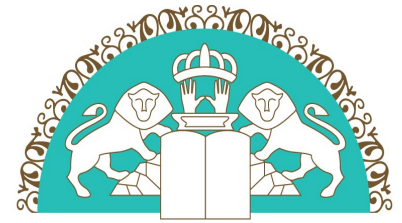


Jewish Museum & Cultural Center

Fall / 2026



Jewish Museum & Cultural Center

Chevra Thelim Synagogue
1918-1986



Greetings to friends and patrons of the Jewish Museum and Cultural Center.

The past year serving as president of the Jewish Museum and Cultural Center has shown me the remarkable power of community action. Together, we've created programs that changed lives, built partnerships that strengthened our impact, and reached more people than ever before.

These achievements came from your dedication and belief in our mission. Every volunteer hour, every donation, every word of encouragement made these programs possible. Thank you for allowing me to be part of this amazing journey, and thank you for your continued support.

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The next chapter brings new possibilities under capable leadership. The strategic partnerships we've established provide a strong foundation for future growth. Most importantly, the spirit of service that defines this organization remains stronger than ever.

This past summer we held one of our most beautiful and successful Zelma G. Rivin Wonderful Wednesdays Summer Music Series. We had five outstanding concerts with dynamic performers. Our last show for August featured Chuck Woodward and four members of Virginia Chorale. This was a musical tribute to Minette Cooper, of blessed memory, who passed away last October. She was not just a board member of the Jewish Museum, but was a driving force behind many organizations, including the Arts for Learning and the Virginia Symphony. That show was well attended with an attendance of over 100.

Looking at the new year, our Cinema Series returns every Saturday night in January. This committee continues to be led by Rabbi Michael Panitz, Dr. Peter Shulman and Mark Solberg. The movies selected are a nice way to spend a Saturday evening with wonderful refreshments. This year, our refreshments will be sponsored by various donors to celebrate life cycles and/or commemorate loved ones. Please contact JMCC if you would like to be a reception sponsor.

Till next time, please remain safe and healthy.

Warmly,
Norman David Soroko
President of the Jewish Museum and Cultural Center Board

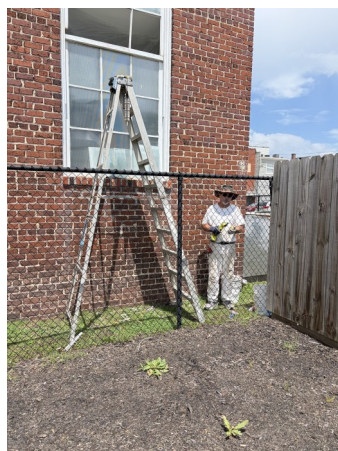
Mission Statement:

"To present an environment where visitors and the community can celebrate and learn about Jewish history, faith, and culture."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CHEVRA T'HELM, INC.

President:	Norman Soroko	Sara Kruger
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Edward Kramer		Kathryn J. Wolf

Work on the exterior maintenance project began on July 13 and concluded on August 17. Despite extreme heat, bad air quality due to the fires in Canada and challenges with the lift, the work was completed and the outside of the Museum is gleaming. Thank you to the 68 individuals and organizations that contributed to the campaign. We are \$379 away from replenishing the funds advanced by the Maintenance Account. The invoice for additional carpentry and roof work was \$5,860. We need to replace those fund that were advanced by our Savings Account. There is still time to add your name to the list of supporters. Please consider making a gift today! [Friends of Chevra T'helim, Inc.](#)
2:00 pm—4:00 pm Sunday, November 15th will be our donor reception. Please save the date!



A Reminder about the “*Rivin Circle*”

How to include JMCC in your Will or Living Trust

Add as little as **one sentence*** to your will or living trust saying that you wish to support us. You may use your estate planning attorney, or a will planning software or app. Your options include leaving a specific amount; selected securities; a piece of property; or a percentage of your estate.

*Typical bequest language:

“I (We) leave _____ to the Jewish Museum and Cultural Center of Portsmouth, VA (dba Friends of Chevra T'helim, EIN Tax ID number 54-2043763).”

It's as simple as that. In addition, we would also like you to let us know that you have made this bequest, so that we may add your name to our other past and future supporters who have already become designated members of The Rivin Circle.

**Preserving the past for
our future.**

Currently the Rivin Circle has 6 members who have committed to the future!

Join the “Rivin Circle” by making a legacy gift that supports JMCC’s future. To learn how, please contact the Museum 757-391-9266 or jmccportsmouth@gmail.com.

Thank you to our advertisers, donors and patrons who made this year's Zelma G. Rivin Wonderful Wednesdays Summer Music Series a success. The Music Committee has decided to continue with five concerts for next season. While our season ticket sales were below last year's level, our single ticket sales were a record breaker at 154.

We appreciate the support provided by WHRO Public Media and Mobile Photo Lab



Contributions July 1, 2026 – September 30, 2026

GENERAL

Brad Bangel Kim Cohen Annie Guertin
Jennifer Priest Lenore Raphael John Rowe
Norman Soroko Ira Steingold Gail Wolpin

Barbara Johnson Sara Kruger Jay Legum Susan Magrolius Karen Plotnick
Marilyn Siegel Lynn Seltzer Patty Shelanski Louis Silverman Jim Soltz

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Dr. Herbert Brewer

BERNARD & ZELMA RIVIN

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EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE CAMPAIGN

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Mark Solberg

Norman Soroko

Kathy Spangler

Paula Stublen

Tidewater Jewish Foundation

Molly Whelan

Jeanne Williams

As we expand The Daffodil Project, we are offering pavers for sale. They can be inscribed as a memorial or a celebration of life. The goal is to sell 100 pavers, providing a 10' x 10" area to use for outdoor programs. To date we have sold 56. We are over half-way to our goal. Buy your paver today!

Details can be located at this website:

[Donate to Friends of Chevra Thelim d/b/a Jewish Museum Brick Fundraising Campaign](#)



The Jewish Museum and Cultural Center

is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit
organization and contributions
are
tax-exempt.





Jewish Museum & Cultural Center

RUMMAGE

SALE



SUNDAY
OCTOBER 18,
2026
9 AM TO 2 PM

AND FOOD TRUCK!
BEST DONUTS IN TOWN!



Jewish Museum & Cultural Center
607 Effingham Street, Portsmouth

This event is open to everyone.
For more information visit
www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.com



Jewish Museum and Cultural Center

**BE A PART OF THE WORLDWIDE
DAFFODIL PROJECT BY PLANTING DAFFODILS IN YOUR
GARDEN OR DONATING BULBS TO THE JMCC OR A
COMMUNITY GARDEN! NOW IS THE TIME TO PURCHASE
AND PLANT YOUR DAFFODILS - \$1 FOR 1 BULB**



**The Daffodil Project is a worldwide effort to memorialize the 1.5 million
children who perished in the Holocaust**

and

in support of children everywhere suffering humanitarian crises today.



To order bulbs, make a donation, or purchase a paver for the JMCC community garden, please visit www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.org or fill out and mail the order form below to JMCC, 607 Effingham Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704. Make checks payable to JMCC.

NAME

BULBS **X \$1.00** **TOTAL**

Please accept my donation in the amount of \$.....

**BULB PICK-UP DAY
SUNDAY, 18 OCTOBER
9 AM - 2 PM**

For more information and to RSVP
email jmccportsmouth@gmail.com OR
call 757-391-9266

**Jewish Museum & Cultural Center
607 Effingham Street, Portsmouth**

This event is **FREE** and open to everyone.
Donations are always welcome and appreciated.





THANK YOU!

"We look 20 years younger!"

**TO THE DONORS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO OUR
MAINTENANCE CAMPAIGN AND PAINT FUND**

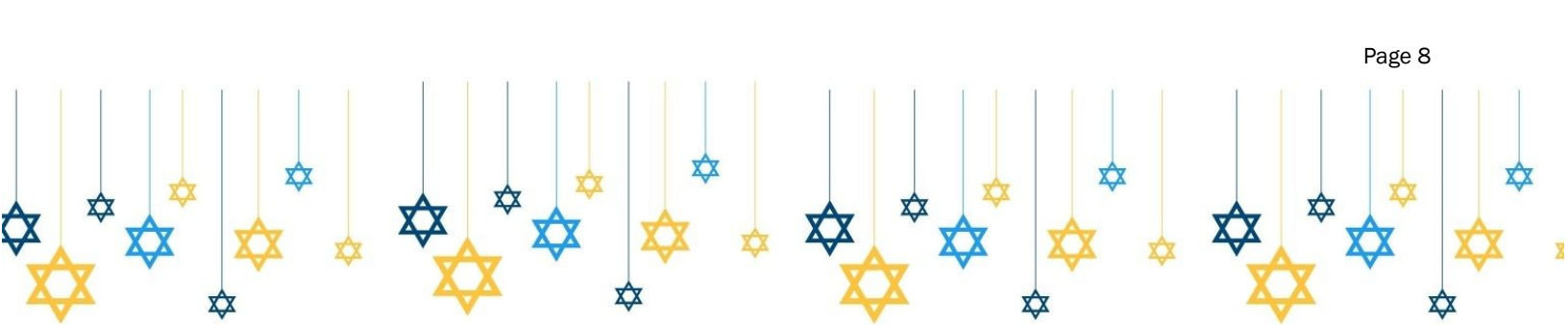
**PLEASE JOIN THE JMCC BOARD
FOR AN
APPRECIATION RECEPTION
IN YOUR HONOR**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15
2:00 - 4:00 PM**

TO RSVP:
WWW.JMCCPORTSMOUTH@GMAIL.COM

607 EFFINGHAM STREET
PORTSMOUTH, VA





HANUKKAH HAPPENING 2026

A CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS!

FUN FOR EVERYONE

**CRAFTS ~ SPIN THE DREIDEL ~ LIGHT A MENORAH
DRINK HOT CHOCOLATE & CIDER AND NOSH ON SNACKS**



**SUNDAY
6 DEC
2-3:30 PM**

For more information and to RSVP
email jmccportsmouth@gmail.com OR
call 757-391-9266

**Jewish Museum & Cultural Center
607 Effingham Street, Portsmouth**

This event is FREE and open to everyone.
Donations are always welcome and appreciated.



JEWISH MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER

2027 CINEMA SERIES

SATURDAY EVENINGS IN JANUARY
With commentary following each movie



January 2 ~ 7:30 PM
USHPIZIN

January 9 ~ 7:30 PM
THE COUNTERFEITERS

January 16 ~ 7:30 PM
HESTER STREET



JANUARY 23 ~ 7:30 PM
THE BOAT IS FULL

JANUARY 30 ~ 7:30 PM
A MATTER OF SIZE

FREE and open to the public. Donations always welcome.

SHOWING AT

The Jewish Museum & Cultural Center
 607 Effingham St. Portsmouth
To Register
www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.org



**Jewish Museum
&
Cultural Center**

607 Effingham Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704
Phone: 757-391-9266

Visit our website:

www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.org



Thank you Old Towne Music Shop for including us on the August 23 Piano Crawl!



Upcoming Events—SAVE THE DATE!



October 18, 2026 - Annual Rummage Sale, 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Dutch Maid Donuts will be on site!

October 18, 2026 - Daffodil Blub Pick Up & planting, 9:00 am—2:00 pm

November 15, 2026 - Maintenance Campaign Donor Reception 2:00 pm

November 22, 2026 - Community Impact Day @ JCC

December 6, 2026 - Hanukkah Happening 2:00 pm—3:30 pm

December 12, 2026 - Piano Crawl

All Saturdays in January 2027—Cinema Series! Doors open at 6:30 pm

Thank you

To all who support our annual fund. Your gifts represent 19% of our operating budget. If you haven't made a gift this year—please give now!

[Donate](#) | [Jewish Museum and Cultural Center](#) | [Portsmouth](#)