

June 2024

Hello community of learners and friends,

Another exciting year of Adult Education programs is about to begin. The Adult Education committee hopes you will be pleased by the vast array of programs we can enjoy together.

The Adult Education program fee remains \$75 for members of KI, \$150 for members of other religious institutions and \$200 for the unaffiliated. Please pay with your KI membership dues or send a check to KI, 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027. We deeply appreciate your financial support.

**The generous sponsorship of the Rosenau Fund partially supports our speaker fees.**

Lee Slobotkin, Carol Cooter, Brian Rissinger and Naomi Godel help make this program possible. We also appreciate the people who suggest speakers, the REAP presenters and the KI presenters who speak without remuneration.

By consensus, most classes will continue by zoom. This allows those who have moved to remain part of the community and it allows us to have out-of-town speakers.

Rabbi David's Roundtable will be in-person and a few programs will be at our home.

With appreciation and expectations for another great year,

Caryl

**Tuesday, July 2 1:00 p.m.**

The KI Yiddish Club meets the first Tuesday of every month at 1:00 in the library. To sign up please email Ruth Boonin at [ruthboonin@gmail.com](mailto:ruthboonin@gmail.com) or 215-680-2112.

**Monday, July 8 10:30 a.m. 2024/**

**THE ARCHITECTURE OF IRAQI/BRITISH ZAHA HADID (1950-2016)**

**ARLENE DIANE SPECTOR**

Hadid is known for her intensely futuristic style characterized by curvilinear designs that consistently push the boundaries of urban design. In 2004, she became the first woman to receive the prestigious Pritzker Award. Learn about her life and her famous buildings.

*Arlene Diane Spector received a B.A. in English and French Literatures from Temple University; studied art history at the Institut d'Art et d'Archéologie, in Paris, France; and has an M.A. in Art History from Wellesley College. As a Kress fellow, she spent a summer in Paris working on her thesis on Surrealism in Graphic Arts. In addition, Arlene has presented talks at K.I. on the Art Tours of France, Spain, New England, Texas, and on Architects Frank Gehry, Moshe Safdie, and Sculptor Sir Anish Kapoor. Both Linda and Arlene have travelled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Far East Asia.*

**Monday, July 15 10:30 a.m./**

**ARTISTIC RIVAL SERIES: EDOUARD MANET vs EDGAR DEGAS**

**BAILA MILLER**

Edouard Manet (1832-1883) was a pivotal figure in the French Impressionism Movement. He was a rebel who challenged the restrictive norms of artistic expression. He led a group of young, aspiring artists toward artistic freedom with care and compassion. His frenemy, Edgar Degas (1834-1917) was quite the opposite. Degas was a self-centered misogynist who rarely painted a beautiful woman, but he turned paper into magic and he made colors sing!

*Baila Miller completed Bachelor's, Master's degree, and post graduate work at The University of Memphis. Through her company, Baila Miller Programs, she has been presenting college level courses that explore the role of literature, paintings, architecture, sculpture, cinema, photography, as well as, orchestral and operatic influences in the development of European, Jewish, and modern American culture. Ms. Miller has taught or is currently teaching at The University of Memphis, Road Scholar International, ACE Adult & Community Enrichment, Longboat Key Education Center, The Venice Art Center, Historic Spanish Point, and The Ringling College of Art & Design.*

**Monday, July 22 10:30 a.m./**

**THE EINSTEIN EFFECT: EINSTEIN'S HEAD AND EINSTEIN'S HEART  
BENYAMIN COHEN**

In his new book, "The Einstein Effect," Benyamin embarked on a funny and fascinating global quest to unearth Einstein's ongoing relevance today (including interviewing two Rabbi Einsteins). Einstein was named Time Magazine's Person of the Century, and his legacy as a humanitarian far surpasses his scientific achievements – namely his role in rescuing fellow German Jews from the Holocaust, his work in the Civil Rights Movement, and his staunch efforts in creating the State of Israel.

*Benyamin Cohen is the News Director of the Forward, America's oldest and largest Jewish newspaper. Cohen has a bizarre side hustle managing the official social media accounts of Albert Einstein, where the world's favorite genius has more than 20 million fans. He is the author of "The Einstein Effect: How the World's Favorite Genius Got into Our Cars, Our Bathrooms, and Our Minds" and "My Jesus Year: A Rabbi's Son Wanders the Bible Belt in Search of His Own Faith," which was named one of the best books of the year by Publishers Weekly and for which he received the Georgia Author of the Year award. He is based in Morgantown, West Virginia, where he lives with his wife, three dogs, a cat, and a flock of chickens known as the Co-Hens.*

**Monday, July 29 10:30 a.m./**

**FRANK STELLA: JEWISH THEMES  
JEANIE BLOCH ROSENSAFT**

Exploring how the leading American artist, a Catholic, has been profoundly inspired by Jewish themes throughout his career.

*Jean Bloch Rosensaft is Senior Advisor to the President and Director of the Dr. Bernard Heller Museum at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. She curated the exhibitions Chagall and the Bible and Justice in Jerusalem Revisited: The Eichmann Trial at the Jewish Museum in New York, and previously coordinated educational publications and school programs at The Museum of Modern Art in New York. She was a Founder and Vice-President of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Vice President of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Their Descendants. She serves on the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Education Committee and her exhibition Rebirth After the Holocaust: The Bergen-Belsen Displaced Persons Camp, 1945-1950 is permanently installed at the Bergen-Belsen Memorial Museum in Germany. She served as Vice President of Park Avenue Synagogue and chairs the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture's Panel on Art and Photography.*

**Monday, August 5 10:30 a.m./**

**DANNY KAYE**

***SUSAN BENJAMIN***

From the borscht belt in the Catskills of New York to London's Palladium Theatre, Danny Kaye amazed his audiences with the sheer versatility of how he could entertain. Although much of his material was created by his wife, Sylvia Fine, Danny transcended her material and could do it all: sing, dance, act, perform comedic acts... and the list goes on. He was also a chef, pilot, orchestra conductor, amateur surgeon and a humanitarian. This program profiles his full life along with examples of some of his most memorable work.

*When she was 17, Susan Benjamin performed in a professional theater company in the musical Bye Bye Birdie with Orson Bean, Jane Withers, Sandy Duncan and Jay and the Americans. She became a secondary school English teacher, with a specialty in public speaking and television broadcasting. Most of her previous career she spent in school administration: English Department Chair at Highland Park High School in Illinois and Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Highland Park and Deerfield, IL. The author of two books on public speaking, Susan served on the governing board of the leadership branch of the National Council of Teachers of English, where she earned the Lifetime Writer Award. Currently, Susan presents musical biographies at over 40 locations in the Chicago area and in Longboat Key, FL.*

**Tuesday, August 6 1:00 p.m.**

The KI Yiddish Club meets the first Tuesday of every month at 1:00 in the library. To sign up please email Ruth Boonin at [ruthboonin@gmail.com](mailto:ruthboonin@gmail.com) or 215-680-2112.

**Monday, August 12 10:30 a.m./**

**ANTHONY COMSTOCK: THE SEARCH FOR AMERICAN MORALITY**

***DR. SUSAN ADLER***

Anthony Comstock was a 19<sup>th</sup> century crusader dedicated "upholding Christian morality." In his work as postal inspector, he sought to put a stop to obscene literature through the mail - this included literature about abortion, contraception and masturbation. Significantly for us today, his work resulted in the passage of the Comstock Act in 1873 which banned displays and mailing of "obscene material" - including information about birth control and abortion. Most states followed by passing similar laws. These laws remain on the books today. This talk describes his life and work, as well as the legacies he left.

*Susan Adler is Professor Emerita in Education at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. From December 2009 – December 2011 she was a Visiting Professor at the National Institute of Education in Singapore. She is the former president of the National Council for the Social Studies.*

**Monday, August 19 10:30 a.m./**

**A 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN FAMILY**

***THERESA WEISINGER***

Theresa's talk follows the lives of three generations of the Whittall/Pearsall/Thomas family. *Theresa Weissinger, a native Philadelphian, received a BA in Psychology from Skidmore College, and taught elementary grades in several Philadelphia private schools for 41 years.*

**Monday, August 26 10:30 am./**

**NEW YORK CITY: A NATIVE AMERICAN SKYLINE**

***DEBORAH ZELCER***

Native Americans traded Manhattan to Europeans for trinkets, but later exchanged their monumental talents for a handsome living that took them off the reservation and to dizzying heights. Join me for this enlightening online walk where we will discover the history of the Kahnawake Mohawks, who once had a thriving community in Brooklyn. As the American economy grew through industry and manufacturing, they fearlessly built the towering steel structures for a growing NYC, constructing the most notable skyscrapers and bridges of the 20th century, and potent symbols of the power of capitalism. But their lives and ours were forever transformed when High Steel went Up In Smoke.

Allow 2 hours for this online presentation.

*ProwlerNYCWalking Tours are led by Deborah Zelcer, who enjoys illuminating the social, political, technological and economic contexts which have shaped buildings and cities throughout history. She credits studies with the esteemed architectural historian Reyner Banham for igniting her passion to interpret the built environment. After receiving a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from Washington University in St. Louis, she worked for architectural/urban design specialists RTKL and Associates, landscape architects Innocenti and Webel, and various commercial and residential design firms. Deborah discovered the joy of entertaining audiences with tales of urban evolution after a stint in the Moth Entertaining workshop, couples with leading Jane's Walk Tours for the Municipal Art Society of New York.*

**Tuesday, September 1 1:00 p.m.**

The KI Yiddish Club meets the first Tuesday of every month at 1:00 in the library. To sign up please email Ruth Boonin at [ruthboonin@gmail.com](mailto:ruthboonin@gmail.com) or 215-680-2112.

**Monday, September 9 10:30 a.m./**

**THE DREYFUS AFFAIR:**

**ANTISEMITISM AND ART IN 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY PARIS**

***JANET COHEN MANDEL***

In 1894 Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish captain in the French army, was wrongly accused of passing military secrets to the Germans. He was convicted of high treason, court-martialed, and deported to solitary confinement on Devil's Island. France was split into a fierce anti-Semitic, pro-military right-wing camp and a republican, liberal, left-wing camp. Shockwaves were felt in the circle of Parisian artists as well. The full story of this important, oft-neglected part of art history will be told in two illuminating parts. Part I will discuss the Dreyfus Affair in detail, including what led up to virulent anti-Semitism in France during the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the role art and artist-activists played. In Part II we will see how the circle of Parisian artists responded during the Dreyfus Affair and how their political views affected their art and their friendships.



*Janet Mandel taught in New Jersey's public schools for 32 years, the last eighteen of which were at Columbia High School in Maplewood, where she taught English, art history, and World Languages and Cultures. Now retired, Janet presents illustrated talks on a variety of art history topics at adult schools, libraries, museums, senior centers, community centers, and similar venues.*

**Monday, September 16 10:30 a.m./**  
**THE DREYFUS CASE PART ii**  
**JANET COHEN MANDEL**

**Monday, September 23 10:30 a.m./**

**ISRAELI MOVIE – CINEMA SABAYA (2022 )** Directed by Orit Fouks Rotem  
**Discussion led by Dr. LOUIS FRIEDLER**

*Cinema Sabaya* is the story of four Jewish Israeli and four Arab Israeli women who take a film workshop together. It is based on a real class taught by the director. It is uplifting and positive and won five 2022 Ophir Awards (“Israeli Academy Awards”), including Best Film.

*Louis Friedler earned a B.A. at Colby College, a Ph.D. at the University of Alberta (Canada) in Mathematics, and is Professor Emeritus at Arcadia University. He was a research mathematician and professor of mathematics at various universities and was chair of the Department of Computer Science and Mathematics for half of his time at Arcadia. In 2000, Louis visited China to help establish an exchange program with a Chinese University and subsequently visited China multiple times and taught Chinese film. Louis now teaches both Israeli and Chinese film for OLLI, Temple University’s senior program. He also tutors Cheltenham High School students in math through KI’s tutoring program.*

This program will last a minimum of two hours so snacks will be served between the movie and the discussion.

**Monday, September 30 10:30 a.m./**  
**THE LAST SHIPS FROM HAMBURG**  
**STEVEN UJIFUSA**

"Between 1881 and 1914, over ten million people crossed the Atlantic from Europe to America, the largest mass migration of people from one continent to another in human history." Those are the words of our guest, Steven Ujifusa, from his introduction to his book "The Last Ships from Hamburg". Over 2.5 million of these immigrants to America were Jews. A significant percentage came from Russia. Mr. Ujifusa focuses mostly on three men to tell the story: Jacob Schiff of Kuhn, Loeb & Company; Albert Ballin, managing director of the Hamburg-American Line shipping company; and J.P. Morgan, mastermind of the International Mercantile Marine trust. Listen on Apple Podcasts:

Since the movie is long and will be followed by a discussion, Howard Greenberg is providing lunch.

*Steven Ujifusa received his BA in history from Harvard University and has a master's degree in historic preservation from the University of Pennsylvania. He has given presentations across the country and on the high seas and has appeared as a guest on CBS Sunday Morning and NPR. A recipient of a MacDowell Colony fellowship and the Athenaeum of Philadelphia's Literary Award, he lives with his wife, a pediatric emergency room physician, in Philadelphia. He is also the president of Tradewinds History LLC, a firm that produces corporate, family, and house histories. For more on Steven Ujifusa visit, [www.stevenujifusa.com](http://www.stevenujifusa.com).*

**Monday, October 7 10:30 a.m./**

**IRVING BERLIN: AMERICA'S SONGWRITER**

**SUSAN BENJAMIN**

A look (and listen) to the music of Irving Berlin, performed through the chronology of his life. In addition to sharing his personal story, this program explores how his music affected national feeling.

*When she was 17, Susan Benjamin performed in a professional theater company in the musical *Bye Bye Birdie* with Orson Bean, Jane Withers, Sandy Duncan and Jay and the Americans. She became a secondary school English teacher, with a specialty in public speaking and television broadcasting. Most of her previous career she spent in school administration: English Department Chair at Highland Park High School in Illinois and Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Highland Park and Deerfield, IL. The author of two books on public speaking, Susan served on the governing board of the leadership branch of the National Council of Teachers of English, where she earned the Lifetime Writer Award. Currently, Susan presents musical biographies at over 40 locations in the Chicago area and in Longboat Key, FL.*

**Monday, October 14**

Columbus Day Indigenous People's Day No Program

**Monday, October 21 10:30 a.m./**

**NAVIGATING TRANSITIONS**

**DR. JANE SAXE GOODMAN**

Transitions are defined as events and non-events resulting in change. The change might be in roles, relationships, assumptions, routines, or all of these. The transition may be planned and wanted, unplanned and unwanted, perceived as on or off time, directly experienced, or because of another's experience. In this session we will discuss a variety of transitions and suggest some coping skills.

*Dr. Goodman is Professor Emerita of Counseling at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. She was the 2001-2002 president of the American Counseling*



*Association and is a past president of The Counselors for Social Justice and the National Career Development Association. She is a vice president of the International Association of Educational and Vocational Guidance. She is the author of many articles and book chapters, primarily about transitions and the career development of adults. Among her many honors, she was named a Living Legend by West Coast University in 2023.*

**Monday, October 28 10:30 a.m.**

## **THE ART OF THE CONDUCTOR!**

HAZZAN DAVID TILMAN

We all watch conductors of orchestras and choirs in our community and beyond!

But do we really understand the training and the craft of the contemporary conductor? Based on my own education at the Jewish Theological Seminary and the Juilliard School, where I earned the Master of Music degree as a conducting student of Abraham Kaplan, of blessed memory, I want to trace the history of conducting back to the Bible, The Book of Psalms, and the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem. Let us look at the Biblical texts, the evolution of the modern conductor, the conducting language, and the similarities and differences between the orchestral and choral conductor. We shall all learn together the basics of conducting: starting, stopping, and and making music together! I shall describe my own history as a conductor, culminating with my work with Shir KI. We shall study the Biblical texts, learn a few conducting gestures, and sing together.

All welcome.

*For almost five decades, Cantor David F. Tilman has been creating Philadelphia community Jewish celebrations utilizing the Jewish Choral Experience.*

*He is a graduate of Columbia College, the Jewish Theological Seminary, and the Juilliard School, earning the Master of Music degree in choral conducting. His prime teacher was Abraham Kaplan, conductor for all the Leonard Bernstein premiere recordings.*

*In August 1975, Cantor Tilman became Cantor of Beth Sholom Congregation of Elkins Park. Under his leadership, Beth Sholom received the Solomon Schechter prize from the United Synagogue of America four times for excellence in Jewish music and performing arts programming.*

*Cantor Tilman created four choirs within the congregation. He created the Annual Beth Sholom Music Festival, combining all the choirs with symphony orchestra and outstanding soloists of national renown, including Leonard Nimoy, Stephen Schwartz, and Theodore Bikel. Cantor Tilman took the Beth Sholom choirs to Israel to participate in the World Gathering of Choirs in 1979, 1987, and 1992, and in December 1988, he led both choirs and the Philly Pops Symphony Orchestra at the Academy of Music.*

*Cantor Tilman was a regular columnist for the Philadelphia Jewish Exponent for 12 years. His column, "In Record Time", featured over 200 articles on topics of Jewish and classical music and concert reviews.*

*Cantor Tilman has been in the forefront of our community's Israel celebrations. He was Chorus Master for the "Hear 'O Israel" concert in 1998 in honor of Israel 50, featuring the combined Philadelphia Orchestra and Israel Philharmonic. He prepared a chorus of 260 men and women and 80 boys to sing under the batons of Wolfgang Sawallisch and Zubin Mehta. This chorus sang before an audience of 20,000.*

*Cantor Tilman became Hazzan Emeritus of Beth Sholom Congregation in July 2011. He began his "encore" career as choral director of Shir KI, the adult choir, and pastoral outreach professional at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel. He began the Old York Road community's Leonard Bernstein Centennial with an all-Bernstein concert in January 2016. Cantor Tilman and the Kimmel Center created the first Sing Hallelujah concert in May 2018 with a program of Jewish choral music for Cantorial soloists, 175 volunteer singers, and the Cooper Organ, featuring Bernstein's Chichester Psalms. In March 2019, Cantor Tilman returned to the Verizon Hall podium to lead the second Sing Hallelujah concert, featuring a chorus of 165 singers. Cantor Tilman was a major participant in the Leonard Bernstein Centennial Celebration. He spoke from the Verizon Hall stage in advance of The Philadelphia Orchestra's performances of the Bernstein "MASS," available on YouTube, the Jeremiah Symphony, and the Kaddish Symphony. In 2017, he served as consultant to the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History, assisting the curator's preparation of the Museum's Bernstein Centennial Exhibit.*

*Cantor Tilman returned to Verizon Hall to conduct Sing Hallelujah celebrating Israel 75, together with the Israeli star Noa and 175 singers.*

*He is married to Ellen Tilman, former director of library services at KI for 41 years. They are the proud parents of Avrum Michael, Rabbi Howard, and Alana Miriam.*

**Monday, November 4 10:30 a.m./**

**THE SOLAR SYSTEM**

**JONATHAN ROTH**

**Monday, November 11**

Veterans' Day No program

**Monday, November 18 10:30 a.m./**

**HOT TOPICS**

## **ANNE GOLDEN**

My current events program is intended to offer a forum where knowledgeable individuals from across the political spectrum can share their views on hot topics in a respectful manner. It is a well paced and civil discussion of the week's front-burner domestic and global issues. Participants may speak up to 90 seconds, and must address their comments to the moderator, not others in the group. Participants can speak more than once to an issue, but must observe the 90 second time limit each time. *Dr. Anne Golden received her [BA](#) in history from [University of Toronto](#), in 1962. She received her [MA](#) in American history from [Columbia University](#) and her [PhD](#) in American history from the [University of Toronto](#).*

*She joined the [United Way of Greater Toronto](#), Canada's largest annual fundraising campaign and non-governmental distributor of funds to the social services, in 1982, serving as President from 1987 to 2001. From 2001 until 2012, she was the President and CEO of [The Conference Board of Canada](#). In April 2012 she was named Distinguished Visiting Scholar and Special Advisor at [Ryerson University](#)*

*Anne gained national recognition for her work as Chair of the Greater Toronto Area Task Force for Ontario (1996), Chair of the Toronto Homelessness Action Task Force (1999), and Premier Kathleen Wynne's Transit Investment Strategy Advisory Panel (2013). She taught at Newark College of Engineering, the University of Toronto, York University, and Ryerson University (now called Toronto Metropolitan University).*

*In 2003, she was made a Member of the [Order of Canada](#). In 2013, she was made a Member of the [Order of Ontario](#). She has received eight honorary doctorates. Noteworthy awards include: The Negev Dinner Honoree, Jewish National Fund (1991); The Canadian Urban Institute's Jane Jacobs Lifetime Achievement Award, and The Conference Board of Canada's 2012 Honorary Associate award.<sup>[6]</sup> In 1993, Dr. Golden was named "one of the eight best people in Metropolitan Toronto" by Toronto Life.*

*Since her retirement, Anne has turned a lifelong interest in public policy into active engagement with continuing education in retirement programs. This fall (2024), Anne will be co-teaching a new course on what the changing world means for cities at York University. She is Co-Chair of the weekly Sanibel Current Events discussion group and moderated a new current events program in Longboat Key, FL.*

**Monday, November 25/ 10:30 a.m./**

**TRANSFER YOUR VALUES TO THE NEXT GENERATION**

**THE JEWISH TRADITION OF PREPARING AN ETHICAL WILL**

**BOB SELTZER, ESQ.**

You may have already taken care of your estate planning, where valuables are distributed in accordance with your desires. But what about your values? What's important to you to impart to your children, grandchildren, and/or other family members? An ethical Jewish life, filled with the pursuit of joy and kindness? The pursuit of justice? Showing love and giving tzedakah? What are the lessons you have learned over your lifetime and what wisdom do you wish to share?

Discover the joy of crafting your Ethical Will in an engaging workshop. Share the lessons learned over a lifetime and the wisdom you wish to impart. Join us for a lively, hands-on session that helps you articulate and preserve your unique legacy of values! It's a powerful way to ensure your legacy of values lives on.

This program proudly receives sponsorship from the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.

*Robert A. Seltzer, Esq., is an estates attorney by trade. He recently concluded his career as a seasoned Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia professional. He is an extraordinary speaker and is the published author of three books of Jewish stories. Bob will provide enlightening examples of Ethical Wills through Jewish history and challenge participants to gather their thoughts and begin the process of distilling and putting to paper your lifetime of stories and wisdom—something your family will cherish for generations.*

**Monday, December 2 10:30 a.m./**

**WOMEN OF THE SUPREME COURT**

**TRISH CHAMBERS**

**Hybrid presentation**

**Monday, December 9 10:30 a.m./**

**BENJAMIN LAY: ABINGTON'S RADICAL ABOLITIONIST (CIRCA 1735)**

**JIM RUBILLO**

Benjamin Lay was a dwarf Quaker vegetarian who lived in a local cave. This fearless man conducted dramatic protests against slavery in the early days of Philadelphia. He confronted the city's wealthy Quakers demanding that they free their slaves and boycott items produced by slave labor. Lay published a scathing book, printed by Benjamin Franklin, that attacked many prominent Quakers, who in turn had him disowned by Society. After his lifetime, the Quakers abolished slavery in their midst. This presentation examines the life and times of this remarkable man.

**Monday, January 6 10:30 a.m./**

**MOVIE TBD**

**LINDA ROTH**

**Monday, January 13 10:30 a.m.**

**Monday, January 20**

**Martin Luther King Day No program**

**Monday, January 27 10:30 a.m./**

**No program**

**Monday, February 3 10:30 a.m./**

**PUZZLES**

**JONATHAN SCHMALZBACH**

*Jonathan Schmalzbach is a long-time crossword puzzle creator (cruciverbalist). He has had over 40 puzzles published in the New York Times (he's a good buddy of Will Shortz), and 80 puzzles in USA today. His work has also appeared in Games magazine (where he is an editor), Forbes magazine, and Playboy (I can tell you more during the presentation.) He contributes the monthly crossword puzzle to Hadassah magazines. Crossword construction and editing was once my full-time job – about a million years ago, just as computers were helping with puzzle creation. This talk will cover the history of crosswords, the art of crossword clueing and construction, and the creation of a crossword collectively.*

**Monday, February 10 10:30 a.m./**

**ISRAEL**

**LINDA NESVISKY**

**Monday, February 17**

**Presidents Day No program**

**Monday, February 24 10:30 a.m./**

**MURALS IN NYC**

**DEBORA WELLS**

Have a virtual adventure with Debbie Wells of Artful Buzz as she guides you through the NYC art scene made specifically for the public to enjoy. In addition to world-class museums and art galleries, the streets of the city offer art-lovers a wonderful array of murals and mosaics. Together, we will discover art in many unexpected spots from transportation hubs like Grand Central Station and the Times Square subway station to art on the Highline, city parks and playgrounds, and street art of all kinds.

You might be able to trace the history of Mural art back to prehistoric cave-painting; here in NYC it played an important role especially since 1900, when an important Beaux Arts building like the Appellate Court House on Madison Square was so richly decorated with paintings, complementing its architectural detail. Other stunning examples are the Cunard building and Rockefeller Center, which didn't get to keep its Diego Rivera mural, but the Mexican influence on mural painters in general was persistent. The Depression Era saw an explosion of WPA murals in public buildings, including schools and post offices, Reginald Marsh's murals at the old Custom's House, or James Brooks' mural at the Marine Air Terminal. There are still wonderful murals all over the city and the tradition is now firmly in the hands of international street artists who continue to inspire and teach us valuable lessons.

*Debbie Wells is the founder of Artful Buzz ([www.artfulbuzz.com](http://www.artfulbuzz.com)), a company that offers in-person and virtual programs on all things art. A graduate of Parsons School of Design, she is an award-winning graphic designer, photographer, muralist and painter. She has worked as a lecturer and curator for art organizations, museums and galleries in NYC and Long Island. Wells is also the Past President of the Art League of Long Island and an active Artist Member of the Salmagundi Club in NYC.*

**Monday, March 3 10:30 a.m.**

**MARY CASSATT**

**JANET COHEN MANDEL**

**Monday, March 10 10:30 a.m.**

***"Black & Jews in the Music Business" -***

***Rodney Whittenberg & David Heitler-Klevans will discuss some of the ways that African-Americans and Jews have influenced and interacted with one another in the music business. Rodney will share advance clips from the documentary he is Directing/Producing, the working title of which is Blews and the Abstract Truth. Rodney Whittenberg is an Emmy Award winning composer and an Emmy nominated film producer. He is also a multi-instrumentalist, audio engineer, sound designer, music producer, writer, podcast producer, film director, editor, producer, and educator. Rodney is the founder of Melodyvision, a full-service media production company. Rodney has produced and directed the award-winning documentary Voices of Ages and produced and co-directed the Emmy nominated Portraits of Professional Caregivers - their Passion, their Pain, and the award-winning documentary Angels and Saints - Eros and Awe. He has co-directed more than two dozen short, experimental documentaries, many of which have won***

*numerous film festivals. He has also worked as a freelance segment producer for HBO, WYBE, and WHY.*

*David Heitler-Klevans is a full-time musician, performing and recording with his wife Jenny as Two of a Kind (children's/family music as well as folk/singer-songwriter material for adults). David & Jenny are the co-writers of the musical HIDDEN. David also teaches adult continuing education music appreciation/history classes at Cheltenham Township Adult School and independently David lives in Cheltenham, PA.*

*Rodney & David co-produce a podcast on music and social justice issues called "Music for the New Revolution".*

**Monday, March 17 10:30 a.m.**

**THE FOX SISTERS**

***BERNICE KEEBLER***

Do you hear voices? Do they talk to you? The Fox sisters claimed to hear a mysterious rapping in their farmhouse in 1848. They soon claimed they were communicating with the great beyond. Many believed them. The sisters were very successful--until they weren't. However, their ideas began the religious movement known as spiritualism.

*Bernice Keebler is a retired teacher of English as a Second Language. She is the mother of a son, who makes electric violins sold on six continents and is also in demand for designing, tuning, and voicing pipe organs. In retirement her days are spent reading, choral singing, piano, lunching with friends, and volunteer work. This talk on the Fox Sisters was originally given to the members of REAP, an organization that keeps her stimulated with interesting presentations.*

*Bernice Keebler is a retired teacher of English as a Second Language. A cum laude graduate of Dickinson College, she continued her education here and in France. She is the mother of a son, who makes electric violins and is in demand also as a tuner and voicer of pipe organs. She is a member of REAP, loves music and reading, and is always eager to learn something new.*

**Monday, March 24 10:30 a.m./**

**No program.**

**As of now, I'm planning to be away.**

**Monday, March 31 10:30 a.m./**

**THE ROOTS OF SOCIALISM/FASCISM**

***STEVEN POLLACK***

How did the political/social movements of socialism and fascism begin and what effect have they had on our generation?

**Monday, April 7 10:30 a.m./**

**REMEMBERING THE TRAGEDY OF LEO FRANK MORE THAN 100 YEARS LATER**

***DIANE STEIBRINK***

In this lecture, Diane will discuss the tragedy of the Leo Frank case and its impact on the Atlanta Jewish community. After all these years, and what is going on in our country today, there is still relevance in how various people and groups treat each other. It will feature monologues of Mrs. Frank from *PARADE*, the Tony Award Winning Musical play written by Alfred Uhry, the Atlanta playwright, which she recently saw in its Broadway revival. She will also share what Uhry told her about his growing up in Atlanta and knowing some of the people involved in the Frank case. She will discuss Mrs. Frank's life after Leo's death, and how the Atlanta Jewish community dealt with the tragedy and its ongoing effect.

*Diane G. Steinbrink is a graduate of Adelphi University with a BA in Speech and Drama. She served as the coordinator of Philadelphia Plays for Living for 17 years. She was the producer of the Anne Frank Theater Project for Jewish Family and Children's Service of Philadelphia. She also served as a facilitator for the program.*

*Ms. Steinbrink has acted and directed in local theater, in Plays for Living, and has appeared as an extra in movies and industrial films. She has presented her one-person programs to many groups in the Philadelphia area, Southern New Jersey, Florida, Maryland, and the Berkshires.*

**Monday, April 14 10:30 a.m./**

**HYPERTENSION: HIGHS AND LOWS**

***DR. ROB SIROTA***

*Robert A. Sirota earned his medical degree from the Yale University School of Medicine in 1973 and completed his Internship, Residency, and Chief Residency in internal medicine at Yale-New Haven Hospital and his Nephrology Fellowship training at Harvard University's Massachusetts General Hospital and the Beth Israel Hospital in Boston. He is board-certified in both internal medicine and nephrology. Dr. Sirota is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and a Fellow of the American Society of Nephrology. He is certified by the American Society of Hypertension as a Specialist in Clinical Hypertension and is a member of the International Society of Nephrology, American Society of Hypertension, International Society of Peritoneal Dialysis, and Renal Physicians Association. Dr. Sirota was on the medical staff at Abington Memorial Hospital and served on the staffs of Holy Redeemer Hospital, Jeanes Hospital, Fox Chase Cancer Center and*



*Nazareth Hospital for over 35 years. He retired from clinical practice in 2018. Since retirement he has done volunteer work in Bolivia, Uganda and Guatemala. He has been recognized several times as a “Top Doc” by Philadelphia Magazine, and was additionally recognized as a Top Doctor in Nephrology in the Philadelphia area by Castle Connolly Publications. He has been a member of KI for more than 40 years.*

**Monday, April 21 10:30 a.m.**

**DECEPTIONS OF WORLD WAR II**

**MARILYN ADELMAN**

By July 1940, Britain found itself standing alone against Hitler. But then, the British defeated the Nazis during the Battle of Britain. Also in 1940, Alan Turing broke the Enigma Code, which the Nazis thought was unbreakable, thereby enabling the Allies to monitor German movements without their knowledge. This was a turning point in the war. Allied deceptions included the use of double agents to infiltrate German forces; full scale operations to mislead the Germans; women spies to confuse the Germans; and the US Army’s “Ghost Army” to fool them. These deceptions did not result in any military victories, but testimony has been made that, due to the cunning and fortitude of many people, the war was shortened by several years and countless lives were saved by the use of these deceptive measures.

*Marilyn Adelman is a former secondary education social studies teacher. She later switched careers to become a paralegal and spent 35 years working for center city law firms in business and corporate law, and for a private venture capital company that invested primarily in technology companies. She has a B. S. in Secondary Education from Temple University. Currently, she is a member of Retired Executives and Professionals (REAP) and is interested primarily in the World War II era.*

**Monday, April 28 10:30 a.m./**

**LISA DAVID**

**Monday, May 5 10:30 a.m./**

**ILLITERACY AND IRRELEVANCY: THE CHALLENGE OF AMERICAN JEWISH EDUCATION**

**CONVERSATION AT MY HOUSE**

**RABBI LANCE SUSSMAN**

**Monday, May 12 10:30 a.m./**

**ETHICAL ISSUES IN MY PRACTICE:  
GENERAL MEDICAL ISSUES AND REPRODUCTIVE ISSUES**

***DR. BOB MICHAELSON***

*Robert Michaelson , MD is a lifelong member of Keneseth Israel and an over 3 decades member of the board of Trustees at KI. He is a retired Obstetrician-Gynecologist with 37 years of practice experience. He is a former trustee and past president of the medical staff at Abington Hospital. He is a current and founding member of the Upper Dublin Township Human Relations Commission.*

**Monday, May 19 10:30 a.m./**

**COLE PORTER: MASTER OF STYLE**

***SUSAN BENJAMIN***

Although Cole Porter's life may have seemed outwardly charmed, personal challenges and passions led to his body of work. In this program, stories of his personal history are juxtaposed with examples of his contributions to American culture.

*When she was 17, Susan Benjamin performed in a professional theater company in the musical Bye Bye Birdie with Orson Bean, Jane Withers, Sandy Duncan and Jay and the Americans. She became a secondary school English teacher, with a specialty in public speaking and television broadcasting. Most of her previous career she spent in school administration: English Department Chair at Highland Park High School in Illinois and Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Highland Park and Deerfield, IL. The author of two books on public speaking, Susan served on the governing board of the leadership branch of the National Council of Teachers of English, where she earned the Lifetime Writer Award. Currently, Susan presents musical biographies at over 40 locations in the Chicago area and in Longboat Key, FL.*

**Monday, June 2, 2025 10:30 a.m.**

**TWO PORTRAITS OF ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER: FICTION AND NONFICTION**

***BEV ROSEN***

Join Bev Rosen as she shares *The Lioness of Boston: A novel* by Emily Franklin, and the non-fiction biography, *Chasing Beauty: The Life of Isabella Stewart Gardner* by Natalie Dykstra. Both books paint a vivid portrait of the life and times of a rebel, visionary and art collector who transformed her home into a preeminent museum and in the process transformed Boston society and the city itself.

**Monday, June 9 10:30 a.m.**

**OSCAR LEVANT**

***ANDY CLYMAN***

**Monday, June 16 10:30 a.m.**

**EVONNE AND ISAAK KRUGER**

**Monday, June 23 10:30 a.m.**

**EVONNE AND ISAAK KRUGER**