



Food for Thought
Saturday, May 18th and
Sunday, May 19th



כרם שלום
Kerem Shalom

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What's so special about Sat, May 18th & Sun, May 19th?

YOU CAN HAVE A FABULOUS NIGHT OUT!

- ☑ Enjoy a delicious gourmet meal and engaging dinner conversation
- ☑ Connect with old friends and meet new ones in an intimate setting
- ☑ Listen to an exciting and intriguing speaker discussing culture, history, current events, scientific discoveries, or other provocative topics
- ☑ Celebrate with others who have ties to Kerem Shalom
- ☑ Support the quality programs that make Kerem Shalom so distinctive and special, while providing access to all who want to participate

IT'S A ONE-OF-A-KIND EVENT

When you join us for Kerem Shalom's spring fundraiser, Food for Thought, you will experience all the above in the home of one of nine gracious hosts from our community. The following pages describe the backgrounds and topics of the nine speakers.

Get ready to be informed, entertained, and delighted—all in a setting that enables you to ask questions and converse with the guest speaker.

Please select your top 3 choices for speakers/hosts. We will do our best to fill your first choice, but if that's not possible, we will try to place you with one of your other choices.

**DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN... SPACE IS LIMITED...
REPLY BY MAY 1!**



The Dinners *Saturday, May 18, 2024*

#1 - The Challenge of Dealing with Bad Bots Online

Speaker: Sandy Carielli
David and Karen Gaylin, Concord

#2 - A Fresh Perspective on Concord's Past

Speaker: Bob Gross
Tracey & Brad Guth, Concord

#3 - An Investigative Reporter at Work

Speaker: Karen Anderson
Ilana Manolson & David Lax, Concord

**#4 - A Week in the Galapagos:
Thoughts on Nature Preservation & Eco-tourism**

Speaker: Amir Viskin
Debbie & Lloyd Simon, Sudbury

#5 - Israel and Palestine: The Quest for Nuance

Speaker: Dan Terris
David Hoffman, Acton

**#6 - Preparing Your Teenager for College Success:
An Insider's Perspective**

Speaker: Dan Kusik
Deb & Chris Wysopal, Concord



The Dinners Sunday, May 19, 2024

#7 - From Oslo to October 7:

How the "Peace Process" Battered Israel's Good Name

Speaker: Jeff Jacoby
Linda & Steve Kanner, Lincoln

**#8 - What Makes CFPL's Special Collection
So Special?**

Speaker: Anke Voss
Sherry & Steve Litwack, Concord

**#9 - Fighting Viruses that Cause Pandemics:
What We've Learned and Is There a Blueprint for the
Future?**

Speaker: Jim Wright
Elisabeth Sackton & Liz Coolidge, Lexington



Dinner # 1

The Challenge of Dealing with Bad Bots Online

Speaker: Sandy Carielli

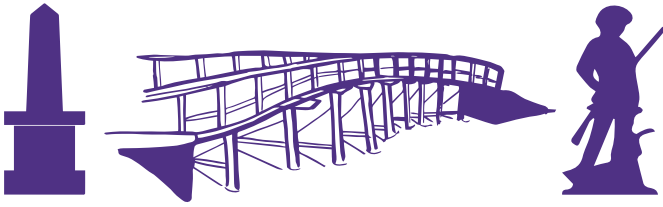
Hosts: Karen & David Gaylin, Concord

Have you ever wondered why you're about to complete a transaction online and are suddenly asked to identify stoplights or crosswalks? The site is making us prove that we are a person and not a bot.

Ten years ago, you may have never heard of a bot, but we hear a lot about bots today. Bad bots use data from sites without permission and reuse it to gain a competitive edge. Fraudsters, unethical competitors and bad actors can carry out a wide range of activities and attacks by using malicious bots on websites and mobile apps.

Sandy Carielli is well-positioned to tell us what we don't know—but ought to know—about dealing with bad bots on websites. She is a principal analyst at Forrester, advising security and risk professionals in application and product security. She has over 15 years of experience in the security industry, working in software engineering, consulting, product management, and technology strategy roles.

Sandy will describe how bots can negatively impact users' experiences on websites. She also will answer questions about the broader issue of cybersecurity.



Dinner # 2

A Fresh Perspective on Concord's Past

Speaker: Bob Gross

Hosts: Tracey & Brad Guth, Concord

Bob Gross received his M.A. and Ph.D. in history from Columbia University. He taught at several universities and is now living in Concord as Professor Emeritus at University of Connecticut. His teaching specialty was U.S. social and cultural history from the Colonial era through the nineteenth century. He has received numerous national awards as well as fellowships from the Guggenheim, Howard and Rockefeller Foundations, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Antiquarian Society.

Professor Gross' first book on the American Revolution, *The Minutemen and Their World*, won the prestigious Bancroft Prize in American History in 1976. His book remains a classic: it was reissued in a 25th anniversary edition and is shortly to be reissued in a new, revised edition to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution.

At the dinner, Bob will share his insights into life in Concord during this period of rapid changes in politics, economy and society from 1790-1850, with a focus on his latest book, *The Transcendentalists and Their World*. According to one reviewer, "no American community of the 19th century has been covered so richly and with so great an awareness of its place in the larger American story."



Dinner # 3

An Investigative Reporter at Work:

Speaker: Karen Anderson

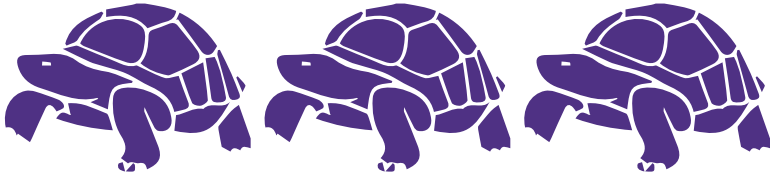
Hosts: Ilana Manolson & David Lax, Concord

Karen Anderson is an award-winning journalist and member of "WCVB's 5 Investigates." Since she joined the station's investigative unit in 2014, she has broken numerous high-profile stories and has exposed some of the largest issues facing communities across Massachusetts, often leading to new laws.

For example, her reporting exposed the gap in how people with disabilities are protected in the state, which allowed caregivers accused of abuse, but never arrested or convicted, to remain working in the industry. A law was passed in 2020 to create a registry of employees to track abusers and prevent them from hurting other adults with disabilities.

In her career, Karen has worked as an investigative, political, and general assignment reporter. She has covered the biggest stories in the region including the local response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Boston Marathon bombing, the arrest of Boston mobster Whitey Bulger, and the opioid crisis.

Karen will share highlights of her investigative reporting with us.



Dinner # 4

A Week in the Galapagos: Thoughts on Nature Preservation and Eco-tourism

Speaker: Amir Viskin

Hosts: Debbie & Lloyd Simon, Sudbury

Amir Viskin is an accomplished photographer who will share his photos as he shares his stories. He was born on a communal farm in Israel, grew up in Mexico and returned to Israel to earn a degree in Architecture and Urban Planning from the Israel Institute of Technology. He was introduced to the joys of photography by his father, a movie producer. In 1989 Amir emigrated to the United States.

Amir has studied photography at the Griffin Museum of Photography and at the deCordova Museum. He has shown his work in group and juried shows at the Griffin Museum, at libraries in Lexington, Concord, and Watertown and the Jewish Arts Collaborative.

His interest in the beauty of nature and his concern about preserving unique wildlife inspired Amir to undertake his visit to the Galapagos. As Amir points out, "Tourism has been the main industry in the Galapagos islands for the 25,000 people who live across the five inhabited islands. As these and other pristine places in the world reopen following a pause of tourism during the pandemic, what are the opportunities and challenges of eco-tourism in our age?"



Dinner # 5 *Israel and Palestine: The Quest for Nuance*

Speaker: Dan Terris

Host: David Hoffman, Acton

Dan Terris has the firsthand knowledge and experience to provide a unique perspective on this challenging topic. He is the dean of Al-Quds Bard College of Arts and Sciences (AQB), an English language liberal arts college in the West Bank jointly operated by Al-Quds University, a Palestinian institution, and Bard College (USA). He previously served for more than two decades as director of the International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life at Brandeis University, where he also was Vice President for Global Affairs.

Dan has created new ways to strengthen ties between U.S. and Palestinian students. At Brandeis he ran programs that linked Al Quds and Brandeis University, including workshops for students, projects on improving teaching, and women's leadership. At Al-Quds he created and led the Palestinian American Youth Civic Engagement Project, which links Palestinian and U.S. university students to compare ideas and experiences on young people's political and civic engagement — and has found other ways to build connections between Palestinian and U.S. university students.

Dan will share his insights on the current Israel/Hamas war and the road ahead for Israel and Palestine.



Dinner # 6 *Preparing Your Teenager for College Success:* *An Insider's Perspective*

Speaker: Dan Kusik

Hosts: Deb & Chris Wysopal, Concord

Dan Kusik is the Director of Advantage Testing of Boston. He received his BA from Middlebury College and his M.Ed. from Harvard University, and worked at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government before joining Advantage Testing in 2003.

Advantage Testing is a private tutorial and academic counseling service offering intensive one-on-one tutoring that consists of learning and applying ideas, information and approaches in a systematic way. It is best known for preparing students for standardized tests and academic tutoring.

The impact of these tutoring services goes well beyond building skills in academic fundamentals. Mastering the content is often the easy part: in fact, Dan says "a lot of what we do when we tutor is help students manage their stress and perceived weaknesses".

Dan will discuss why building intellectual confidence is as important in the learning process as mastering the academic content. He will share lessons learned over his 20+ years as a private tutor and describe specific ways in which parents can support their teenagers.



Dinner # 7 *From Oslo to October 7:* *How the Peace Process' Battered Israel's Good Name*

Speaker: Jeff Jacoby

Hosts: Linda & Steve Kanner, Lincoln

A generation ago, Israel was widely admired in the media and in traditional liberal venues. Today, Israel's good name has been shredded in elite circles, from the UN to college campuses to the editorial pages of the nation's top newspapers. What changed? Jeff Jacoby offers an unconventional analysis. What ruined Israel's reputation was not its intransigence but the opposite: its willingness to make extraordinary concessions — from recognizing the PLO to withdrawing from Gaza — for the sake of peace with the Palestinians.

Jeff Jacoby joined the Boston Globe as an op-ed columnist in 1994 and for three decades has provided readers with commentary. Although he had attended Boston University law school and joined a large law firm, he decided that it would be better to issue opinions in the pages of a daily newspaper than from a bench in a courtroom.

In 1999, he became the first recipient of the Breindel Prize, a major award for excellence in opinion journalism. In 2014, he was included in the "Forward 50," a list of the most influential American Jews. As a journalist, his travels have taken him from Cuba to Gaza to the Korean DMZ, and he has interviewed newsmakers as varied as Lech Walesa, Elie Wiesel, and Mikhail Gorbachev. In addition to his twice-weekly column, he also writes "Arguable", a newsletter distributed by email each week to 200,000 subscribers.



Dinner # 8 *What Makes Concord Free Public Library's Special Collection So Special?*

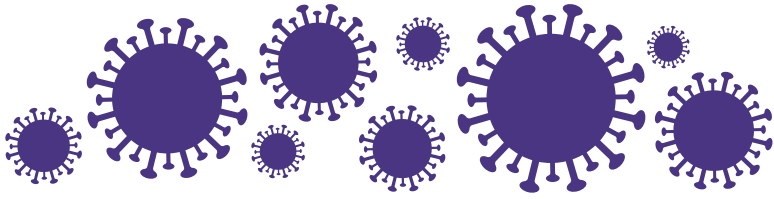
Speaker: Anke Voss

Hosts: Sherry & Steve Litwack, Concord

Anke Voss became the Curator for the William Munroe Special Collections at the Concord Free Public Library in 2019. She holds a BA in history and an MA in U.S. Political, Social and Women's History as well as a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science. Her work experience spans both university and public libraries.

Concord Library is best known for its collection of books but, since its founding in 1873, art has had a special place within the library. Munroe, the library founder, initially intended that the library host an art museum, and to that end, the library began taking in major art pieces. Today, Special Collections holds over 200 works of art, including sculptures, paintings, and lithographs from a wide variety of artists from Concord and beyond.

Anke will share images of some of the most significant pieces, while revealing anecdotes about the impressive art archives housed in the Special Collection that emphasize Concord's history, people, and culture.



Dinner # 9

Fighting Viruses that Cause Pandemics: What We've Learned and Is There a Blueprint for the Future?

Speaker: Jim Wright

Hosts: Elisabeth Sackton & Liz Coolidge,
Lexington

Jim Wright is currently Senior Vice President at Vivtex, overseeing its drug development activities and strategy. He has held major leadership positions at a number of pharma and biotech companies—including Bind Therapeutics, Infinity Pharmaceuticals, Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Alkermes, and Boehringer Ingelheim. He also has taught at the University of Wisconsin.

Jim has exciting and illuminating stories to share about his experience at these companies working on viruses, leading to the development of drugs and vaccines that saved many lives. For example, he was a member of the core project team that inhibited AIDs virus replication—and the lessons learned from that experience have important implications for developing future antiviral vaccines and drugs.

In pharmaceutical development, there are many failures along the way. Jim will explain how failures play a critical role in finding what works. He also will describe how company collaborations and the presence of first-class hospitals make Greater Boston a vibrant center for drug discovery.

Things to Know

What is the cost to attend Food for Thought?

The cost is \$180 per person. Because every Kerem Shalom event is an opportunity to celebrate the many ways all our members contribute to the community, our generous event sponsors have created a limited pool of tickets which will be available at a discount. If you would like to participate in Food for Thought at a reduced rate, please contact Robyn Barabe at ksadmin@keremshalom.org.

Why this event at this cost?

Membership dues do not cover all of Kerem Shalom's operating expenses. In order to pay our brilliant and dedicated staff and keep the lights on, we need to fund raise. Food for Thought gives members of Kerem Shalom the opportunity to come together for a unique event while raising necessary funds.

Keeping us safe

Out of respect for our hosts and speakers, and in keeping with Kerem Shalom policies, please do not attend a dinner if you do not feel well or recently tested positive for COVID.

Allergies & other sensitivities

Do you have food allergies or other sensitivities (cats, dogs) that your host should know about? Please indicate them when filling out the back of the enclosed envelope.

How and when to RSVP

Please fill in the necessary information on the enclosed stamped envelope and drop it in the mail ASAP. We need responses by **May 1**.

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