. In 2007, she joined the Jewish Heritage Museum, becoming a Trustee on the Board and Program Committee Chair where she served for 8 years, reaching the term limit specified in the bylaws. After a year's hiatus from the Board, she was re-elected as a Trustee in 2016. As Program Committee Chair, her responsibilities have included scheduling approximately 20-30 programs yearly, including play readings and productions, Yiddish Theatre, lectures on Art History, and concerts ranging from classical to modern. These programs have been able to reach a broad spectrum of our Greater Monmouth County community. In addition, Gloria participates on other committees as time permits including Exhibits and Nominations. Gloria feels it has been exciting, rewarding, and challenging as the Museum continues to grow and become an integral part of the cultural fabric of our community. She looks forward to continuing as a Trustee to contribute to the Museum's success.

Continued on Page 6

ISRAEL AT 70



For approximately three thousand years, the land that today is known as Israel, has been home to the Jewish people. Throughout the centuries, different groups tried to control this land, but in the end, it is still the official home of the Jewish people. It is believed that the entrance of the Old City might be the palace of King Herod, from over 2,000 years ago. Judaism has been tied to Jerusalem for over three thousand years. While the land of the Jewish Kingdoms dates back centuries, the official nation of Israel is only 70 years old. The nation of Israel planned great celebrations for this wonderful occasion which are intended to be shared throughout the world, including in the United States.

Modern Israel has its origins in the Zionist movement. In 1896, Theodor Herzl wrote and published a pamphlet entitled "The Jewish State." It argued for an official Jewish state. The 1917 Balfour Declaration, issued by Great Britain, furthered this idea, with the intention to establish a Jewish homeland. The United Nations partitioned this land in 1947 yet almost immediately Israel was attacked by neighboring nations. Through war after war, Israel has prevailed (history.com).

On May 14, 1948, David Ben Gurion announced the establishment of the Jewish state: Israel. This young nation started with a population of approximately 600,000 people. Most of Israel's early population came from displaced persons camps that were established after World War Two. With mostly handguns, they fought the surrounding armies that were within twenty-five miles of Tel Aviv (cbnnews). Israel, furthermore, now has the law of return: the right of Aliyah – every Jew has a right to go to Israel.

With a growing economy, as a leader in technology, medicine, science and with one of the world's most powerful armies, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu calls Israel, "A light to all nations." Israel has provided aid worldwide including to Mexican earthquake survivors. Additionally, Israel tries to preserve all historical and biblical sites and it is open to all faiths. Israel has not only survived but it has flourished. The



David Ben-Gurion proclaiming independence beneath a large portrait of Theodor Herzl, founder of modern Zionism

current population of Israel is approximately eight million people. There is also a significant Christian and Muslim population in Israel, along with the Jewish population (*Jerusalem Post* and cbnnews).

Israeli Culture Minister, Miri Regev, stated to the *Times of Israel* and other news organizations that there will be 70 hours of celebration in the country for this anniversary. There is also an official anniversary song. *The Jerusalem Post* reports that the anniversary theme is "Heritage of Innovation." "The 70th Anniversary Logo features the number 70; a Star of David in modern design, drawing an historical continuum from King David's days and modern Israeli sovereignty; and 'Israel' as written by a scribe in a Torah scroll. [Sic] it expresses "the unbreakable bond between the modern State of Israel and ancient nationalism," from Biblical times to the present.



On April 18th, a state ceremony was held at Mount Herzl. From Tiberias to Eilat, there were all night beach parties. April 19th was a day to honor Israel's innovation, as well as conducting the annual International Bible Quiz. On April 20th there were more street parties, hora dancing, and public Shabbat services. On Saturday night there was a musical event that represented the soundtrack of Israeli society. The celebrations were topped off by the largest fireworks display that the country has ever seen!

Of course, throughout the United States, there are celebrations for the Israel anniversary. This includes the annual Israel Parade in New York City. The Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey has several events planned throughout the year. Throughout greater Monmouth County, synagogues planned their own 70th anniversary celebrations. Check them out and help celebrate ISRAEL AT 70.

Additional source for this article: *Jewish Virtual Library*

- Prof. Carol L. Fox,
Co-Chair of Publications and Recording Secretary

Jewish Connections

In 2018, over seventy years after the end of World War II, there is still much to be discovered. As in the legacy of Masada's "we choose death rather than slavery," there is now validation of the Burning Brigade. Long thought to be more fable than truth, the escape of the Burning Brigade is now confirmed.

Near the town of Vilnius, today's Lithuania, nearly eighty men, Jewish prisoners, were taken by the Nazis to a nearby village: Ponar. Ponar was the site of mass killings by the Nazis, along with mass graves of more than 80,000 people. As World War II progressed, the Nazis did not want such graves to remain as proof of their actions. Thus, the Nazis brought the near eighty prisoners to the area of Ponar to obliterate the proof of these mass killings. First, the prisoners were ordered to cut down trees and haul them. They later discovered that the wood would be used for fires. The prisoners lived in poorly created living quarters and they ate a stew of ice, dirt, and potatoes. The job of the Brigade was to exhume the buried bodies and burn them. Then, the remaining bone fragments were crushed into a fine powder. The Brigade members were able to estimate the time of death of the victims. Victims that were dressed in outer clothing had been killed in 1941. By 1942, the victims wore only their underclothing. More than 3,500 bodies were exhumed in a week's time.



In an exciting new discovery using Electric Resistivity Tomography at the Ponar massacre site near Vilnius in Lithuania, the escape tunnel used by the so called 'Burning Brigade' to elude their captivity and certain death at the hands of the Nazis has been pinpointed.

One prisoner of the Brigade, Isaac Dogim, faced the unfathomable. As he dug the bodies out of the mass grave, he unearthed his deceased wife, deceased mother, and deceased sisters. Obviously, Dogim became further enraged and wanted quick revenge. However, upon careful contemplation, Dogim realized that quick action would solve nothing.

Therefore, in February of 1944, the Burning Brigade started to build an escape tunnel, from their quarters,

and through the woods. The tunnel was in the back of the prisoner bunker, behind a fake wall. It was started in February of 1944 and by April the tunnel was complete. Although the tunnel was eventually discovered by the Nazis, the Brigade had already climbed to freedom.



New Technology revealed a 3 foot-wide by 3 foot-tall tunnel that ran more than 110 feet. The prisoners removed more than an estimated minimum 32 tons of soil. "We tried to hide the sand on the roof, between the walls, anywhere, any place we could think to hide it," said Motke Zeidel, a surviving prisoner.

The story of these prisoners lingered, but proof evaded those who looked for it. Richard Freund, a renowned American archaeologist, entered the picture in the early 2000s. Using non-evasive tools including ground penetrating radar, and using Nazi aerial photographs, Freund and his investigators ensured that there was no further desecration of those that were buried there. The area had become covered with thick foliage. In time, Freund and his co-workers found the tunnel and additional mass graves. There was now more proof of the horrors of the Holocaust; no longer could Holocaust deniers claim that it never occurred.

In this fast paced current world, little surprises us. Yet, the Burning Brigade does just that. These prisoners are a true story of endurance and hope.

Sources:
Smithsonian Magazine and
Matthew Shaer



The memorial to the Holocaust at Ponar

- Carol L. Fox
Co-chair of Publications
and Recording Secretary

Susan Helfand

Susan is a resident of Manalapan, and is a retired educator with 26 years of experience with the New Brunswick Public Schools Adult Learning Center. She is active in Brandeis National Committee, as well as being an active grandma of four young grandchildren. Since becoming a member of the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Heritage Museum in 2011, she has served as chairperson of the Children's Education and Events Committee, (now called the Education Committee) planning and developing programs for children and young adults, as well as coordinating programs for school groups. She also is involved on the Personnel Committee, which includes interviewing and hiring prospective candidates such as the Museum's Administrative Assistant. She is also serves on the Nominating Committee. Susan is a docent at the Museum and enjoys sharing the Permanent Exhibit with visitors. In the coming term, Susan would like to continue serving as a Trustee and contributing to the Museum in these areas.

Michele Klausner

Michele holds a BA in art and a Master's degree in Psychoanalysis. She has worked with substance abuse prevention and with victims of domestic violence. She is also a NJ Certified Art Teacher, and was advertising director of *The Cranford Chronicle*, *The Item of Millburn Short-Hills*, and *New Jersey Lawyer* before starting a second career as a program coordinator of both The Women's Project and The Healthy Aging Program at Christ Hospital in Jersey City, NJ. She moved to Monmouth County 12 years ago, and now lives in Cliffwood with her husband, Jonathan. Michele is a Certified Journal Facilitator, and has created a program called Jewish Journaling which meets weekly at the Museum. In addition to serving on the Board for the past two years, she has been a docent, presented programs, worked on several committees and helped in the office when staff was unavailable or on vacation. On behalf of the Museum she has attended several trainings on safety and security.

Hilda Mesnick

Hilda is a retired elementary school teacher and served as District Reading chairperson. She received the Governor's Teaching Recognition Program Award in 1989. Hilda moved to Greenbriar, in Marlboro, 29 years ago from Old Bridge. She has been a member of ORT and of the League of Women Voters. She is an active member of National Council of Jewish Women, Central Jersey section, and served as Co-President from 1996 – 2002. She was the recipient of the prestigious Hannah G. Solomon Award for outstanding community service. In 2011, Hilda was elected as a Trustee for the Museum. Her positions on the Board have included past Bylaws chair, presenter for the Speakers Bureau, served on the Program, Fund Raising, and Exhibit committees, and is currently chair of the Nominating Committee. She would like to continue as Trustee in these capacities.

Vic Schioppo

Vic has been a resident of Manalapan for 29 years, and he and his wife, Sharon, are members of Congregation Sons of Israel. Currently, Vic is serving as the Executive Director of Congregation Sons of Israel on a pro-bono basis. Vic has a degree in Economics from St. John's University and a Master's Degree in Management from Baruch College. He served as an active duty and reserve member of The United States Marine Corps from 1964 through 1970.

Vic retired from corporate financial management in 2013, having served as Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer of major corporations. Throughout his life, Vic has also been a performing singer and piano player, and he is still an actively performing musician. Vic has been a member of The Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County Board since 2014, and currently serves as its President.

Barbara Silvers

Barbara's career in nursing included positions as an Administrator, Clinical Specialist, and Practitioner with an emphasis on Medication Adverse Events, as well as research, regulatory compliance and data entry in the pharmaceutical arena. She has also served as the Director of an Assisted Living Facility. She has served on boards of Hadassah and Deborah, at Covered Bridge, and was recently elected President of the local chapter of National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees (NARFE). She has been on the Museum Board since 2016, and volunteers as needed for Fund Raising, Program, Permanent Exhibit, and the Exhibit Committees. Elected as Vice President of the Board of the Museum in 2017, she has served as Acting President while the President has been on medical leave.

Phyllis Clancy Solomon

Phyllis received her Bachelor of Science degree at Brooklyn College and pursued her graduate studies in the psychopathology of the special child at Montclair State and Brooklyn College. In 1969, Phyllis, her husband Herb, and their three children, moved to Morganville, where she has made her home for 49 years. Phyllis is on the Jewish National Fund Board in Central NJ, and travels to Israel twice a year as she sits on a JNF task force that assists the communities in the Negev bordering Gaza and Egypt. Phyllis likes to make a difference.

She is a member of the Israel Advocacy Committee of the Jewish Federation in the Heart of NJ. She teaches, for Chabad, art projects at "Smile on Seniors." She is president of the Chancy Memorial Foundation, a family foundation that provides grants for philanthropic activities in the arts for challenged community members. She volunteers at Family Resource Associates in Shrewsbury, teaching computer skills and art projects to young adults. Phyllis has been on the Board of the Museum since 2014 and serves as co-chair of the Fundraising Committee.

Jeffrey Wolf

In 2006, Jeffrey retired from teaching elementary school in the Marlboro Township School District. He and his wife Karen, live in Manalapan and have two children, Alyssa and Jonathan. Jeff is a member of Freehold Jewish Center where he has served as a Trustee and Vice President, is currently the Synagogue's Financial Secretary, and has chaired or served on various committees for many years. Jeff became involved with JHMOMC in 2009, as a member of the Publications Committee. He is now one of the design editors of the newsletter, *Heritage Highlights*. He has also served as a member of many of the Museum's committees including the Program Committee, Exhibits Committee, and the Timeline Committee. He has been a member of the Executive Board, Treasurer, Vice President, and Co-President. Jeff looks forward to coming back to the Board to serve as a Trustee.

Bella Scharf Zelingher

Bella is a 32 year resident of Marlboro Township. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Pratt Institute, had careers as Design Director for a yarn company, a part-time instructor at Pratt and Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), and also published two crafts books. In 1980, after re-tooling in information technology, Bella launched a second career in programming and analysis. She retired in 2007 from Johnson & Johnson, where she developed business systems and web applications. She then returned to crafts, and currently practices woodworking and a little-known technique called "marquetry" which she learned from her late father. She also participates in running Chabad's "Smile on Seniors" program by preparing PowerPoint presentations, as well as holding crafts sessions. Bella has brought her visual design skills, writing background, and web/technical skills to the Museum as part of the team which developed the Permanent Exhibit, and has recently designed and created the Youth Zone element of the exhibit. She also coordinates group tours. Bella has completed her first two year term on the Board.

JUNE 10th, 2018 at 7:00 PM COMING TO A FAVORITE MUSEUM IN YOUR AREA!

Last fall, on October 28, 2017, the Museum presented *Spectacular Signature Songs*, and at the end of the joyous occasion the consensus was that we had to do another night just like that one. So we have made it happen!

On Sunday, June 10, 2018 at 7:00 pm, we invite you to another special program, *Back to Broadway*, which will feature magical moments performed over the years on the Broadway stage. After performing to a full house last year, the Museum is excited and honored to welcome back Alexa Chalnack and Sheri Chalnack,

under the direction of accompanist, Vic Schioppo, who will once again entertain with their spectacular renditions of wonderful and memorable melodies. Delight in the music of favorite Broadway shows, and enjoy wine and cheese, along with delectable desserts, while you socialize!

The performers ended the evening in October with "We are Family." With voices raised and swaying to the rhythm, it was evident that the gift of music can unite us all as Friends of the Museum.

We often refer to the Jewish Heritage Museum as a "jewel in the heart of New Jersey," but we also hear people say, "I never knew the Museum was here, right in Freehold." Our Permanent Exhibit has now brought people from near and far, and we are overjoyed to welcome them. The old barn comes alive when visitors recognize relatives, friends, and neighbors who have been a part of the 300 year history of the County's Jewish community. Their wonder and surprise is our story.

Please join with us for *Back to Broadway* on June 10th. Your participation and support will add to the growth and excitement of this very special jewel that happens to be our community's Museum. The Fundraising Committee works very hard to bring events that stimulate, enrich, and satisfy our Friends of the Museum, while it encourages ongoing support for the Museum. We hope you will be part of this very special evening!

For further information or to make a paid reservation, call 732-252-6990 or order tickets online at www.jhmomc.org.

- Phyllis Chancy Solomon

- Helene Cohen

Fund Raising Committee Co-Chairs

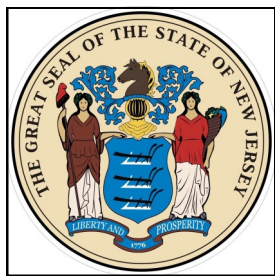
The Golden Medinah: The Arrival of Eastern European Jewish Immigrants In Monmouth County

The largest wave of Jewish immigration to the United States was that of the Eastern European Jews, a wave which began in the 1880s and continued to 1924 when the American immigration laws were changed. Driven by persecution and economic discrimination, over two and a quarter million, Yiddish-speaking Jews emigrated to America in search of The Golden Medinah (The Golden Land.) Religiously, culturally, and socially, these new arrivals changed the community in many ways, overwhelming the earlier Sephardic and German Jewish settlements and bringing a new religious and ethnic fervor to the United States.

- Rabbi Robert E. Fierstien
Co-chair, History Committee

The Golden Medinah, Monmouth County, New Jersey: A Story of Eastern European Jewish Immigration in America, a new JHMOMC slide/talk depicting Eastern European Jewish settlement in Monmouth County, is scheduled for its premier showing on **Thursday evening, August 2, 2018, at 7 PM** as part of the Museum's Summer Thursday evening series of programs.

The Museum's Speakers Bureau is Looking Forward to a Busy Spring and Summer, Both at the Museum and Off-Site



The plows on the NJ State Seal show the importance of agriculture to the state's economic power.

Back to the Land: The Story of the Jewish Farmers of Greater Monmouth

Many clubs, organizations, and synagogues continue to take advantage of the fine programs the Museum offers. Each program is meticulously researched and crafted by our own very talented staff and provides informative and often provocative content. We are constantly expanding our program choices. So be sure to book your group's program for the coming year. Also, be on the lookout for traveling exhibits mounted by the Museum at various venues throughout the area.

- **Journey to Monmouth : From the Iberian Peninsula to the New World (45 minutes)**
- **The Story of the Jews of Monmouth County: In Town, at the Shore, on the Farm (30 minutes)**
- **18th Century Monmouth County Jews: Colonial and Revolutionary Times (30 minutes)**
- **The German Jewish Newport on the Jersey Shore: The History of the German Jews of Monmouth County (45-60 minutes)**
- **The Faces of Genius: Jewish American Nobel Laureates in Chemistry and Medicine (75 mins.)**
- **Louise Nevelson: Grand Dame of American Sculpture (45 minutes)**
- **Back to the Land: The Story of the Jewish Farmers of Greater Monmouth (45 minutes)**



Guggenheim Summer Cottage
Now Guggenheim Library at
Monmouth University

The German Jewish Newport on the Jersey Shore: The History of the German Jews of Monmouth County



George Segal's sculpture,
The Butcher Shop

George Segal: The Artist
from a Jewish Perspective

- **George Segal: The Artist from a Jewish Perspective (30 mins.)**

For more information or to book a program please call the Museum at 732-252-6990.

**- Barbara Michaels
Speakers Bureau Chair**

Jewish Journaling – It's Not What You Think!

It's not "What I did on my Summer Vacation," but it could be. It might be: How my family spent summers in Bradley Beach, or at a bungalow community in the Catskills. It might be a story about the summer you

were 16 (and what fun we have sharing those stories), or the summer your parents or grandparents were 16. Or it might be a bucket list of things we'd like to do this summer; and then we learn how to use our writing to make them happen. We write about the past, present, and future; we write and we listen and learn from our own writing and the writings of those in the group. We share stories, resources and experiences. (Did you know there's an APP for Counting the Omer?) What you may not realize is it's not about the writing. You don't have to be a good writer, or even enjoy writing to find the Jewish Journaling group to be enjoyable, inspiring, and meaningful. The writing we do is quick, easy, and anyone can do it.

Currently, we're focusing on the Permanent Exhibit which teaches when and how the first Jews came to Monmouth County. In the Jewish Journaling group we discuss how each of us came to be in Monmouth County, how our parents or grandparents may have come to this country, and how in the world we wound up in New Jersey. The exhibit and its various parts act as a springboard into interesting stories, family traditions, and discussions of our history, our past, present, and future.

Recently we shared some family Passover traditions. At my daughter's Seder, for example, everyone was asked to provide a fun fact about themselves. In the group we answered many more than four questions and learned a bit about ourselves and each other. In the past we've looked up our Hebrew birthdays since most of us didn't know them. And we wrote a collaborative poem about our collective memories where everyone wrote a single line:

I remember having to share the Chanukah Menorah with my sister each year.

I remember holding on to the carriage as my mother wheeled my infant baby brother on Boynton Avenue in the Bronx.

I remember our 3-family house in Maplewood.

I remember DeKalb Avenue and the boy I was afraid of who lived on the block.

I remember going to dancing school...to strengthen my legs because I had growing pains and I remember going to Horn & Hardart afterwards for lunch.

I remember stepping on the skateboard, pushing off with one foot, sailing downward, hair unfurled and streaming as I careened down the hill.

I remember sitting on a bench near the ocean with my leg in a cast and crutches on the ground.

I remember holding my grandfather's hand as we walked the short distance to Shul on Chancellor Avenue.

What do you remember? Come join us one Tuesday Morning. Bring a notebook and a pen. We meet from 10:30 AM – Noon, and the cost is only \$5.00 per session.

**- Michele Klausner
Certified Journal Facilitator**



On March 18, 2018, students from the 4th grade at Temple Har Shalom in Warren, NJ came to the Museum for a class about Jewish immigration, local Jewish history, and connections to Israel. The program was directed by Board member Alice Berman. Their discussion on immigration will help them when they begin to explore their own family histories and genealogy in 5th grade.

The Jewish Heritage Museum Education Committee held a ceramic Seder plate painting project at *Around The Corner Art Center* in Freehold on March 8. The children had a wonderful experience as they designed their beautiful Seder plates.



The Swartz Family: Five Generations Of Monmouth County Commerce, Medicine, Literature, and Libraries

Among the wave of East European Jewish immigrants to arrive in America in the late 1880s were Yiddish-speaking Russian-born brothers, Harry Swartz and Lou Schwartz. (Their last names differed in spelling because of being registered by separate Ellis Island immigration officials.) By the early 1900s, Harry was settled in Highlands and Lou in Red Bank.

Lou began his commercial career selling household objects and notions by horse and buggy in the Red Bank area and eventually opened an antique store in town. In 1919, Lou's son, Maurice Schwartz, after being discharged from the U. S. Army (having served during World War I,) established his own truck, automobile shop, and showroom on Maple Avenue, which at that time was still a dirt road. In 1921, the business moved to West Front Street, becoming a three-generation Schwartz Red Bank landmark for over 50 years. In 2000, the business was relocated to Shrewsbury.



Chrysler-Plymouth dealership, West Front Street, Red Bank c. 1950s, established by Maurice Schwartz in 1919.

Harry settled in Highlands and married Minnie Parker, a local native. Highlands in those days was a small fishing town and shore resort. During the summer months, daily ferry service brought visitors from New York City. Harry opened a variety store (featuring a popular ice cream soda fountain) selling souvenirs, notions, and fishing and clamming equipment.



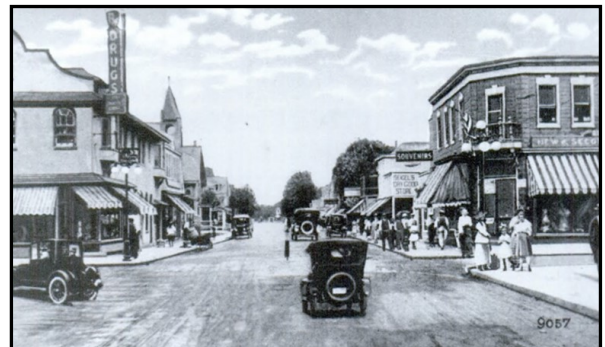
Anchorage Cottage, Highlands, Swartz family home. 1908



The Swartz Variety Store (c. 1910) in Highlands. Minnie and Harry Swartz are standing to the right in a row of Swartz and Schwartz relatives. Their younger son Emanuel Swartz (father-to-be of Dr. Harry M. Swartz) is seated on the bottom left.

Harry Swartz gradually bought up more property in Highlands, at one time owning three corner stores in town. His son Emanuel, who was born in Long Branch in 1902, also invested in real estate in the area although his main business was Swartz's Furniture Store on Route 35 and Headdens Corner, in Middletown. He met Dorothy Berkowitz, the young woman who was to become his wife, when she arrived by ferry to visit Highlands.

Emanuel and Dorothy's son, Harry M. Swartz, was born in 1931 and grew up in Middletown. He attended the Leonardo Grammar School, where the family believed he was the first graduate who would go on to become a physician. He received his medical degree from Thomas Jefferson University's Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1956. It was while he was still pursuing his medical studies that Harry Swartz married Renee Becker, the daughter of a Monmouth County physician.



The intersection of Bay Avenue and Miller Street (seen here in 1910) was often called "Four Corners" on early postcards, reflecting the commercial importance of this part of the Highlands. Harry Swartz's store on the corner, showed moving picture plays, but around 1920 it sold new and used furniture and crockery.

Postcard Image: *The Highlands* by John P. King



Workmen carry cabinets containing business records from the office of Swartz Furniture Auction in Middletown. Flames wrecked the two-story structure, destroying many valuable pieces of furniture.

In an interview in, "Remembering the 20th Century: An Oral History of Monmouth County," published by the Monmouth County Library in 2001, Renee Swartz recalled that her father, Dr. Sidney David Becker, who practiced in Keyport during the Depression, was often paid in kind when his patients were too poor to pay their bills in cash. Most of the area between Keyport and Red Bank was farmland so Dr. Becker's payment often consisted of baskets of peaches, apples, corn, potatoes, and tomatoes. In the wintertime, there would be handmade dolls and baked goods. Dr. Becker practiced at the Perth Amboy Hospital; Riverview in Red Bank in those days was very small. He became the president of the Middlesex County Medical Society and a founder of the New Jersey Chapter of the Academy of General Practice.

In her interview, Renee also remembered going to Asbury Park in the summer. "On a very hot day, everyone went to the boardwalk in the evening...to get the air...It was a very formal 'airing'...there was an etiquette and a prescribed code, the women wearing their lovely dresses, hats, and gloves...the proper attire for an outing to the Asbury Park Boardwalk."

Renee grew up in Keyport and graduated from the local high school. Her family and the Swartz family were friends. Renee married Harry Swartz during her junior year at Barnard College in New York City while Harry was going to medical school in Philadelphia. She commuted back and forth between the two cities while earning her degree at Barnard.

Although Renee Swartz took an active role in Barnard College's alumni associations and its Board of Trustees, it was her role in developing Monmouth County's library services where she has made the

greatest impact on Monmouth's educational and cultural life. In the mid-sixties, starting as the head of an American Association of University Women's library study group and then as founding president of the Friends of the Monmouth County Library System, she spearheaded the construction of the system's Eastern Branch in Shrewsbury and later its even larger headquarters in Manalapan. Appointed to the Monmouth County Library Commission in 1966, she



Renee Swartz, standing with First Lady Laura Bush, upon her Presidential appointment to the Institute of Museums and Library Science, in 2004



has served as the Commission Chair since 1976. Her contributions

to local, county, state, and national public and academic library services have been recognized with awards by all levels of government. The American Library Association has singled her out as one of the most influential library leaders of the twentieth century.

When Dr. Harry M. Swartz started his practice in a house on Cherry Tree Lane in Middletown, he and Renee lived on its upper level. They later moved to Rumson where they built their home on a parcel of the old Jacob Schiff * country estate. Like Harry's father Emanuel, the Swartzes have been long time members of Congregation B'nai Israel in Rumson.

In 1987, Harry's son Stephen (Steve) J. Swartz, who had received his medical training at Rosalind Franklin University of Medical Science/Chicago Medical School, (as did his brother Sidney Swartz,) joined his father in his Middletown family medical practice, specializing in geriatric and sports medicine. The father-son practice continued until the elder Swartz's retirement in 2017. To mark that occasion, more than 300 admirers gathered at the Middletown Arts Center to pay homage to "Dr. Harry" upon his retirement from 59 years of practice. Among the many local residents present were some five-generation family patients.

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*Jacob Schiff was one of the most prominent of the German-Jewish summer residents at the Jersey shore at the turn of the 19th century.

Upcoming Events at the JHMOMC

Lower Manhattan and its Historical Relationship to Monmouth County

A Talk by New York City
Tour Guide and Historian
Marty Schneit



**Sunday, June 3, 2018
2 PM**

**\$8 members
\$10 non-members**



**BACK
TO
BROADWAY**



Sunday, June 10, 2018 7:00 PM

Join us as we revisit
magical moments on Broadway

performed by
**Alexa Chalnack, Sheri Chalnack,
and Vic Schioppo**

Delight in the music, enjoy a wine and cheese
reception, with delectable desserts, while you socialize
with friends.

\$36 per person

*The proceeds from this fundraiser will help support
the Museum's efforts to explore and exhibit
the rich and unique 300 year history of the Jewish
residents of Greater Monmouth County.*

From Mendelssohn to Goldmark



Felix Mendelssohn

*A Century
of
Great Musical
Achievement*



Karl Goldmark

Piano Trio No. 1, Op. 49 by Felix Mendelssohn

Piano Trio No. 2, Op. 33 by Karl Goldmark

performed by

The Bravura Chamber Ensemble

Cheng-Chih Kevin Tsai, violin

Wan-Yi Pan, violincello

Chiu-Ling Lin, piano

Sunday, June 24, 2018 4 PM

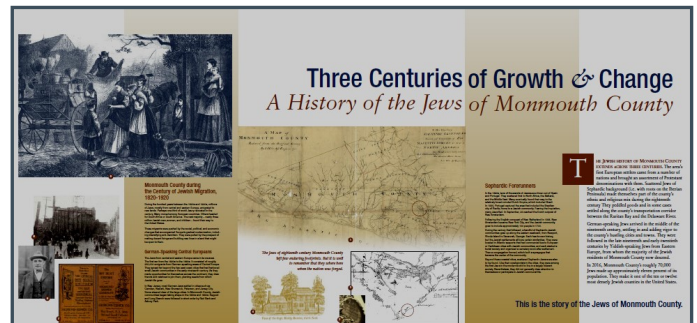
**\$18 members, \$20 non-members,
\$12 students,**

**Sponsorship: \$75 (includes two reserved seats
plus name in program)**

Three Centuries of Growth & Change

A History of the Jews

Our Permanent Exhibit



Visitors of all ages are invited to
experience our multi-media exhibit,
view photographs,
artifacts, and collected stories that bring
this unique history to life.

This exhibit will resonate with anyone
whose family was part of the great
American immigration experience.

Your Story is Here! Come Visit!

Upcoming Events at the JHMOMC

The Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County and the Axelrod Performing Arts Center present an



The Jewish Federation
IN THE HEART OF NEW JERSEY

ISRAEL FILM FESTIVAL



Thursday, July 12, 2018, 7 PM, *The Wedding Plan*

Exhausted by single life at 32, spirited bride-to-be Michal (Noa Koler) is eager for the comfort and companionship of marriage. Then, her fiancé dumps her one month before their wedding. Devastated but undeterred, she decides to keep her wedding date, leaving it to fate to provide a suitable groom.



Sunday, July 15, 2018, 2 PM, *The Testament*



Yoel, a senior Holocaust researcher, is in the midst of a widely covered legal battle with powerful forces in Austria, concerning a brutal massacre of Jews that took place toward the end of WWII in the village of Lensdorf.

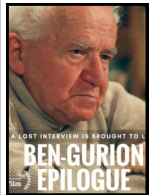
While investigating the incident Yoel examines classified testimonies of Holocaust survivors, he finds a testimony given by his mother, a testimony he didn't know existed. As a historian with an unshakeable commitment to the truth, he decides to continue his investigations even at the cost of ruining his personal and professional life.

Monday, July 16, 2018, 7 PM, *The Cakemaker*

Thomas, a young and talented German baker, is having an affair with Oren, an Israeli married man who dies in a car crash. Thomas travels to Jerusalem seeking answers. Keeping his secret for himself, he starts working for Anat, his lover's widow, who owns a small café. Although not fully kosher and despised by the religious, his delicious cakes turn the place into a city attraction. Finding himself involved in Anat's life in a way far beyond his anticipation, Thomas will stretch his lie to a point of no return.



Tuesday, July 17, 2018, 7 PM, *Ben Gurion, Epilogue*



In the great depths of the archive, six hours of interview footage was discovered of one of modern history's greatest leaders- David Ben-Gurion. It is 1968 and he is 82 years old, five years before his death. He lives in his secluded home in the desert, removed from all political discourse, which allows him a hindsight perspective on the Zionist enterprise. Ben-Gurion's introspective soul searching is the focus of this film, and his clear voice provides a surprising vision for today's crucial decisions and the future of Israel.

Wednesday, July 18, 2018, 2 PM, *An Israeli Love Story*

Based on the true story of theatre director and actress Pnina Gary, *An Israeli Love Story* tells a passionate story of love and independence. Set in pre-state Palestine, Eli (Aviv Alush from *The Women's Balcony*) and Margalit (Adi Bielski) are torn between their love for one another and where they see their own futures in the Jewish state. In the budding theatre world of Tel Aviv and the kibbutzim, Margalit finds her place in the spotlight. Eli, while planning to marry Margalit, is drawn deeper into the armed struggle for Jewish independence from the British.



**Tickets: \$10 per film
\$40 for the series of 5 films**

Summer 2018

Thursday Nights at the Museum

Museum is open from 6 PM to 9 PM

Programs begin at 7:00 PM

Thursday July 12th

Film: *The Wedding Plan*

See Israel Film Festival information for details.



Thursday, July 19th - TBD



Thursday, July 26th

Sophie Tucker: Last of the Red Hot Mamas

The legendary American singer, comedienne, actress and radio personality

A talk by Marcia Midler,

Jewish Historical Society of Central Jersey

Thursday, August 2nd

The Golden Medinah

A slide/talk of the story of Eastern European Jewish immigration to Monmouth County in the 19th-20th centuries.



Thursday, August 9th



Come and Build Your Own Virtual Menorah

Learn the elements of 3D digital design. A workshop presented by Marc Diamant.

Thursday, Aug 16th

Finding Your Roots

Come and explore the Museum's genealogy resources to create your family tree. A workshop presented by Marc Diamant.



Light Refreshments will be served
**Admission to each program: \$3 members,
\$5 non-members, students free**
Film: *The Wedding Plan* \$10 per person

For more information or to make a paid reservations to any of our events, please call the Museum at 732-252-6990 or visit our website at www.jhmomc.org.

Maximum capacity is 100.

Paid reservations are recommended.

Only paid reservations will be held at the Museum and are non-refundable.



Dr. Harry M. Swartz and Dr. Steve Swartz have both been recipients of the Riverview "Distinguished Physician of the Year" award; Dr. Harry receiving it in 2006 and Dr. Steve in 2014. They are the only father-son dual award winners of Riverview Medical Hospital.

Dr. Harry's daughter Addie Swartz, who now lives in the Boston area, graduated from Fair Haven/Rumson Regional High School in 1978, where years later she was inducted in the school's Hall of Fame. After finishing her studies at Stanford University and the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern, Addie embarked on a flourishing career in software education and literature including the authorship and publication of *The Beacon Street Girls* book series. She is also the founder of REACHIRE, a company to train women to advance in the workplace.



Dr. Harry M. Swartz and Renee Becker Swartz surrounded by their two physician sons, Dr. Steve Swartz and Dr. Sidney Swartz (an anesthesiologist practicing in Stuart, Florida,) their daughter Addie Swartz, their children's spouses, and in the front row, their five grandchildren, three of whom, Eliana, Jordon, and Jacob, constitute the 5th generation of Swartz family living in Monmouth.

Dr. Steve Swartz's wife, Annie, a graduate of Monmouth University, has been a nurse at Riverview Medical Center for 18 years. She is the founder of Little Silver Health, a company which helps elderly patients return to healthy life styles while living at home.

From the Highlands ferry stop to the Long Branch beaches, to the Asbury Park boardwalk, the lives

of the Swartz family have been played out against the background of the Jersey Shore. That was perhaps best exemplified by Steve Swartz's reading of his poem, *Starfish, Shells, and Sand Dollars*, at the Café Pinsky Local Poets Program held at Congregation B'nai Israel in 2015.

*Once there was born a fearless little boy
As he played in the sand, his castles reached further
into the sky*

*Tunnels and mazes and parapets with flying
pennants flapped to stiff ocean breezes*

*As the tides ebbed and flowed, the grandeur and
spectacle of them were...*

*Only matched by the beauty of the emerald sea
As his gaze drifted from pounding waves, he was
enchanted by the sails on the horizon*

*Billowing, crisp white, they skipped over the waves -
plying to distant shores, with purposes foreign and
unknown, yet seductive and intriguing*

*What fun it would be to sail there, to embark on a
journey to explore...*

*As he grew older, he wished to share his castles and
sailing dreams:*

*To tell of the tides and waves of storms and rainbows...
To tell of starfish, shells and sand dollars*

*He would row out to sea until the land was a mere
speck on the Horizon...*

Tempting fate and his courage

*Yet, few understood his passion for life and his quest
for adventure.*

As he watched the sea and sky and sun,

His strength of mind and body grew

*Somewhere, somehow, there would come a time
when his spirit would be shared*

- Jean Klerman
Co-Chair, History Committee

From Mendelssohn to Goldmark A Century of Great Musical Achievement with Many Jewish Composers

On Sunday, June 24th, at 4:00PM, the Jewish Heritage Museum will present a chamber music program by musicians from the Bravura Philharmonic Ensemble, of works by these two composers. The works are piano trios (piano, violin, and cello).

Mendelssohn - Piano Trio #1

Goldmark - Piano Trio #2, Op. 33

Felix Mendelssohn's creations were the wonder of the Romantic School; his works were and are still performed frequently and with great acceptance. Mendelssohn's concert works have been frequently performed throughout the decades. Korngold's, however, are seldom heard. I had never heard a work by Korngold until two months ago while driving, I heard his overture, *IN SPRING*; I immediately purchased the CD and thus we have today's concert.

SEE YOU THERE!

- Elaine Danzig

JHMOMC Calendar of Events, Summer 2018 Programs

Sun. June 3	2:00 PM	<i>Lower Manhattan and its Historical Relationship to Monmouth County</i> A Talk by New York City Historian and Tour Guide Marty Schneit \$8 members, \$10 non-members
Sun. Jun. 10	11:00 AM	<i>JHMOMC Annual Meeting</i> All paid up Museum members are invited to attend
Sun. Jun. 10	7:00 PM	<i>Back to Broadway</i> Join us as we revisit magical moments on Broadway performed by Alexa Chalnack, Sheri Chalnack, and Vic Schioppo \$36 per person
Sun. Jun. 24	4:00 PM	<i>From Mendelssohn to Goldmark</i> A concert performed by the Bravura Chamber Ensemble \$18 members, \$20 non-members, \$12 students, Sponsorship: \$75 (includes two reserved seats plus name in program)

ISRAEL FILM FESTIVAL

Tickets: \$10 per film, \$40 for the series of 5 films

Thurs. Jul. 12	7:00 PM	<i>The Wedding Plan</i>
Sun. July 15	2:00 PM	<i>The Testament</i>
Mon. July 16	7:00 PM	<i>The Cakemaker</i>
Tues. July 17	7:00 PM	<i>Ben Gurion, Epilogue</i>
Wed. July 18	2:00 PM	<i>An Israeli Love Story</i>

THURSDAY NIGHTS at the JHMOMC

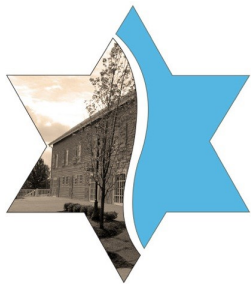
Museum is open from 6 PM to 9 PM

Admission to each program:

\$3 members, \$5 non-members, students free

Thurs. Jul. 19	7:00 PM	<i>TBD</i>
Thurs. Jul. 26	7:00 PM	<i>Sophie Tucker: Last of the Red Hot Mamas</i> A talk by Marcia Midler of the Jewish Historical Society of Central Jersey on the legendary American singer, comedienne, actress and radio personality.
Thurs. Aug. 2	7:00 PM	<i>The Golden Medinah</i> A slide/talk of the story of Eastern European Jewish immigration to Monmouth County in the 19th-20th centuries.
Thurs. Aug. 9	7:00 PM	<i>Come and Build Your Own Virtual Menorah</i> Learn the elements of 3D digital design. A workshop presented by Marc Diamant.
Thurs. Aug. 16	7:00 PM	<i>Finding Your Roots</i> Come and explore the Museum's genealogy resources to create your own family tree. A workshop presented by Marc Diamant.

Exhibits
Our Permanent Exhibit
Three Centuries of Growth & Change *A History of the Jews of Monmouth County*
Rotating Exhibit
100th Anniversary - Congregation Sons of Israel, Manalapan



Jewish Heritage Museum Of
Monmouth County
P.O. Box 7078,
Freehold, NJ 07728

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The JHMOMC is a registered 501 (c)(3)
not-for-profit organization
and is handicapped accessible.



AMAZING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The installation of the new Permanent Exhibit opens up many opportunities for increased advertising and outreach to the community. There is also an ongoing need for fundraising to finance innovative programs that will enhance the new Exhibit, especially programs for children and teens. If you have skills in the following areas and are willing to donate a few hours of work a week, please contact us at 732-252-6990 or at jhmomc@optonline.net.

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS:

The Museum is seeking individuals who would welcome the chance to help the Museum in its planning, organization, and fiscal roles, to ensure its current and future stability and success. If you think you can help, contact the Museum to learn more.

FUNDRAISERS:

People skilled at approaching potential donors (individuals, corporations) and sensitizing them to the mission of the Museum, thereby securing donations; skilled at converting new sponsors into committed annual supporters.

DESKTOP PUBLISHING GURUS:

Ongoing need at the Museum: People with proven skills in Desktop Publishing, specifically MS Publisher, combined with a flair for graphic design, to help out in designing layouts for brochures, posters, publications, and exhibits.

DOCENTS:

Enthusiastic, cheerful people interested in being trained on the Permanent Exhibit's content, the history of the barn, and new exhibits when installed; greet visitors; share information and guide the visitor experience. Minimum 2 1/2 hour shifts, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays.