



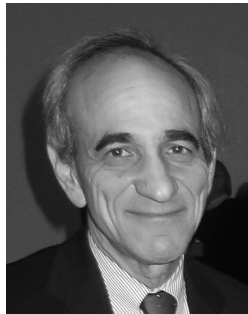
the jewish connection

DECEMBER 2017 - JANUARY 2018
Issue Number 67

Bulletin of the Upper Valley Jewish Community • 5 Occom Ridge • Hanover, NH 03755

Why Caring for Everyone is in the National Interest

Rabbi Edward S. Boraz



There is a wisdom in Maimonides's *Guide for the Perplexed* [written c. 1190 CE by Rabbi Moshe ben Maimon, also known as RAMBAM] that has application to our society today, nearly 900 years later.

In Book III, Chapter 27, Maimonides describes the purpose of the Law (meaning the Torah). He assumes that these laws are from God. He says that though they are often complex, when “properly understood,” they will lead us to a just and right world:

The Law as a whole aims at two things: the welfare of the soul and the welfare of the body. As for the welfare of the soul, it consists in the multitude's acquiring correct opinions according to their capacity.

As for the welfare of the body, it comes about by the improvement of their ways of living with one another. This is achieved through two things. One of them is the abolition of their wrongdoing each other ... The second thing consists in the acquisition by every human individual of moral qualities that are useful for life in society so that the affairs of the city may be ordered. Maimonides's *Guide for the Perplexed*, Book III; Shlomo Pines, translator)

By “welfare of the soul,” Maimonides means education with respect to the Torah. Although every individual cannot probe the depths of Scripture, everyone is to be educated fully according to his/her capacity to absorb the underlying purposes of the 613 *mitzvot* (commandments). This understanding is necessary for everyone to comprehend the incorporeality of God, further appreciating

fully that human beings are created in the image and likeness of God, and are thereby entitled to be treated, and enjoined to treat, everyone else with dignity.

It is difficult to take words written for a medieval audience and apply them an eon later to a world that the author could not imagine. Still, I believe that the idea of the well-being of the souls of our countrymen is related to the state of education and democracy in the United States. Only an educated citizenry can appreciate deeply the ideals upon which our country was founded.

Once educated appropriately, individuals would seem likely to me to be more vigilant in safe-guarding access to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for everyone, not just for themselves. The serious and growing discrepancy in our country's current educational opportunities (private vs. public schools, areas with a higher tax base spending more on public schools than those in lower income areas, etc.) leads to a compromised democracy and segregation by income that often results in diminished concern for others.

Maimonides postulates that welfare of the soul cannot be attained until the welfare of the body is assured. Here, he is not writing about the individual, but rather the communal good.

The first perfection [welfare of the body] consists in being healthy and in the very best bodily state, and this is only possible through his finding the things necessary for him whenever he seeks them.

continued page 9: CARING

**UVJC VOLUNTEER
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

November 1, 2017
to
October 31, 2018

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Rusty Sachs
clipclopsix@gmail.com
(H) 802-649-2956

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

Laura Rosenthal
laura@iguy.org
(H) 603-277-9828

VICE-PRESIDENT

Jeff Lubell
jefflubell@yahoo.com
(H) 802-649-7230

VICE-PRESIDENT

Robert Shumsky
shumsky@dartmouth.edu
(H) 603-643-4701

TREASURER

Bill Brown
bbrown@alum.dartmouth.org
603-643-6639

SECRETARY

Sue Berg
susan.z.berg@hitchcock.org
(C) 603-504-2311

•

ROTH CENTER OFFICERS

RABBI

Edward Boraz
Edward.Boraz@Dartmouth.Edu
603-646-0410

RABBI'S ASSISTANT

Claudia Palmer
Claudia.Palmer@Dartmouth.Edu
603-646-0410

**UVJC OFFICE
ADMINISTRATOR**

Chris DePierro
office@uvjc.org
603-646-0460

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Melissa Herman
school@uvjc.org
603-646-3887

President's Message

by Rusty Sachs



[Editor's note: As this issue was being prepared, President Rusty was dealing with a temporarily overwhelming press of events including the death of his brother, planning for Kol Ha'Emek rabbinical succession, hosting the annual US Marine Corps Ball, and even a computer crash and replacement. Rusty asked that Connection readers consider the following poem in his brief absence this month. We offer Rusty and his family our most sincere condolences.]

Funeral Blues by W. H. Auden (1938)

"Funeral Blues"

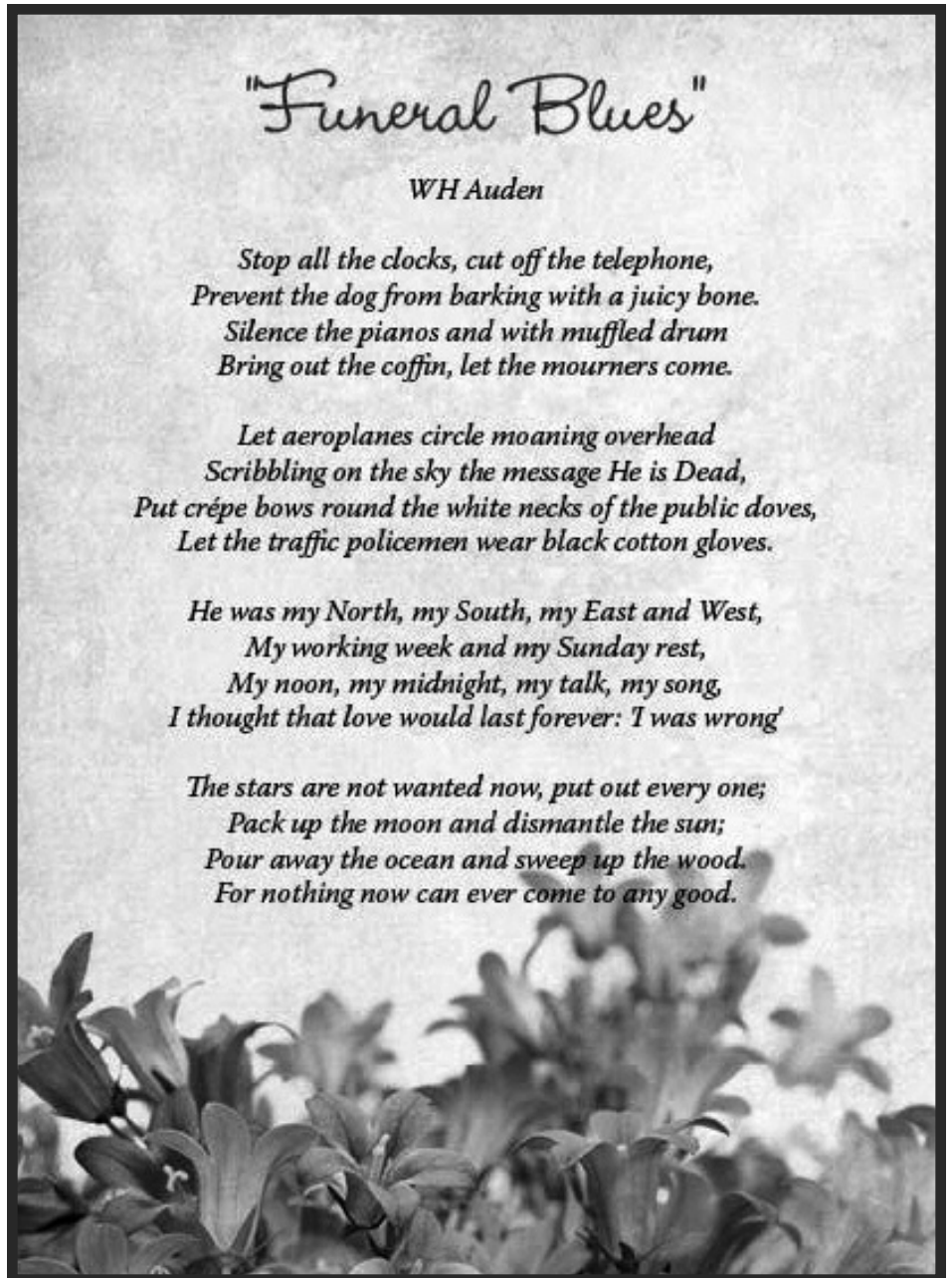
WH Auden

*Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,
Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone.
Silence the pianos and with muffled drum
Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.*

*Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead
Scribbling on the sky the message He is Dead,
Put crêpe bows round the white necks of the public doves,
Let the traffic policemen wear black cotton gloves.*

*He was my North, my South, my East and West,
My working week and my Sunday rest,
My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song,
I thought that love would last forever: I was wrong'*

*The stars are not wanted now, put out every one;
Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun;
Pour away the ocean and sweep up the wood.
For nothing now can ever come to any good.*



**From the UVJC Director of Education
Melissa Herman**



I am delighted to report that the Hebrew school is humming along nicely this year. We have a dedicated group of teachers, madrichim, tutors, and volunteers who make things lively and fun. Each class is preparing several group mitzvah projects over the course of the school year.

The fifth grade has already done its first: delivering our high holiday food donations to the Haven. Apparently, they schlepped over 300 pounds of groceries! They were accompanied (and transported) by social action committee members Iris Berezin and Jeff Bell. More mitzvah project stories to come.

In other news, we are planning Havurah groups among students and their families. One set of parents or teachers from each class will be inviting all the families in that class to their home for a Shabbat or havdalah dinner. The idea is to generate a sense of community while noshing, schmoozing, and saying a few brachot.

We hope to see everyone at the congregational Hanukkah party on December 15th! We will have latkes, soufganiyot, dreidels, gelt, and other fun things.

Lshalom.

**Hanukkah Dairy Potluck Celebration
Friday, December 15, 5:30 pm**

Shabbat - Hanukkah - Music - Dreidels - Gelt



We are packing it all into one joyous celebration! We will welcome Shabbat with a brief service featuring the music of Debbie Freidman followed by a Hanukkah dairy potluck dinner celebration with latkes, dreidels, gelt, soufganiyot (jelly donuts) and fun, fun, fun! Bring your menorah to light, and a dairy dish to share.

**OTHER UVJC TRUSTEES
& COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Alice Berliner
Alb172cs@gmail.com
(H) 802-380-9606

Debbe Callaghan
debbe.callaghan@gmail.com
(C) 802-280-5022

Thomas Cochran
tmcteach@gmail.com
(H) 802-649-2311

Felixa Eskey
cjfode@comcast.net
(H) 603-643-5350

Paul Etkind
Lpiropo@comcast.net
(C) 617-792-6467

Gloria Finkelstein
gloriafinkelstein@gmail.com
(H) 603-643-4311

Matthew Henken
mhenken@gmail.com
(H) 603-298-6719

Lynn Schwartz
Lynn.s.schwartz@gmail.com
(H) 603-643-2957

Stephen Woloshin
Steven.Woloshin@dartmouth.edu
(H) 802-649-1293

**JOINT PLANNING &
BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Rusty Sachs, Jeff Lubell

KIDDUSH COORDINATOR

Yoni Neirman

LIBRARY

Fred Lerner

RUACH CHAIR

Jeff Lubell

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: Felixa Eskey

SOCIAL ACTION CHAIR

Carolyn Gordon

SOUP GROUP CHAIR

Shari Boraz

The Jewish connection

is published bi-monthly by the
Upper Valley Jewish Community.
Subscription is free to members of the
the Upper Valley Jewish Community.

Postmasters:

Send change of addresses to
Upper Valley Jewish Community
5 Occom Ridge • Hanover, NH 03755

The UVJC gratefully acknowledges the following people for gifts to our High Holiday Appeal:

Betty Lauer
Karen Schwaid
Rick and Harriet Fingeroth
Richard and Bayle Drubel
Robert and Sharon Racusin
Robert Kersch
David and Deborah Hoffer
Helen Skeist
Sharon and Jerome Smith
Daniel Levin
Bruce Pacht
Scott and Betsey Neslin
Carlyn Herz
Mark and Nancie Severs
Donald Kollisch and Patricia Glowa
Iris Berezin
John Alexander
Jeff and Karen Lubell
Morton Lynn
Nina San-Loud and Keith Loud
Leslie and Diane Riman
Dr. Bernice Miller
David Leib and Andra Charron
Carey and Debbe Callaghan
Matthew Henken and Hilary Ryder
Milton and Rhonda Weinstein
Eric Levy
Carolyn Gordon and David Webb
Daniel and Ellen Rockmore
Aila and Charles Conarck
Paul and Sue Etkind
Sally and Gershen Abraham

Joseph and Dorothy Tofel
Sivan Rotenberg
Deborah and Aaron Kaplan
Robert Sprafkin
Eileen Shaevel and Donald Weiner
Susan Cohen
Ellen Gitomer and
William Koppenheffer
Kenneth and Karen Kaliski
Debra Birenbaum
Rabbi Daveen Litwin and
Stacey Goren
Roslyn Levin
Peter and Anne Silberfarb
Henry and Sophie Bernstein
Sheryl and Mitchell Stotland
Jack and Elizabeth Weingarten
Janet Goldberger
Richard Abel and Roberta Berner
Rusty and Marlene Sachs
Mark and Susan Israel
Alan and Ursina Schnur
Richard and Andrea Kremer
Jerry and Clare Strochlic
James and Susan Berg
Leonid and Oksana Pekker
Renee Snow
Donald and Barbara Silver
Gary Schwartz
Roberta Gross
David Hirshberg
Edward English

Robert and Susan Greene
Barbara Brown
Michael and Jeanne Prince
Robert Schertzer and
Laura Rosenthal
Alvin and Shirley Cohen
Arnold and Annette Brown
Bruria Miron
Irwin Pikus and Sallyann Sack
Joyce and Robert Evans
Joseph and Judith Danna
Barry Smith
Eric and Caron Bronstein
Cindy Ahonen
Michael Holdowsky
Jeffrey and Lisa Silbert
Jeanne Zucker
Paula Rayman
Jill and John Schiffman
Peter and Donna Monoson
Thomas Cochran
Ron Adner and Margaret Hanson
Aaron and Krystina Baumgarten
Joan and Richard Cooke
Sheryl and Neil Siegel
Thomas and Judy Oxman
Jeffrey and Lys Weiss
Michael and Maryann Kaplinsky
Fred and Sheryl Learner
Steven and Linda Tofel
Norma Kimmelman
Ann and Jeffrey Silverstein

There are many opportunities for donors to designate a gift to the Upper Valley Jewish Community throughout the year.

Please make your check payable to either "UVJC" or "Upper Valley Jewish Community," noting the name of the fund on the memo line.

Donations may be directed to the UVJC General Fund or specifically to one of the following funds:

Adult Education Fund:

To support guest speakers and other special adult programs

Beautification Fund:

To be used toward furnishings, decorations, and ornamentation to enhance the Roth Center for Jewish Life.

Cemetery Fund:

To help with landscaping and maintenance of the UVJC cemetery.

Library Fund:

For purchase of books or other library materials.

Endowment:

Contributions of cash or securities, payable to the UVJC Endowment Fund. Interest will be used to support the activities of the community.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:

For charitable purposes as determined by the Rabbi.

School Programming Fund:

To support special programs over and above the curriculum.

Teen Programming:

To provide support for young adults in our community to participate in Jewish programs.

These are his food and all the other things needed for the governance of his body, such as a shelter, bathing, and so forth [Perhaps today, Maimonides might have included health care!].

This cannot be achieved in any way by one isolated individual. For an individual can only attain all this through a political association, it being already known that man is political by nature ... It is also clear that this noble and ultimate perfection [welfare of the soul] can only be achieved after the first perfection has been achieved. For a man cannot represent to himself an intelligible [that is, cannot understand the Torah's parable lessons] even when taught to understand it, and all the more cannot become aware of it of his own accord, if he is in pain, or is very hungry, or is thirsty, or is hot, or is very cold.

So long as there is poverty, economic struggle, and oppression, our society will continue to suffer, and not just because conditions of human misery ought to be alleviated for physical reasons. Rather, it is because our failure to insure welfare of the body for all will compromise the greater good to be achieved through welfare of the soul. Those for whom we do not provide adequately, never will be able to grasp and affirm our country's treasured ideals. This could leave a small number of us to become cynical and act in their self-interest only, frustrating our ability to achieve and maintain democracy.

Maimonides concludes his chapter with an aston-

ishing statement I find especially relevant to our world today:

The true Law [to him, the Torah; for this essay, the ideals underpinning our Constitution and Bill of Rights] is unique ... [It] has come to bring us both perfections, I mean the welfare of the states of people in their relations with one another through the abolition of reciprocal wrongdoing and through the acquisition of noble and excellent character. In this way, the preservation of the population of the country and their permanent existence in the same order become possible, so that every one of them achieves his first perfection [welfare of the body].

In America, we are far from this ideal.

I am aware that the logic of my analogy may be problematic in that I seek to apply a philosophical work grounded on theology to an extraordinarily diverse population comprised of differing cultures, values, religious beliefs and traditions. Still, I believe that Maimonides's vision of Torah and the Founders' vision of our America both strive toward realization and fulfillment of ideals that affirm that we are a nation under God.

As such, we must strive to ensure that everyone understands and works towards liberty and justice for all. When we do, we assure preservation of our country's ideals, so that our existence and light will long endure.

Aging with Dignity

A new course is being offered to our senior UVJC members and families.

This is a free course facilitated by trained seniors for seniors. It offers tools and tips on getting your affairs organized, staying connected and active and having fun, and planning for when you can no longer speak for yourself to make your desires known to your doctors.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

Confirm your interest with the facilitators as the list is growing! A minimum of six registrants needed to hold the program. Interested parties will be notified of upcoming dates.

**Dates to be decided for the start of the new year,
based on the number of potential participants.**

Registration is required. Please contact:

Alice Berliner • 802-380-9606 • alb172cs@gmail.com

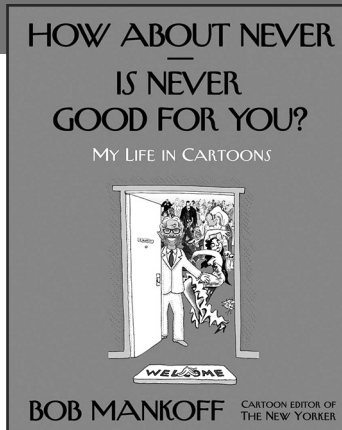
Roseanne Kramer • 603-523-7287 • roseanne.kramer@gmail.com

Literature Lovers

We are members of an enthusiastic reading group who love to discuss books proposed by group members. We welcome new participants. Come join us! Literature Lovers usually meets at 7:00 PM the last Sunday of the month, unless otherwise noted.

For location or information, please contact
Susan Cohen at 603-643-3611, or email at sncohen037@gmail.com.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3



HOW ABOUT NEVER: IS NEVER GOOD FOR YOU?

My Life in Cartoons

by Bob Mankoff

Bob Mankoff, former cartoon editor of The New Yorker Magazine, traces his love of the craft back to his childhood with the help of myriad images and his funniest and most beloved cartoons.



In Loving Memory, Edna Morrison Silverman, the Silverman Family *Remembrance*

The act of remembrance is a profound experience in Jewish tradition. Remembrance brings to present consciousness the influence, love, and nurturing the departed brought to us, our children, and our children's children.

A *yahrzeit* board provides a spiritual means of paying respect and offering tribute to the memories of our departed loved ones.

The *yahrzeit* board in the Alperin Sanctuary at the Roth Center for Jewish Life at Dartmouth College provides each member of our congregational family the opportunity to engage in the profound mitzvah of remembrance by acquiring a *yahrzeit* plaque.

On the anniversary of the *yahrzeit* (the date of death), a light is illuminated adjacent to the deceased's name.

If you are interested in acquiring a *yahrzeit* plaque, please contact the UVJC Office at 603-646-0460 or at office@uvjc.org.

Please welcome
UVJC's newest members:

Jessica and Jonathan Smolin
Martha and Myron Bass
Roseanne Kramer



Keep up with what is happening
at the
Upper Valley Jewish Community
today, next week
and into the future
on Facebook.

Please request to join
the UVJC page today at
[facebook.com/groups/
359003357910/](https://facebook.com/groups/359003357910/)

Yahrzeit Contributions

Robert and Sharon Racusin in memory of
Shirley Racusin, Bob's mother

Richard and Bayle Drubel in memory of
Leon Weiner, Bayle's father

Sharon and Jerome Smith in memory of
Isadore Greenberg, Sharon's father

Richard and Andrea Kremer in memory of
their parents, Leonard and Amy Kremer
And Harold and Mary McCrensky

Bruce Pacht in memory of Jeanette Pacht, Bruce's mother

Geraldine Jacobson in memory of Nicholas Jacobson

Daniel Levin in memory of Israel Fond, grandfather

Paul and Sue Etkind in memory of Herbert Etkind, Paul's father

Aila Conarck in memory of Ann and Irving Yanover, Aila's parents

Dennis and Sue Kaufman in memory of
Wendy Dannenhirsh, Dennis's sister

Rosina Carpentier in memory of Irene Krivit, Rosina's sister

Marjorie and Peter Aptakin in memory of
Alfred Spencer, Marjorie's father

Rick and Harriet Fingerroth in memory of
Grace Fingerroth, Rick's mother.

Daniel Levin in memory of Ida Levin, Daniel's grandmother

Michael Humphrey in memory of
William Humphrey, Michael's father

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Renee, Aaron and Mike Snow in honor of Rabbi Boraz

Samuel Topal in honor of Rabbi's Eastman Shabbat Services

Jane Lipson in memory of her father, C.C. (Kelly) Gotlieb

Barry and Arline Rotman in memory of Ellen Blumberg

Susan and Mark Israel in memory of Gary Brown

Susan and Mark Israel in honor of Gary Schwartz

Upper Valley Jewish Community Cemetery

The Upper Valley Jewish Community owns and maintains its own cemetery for your comfort and service in times of need. We encourage UVJC members to think today about future needs. Plot locations may be selected and information you want family members to have may be recorded informally at a time when there is not a present need. Inquiries about the cemetery or plot acquisition should be directed to the UVJC Office Administrator at 603/646-0460.

UVJC General Fund

Martha Bass in memory of
Marion and Jack Brownstein and Ray and Samuel Bass

Judy and Thomas Oxman

Mark and Susan Israel in honor of
Ben Katz becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Mark and Susan Israel in honor of
Aaron and Deb Kaplan's 25th Wedding Anniversary
Gary and Lynn Schwartz in memory of Estelle Diamond

Gary and Lynn Schwartz in memory of Gary Brown

Judith Rocchio in memory of Estelle Diamond

Sydney and Gloria Finkelstein in memory of
Anna Finkelstein, Sydney's Mother

Sydney and Gloria Finkelstein in memory of Gary Brown

Sydney and Gloria Finkelstein in memory of
Merle Corobow Gold, Gloria's Mother

Richard and Bayle Drubel in memory of Christopher Sachs

Adult Education Fund

Mark and Nancie Severs in memory of Gary Brown

Mark and Nancie Severs in memory of Estelle Diamond

Susan and Mark Israel in memory of Estelle Diamond

Susan and Mark Israel in memory of
Sidney Israel, Mark's father

Susan and Mark Israel in honor of Gary Levine: Happy Birthday

UVJC Endowment Fund

Jeremy Katz

School Programming Fund

Susan and Mark Israel in honor of
Harper Stotland becoming a bat mitzvah

Soup Group

James and Miriam Weinstein

Bimah Baskets & Centerpieces for B'nai Mitzvah & Other Special Occasions

A Beautiful Alternative to Flowers

Colorful and elegantly-arranged baskets of food provide the festive beauty of flowers and infuse your occasion with the spirit of *tikkun olam*. Afterwards, the contents are donated to food pantries. Perfect for B'nai mitzvah, Kiddushes and other occasions. The Social Action Committee is delighted to prepare the baskets. You pay only for the contents.

For further info, contact UVJCSocAction@gmail.com





**Upper Valley
Jewish Community**
Roth Center for Jewish Life
5 Oocom Ridge
Hanover, NH 03755

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
WHT RIV JCT, VT
PERMIT NO. 45

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
December 2017 - January 2018
Issue No. 67

DO YOU KNOW

... where everything Jewish is going on in the Upper Valley? ... where you can find the entire TANACH read to you in Hebrew? ... where there are links to popular local destinations and local weather? ... where there is a database of everything Jewish for your region, including learning links and candle-lighting times?

Visit the UVJC website OFTEN, for ALL the news: www.uvjc.org

Mark B. Severs, CFP®
The Hanover Group at Morgan Stanley
Senior Vice President, Wealth Management
Family Wealth Director
Financial Advisor

Wealth Management
203 Heater Road
Lebanon, NH 03766

tel 603 442 7900
direct 603 442 7940
fax 603 442 7988

Morgan Stanley
NMLS # 178834
www.morganstanleyfa.com/hanovergroup/
mark.b.severs@morganstanley.com

Jesse's
Steaks, Seafood
& Tavern

Rt. 120
Hanover, NH
603-643-4111

Molly's
restaurant & bar

Main Street
Hanover, NH
603-643-2570

www.blueskyrestaurants.com