

הקשר היהודי שלך

Your Jewish Connection

Brought to you by the Lifelong Learning Committee – *Written by Linda S Trapasso*

JAHM Time Is Here Again!

Here we are – another year has passed and we've come to Jewish American Heritage Month (JAHM) in May.

Jewish American Heritage Month is a month to celebrate the contributions Jewish Americans have made to America since they first arrived in New Amsterdam in 1654. JAHM had its origins in 1980 when Congress passed Pub. L. 96-237, which authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating a week in April or May as Jewish Heritage Week. President Carter issued this first proclamation, [Presidential Proclamation 4752](#), in April 1980. For more details of the proclamations over time and how JAHM was designated for the month of May, go to [Jewish American Heritage Month](#) and [Celebrating Jewish Contributions](#). To see this year's proclamation, watch the [Proclamations page](#).



For 2017, the theme is Jewish Americans in Medical Research. Go to the [Jewish Inventors page](#) and see how many you can find involved in medical research. For Jews involved in changing how and what we hear, see [5 Sound Facts in Jewish American History](#).

For a short lesson on Jewish American History, look at [Jews and the Founding of America](#).

Want to know what Early American Jews looked like? Check out the [Loeb Jewish Portrait Database](#). The gentleman in the portrait is Benjamin S. Judah, c. 1794.



How were American Jews involved in the Civil War? The Jewish-American History Foundation has a small [database of Union and Confederate veterans](#).

Some American Jews were brave enough to travel to the Wild West, including Texas, California, and Alaska. Go to the [Wild West page](#) for some details.

Have fun learning about Jewish Americans in the month of May!

NOTE: Celebrate Jewish Americans at the May 17 Induction of Jewish NASA Astronauts into the Jewish-American Hall of Fame, taking place in Boston, MA (details elsewhere in bulletin).

Going to Israel This Year?

Please contact me if you are traveling to Israel and are able to deliver toiletries we have collected for Israeli Defense Forces soldiers. Delivery is easy; the organizers of the A Package From Home organization in Israel are willing to pick up items at a location convenient to you.

Ellie Schwartz

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