

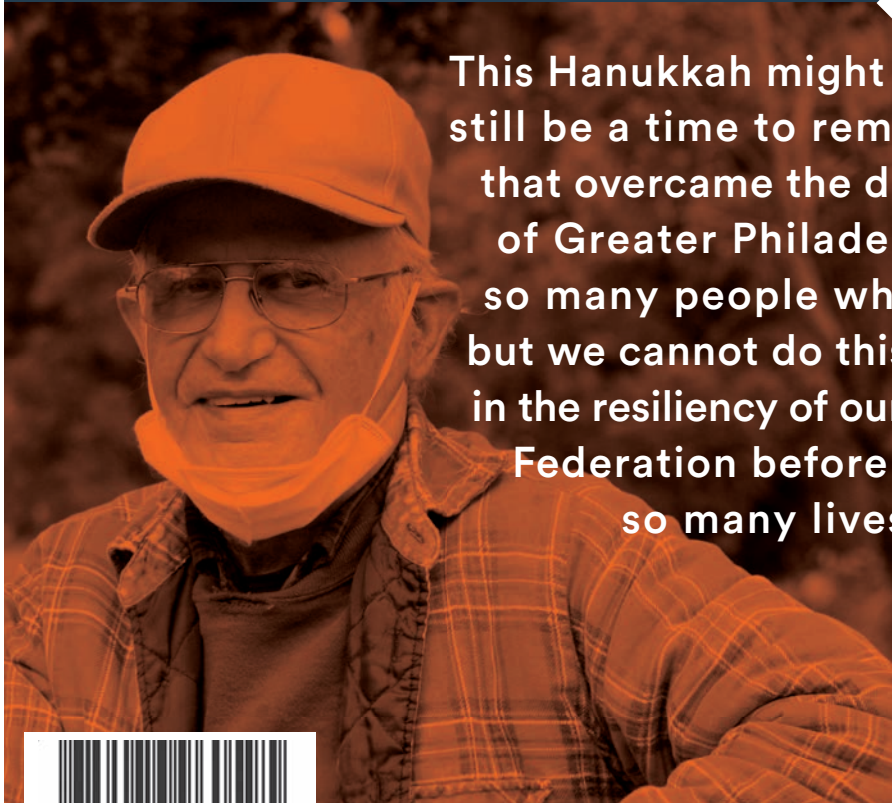
# JEWISH EXPONENT

— WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA —

\$1.00



## *Your Giving Matters: Bringing Brightness and Hope to the Jewish Community*



This Hanukkah might feel quite different than usual, but it will still be a time to remember the presence of miraculous light that overcame the darkness. This year, the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia has been that miraculous light for so many people who are living in unimaginable darkness – but we cannot do this alone. We are counting on you to invest in the resiliency of our community by making a gift to the Jewish Federation before year's end. **YOU** can make an impact on so many lives, and we are grateful for your support.



**Jewish Federation**  
of Greater Philadelphia

# *The Urgency to Help Jewish Families Meet Their Basic Needs is Growing – Help Fill the Gap*

## **MAIMONIDES FUND MATCH WILL BRING AN ADDITIONAL \$500,000 INTO OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY**

From housing and food support to medical and mental care, human service agencies in Greater Philadelphia are addressing the needs of more clients than ever before. Today, the Jewish Federation and its community of generous supporters can make their contributions go farther than ever before – thanks to a national matching fund.

In order to swiftly address the growing human service gaps being felt across the country, Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) is offering a generous matching grant to its network of more than 148 Federations. Through this partnership with JFNA, our community has the unique opportunity to make a deeper impact with their end of year giving. If our Greater Philadelphia Jewish community can raise one million dollars by December 31<sup>st</sup>, JFNA will contribute an extra \$500,000 in matching funds.

“Food insecurity and mental health are two of the areas we wanted to focus our COVID-19 philanthropic dollars on,” shared Bethany and Garrett Shiner who made their gift to the fund early.

***“We know that a lot of people are struggling this year and feel fortunate to be able to make our gift go further and help even more people by supporting the Maimonides Fund.”***

— Bethany and Garrett Shiner

With the community’s help, \$1.5 million can be distributed among the human service agencies in Greater Philadelphia that are on the frontlines helping homebound seniors, individuals suffering from job loss, people facing food and financial insecurity, those with growing mental health issues, and so much more. The following agencies will benefit from these funds to our community:

- Abramson Senior Care
- Federation Housing Inc.
- Female Hebrew Benevolent Society
- Friendship Circle
- Golden Slipper Gems
- Hebrew Free Loan Society
- JCHAI
- JEVS Human Services
- Jewish Family and Children’s Service (JFCS)
- Jewish Relief Agency (JRA)
- KAVOD SHEF
- KleinLife
- Mitzvah Food Program

The fund will also provide emergency cash assistance for grants to individuals in need as well as address emerging issues related to reducing social isolation, trauma informed training and PPE.

“Thank you to the Jewish Federation for leading the Maimonides Fund drive and for your focus on Human Services during this most challenging year,” said Anna Boni, Chair of the Board for Jewish Family and Children’s Service (JCFS) of Greater Philadelphia.

***“Part of the funds raised would enhance JFCS programs that are vitally needed at this time, in the areas of mental health support, food delivery, and rent and utility relief.”***

— Anna Boni

During this time of year, there are many worthy causes to support. But there is no other contribution that enables one’s donation to be leveraged to make as deep an impact in the community as the Jewish Federation’s Maimonides Fund.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

- First time donation to the Jewish Federation
- Increased donation from one’s 2021 Jewish Community Fund contribution (the increase is eligible for match)
- Donation from a donor who has not made a contribution in the past 18 months

### **HELP PHILADELPHIA SECURE THIS MATCH TODAY!**

Contact Melissa Greenberg, Jewish Federation Executive Vice President at [mgreenberg@jewishphilly.org](mailto:mgreenberg@jewishphilly.org) or 215.832.0635.



**Jewish Federation**  
of Greater Philadelphia





# JEWISH EXPONENT

— WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA —

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## OF NOTE

### LOCAL

**Chanukah Events Plentiful Despite Pandemic**  
Check our listings for possibilities.

Page 4

### OPINION

**Orthodox Rabbi Discusses High Court Ruling**

Says little will change for his congregation.

Page 16

### OPINION

**Hunger Crisis Often Overlooked**

MAZON leader calls on citizens to push for added help.

Page 17

**Volume 133  
Number 34**

Published Weekly Since 1887



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## Dentists See Care Delayed Due to Pandemic

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

**IF YOU HAVEN'T SET FOOT** inside a dentist's office this year due to anxiety about COVID-19, you're not alone.

Many of Dr. Frederic Barnett's patients haven't scheduled an appointment since the pandemic began, either.

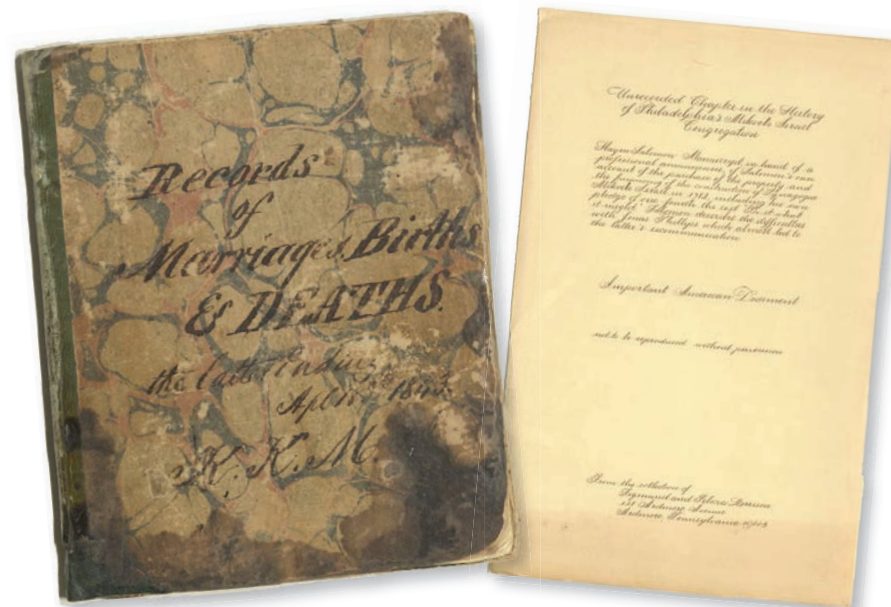
The chairman of the Maxwell S. Fogel Department of Dental Medicine at Einstein Medical Center Philadelphia is concerned.

"Most dental disease develops without any symptoms and without any signs. And then, when finally something does begin to hurt a patient, it needs more extensive management and, of course, it's always more expensive as well," he said.

Many Jewish dentists like Barnett have seen their practices change in significant ways since the pandemic began, from fluctuating demand to stringent cleaning protocols to increased cases of certain dental problems.

Dentists in Pennsylvania faced intense restrictions on their practices in the early days of the stay-at-home order, and were

See Dentists, Page 14



▲ Left: The cover of a Congregation Mikveh Israel record book concerning marriages, births and deaths between 1776-1843. Right: In one entry, Haym Solomon describes the circumstances under which a prominent member of the community was nearly excommunicated.

Courtesy of Congregation Mikveh Israel and the Philadelphia Congregations Early Records Project

## Mikveh Israel Archives 'a Mirror of Today'

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

**TO READ THROUGH** the archives of Congregation Mikveh Israel, which are slowly but surely being digitized and transcribed by professional staff and volunteers in a project concerning the oldest congregations in Philadelphia, is to encounter the repeated occurrence of

certain eternal practices.

Ledgers record births and deaths from as long ago as the American Revolution. Similar documentation is made of marriages, britot milah and an application to the city of Philadelphia requesting permission to construct a mikvah.

But the archival records that seem to most tickle Rabbi Albert Gabbai of the

See Archives, Page 15

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THIS WEEK

IN THIS ISSUE

4 HEADLINES

Local  
Israel  
National  
Global

16 OPINION

Columns  
Kvetch 'n' Kvell

18 LIFESTYLE & CULTURE

Food  
Arts

24 TORAH COMMENTARY

25 COMMUNITY

Jewish Federation  
Deaths  
Mazel Tovs

28 CLASSIFIEDS

CANDLE LIGHTING

Dec. 4 4:18 p.m.  
Dec. 11 4:18 p.m.



Day cares receive \$3,000 apiece in forgivable loans.

6



Jewish vegan comfort food on tap at Lil' Yenta's.

9



Celebrate Chanukah with latke-coated fish.

18

JEWISHEXPONENT.COM

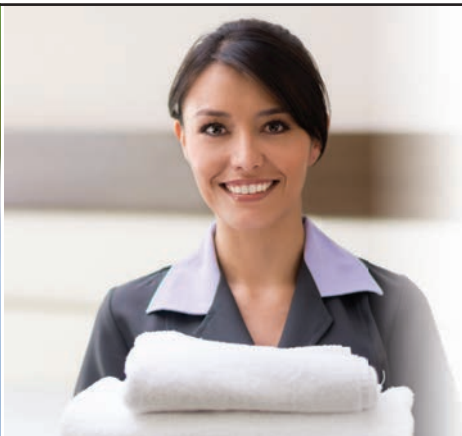
Miriam's Advice Well  
WILL CAMPS OPEN NEXT  
SUMMER?

A reader wants to know if it's realistic to believe that summer camps will open in 2021. Miriam notes that she's not a psychic and can't say for certain one way or the other. But she does counsel that parents may well be able to find a camp for their children to attend, especially when it comes to day camps. For details, read Miriam's Advice Well online. From dating to parenting, Miriam welcomes all questions. Email yours to [news@jewishexponent.com](mailto:news@jewishexponent.com) and put "Advice Well Question" in the subject line. [jewishexponent.com/2020/11/30/dear-miriam-will-camps-open-next-summer/](http://jewishexponent.com/2020/11/30/dear-miriam-will-camps-open-next-summer/)



QUICK PICKLED ONION SALAD

If you're a fan of onions, you're in luck this week, as food columnist Keri White has developed a quick and easy recipe for a pickled onion salad. The recipe goes great with fish and can serve as a salad, a relish, a pickle or a condiment. It also can be customized in terms of sodium level. Read Philacatessen, her online blog, for the recipe. And check Philacatessen regularly for content not normally found in the printed edition, including other recipes, gift ideas, restaurant reviews and food news from around the Delaware Valley. [jewishexponent.com/2020/11/30/quick-pickled-onion-salad/](http://jewishexponent.com/2020/11/30/quick-pickled-onion-salad/)



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**MAIN PHONE NUMBER:**  
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## JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

David Adelman and Gail Norry, Co-Chairs  
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## JEWISH PUBLISHING GROUP

Andrew L. Cherry, Chair

Jay Minkoff, Immediate Past Chair

Ken Adelsberg, Lonnie Barish, Allison Benton, Justin Chairman, Elliot Curson,  
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## SALES & MARKETING

### DISPLAY

sales@jewishexponent.com

Sharon Schmuckler

Director of Sales

215-832-0753

sschmuckler@jewishexponent.com

Susan Baron

215-832-0757

sbaron@jewishexponent.com

Taylor Orlin

215-832-0732

torlin@jewishexponent.com

Shari Seitz

215-832-0702

sseitz@jewishexponent.com

### CLASSIFIED/ DEATH NOTICES

classified@jewishexponent.com

Nicole McNally, 215-832-0749

Kimberly Schmidt, 215-832-0750

## BUSINESS

Laura Frank

Publisher's Representative

215-832-0512

lfrank@jewishphilly.org

Mike Costello

Finance Director

215-832-0757

mcostello@jewishexponent.com

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

subscriptions@jewishexponent.com

215-832-0710

## EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

215-832-0797

### News & Tips

news@jewishexponent.com

### Letters

letters@jewishexponent.com

### Calendar Events

listings@jewishexponent.com

Liz Spikol, Editor-in-Chief

215-832-0747

lspikol@jewishexponent.com

Andy Gotlieb, Managing Editor

215-832-0797

agotlieb@jewishexponent.com

Jesse Bernstein, Staff Writer/Books  
Editor

215-832-0740

jbernstein@jewishexponent.com

Sophie Panzer, Staff Writer

215-832-0729

spanzer@jewishexponent.com

## PRODUCTION

production@jewishexponent.com

Jennifer Perkins-Frantz, Director

Steve Burke, Art Director

Justin Tice, Graphic Designer

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## SNAPSHOT: DECEMBER 8, 1950

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## Community-Wide Festival Opens Federation Jubilee

### Please Note

Excerpts from the addresses delivered last night at the Federation Jubilee by Jacob C. Gutman, President; Morris Wolf, Honorary President; Frances N. Harrison, Executive Director; Albert M. Greenfield, Chairman, Joint Lay and Medical Committee of the Three General Hospitals in the Medical Centre, and Ralph E. Samuel, President, Federation of New York Philanthropies. . . .  
Page 14

### Propose Rabbinic World Conference

NEW YORK, (JTA)—A resolution to convoke a world conference of rabbis, including leading rabbis from Israel, for the purpose of discussing pressing religious and social problems concerning Jewish life throughout

The Federation of Jewish Charities was launched on its second fifty years of humanitarian service at a Golden Anniversary Dinner last night (Thursday) at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, with the creation of a great Medical Center as its major mid-century objective.

A thousand men and women attended the dinner, including

### Receives \$1,000 In Art Exhibit

Joseph Hirsch, Philadelphia artist, now residing in New York, was named winner of the fourth prize of \$1,000 in the national competition of contemporary art work for his painting "Mine Men." A total of 6,248 pictures were submitted in the contest, and from that number 307 were selected for exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



Mr. Hirsch

representatives of every group active in the civic and philanthropic work of the Jewish community, and many leaders of the Community Chest, Health and Welfare Council, Hospital Council, Allied Jewish Appeal, public officials concerned with Philadelphia's social welfare.

They hailed the Federation's vast contributions to the well-being of the people of the city, of every race and creed, since its establishment in 1901, and greeted enthusiastically a dramatic presentation of plans for the Medical Center project.

Greenfield Describes Plans  
Albert M. Greenfield, a member of the Federation Board and chairman of a committee preparing for merger of Jewish Hospital, Mount Sinai Hospital, and Northern Christian Hospital as a

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# Pandemic Not Stopping Chanukah Events

## LOCAL

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

**THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS** is going to look a little different this year, but organizations around Philadelphia are working hard to bring a little warmth to everyone who's celebrating. Upside down as the world may seem, latkes still fry in oil and dreidels still have four sides.

Check out our city's wide variety of Chanukah events, many of which will be accessible via Zoom.

## A Festival of Light & Hope: Music & Dance From Around the World

Nashirah, the Jewish Chorale of Greater Philadelphia, will offer

a full day of online activities. The international festival of music, yoga and dance performances will be beamed into your living room via Vimeo and Zoom, and will feature performers from Philadelphia and beyond. There will be Yiddish tango music, a Chanukah-focused lecture, a social hour with a Chanukah sing-along and much more. Whole day (\$36) and single event (\$0-12) tickets are available. Details can be found at [nashirah.org/virtual-festival-2020](http://nashirah.org/virtual-festival-2020). Dec. 6, 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

## Latke Love From Israel

Subscribers to IsraeliBox, a service that provides once-a-month packages of Israeli products, may already be familiar with Israeli chefs and entrepreneurs Ayelet Venezia

and Maya Balaban. For the rest of us, the Kaiserman JCC will host a Zoom-based latke-making demonstration led by Venezia and Balaban. Recipes will be provided in advance for those who want to cook along. General admission is \$36, and registration can be found at [phillyjcc.com/latkelove](http://phillyjcc.com/latkelove). Dec. 6, 10 a.m.

## Miracle Garden

At the South Philadelphia Shtiebel's outdoor space, participants will be invited to "plant" miracles into a Miracle Garden, an inspirational outdoor art installation. One pod will be allowed in the Miracle Garden at a time, and time can be reserved at [southphiladelphiashtiebel.org](http://southphiladelphiashtiebel.org). Times available between Dec. 10-16.

## Bucks County Kehillah Community Chanukah Celebration

Co-sponsored by Temple Judea of Doylestown, the Clergy Council and jkidphilly, this Bucks County Kehillah celebration will take place on Zoom. There will be Chanukah tales, joyous music, crafts, dance and candlelighting. The registration link can be found on the Bucks County Kehillah's Facebook page, and questions can be sent to Carrie Matez at [buckscounty@kehillah.jewish-philly.org](mailto:buckscounty@kehillah.jewish-philly.org). Dec. 13, 3-4 p.m.

## Joy in Resistance

Kol Tzedek Synagogue's annual Chanukah party, adapted for Zoom, is built around the idea that joy in the face of adversity is a form of resistance. With that

in mind, get ready to do a whole lot of resisting; there will be Chanukah trivia, a "Great Jewish Bake Off," a dance-off, singing and much more. This year's party will serve as a fundraiser for YEAH Philly. Registration can be found at [koltzedek.org](http://koltzedek.org), and there is a suggested donation of \$18-\$180 per family, though no one will be turned away. Dec. 13, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

## Center City Kehillah Chanukah Candle Lighting Online

Center City Kehillah will host a short online program on the fifth night of Chanukah, where participants will be able to light candles together in a group ceremony, via Zoom. If you're short on candles, fear not: On Dec. 9, anyone who

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▲ Revelers celebrate at 2019's Latke Vodka party, which was unhindered by health concerns. Photo by Paul Csi

wishes can pick up Chanukah goody bags with treats and all the wax'n'wicks that you need, at Makom Community (noon-2 p.m.), B'nai Abraham Chabad (noon-2 p.m.) or Julian Abele Park (3-5 p.m.). *Dec. 14, 5:30-6 p.m.*

## A Magical Family Chanukah Celebration

The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia and jkidphilly will host an online celebration for this year's Festival of Lights. Participants will be treated to a magic show, Chanukah songs and Chanukah bingo before a group candle-lighting ceremony. Registration information can be found at the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's Facebook page; bingo cards and prayer booklets will be available via digital download after registration. *Dec. 15, 5:30-6:15 p.m.*

## Chanukah Quizzo

Tribe 12 hosts a monthly

Quizzo game, and December's iteration will be Chanukah themed. The winning team will receive a virtual gift card to the restaurant of its choice, and accessibility accommodations (sign language, live captioning, etc.) will be made available. Email [info@tribe12.org](mailto:info@tribe12.org) with any questions, and register at [bit.ly/HanukkahQuizzo](http://bit.ly/HanukkahQuizzo). *Dec. 15, 8-9:30 p.m.*

## Don't Let The Light Go Out

In lieu of the traditional in-person gala, Aish Chaim's annual gathering will be a Zoom-based Chanukah celebration. Many sponsorship options are available for those who wish to contribute, and all come with a box of Chanukah necessities and a sandwich to be picked up on the day of the event. Registration can be found at [aishchaim.com](http://aishchaim.com). *Dec. 17, 6 p.m.* •

[jbernstein@jewishexponent.com](mailto:jbernstein@jewishexponent.com); 215-832-0740



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# Caregiver Guilt Around the Holidays

A Free Virtual Dementia Education Seminar

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During this webinar, Tam Cummings will discuss:

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- Behavior tips and strategies encountered during the holiday season
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- Holiday gift ideas for your loved one
- Grounding yourself through the holiday season

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# PA 30 Day Fund Touts \$162K in Child Care Loans

**LOCAL**  
**SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF**

**OVERBROOK LITTLE** Learners CEO Rasheda Allen was ecstatic when she learned she had received a forgivable loan for her business.

Overbrook Little Learners is one of 54 child care centers in the Philadelphia area to receive financial support from the Pennsylvania 30 Day Fund, a nonprofit founded by Jeff Brown, Jeff Bartos, Richard Phillips and Roger Braunfeld in response to economic hardship caused by the coronavirus pandemic and civil unrest.

“We are immensely grateful to PA 30 Day Fund for the financial support during this time. Many other centers

have been forced to close due to significant loss of private tuition, enrollment and healthy staffing; however, because of this forgivable loan, we don’t have to,” Allen said.

PA 30 Day Fund, which announced its child care support initiative on Nov. 24, aims to provide 1,000 forgivable loans, each in the amount of \$3,000, to small businesses across Pennsylvania by Dec. 31.

Brown and Bartos, who are Jewish, said the fund has distributed 670 forgivable loans to businesses in nearly every Pennsylvania county. The additional 54 child care loans, which totaled \$162,000, bringing the number to 724.

Brown and Bartos decided

See 30 Day, Page 24

► From left: Jeff Brown, Rasheda Allen and Jeff Bartos stand in front of Overbrook Little Learners. Photo by Andre Flewellen



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## Lil' Yenta's Serves Jewish Vegan Comfort Food

LOCAL

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

**KIMBERLY RESNICK** doesn't believe that going vegan means depriving yourself of the foods you grew up with.

Her business, Lil' Yenta's Vegan Bakery, is dedicated to creating classic Jewish foods from her childhood without the use of animal products. She's especially proud of her knishes.

"When we were making them the other day, after it was all said and done we had one extra, and I took a bite," she said. "I almost cried, just because this reminds me so much of my grandpa and going to his house."

Resnick and her husband, Sal Ruano, are both vegan out of concern for animal rights. However, they found themselves missing foods from both their cultures — New York-style Ashkenazi favorites for her and El Salvadoran cuisine for him — after making the lifestyle change.

The Port Richmond residents decided to create vegan versions of those foods to share with friends at a holiday party, which sparked the idea for two businesses.

The couple worked together to create Lil' Yenta's and Chambi's El Salvadoran Vegan Munchies, which carries vegan pupusas, tamales and other recipes from Ruano's grandmother and aunt.

"We're doing what we want to do without sacrificing our values or our vegan lifestyle, and that's basically how we got started," Ruano said.

Resnick, a hairstylist, drew inspiration for Lil' Yenta's from her Jewish family in Brooklyn, New York, especially her mother's love of black and white cookies. She also has fond memories of visiting her grandfather, a Holocaust survivor, in Brighton Beach, where he would bring home bags of

knishes from a local bakery.

When her parents moved to Atlantic City, Resnick was the only Jewish student at her school. She maintained her connection to Judaism through food and family visits.

The name was inspired by Resnick's stepchild, Raevyn Ruano, who loves watching dramatic videos on YouTube.

"I talk to Kim a lot about them, and yenta is a word for busybody and gossip, and she started calling me Lil' Yenta,"

they said.

Now, Ruano helps their parents out in the kitchen by baking cookies (their favorite is the chocolate-dipped berry hamantaschen).

Resnick is not content with simply making vegan substitutes for classic foods like rugelach and kugel. She wants her versions to be just as good as the originals, or even better.

Her typical vegan swaps include using Earth Balance Original Buttery Spread rather

than butter and aquafaba (the starchy liquid from cooked chickpeas) instead of eggs. In addition to baked goods like babka and challah, Lil' Yenta's offers tzimmes and brisket made with cranberry-glazed seitan and chopped liver made with lentils. For Thanksgiving, Resnick made knishes filled with mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce and homemade seitan turkey.

Her recipes are a combination of childhood memories,

research and lots of practice.

"I'm really digging deep into my taste memory to just get it as close as humanly possible without any animal products in it," she said. "So usually I'll look up a vegan recipe, and I'll look up a bunch of non-vegan recipes. And then I combine it together and then add in whatever kind of makes sense to me."

Resnick and Ruano held their first pop-up last year

See Vegan, Page 12



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## HEADLINES

## NEWSBRIEFS

**Report: 22% of European Hate Crimes in 2019 Against Jews**  
EVEN THOUGH JEWS comprise less than 1% of the population in the pan-European region, anti-Semitic incidents accounted for 22% of hate crimes recorded there in 2019, JTA reported.

There were 5,954 incidents recorded in Europe, Russia and Central Asia by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, and 1,311 were labeled as anti-Semitic. That was the second-largest category in the report.

The largest category was racism and xenophobia, with 2,371 incidents, while those targeted for gender or sexual orientation was third with 1,277 cases.

The report noted that its figures are not definitive and may be lower than the actual number of hate crimes committed.

### Canada Names First Envoy to Fight Anti-Semitism

Former Canadian justice minister and human rights activist Irwin Cotler was named Canada's first envoy to combat anti-Semitism by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, JTA reported.

Cotler, who is a lawyer and former Parliament member, has worked with numerous prisoners of conscience including Nelson Mandela, Soviet dissident leader Andrei Sakharov, Soviet gulag prisoner Natan Sharansky and author Jacobo Timerman, a former prisoner of the Argentine junta.

"As Canada's first Special Envoy on Preserving Holocaust Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism, Irwin Cotler will use his vast knowledge and experience to promote Holocaust education, remembrance, and research as we continue working with partners in Canada and around the world to fight against hate and intolerance," Trudeau said in a statement. "Because anti-Semitism has no place in Canada — or anywhere else."

### Walter Mosley Honored by National Book Foundation

The National Book Foundation bestowed one of its highest honors on Black Jewish novelist Walter Mosley in November with its Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters.

Mosley, 68, is known for his "Easy Rawlins" mystery series about a Black detective in Los Angeles. One of his books, "Devil in a Blue Dress," was adapted in 1995 into a movie.

He is the first Black man to win the award, although fellow Jews who previously won the award include Saul Bellow, Philip Roth and Arthur Miller.

Mosley was born to a Jewish mother and a Black father in Los Angeles.

### Synagogue to Open on Site of Babyn Yar

A new synagogue will open in 2021 in Babyn Yar — the Kyiv, Ukraine, location where the Nazis and collaborators murdered thousands of Jews, JTA reported.

Massacres occurred at the ravine site between September 1941 and November 1943, with the first massacre killing nearly 34,000 Jews.

It is "our duty to care for people who visit Babyn Yar and need to honor their memory and pray for the death of their loved ones and all those who died in the terrible tragedy of the Holocaust," Moshe Reuven Azman, a chief rabbi of Ukraine, said in a statement.

The Babyn Yar Holocaust Memorial Center, which was established in 2016 to build a Holocaust museum in Kyiv, is raising money for the project, which is expected to cost millions. Plans for a museum will likely not materialize before 2024. ●

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

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Vegan

Continued from Page 9

during Chanukah at V Marks the Shop, a vegan grocery store in South Philadelphia. Since then, the pop-ups have made several appearances throughout the city for occasions like Purim and Rosh Hashanah, and they also offer delivery. They are preparing for another Chanukah pop-up at V Marks the Shop on Dec. 13.

Their next goal is to relocate from their workspace in Bridesburg Commissary and find their own professional kitchen.

Part of it has to do with kosher certification. Although all of Resnick’s products are technically kosher, her food cannot be certified kosher as long as she uses a shared kitchen. She also said she received anti-Semitic comments from another cook

at the workplace, and wants to move sooner rather than later.

She feels like Lil’ Yenta’s is the most important thing she’s ever done.

“The world is really crazy right now, and anti-Semitism is up, and I just want to bring the beauty of Jewish culture to more people who might not even know about it,” she said. •

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▲ Lil’ Yenta’s mini black and white cookies Photos by Kimberly Resnick



▲ Lil’ Yenta’s knishes



▲ Lil’ Yenta’s chocolate chip mandel bread

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## HEADLINES

### ISRAEL BRIEFS

#### Israeli Gymnast Wins Gold at European Championships

ISRAELI GYMNAST LINOY ASHRAM won a gold medal in the individual rhythmic category at the European Championships on Nov. 29, JTA reported.

She became the first athlete in decades not from a former Soviet country or Bulgaria to win the medal.

Ashram edged out Alina Harnasko of Bulgaria in a tiebreaker.

Ashram, 21, is an Israeli Defense Forces veteran born to Mizrahi and Sephardic parents. She will represent Israel at the Tokyo Olympics next summer.

Israel also won the group rhythmic gymnastics gold at the competition in Kyiv, Ukraine — although several top teams from Russia, Bulgaria and Italy didn't participate because of pandemic-related logistical complications.

#### Israel, New Zealand Compete in Virtual Chess

As part of a Chess4Solidarity event, Israel and New Zealand played online chess matches, The Jerusalem Post reported.

The event was part of a Chess4All initiative. It was supported by the Israeli Embassy in New Zealand and the Savyon Municipality. Chess4All was founded 20 years ago by Lior Aizenberg to bring people together across various divides via chess.

After Israel normalized ties with Sudan in October, hundreds of Israel players completed against players from that country. Aizenberg also has held events with Syria, Morocco, Algeria and the Palestinian Authority. Games are hosted on Zoom, with commentary through Twitch.

Other upcoming events include contests with players in Chile and Spain.

#### The Economist: Tel Aviv Fifth Most Expensive City

Tel Aviv ranked as the fifth most expensive city in The Economist's annual ranking of the world's priciest cities, up two spots from a year ago, Globes reported.

Zurich, Paris and Hong Kong ranked as the three most expensive cities, followed by Singapore, Tel Aviv and Osaka, Japan. Geneva, New York, Copenhagen, Denmark and Los Angeles round out the top 10. Singapore and Osaka shared the top spot a year ago.

The Economist said the pandemic impacted the rankings, which are based on the cost of a basket of 138 basic products, by weakening the U.S. dollar and strengthening Western European and North Asia currencies.

#### 7-Eleven Likely Headed to Israel

Two Israeli companies are working together to open about 250 branches of 7-Eleven convenience stores in Israel, The Jerusalem Post reported.

Electra is working on a nonbinding memorandum of understanding with 7-Eleven to create a company that will run the stores under the 7-Eleven name. It is teaming up with Electra Consumer Products. Several prior attempts to bring the convenience stores to Israel failed.

7-Eleven, which was founded in Texas in 1927, operates in 21 countries aside from the United States, including the United Arab Emirates, Sweden, China, Australia and South Korea. There are about 71,100 7-Eleven stores worldwide and the company said it serves more than 65 million customers daily.

Products offered at 7-Elevens vary by country. The company already operates a store with a large variety of kosher goods in Monsey, New York. •

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

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## Dentists

Continued from Page 1

forced to close for nearly three months with the exception of emergency procedures.

Barnett said his clinic stayed open during the shutdown to help patients with dental emergencies and prevent them from relying on overburdened emergency rooms.

Dr. Louis Rossman's practice, Rossman Endodontics, was also only open for emergencies. Rossman specializes in root canal treatment, and he treats infections created by diseased tissue inside teeth, which can be life-threatening.

Like many businesses, dental offices also struggled to find enough personal protective equipment during the spring shortages. Rossman said many continue to face price gouging while buying items to protect themselves and their staff.

He saw the writing on the wall in February and put in an order of personal protective equipment then, so he was able to keep his practice equipped during the worst of

the shortage.

He said dentistry as a field was able to use cleaning practices and patient protection techniques from an earlier era.

"We took practices that were very clean, very sterile and made them even more so. Dentistry learned a lot during HIV about putting in layers of protection for the patient," he said.

His safety precautions are already designed to protect him from aerosols produced by working with open mouths.

"As an endodontist, I put a latex drape around the tooth that I work on. And then I wipe the tooth with sodium hypochlorite, which is a Clorox-type product. So that destroys bacteria and viruses," he said.

Now that the office is open again, Rossman arrives at 6:15 a.m. and wipes down every surface that may have been touched the night before. He had air handlers installed to circulate air five times per hour. Patients are not allowed to come into contact with each other and must come into the



▲ Dr. Frederic Barnett  
Photos by Wesley Hilton



▲ A dental office at Einstein Medical Center Philadelphia

office one at a time.

Even when stay-at-home orders were lifted, Rossman and Barnett both said appointments remained low due to patients' fears about being in medical settings, especially ones where uncovered mouths and noses were present.

Other dentists have reported being busier due to pent-up demand.

Dr. Ernest Dellheim was surprised to find the hygiene schedule at his practice, Main Line Center for Dental Excellence, booked solid when the office was allowed to open again.

"Everyone wants to get their teeth cleaned, which is great. That's the way it should be," he said. "Gum disease, gum inflammation or tooth decay does affect your dental health so it's nice to see that patients appreciate that."

Barnett, Rossman and Dellheim also have noticed an increase in a specific type of dental damage this year: tooth fractures.

"I wouldn't say it's an epidemic, but we're certainly noticing more teeth that have chips and cracks, and most of it is stress related," Barnett said.

Rossman and Dellheim agreed that the stress of the pandemic, along with the recent election, is causing more people to clench and grind their teeth, a condition known as bruxism. The pressure from

this behavior can lead to jaw discomfort, headaches and tooth damage. Barnett said the pain can sometimes mimic that of a root canal, but it can be treated with the use of a mouth guard.

Accessing dental care this year is especially complicated for seniors, who must weigh the increased health risk of virus exposure with the risk of untreated dental problems. Barnett is planning to sign up his department for volunteer work with the Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program, which provides pro bono dental care to Holocaust survivors.

This program was created in 2015 in response to then-Vice President Joe Biden's advocacy for public-private partnerships to meet the needs of Holocaust survivors.

A spokesperson for the program said staff at the health care products and services company Henry Schein, Inc. learned that many Holocaust survivors were living in poverty, contending with serious pain and unable to speak or eat due to severe dental issues and lack of access to dental care. They worked with Alpha Omega International Dental Society, a Jewish dental fraternity, to start the program in nine North American cities, including Philadelphia. They have since expanded to 22 cities.

The spokesperson also said the program has provided care for nearly 1,600 patients and delivered care valued at more than \$3.5 million since its inception. It has continued to serve these patients this year, although numbers are down slightly from previous years due to the pandemic. One dentist even saw a patient in her kitchen because she couldn't leave her house.

Dellheim has treated patients through the initiative for three years.

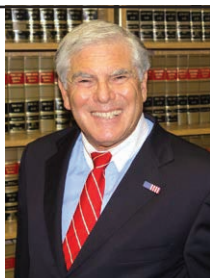
"It's been an incredible program. People's stories, as you can imagine, like any Holocaust survivor, are amazing and, by virtue of what they've been through, their dental condition is horrific — badly broken down, many missing teeth or all their teeth missing from all those years when they had no care. So it is amazing and it's really gratifying to treat them, and they're a delight to treat," he said.

Having seen the impact of stress and neglect on patients' teeth this year, Barnett hopes that dental care will be viewed differently if more shutdowns are needed during the pandemic.

"This time around, we'll be considered — or we really should be considered — essential," he said. ●

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## Archives

Continued from Page 1

modern-day Mikveh Israel are the synagogue board meeting minutes. Reading minutes from a 1782 board meeting, Gabbai came across a familiar mixture of camaraderie and rancor, serious discussion and idle chatter.

"It's a mirror of today," Gabbai said.

The project, entitled "Digitizing the Records of Philadelphia's Historic Congregations: Providing Documentation for the Political, Social and Cultural Developments in Philadelphia," kicked off with a \$385,205 grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources to the Christ Church Preservation Trust in 2018.

It is concerned with the digitizing and transcribing the records of Christ Church, St. George's Methodist Church, Gloria Dei, African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, Episcopal Dioceses Archives, Presbyterian Historical Society, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, American Baptist Historical Society and Mikveh Israel. The documents collected within the archive of each house of worship span the early 18th century to the late 19th century.

Within the records that concern Mikveh Israel, scanned documents include a 300-page seating ledger covering 1857-1866, letters from Rebecca Gratz, nearly 500 pages of charitable contribution receipts and even meeting minutes from 1782-1791, which records the synagogue's founding. Some of the documents have been transcribed in full, some are being chipped away at and others remain untouched. Christ Church Preservation Trust seeks to digitize and transcribe just over 41,000 pages.

The goal, according to Carol Smith, an archivist at the trust, is to provide an easily accessible resource to scholars and the public alike, each of whom may find their own interest piqued by, say, where Haym Solomon sat in Mikveh Israel,

or what's contained in George Washington's letter to the synagogue. Some could even use the archive to add detail to their understanding of their ancestors.

That the project is an ecumenical undertaking, Smith said, is a deliberate reflection of the character of the archives that she and her colleagues are seeking to make accessible.

Smith said. That community has only grown during quarantine, as the number of people with enough time on their hands to try and parse two century-old handwriting has risen. About 3,000 pages have been transcribed since March by volunteers from across the country.

Still, much remains to be

centuries about social hierarchies of the day.

Margolis Chesner said the fact that different languages are used by different record-keepers — English, Hebrew and even Dutch — can tell researchers something about the community's makeup.

"What are the tensions that are going on? Are there tensions

University of Pennsylvania's Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, finds much to consider in the records of Mikveh Israel's conflicts, but plenty in its mundanities, too. Membership structures and seating arrangements are a rich vein for contemporary historians grasping to understand the social dynamics at play in a bygone era.

"It's a really incredible social history that's not only interesting to social historians or religious historians," Kiron said, "but to people interested in the history of their community — genealogists, family historians."

Smith, like Kiron, believes that the archive has much to offer the general public. She said that her team hopes to produce lesson plans that will guide students and teachers through the archive.

Gabbai, too, believes that the archive has utility to his congregation, distinct from what it provides researchers. The synagogue's history, he said, is "one of its very important assets."

"If we did not have that history," Gabbai said, "we'd be like any other synagogue." •

jbernstein@jewishexponent.com; 215-832-0740

What are the tensions that are going on? Are there tensions because people are coming from all over the place? Are there tensions because some people want to move toward a more progressive practice, or more toward a religious practice? It really gives you a snapshot into the religious life of the community."

MICHELLE MARGOLIS CHESNER

"We know that Benjamin Levy [a prominent Mikveh Israel congregant of its early period] contributed to the building of the steeple of Christ Church," Smith said. "I want to see if we can't try to find more of those cross references between the congregations."

The archives of each individual congregation are too great for a small team to digitize and transcribe on their own and, thus, the project farms out some of the transcription to a "robust community" of volunteers,

transcribed.

According to scholars in the field of American Jewish history familiar with the project, such a rich, detailed archive of a single community like Mikveh Israel can yield important findings for researchers. Knowing where community members rented their seats within the synagogue, according to Michelle Margolis Chesner, Norman E. Alexander Librarian for Jewish Studies at Columbia University, is more than a matter of one's preferred sight line to the bimah. It can send a signal through the

because people are coming from all over the place? Are there tensions because some people want to move toward a more progressive practice, or more toward a religious practice? It really gives you a snapshot into the religious life of the community," Margolis Chesner said. And she added the one important takeaway from any synagogue archive, Mikveh Israel included: "You realize, first, that synagogue conflict is eternal."

Arthur Kiron, the Schottenstein-Jesselson Curator of Judaica Collections at the

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# Supreme Court Ruling Won't Change Things for My Orthodox Congregation



BY RABBI YOSIE LEVINE

AS THE RABBI of a synagogue on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, I have been keeping a close eye on pronouncements by the governor about the ever-changing New York state guidelines governing houses of worship. Since reopening in the summer, we have taken note of how quickly synagogues have had to adapt when they found themselves subject to occupancy limits of 10 or 25 people. When the Supreme Court rendered a decision about the legality of these state-imposed restrictions, we followed it with great interest.

In last week's split decision, the court set aside the attendance limits that New York Gov. Cuomo had imposed on houses of worship in red and

orange zones. The decision does not immunize synagogues, mosques or churches against government restrictions. It simply insists that those restrictions must not be more severe than those placed on comparable secular gatherings.

Champions of religious freedom cheered. In their view, the court had beaten back an overreaching state. But for a synagogue community like ours, the decision is largely academic.

being mandated to by the government. We waited to reopen until well after the state proclaimed reopening permissible. And while the government's occupancy limits would have allowed us to seat 100 or more people in our sanctuary, our internal guidelines restricted capacity to a fraction of that number.

We can all agree on the need to protect the free exercise of religion guaranteed by the

well-being of every member of our broader community. If that requires the expenditure of more time or more funds on our part, so be it.

As Americans, we are conditioned to think about rights. As Jews, we are also meant to think about responsibilities. Mitzvot are not good deeds; they are obligations dutifully performed by those who aspire to better the world by making it more sacred or more godly. Rather than

of worship cannot afford to rest for even a moment. By insisting on protocols that meet and exceed the expectations of public health officials, we can model responsible civic conduct. Maintaining these high standards represents an ongoing challenge, but we are obliged to do nothing less.

As citizens of the United States, each of us is called upon to abide by the laws of the nation. What kind of citizen a person will be remains a question of personal preference. But in the Jewish conception, the Talmud tells us that we are charged with an affirmative requirement to be "good neighbors." When the need arises, each of us has to make a concession for the benefit of a greater good. It's not about how many people in our community we can fit into a service. It's about how our people can fit service to the community into their lives. •

Rabbi Yosie Levine holds a doctorate in early modern Jewish history from Yeshiva University and is the seventh rabbi of The Jewish Center on Manhattan's Upper West Side. This piece first appeared at JTA.org

From the outset of this pandemic, it has been our position that while adherence to the dictates of the government is required by halakha, or Jewish law, those dictates represent a floor rather than a ceiling.

From the outset of this pandemic, it has been our position that while adherence to the dictates of the government is required by halakha, or Jewish law, those dictates represent a floor rather than a ceiling. In the halakhic calculus, few issues are treated more conservatively than those pertaining to public safety. That a given activity may be legal does not necessarily mean it is advisable or even permitted. Our synagogue closed before

First Amendment. But in the context of a raging pandemic, we are not animated by a desire to search for allowances or dispensations. We are not interested in how many people we can legally cram into a given space. Our goal is not simply to satisfy the requirements of the state so that we can check a box. Our goal is to protect the health and well-being of every person who passes through our doors and, in turn, the health and

pursuing concessions from the state, we ought to be pursuing opportunities to contribute to it. For Jews, the best way to celebrate the triumph of religious freedom is to treat that freedom responsibly.

Justice Neil Gorsuch filed a separate opinion in this case in which he wrote that "[e]ven if the Constitution has taken a holiday during this pandemic, it cannot become a sabbatical." By the same token, those of us operating houses

## Abraham's Bad Seed: Reconsidering Saudi Arabia

MID-ATLANTIC MEDIA EDITORIAL BOARD

AMONG THE MOST powerful and feared voices in the Middle East is that of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Wealthy, large, conservative, aloof, sitting snugly in the cradle of Arab and Muslim civilization — Saudi Arabia wields significant political and economic influence in the complex structure of the Arab world.

The kingdom's actions

are monitored closely. Its pronouncements are followed carefully. Yet very few actually believe much of what the kingdom says. Instead, one must examine carefully what the kingdom and its royal family do. And often, it is not very pretty.

Israel's relationship with the Saudis has improved. The two countries cooperate on security and many economic issues, and share intense

enmity toward Iran. The Saudis have also tacitly approved the normalization of relations between Israel and some of her Gulf neighbors. All that is welcome. Yet, at least for now, the Saudis are hesitant to join the historic Abraham Accords — which isn't necessarily a bad thing.

The Saudis are not our friends. More to the point, we don't want friends like them. Instead, we have business and

political dealings with the Saudis because they are necessary and sometimes convenient, even as we cringe at the outrageous human rights abuses and dishonesty that regularly flow from the kingdom.

It was conservative Wahhabism — the rigid fundamentalist orthodoxy of Saudi Arabia, which holds that those who don't practice their form of Islam are heathens and enemies — that laid the

groundwork for Al Qaeda and the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. And it's the Saudis who have funded fundamentalist madrasas and spawned countless Islamic terror cells and attacks around the world.

In 2018, the world was aghast over the torture, murder and dismemberment of journalist Jamal Khashoggi by a 15-member Saudi team

See MAM, Page 27



# We Must Push Our Leaders to Address Hunger Crisis



BY ABBY J. LEIBMAN

**THIS WEEK, FAMILIES** around the country will celebrate Thanksgiving amid a new and devastating reality. While our celebrations might look and feel different than other years, many of us will likely recall our blessings in new ways as well. Food on the table will have heightened meaning, as we know that millions of Americans are struggling to feed themselves and their families every day.

Eight months into the pandemic, we are witnessing a true crisis of food insecurity. Lines for emergency food distribution stretch long and tens of millions are unemployed. Women, racial minorities and those who were struggling long before the pandemic are disproportionately suffering.

As Americans and as Jews,

it is our responsibility to act. Specifically, we must demand that our leaders in government respond to growing hunger with the wisdom, compassion and urgency that this moment demands. We urgently need new legislation that will help tens of millions of Americans put food on the table. The stakes have never been higher.

COVID-19 has revealed just how many Americans are living at the edge of poverty.

formerly known as food stamps — in part due to stringent eligibility requirements and cumbersome applications.

Hunger is often hidden, silent and overlooked. Nobody talks about the shame that comes with not knowing if you can feed your children their next meal, eating canned goods because it's cheaper than fresh food or drinking water to make yourself feel full.

My organization MAZON

Hunger is often hidden, silent and overlooked. Nobody talks about the shame that comes with not knowing if you can feed your children their next meal.

Before the pandemic, nearly 40 million were facing hunger. At MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger, we now expect that number has doubled, particularly given skyrocketing unemployment rates and shocking reports about the increased need for food. The past nine months have revealed that millions of Americans are falling through the cracks of our federal government's nutrition safety net — assistance programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP,

does our best to change that, sharing the stories of people like Rhonda, who reminds us that "it's not normal to eat once a day, but if you're struggling, that's the only thing you can do." And the experience of people like Charles, who shared that "there are times towards the end of the month when all I can afford to eat for days at a time is bread and milk." And the stories of children like John, who says that "If I am hungry in school, I can't focus a lot and I don't understand the lesson."

So many people, in the

See Leibman, Page 27

## A NOTICE TO OUR READERS

There will be no print edition of the Jewish Exponent the week of Dec. 31. That week, please visit us online at [jewishexponent.com](http://jewishexponent.com), where the paper will be available in digital form.

**JEWISH EXPONENT**

## KVETCH 'N' KVELL

### Wedding Bad for Orthodox Image

**KUDOS TO GARY ROSENBLATT**, editor at large of the Jewish Week, for writing about what is going on in one segment of the Orthodox Jewish community ("The Challenge for the Orthodox Media," Nov. 26).

Something that was not mentioned was the Nov. 8 massive wedding of the Satmar rebbe's grandson in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn. This was reported in the press, including The New York Times, where thousands of Chasidim stood maskless shoulder to shoulder.

This is positively a *chilul Hashem* — a desecration of G-d's name. First of all, it goes against a key Torah principle of *pikuach nefesh* — preserving a life, even if, for instance, one has to violate laws of Shabbat to save a life. Also there is a principle in the Talmud of *Dinah d'malchuta Dinah* — that the law of the land is the law.

Flagrantly flaunting Mayor de Blasio and New York state COVID orders is truly a *shanda* — a shame. It promotes hatred of Orthodox Jews among other Jews and increases anti-Jewish sentiment in the community at large.

Linda Cherkas | Philadelphia

### Charitable Giving a Must

I have been subscribing to the Jewish Exponent since I was a teenager. Now I am 84 years old and am looking forward to continuing for many years.

I usually read most articles before I share the Exponent with neighbors in my apartment building.

Most of the articles I find inspiring especially when it concerns the issues of the day like the pandemic and the resultant joblessness and depression and hunger that seems so rampant.

The op-ed by Yvette Alt Miller ("Charitable Giving During the Pandemic Is the Jewish Thing to Do," Nov. 29) that I found myself reading a few times is right on target about the Jewish approach to saving our society.

What prompted me to reread the article was that my mother, who was an immigrant from the pogroms from the early last century, told me that her father used to do the same thing in taking a needy person to a restaurant instead of giving a pittance and leaving the needy alone. It awakened my conscience, as I was young when my grandfather died and did not know him personally. My father came from Palestine to find a future in America free from the cruelty of the Ottoman Empire in Israel. I needed to share this. Shalom. •

Harry Leibson | Elkins Park

### Correction

In Jesse Bernstein's story about Grassroots Food Truck ("New Kosher Food Truck Now Open for Business," Nov. 19), we misidentified the authority that provides the truck's kashrut certification. The correct authority is Keystone-K. The Jewish Exponent regrets the error.

### STATEMENT FROM THE PUBLISHER

We are a diverse community. The views expressed in the signed opinion columns and letters to the editor published in the Jewish Exponent are those of the authors. They do not necessarily reflect the views of the officers and boards of the Jewish Publishing Group, the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia or the Jewish Exponent. Send letters to [letters@jewishexponent.com](mailto:letters@jewishexponent.com) or fax to 215-569-3389. Letters should be a maximum of 200 words and may be edited for clarity and brevity. **Unsigned letters will not be published.**

# ‘Latke-Coated’ Fish for Chanukah

## FOOD

KERI WHITE | JE FOOD COLUMNIST

I AM FOREVER looking for ways to mix up the traditional holiday dishes. I want to color more or less inside the lines, but maybe vary the choice of shades or patterns a bit, just to keep things interesting.

That’s how I came up with this recipe. I was asked to do a column for Chanukah.

For us, Chanukah usually means a large gathering of friends and family, mountains of latkes, a big salad or some interesting vegetable dishes, and a sizable slab of animal protein like brisket, flank steak or turkey. But not this year.

I was noodling over how I could integrate the traditions

of the holiday while adding a bit of creativity and came up with this fish coated with crispy shredded potato. It is a bit fussier than most of my fish recipes, which generally involve sautéing some aromatics and veggies to coat and insulate the fish and baking at a low temperature. But since there will be just two of us, or three, tops this year, I was willing to get my hands a bit dirtier, so to speak.

The dry/wet/dry coating process for the fish is the right move, despite the effort and dishes involved. It ensures that the coating will adhere, and that is critical for success.

OK, critical is maybe too strong a word because, let’s face

it, even if the coating slides off and you have baked fish with a sort of latke on its side, that’s pretty darn good, too.

I made balsamic-glazed Brussels sprouts with this; I roasted the Brussels in the oven and then drizzled them with the reduced balsamic.

The flavor combo is nice; the sprouts have a sharp taste that is mellowed with roasting, and the sweetness of the balsamic syrup is a lovely complement/counterpoint. I tossed a salad with some carrots, baby turnips, late-season tomatoes and mustard vinaigrette, and Chanukah dinner was on!

## “LATKE-COATED” FISH

Serves 2

I used my current obsession, lingcod, for this dish, but any sturdy white fish would work fine — haddock, cod, tilapia, halibut, snapper, fluke, et cetera, are all excellent choices.

And when I say “latke-coated,” I’m stretching it a bit. The fish was delicious and the coating crispy and yummy, but because I did not use onions, it didn’t really mimic a latke. If you want a more latke-ish vibe, you could certainly grate half an onion into the shredded potatoes. Alternatively, try a quickie hack: Use onion powder in the flour mixture. And for a bit more aesthetic presentation, frizzle some finely sliced shallots or onions while the fish cooks to use as a garnish.

- 2 white fish filets, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  pound
- 1 medium potato (about the size of your fist)
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup flour (you won’t use it all, but to create enough mass to coat the surface of the fish you need some extra)
- $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon each of salt,

garlic powder, pepper, plus additional salt and pepper for the fish and shredded potatoes

- 1 egg
- 2 tablespoons canola or vegetable oil

Grate the potato, then wrap the shredded potato pieces in a towel and squeeze to release as much water as possible. Place the potato shreds in a shallow bowl with a generous pinch of salt and pepper.

In another shallow bowl, mix the flour with  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon each of salt, pepper and garlic powder. In a third bowl, crack the egg and whisk it with a fork.

Heat your oven to 375 F. Sprinkle the fish with salt

and pepper. Heat the oil in an ovenproof skillet over medium-high. While the oil heats, dredge the fish in flour, then the egg, then the potatoes; press the potatoes to adhere, and place the coated fish in the hot skillet.

Cook until the potato coating is starting to brown and crisp, about 3 minutes, and carefully flip. (I used 2 spatulas for this.) Allow the fish to start browning on the second side, about 3 minutes.

Place the skillet in the oven, and bake for about 20 minutes, depending on the thickness of the fish. (Ours was about 1-inch thick.) The coating should be brown and crispy, and the fish should flake easily and be opaque throughout.



▲ “Latke-coated” fish makes for a nice change.

Photos by Keri White

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## Food

Continued from Page 18

### BALSAMIC-GLAZED BRUSSELS SPROUTS

Serves 2

Cooking down the balsamic vinegar delivers a wonderfully rich syrup, but it goes from delicious to disastrous in a moment. As it gets closer to being done, it must be watched carefully, or you will be left with a smelly kitchen and a ruined pan.

You can use this syrup in a lot of ways — it is wonderful on any roasted vegetable or salad, with cheese or drizzled on braised meat. It can even be used as a dessert topping over ice cream, sorbet or pound cake.

You don't have to use the most expensive balsamic here: Because you are cooking it down, the flavor will intensify and concentrate. So save the

fancy stuff for another use and economize on this version.

- ¾ pounds Brussels sprouts, stems trimmed
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- Generous sprinkles of salt and pepper
- ⅓ cup balsamic vinegar

Heat your oven to 375 F. Toss the Brussels sprouts on a parchment-lined baking sheet with the oil, salt and pepper. Roast in the oven until lightly charred, about 40 minutes.

Just before the sprouts are done, make the syrup: In a small saucepan, bring the vinegar to a boil over medium-high heat and let it cook until reduced by more than half and thickened to a syrupy consistency. This will take about 6 minutes.

When the sprouts are done, place them in a serving bowl and drizzle the balsamic syrup over them. Stir and serve. ●



▲ Balsamic-glazed Brussels sprouts have a rich flavor.

# GIANT

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# Philly Faces: Maia Weintraub

## PHILLY FACES

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

**MAIA WEINTRAUB** is 18 and trying hard not to think about how much she's already accomplished. One doesn't get to the cusp of Olympic-level fencing by resting on her laurels, Weintraub explained, and one certainly wouldn't make the team with such an attitude.

**So what have you been doing during this downtime? Have you been able to practice?**

In the beginning of the shutdown my fencing clubs were closed, so I wasn't able to actually go fence. With fencing, to be able to practice the sport, you need to be with other people, and you need to fence against other people — that's how you get better. But because I wasn't able to work on my fencing, I tried to focus mostly

do my homework and school-work, and when I should work on my physical endurance, and when I should go to fencing practice. That's something that will serve me well for the rest of my life, not just during fencing. So I'm grateful to the sport for opening my eyes to that.

**Do you have an ultimate goal?**

The highest goal in an Olympic sport is to go to the Olympics. And, of course, I

“Fencing is very unique. I feel like it's not one of those sports where you can just pick up a foil or weapon and just start. You have to dedicate yourself to learning the art of fencing before you can actually do it.”

MAIA WEINTRAUB

That's the type of thinking that's propelled her to the top of her sport, and spirited her around the world, bringing Weintraub everywhere from Junior Olympics matches in Memphis, Tennessee, to the FIE Junior World Cup in Zagreb, Croatia.

She still has an appreciation for how far she's come.

“When I started fencing internationally, and was able to fence with the top competitors of other countries, that's when I realized, like, ‘Oh, I can do this. I've made it,’” she said.

Weintraub was introduced to fencing by her father's brothers, both of them fencers in their youth. What the sport has brought her, aside from a chance to play “physical chess,” as she calls it, is a slew of lifelong friends. The camaraderie she experienced at the European Maccabi Games in Budapest, Hungary, Weintraub said, where she and her teammates shared nothing in common besides fencing and their identity as Jews, is one of her fondest memories of competition.

on endurance, weightlifting and stuff I could do by myself. The time to get ready and do that work was really helpful because I was able to prepare for the fencing season. Usually, the offseason is only a month or so, when I don't have that much time to actually prepare.

**What is it about fencing that appeals to you?**

Fencing is very unique. I feel like it's not one of those sports where you can just pick up a foil or weapon and just start. You have to dedicate yourself to learning the art of fencing before you can actually do it. And I think that dedicating that time and choosing to do it makes it special.

**What have you learned about yourself through fencing?**

I've learned that I am very much a procrastinator in a lot of aspects of my life [laughs]. Because I learned that early on, I was able to try to counteract that. So I have to make myself stick to a strict schedule of when I have to

want to do that, but to be able to reach that, I just have to focus on the small things. So if I focus on bettering myself, individually, I will eventually reach the long-term goal, without having to think about it that much and putting much pressure on myself. ●

jbernstein@jewishexponent.com;  
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▲ Maia Weintraub's foil is tested at the European Maccabi Games.



▲ Maia Weintraub, left, at the 2020 FIE Torino Foil Grand Prix.

Photos by J.D. Weintraub



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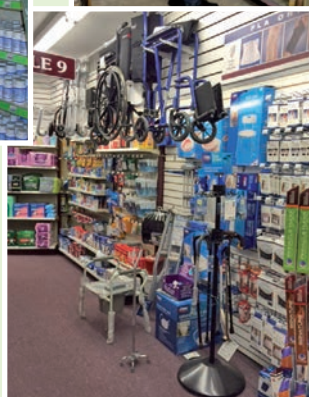
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# Preparing to Share Chanukah's Light

## CANDLE LIGHTING

Dec. 4  
Dec. 11

4:18 p.m.  
4:18 p.m.

BY RABBI DR. SHMULY YANKLOWITZ

## Parshah Vayishlach

### THE CANDLES. THE OIL.

The darkness. The Light. For the Jewish people, the symbols of Chanukah remind us that when times seem the bleakest, there is always an escape.

To celebrate Chanukah is to recognize the metaphysical potential of miracles, the forces beyond the rational mind and the special times in history when the weak triumph over the powerful.

But, as we also know, the modern celebration of Chanukah in a modern context also means the submission to commercialism and easy gratification. No longer is the triumph of the Maccabees about the recognition of determinative religious expression. Rather, Chanukah has become part of the simplified vernacular of the "Happy

Holidays" mantra: days where the material world takes precedence over the spiritual world.

It is time to reclaim the ethical reality of Chanukah for these challenging times. For too long, moral philosophy has been consumed about dilemmas that mysteriously land on our doorstep. It is time to come off the doorstep, to stop philosophizing over abstract cases, and to go chase moral opportunities. In a climate that seems to favor passive sympathy, what we need more than ever is proactive empathy.

In his commentary on Leviticus 25:35, Rashi writes: "You will strengthen him: Do not wait until he has gone down and fallen, because it will be difficult to raise him up. Instead, strengthen him at the time where his hand is slipping. What is this like? To a load upon a donkey. When it is still on the donkey, one can support

it and make it stand. Once it falls to the ground, even five cannot make it stand."

What do Rashi's words mean for us in a practical sense? What do we do to move the enterprise of moral justice forward? What if instead of waiting for the possibility of a call from a suicidal friend/colleague/family member, we go above and beyond to support those struggling with mental illness? What if instead of waiting for a fundraiser to call us with a pitch, we chase after the causes that we know we need to support? What if instead of waiting for someone to crawl begging to us, we proactively reach out to prevent them from falling? What if instead of waiting for an estranged friend to apologize, we reach out to reconcile?

To be a Jew in this world is to be responsible. To be a person of conscience means to find comfort in the uncomfortable.

To be responsible means to strategize about the moral arc of life and pursue moral opportunities. A spiritual-child waits to be called while a spiritual-adult stands up and goes forth. Instead of waiting for others to beg us for help, we should be first in line to give back.

That is precisely what we witness in the first verse of our Torah portion this week. "Jacob sends angels ahead of him," (Genesis 32:4). He doesn't wait for his brother Esau to arrive. He proactively reaches out. He proactively creates a plan for this intense family encounter. He thinks ahead morally and prepares himself spiritually.

For me, this sentiment is what Chanukah is about. While the presents, food and the symbols are great to celebrate with family, the essence of what the holiday means goes beyond the mundane. The

spiritual dimension is what we should strive for.

We don't passively attend synagogue to listen to sermons and songs. We don't only show up to classes and listen to others speak. But, during Chanukah, we bring the light from our homes and spread it so that it becomes a greater light into the world. On an even deeper level, we are invited to become the light; our souls are the wick and the world is the flame.

We are invited to become personified chanukiot that share our light with the rest of the world. We don't wait for others to request light in a dark world. We go out — proactively and purposefully — and share our light for all around us to be illuminated. ●

Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz is the president and dean of Valley Beit Midrash in Phoenix and the author of 19 books on Jewish ethics.

## 30 Day

Continued from Page 6

to focus on supporting child care centers — specifically women and minority-owned child care centers — after learning about changes to state funding policies that would have a significant impact on these businesses. They reached out to Donna Cooper, executive director of Public Citizens for Children and Youth, for help in identifying child care centers with the greatest need.

"From March to Sept. 1, the state continued to pay child care centers as if kids were still enrolling at the full scale. And then as of Sept. 1, the state shifted its policy and started to only pay for the actual number of children attending, and once that happened, child care providers saw their revenues drop by 40 to 50%. And that

means they're letting go of staff and it also means they may need to close because the margins are too narrow to be able to support that," said Cooper, who is Jewish.

Child care providers already faced several obstacles before these policy changes.

Mark Ornstein, president and CEO of Federation Early Learning Services, said these businesses are dealing with a great deal of risk during the pandemic.

"Managing that risk while also balancing the quality of care that our families expect from Federation Early Learning Services is a difficult yet necessary endeavor. Myself and each member of FELS' staff understands the important role we play in helping families, particularly essential workers battling the pandemic, to get back to work by caring for their young children," he said in an

email statement.

The fund founders knew that child care centers are crucial to essential worker parents, as well as parents hoping to return to work when the pandemic ends.

"There's a vaccine on the horizon, and people are going to, at some point, get the vaccine and want to go back to work," Brown said. "How are they going to go back to work if all the early childhood organizations are not in business?"

Cooper said PCCY had already partnered with Reinvestment Fund to provide financial advising and grants to child care programs. The two organizations had infrastructure in place to identify high-quality early childhood programs in Philadelphia that needed temporary financial support.

The organization uses a ratings system developed by the

commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which assigns value to child care centers based on the quality of curriculum and staff, and PA 30 Day Fund used the information when evaluating applications.

Allen said that the money would help cover the costs of increased safety precautions and reduced enrollment.

"A lot of parents who are not working no longer qualify for subsidized child care. And because they do not qualify, those funds are no longer available for them. So our business went from a fully enrolled program to maybe 25% of its enrollment," she said.

The cost of providing masks for children and parents, signs to indicate social distancing and safety precautions — as well as personal protective equipment like goggles, gloves and hand sanitizers for staff — adds up for small businesses

operating on reduced budgets. Allen also reported that she had seen a lot of price gouging while buying supplies.

Bartos said he was amazed at the resilience of child care center owners in the face of the challenges, and noted that almost all of the loan recipients were women.

"These women business owners are just so full of joy and hope and commitment to what they do, and they pour everything they have into their work," he said.

Cooper and her colleagues hope that the state will find a way to continue to compensate for depressed demand.

"It's taken us 20 years to build up a robust supply of early childhood programs, and we can't lose them," she said. ●

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The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia mobilizes financial and volunteer resources to address the communities' most critical priorities locally, in Israel and around the world.

## A Little Black Box That Fights Loneliness

**WHILE THE PANDEMIC** has brought it into sharper focus, loneliness and social isolation have long been major issues facing older adults. The CDC estimates that one-quarter of American seniors are socially isolated, putting them at a higher risk of everything from anxiety and depression to premature death.

At the Jewish Federation-supported Jewish Family and Children's Service, they're all too aware of the "loneliness epidemic" facing their seniors and the barriers that keep people from accessing social connections.

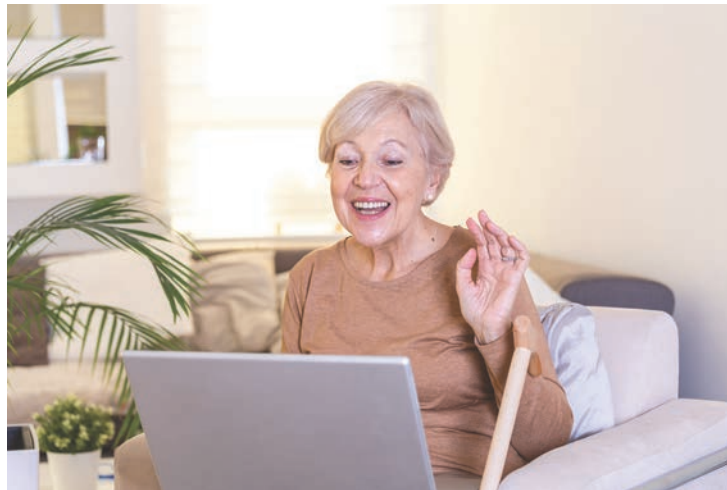
"We do a lot of programming for seniors at the Brodsky Center in Bala Cynwyd," said Paul Groch, JFCS' vice president of operations. "But with an older population, not everyone can travel easily. We were actually looking for a solution to help connect people even before the pandemic started."

For Groch's team, the solution came from an Israeli startup called Uniper, which uses technology to help seniors maintain an active social life from the comfort of their homes.

Uniper provides a small device — similar to a Roku or an Apple TV — that connects to both on-demand programming (concerts, ballets, news, Russian-language material) and live events like classes or social groups.

"It's a simple box and a simple remote," Groch said. "You can't get lost. It's a simple solution for folks that aren't used to using technology."

JFCS' Bala Cynwyd headquarters now has a broadcasting center where it livecasts events to Uniper. Since the live events are with people in the Philadelphia region, the seniors have the opportunity to see familiar faces. It's this type of casual interaction — a conversation with our barista, a chat with



coworkers — that we take for granted, but are extremely meaningful for those in isolation.

"They can see each other and be seen themselves. They take an active role in the programming instead of passively receiving the information," Groch said.

When COVID-19 hit, Uniper access became more critical. Since Uniper's programming can also be accessed from a web browser, Groch and his team distributed Chromebooks to seniors, along with detailed instructions about how to set them up. Later, they also sent wireless mice after realizing that many of the older adults struggled with the laptops' trackpads.

"Again, the emphasis has to be on simple," Groch said. "This is a population that is not

used to computers."

Since introducing Uniper, JFCS has found significant improvements in participants' mental health. Seventy-five percent of Uniper participants improved or maintained their anxiety score, and 92% improved or maintained their depression score. Most impressively, JFCS found that 75% of Uniper users showed overall improvement across all the measured categories, compared to only 25% of those who did not use Uniper.

While Groch says they have a long way to go — the number of Philadelphia seniors who don't have internet access at all "keeps him up at night" — he's proud of what JFCS has achieved.

"It's really fortuitous that we already had so much of this in place," he said. "It made a big difference over the past few months."

Gifts to the Jewish Federation support JFCS programs like this one. Donate today at [jewishphilly.org/donate](http://jewishphilly.org/donate) and make the world a little less lonely!

## Pandemic Prompts Food Aid Revamp

**EVERY FALL**, the Women's Philanthropy affinity group at the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia leads the sorting of canned and dry goods donated through the High Holiday Food Drive.

Due to the pandemic, the sort was unable to take place, but Women's Philanthropy Chair Julie Savitch was still determined to support those in our community who struggle with food insecurity.

"I'm always looking for what I can do to help others," Savitch said. "Especially now, when people really need it."

At past food sorts, volunteers were encouraged to buy gift cards at local supermarkets. But because people didn't always remember to pick them up, Savitch began buying them herself, allowing people who wished to donate the cards to get them directly from her.

Building upon the idea during the pandemic, Savitch used her platform as Women's Philanthropy board chair to share the opportunity with more people who wanted to help. Every Zoom meeting she's been in — and there have been many — she has used as an opportunity to advertise her service.

"It was a wonderful way for people to easily make a big impact," she said. "I

would put the link in the Zoom chat, and people would Venmo me throughout the meeting. The need for help purchasing groceries is greater than it ever has been before, which spoke to many people."

More than 50 people have bought grocery gift cards through Savitch, totaling more than \$3,000, with cards dispersed through the Jewish Federation's Mitzvah food program. Many of the cards assisted local community members in buying food for the Thanksgiving holiday, and more will be sent to those planning their December holiday celebrations.

Savitch attributes her drive to move this project forward to a constant desire to be always doing something to help others.

"I'm a mitzvah person," she said. "Leading up to my 50th birthday, I did one mitzvah a week. It became something of a habit for me. It's in my DNA to always want to be doing something to help others."

Savitch shares her work on her Instagram account: @Mitzvah\_Monday. For anyone who wishes to assist her project, you can email her at [jksavitch@yahoo.com](mailto:jksavitch@yahoo.com). To make a donation to the Jewish Federation's Mitzvah Food Program, visit [jewishphilly.org/resources/mitzvah-food-program](http://jewishphilly.org/resources/mitzvah-food-program).

## DEATH NOTICES

### ELLMAN

Arthur Edwin Ellman, Nov. 19 2020 husband of Elaine (nee Zlotnick). Father of Stacy (Michael) Oglensky, Amy (Jeffrey) Podell. Grandfather of Adam (Meredith), Lauren, Ben, Jessica, Brett, Sarah and Katie. Great grandfather of Ryan, Joseph and Sloane. Vice president of Quaker Oats company. Contributions in his memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 1818 Market ST. Ste.2820, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

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### GOLD

Elaine Gold on November 23, 2020 of Bryn Mawr, Pa. formerly of Delray Beach FL. Wife of the late Arthur Gold. Mother of Jill (Ed) Caine, David (Deanna) Gold and Rick (Gerry) Gold. Grandmother of Jared Gold, Jonathan Gold, Emily (Pete) Weissman, Lysse (David) Pratter, Jennifer Caine and Joanna Gold. Sister of Jerry (Patty) Harvitz. Also survived by four great-grandchildren. A private burial will be held at Haym Salomon Memorial Park. A virtual Shiva will be held Sunday evening - please contact Main Line Reform Temple or the Caine family for additional information. Contributions in her memory may be made to Main Line Reform Temple or Golden Slipper GEMS

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### GRABOV

Doris Grabov (nee Rubenstein) on November 3, 2020. Beloved wife of the late Alvin; loving mother of Sandy (Jeffrey) Mazer and Rhonda Grabov; adored Bubbie of Scott (Tal) Rosenthal and Craig (Dana) Rosenthal; cherished great-grandmother of Ariella, Etai, Alexa and Tamar. Contributions in her memory may be made to any Cat Rescue of the donor's choice.

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### GROSS

Joyce Gross (nee Lerner) on November 21, 2020. Wife of the late Jerry Glassman and the late William Gross; Mother of Dana (Michael Urkowitz) Milstein and Cary Glassman; Sister of Elaine Shapiro, Etta Indictor and the late brother of Benny Lerner; Grandmother of Blake (Paige), Logan (Justin) and Tyler (Mike); Great-grandmother of Roman and Gunner. Contributions in her memory may be made to Leukemia Society of America, 216 Haddon Ave., Ste. 328, Westmont, NJ 08108.

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### HOFFMAN

Donald Leon Hoffman. Nov. 18, 2020. 86 years old. Devoted husband of Janine Hoffman (nee Keltz). Loving father of Nancy Selarnick (Stuart), Harry Hoffman, Nathan Hoffman (Jennifer), Benson Hoffman (Justine), Jonathan Hoffman (Meredith), and the late Andrew Hoffman. Beloved grandfather to 17 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. Also survived by cherished sister and brother-in-laws, nieces, and nephews. Funeral services were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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### JACOBSON

Allyn H. Jacobson passed away on November 23, 2020. Love matched to his wife, Ruth Taylor Jacobson, for 62 years. Along with his marriage he recently said his greatest source of pride and joy were his children- Lisa (Leo Katz), Wendy (Jason Simon) and Rocky; grandchildren- Corey Katz (Alexandria), Tanner Katz (Mackenzie), Haley Simon and Casey Simon (and granddogs- Sammy, Cody, JoJo and Charlie). He greatly missed his late brother Emanuel Jacobson with whom he was very close. Allyn is also survived by his sister Sandra Weiner and many nieces and nephews that he adored and enjoyed spending time with. Allyn worked for Advanta as a Sr VP for over 30 years. He served his beloved country in the Korean War. He was an avid tennis and golf player. Joining his good friend, Irv Linder, on the Temple University tennis team. Allyn was dedicated to tennis as a linesman and umpire for the professional USTA and World Cup Tennis tournaments in the Philadelphia area. He sat on the board of the Arthur Ashe Youth Tennis Center (now Legacy) and was Vice Chairman of Youth Tennis in Philadelphia. He loved service and over the years was active participant in the Mens Club at Shaare Shamayim, Special Olympics and The Museum of Art. In these last few years he was a board member of the Northeast Division of JAFECO. Allyn loved history and dedicated himself to his popular blog read by family, friends and strangers for his insightful discussion of the state of American politics. Lastly he truly loved the Philly sports teams despite their repeated failures. Allyn was generally disgruntled with them even in a win- except for Flyers in 1974 and 1975, Phillies in 1980 and 2008, 76ers in 1955, 1975 and 1983 and Eagles in 2018. Contributions in his memory may be made to: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/dssc-warnock-ossoff-runoff-nov2020>

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### JORDAN

Judith (Rosen) Jordan, 85 of West Hartford, Connecticut, formerly from Philadelphia, died peacefully, on Wednesday, November 18, 2020. She was the beloved wife, for 63 years, of Allan Jordan. Born in Philadelphia on July 19, 1935, she was a daughter of Samuel and Sara (Feldman) Rosen. She worked as a Medical Research Technician, which included time with Hartford Hospital, and volunteered with several Jewish organizations. Judi had a love for reading, all things musical, and her daily crossword puzzles, as well as a brilliant mind and endless love in her heart. Her greatest joy in life was her family. Judi was a beloved wife, mother, Bubbie, great-grandmother, sister, and aunt. Besides her husband Allan, she is survived by her children, Lauri Miller and her husband David of West Hartford, Connecticut, Ronald Jordan and his wife Elizabeth of Syosset, New York, and Donna Edelstein and her husband Joe Bordalo of Windsor, Connecticut; five cherished grandchildren, Jason and his wife Rochelle, Elise, Samuel, William, and Nathan; adored great-grandson Robert; and many nieces, nephews, and dear friends. She was predeceased by her two sisters, Esther and Natalie. A private graveside service was held at Congregation Beth Israel Cemetery in Avon, Connecticut. May her memory be a source of strength and a blessing.

## DEATH NOTICES

### KRUM

Irvin Krum, Age 95, on November 18, 2020. Beloved husband of Charlotte (nee Bilick). Devoted father of Ellyn Klein and Neil Krum. Dear Brother of Robert Krum and the late Edith Berger Zlotnick. Loving grandfather of Lisa Wagner (Chris), Tracie Gross (Jon), and Evan Krum. Loving great grandfather of Hayden, Paige, James and Isla. Due to Covid-19, funeral services will be private. Contributions in his memory may be made to Friends of the Israel Defense Force (FIDF). [fidf.org](http://fidf.org) or "Families CCAN, [familiesccanphilly.org](http://familiesccanphilly.org)

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### MILKIS

Abraham "Boomie" Milkis, on November 11, 2020. Husband of the late Estelle (nee Sandry). Father of Rick Milkis and Laurie (the late Mark) Jacobson. Grandfather of Kimberly (Dr. Jeff) Felzer, Heather, Rachel and Matthew Jacobson. Great grandfather of Benjamin, Eden and Stella Felzer. He was proud recipient of the Purple Heart Medal in WWII. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Jewish War Veterans.

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### RABINOWITZ

Philip Rabinowitz on November 19, 2020. Beloved husband of the late Adrienne (nee Goldstein). Devoted father of Barbara Markowitz (Michael) and Joy Dee Doneson (Charles). Loving grandfather of Michael Doneson, Robyn Lawler (Cody), Stephen Doneson (Dani), Melissa Maten (Mike), and Lori Doneson (Jared Jaffe). Dear great grandfather of Tiba, Ellis, and Amelia. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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### SCHWARTZ

Ernest Lee Schwartz, on November 15, 2020. Beloved husband of Arlene (nee Shumas). Devoted father of Darren Schwartz (Erin) and Marc Schwartz (Dawne). Loving grandfather of Bryson, Lily, and Julian. Dear brother-in-law of Lewis and Shelly Shumas. Loving uncle of Melissa Rubinlicht (Phil) and Scott Shumas. Adoring great-uncle of Harris Rubinlicht. Graveside services were held on Wednesday November 18, 2020 at King David Memorial Park. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)

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## DEATH NOTICES



### SIGAL

Anita Sigal (nee Lundy) died November 22, 2020 after a short battle with cancer at the age of 86. Anita was predeceased by her husband Theodore (Ted) of 60 years in 2014. Anita was the only child of Bertha and Harry Lundy. However, she had a large extended family with many cousins and they enjoyed much family time together. Anita met Ted at a Sweet 16 party. They married and lived in Overbrook Park before moving to Wynnewood 11 years ago. While in Overbrook Park, she was very active in their synagogue where Anita made many lifelong friends. She organized the synagogue's trips to Broadway for many years and would avidly scour reviews to pick the next 'good show'. After Ted retired, they enjoyed many travel adventures. Anita often started her day with a long walk outside. In later years, she would walk the halls' in her apartment building. She enjoyed her apartment community, kibbitzing with her lady friends and hanging out at the pool in the summer. Anita is survived by her sons Barry (Gina) and Alan and a daughter, Debra (Mark) Berlin. She was a special and loving grandmother to Alex. She was also very close with her cousin Jay Harris and his wife Deborah and especially with their son Eric, who saw her as his grandmother. Mourners are encouraged to donate in her name to a food bank of their choice to feed those so in need.

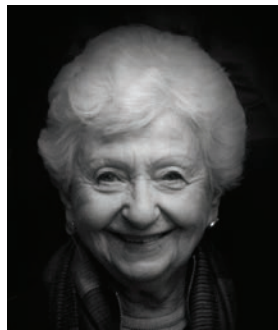
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### STAMM

John Eric William Stamm of Orelan, Pa., died suddenly at Horsham Center for Jewish Life on Nov. 24, 2020. He was 77. He was a native of Northport, New York, born on Feb. 13, 1943 to Ann and John Arthur Stamm. He trained as a chemical engineer at Georgia Tech. He earned a masters from UConn. He worked in plastics prior to moving to Philadelphia where he went on to work as an executive for Accommodation Mollen until his retirement in 1998. He spent much of his later years at the Jersey Shore, playing poker at the casinos and shvitzing at the JCC. He also enjoyed coin collecting, flea-marketing and buffets. He is survived by wife of 46 years Helen Daniel Stamm, his daughter Marsha (Joshua) Gayl of Lafayette Hill, son Daniel (Shelby) Zitelman Stamm of Philadelphia and brother William (Diane) Stamm of Florida. He was beloved by his grandchildren Ava, James, Julius, Malcolm and Simon. Shiva will be held throughout the week via Zoom. Donations can be made in John's name to Beth Tikvah B'Nai Jeshurun, 1001 Paper Mill Road Erdenheim, Pa. 19038.

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## DEATH NOTICES



### WEINSTEIN

Esther Wilf Weinstein, "Et" to her loving husband Emanuel "Manny" of 72 years, wonderful "Mom" to her son Mark and daughter Barbara (Steven) Gilbert, "Mom-Mom Esther" to her adoring 4 grandchildren, and "GG Esther" to her 5 Great Grandchildren, passed away peacefully on November 22, 2020 at her residence in Lafayette Hill, PA. She was 93. As a youngster Esther became proficient in the Yiddish language, so much so that she played background piano music for Nathan Fleisher, the host of a Yiddish Philadelphia radio broadcast. Many years later, being the only one fluent in Yiddish, she also had the opportunity to converse with Haim Hazaz, Israel's Poet Laureate, during a Philadelphia visit where he received an honorary degree from Dropsie University. Esther was a graduate of West Philadelphia High School. After High School Esther worked as a bookkeeper and volunteered at the USO during WWII for which she was honored for her service. She married Manny in 1948, started her family, and continued her volunteer work. Esther was honored for 34 years of continuous volunteer service in the admissions office of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia along with her friend Betty Koop (Dr. C. Everett Koop, Surgeon General) who she met and became close through her volunteer work. Esther's volunteer efforts also extended to fund raising, luncheons, and entertaining of numerous scholars and Rabbis in their home for Dropsie University and her affiliation with Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El Synagogue. During her free time she enjoyed her family, bridge, tennis, and especially cooking. Traveling with her husband Manny was always something Esther enjoyed, especially when the destination was the land of Israel. Esther will always be remembered by family and friends for her joie de vivre, her welcoming smile, and her kind, generous nature. Esther is also survived by her sister, Marian Greif. A private service for immediate family was held graveside. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

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### ZLOTNICK

Daniel Nathan Zlotnick, November 20, 2020 of East Norriton, Pa. Survived by his loving brother Gary Zlotnick. Services and interment were held Sunday November 22, 2020 at Montefiore Cemetery. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donors choice.

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# Leibman

Continued from Page 17

richest country in the world, face the indignity of hunger. But charities alone cannot change the situation — our government must do its part, too.

The robust network of food pantries, soup kitchens and mobile sites operating across the country today was created to supplement government assistance programs, not replace them. Charitable programs were never intended to meet the needs of all those facing hunger. They are neither structured nor funded adequately to meet the scope of hunger we are witnessing today. Even before the pandemic, the federal government spent hundreds of billions of dollars per year on food programs — that only provided people with about \$1.40 per meal, or \$4.20 a day, for food. The largest food charity in the country, Feeding America, has a total annual budget of \$2 billion — hardly enough to match the resources of the federal government. Now the charitable food sector has become overstretched, and some food pantries are closing due to COVID-19. Clearly, only the federal government has the resources and structure to meet today's needs.

SNAP is our country's most effective defense against hunger. It provides modest yet vital cash assistance to anyone who meets its income and asset eligibility limits. SNAP dollars are often spent in local communities, stimulating the economy and supporting businesses throughout the food chain. In fact, economists estimate that during a recession, every SNAP dollar generates between \$1.50 and \$1.80 in economic activity.

In recent years, support for SNAP has become political and partisan. During a recent conversation I had with my friend Rep. Jim McGovern, he reflected on this unfortunate shift.

"We were on the way to tackling the issue of hunger in this country. Then for some reason it became unfashionable to help people who were struggling to put food on the table," the Massachusetts Democrat said. "Rather than finding ways to help them, we started finding ways to blame them. All these false narratives began to emerge that unfortunately undercut a lot of the work that was done in a bipartisan way."

In the past two years, since Congress finalized and President Trump signed the 2018 Farm Bill, we have witnessed the Department of Agriculture trying to undercut the bipartisan decision to preserve SNAP. Time and again, the agency has issued regulatory orders to limit the flexibility of states and drastically restrict benefits for people who do not fit a certain ideological narrative. These administrative attacks could not possibly be more out of touch with the realities of struggling Americans.

The new administration, Congress and every policy-maker must do what is necessary to ensure that all Americans can feed themselves and their families. A COVID-19 relief bill that prioritizes boosting SNAP for all who need it cannot wait.

People cannot eat ideology or rhetoric. We must not stand by silently while political gridlock leaves the most vulnerable without the help they need. •

Abby J. Leibman is president and CEO of Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger. This piece first appeared at JTA.org.

# MAM

Continued from Page 16

at the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul. Reigning Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has been directly implicated in ordering and seeking to cover up the gangland-style killing.

The Saudi-led bombings of rebel forces in Yemen continues, with the Saudi-led coalition implicated in war crimes and other serious violations of international law. Inside the kingdom, dissent is punished mercilessly. There is no transparency and no accountability. Reports of movie theaters being permitted to open in the kingdom and the

trumpeting of notice that the government will allow women to drive is nothing more than window dressing; it is certainly not reform.

The U.S. government has historically shown the kingdom deference due to its vast oil reserves, strategic location and staggering wealth. Yet we have long wondered whether such close relations with the bad seed of Abraham is in America's interests. President Trump answered the question with an unequivocal "yes," turning a blind eye to the murders, genocide and human rights

abuses, and cozying up to the royals willing to pay generously for American weapons.

We hope the incoming Biden administration will be more circumspect, and will make clear to the Saudis that if they want to be our trusted partner, they must show respect for human life, religious tolerance and simple honesty. •

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ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF LAWRENCE FREDERICK BRICKNER, JR., a/k/a LAWRENCE F. BRICKNER, LAWRENCE F. BRICKNER, JR, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to CHARLES A. HALPIN, III, ADMINISTRATOR, The Land Title Bldg., 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1830, Philadelphia, PA 19110, Or to his Attorney: Charles A. J. Halpin, III The Land Title Bldg., 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1830 Philadelphia, PA 19110

Estate of Marian Garfinkel, Deceased  
Late of Cheltenham Twp., PA.  
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay, to James H. Koenig, Administrator, c/o Gary A. Zlotnick, Esq., Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaefer & Toddy, PC, One Commerce Sq., 2005 Market St., 16th Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103 or to their attorneys, Gary A. Zlotnick, Esq. Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaefer & Toddy, PC One Commerce Sq., 2005 Market St., 16th Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF MURRAY R. GLICKMAN, DECEASED.  
Late of Montgomery County  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to Stephen Glickman, EXECUTOR, c/o Franklin Wurman 7900 Old York Road Apt 606A Elkins Park, PA 19027

ESTATE OF NANILIA DILCESE, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to CHARLES A. HALPIN, III, ADMINISTRATOR, The Land Title Bldg., 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1830, Philadelphia, PA 19110, Or to his Attorney: Charles A. J. Halpin, III The Land Title Bldg., 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1830 Philadelphia, PA 19110

ESTATE OF OLGA D. TARABA, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to SHIRLEE JEAN DINSBORF and MICHAEL STEPHEN TARABA, EXECUTORS, 763 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> St., Philadelphia, PA 19130

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ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF ROSE ROSENFELD, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to RUTH KATZ, EXECUTRIX, c/o Michael D. Rubin, Esq., 686 Gray Circle, Southampton, PA 18966, Or to her Attorney: MICHAEL D. RUBIN LAW OFFICE MICHAEL D. RUBIN 686 Gray Circle Southampton, PA 18966

Estate of Samantha M. Schwalje; Schwalje, Samantha M., Deceased Late of Philadelphia, PA.  
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay, to Ruth E. Gelgot, c/o Henry S. Warszawski, Esq., 413 Johnson St., (201), Archways Prof. Bldg., Jenkintown, PA 19046, Administrator, Henry S. Warszawski, Esq. 413 Johnson St., (201) Archways Prof. Bldg. Jenkintown, PA 19046

ESTATE OF WALTER L. MALCOLM, JR. a/k/a WALTER MALCOLM and WALTER MALCOLM JR, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia, PA  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to ERIC MALCOLM, EXECUTOR, c/o Bradly E. Allen, Esq., 7711 Castor Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19152, Or to his Attorney: BRADLY E. ALLEN 7711 Castor Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19152

ESTATE OF WILLIAM R. CRUMLEY, Jr. also known as WILLIAM RAYMOND CRUMLEY, Jr.  
Late of Haverford Township, Delaware County.  
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to: Audrey Vause Womack, Administratrix c/o Joseph S. Hocky, Esq. 3300 Darby Road, Unit 6203 Haverford, PA 19041

ESTATE OF WILLIAM WATERS, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to PAUL WATERS, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Nicholas W. Stathes, Esq., 899 Cassatt Rd., Ste. 320, Berwyn, PA 19312, Or to his Attorney: Nicholas W. Stathes Toscani & Gillin, P.C. 899 Cassatt Rd., Ste. 320 Berwyn, PA 19312

FICTITIOUS NAME

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 15, 2020 for **BigGuy Fitness** at 200 West 7th Avenue, Apt. 2, Conshohocken, PA 19428. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Cory Peiffer at 200 West 7th Avenue, Apt. 2, Conshohocken, PA 19428. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

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FICTITIOUS NAME

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 16, 2020 for **Fitness is Life** at 714 West Avenue, Jenkintown, PA 19046. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Elizabeth Borge at 714 West Avenue, Jenkintown, PA 19046. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 04, 2020 for **Heckler Virtual Tours** at 655 Meadowbrook Avenue, Ambler, PA 19002. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Justin Leidy Heckler at 655 Meadowbrook Avenue, Ambler, PA 19002. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 17, 2020 for **Llama Productions** at 210 Abbey Lane, Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Matthew P. McLaughlin at 210 Abbey Lane, Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 17, 2020 for **rvuilet** at 140 west broad street, Telford, PA 18969. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Josiah Dean McCall at 140 west broad street, Telford, PA 18969. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 17, 2020 for **WillowWood Enterprises** at 3100 Terwood Rd., Apt G-68, Willow Grove, PA 19090. The names and address of each individual interested in the business is Bettyann Sykes at 3100Terwood Rd., Apt G-68, Willow Grove, PA 19090. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 15, 2020 for **Yuuka Universe** at 168 Grebe Rd, Schwenksville, PA 19473. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Elina Yuuka Oehlert at 168 Grebe Rd, Schwenksville, PA 19473. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

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WEDDING

► CRANE-BLACK

Mickey and Barbara Black of Philadelphia, and Robert Max Crane of Livingston, New Jersey, and Paula Crane of Montclair, New Jersey, announce the marriage of their children, Lee Forest Black and Molly Elizabeth Crane.

The couple each graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2008. Molly received her J.D. from Georgetown Law in 2011 and is an attorney at Blank Rome LLP in Philadelphia. Lee is a fourth-generation owner/director of Pine Forest Camp, Camp Timber Tops and Lake Owego Camp in Greeley.

Lee and Molly were married in Philadelphia in the late spring.

Photo by Morby Photography, LLC



BIRTH

► ALEX NATHAN HEITNER

Sandy and Jerry Heitner of King of Prussia announce the birth of their grandson, Alex Nathan Heitner, on Oct. 15.

Alex Nathan is named after his paternal great-grandmother Anna and great-grandfather Nathan.

The parents are Ian and Gayle Heitner of Scotch Plains, New Jersey. Alex also has an older sister, Raya.

Sharing in the family's happiness are Alex Nathan's maternal grandfather, Barry Fisher, and his wife, Shelley, of Manalapan, New Jersey.

Photo by Gayle Heitner



ENGAGEMENT

► WASSERMAN-FRANZINI

Marcia and Ted Wasserman of Villanova and Caren (z"l) and John Franzini of Lambertville, New Jersey, announce the engagement of their children, Zach Wasserman and Anna Franzini.

Anna is a graduate of University of Pittsburgh. She is a project manager for Empire State Development.

Zach is a graduate of University of Maryland. He is director of digital product at Bombas.

Sharing in the couple's happiness are their grandmothers, Ruth Raphael, Dorothy Wasserman and Judy Lyons, and their siblings, Sam Franzini, Sarah Franzini and Natalie Wasserman.

The couple plans to be married in Fairmont Park in May 2022.

Courtesy of Zach Wasserman



## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Former Ambassador to Speak Via Zoom

**MICHAEL OREN, A FORMER ISRAELI AMBASSADOR** to the United States, will speak via Zoom at noon on Dec. 6 about his new short fiction book "The Night Archer: and Other Stories" at an event hosted by the Meyers Library of Reform Congregation of Elkins Park.

Oren will speak with Rabbi Lance J. Sussman at the event, which is being held in conjunction with Kehillat Yaar Ramot of Jerusalem.

Oren, 65, who is American born but emigrated to Israel in 1979 — changing his last name from Bornstein to Oren — was ambassador from 2009-2013. He later served in the Knesset and as deputy minister in charge of public diplomacy.

He has previously written both fiction and nonfiction books.

### JFS at Shore Delivers 600-plus Thanksgiving Meals

Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties provided more than 600 bags of food to local individuals and families for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Throughout October and November, JFS collected monetary donations and non-perishable food.

"Every year, JFS strives to assure everyone has a turkey on their table during the holidays. Thankfully, the contributions and support has been overwhelming and JFS was able to feed anyone who turned to us for a holiday meal," JFS CEO Andrea Steinberg said. •



▲ From left: Cousins Samantha, Lia and Maya Goldberg collect non-perishable food from family and neighbors to donate to Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties.

Photo courtesy of Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties

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