



JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH PROCLAMATION, 2022

Council Sponsors: Councilors Pam, Schoen, Steinberg, and Taub; Community Sponsors: Hilda Greenbaum, Rabbi Benjamin Weiner

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2006, after resolutions passed unanimously in both houses of Congress, President George W. Bush [proclaimed](#) that May would be Jewish American Heritage Month to recognize the more than 350-year history of Jewish contributions to America and American culture; and

WHEREAS, the proclamation reads that “The Jewish American experience is a story of faith, fortitude, and progress. It is a quintessential American experience — one that is connected to key tenets of American identity, including our Nation’s commitment to freedom of religion and conscience. This month, we honor Jewish Americans — past and present — who have inextricably woven their experience and their accomplishments into the fabric of our national identity”; and

WHEREAS, throughout our history, American Jews have made major contributions to society and culture in science, medicine, literature, the arts, sports, business, technology, civil rights, government, and military service; and

WHEREAS, as we celebrate the rich heritage of the Jewish American community in the Town of Amherst and the nation, we recognize that American Jews have joined with all faiths to work for *Tikkun Olam*, repair of the world, remembering the lessons of the Holocaust, and leading movements for civil rights and social justice; and

WHEREAS, the institutions of higher education in Amherst have led in programs in Jewish Studies including Holocaust and Genocide studies; and

WHEREAS, the influx of Jewish families with the expansion of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in the 1960’s and 70’s, whose concern for the Jewish education of their children and for community led to the establishment of the Jewish Community of Amherst, the JCA, which finally found its permanent home in the Second Congregational Church in 1977; and

WHEREAS, the National Yiddish Book Center was founded in Amherst in 1980, to recover, celebrate, and regenerate Yiddish language and modern Jewish literature and culture surviving after the Holocaust through book rescue; and




TOWN OF
AMHERST
MASSACHUSETTS

WHEREAS, Amherst is part of the growing Jewish Farming Movement in the Pioneer Valley, concerned with sustainable agriculture and food justice.

NOW, THEREFORE, we the Amherst Town Council, do hereby proclaim the month of May to be Jewish American Heritage Month in the Town of Amherst and encourage all to celebrate the history and contributions of Jewish Americans to our culture and society.

Voted this 25th day of April 2022.


J Lynn Griesemer (Apr 26, 2022 09:44 EDT)

Lynn Griesemer
Amherst Town Council President






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Final Audit Report

2022-04-26

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