

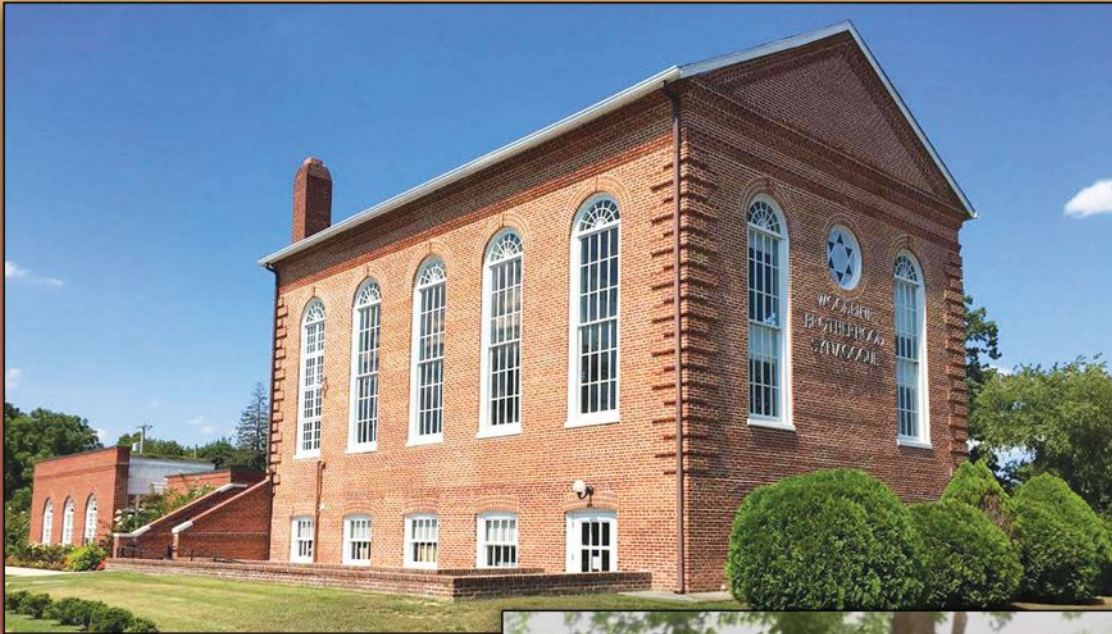


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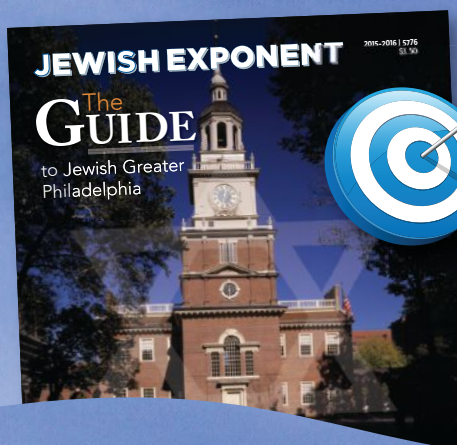
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FOLLOWING IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS:

Continuing the Camp Tradition

RACHEL KURLAND | JE STAFF



What makes summer camp so special? Is it the camaraderie? The feeling of an elongated slumber party? The bug juice? (Probably not that one.)

It's not just the s'mores and color wars that make people nostalgic. There's something about Jewish summer camps that just keep bringing campers — and parents — back.

Even in movies like *Wet Hot American Summer* or *Indian Summer*, Jewish summer camps are perceived as a more significant coming-of-age experience than their own B'nai Mitzvah.

So why do Jews — especially in the Philadelphia area where surrounding summer camps nest on serene lakes with the backdrop of the Pocono Mountains — love sending their kids to camp so much?

How has the tradition of Jewish summer become more common than attending Sunday school or lighting candles on Shabbat?

I talked to some Jewish mothers — because, ya know, mothers know best — about what they hope their children learn from those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer.

When campers write home for the first time — (Do kids write letters anymore? That's a story for another time) — begging to be picked up and taken home, parents know that if they just stick it out, it'll be worthwhile.

And let's be real — mothers really do know best.

Take Ivy Frajerman, who has three children involved with Camp Ramah — Noah, 14, Brett, 11, and Alana, 9.

Noah and Alana spend their summers at Ramah at the Poconos in Lakewood, while Brett prefers day camp in Philadelphia.

But whichever type of camp involvement they prefer, Frajerman is just glad they're getting a Jewish background.

"They do all the typical camp experiences — swimming, arts, sports — and yet are totally immersed in Judaism throughout their day. Without them even thinking about it, they are," she said.

Although she misses the kids when they're gone, "I know that the friendships they've developed and the wonderful time that they're having is what's important," she added. "They still really make a point of seeing their friends throughout the year, and they've really made some wonderful friends through Ramah."

The Frajermans, who belong to Ohev Shalom of Bucks County, don't send their kids to a Jewish day school during the rest of the year.



Ivy went to a JCC day camp growing up, so she's shared a lot of the moments that her kids are discovering now.

"Since my children do not go to a day school, I feel like at Ramah they really get the experiences that they're not getting because they're not at a day school," Frajerman noted.

Both Noah and Alana have told Frajerman that they love celebrating Shabbat and Havdalah by the lake at Ramah.

"When they're young is really when their love for Judaism develops and will take them throughout their life," she continued. "They will always have those experiences to look back on, and I think because it's such a natural part of their life, part of their summer, part of their year-long experience, it's just like second nature to them and it's important to them."

Ali Reich, a mother of two who attend Camp Harlam in Kunkletown and an alumna herself, volunteers with Camp Harlam as

"They do all the typical camp experiences — swimming, arts, sports — and yet are totally immersed in Judaism throughout their day. Without them even thinking about it, they are."

— IVY FRAJERMAN —

the vice chair of the Camp Counsel board.

This will be her 18-year-old son's 10th summer and her 12-year-old daughter's fifth, but Camp Harlam has a deeper family history than that.

"Harlam is the same camp where my husband and I grew up, and we actually met there," she said. "So, they're second-generation 'Har-



Ali Reich's children at Camp Harlam

lamites.' It really is their home. It's where they feel most comfortable."

She doesn't see them often during the summer — as a lay leader, she's only there for a few days for work — but she's met a lot of camp connections as an adult in her volunteer capacity.

"Some of my oldest friends are from my camp days," she said. "I guess you're never too old to go back to camp."

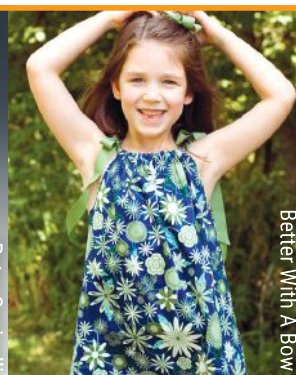
Reich added that camp gives her kids the opportunity to meet both staff and other campers who they might not run into in everyday life at home, like international staff members or campers from different states.

They get to bond with other Jewish kids over their shared religion, but grow and expand from their differences.

"All of that makes them feel like they're a part of something bigger," she said. "I hope that they take away lifelong memories, great friends, a feeling of really being connected to Judaism and a feeling that they want to stay connected to Judaism as they grow into adults."

"I know that both my kids wish that camp was 10 months of the year," she laughed. "It really is their happy place."

See **CAMPS**, Page 8



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CAMPS

Continued from Page 7

Shira Goodman's two boys, 16-year-old Jason and 13-year-old Brandon, are also avid Camp Ramah-goers, heading to the Poconos since the earliest enrollment age.

This being Jason's eighth summer and Brandon's fifth, Goodman became more involved with her alma mater camp and joined the Board of Directors.

She attended Ramah in the 1980s, and her husband went to another Jewish camp in Michigan where he grew up.

"We always agreed we'd send them to Camp Ramah when we moved out here," she said. "I don't know what I would do if I didn't."

"It's a special place where kids are still doing all the normal camp stuff," she continued, "but also is a place where everybody has the shared values, that their Judaism is important, that they like being Jewish, that being Jewish can be cool, that loving Israel is cool. It just infuses them with that pride and self-confidence in themselves that I think is really essential as they go out into the world."

And when they do go out into the world, they can find those similar kids in places like United Synagogue Youth or Hillel, she said.

"Starting with a similar foundation and meeting people who have had that, maybe

with a different Ramah or a different shared experience, I think it helps you make those connections and always find a home wherever you are.

"There's always that connection," she said of her own camp experiences.

"I like having that. It's kind of like an identity badge that you wear, and it's always like a common language and a common way to connect with people even as an adult."

When Jason had the opportunity to join USY on Wheels, he chose Ramah instead.

"The fact that he can talk about how much he loves camp — I see the kids that he wants to be with," Goodman added. "His first choice is always his camp friends and I think that's special. Even if my kids don't have the same observances in their kashrut or celebrate Shabbat the same way when they grow up, I think they'll have a foundation and a spark and know that being Jewish is special."

"The evidence shows that Jewish camping is the way to have committed, confident Jewish teens, and I think it's a critical piece of a Jewish future." ●

Contact: rkurland@jewishexponent.com; 215-832-0737



Alana Frajerman at Ramah Day Camp



Brandon and Jason Goodman outside the dining hall at Camp Ramah



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NINE TIPS for Getting the Most Out of Israel This Summer

LIZ SPIKOL | JE STAFF



The beach in Tel Aviv, Israel

Travel to Israel is booming. Last year saw the most American tourists in Israel since the state was founded.

This year, the first three months saw a 7 percent increase over the same quarter in 2015 — which means it's shaping up to be a record-breaking year.

Though people travel to Israel year-round, summer is the high season. The cloudless blue skies and beautiful beaches may have something to do with that, or maybe it's the general sense of relaxation that pervades even crowded cobblestone streets on a hazy summer day. There are festivals aplenty, music and arts performances and an overall emphasis on enjoying life outdoors.

Whether you're going for a Bat Mitzvah, a wedding or just to relax, here are nine tips that should help you make the most out of your stay.

Take the kids.

This summer, El Al Israel Airlines, which offers the most nonstop flights to Israel, is launching special family-friendly deals that include roundtrip fares of \$1,299 (taxes/surcharges included) from New York (JFK or Newark) for departures between June 16 and Aug. 18. There's also an El Al children's fare

that could save parents \$200 for each child between 2 and 14.

For more information, visit www.elal.com or call 800-223-6700.

Send the teens.

Do you shudder when you think of your hormonally besieged teenager moping around the house and looking at screens? Fear not — the opportunities for teens to experience Israel abound.

If you want them to get a head start on thinking about aliyah, there's the month-long Tzofim Chetz V'Keshet program that operates in conjunction with the IDF. Kids get a behind-the-scenes look at army life, and hike, bike and tour the country in the company of Israeli teenagers.

There's the International Leadership Seminar from BBYO Passport, which combines extensive tours of Israel with small group learning and an emphasis on figures who guided the country to where it is today.

There's the Trek Israel program, which includes the physically challenging Sea-to-Sea Hike and is meant for kids who like to be active.





There are programs that encourage volunteering and programs that encourage religious connection.

Jewish Federations of North America offers the National Young Leadership Mission to Israel in June.

And Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia has two scholarship opportunities pertaining to Israel travel, one of which is for study at Orthodox Yeshivot.

Go shopping.

The U.S. dollar is now 13 percent stronger against the shekel than it has been in the past couple years, so you'll be able to spend more than you'd think. Plus, the VAT refund still applies, which means that when U.S. tourists leave Israel with their bounty — excluding food, drink or tobacco — they'll likely be eligible for a tax refund as long as they've bought their goods in a participating store.

To find out more about how to get the refund, consult Israel's Ministry of Tourism website, goisrael.com.

Pack light.

No, we don't mean take less luggage (though that's not a bad idea, considering all the extra fees these days). We mean pack light clothing because Israel in the summer — really up until early September — is *hot*.

Average temperatures are in the high 80s, and Tel Aviv, Netanya and the like add a dollop of humidity to the mix. Go to Masada, the Dead Sea or Eliat, and temps are regularly above 100 — like *way* above. Things do cool down in the evenings — in Jerusalem, in the mountains and in the desert — so a light jacket also is recommended.

See [ISRAEL](#), Page 12



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Don't forget Shavuot.

The weekend of June 12 is a holiday weekend in Israel, and services and businesses may or may not be open. It's actually the perfect weekend to get out town (whichever town you're in) and visit a kibbutz, where parades and ceremonies are held to celebrate the agricultural holiday.

If you stay in a city, don't be surprised if you're squirted with water, as residents often take the streets for grown-up water fights. Children are not left out; there's a plethora of festivities for all ages that weekend.

Listen up!

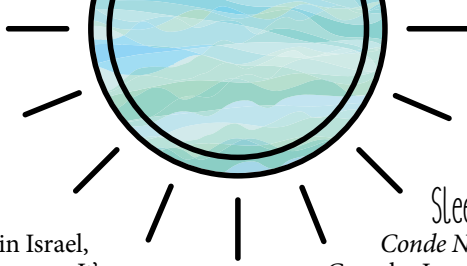
Israel is wonderfully musical in the summer months. The big international tours tend to stop in Tel Aviv, and this summer is no exception, with a lineup that includes Beyoncé, Elton John and Bruce Springsteen.

For less bombast, there's also the famed Tel Aviv Blues Festival (July 13-16); the Jerusalem Opera Festival (June 22-25); the Akko Opera Festival (July 28-30); the Oasis Dub Reggae Festival in Arad (June 10-11); the Red Sea Jazz Festival in Eliat (Aug. 27-30); the Sunbeat world music festival (June 23-25); and so much more.

Brian Wilson will perform the entirety of his classic album *Pet Sounds* in Ra'anana on June 8, while indie rock bands like Real Estate and Tame Impala will likely bring out younger crowds.

The Israel Festival, now in its 55th year, runs from May 24 to June 11 and features all kinds of musical events, along with art and dance and theater across the city of Jerusalem.

There'll be music pretty much wherever you go in Israel this summer. Keep your ears open.



Sleep in style.

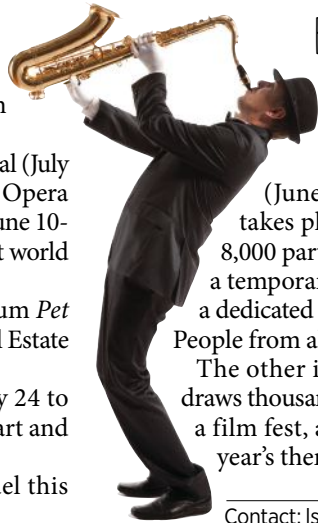
Conde Nast Traveler named Zichron Ya'akov's Elma Arts Complex Luxury Hotel to its 2016 "Hot List" of 60 best new hotels and resorts in the world. Elma, the magazine said, has reclaimed the term "design hotel" with its "mesmerizing Brutalist architecture." It also boasts its own concert hall with free or discounted tickets to performances for hotel guests.

Israel has a plethora of similarly lauded luxury accommodations, from upscale Bedouin-style desert quarters to more familiar names like Waldorf Astoria and Ritz-Carlton.

Be yourself.

There's something for everyone in Israel this summer, which is best exemplified by two big events.

One of them is the Midburn Festival (June 8-12), Israel's version of Burning Man, which takes place in the Negev Desert and draws upward of 8,000 participants. Like Burning Man, Midburn will erect a temporary city with themed campgrounds and bars and a dedicated beach — and it will even have its own post office. People from all over the world are expected to join in the fun. The other is Tel Aviv Gay Pride (May 25-June 9), which draws thousands more for days and nights of parties, concerts, a film fest, and of course, the Tel Aviv Pride parade. This year's theme? "Women in the Community." ●



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LIZ SPIKOL | JE STAFF



Wildflowers on Snake Pond on the new Shaverton Trail in Andes, NY in the Catskills Mountains.

I was at the National Museum of American Jewish History not long ago, and there on the second floor, in a glass case preserved as if it were a treasure from Tutankhamun, was a keychain (with key attached) from the legendary Grossinger's hotel in the Catskills. There was a menu, too ("No fried orders on the Sabbath"), and a brochure titled "THIS IS GROSSINGER'S."

Seeing these items, as well as others from the Catskills, I was suffused by a tearful nostalgia; I could smell the clean air and the fresh-cut grass, could hear the long tweet of the lifeguard's whistle over the splashes and shouts of the children.

Mind you, I was entitled to none of these memories, as I'm not yet 50, and entirely missed the heyday of Grossinger's and its ilk — I've never even been to the Catskills.

But such is the hold the Borscht Belt has on the popular Jewish imagination — thanks, in no small part, to the movie **Dirty Dancing**. And while misty-eyed sentimentalism is not particular to Jews, boy oh boy, are we good at it.

The peak of Jewish life at the Catskills probably came in the 1950s, when millions were shelled out for new construction, and guests spent \$55 million in a single summer, according to **The Forward**. But it was not to last.

The 1960s would transform the region, as other vacation venues removed ethnic restrictions, and air travel became increasingly accessible.

Jewish families began to go elsewhere for vacation — to go abroad, even — forcing gigantic resorts like Grossinger's and the Concord to shift emphasis. No longer did they hire tumblers to amuse the crowd; up to one-third of the visitors weren't Jewish anyway. (A tumbler might have amused a non-Jewish crowd, but perhaps not in the way that was intended.)

In 1986, the Grossinger family sold the resort, effectively putting an end to the dance- and music-besotted Jewish idyll in the mountains of New York.

A funny thing happened on the way to irrelevance, though — the Catskills got hip.

Starting a couple years ago, headlines about the Catskills changed from "Ruined Splendor" to "Not Your Granny's Vacay" and "The Catskills Gets Its Groove Back."

New York magazine, in 2014, pointed to "a new crew of city dwellers heading there for the utter, rural remoteness ... and to join the growing, tight-knit community of expat 'hicksters.'" Last year, **The New York Times** put the Catskills on its list of "52 Places to

Go in 2015,” noting, “The Catskills are being reshaped by a new generation of fresh-air-seeking urbanites.”

In many ways, the beauty of the Catskills is the same today as it's always been. There's a Thoreau-like satisfaction to be taken in the fragrant pine forests, the slow-running streams, the cascading waterfalls and miles of trails winding through



The peak of Jewish life at the Catskills probably came in the 1950s, when millions were shelled out for new construction, and guests spent \$55 million in a single summer, according to *The Forward*. But it was not to last.

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At the same time, it's not so lonely that you'll turn into Richard Proenneke: You can emerge from a sun-streaked day of fly-fishing or walking in the woods and shower up at your boutique hotel for dinner at a *Vogue*-approved Italian restaurant or an eatery that features locally sourced ingredients. Breweries, wineries and vineyards abound. (There's a reason *Condé Nast Traveler* called the Catskills “New York's new culinary retreat.”)

There are plenty of things to do in summer, from daylong music

See *CATSKILLS*, Page 16



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Breweries, wineries and vineyards abound.
(There's a reason *Condé Nast Traveler* called the Catskills "New York's new culinary retreat.")

festivals and agricultural fairs to a funky street parade where people dress in costumes and flank handmade floats. There are scenic drives beneath covered bridges that'll take you to arts collectives or farmers markets. There's even a picturesque bike race called Tour of the Catskills, which may not be the Tour de France, but does feature a frighteningly challenging climb called Devil's

Kitchen. The more adventurous can go whitewater rafting or give ziplining a go. Be as active or inactive as you please.

In a way, the decline of the resorts-studded Catskills broadens the aperture: People who went and stayed in one place likely knew little of the area's breadth and depth.

These days, the New York State Department of Economic Development divides Catskills vacation packages by region (Great Western Catskills, Great Northern Catskills, Sullivan County, Ulster County), but it seems like each and every county and town offers its own promotions and events. Different towns have different identities, too: Saugerties does not equal Bethel does not equal Phoenicia.

All-inclusive resorts do still exist, which is particularly nice if you like to golf, but you can just as easily get a cottage in the woods, stay in a luxury hotel, go "glamping" or stay at a working farm (note: you'll be put to work, so dust off those Wellies).

A new generation of innkeepers has gotten quite creative: The Roxbury Hotel fulfills childhood fantasies with rooms inspired by popular culture, including one designed like the inside of the bottle from *I Dream of Jeannie*. There's also a hotel with a Bob Dylan theme.

Though none of these especially evoke the Grossinger's experience, it may be time to create a new tradition of Jewish Catskills tourism.

Who knows? Perhaps one day, decades from now, dog-eared maps and hotel swipe keys from today's Catskills will grace a museum case somewhere. I'll try not to get too misty-eyed when I



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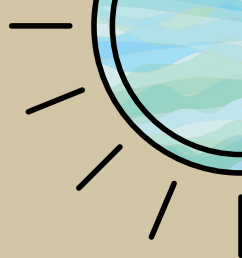


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FIVE PLACES We're Going This Summer

LIZ SPIKOL | JE STAFF



Basilica Santa Maria della Salute, Venice, Italy.

Since 1974, the Gil Travel Group, headquartered in downtown Philadelphia, has been making plans for Jewish adventurers. Much of that travel is to Israel.

"We send over 50,000 travelers to Israel every year," said Iris Hami, Gil's executive vice president.

But the family business also sends tourists to other parts of the world, sometimes for a Jewish-interest trip, sometimes with no particular focus at all. We asked Hami where Jews are going this summer, and learned there are five places that prove to be particular draws.

Venice, Italy

Does anyone need an excuse to visit Venice? With its canals and cathedrals, museums and mazelike alleyways, it's an utterly unique and exquisite travel experience.

This year, though, the city on the water has special appeal for Jewish travelers: 2016 marks the 500th anniversary of the establishment of Venice's Jewish ghetto.

To commemorate the milestone, city officials and members of Venice's Jewish community formed a committee to organize events and exhibitions — and there are many. (The English word "ghetto," not coincidentally, comes from the Italian.)

There's an ongoing exhibit ("Venice, the Jews and Europe. 1516–2016") at Palazzo Ducale, with artifacts and a virtual reconstruction. There are academically oriented conferences ("The Ghetto as Global Metaphor") and a symposium on "Venice and the Hebrew Book" in collaboration with the National Library of Israel. There will be the first ever performance of Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* in the Ghetto, where the play is set, and a concert at La Fenice Opera House called *The Music of the Ghettoes: Old and New Songs from the Jewish Tradition* with Frank London and Ute Lemper.

And that's just for starters. For more information, go to veniceghetto500.org.

Iberian Peninsula

The great thing about traveling to Iberia is you can get two for one — Spain and Portugal — and not break the bank.

"Portugal is not that expensive and has a lot of Jewish interest," said Hami, who sends a lot of local residents there.

Both countries have rich Jewish histories that are still evident today in old synagogues, *Juderías* (Jewish quarters) and even Jewish cemeteries.

In southern Spain, the Jewish legacy abuts the Moorish one —

a grand mosque steps away from a *Judería*, for example — providing a remarkable look at a the centuries-long connections between the two cultures.

Last year, Spain topped a list of the most tourist-friendly countries, so you may want to start there, though beware: It's almost unbearably hot in August; so many Spaniards leave for cooler climes that even the capital of Madrid can seem like a ghost town.

St. Petersburg, Russia

If your primary experience of the White Nights is from that '80s movie with Mikhail Baryshnikov and Gregory Hines (guilty as charged), you need to buy a plane ticket to St. Petersburg posthaste.

That picturesque, historic city, which — with its canals and bridges — resembles Venice or Amsterdam, is the perfect place to experience the natural phenomenon that occurs from late May to early July. Because the city is so far north, the sun can't dip below the horizon, and daytime simply bleeds into night.

Some find the quality of light romantic, others find it energizing and an unlucky few may have a hard time sleeping. For most people in the city, it's a welcome respite from Russia's dark, cold winters — and the only time of year that city officials don't turn on the streetlights. The brightest period is reportedly during the last two weeks of June, so book your travel now.



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Berlin

There's so much of Jewish interest in Berlin — the synagogues, museums, memorials, Jewish neighborhoods — it's hard to know where to start.

Summer is the perfect time to go because, while the weather is warm, it's not oppressively hot, as it is in other parts of Europe. Periodic rain showers will punctuate sunny days, many of which can be spent outdoors at Berlin's many street festivals, concerts, beer gardens and parks.

There are even open-air theater performances and film screenings, to say nothing of the city's beaches. This year, the Jewish Film Festival runs from June 4 to 19, while the city's Lesbian and Gay Festival and the colorful Christopher Street Day both happen in July.

See **PLACES**, Page 21



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MARGATE AND

ANDY GOTLIEB | JE MANAGING EDITOR

Better known as “The Theme from *Cheers*,” “Where Everybody Knows Your Name” is an apt description of shore towns Ventnor and Margate.

When you walk on the beach, you’re likely to run into a fellow teammate from your JCC league basketball team.

Standing in line for Sunday bagels, you might find yourself next to that high school classmate you haven’t seen in 50 years.

Or power walking down the boardwalk could be that one-time regular in your mah jongg game who moved away 20 years ago but is back visiting her children and grandchildren.

Maybe the restaurants and other businesses come and go (although a lot of them are there each year), but there’s a familiarity that makes the two towns so appealing.

That’s why Lucy the Elephant is such a perfect symbol for Margate and, by extension, its twin sister Ventnor. She represents tradition.

There’s an old saying that elephants never forget and, while Lucy never says much, she serves as a form of institutional memory. In addition, she’s that common experience everyone’s had.

Wait, you’ve never visited Lucy? Well, pony up the \$8 per person (\$4 for kids 3-12) and visit the old gal, who turns 135 this year.

In another sense, Margate and Ventnor share what Philadelphia and all popular real estate share in spades — location, location, location.

One of Philadelphia’s selling points is its proximity to New York City, Boston, Baltimore and Washington, D.C., not to mention the Jersey shore, the Chesapeake, the Poconos and Pennsylvania Dutch country.

Meantime, in Margate and Ventnor, you’re minutes from the Atlantic City casinos and the family-friendly Ocean City boardwalk. And it’s a reasonable drive to the more honky-tonk Wildwood boardwalk, the serenity of Cape May or any other shore town that sparks your fancy. ●

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PLACES

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Poland

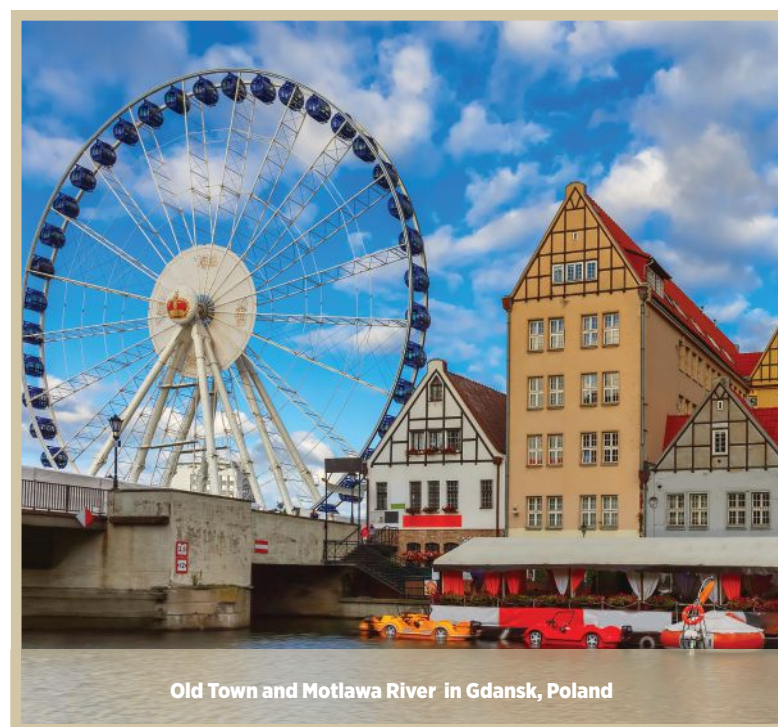
Poland has long been associated with something known as “dark tourism,” that is, travel associated with tragedy and suffering. The prevalence of Holocaust history has, in fact, become part of the country’s appeal: Last year, the number of visitors to Auschwitz grew by 40 percent.

But a summer trip to Poland can offer just as much light as dark. First of all, with notably longer days and lovely, mild temperatures, summer in Warsaw and Krakow is pleasantly relaxing.

And there’s so much going on in both cities: In addition to the innumerable museums and cultural centers, both cities host street festivals, outdoor concerts and uniquely funky activities like the VW Beetle rally in Krakow in July.

Of course, there are many monuments, memorials and synagogues that represent Poland’s Jewish heritage. Gil Travel’s scholar-led trip to Poland — which brings a professor along to contextualize the history — is sold out, but there are other Jewish heritage tours on offer, or you can simply arrange an edifying itinerary yourself. ●

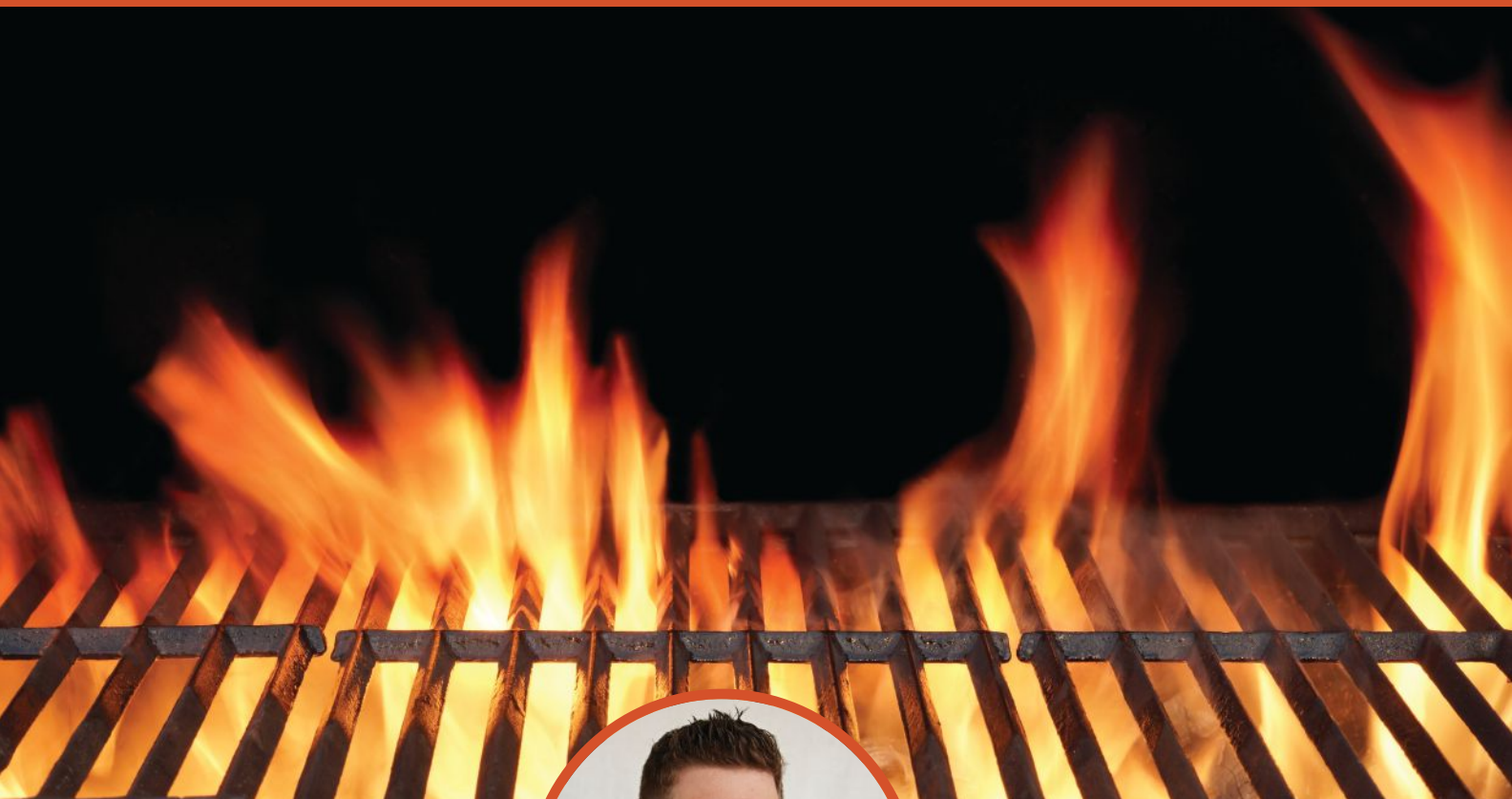
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Old Town and Motlawa River in Gdansk, Poland

HOT TIPS for Good Grilling

JON MARKS | JE STAFF



What's cooking?

That can be anything from an informal greeting, to an inquiry about work, to trying to find out what's for dinner.

In this case, what's for dinner this summer?

According to some top area chefs, if you take the proper time to prepare and season your food — and pay enough attention so it doesn't overcook or undercook — you just might be able to put something on your table as tasty as they do.

There's a certain art to summertime cooking, especially since much of it will be on the grill.

"Grilling should be about simplicity," said Michael Solomonov, renowned chef from Zahav in Society Hill, who just returned from a trip to Israel. "It's about highlighting the product that you're working with.

"Over-complicated sauces aren't necessary. Marinating your product is important, as are sturdy skewers and, of course, charcoal."



Yehuda
Sichel



Erin
O'Shea

That brings up an important debate: What if you don't have a charcoal grill — only a gas one?

"There are pros and cons," replied Yehuda Sichel, chef at Abe Fisher, a sister restaurant to Zahav. "Charcoal is harder to maintain and harder to clean, but the flavor is better because you're getting flavor from the charcoal and not just the gas.

"But whatever you use, make sure the grill is hot and clean and the meat is seasoned with salt. And the important thing is to pay attention. A lot of people just overcook their meat because they don't pay enough attention.

"I've been cooking 15 years, and I still pay attention."

So does chef Erin O'Shea of Percy Street Barbecue, who loves making the seasonal transition.

"Cooking in the summer is quite different from cooking in the winter," she explained. "It's a whole different feel, as the food we prepare is lighter in every sense. Think of lots of salads and fish — generally dishes that require less cook time with simpler, cleaner flavors than a long winter braise.

"At the restaurant, we always tease the cold-side crew

that, as summer approaches, they better get ready to step up their game.”

The game’s also on at Abe Fisher, where Sichel’s signature summer dish is a steak unlike anything you’ll find at Ponderosa.

“In summer, I usually do a dry-aged 35-day ribeye steak for two,” said Sichel, a Baltimore native now living in Elkins Park. “I like an on-the-bone ribeye, usually about two pounds. With the fat from the steak, some will render out and go into the flame. That gives the steak a smokier flavor, which comes from the fat dripping.

“It’s a showstopper.”

But don’t be afraid to try it at home.

“This steak is easy to do at home,” Sichel said. “Make sure to pull it out of the refrigerator about an hour before [grilling] so it can temp up, and put lots of salt and pepper on there.

“The bigger the steak, the better opportunity to get a really nice char and caramelization. It’s not as easy to overcook because you have a larger window.”

The window is wide open when it comes to choices. The key is not just throwing something on the grill, forgetting about it for a while, then coming back to see something barely recognizable.

“If you’re going to grill, be sure to know what cut of meat you’re working with,” O’Shea suggested. “A leaner cut of beef requires some sort of marinade or brine before grilling, whereas a fattier cut can go without.

“And be careful with fish and chicken. For fish, you need a nice, hot grill. Not just the fire but the grates themselves, so that the fish doesn’t stick. Chicken needs to be cooked through, so don’t get it too hot. If you’re too hot, you’ll burn the outside before



Grilled Fish

cooking the center through.”

But suppose meat, chicken and fish aren’t your thing. Suppose you’re a vegetarian.

Not to worry.

“In the summertime, it’s more about fresh local vegetables and their accompaniments,” Solomonov said. “We use lots of sweet corn and August tomatoes that are ripe for the picking.

“In general, we grill tons of vegetables — like eggplant, which is always a favorite, and zucchini. Right over the charcoal. But few things beat simply skewered fresh tomato, drizzled with good olive oil and cooked right over the charcoal.”

Even Percy Street Barbecue has options you probably have never considered.

“You can grill anything — even lettuce,” O’Shea said. “What

See **GRILL**, Page 24

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Grilled Whole Eggplant

GRILL

Continued from Page 23

a great component that chargrill flavor adds to any dish. "I encourage people to play around. Think outside the box."

And then, after you've devoured the steak, chicken, fish and/or veggies, comes the one thing most of us can't resist: dessert.

"I like to lighten it up with a raspberry panna cotta," said Sichel, who worked at Zahav for five years as a sous chef before becoming chef de cuisine at Abe Fisher. "Sweeten it with milk and sour cream, and add a raspberry puree."

Of course, there are always the old standbys — cake and ice cream — the latter of which, contrary to those who stand on ceremony, tastes just as good in February as July.

There are really any number of ways to make a delectable dessert — adding fruit, perhaps a sorbet, or even blending a bunch of things together into a smoothie. And keep in mind — in case you're keeping kosher — many of these items can be bought or prepared pareve. It's really not that difficult to do.

The bottom line, though, is that since summer is light and breezy, a time for most of us to kick back and relax — whether at the shore or at home — summertime cooking should be the same.

While you can truly never go wrong with hot dogs and hamburgers and surround them with the usual suspects, we've just given you a few other options.

So the next time someone says to you, "What's cooking?" you can reply, "Just wait and see. You'll love it." •

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A DIY APPROACH to Drinking in the Summer

MARISSA STERN | JE STAFF



As the summer months roll in, expect the air to be filled with the smells of grilling — hot dogs, burgers, chicken, veggies ...

But what goes best with a traditionally summer meal like barbecue?

An ice cold beer. Or a nice glass of sangria. Or something infused with the flavors of summer — think pineapple, strawberry and other fruity goodness.

While you can easily hop on over to your favorite restaurant and order a cocktail, you also might be interested in channeling your inner bartender and whip up your own creation.

And lucky for you as you start to look into a more DIY drinks approach, there are plenty of resources in Philadelphia to help you find your inner Nick Miller or Woody Boyd.

Get Your Brew On

Drinking beer in Philadelphia in the warmer months is a treat on its own. With countless beer gardens opening for the season, the city becomes a top-notch destination for those looking to expand their pale ale palates.

Home to many respectable breweries, there are always seasonal beers on tap or cased, ready for you to take them home and bring

them to your next outdoor party (see: Yard's seasonal brews. Fingers crossed the fruity, quenching Pynk is available.)

But what about making your own?

While the idea of standing over a boiling pot of wort (unfermented beer) might seem unappealing in the humidity of July, there's never a wrong time to start home brewing.

"For someone who's never done it before, there's no time like the present," said Nancy Rigberg, co-owner of Home Sweet Homebrew at 20th and Sansom streets.

With air conditioning available, she said brewing your own beer shouldn't be as big of a problem as you might think — just be wary of more airborne bacteria. That could put a damper on things.

Rigberg and her husband, George Hummel, have operated the store — the oldest homebrew store in Philadelphia — since the mid-1980s. They supply home brewing kits for beer as well as wine, another good summer option (though there's never a bad time to drink wine).

See **DRINKS**, Page 26

DRINKS

Continued from Page 25

She's seen homebrewers come through the store who have gone on to create pretty well-known breweries of their own — like Dogfish Head, Iron Hill, Yard's and St. Ben-jamin's.

While she said business does tend to die down a bit in the thick of the summer — “Because when you brew, you're standing over a kettle of boiling wort ... a lot of people won't necessarily want to do that when it's 95 degrees and humid,” she acknowledged — it picks up again around August when graduate students start heading back to school, she said as an example.

The beer kits also tend to make great gifts — Father's Day is June 19, by the way — and she sees many come in to pick up kits as presents for bachelor parties or weddings. (The couple that brews together, stays together?)

The kits come in different size varieties and include everything you need to jumpstart your home brewing journey, including a 7-gallon fermenter and lid, bottling bucket, airlock and stopper, racking tube, bottle filler, bottle capper and caps, a beer recipe, among other necessities — and, of course, instructions.



Rigberg said she leans toward the saisons — pale ales that usually have a fruitier flavor — during the summertime because they pair well with food, which is, let's face it, extremely important.

Wheat beers and ciders also are good for the summer, she said, because they are “quenching” and light. If you're heading to a barbecue, maybe try an IPA, though they can be a bit heavy in the heat.

But no matter what you go with or whenever you decide to start home brewing, Rigberg recommends just having a good time with it.

“Relax and enjoy yourself and don't take it really seriously and just have a good time — it's just beer,” she said with a laugh. “And it's fun, and obviously you get the satisfaction of doing something yourself and having a project.”

Shaken Not Stirred

If beer isn't your thing, you can still try out a DIY approach to satisfy your thirst with cocktails.

A nice Tom Collins in the summer (or other classic drink) can go a long way, but Ariela Yankelewitz also recommends trying out some fruity flavored cocktails.

Yankelewitz, founder of Aqua Vitae Institute, the bartending school at 17th and Race streets,

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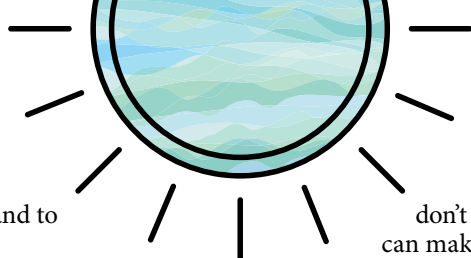
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Steve McCurry (b. 1950), *Afghan Girl*, Sharbat Gula, at Nasir Bagh refugee camp near Peshawar, Pakistan, 1984.

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wants people to enjoy what they're drinking and to expand their alcoholic horizons.

When it comes to summery drinks, she favors incorporating fruits and shrubs — a method of using vinegar and sugar with fruit. Shrubs come in many contrasting flavors like watermelon and basil.

"You use fruit and it's healthy, and you add to it," she said. "Whiskey or vodka or you can add gin or rum — you can make amazing cocktails with shrubs, it's healthy, it's good and you make it by yourself."

She's been focusing on a lot of passion fruits, like mangos and berries.

Learning to make your own cocktails comes in handy when you're at a party, which happens more frequently as the summer rolls around, but it can also help you when you're at a bar, Yankelewitz said.

Think about when you go up to a bar. You probably have a standard drink you order because you know what's in it and you know that whatever it is, you like it. People might be scared to branch out with their drinks because they aren't totally sure what the drink is.

That's what Yankelewitz wants to change and why she encourages experimenting with making your own.

"People are afraid of changing their experience with alcohol," Yankelewitz said.

"They're afraid of trying new things because they

don't know how it's going to look like. At home, they can make their own, enjoy it and they'll know what to order when they go to a bar."

Once they learn a few techniques and new flavors, people can build on it, she added.

"Some people just drink martinis or just wine or beer because they're scared," she said. "Cocktails are one of the most frightening things for people — they're afraid to try new things because they don't know what's in their drinks."

Yankelewitz, whose favorite drink is an Old Fashioned, encourages people to use the summertime to experiment with flavors, especially the fruity ones, and to see what they like.

Start the summer with a splash with these recipes (courtesy of Aqua Vitae):



If you find yourself wanting to follow in the footsteps of Jimmy Buffett and waste away in Margaritaville, try adding some strawberries to give it a fruity accent perfect for relaxing outside. And as a bonus, since nothing goes better with summer than ice cream and snow cones, incorporate that idea by adding alcohol!

See **DRINKS**, Page 28



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DRINKS

Continued from Page 27

Strawberry Vodka Snow Cone:

Cool off with this summer delight.

To make a Strawberry Vodka Snow Cone, you will need the following ingredients:

Vodka

Strawberry puree (explained in article)

Ice

In a blender, fill with ice and blend until desired consistency. If your blender doesn't support frozen ice, try leaving the ice out in room temperature for five to 10 minutes.

Once the ice is crushed, place the vodka and strawberry puree into the blender and blend for a few pulses.

For each cup of ice (eight ounces) placed into the blender, you will want at least one ounce of vodka and one ounce of strawberry puree.

Scoop the ice into a paper cone.

Strawberry Margarita:

A summer classic that is unforgettably delicious.

2 ounces of tequila,

$\frac{3}{4}$ ounce of strawberry puree



$\frac{1}{2}$ ounce of lime juice

$\frac{1}{4}$ ounce of Triple sec

Garnish with a strawberry and/or lime.

Optional: salt rim garnish

Fill a mixing glass with ice. Then add tequila, strawberry puree, lime juice and triple sec.

Fill a margarita glass with ice.

Shake vigorously. When the bottom of the mixing tin becomes cold, strain into a margarita glass.

To make a salt rim:

Take a lime wedge and moisten the rim of the glass with it. Then, have a shallow plate filled with salt. Place the moistened rim of the glass face down and dip it into the salt so that it is evenly covered.

How to make strawberry puree:

Wash strawberries and remove stem from the top.

In a blender or food processor, mix each cup of strawberries with two or three tablespoons of honey.

Process until liquid with pulp.



Contact: mstern@jewishexponent.com; 215-832-0740



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SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Theater, art exhibitions, concerts, author discussions ... the arts scene in Philadelphia and beyond officially starts to heat up as the summer draws closer. Here is a selection of the many ways to satisfy your artistic cravings this summer.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY

101 S Independence Mall E,
Philadelphia
215-923-3811
nmajh.org

In addition to its permanent collections and exhibitions on view, the museum will host a variety of events throughout the summer.

Cafe Conversation

Join various authors for book discussions. All books will be available for sale and signing at events.

JUNE 15: Joshua Braff will read from his latest novel, *The Daddy Diaries*, and discuss the challenges, anxieties and triumphs of modern Jewish parenting.

JUNE 29: Join Mark Segal, journalist, LGBT advocate and *Philadelphia Gay News* founder, as he discusses his new memoir, *And Then I Danced: Traveling the Road to LGBT Equality*.

JULY 13: Helen Kiyong Kim and Noah Samuel Leavitt, a husband and wife team, will discuss their new book, *JewAsian: Race, Religion and Identity for America's Newest Jews*.

Independence Day at NMAJH - JULY 4

Visitors can explore the museum and see an original letter written by George Washington to the Jewish community of Newport, R.I., and enjoy interactive tours, story time and Independence Day arts and crafts projects.

Summer Poster Design Workshops for Teens

WEDNESDAYS IN AUGUST

Teens of all levels, interests and skills in art are invited to study the craft of poster design. This workshop series is inspired by the museum's special exhibition, Bill Graham and the Rock & Roll Revolution, starting in September. Registration is free but required. Space is limited.

GERSHMAN Y

401 S. Broad St., Philadelphia
215-545-4400
gershmany.org

Israeli Dancing

JUNE 7

Join dancing maestro Don Schillinger (Rak-Dan) for fun lessons in Israeli dancing that are good for all ages and skill levels.

Myth and Menagerie

THROUGH JULY 29

There's still time to visit Lesley Dill's exhibition of works in the Gershan Gallery. Her puppet-like forms incorporate text and language.

KAISERMAN JCC

45 Haverford Road, Wynnewood
610-896-7770
phillyjcc.com

At the Kaiserman JCC, in addition to fitness classes and summer camp,

enjoy a ladies' night (and the feeling's right) a few times this summer. Call or visit the website to learn more.

JUNE 6: Learn how to make sushi

JULY 11: Pool-side event

KATZ JCC

1301 Springdale Road,
Cherry Hill, N.J.
856-424-4444
katzjcc.org

Broadway Live!

JUNE 6

Enjoy Broadway hits performed by Broadway actors with this "fun"raiser to benefit the JCC Camps at Medford financial assistance fund and special needs programming the JCC offers.

David Gregory — "How's Your Faith: An Unlikely Spiritual Journey"

JUNE 16

Join the former NBC *Meet the Press* moderator raised by a Catholic mother and a Jewish father who will talk about his childhood, where his belief in God helped him through his mother's struggle with alcoholism, a difficult period of public scrutiny and his departure from NBC News, which tested his faith like never before.

MILTON AND BETTY KATZ JCC

501 N. Jerome Ave., Margate, N.J.
609-822-1167
jccatlantic.org

Heading down the shore? There are plenty of opportunities there to enjoy the arts scene after drying off from a day in the ocean.

Summer Series:

JULY 14: Steve March Torme

The pop-jazz performer will present *Snap, Sizzle, Pop!*, a cleverly crafted, finger-snapping jazz performance of original songs and enduring pop tunes backed by a sizzling trio.

JULY 21: Capitol Steps

The politically infused satirical theater troupe returns to the JCC with a new show focused on the upcoming national elections.

AUGUST 4: Colin Quinn

The *Saturday Night Live* alum and actor will treat an audience to a night of humor and entertainment.

AUGUST 25: Stephanie Block

Backed by the experience of portraying Elphaba on Broadway and in its first national tour, the Tony Award-winning actress will sing selections from the hit musical *Wicked*.

Art Gallery

Expressions Fine Art Gallery —
ON DISPLAY FROM JULY 10 TO 31

Featuring the paintings, sculpture and

See [CALENDAR](#), Page 30

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CALENDAR

Continued from Page 29

jewelry of Israeli artist Izzy Assour. Coming to the shore straight from the heart of Tel-Aviv's art gallery district, Assour's fine works of art will be on display to view and for purchase.

KLEINLIFE

10100 Jamison Ave., Philadelphia
215-698-7300
kleinlife.org

KleinLife will keep the arts alive this summer with a few trips. Deadlines to sign up are approaching so call or visit the website.

JULY 20: Enjoy a trip to see *Love Will Keep Us Together* at the Bristol Riverside Theatre, a musical backed by hits of the 1970s.

JULY 27: Take a tour of the artistic side of South Philadelphia with tour from the City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program. Includes a trip to Reading Terminal for lunch.

ARTS

PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART
2600 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy, Philadelphia
215-763-8100
philamuseum.org

Embracing the Contemporary: The Keith L. and Katherine Sachs Collection
JUNE 28 TO SEPTEMBER 5

This exhibition celebrates the Keith L. and Katherine Sachs Collection, one of the nation's leading collections of contemporary art. The collection features some of the most prominent European and American artists of the past 50 years.

THE ROSENBACH MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

2008-2010 Delancey Place, Philadelphia
215-732-1600
rosenbach.org

Freedom Train 1947-1949: Exhibiting America's Past to Shape America's Future
JULY 1 TO NOVEMBER 1

Take a look at documents from the original Freedom Train, including the Bay Psalm Book, *Common Sense*, and Lincoln's Baltimore Address. These documents and more than 120 others traveled around 48 states from 1947 to 1949 by train to reach people all around the country.

PHILADELPHIA ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS

118-128 North Broad St., Philadelphia
215-972-7600
pafa.org

PAFA alumni Nadine Beauharnois, Morgan Hobbs and Anthony Martolock "navigate an institutional history while inquisitively reaching into the future" and showcase their "painted anxieties." The new works are on display
JUNE 30 TO OCT. 16.

Happiness, Liberty, Life?: American Art and Politics
JUNE 30 TO SEPT. 18

Exhibit explores themes of "humor, protest, and portraiture in American art and politics" from the 18th century to today.

THE MICHENER ART MUSEUM

138 S. Pine St., Doylestown
215-340-9800
michenerartmuseum.org

There will be several exhibitions to check out throughout the summer months stretching to early fall at the art museum.

Lloyd Ney: Local Color
JUNE 4 TO SEPT. 11

Take a look at New Hope native Lloyd Raymond "Bill" Ney's paintings documenting life along the Delaware River and New Hope's inhabitants.

Tete-a-Tete: Conversations in Photography
JUNE 4 TO SEPT. 11

Celebrate more than 25 years of photographic programming at the Michener with a show that "proposes a dialogue between images by presenting unique pairings, each one with a work from the Michener's permanent collection alongside a photograph by an artist making a debut at the museum."

Unguarded, Untold, Iconic: Afghanistan through the Lens of Steve McCurry
JULY 16 TO OCT. 23

Explore photography of Afghanistan through the lens of Steve McCurry, best known for his *National Geographic* cover portrait of the *Afghan Girl*.

BOOKS

FREE LIBRARY OF PHILADELPHIA
1901 Vine Street, Philadelphia
215-686-5322
freelibrary.org

There will be dozens of author events at the Library's main branch. Here are a few authors participating in the free speakers series.

JUNE 7: Mary Roach, *Grunt: The Curious Science of Humans at War*
Tackling science with humor, the author of *Gulp* and *Stiff* will discuss her new book, focusing on challenges facing the soldier from fatigue to noise to the battlefield.

JUNE 13: Terry McMillan, *I Almost Forgot About You*
The author of *How Stella Got Her Groove Back* and *Waiting to Exhale* will discuss her new book, the story of a doctor who leaves her seemingly perfect but unfulfilling life in search of adventure and a second chance at love.

JUNE 23: Benny Golson, *Whisper Not: The Autobiography of Benny Golson*
The acclaimed saxophonist will discuss his autobiography and a life dedicated to jazz.

JULY 14: Ben Winters, *Underground Airlines*
Winters, the author the pre-apocalyptic *The Last Policeman* trilogy, imagines a nightmarish world in which the Civil War never happened and slavery still existed today in his new book.

Beatrix Potter exhibition
THROUGH AUG. 31
Celebrate the 150th anniversary of the beloved author and illustrator and explore original drawings, photographs and other materials, including a first edition of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*.

CASINOS

There's always plenty to do besides relaxing on the beach. Casinos are offering top-notch entertainment opportunities this summer.

MUSIC

JUNE 9: Jay and the Americans at Harrah's Resort

JUNE 10: The B-52s at Harrah's Resort

JUNE 25: Smokey Robinson at Caesar's

JULY 23: Boyz II Men at the Tropicana

JULY 29: Tony Bennett at the Borgata

AUG. 5: Josh Groban at the Borgata

AUG. 19 AND 20: Kristin Chenoweth at the Borgata Music Box

AUG. 26: ZZ Top and Gregg Allman at the Borgata

Discussions

JUNE 4: Al Pacino at the Borgata Event Center

Comedy

JUNE 10 AND 11: Wanda Sykes at the Borgata Music Box

JUNE 25: Kevin James at the Borgata Event Center

JUNE 25: Jane Lynch at the Borgata Music Box

JULY 9: Bob Saget at the Borgata Event Center

AUG. 12 AND 13: Jerry Seinfeld at the Borgata Event Center

CONCERTS

THE KESWICK THEATRE

291 North Keswick Ave., Glenside
215-5752-7650
keswicktheatre.com

JUNE 23: Howie Mandel
The comedian will perform with John Mendoza.

JULY 14: Get the Led Out
The rock group will perform some of Led Zeppelin's music as authentically as possible.

JULY 16: An Evening with Graham Nash
Join the singer-songwriter for an evening of hits.

THE KIMMEL CENTER

260 S. Broad St., Philadelphia
215-893-1999
kimmelcenter.org

Kelli O'Hara with Seth Rudetsky
JUNE 14

Seth Rudetsky adds to his star-studded series of intimate evenings of song and conversation at the Kimmel Center with Tony Award-winning actress Kelli O'Hara.

6th Annual Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ Day
JUNE 11

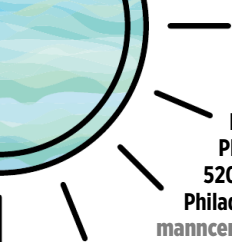
Programs and activities will abound will special performances by Opera Philadelphia and more. Check the website for a full schedule of events.

Garces Summer School
JUNE 1 THROUGH JULY

Summer School at Volv r kicks off with the opportunity for 12 students to cook alongside Jose Garces himself in a master class. The summer school continues throughout the summer and young chefs can learn to make gazpacho soup, tapas and more.

Nick Offerman and Megan Mullally
AUG. 20

Real-life couple and actors will talk their marriage and lives in *Summer of 69: No Apostrophe*. Featuring "songs, funny talking, heavy ribaldry, light petting and an astonishing final act of completion."



**MANN CENTER
FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS**
5201 Parkside Avenue,
Philadelphia.
manncenter.org

JUNE 21: Anniversary Celebration
The Philadelphia Orchestra will help the music venue celebrate its 40th anniversary with repertoire played during its first season in 1976. Fireworks to follow and picnics are permitted.

JUNE 23: *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* with *The Philadelphia Orchestra*
The Philadelphia Orchestra will bring to life the music you hear during *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* note for note while the film plays on a giant screen.

JUNE 25: Paul Simon
Join one of music's most distinguished artists for a special performance.

JULY 13: Bob Dylan
The musician will bring his talents to the venue ahead of his son, Jakob, who will perform there with his band The Wallflowers Aug. 21.

AUG. 26: Bonnie Raitt with special guest Richard Thompson Trio
Raitt will do a show in support of her 20th studio release.

**BB&T PAVILION (FORMERLY
SUSQUEHANNA BANK CENTER)**
1 Harbour Blvd, Camden, N.J.

JUNE 20: Dead and Company
Groovy, man.

JULY 10: Daryl Hall and John Oates
Hall and Oates will make your dreams come true with a performance.

AUG. 27: Jimmy Buffett
Calling all parrotheads!

WELLS FARGO CENTER
3601 South Broad St., Philadelphia
wellsfargocenterphilly.com

AUG. 20: Barbra Streisand
The legendary songstress will bring her talents to Philadelphia.

WORLD CAFE LIVE
3205 Walnut St., Philadelphia
215-222-1400
philly.worldcafelive.com

JUNE 2: Nada Surf
After a three-year hiatus, the band returned with a new album and will perform joined by Bird Of Youth and Big Thief.

THE FILLMORE PHILADELPHIA
29 East Allen St., Philadelphia
215-309-0150
thefillmorephilly.com

AUG. 11: The Go-Go's Farewell Tour
After 38 years, the band is ready to go go with one last hurrah.

STADIUM CONCERTS

LINCOLN FINANCIAL FIELD

JUNE 5: Beyoncé

JUNE 25: Kenny Chesney

JULY 14: Guns N' Roses

AUG. 6: Coldplay

CITIZENS BANK PARK

JULY 9: Billy Joel

JULY 12: Paul McCartney

THEATER

WALNUT STREET THEATRE
825 Walnut Street, Philadelphia.
215-574-3550
walnutstreettheatre.org

Sister Act
THROUGH JULY 17

Rejoice with this comedy musical about a wannabe jazz singer who witnesses a crime and gets hidden in a place no one would think to look for her — a convent.

Always... Patsy Cline
THROUGH JULY 3
Follow the story of Louise Seger who meets her idol, Patsy Cline, and the friendship that develops between them, featuring 27 classic songs.

ACT II PLAYHOUSE
56 E Butler Ave., Ambler
215-654-0200
act2.org

Broadway on Butler
JULY 13 TO 24
An evening of song and dance featuring some of your favorite tunes from movies and Broadway shows.

Kiss Me, Kate
THROUGH JUNE 12
Cole Porter's musical adaptation of Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*.

**PEOPLE'S LIGHT AND
THEATRE COMPANY**
39 Conestoga Road, Malvern
610-644-3500
peopleslight.org

Ring of Fire: The Music of Johnny Cash
JULY 20 TO AUG. 14
Enjoy the music of the "Ring of Fire" crooner in this musical about his life.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLAYERS
4158 York Road, Buckingham
215-348-7566
townandcountryplayers.org

Moon Over Buffalo
JUNE 10 TO 19

A comedy that tells the tale of George and Charlotte Hay, fading stars of the 1950s who might just have one last shot at stardom — except everything that can go wrong, does.

Holes

JULY 15 TO 30

The play, based on the book by Louis Sachar, brings the audience to Camp Green Lake, where Stanley and his campmates are forced by the wardens to dig holes without knowing they're looking for treasure. Good for the family.

BUCKS COUNTY PLAYHOUSE
70 S. Main St., New Hope
215-862-2121
bcptheater.org

Steel Magnolias
THROUGH JUNE 18

Follow six women who form a strong bond despite their differences. Featuring actors such as Jessica Walter and Elaine Hendrix.

Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story
JUNE 24 TO JULY 16

Musical telling of the life of the bespectacled musician with the backdrop of some of his greatest hits.

KIMMEL CENTER
260 S. Broad St., Philadelphia
215-893-1999
kimmelcenter.org

If/Then
JUNE 21 TO 26

The musical follows one woman's two possible life paths, painting a deeply moving portrait of the lives we lead, as well as the lives we might have led as part of the Kimmel's Broadway Philadelphia series.

FILM

BRYN MAWR FILM INSTITUTE
824 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr
610-527-9898
brynmawrfilm.org

The theater will pay homage to a few actors and directors with a special series.

The BMFI will honor noted — and Jewish — filmmaker Steven Spielberg with a showing of his films:

JUNE 1: *Jaws*

JUNE 8: *Close Encounters of a Third Kind*

JUNE 15: *Raiders of the Lost Ark*

JUNE 22: *E.T. The Extra Terrestrial*

Actress Ingrid Bergman will be recognized with screenings of a few of her top films.

AUG. 10: *Gaslight*

AUG. 17: *Murder on the Orient Express*

AUG. 24: *Cactus Flower*

AUG. 31: *Casablanca*

The late David Bowie will be remembered with screenings of two films he appeared in.

AUG. 11: *The Man Who Fell to Earth*

AUG. 25: *Labyrinth*

SCREENING UNDER THE STARS
The Great Plaza at Penn's Landing, Columbus Blvd. and Chestnut Street, Philadelphia
215-928-8807
delawarewaterfront.com

Head down to Penn's Landing every week during the summer starting at 8:30 p.m. for screenings of hit films — recent and older — while relaxing outside.

JUNE 30: *National Treasure*

JULY 7: *Creed*

JULY 14: *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*

JULY 28: *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*

AUG. 4: *Captain America: The Winter Soldier*

AUG. 11: *Beetlejuice*

AUG. 18: *Inside Out*

AUG. 25: *Zootopia*

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