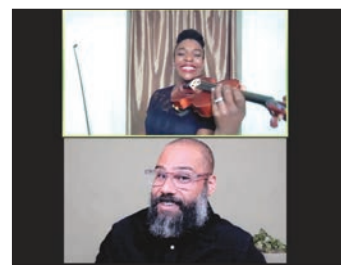


"True Colors" depicts the diversity of Judaism in the United States.



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— WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA —

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#### LOCAL

#### Jake Tapper Honored at Gratz Gala

CNN newsman talks about politics and journalism.

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#### LOCAL

#### \$1M Scholarship Fund Announced

Fund to help strong students, those with leadership abilities.

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#### BOOKS

#### Nicole Krauss Story Collection Reviewed

Strong writing bolsters mixed bag.

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Volume 133  
Number 35

Published Weekly Since 1887



## Interfaith Couples Navigate Unusual Holiday Season

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

THE PANDEMIC IS FORCING US to spend yet another holiday isolated from our loved ones.

This is challenging for families of all backgrounds, but for interfaith Jewish couples, the inability to celebrate with family and friends can also raise questions about how to best celebrate both partners' faith-based traditions.

Rabbi Robyn Frisch is the Philadelphia-based director of the Rukin Rabbinic Fellowship of 18Doors, a national organization dedicated to supporting interfaith Jewish couples and families. She said that while every family is different, many couples who traditionally observe religious holidays with extended family are now reconsidering their approaches.

"I hear this constantly from people from Jewish interfaith families: 'We've always

See Interfaith, Page 14



▲ David Copperfield (right) is interviewed by fellow illusionist João Miranda at Copperfield's International Museum and Library of the Conjuring Arts in Las Vegas.

Photo by Pinto39 licensed with CC BY-SA 4.0

## NMAJH to Induct Copperfield, Houdini into Hall of Fame

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

ILLUSIONIST DAVID COPPERFIELD will be inducted into the National Museum of American Jewish History's Ed Snider Only in America Gallery/Hall of Fame on Dec. 12, alongside another legendary Jewish magician, Harry Houdini, the son of a Hungarian rabbi.

Copperfield, who is a native of Metuchen, New Jersey, has always felt a personal connection to Houdini.

"It's very, very flattering, obviously," he said. "And the fact that it's in combination with somebody that is a leader in my art form is very humbling."

He said he feels honored to be inducted into a group whose membership includes

See Copperfield, Page 15

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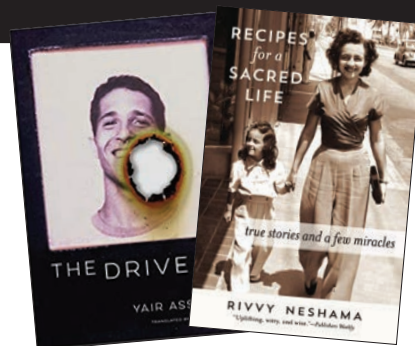
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## JEWISHEXPONENT.COM

### Miriam's Advice Well

#### COVID COMPLICATES INTERFAITH CELEBRATIONS

The pandemic has thrown a wrench into just about every aspect of society, and that includes interfaith celebrations. A reader asks Miriam how to make Christmas good for a spouse without crossing her own boundaries. Miriam suggests focusing on what really matters to them this year and also notes that this can be a time to establish new traditions. 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/2020/12/07/dear-miriam-covid-complicates-interfaith-celebrations/](http://jewishexponent.com/2020/12/07/dear-miriam-covid-complicates-interfaith-celebrations/)



### Philacatessen

#### Z'AATAR FLATBREAD

Za'atar flatbread makes for a fine accompaniment to many meals and isn't all that difficult to make, according to food columnist Keri White. If you've got some pizza dough, some za'atar seasoning and an oven, you can make the tasty flatbread in less than 30 minutes. Read Philacatessen, her online blog, for the recipe and cooking instructions. 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/2020/12/07/zaatar-flatbread/](http://jewishexponent.com/2020/12/07/zaatar-flatbread/)

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# Leaders of World Jewry To Attend Conference In Atlantic City

ATLANTIC CITY.—As more than 600 delegates from all sections of the country reached here for the historic three-day National Conference of the United Jewish Appeal which opens tomorrow after sundown (Saturday, December 15) at the Chelsea Hotel, word was received that Jewish leaders from France, Belgium and Holland were on the last lap of their journey by plane from Paris to participate in the sessions out of which will come a clear-cut and extraordinary program of American Jewish aid to Jews in Europe and Palestine in 1946.

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to this country to address the conference. A survivor of the battle of the Warsaw Ghetto, he will be the first official spokesman of displaced Jews to present a full report to American Jewry.

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# Jake Tapper Talks Current Events at Gratz Gala

LOCAL

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

WHEN CNN ANCHOR and Chief Washington Correspondent Jake Tapper received an honorary doctorate in human letters from Gratz College, he joked about how proud his parents would be.

“My dad is a physician, Dr. Ted Tapper, and my mom is a nurse. So, finally they have a doctor for a son, if not a medical doctor,” he said.

Tapper headlined Gratz 125, the Jewish education institution’s virtual 125th anniversary celebration on Dec. 6. Gratz President Paul Finkelman interviewed him about his career, his upbringing in Philadelphia, his Jewish education and his take on current issues in journalism and politics.

“In confirming this honorary degree, Gratz recognizes Jake’s significant contributions as a journalist, author and public intellectual. Throughout his career, he has demonstrated the courage, intellectual power and dedication to truth and objectivity that are the hallmarks of great journalism,” Finkelman said.

Finkelman also noted that he could not have predicted the event that would take place just a few days before Gratz’s anniversary event. On Dec. 3, Tapper, anchor of the weekday program *The Lead* with Jake Tapper and host of the Sunday morning show *State of the Union*, became the first reporter to simultaneously interview both President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris since the 2020 presidential election.



▲ Gratz President Paul Finkelman (left) interviews Jake Tapper.

Courtesy of Gratz College

“I thank you Jake for scoring this incredible journalistic coup, right before we gave you an honorary degree. We couldn’t have asked for so much,” Finkelman said. “It was a fair, tough and important interview.”

He later asked Tapper if there were any questions he did not get to ask during the 40-minute interview. Tapper said he hoped he would have a chance to ask the Biden administration about the Abraham Accords, and whether the Trump administration’s success at helping negotiate treaties between Israel and the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain would cause Biden to rethink conventional ideas about peace in the Middle East.

Finkelman asked Tapper to talk about how his experience attending school at Akiba Hebrew Academy — now Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy — shaped his life and career. He responded that his time at the school, particularly his study of the Talmud, instilled in him a respect for people of all faiths and backgrounds as well as an appreciation for open debate.

“You really learn to value the idea of debate and discussion in a way that is very helpful for anybody in this world, but certainly helpful for anyone who goes into journalism,” he said.

Tapper also praised Gratz’s commitment to inclusion, noting its nondenominational approach and its decision to have men and women study together from the outset, a forward-thinking concept for the late 19th and early 20th century.

“It’s an institution that has a vision for Jewish life in America that includes those of all backgrounds, which is very meaningful for me. I was raised conservative, my mom converted to Judaism, my wife converted to Judaism, we now go to a Reform temple,” he said.

Tapper and Finkelman also discussed the concept of partisan media and the challenges of covering politics in a highly polarized environment.

Finkelman disclosed that he had received hate mail from people on the right after announcing Tapper would receive an honorary degree. He reported receiving similar vitriol in 2018 from people on the left when he gave the same honor to lawyer Alan Dershowitz.

Tapper said that he did not take political positions in his news coverage and received plenty of hate mail himself for being critical of President Barack Obama’s administration. However, he said he did take a strong stance in favor of facts and decency.

“We can pretend that there is a ‘both sides’ when it comes to covering some of the more deranged conspiracy theories about election fraud, ones that have been shot down by judge after judge after judge, election official after election official, Democrat, Republican, nonpartisan. We can pretend, but that’s not, in my view, journalism,” he said.

Tapper said that he was excited that his home city played a decisive role in the presidential election.

“I liked it just because I like anything that has to do with Philadelphia, so having Philly play a role in it was exciting to me personally, no matter who ended up winning the election. I was seven when the bicentennial happened, so I really think of Philly as the birthplace of democracy in America,” he said.

Gratz also presented honorary master’s degrees in Jewish studies to Regina Horden and the late Martin Horden, who both completed the equivalent of master’s degrees in courses as non-matriculating students. Jewish educator Sora Landes, the late Lois and Martin Bachman and Congregation Mikveh Israel received Gratz Medals for their contributions to the college. ●

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# Barrack Foundation Announces \$1M Scholarship Fund

**LOCAL**  
**ANDY GOTLIEB** | JE MANAGING EDITOR

**THE BARRACK** Foundation announced it created a \$1 million scholarship to assist academically strong students with leadership qualities in attending the Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy in Bryn Mawr.

The Madlyn Abramson Fund for Excellence in Education and Community Leadership will provide awards and scholarship assistance to students from middle-class families “who demonstrate outstanding academic performance and exemplify Jewish communal leadership qualities,” according to a news release.

Head of School Sharon Levin said the scholarships will allow the school to attract top students.

“We will really be able to put out to the community ... that Barrack is a place where if you show not only academic potential but leadership, too, we want you,” she said. “We want to take every child who wants to come.”

Chief Operating Officer Alex Stroker said the scholarship serves to address a potential vacuum of future leadership akin to families like the Abramsons and Barracks, which have offered support for the Jewish community for years.

“They can feel comfortable that there will be a next level taking over for them,” he said.

Levin noted that independent schools like Barrack can be expensive, which can restrict the potential applicant pool.

“There are many people who will never look at us,” she said. “If they look at us, we have a great conversion rate ...

This will put Barrack on the radars of more families.”

Like all independent schools — Jewish or otherwise — Barrack, which has 337 students enrolled this year, faces a constant challenge in attracting students, Levin said. She pointed out that many schools are still rebuilding from the 2008 Great Recession, and the pandemic is creating a level of uncertainty going forward.

“We have yet to know what this year of COVID will do,” she said, adding that the school also raised \$1 million for COVID-related emergency scholarships this year.

Both the Abramsons and Barracks have played a key role in the development of Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy.

Madlyn Abramson died on April 15 at 84. She and her husband, Leonard, the former CEO of US Healthcare,



▲ **Lynne and Len Barrack**  
 Courtesy of Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy



▲ **Madlyn Abramson**  
 Courtesy of the Abramson family

founded the Abramson Family Foundation, which has made multiple contributions to educational initiatives.

“Our Jewish future depends on making sure that we pass on our mantle of leadership to the next generation,” Madlyn often said, according to Len Barrack, who runs the Barrack Foundation along with his wife, Lynne. “Lynne and I felt that creating this fund would be quite

appropriate to pay tribute to and honor the memory of Madlyn.”

“These are the things that were important to our dearest friend, Madlyn. We have always spoken about the need to provide financial assistance to the best and brightest students in our Jewish community,” Lynne Barrack said. ●

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# Original 'SNL' Writer Explores Comedy in Memoir

**LOCAL**

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

“COMEDY WRITERS learn early on that we have a high degree of anonymity,” Alan Zweibel writes in the beginning of his new memoir, “Laugh Lines: My Life Helping Funny People Be Funnier.”

Although Zweibel’s name may not ring a bell outside the comedy writing world,

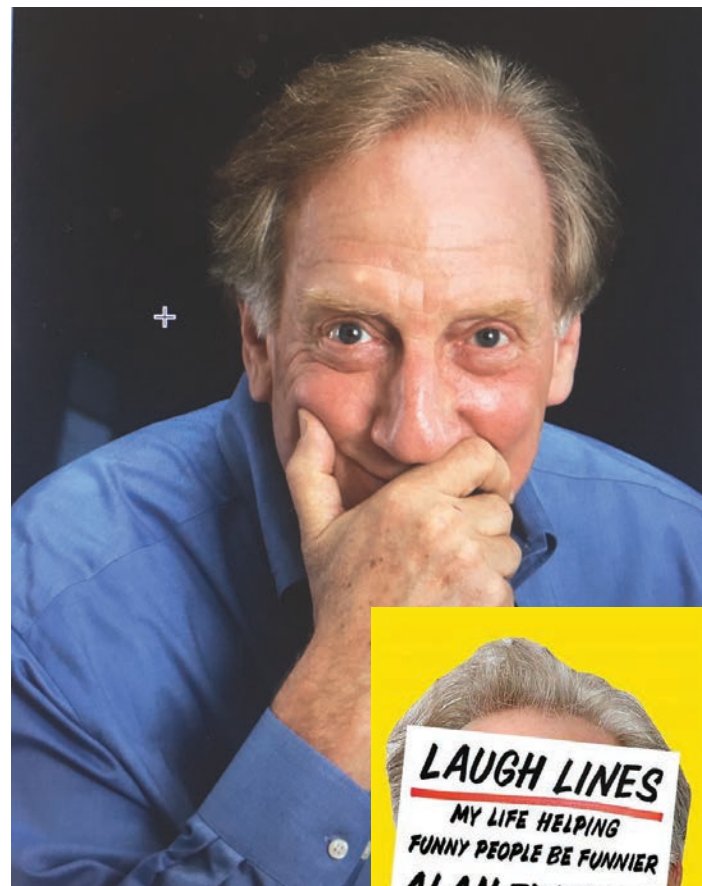
many of his projects need no introduction.

In addition to being one of the original writers for “Saturday Night Live,” Zweibel, 70, co-created “It’s Garry Shandling’s Show,” consulted on Larry David’s “Curb Your Enthusiasm,” and helped his old friend Billy Crystal develop his Broadway show “700 Sundays.”

Zweibel appeared at Temple Sholom in Broomall on Dec. 9 to talk about his book. The event

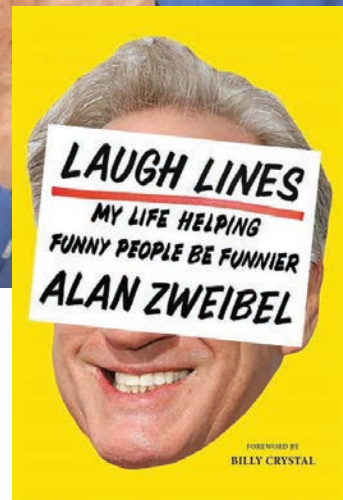
was part of the synagogue’s author series, which was created in partnership with the Jewish Book Council.

“Laugh Lines,” which came out in April, chronicles Zweibel’s path to the world of comedy and his adventures working for celebrities who now regard him as a professional peer. He got his start at 24, when he didn’t get into law school and worked in a deli while selling jokes to the last of the Catskill comedians



▲ Alan Zweibel  
Courtesy of Alan Zweibel

▶ “Laugh Lines: My Life Helping Funny People Be Funnier,” by Alan Zweibel  
Courtesy of Abrams Press



who entertained Jewish families at summer resorts (his first contact was provided by his mother).

He started doing stand-up and was discovered by “SNL” creator Lorne Michaels after bombing onstage one night. Zweibel wasn’t a great performer, but Michaels liked his material. He went on to join the team that would forever change the landscape of American comedy, creating iconic sketches and characters for performers like John Belushi and Gilda Radner.

The memoir serves as both the story of Zweibel’s career and a tome of cultural history that shepherds readers from the sun setting on the Borscht Belt to the rise of the latest generation of “SNL” performers.

Writing and stand-up are

often portrayed as lonely endeavors, with the creator alone with the thoughts in their head or in front of an audience. Many of Zweibel’s book projects, such as his memoir about his friendship with Radner and his novel “The Other Shulman,” were deeply personal and solitary affairs, but he also writes about the pleasures of working with a team on projects like “SNL.”

“I had no idea when I first started what it was like, but when I got to ‘SNL’ it was a group, you helped each other, you’re there to give each other better jokes and make the jokes as good as possible,” he said in a separate interview.

Zweibel said he has enjoyed

See Zweibel, Page 9



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# Lions of Judah Annual Celebration Features Author, Psychotherapist Lori Gottlieb

LOCAL

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

NEW YORK TIMES bestselling author and psychotherapist Lori Gottlieb headlined the Virtual Lion of Judah Celebration on Dec. 3, detailing her own journey with therapy, as well as her experiences with four patients dealing with an array of personal issues.

Lions of Judah, an international organization of more than 17,500 women, is a network of women who have each made a commitment of at least \$5,000 toward their local Jewish Federation. The Philadelphia contingent had more than 200 Lions registered



▲ Chair of Women's Philanthropy Julie Savitch addresses the Lions of Judah.



▲ New York Times bestselling author and therapist Lori Gottlieb and local book blogger Kirsten Wilf Baritz  
Screenshots by Jesse Bernstein

for the celebration, an annual occurrence that would have typically taken place at a lively event space. Past affairs, like a 2013 luncheon at the Arts Ballroom, have raised more than \$1 million.

Gottlieb, in conversation with local book blogger Kirsten Wilf Baritz, was an obvious choice to address the women, according to Kelly Dash, event co-chair. The combination of her interests as a therapist

and as a Jewish woman, plus her name recognition to the women organizing the event, brought her into Lion living rooms. Gottlieb's appearance was made possible by a donation from Joan Garde.

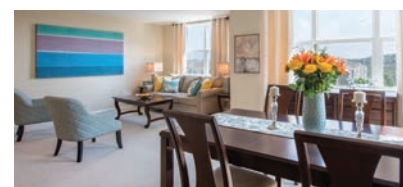
The topic of discussion was Gottlieb's 2019 memoir, "Maybe You Should Talk To Someone." Part of the reason for the popularity of the book, Gottlieb said, was that she didn't clean herself up



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## HEADLINES

for publication.

"It's so real, and authentic and relatable," Gottlieb said, Baritz saying the last one with Gottlieb at the same time.

The two women discussed Gottlieb's thoughts on the difference between presentation and reality, and how to keep oneself grounded during the pandemic.

Gottlieb's talk, and the whole celebration, was introduced by Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia Chair of Women's Philanthropy Julie Savitch. Savitch, joking that she had still decided to wear makeup and heels despite delivering her speech from a Jewish Federation board room, kicked off the evening with a litany of thank yous, underlining how much she was looking forward to the day that the Lions could roar together again, in person.

"Next year in a ballroom?" Savitch asked, hopefully.

Following several shorter segments — an in-memorial tribute to recently passed Lions Leah Mazer and Irma Malissa, a pretaped round-up of thank you's from beneficiaries of Lion-funded projects, and addresses from event co-chair Jessica Solomon and Campaign Chair of Women's Philanthropy Tracy Gordon — the evening's main event began.

The Virtual Lion of Judah Celebration closed with a short thank-you from Dash, who directed the Lions toward some of the real fun for the evening: a chance to catch up with Lions that they haven't seen since the spring in virtual breakout rooms.

"Seeing the whole event come together, it was really cool," Dash said. "I would love to see it again." •

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## Zweibel

Continued from Page 6

the relative anonymity that his part of show business offers — his passion has always been for writing and getting his jokes in the mouths of performers. He feels he's gotten enough of the spotlight while appearing on book tours and late-night talk shows.

Zweibel has worked with his fair share of celebrities, but he hasn't forgotten what it was like to be a young 20-something just starting out and meeting childhood heroes. He remembers being starstruck when he met Paul Simon. At the time, he was still working in a deli, poised to start writing for a show that hadn't been made yet.

"I was just blown away," he said.

Although today's aspiring comedians are unlikely to get their starts selling jokes to comedians at resorts in the Catskills, Zweibel wants younger audiences to learn

from his experiences.

"I have some chapters about failures," he said. "The book isn't just my greatest hits. What I want to convey over the course of everyone's life is there's peaks and valleys. If you feel that you are meant to do something, do it. Don't let anyone tell you that you can't or you shouldn't."

He writes about his experience with a critic, the late Roger Ebert, who loathed one of his movies so much he used the word "hate" 10 times in the review. Zweibel went into a tailspin before deciding he wasn't going to give Ebert power over him. The two men even ended up on friendly terms when they recognized each other in the bathroom of a restaurant in Chicago.

"And I just have to tell you, Roger, that that sweater you're wearing? I hate, hate, hate, hate, hate that sweater," Zweibel said.

Ebert laughed. •

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# 'True Colors' Depicts American Judaism's Diversity

**THEATER**

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

A YOUNG WOMAN'S Cuban Jewish mother forbids her from dating a non-Jewish Puerto Rican boy. A Chinese Jewish writer encounters racism during a meeting that could launch his career. An adopted Black Jewish girl is embraced by her parents but rejected by her aunt.

These are just some of the stories in "True Colors," a play about the ethnic, racial and cultural diversity of the American Jewish community. Theatre Ariel in Merion Station partnered with The Braid, the Los Angeles-based Jewish theater company formerly known as Jewish Women's Theatre, which created the play, as well as with Jews in ALL Hues to bring a virtual production of the performance to the second salon of their season on Dec. 3.

The show features actors Brie Eley, Heidi Mendez, Joshua Silverstein, Katherine Washington and Kimberly Green performing monologues written by Jews of color about their experiences with race, love, family and faith. The monologues are interspersed with musical performances by Washington and Silverstein.

Some of the play's characters are born to families who can trace their Jewish ancestry back for generations. Others are adopted or convert to the faith. Some have two Jewish parents, others have one — or zero. They all share their experiences searching for community as a part of a minority within a minority.

One actor, Silverstein, also contributed his own monologue for the play. In addition to portraying a Black man from Michigan who is raised Baptist and converts to Judaism when he starts dating a Jewish man in "Sabbath Peace," Silverstein



▲ Katherine Washington (top) plays violin while Joshua Silverstein beatboxes in "True Colors." Courtesy of Theatre Ariel.

“I literally felt like it was me speaking. It just felt so surreal, very touching. I had tears in my eyes.”

TANYA GOLD

performs as himself in "Special." The comedic monologue narrates how his reliance on his identity as a lone Black Jewish "unicorn" to provide him with a sense of self morphs into something more wholesome and loving when he joins a community of other Jews of color as a young adult.

There are common threads running through each of the stories: questions about identity, experiences with racism inside and outside the Jewish community, and a desire to find one's place in the world. A particularly heartwarming theme is the presence of supportive non-Jewish family members and partners in the subjects' lives. Many non-Jewish parents of Jewish children in the play support the cultural and religious upbringing their

Jewish spouses desire for their kids with love and enthusiasm, even if they do not convert themselves.

In "The Men in My Life," written by Marissa Tiamfook Gee, Green portrays a woman whose non-Jewish Black father hosts Passover seders and oversees her Jewish education after the death of her white Jewish mother. She later marries a non-Jewish man who makes her a tallis out of one of his treasured family heirlooms.

In "Beit Din," written by M. A. Hosein, Eley plays Monique, a Black woman converting to Judaism who consults her rabbi about dating a non-Jewish psychiatrist. After realizing they share the same values, the couple gets married and decides to raise their daughter Jewish.

After the performance,

Theatre Ariel's founding artistic director Deborah Baer Mozes and playwright Jesse Bernstein hosted a Q&A session with the actors, director Susan Morgenstern and a selection of writers who contributed to the play.

Several of the writers and story subjects spoke about what it was like to see the actors portray their experiences in front of an audience.

"I literally felt like it was me speaking. It just felt so surreal, very touching. I had tears in my eyes," Tanya Gold said. She was featured in her sister Gee's monologue, "The Men in My Life."

Maria Ramos-Chertok wrote a story performed by Mendez about her experience growing up as the daughter of a mother who converted to Catholicism from Judaism and

a Catholic Cuban father.

"All of these stories were like, 'Oh, these are my people!'" said "I related to every story, different aspects of every story. And it just made me feel less alone."

Mozes expressed gratitude for the partnership that made the performance possible and pointed out that it never would have happened if not for the pandemic.

"I truly believe this is a really important work of theater, particularly for this moment in time, in American discourse," she said.

There will be additional screenings of "True Colors" on Dec. 12 and 13, and tickets are available at [theatreariel.org/single-tickets-2020](http://theatreariel.org/single-tickets-2020). ●

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NEWSBRIEFS

**Roald Dahl's Family Apologizes for His Anti-Semitism**

THE FAMILY OF the late British author Roald Dahl has apologized for anti-Semitic comments he made throughout his life, JTA reported.

Dahl, who was best known for "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and "James and the Giant Peach," was openly anti-Semitic, telling the New Statesmen in 1983, "Even a stinker like Hitler didn't just pick on them for no reason." Dahl died in 1990.

Dahl's family released an undated, unsigned 86-word apology on his website, The Sunday Times reported.

"Those prejudiced remarks are incomprehensible to us and stand in marked contrast to the man we knew and to the values at the heart of Roald Dahl's stories, which have positively impacted young people for generations," the apology read, in part. "We hope that, just as he did at his best, at his absolute worst, Roald Dahl can help remind us of the lasting impact of words."

Jewish groups in Great Britain aren't fully satisfied with the apology.

"The admission that the famous author's anti-Semitic views are 'incomprehensible' is right. For his family and estate to have waited 30 years to make an apology, apparently until lucrative deals were signed with Hollywood, is disappointing and sadly

rather more comprehensible," the Campaign Against Antisemitism told the Jewish News.

**EU Invites Member States to Adopt Definition of Anti-Semitism Including Israel Hatred**

The Council of the European Union "invited" its 27 members to adopt a definition of anti-Semitism that includes anti-Israel vitriol, JTA reported.

The council calls for the adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition. The body is made up of cabinet ministers from its member states.

The IHRA working definition describes anti-Semitism in various forms that include hatred and discrimination against Jews and Holocaust denial. It also mentions examples of anti-Israel criticism it defines as anti-Semitic; that includes comparing the country's policies to those of Nazi Germany, denying the Jewish people the right to self-determination and "applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation."

**New Jewish Streaming Service JEWZY.tv Launched in London**

A London-based Jewish group has launched a streaming services that aims at "connecting all sorts of Jews to their culture and history," JTA reported.

JEWZY.tv is only available for now in the United States or to a computer that connects via a U.S.-based server. It follows the debuts of two other Jewish streaming services — ChaiFlicks and Izzy.

Jewzy founder Jeremy Wootliff said its focus is on "hidden gems."

"We go out and find the wonderful movies and TV programs that have been forgotten over time," or may not have enjoyed the exposure they deserved when made, he told The Jewish Chronicle.

An annual subscription costs \$59.99. There are 100 titles offered each month.

**Adolf Hitler Uunona Wins Election in Namibia**

A politician in Namibia named Adolf Hitler Uunona won a seat as a councilor for the Ompundja constituency, but he told a German newspaper he had "nothing to do" with Nazi ideology, BBC News reported.

Uunona said his father named him after the Nazi leader, but added that "he probably didn't understand what Adolf Hitler stood for."

"It wasn't until I was growing up that I realized: This man wanted to subjugate the whole world," he said. "I have nothing to do with any of these things."

Uunona was elected for the ruling Swapo party, which opposes colonial and white-minority rule. •

— Compiled by Andy Gottlieb



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# HEADLINES

## ISRAEL BRIEFS

### Ethiopian Immigrants Arrive in Israel

**MORE THAN 300 ETHIOPIAN JEWS** arrived in Israel on Dec. 3 in the opening phase of a plan called Operation Tzur Israel that will bring 2,000 Ethiopians in all, The Times of Israel reported.

The Ethiopians arrived via an airlift from Gondar that Absorption and Immigration Minister Pnina Tamano-Shata headed. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi and Alternate Prime Minister/Defense Minister Benny Gantz were among those greeting them at Ben Gurion Airport.

Many of those arriving waved Israeli flags as they left the plane, while some passengers kissed the ground. Some of the arrivals had waited more than 15 years to emigrate.

Those who already have family in Israel will have to wait two weeks to see them because of coronavirus guidelines that require all arrivals to isolate. In addition, they will spend their first few months in Israel at an absorption center, where they will learn Hebrew.

A second group of 500 Ethiopians arrived the following day, with the remainder expected before the end of January.

### Israel's Fiscal Deficit Rises

Israel's fiscal deficit has increased to 11.1% of gross domestic product, in large part because of the economic consequences of the pandemic, Globes reported.

The deficit is now NIS 151.3 billion, or about \$46.5 billion. The Minister of Finance expects the deficit will continue to grow, reaching 13% of GDP in 2021.

The Ministry of Finance said it has spent NIS 59.4 billion (\$18.2 billion) on aid related to deal with the pandemic's economic impact, with NIS 101.4 billion (\$31.1 billion) in all added to the economy from various sources.

### COVID-19 Cases Nearly Double in Two Weeks

Israel's Health Ministry said on Dec. 7 that the average number of daily new cases of COVID-19 grew to 1,318, up from 750 new cases a day reported on No. 22, according to The Times of Israel. Figures are based on seven-day averages.

In addition, the number of people hospitalized in serious condition is growing, with 331 patients in serious condition — including 112 on ventilators — compared to 260 a week ago.

The death toll is now 2,917. The total number of confirmed cases since the start of the pandemic is 345,201. There are 12,776 active cases.

Further restrictions to slow the spread of coronavirus are being considered by government officials.

### Sea of Galilee Likely to Be Full for First Time Since 1992

An especially wet November has raised expectations that the Sea of Galilee will be full this winter for the first time since 1992, Globes reported.

The Israel Water Authority had a dress rehearsal on Nov. 29 for opening the Deganya dam, which allows water to exit the lake's southern end, down the Jordan River and into the Red Sea.

Heavy rains have pushed the Sea of Galilee (also known as Kinneret) to about 210 meters below sea level, about 1.16 meters from its maximum level. Israel had 130% of its average annual rainfall in the past year, with some parts of northern Israel reporting up to 200%. •

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

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# Interfaith

Continued from Page 1

celebrated Christmas holidays at the grandparents, and we've gone out for Christmas, but we can't do that this year.' So some of these Jewish families that are interfaith are really struggling with, 'Do we have a tree? Do we have Christmas dinner? How are we going to deal with these things that we're very comfortable doing with one set of grandparents, but now we have a parent that really wants to do in our home?'" she said.

Frisch and the 18Doors staff have helped couples start these conversations and decide on celebrations that work best for them. 18Doors is hosting online presentations and discussions on topics such as "To Tree or Not to Tree" and "Unlocking the December Holidays - For Couples with Young Kids/Thinking About Kids."

Interfaith couples in Philadelphia are coming up with creative ways to honor their favorite traditions despite the need for social distancing.

Jackie Abrams and her husband Scott Middleton throw a yearly holiday party for



▲ Linda Ziman with her daughter, Cecelia Ziman-DeStefano, and her wife, Monika Wysong  
Courtesy of Linda Ziman

their friends — complete with ugly sweater contests and gift exchanges — that combines both of their religious traditions.

"We have a tree and we have dreidels, menorahs and we really mesh all of the traditions into one very festive evening for our extended friend group, and that is certainly a tradition that we really love," said Abrams, who is Jewish.

The party can't happen this year, but they are figuring out other ways to celebrate, such as doing a cookie drop-off or an online trivia night.

They also typically celebrate Christmas with Middleton's family and Chanukah with Abrams' family, and they have

tentative plans to continue the tradition this year depending on whether it looks like they can do so safely.

Amanda and Stephen Nicolai typically celebrate Chanukah with eight nightly themes.

"It's a really fun tradition that we started to carry on with our daughter as well, and as she gets older, we will add some community service into that and family game nights, things like that," said Amanda Nicolai, who is Jewish.

Her family also celebrates Christmas with Midnight Mass and a large gathering with her husband's Catholic side of the family. This year, they plan to celebrate Chanukah with her sister and father, but they have canceled the 30-person Christmas feast that usually takes place in their South Philadelphia home due to lack of space for social distancing.

Dr. Linda Ziman is Jewish, and her wife Monika Wysong was raised Catholic. They usually celebrate Chanukah with their daughter Cecelia Ziman-DeStefano as a nuclear family and attend church in their neighborhood of West Mount Airy on Christmas Eve.

"I love singing 'Silent Night' in the dark with the candles glowing in everyone's hands. I always throw in a 'Shema Yisrael' for good measure," Ziman said.

They exchange gifts the next day with Ziman's in-laws. This year, they will be doing that on Zoom.

Tychelle Graham-Moskowitz and Ben Moskowitz typically



▲ Ben Moskowitz and Tychelle Graham-Moskowitz  
Courtesy of Ben Moskowitz and Tychelle Graham-Moskowitz



▲ Scott Middleton and Jackie Abrams  
Courtesy of Jackie Abrams

celebrate Christmas and Chanukah with their respective families. Graham-Moskowitz was raised Christian but now identifies as spiritual rather than religious, and she started observing Kwanzaa five years ago, which they will also celebrate this year.

She and her husband are

planning to have children and raise them Jewish with an awareness of their interfaith cultural background. They believe it is important to start incorporating their rituals into their lives for this reason.

"When we got married, we talked about raising our children in the Jewish faith. We're making

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that a part of our everyday life now so that it feels very natural when they come into the world, and they don't have to question their identity as biracial Ashkenazi Jewish children," Graham-Moskowitz said.

All of their celebrations will be virtual this year, and the couple will be home with their puppy, Brisket.

Although the pandemic has put a damper on many beloved traditions, the 2020 holiday season also offers a historic reason to celebrate. Some interfaith couples are excited about the ascendance of Vice President-elect Kamala Harris and her husband Doug Emhoff next year. Harris was raised Christian and Hindu, and Emhoff is Jewish, as are his children.

Abrams hopes the couple's visibility and success will encourage more conservative Jewish communities to be open-minded and inclusive toward interfaith couples. Nicolai, who broke up with her husband over faith differences before they worked through them with a counselor, hopes interfaith couples look to the second family as a source of inspiration.

"I do love that someone in an interfaith relationship is now going to be part of the White House," she said. "I know a lot of interfaith couples that have broken up, but seeing someone in a position of power making it work is really powerful."

Rabbi Elyssa Cherney, Rukin Rabbinic Fellow at 18Doors in Philadelphia, thinks that the couple's prominence will help interfaith couples feel less isolated. Some of the people she works with don't have any family or friends in interfaith relationships, and representation matters.

"I think that this couple being a part of mainstream media and, I hope, being looked at in a good light will just normalize that experience for so many people," she said. •

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## Copperfield

Continued from Page 1

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Steven Spielberg and Irving Berlin.

"We are thrilled and grateful to be able to induct Harry Houdini and David Copperfield into Only in America at the same time," NMAJH trustee and gala chair Sharon Tobin Kestenbaum said in a statement. "With this event, we are able to celebrate a cross-generational story. From immigrant Harry Houdini to first-generation American David Copperfield, this event clearly demonstrates what's possible when individuals are simply given the chance to be great."

The induction will include remarks by 2019 Academy of Magical Arts winners Lucy Darling and Asi Wind and descendants of Houdini. Darling is more well-known as "The Mistress of Magic"; Wind, once voted "Best Magician in Israel," was born in Tel Aviv.

Copperfield, whose previous honors include 21 Emmy Awards, 11 Guinness World Records and the Living Legend honor from The Library of Congress, will accept the award and perform illusions from his International Museum and Library of the Conjuring Arts in Las Vegas.

It's an appropriate venue for accepting such an award. Copperfield's library houses the world's largest collection of historically significant magic memorabilia, posters, books, props and artifacts, and even boasts tricks that belonged to Houdini himself: the Water Torture Cell and the Metamorphosis Trunk.

Copperfield himself will induct Houdini into the NMAJH Hall of Fame. Copperfield, who was born David Seth Kotkin, has always felt a connection to Houdini, born Erik Weisz, on the basis of their shared Jewishness and excitement about the possibilities of magic. If the United States provided a feeling for Jews that they could make what they



▲ David Copperfield will be inducted into the National Museum of American Jewish History's Ed Snider Only in America Gallery/Hall of Fame.

Courtesy of DCDI

imagine into reality, Copperfield said, then magic done well can do the same for anyone.

"Magic is about making people dream," Copperfield said. "It was never about, for me, fooling people, or amazing people. It was always about showing limitless possibilities, showing that you can do amazing things. You can go beyond the lot that you're given."

Copperfield's mother was born in Israel, and his father's parents were born in Russia; today, he is perhaps the most well-known living magician in the world.

"David Copperfield cares deeply about the history of his craft — his desire to know and preserve that history is something that resonates strongly with us as a history museum," NMAJH CEO Misha Galperin said. "Museums and magic actually have a lot in common — they are about storytelling at their core, and are designed to intrigue, inspire and spark wonder."

Copperfield has previous connections to Philadelphia.

Aside from numerous appearances on stage, he recalls visiting the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel as a young man for a magic convention. One year later, he recalled, the hotel suffered its famous outbreak of Legionnaires' disease, which

some blamed on those dastardly magicians.

"Somebody said in their story that there was a magic chemical that somebody mistakenly dumped into the air conditioning system," Copperfield remembered with a chuckle. "And maybe the magicians were to blame for this horrible thing that took place."

Copperfield and Houdini will be the 22nd and 23rd inductees into the hall of fame, joining Ginsburg, Spielberg, Berlin, Leonard Bernstein, Louis Brandeis, Albert Einstein, Gertrude Elion, Mordecai

Kaplan, Sandy Koufax, Estée Lauder, Emma Lazarus, Isaac Leeser, Golda Meir, Julius Rosenwald, Jonas Salk, Menachem Mendel Schneerson, Rose Schneiderman, Isaac Bashevis Singer, Barbra Streisand, Henrietta Szold and Isaac Mayer Wise.

The virtual event, which is free and open to the public, will serve as NMAJH's annual gala and brings to a close a difficult year for the museum.

In March, just prior to the beginning of the pandemic, the museum filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. At the time,

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the museum reportedly owed more than \$30 million to bondholders and about \$1 million to unsecured creditors. The filing subsequently made NMAJH ineligible to apply for Paycheck Protection Program loans as they were made available by the CARES Act. In May, two-thirds of the museum staff were furloughed. Bankruptcy hearings are reportedly set for later this month.

"Only in America: Houdini and Copperfield" will be live-streamed on Dec. 12 at 8 p.m. on YouTube, Facebook and at nmajh.org. •

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## Embrace the Screen-free Chanukah Challenge

BY CORINNE E. YOURMAN

**THIS FALL**, in the midst of a pandemic that has marked an uptick in our reliance on tech to keep us learning, working, connected and entertained, a group of former tech executives in Silicon Valley released a cautionary documentary called “The Social Dilemma.”

The film has received critical acclaim for exposing the ways that tech companies monitor our online behavior, then use that information to feed us the very ads, videos and news that they calculate will keep us on their platforms for as long as possible — not for our own benefit, but to maximize their profits. The film advances the claim that the result of all this monitoring and interfering has been a host of social ills, from impaired teen mental health to increased political polarization.

Just one year earlier, in the fall of 2019, Webby Awards founder and Emmy-nominated filmmaker Tiffany Shlain released her book “24/6: The Power of Unplugging One Day a Week,” a personal, spiritual and intellectual journey through her family’s

decade-long celebration of a 24-hour “Technology Shabbat,” beginning at sundown every Friday. In her book, she mines Jewish and other sources (including Abraham Joshua Heschel’s lovely volume “The Sabbath”) to recommend the Tech Shabbat as a human-centered approach to managing the tech in our lives.

Jewish but not observant, technologically-savvy but able to cast a critical eye on the tech industry, Shlain makes the compelling argument that everyone — Jewish or not, religious or not — stands to benefit from a day’s respite from their digital devices each week. Shlain credits her Tech Shabbats as enabling her to carve out much-needed offline time to devote to family, self-reflection, creative pursuits and rest.

Shlain’s book stands in bright relief against the dark dystopian glare of “The Social Dilemma.” While the Silicon Valley executives interviewed for the film visibly struggle to suggest ways we can take back our autonomy from the relentless pull of notifications, streaks, autoplays and click-bait, Shlain clearly believes it’s

possible. As she puts it, if we are able to take regular breaks from our tools, including our digital devices, then it signifies that we have the ability to control them (rather than be controlled by them).

And while it will take far more than a weekly screen sabbatical to revolutionize the business model of big tech and make it more humane, the Tech Shabbat is an empowering step in the right direction.

Shlain’s idea isn’t new, of course, since many in our community already take a weekly 25-hour respite from all forms of work, including use of digital devices, every Shabbat. But Shlain aims to make the practice of a weekly tech sabbatical universal and, for naysayers and doubters, even doable, meaningful and necessary. Her book is therefore also a practical how-to for those who have never experienced a tech sabbatical, particularly a weekly one, with tips for surviving and thriving offline each week. Her reliance on an ancient Jewish practice to manage the contemporary problem of technological overuse and overdependence is extraordinary in its simplicity.

Judaism to the rescue again!

In the fall of 2018, a year before Shlain’s book was released, a friend forwarded to me an article about a different Jewish tech sabbatical — a 30-minute screen-free Chanukah challenge. The challenge was simple: Celebrants were encouraged to put down their smartphones for 30 minutes after lighting Chanukah candles, to more intentionally celebrate the holiday.

Proponents of the challenge recognized the incompatibility of sacred time and tech, Chanukah candles and smartphone use. Watching the flames and enjoying Chanukah treats, songs and dreidel games require us to look up and out toward candles and, if present, family and friends. In doing so, we adopt a physical stance and conscious mindset that triumphantly commemorate miracles small and large, historic and present day.

Conversely, smartphones and other personal digital devices set invisible partitions between us as we hunch over and look down, creating a sense of isolation and imparting an impression of loss, retreat and

defeat that is incompatible with the spirit of the holiday.

As this is the year of Zoom, we may find ourselves joining loved ones near and far to celebrate Chanukah collectively, by screen. Which is fine. But what if our community accepted the Chanukah challenge this year and dedicated time to be with family and friends, present or pixilated, by setting aside personal use of digital devices for a brief 30 minutes, even for just one night of the holiday?

And then perhaps we might be inspired to do it again, every week, from sundown Friday until nightfall on Saturday, to elevate the holiness of Shabbat or — depending on one’s needs and personal point of view — to break loose from big tech, reconnect with family and friends, foster creativity and autonomy, experience human flourishing, be more present and mindful, or restore moments of rest and meaning that, since biblical times, have been our Jewish birthright. ●

Corinne E. Yourman, a resident of Potomac, Maryland, is a screen time advocate at the Children’s Screen Time Action Network.

## My Parents’ Love Is Not a Punchline



BY HANAH BLOOM

**I’M THE DAUGHTER** of a white Jewish-American dad and a Japanese immigrant mom, and I grew up in Alabama.

As you can guess, this made

growing up in the American Deep South quite interesting. Amid the external anti-Semitism and racism I faced, the joke within the Jewish and Asian communities that my parents were meant for each other hurts the most; it translates into a gross invalidation of my parents’ love. Although it could be plausible that the two groups can bond over shared minority experiences, the more nefarious explanation for this so-called “perfect match” is the model minority myth.

My parents met in a “meet cute” fashion of situational fate. My mom won the opportunity

to tour the Yokosuka naval base twice as a civilian. Who was the handsome American sailor serving as the tour guide both times? My dad. The family joke is that my mother “won the lottery twice.”

After the two fell in love, I was born in a U.S. naval hospital in Italy with an Italian birth certificate, a Japanese birth certificate and an American birth certificate. After my dad retired from the Navy, we moved to an area with an infamous history of hostility toward people of color and non-Christians: sweet home Alabama.

Growing up, I experienced “othering” from the white and Christian communities in my hometown of Montgomery. When I was a Hebrew school teacher for my synagogue, a police officer was stationed every week to ensure that we could meet safely. Students in elementary school would invite me to their mega-church services and try to “save” me from my impending doom in hell. My mom packed what other kids would call “smelly” lunches and gawk at the bento box items that I thought were far better than their Lunchables pizzas. Many people assumed

I was great at math, but after asking me for help, they quickly realized otherwise.

I’ve been called “exotic looking” and have heard a variety of attempts at the ethnic guessing game. Every so often, even outside the South, I get a confused stare. People try to decipher my mixed identity by just ... staring at me, hoping to identify what isn’t normal, what isn’t white.

While the racism and discrimination I faced was painful, the lasting pain has come from the communities I

See Bloom, Page 31



## KVETCH 'N' KVELL

### Thanks to the Exponent

**I WANT TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE** to you and the entire staff for continuing to publish and print the Exponent each week. I know there are other Jewish weeklies that have ceased operation or become online only, and it is a real tribute to you that you are continuing the tradition in Philly.

I was born in Philadelphia and have been a lifelong resident of South Jersey, since my parents moved to New Jersey when I was 3 months old (I am now 66) — and they continued to subscribe even when they moved to New Jersey and now I and my wife continue to subscribe to the Exponent. I can't imagine not having it.

May you continue to keep the Exponent a source of news and information for the Jewish community!

Alvin Stern | Cherry Hill, New Jersey

### Message from the Archbishop

Greetings to all of my brothers and sisters of the Jewish faith tradition as you celebrate the beautiful Festival of Lights. Please accept my prayerful best wishes, along with those of the clergy, religious and faithful of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

As you light the menorah and recall the glory of the Temple's rededication, may you be illuminated by the brightness of joy and hope amidst the darkness of these challenging times.

Shalom Aleichem!

Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez | Archbishop of Philadelphia

### A Couple of Issues With Word Choice

In the Dec. 3 Newsbriefs article about Walter Mosley, I was taken back by the reference to his "Jewish mother," with the implication that it would be assumed that she would be a white person and a "Black father" with the implication that he would be assumed to be non-Jewish. That seems to play into stereotypes.

The explanation of the term "yenta" as being a "busybody and gossip" ("Lil' Yentas Serves Jewish Vegan Comfort Food," Dec. 3) is similar to giving a definition of the word "john" as meaning "toilet." It may be slang for that, but nevertheless it is a name, just as Yenta is a name. I happen to know a few women who happen to be named Yenta.

Sandy Falcone | Broomall

### Social Work Justly Acknowledged

It was marvelous to read Sophie Panzer's superb page one tribute to the commitments and mission of Dorothy C. Kahn ("Great Depression Social Work Story Has Lessons for Today," Nov. 26) — to the profession of social work in general and to Jewish social work in particular.

While my social work programs at Catholic University and the University of Pennsylvania offered excellent clinical grounding, both schools emphasized that a grad degree in social work was a promise to work tirelessly throughout our lives

to provide opportunities for our most vulnerable citizens, which Panzer's words beautifully and skillfully emphasize.

When I was privileged to be a counselor at Jewish Family and Children's Service and director of its family life education, Sadie Ginns, of blessed memory, a devoted social worker, worked 24/7 with those who arrived in Philadelphia from countries all over the world, in order to assist in employment, locate homes and schools for their children and, of course, synagogues to welcome them.

Those in my profession stand on the shoulders of the tireless professionals who introduced couples and family therapy, sex therapy, group therapy, family life ed, short-term interactive therapy, and surely, if not founded, co-founded social and public policy.

Again, thank you for Panzer's wonderful, informative, uplifting tribute to Kahn, and the proud, historic profession of social work.

Sarakay Smullens | Philadelphia

### Life After 75 Is Worth Living

Ezekiel Emmanuel ("UPenn Doctor to Serve on COVID Task Force," Nov. 19) does not belong on a health care task force because he has written that living to 75 years is quite sufficient and these people should be denied health care to detect and treat cancer and other life threatening illnesses.

He said post-75-year-olds are faltering and declining. Verdi was 79 when he wrote Falstaff. I am 75 years old and play golf three times a week, walking the course; I teach advanced music appreciation; I sing and lead Shabbat services at shul.

My career was as an academic neurologist and drug developer. I taught neurology at Penn and taught medical ethics at Medical College of Pennsylvania. I would treat all patients with dignity and would not patronize the elderly. I treated disease regardless of age. If a person was unable to recover and had serious illness that impacted mental capacity, I would encourage less aggressive treatment but age was not the sole criterion.

I can only hope that Dr. Emmanuel will not try to deny a COVID vaccine or COVID treatment to the elderly. Denying treatment based on age is against medical ethics.

Neil Sussman | Philadelphia

### There's More to Shabbat Than Going Without Tech

Olivia Sher, in her opinion piece ("Shabbat Transformed, Reinvigorated," Nov. 19), should have focused her work on the fact that she and her friends were more interested in the results of the presidential election than of being an Orthodox Jew observing Shabbos.

It is unfortunate for her that her understanding of traditional Shabbos observance means only going without technology for 25 hours. This is only partly so. To truly envelop oneself in the Shabbos experience, one must take a "vacation" from all things in the outside world; to rest creatively, physically and spiritually.

Nowhere in her article did I find her ability to "let go" of the rest of the week and focus on Shabbos. She may have (almost) followed the letter of the law, but totally missed the spirit of it.

I truly hope that one day Sher will come to a greater understanding of how Shabbos was meant to be observed in its traditional sense. Whoever the president would be, nothing would change that in those 25 hours. Each Shabbos is precious — no more than any other including the one that fell on Nov. 7. ●

Susan Yitzhak | Philadelphia

## 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**

### 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.**

# Delivering Chanukah Foods to Loved Ones

## FOOD

LINDA MOREL | JE FOOD COLUMNIST

**BY NOW**, certain things are abundantly clear.

The pandemic will pose a threat until vaccines are widely distributed. The CDC discourages large indoor gatherings. It is too cold in December to celebrate Chanukah outdoors, the way many people did during the High Holidays.

Chanukah will likely be observed by nuclear families or people living under the same roof. In many cases, this will leave grandparents and great-grandparents stranded at home, shut out of Chanukah candle lightings, dinners and parties. Although these measures are for their safety, this separation may increase

their sense of isolation during this ongoing health crisis.

Unfortunately, elderly loved ones, friends and neighbors may be too frail to launch a full-fledged Chanukah meal, complete with crispy but labor-intensive latkes. But there is something you can do: Make a portable Chanukah dinner and drop it off at their homes. It would be a mitzvah.

Deliver food in attractive bags filled with disposable containers. Tape clear preparation instructions to the tops. Recipes that don't require reheating, such as salads or roasted vegetables, are recommended. Pack a small jar of applesauce to accompany latkes. Include a pastry for dessert. Add paper plates and cups with a Chanukah theme



Zufar Kamilov / iStock / Getty Images Plus

and plastic silverware.

For convenience, cook the same recipes for your nuclear family, but make extra servings to give away.

Traditional holiday delicacies prepared by loving hands will bring the warmth of the Festival of Lights to cherished family members and friends. Providing food to the elderly is the most thoughtful gift you can give this Chanukah.

### CRISPY LATKES | PAREVE

Yield: 24-30 latkes

Accumulated wisdom says that the best potatoes for latkes are starchy and low in moisture. Russet Burbanks are supposed to be the best, but King Edwards or Yukon Golds will also work well.

- 8 russet potatoes
- 1 egg, hand beaten in a bowl
- 1 tablespoon flour
- ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
- ¼ teaspoon onion powder
- Kosher salt to taste and for sprinkling
- Corn oil for frying

Peel the potatoes. Cut them in half to fit in the food

processor's feed tube. Using the grating blade, process the potatoes. Place a colander over a large mixing bowl. Move the grated potatoes to the colander and let them sit for 5-10 minutes to drain. Squeeze more moisture out of the potatoes with your palm.

Move the potatoes to a second large bowl. Pour out the potato water from the bowl under the colander, but keep the potato starch accumulated under the water. Scrape the potato starch into the bowl with the potatoes.

Add the remaining ingredients (except the oil). Mix well with a wooden spoon.

Fill two large skillet with ¼-inch of corn oil. Heat over a medium flame. Take rounded tablespoons of grated potato. Flatten them with your palms and squeeze out the liquid into the sink.

Place the raw latkes in the oil. After a couple of minutes, they will rise. Keep flattening them with a firm spatula. Fry the latkes until golden brown and turn them over, frying until golden brown on the other side. Add more oil as needed.

Note: The grated potatoes will continue to weep, creating more water. Tip the bowl and pour it

into the sink as it accumulates.

Place two layers of paper towels on a platter. Drain the latkes on paper towels. Sprinkle on more salt. Serve immediately or keep warm in a 200-degree oven. The recipe can be reheated in a 350-degree oven until slightly sizzling.

### ROASTED ZUCCHINI | PAREVE

Serves 6-8

- Nonstick vegetable spray
- 4 medium-sized zucchini
- ¼ cup olive oil, or more if needed
- ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
- Kosher salt to taste

Preheat your oven to 425 F. Coat a large ovenproof pan, such as Pyrex, with nonstick spray.

Rinse the zucchini well under cold water. Pat it dry with paper towels. Cut off both ends and discard. Cut each zucchini into thirds crosswise, so you'll have three barrel-shaped pieces. Then cut each third into four vertical slices, which are rectangular, not round. Move them to the prepared pan.

See Food, Page 20

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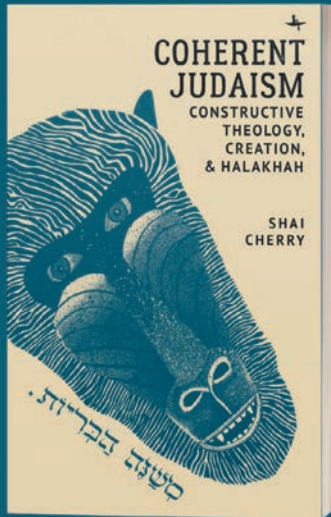


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## Food

Continued from Page 18

Drizzle the zucchini with olive oil and gently stir to coat each piece. Add more oil, if needed. Sprinkle both sides with salt.

Place each zucchini piece skin side up and flesh side down. Roast for an hour, turning every 15 minutes, so the flesh side is up at the end. Zucchini is ready when the flesh is golden brown.

Serve immediately or at room temperature. The recipe can be reheated at 350 F, or it can be microwaved.

### ROSEMARY ROASTED CHICKEN | MEAT

Serves 8

- Nonstick vegetable spray
- 8 chicken leg quarters (drumstick and thigh)
- ½ teaspoon rosemary
- ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
- Kosher salt to taste
- Freshly ground pepper to taste

Preheat your oven to 425 F. Coat a roasting pan and rack with nonstick spray.

Rinse the chicken under cold water. Pat it dry with paper towels. Sprinkle both sides of the chicken with rosemary, garlic powder, salt and pepper. Use more of each spice if needed or desired. Place the chicken on the roasting pan rack.

Roast for 45 minutes, turning every 10 minutes, until the skin is crisp and a knife inserted at the joint produces

clear, not pink, liquid. Serve immediately or at room temperature. The recipe can be briefly reheated at 350 F.

### PECAN SQUARES | PAREVE

Yield: 16 pecan squares

- Nonstick vegetable spray
- 1 egg
- 1 cup dark brown sugar, sifted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ cup flour
- ¼ teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon granulated salt (not coarse kosher salt)
- ⅛ teaspoon cinnamon
- ⅛ teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 cup pecans, coarsely chopped

Preheat your oven to 350 F. Coat an 8-by-8-inch baking pan with nonstick spray.

Place the egg, brown sugar and vanilla into a large mixing bowl. Using an electric beater, mix on a low speed. Add the flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon and nutmeg. Mix until well combined. Stir in the pecans.

Spread the dough in the prepared pan. Bake for 20 minutes, until the edges turn golden but the center is still soft. A cake tester inserted into the center will come out almost clean. Do not overbake.

Cool to room temperature before cutting it in squares. Cut four rows across and four rows down. Serve while warm or at room temperature. Pecan squares can be stored in an airtight plastic container for two days. They can be frozen. •



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FROM THE JE STAFF

**JEWISH EXPONENT**



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# Overlooked: Other Books to Consider

**BOOKS**

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

ONCE A MONTH, we dedicate space for two book reviews, generally of books that are Jewish in subject matter, recently published and interesting to the writer, though what guides our coverage more than anything is determining which books will be interesting to our readers.

Twelve book issues give us space for just 24 book reviews with those criteria. And because we occasionally fill one review space with books coverage of a different sort, we sometimes miss books we were excited about.

This week, we remedy that with this list of right books that came out at the wrong time, all of which are worthy of your consideration even if they didn't fit into our coverage schedule.

Thanks for reading this year, and come back for more in January.

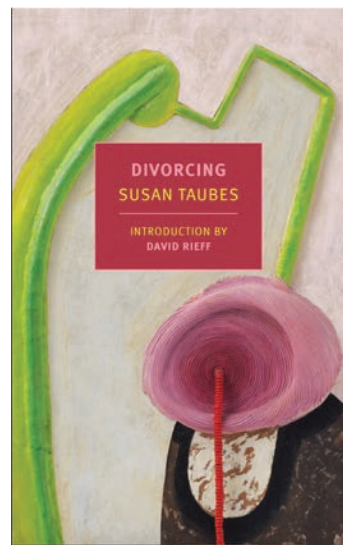


**"THE DRIVE"**  
Yair Assulin (translated by Jessica Cohen)

As an Israeli soldier nears his breaking point, torn between his responsibilities, his desires and his country, he is ordered to meet with a military psychiatrist, who will decide whether the young man will continue

with his army service. On the long, emotionally fraught ride, the soldier, who is driven to the appointment by his father, does the sort of soul-level struggling that makes great fiction possible.

The translator, Jessica Cohen, is responsible for translations of Israeli literary giants with fans in America like David Grossman, Amos Oz and Etgar Keret, and one can only hope that her name on Assulin's work means that we'll be seeing more from him on our shelves soon.

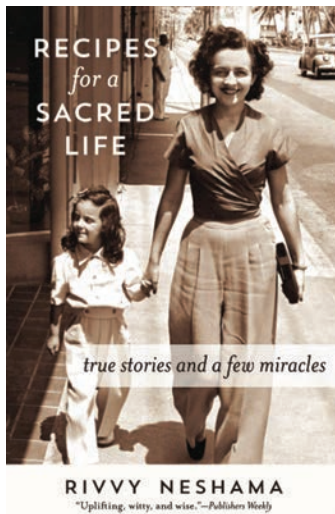


**"DIVORCING"**  
Susan Taubes

Susan Taubes is usually consigned to the role of a minor orbiter of Planet Sontag. A New York Review of Books reissue of her 1969 novel "Divorcing," savaged upon release when it wasn't being ignored, makes the case that Taubes' work was worthy of greater consideration in its own right. Born in Budapest, another writer in the line of a great rabbinic family, Taubes brought a clerical sense of seriousness to her work, yet still managed to be pretty funny.

**"RECIPES FOR A SACRED LIFE: TRUE STORIES AND A FEW MIRACLES"**  
Rivvy Neshama

This is assuredly the only book on this list to feature a



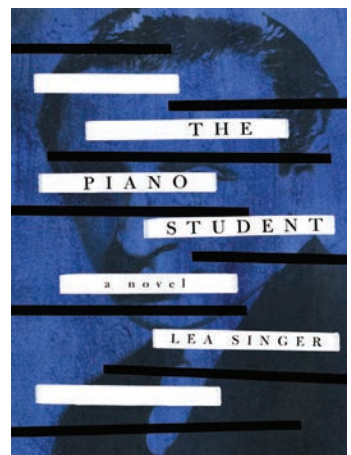
**"THE NEW JEWISH CANON: IDEAS & DEBATES, 1980-2015"**  
Edited by Dr. Claire E. Sufrin and Dr. Yehuda Kurtzer



**"THE NEW JEWISH CANON: IDEAS & DEBATES, 1980-2015"**  
Edited by Dr. Claire E. Sufrin and Dr. Yehuda Kurtzer

Claire Sufrin and Yehuda Kurtzer, who is president of the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, display a great sensitivity to the contours of contemporary Jewish thought and debate with their selections in "The New Jewish Canon."

Broken into four categories — Jewish Politics and the Public Square; History, Memory and Narrative; Religion and Religiosity; and Identities and Communities — "The New Jewish Canon" is a decisive statement that the intellectual life of Jewry is a vibrant, breathing thing.

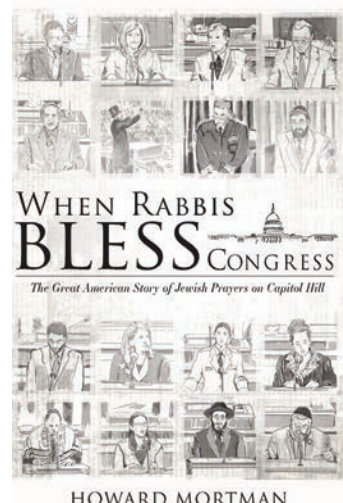


**"THE PIANO STUDENT"**  
Lea Singer, translated by Elisabeth Lauffer

This is a strange novel about a strange correspondence between the famous pianist, Vladimir Horowitz, and a young student of his. The story is based on letters discovered by Lea Singer, a German, in Switzerland, and comes with an accompanying Spotify playlist and YouTube channel filled with performances by Horowitz.

**"WHEN RABBIS BLESS CONGRESS: THE GREAT AMERICAN STORY OF JEWISH PRAYERS ON CAPITOL HILL"**  
Howard Mortman

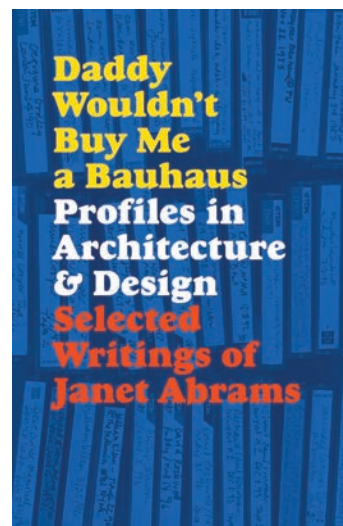
Did you know that more than 400 rabbis have delivered more than 600 prayers before Congress since the Civil War era? And that Isaiah appears to be the most popular prophet to cite? Howard Mortman, communications director for C-SPAN, turns his attention to this infrequently discussed phenomenon, yielding more than just fun facts.



**"DADDY WOULDN'T BUY ME A BAUHAUS: PROFILES IN ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN"**  
Janet Abrams

For someone like me who knows less than zero about architecture or design, this collection of profiles made me feel I'd gotten a crash course. Janet Abrams, with a foundation of sharp questions and sharper writing, builds her book with profiles of designers, policy makers and academics, written over a few decades. ●

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"The Drive" Courtesy of New Vessel Press; "Present" Courtesy of Even Hoshen; "Divorcing" Courtesy of New York Review Books; "Recipes for a Sacred Life: True Stories and a Few Miracles" Courtesy of Sandra Jonas Publishing; "The New Jewish Canon: Ideas & Debates, 1980-2015" Courtesy of Academic Studies Press; "The Piano Student" Courtesy of New Vessel Press; "When Rabbis Bless Congress: The Great American Story of Jewish Prayers on Capitol Hill" Courtesy of Cherry Orchard Books; "Daddy Wouldn't Buy Me a Bauhaus: Profiles in Architecture and Design" Courtesy of Princeton Architectural Press

# Review: Nicole Krauss' New Story Collection

## BOOKS

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

### "To Be a Man: Stories"

Nicole Krauss  
Harper

IN NINE OF the 10 stories that make up Nicole Krauss' first collection of short stories, "To Be a Man," the protagonist or another prominently featured character has an advanced degree of some kind.

In the only story that doesn't settle this question one way or the other, "Amour," the narrator's love interest yearns for life with her old boyfriend, Ezra, who would take her to the Film Forum to see Pasolini and Fellini movies. The existence of a Ph.D. is not directly addressed in that story but the characters in these stories, published in the last 18 years, live in a blur of endowed chairs and second homes, and own their apartments in New York, Tel Aviv or both. They take solo vacations to Kyoto and have opinions on opera and work for architects.

There's nothing wrong with writing about a small milieu; the function of fiction, after all, is to suggest universality through interrogation of the particular, whether that particular is

middle- to upper-class or more down-to-earth, as in Roth's Weequahic or Ferrante's Naples.

But what hinders Krauss' stories is that her characters are often residents of the same emotional neighborhood.

Slowly encroaching calamity, represented with fire (plus doomed relationships) in "End Days" and with an unexplained toxic event (plus a doomed relationship) in "Future Emergencies" is met in both cases with characters who, despite frantic internal conflict, do nothing.

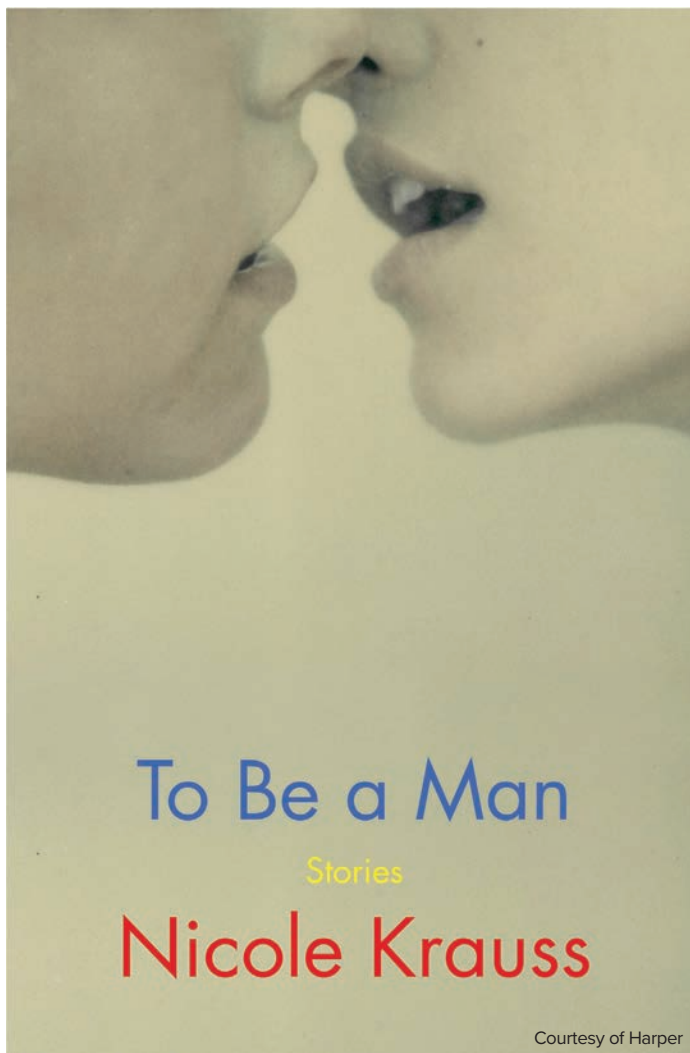
The narrators of "In the Garden," "Switzerland" and "Amour" begin their stories with variants of, "Let me tell you about a thing that happened to me decades ago that I was recently reminded of, and that still looms large in my self-conception."

Everyone who is Jewish wears it awkwardly, like trying to shrug on a tallit that won't quite stay on the shoulders.

To read these stories can sometimes feel like watching a one-woman show — the characters are numerous, but you can see it's the same person.

The stories that more directly concern the title premise are more successful.

Fathers or father-figures



loom large in the lives of their daughters in "Zusya on the Roof," "I Am Asleep but My Heart Is Awake," "End Days," "To Be a Man" and "Seeing

Ershadi." In these stories, as well as "Switzerland," the complex mix of loneliness, fear, sex, violence, weakness and submission that some writers call "love"

is most thoughtfully considered.

In "To Be a Man," what the fathers or father-figures did to socialize themselves into daughter-raisers is a mystery to those daughters, who are usually mistreated by their romantic partners. How does a man doing *this* to me become a man who loves his daughters? The women learn that men are capable both of great violence and tenderness, and that the two impulses live within them always. The men in the life of the narrator — the German boxer lover, who is "pure wolf" in bed; her IDF enlistee brother, who is taught to numb himself to his pain and that of others; a male friend, who recalls his adolescent violence — all stood where her teenage son stands now, "out on a bank between the shore and a sea that goes on and on." All the narrator can hope for is that he'll keep an eye on the shore as the waters continue to rise.

Krauss' writing is phenomenal, and to read her stories, even those that don't quite succeed, is to treat yourself to bite after bite of an exceedingly rich cake. I'll look forward to her next novel. ●

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# The Most Important Chanukah Candle

CANDLE LIGHTING

Dec. 11  
Dec. 184:18 p.m.  
4:20 p.m.

BY RABBI ERIC YANOFF

## Parshat Vayeshev

A 7-YEAR-OLD member of my synagogue once asked me, “Rabbi, which is the most important candle on the *chanukiyah* (Chanukah menorah)?” What a great question!

At first I wondered aloud: Is it the *shammash*, whose job it is to light the others? Perhaps. After all, we learn in the Talmud (Shabbat 122a): “*Ner l’echad, ner l’m’eah*” — a candle that can light one other has the same kindling power as a candle that can light a hundred others without itself being diminished.

Indeed, that is the role that rabbis, educators, parents, guardians and others embrace for ourselves — that we gain emotional strength and inspiration by lighting a spark in others. Are we, like the *shammash*, the most important candle?

But then, the tables were turned, and my young congregant reasoned aloud, “But rabbi, the *shammash* doesn’t even count toward the number of days on the *chanukiyah*! Sure, it makes the other ones count, but if it goes out, we’re

still fine, the mitzvah is still fulfilled, right?”

I paused. I smiled. And as has happened in many of my best times as a rabbi, the tables turned: I wondered who the *shammash* is now? Who is lighting whom? Who is teaching whom? And then he offered a different interpretation: The most important candle, he suggested, is the next one to be lit.

Yes, the next candle is most important. After all, each successive night of Chanukah we light the newest day’s candle first. It is in keeping with the sage Hillel, who famously explained why we add a candle each night with the overriding Jewish value *ma’alin ba-kodesh v’ein moridin* — that we should always strive to grow in holiness and never to diminish. We should constantly seek that next candle, that newest spark.

And here’s why that next light is the most important light: Because at the moment just before it is ignited, it could go either way. The flame, the relationship, the curiosity, the Jewish connection could be nurtured — or extinguished. That’s also why it’s so important, what we do

with each of those opportunities to “light up” a person curious about Judaism. It’s why we are desperate to not miss a single chance — each chance, each time — each candle, each child, each person of any age, seeking to be “lit up,” Jewishly, a little bit more.

In a sense, when I was asked that question about which candle is most important, the asker was the answer. The fact that this young asker was curious was my chance to light the newest and, in that moment, most important flame. Because each time, it can go either way. Each time, it’s that crucial.

We learn this from the last verse of our Torah portion this week: After Joseph, locked in a dungeon with Pharaoh’s cupbearer, interprets the wine steward’s dream to mean that he will be freed, and he is, we read: “*V’lo zachar sar ha-mashkim et-Yosef, vayish-kacheihu* — The cup-bearer did not remember Joseph, but rather forgot him entirely” (Genesis 40:23). This person, brought forth into freedom, quickly forgot that there was another person who had given him hope in the darkness of Pharaoh’s dungeon.

The commentator Bekhor Shor interprets the odd repetition in the verse — both that the cupbearer “did not remember” and that he “forgot” — with the understanding that this forgetfulness was not out of purposeful, mindful hatred, but that Joseph simply fell out of his thoughts. Joseph and his impressive dream interpretation faded benignly away, not due to malice, but like a skill that falls out of practice, it atrophied, fell to the side, dehabituated and unattended.

The cupbearer just moved on from that interaction that had sparked a candle of hope. He just kept going, living his life, as if that miracle had not happened. And once forgotten, if it does not remain, appreciated and remembered and embraced and inspiring — then it might as well have not happened.

We cannot forget like that. In this moment, we, too, are in a dark time. Though I am in awe of our sense of innovation and resilience, many of our most redemptive practices (Jewishly and otherwise) have fallen into disuse, out of necessity to protect against the pandemic — how we gather, celebrate, comfort

and hope. Desperate after these many months for some glimmer of hope, we may now see the very beginnings of a light to guide us along a path ahead. Let us not forget that the next step, the next spark, if we choose to ignite it, may be the most critical.

Because we know, from all of the less-than-encouraging news over many months, that that next light is far from a sure thing. And yet Hillel reminds us, *ma’alin ba-kodesh*: The best is yet to come. Candle by candle, moment by moment, despite the odds, we add light, we improve, we illumine a path through the darkness, raising ever higher in holiness and hope. ●

Rabbi Eric Yanoff is one of the rabbis at Adath Israel in Merion Station and is co-president of the Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia. The Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia is proud to provide diverse perspectives on Torah commentary for the Jewish Exponent. The opinions expressed in this column are the author’s own and do not reflect the view of the Board of Rabbis.



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## Women of Vision Ponder Societal Issues Via Multiple 'Tea on Tuesday' Sessions

THROUGHOUT THE FALL, the Women of Vision affinity group of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia hosted a series of events for the community entitled "Tea on Tuesday." Each event featured inspiring women who are making an impact in communities across the country.

The events were planned in partnership by the programming and advocacy committees of Women of Vision, led by programming co-chairs Mary Relles and Rabbi Lynnda Targan and advocacy co-chairs Karen Model and Bonnie-Kay Marks

The first "Tea on Tuesday" session, hosted on Sept. 22, featured Women of Vision member Shira Goodman interviewing Tamar Manasseh, founder and president of Mothers/Men Against Senseless Killings (MASK), who explored issues related to race and violence in America today.

Goodman serves as the Philadelphia regional director of the Anti-Defamation League. Prior to that, she was the executive director of CeasefirePA. Registered guests had access to

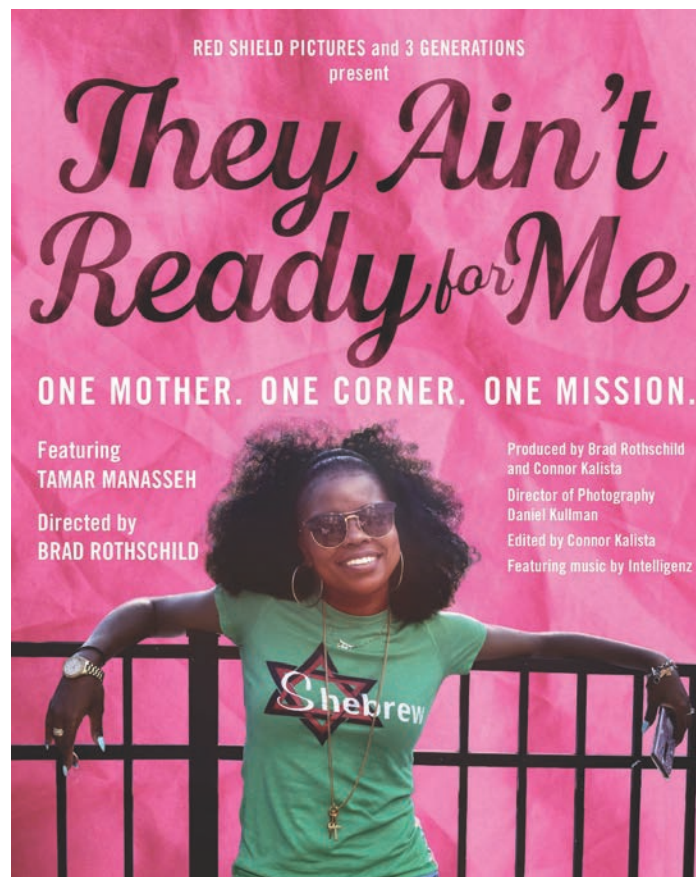
the documentary "They Ain't Ready for Me." This feature-length documentary explores Manasseh's work as an African American rabbinical student leading the fight against senseless killings on Chicago's South Side.

The second session was hosted on Oct. 20 and was retitled as an "Equali-Tea" session. The program featured a discussion with author, food blogger and cooking coach Laura Kumin. If the battle for suffrage brings to mind images of women in long white dresses parading on city streets, the attendees were in for a surprise.

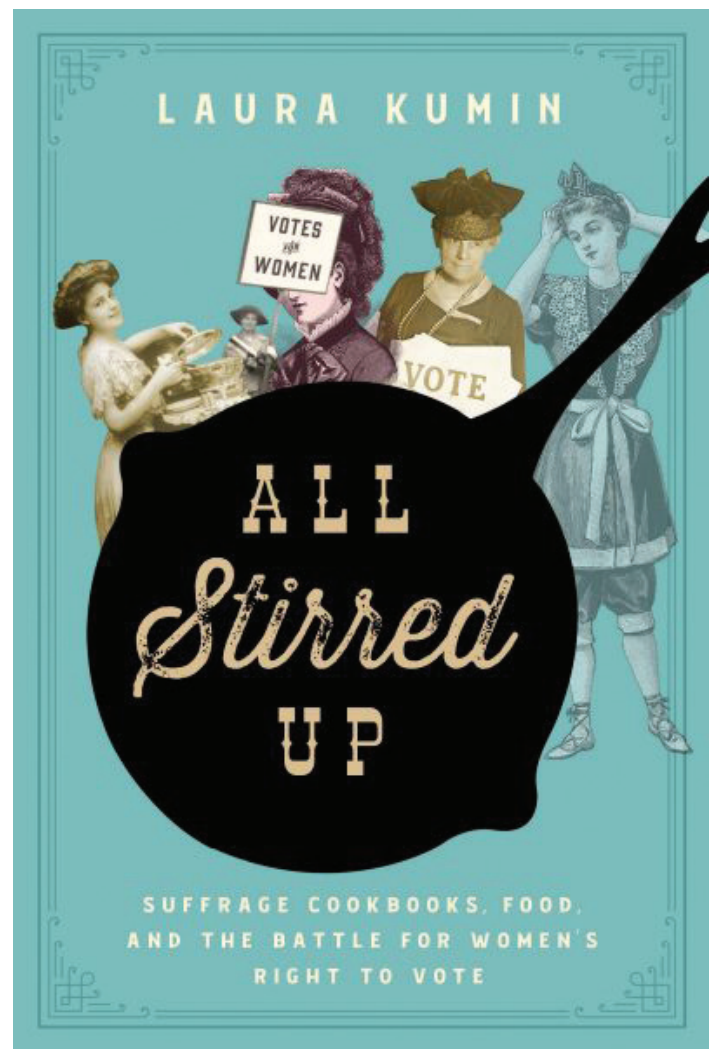
Women of Vision member Marilyn Lieberman moderated the discussion.

Together with Kumin, Women of Vision explored how the women of Pennsylvania (and elsewhere) fought for the right to vote with cookbooks and food, rather than picket signs and hunger strikes. They also learned how to make a pie for a suffragist's doubting husband and how the invention of Tastykakes fits into history.

The third and final session, hosted on Dec. 1, was retitled as "Responsibili-Tea."



▲ "They Ain't Ready for Me" by Tamar Manasseh  
Courtesy of theyaintreadyforme.com



▶ "All Stirred Up" by Laura Kumin  
Courtesy of laurakuman.com

The session featured a discussion with Amy Spitalnick, executive director of Integrity First for America (IFA). IFA is a nonpartisan nonprofit organization dedicated to holding those accountable who threaten long-standing principles of our democracy — including our country's commitment to civil rights and equal justice.

Women of Vision member, Jewish Community Relations Council chair and Philadelphia attorney Arlene Fickler served as moderator.

Integrity First for America's (IFA) Charlottesville, Virginia, lawsuit is the only current legal effort to take on the broad leadership of the white supremacist movement. It provides a tangible way to take action against the violent white supremacy and broader extremism that's poisoning this country — bankrupting the leaders and hate groups at the center of the movement.

To learn more about Women of Vision, visit [jewishphilly.org/get-involved/affinity-groups/women-of-vision](http://jewishphilly.org/get-involved/affinity-groups/women-of-vision) or email Affinity and Donor Engagement Manager Shara Swift at [sswift@jewishphilly.org](mailto:sswift@jewishphilly.org).

▼ FRIDAY, DEC. 11

**Judaism and Spirituality**

Take a virtual tour of 'Exploring Judaism and Spirituality' by Marlene D'Orazio Adler on display at the **Temple Judea Museum** through Dec. 15. For more info, go to templejudeamuseum.pastperfectonline.com

**Language and Culture**

The **Yiddish Arts and Academics Association of North America** will hold its Not Your Usual Intensive Winter Yiddish Language and Culture Program. The first Yiddish winter intensive program will run from Dec. 6-20 virtually over Zoom. The winter intensive will include four levels of language and conversation (*shmues*) courses, as well as a cultural program, including Yiddish yoga, four different song workshops and a children's book reading. For more info, go to yaaana.com.

**Kabbalat Shabbat**

Unplug from a busy week with an acoustic Shabbat service led by Hazzan Howard Glantz of **Congregation Adath Jeshurun** with familiar tunes that will put a smile on your face and a song in your heart. For all ages, from babies to bobbies. Zoom in with your friends for this relaxed, casual and enjoyable service. The Zoom information is in the AJ Weekly emails, or call the office at 215-635-6611 for assistance.

▼ SUNDAY, DEC 13

**Chanukah Celebration**

Light up your Chanukah with **Bucks County Kehillah's** Community Celebration, 3-4 p.m. on Zoom. Join

us for a festive menorah lighting, joyous music, Chanukah stories, crafts and dancing. Register at: forms.gle/SVEcqzfbLQeqeB58. For any questions or concerns, email Carrie Matez at Buckscounty@kehillah.jewishphilly.org.

**Virtual Book Launch**

**Congregation Adath Jeshurun** will launch Rav Shai Cherry's new book from 4-6 p.m. In "Coherent Judaism: Constructive Theology, Creation, and Halakha" Cherry seeks to reconcile traditional tenets of observance with modern concepts inherent in a post-Darwinian, post-Holocaust world. The event will be followed immediately by a virtual community Chanukah candle lighting. Call the office at 215-635-6611 for more information.

▼ MONDAY, DEC 14

**Caretakers Support Group**

In this supportive online **Jewish Family and Children's Service** group facilitated by Lillian Rozin, you will have a forum to talk about the challenges and opportunities that come with the responsibility of caring for others. The group meets at 3 p.m. and RSVPs are required to receive Zoom password. Contact Rivka Goldman at 267-256-2250 or rgoldman@jfcspshilly.org.

**Virtual Author Event**

Join **Jewish Family and Children's Service** and **Beyond the Bookends** for an insightful conversation with author and scholar Richard Rothstein about his essential and revolutionary book "The Color of Law." Proceeds from this event support JFCS programs and services for children, families and individuals

struggling during these difficult times. Event starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$36-\$48.

▼ TUESDAY, DEC 15

**Career Webinar**

Join **JEVS Career Strategies** along with panelists Sena Owereko, Director of Strategic Initiatives at Peirce College Fatima Martin and WIOA Team Lead Pennsylvania Career Link Michele Claybrook-Lucas at noon. You will receive a link to our online webinar in your registration confirmation email.

▼ WEDNESDAY, DEC 16

**IT Support**

A **Jewish Family and Children's Services** group for people to come and ask questions and learn about various ways to connect. Topics may include Zoom, Google Hangouts, FaceTime, Facebook Messenger, WhatsApp, etc. Come with specific questions or to learn a new communication platform. Questions? Contact: Rivka Goldman at 267-256-2250 or rgoldman@jfcspshilly.org. Group meets at 10 a.m. Donations of \$10 appreciated.

▼ THURSDAY, DEC 17

**Career Webinar**

Join **JEVS Career Strategies** and **Jewish Family and Children's Services** on Zoom at noon for a discussion about how to manage anxiety and foster self-compassion. Discussion will be led by a JEVS Career Strategies career adviser and JFCS social worker. Call 215-832-0878 or email CS@jevs.org for more information. ●

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## DEATH NOTICES

### ABRAMS

Florence Abrams, 91, passed away following a short illness on December 22, 2020. Her beloved husband Marvin Abrams preceded her in death. She is survived by her loving daughters Susan Kaynes (Starrels), Marjorie Starrels and Susan Pelleg, and her adoring son Martin Abrams. Florence had five grandchildren and one great grandchild. She was a resident of Anne's Choice in Warminster. Florence gave back to the community where she and Marvin were volunteers for fifteen years at Abington Hospital. She loved working at Bloomingdale's for over 30 years and enjoyed taking her family shopping there. She will be missed at the Anne's Choice bridge table where she was a consistent winner. She was a graduate of Temple University. Due to the family's wishes, services will be private. Contributions in her memory may be made to Abington Hospital Foundation 1200 Old York Road Abington PA, 19001. [www.abingtonhealth.org](http://www.abingtonhealth.org)

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### BACHMAN

Lois (Morris) Bachman, on November 26, 2020, beloved wife of the late Martin Bachman, loving mother of Marjorie (Marc) Boxbam and Joseph (the late Robin) Bachman, cherished grandmother of Lisa Boxbam (Joseph Goldstein) and Rebecca Boxbam. Services and Interment private. Contributions in Lois' memory may be made to Gratz College [www.gratz.edu/ways-give](http://www.gratz.edu/ways-give) or Temple Beth Am [www.oirtbetham.org/giving/](http://www.oirtbetham.org/giving/) or a charity of the donor's choice.

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### BAYER

Evelyn Bayer (née Mistetzky) passed peacefully in her sleep on Saturday morning, November 28th at 97 years old. She was the daughter of Joseph and Fannie Mistetzky, and the youngest sister of Norman, Sam, Luba, and Masha. She was the wife of Jack Bayer. Evelyn is survived by her beloved sons Dennis (Aggie), Todd (Carolyn), Mitchell (Hillary), and grandchildren Jonah (Victoria), Vanessa, Brooke, and Alex. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Evelyn was the only American born in a family of Russian immigrants. Watching her father build homes and later her parents both run a small grocery, Evelyn came to know the promise of the American dream and the values of hard work and self-determination. Evelyn met her sweetheart, Jack Bayer, as a teenager, and the couple enjoyed a loving 61-year marriage before Jack's passing in 2006. They raised their three sons in Shaker Heights, Ohio, before relocating to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1968. There Evelyn set up a home and quickly adjusted to a new life in a new city. She spent this next chapter of her life traveling abroad with her doting husband, whose position as president of an international corporation took the couple all over the world. It was during these travels that Evelyn's wit, style, and curiosity helped turn business associations into genuine lifelong connections. Evelyn made friends wherever they went, and she had a story about practically any city or country that you could name. Until her last days, Evelyn's memory remained remarkably sharp. From boat rides in Capri to nights in Egypt during the 1970s, she could readily recall the most granular details of her life. A Cleveland girl at heart, she saw herself as a Midwesterner and considered Cleveland her true home. Still, Evelyn embraced her life in Philadelphia, where she and Jack enjoyed years of love and laughter surrounded by friends and family at their home down the shore and at dinners at the former Locust Club. Evelyn and Jack were active sponsors of the Greater Philadelphia chapter of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. Evelyn was a woman of phenomenal taste, sharp humor, and understated elegance. Nothing gave her more joy than a good mystery book, movie, or TV show. She was a proud mother, adoring grandmother, and a loving wife. The Bayer family welcomes donations in Evelyn's name to either the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Chapter, or the Jewish Family & Children Services, [www.jfcsphilly.org](http://www.jfcsphilly.org).

### A Community Remembers

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### BOOSE

Renee Boose (Rosenberg, nee Kitchner) of Tamarac, FL, 89 years old, formerly of Philadelphia, passed away December 2, 2020, at Menorah House in West Boca Raton, FL. Wife of the late Herbert Boose and the late Benjamin Rosenberg. Loving mother to Sharon (Dr. Tom) Fried of Washington, DC, and Debbie (Harvey) Newman of Santa Fe, NM. Her son, Craig Rosenberg, predeceased her. Devoted to Dr. Ora Fried (Scott Froom) of Denver, CO, Rabbi Benjamin (Estie) Fried of Beit Shemesh, Israel, Danny Newman of Eugene, OR, Abby Newman (fiance Dominic Horath) of Soquel, CA, and Michael Rosenberg. Also survived by eight great grandchildren, sister Doris Glasshofer, and brother Charles Kitchner. Renee worked for over 25 years as a tax examiner for the IRS. Prior to moving to Florida in the 1990's, she was a member of Shaare Shamayim and an active part of their sisterhood. She loved to travel, was an avid reader and gardener, enjoyed theatre, klezmer music, and the Barry Reisman Mazel Tov Hour. A private virtual burial and shiva will be held by the immediate family. Donations in her memory may be made to your local PBS affiliate. Many thanks go to Trustbridge Hospice and Menorah House for their compassionate care. May her memory be for a blessing.

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### BRECHER

Sandra L. Brecher (nee Footer) of Center City, Philadelphia, formerly of Wynnewood, PA and Dayton, Ohio passed quietly Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Mother of Leslie Brecher Freeman (Gary) of St Louis, MO, David (z"l), Neil (Emily), Deanne, Andrew (Dara) Brecher. Grandmother of Hannah, Noah, Elliott (Kristina), Evan (Nora Garritt) Freeman, Jeremy, Amanda, Cate, and Vivienne Brecher. Sister of Ron Footer of Dayton, Ohio. Former wife of the late Fred Brecher. She was previously active in Women's American ORT, preschool administrator at Temple Beth Hillel/Beth El, Jewish Federation employee and volunteer for the Jewish Information and Referral Service, friend of Keshet Israel synagogue. She was an independent woman who loved to travel and attend the theater. She loved sitting on a beach until sunset. She was an avid follower of the financial markets and loved being with her family and friends. Donations in her memory may be made to the Sandi Brecher Family Fund of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia. A private funeral service will be held in Dayton, Ohio. "And that's my story! "



### BRONSTEIN

Florence (nee Kaminer) Bronstein on November 24, 2020 of Bala Cynwyd, PA. Beloved wife of the late Kenneth Bronstein; loving mother of Steven (Marcie) Bronstein, Lauren Heller, and Erik (Steffanie) Bronstein; adoring grandmother of Jason (Lauren), Jennifer (Felix), Cody, Jake, Daniel (Marissa), and Matthew; cherished great-grandmother of Eloise; devoted sister of Arnold (Sandra) Kaminer. Services and interment were private. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org).

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## DEATH NOTICES

### CARP

Marilyn K. Carp (nee Kessler) died on November 24, 2020. Beloved wife of Joseph; devoted mother of Noah (Risa) Carp and Abbe Carp; cherished grandmother of Ari and Rebecca. Contributions in her memory may be made to Temple Sinai, 1401 Limekiln Pike, Dresher, PA 19025 or Anns Choice Benevolent Care Fund, 31000 Anns Choice Way, Warminster, PA 18974.

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### FALLAN

Robert Fallan aka Robert Michael Feldman of Thousand Oaks, CA previously of Northeast Philadelphia, age 61, passed away on Saturday November 14, 2020. Husband of 29 years to Carole Superfine, devoted and loving father to Kenna and Max. Beloved son of the late Olga and Irv Feldman. Robert had a successful professional career in the insurance industry and as a businessman in the healthcare sector. Robert's greatest joys were his children, traveling with his family and paying it forward. He died a happy and grateful man. The family respectfully requests that contributions in his memory be made to Diabetes Camping and Educational Services, 12045 E. Waterfront Drive Playa Vista, CA 90094, [diabetescamping.org](http://diabetescamping.org)

### FELDMAN

Miriam Feldman (nee Gross), 104, on November 30, 2020, of Philadelphia, PA. Beloved wife of the late Milton Feldman and loving mother of Martha (Barry) Herman and the late Robert Louis Feldman. Cherished grandmother of Alicia and Mark Herman, and adoring great grandmother of Luna and Solara. She was interred at Roosevelt Memorial Park. Contributions in Miriam's memory may be made to The Arc, helping individuals with intellectual disabilities <https://donate.thearc.org>

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### FELDMAN

Dr. Stanley Mark Feldman on December 3, 2020. Husband of Janice (nee Nightingale). Father of Karen (Jeff) Salisbury, Debby Feldman, Kevin (Alison) Feldman and Jeff Feldman. Grandfather of Brooke and Sean Salisbury, Josh Feldman, Dylan, Cameron and the late Austin Feldman. Graveside Services were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Ronald McDonald House, 3925 Chestnut St., Suite 3110, Phila., PA 19104 or a charity of the donor's choice.

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### GINSBERG

Shirley Ginsberg (nee Zweighaft), on November 28, 2020 of North Wales, PA. Beloved wife of the late William Ginsberg. Loving mother of Ronald Ginsberg, Lois Ginsberg (Charles Kleiser) and Alan Ginsberg (Barbara) and devoted aunt of Ellen Lube, Marlene Zweighaft Lippman (Fred) and Jerry Zweighaft. Graveside Services and Interment were private. Contributions in her memory may be made to any Charity of the donor's choice.

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### GOREN

Norman T. Goren: Amazing is what everyone said after meeting, talking and laughing with Norman who died December 2nd 2020, just shy of his 101st birthday. Born December 17th 1919 of Russian immigrants Edward and Bessie Goren he was married to the late Berniss (Rapoport) father to Denise (wife of the late Steven Waxman) and Jamie Goren (Gregg Greenberg) and grandfather to Rebecca Waxman and Marisa Waxman, Adrienne (Kasey) Toomey, Jared (Courtney Haviland) Goren-Greenberg, Jaclyn (Sander) Lavine. He delighted in his great grandchildren Lilah, Cole, Emilia and Netta and all of his nieces. Norman was fortunate in his last decade to have the companionship of Pearl Kramer. All in his honor and memory should reach out on the 10th of every month to his friends and family as he will no longer be doing so.

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### GORSKY

Harold Gorsky, age 75, passed on December 3, 2020 following a brief illness. Hal was a loving and devoted family man who will be sadly missed. A life-long resident of the Philadelphia area, he was a CPA for over 45 years before his retirement in 2014. Hal enjoyed listening to classic rock, driving his Corvette, and spending time with his grandchildren. Beloved husband of 52 years to Janis (nee Cohen); Loving father of Shara (David) Rabinovic and Dr. Brad (Colleen) Gorsky; Dear brother of Lois Ballen and Dr. Michael (Jane) Gorsky; Devoted grandfather of Noah, Asher, Louisa and Juliet. Contributions in his memory may be made to American Stroke Assoc., 1617 JFK Blvd., Ste 700, Phila., PA 19103 or a charity of the donor's choice. [www.stroke.org](http://www.stroke.org)

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### GRATZ

Ruth (nee Kamerling) Gratz, on Nov. 25, 2020. Wife of the late Dr. Leon Gratz. Mother of Dr. Harris (Vicki) Gratz, Caryn (James) Zaccagnino and Alan (Michelle) Gratz. Sister of Janice (Isadore) Appel. Grandmother of Lee, Marissa, Jeffrey, Jason, Sierra, Shaina and Jessica. Services and Interment private. Contributions in her memory may be made to the American Lung Association, 527 Plymouth Road, Suite 415, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462.

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### GREEN

Shirley Green (nee Levin) passed away December 1, 2020. Beloved wife of the late Bernard Green. Loving mother of Renee Marbo (Barry). Devoted grandmother of Melissa Lipschutz (Michael), and Allison Marbo. Great-grandmother of Samantha. Dear sister of the late Arnold Levin. She is also survived by her sister-in-law Shirley Levin. Contributions in her memory may be made to The Autism Cares Foundation 816 2nd Street Pike, Southampton, PA 18966 [www.autismcaresfoundation.org](http://www.autismcaresfoundation.org) or to The Alzheimer's Association 399 Market Street, Suite 250, Philadelphia, PA 19106 [www.alz.org/delval](http://www.alz.org/delval).

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DEATH NOTICES



**HEISMAN**

Sylvia Heisman (nee: Polsky) Nov. 28, 2020. Throughout her life, Sylvia expressed a deep appreciation for her mother-Bess and her father-Tom. She acknowledged a closeness to her sister Beatrice and brother Martin and adored her 5 Aunts and 2 Uncles and was always grateful for a warm and loving childhood. She graduated Atlantic City High in 1938 with academic and athletic honors. She was then accepted into, and graduated from, the highly regarded American Academy for Dramatic Art in New York City. Sylvia met her husband, Marvin and married in January of 1943. For 56 years, they shared a union of devotion, romance and adventure. As a mother of three daughters, she always considered herself a "happy housewife." Though when Marvin realized a need for a career change, her life underwent a grand and unexpected change. With an astute business acumen and innate sense of aesthetics, she rose to the occasion, and on her own, opened the "Fine Arts Gallery of Ardmore." The Gallery brought with it a busy lifestyle change that offered opportunity for growth and travel which she adapted to with pleasure. Though Sylvia's true passion remained her dedication to friends and family. She was a talented cook and a warm and fun loving hostess. She created many celebratory dinner parties recognizing the Jewish Holidays and life events that made everyone there feel valued. Sylvia loved to sing and dance. She had a flair for beauty and a great sense of style. She was a voracious reader and stayed well informed about world events. She played tennis and golf and was hard to beat at Scrabble and Boggle. Sylvia was a woman who was greatly respected by all who knew her. She had an unsurpassed sense of kindness and generosity. Within her family, she often sought after wisdom which earned her the nick-name "Rabbi." Sylvia faced life's challenges with courage and gusto. Ongoing, she reached out to others and wanting the best for them and she accomplished just that. She made the lives of all of us who had the privilege of knowing her better and sweeter. She will be dearly missed. Sylvia is survived by her daughters Michele Colucci, Nancy Somers and Betsy Tinkham. She is also survived by 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

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**KRON**

Kenneth Melvin Kron, M. D., lovingly known as 'Dr. Kron' and 'Dr. K.K.' by those who knew him professionally and formally, 'Ken' by friends and family, 'Dad' and 'Daddy' by his daughters and 'Pop' by his grandchildren passed peacefully, surrounded by family, from this world on Nov. 25, 2020. A husband, father, grandfather, son, brother and friend. A physician and volunteer. Preceded in death by his beloved wife of 63 years, Terese "Teddy" nee Herrman. Survived by his daughters, son-in-law and grandchildren: Linda Kron, Carol "Zoe" Kron and Judy Kron Berger & Bob Peckham; Cindy Bregman and Jesse & Brittany Bregman; Daniel Porter; Max Berger, Jules Berger and Jacob Berger. Survived by his sister Barbara Kron Zimmerman, cousins, and five nieces. His love of family was most important to him. He was way ahead of his time when it came to creating balance between work and family. He spent long summers on Cape Cod, traveling the world with his wife and friends and family, attending Phillies games for over 65 years, participating in the rich cultural world all around him and trying all kinds of hobbies and interests. He loved food and partook of all ethnic and creative culinary experiences, sharing it with family and friends. He was a proud veteran and loved this country and democracy. He graduated from Central High School, Ursinus College and Thomas Jefferson Medical College. He served patients for over 67 years. He was an incredible wealth of information, was charming and friendly, could be funny and silly, and really lived life to the fullest. He knew who he was, never wanted to be anyone else, was confident but not at all arrogant or cocky. He had a wonderful life filled with love, meaning, joy, fun and passion! He will be missed by many relatives, friends, professional colleagues, neighbors at Rydal Park, caregiver companions, and most of all his family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or a charity of your choice.

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**LANDAY**

Edmond "Eddie" Landay, 81, died October 6, 2020 of Bala Cynwyd, PA. Beloved husband of Marilyn "Maidy" (nee Rosengard), loving father of Ted (Melissa) and Stephanie (Jason) Brodsky and cherished grandfather of Justin and Jonathan Landay, Lindsey, Ashley and Scott Brodsky. Contributions in his memory can be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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**LEVY**

Samuel Levy, formerly of 6106 Belden Street, Philadelphia and more recently residing at 9896 Castor Ave., "Paul's Run", died unexpectedly but peacefully on November 27 at the age of 98. Sam's parents were Albert and Rose Levy who reared Sam and four siblings on Gaskill St. He was a WWII Navy Veteran and served in Japan after the conclusion of the war. In 1961 he was privileged to marry Beatrice Orchard and to become the father of his treasured step-son Billy Orchard who survives along with his wife, Janet. He retired from Globe Rubber Co. in the 1980's. Sam is survived by his beloved sister Alice Greenberg and pre-deceased by his brothers Nathan and Isaac Levy and sister Mae Ross. He is also survived by his daughter Linda Levy McInnis (James), son Alan Dougherty (Dawn), grandchildren Bobby McInnis (Amanda), Scott McInnis (Mariya), Michael Dougherty (Nicole), Katy Dougherty, Alyson Dougherty and eight great-grandchildren. Sam will be interred beside Bea Orchard Levy on December 10 at 10:00 a.m. with a graveside service at Shalom Memorial Park, 25 Byberry Rd., Huntington Valley. "May the memory of the righteous be a blessing." Contributions in his memory can be made to Children's hospital of Philadelphia 3401 Civic Center Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19104 chop.edu

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## LISMAN

Marcia R. Lisman (nee Resnick), December 1, 2020, Wife of the late Joseph. Mother of Sharon Lisman Longmore, Saul Lisman and Daniel A. (Ellen) Lisman. Sister of Wilma Wenger. Grandmother of Joseph F. Longmore and Madeline H. Lisman. Mrs. Lisman was a former care coordinator at the Philadelphia Geriatrics Center. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Pennsylvania SPCA, 350 E. Erie Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19134.

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## MILLER

Beverly A. Miller (nee Cohen), November 25, 2020. Beloved wife of the late Samuel Miller. Loving mother of Barbara Miller and Steven Miller (Ilene). Dear sister of Roberta Needleman. Devoted grandmother of Zak Nissenbaum (Melissa), Shana Brenner (Kevin), Jamie Kushner (Jared), Sara Miller, and Max Miller. Cherished great-grandmother of Remi Brenner, Tess Brenner, Trey Nissenbaum, and Reeve Nissenbaum. Funeral services private. Contributions in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society www.cancer.org, or the American Heart Association, www.heart.org.

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## MILLER

Rhoda Miller, on December 4, 2020. Wife of the late Herbert. Mother of Susan Caplan and Neil Miller. Grandmother of Max, Ethan and Nicole. Contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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## DEATH NOTICES

### ROSENBERG

Barbara Carol Rosenberg (nee Straus), age 67, passed away on December 1, 2020 after a brief but brave battle with ALS. Barbara is survived by Steven, her devoted husband of 46 years, as well as her beloved children Todd (and wife Stephanie) Rosenberg, Jodie (and husband Dan) Taraborrelli. She was a blessed Bubbe to Abigail and Asher Rosenberg, Max and Lila Taraborrelli and loving sister to Sheryl Kuperstein. A two-time survivor of breast cancer, she lived life to the fullest. Whether trips to NYC with her cancer group, summer days at Belmar, NJ, or in more recent years snow-birding in Delray Beach, FL, she embraced travel with Steve and friends and always looked forward to their next adventures. Quick to smile and always enjoying a laugh, she cherished time with her fiends and was a constant presence at her weekly games of Mah-Jong and Canasta. A case manager at Jewish Family & Children Services and volunteer for the Women's Cancer Research Association, Barbara cared deeply for her clients and the community she served. A tirelessly devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, her family and friends were at the heart of her life well lived. Donations in Barbara's memory can be made to Women's Cancer Research Association (c/o Paula Goldstein 1322 Orcap Way, Southampton, PA 18966) or Jewish Family & Children Services (jfcspshilly.org). Due to COVID a private ceremony is planned.

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## SKLAR

Bruce Sklar on November 26, 2020. Beloved husband of the late Vicki (nee Branhut); Loving father of Peter (Caitlin) and Jeremy (Amanda); Devoted grandfather of Leo, Olivia, Jacob and Sarah. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, www.michaeljfox.org

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## SPIVACK

Dennis Bruce Spivack passed peacefully on November 27, 2020 at 58 years of age after a brief illness. Beloved son of Janice and the late Martin Spivack; Dear brother of Andrea and Donna Spivack, and Loving uncle to Madison Silverstein. Dennis was a brilliant pianist, a funny and generous person, and a friend to all that knew him. Contributions in his memory may be made to Tikvah/AJMI at tikvahajmi.org. For more information call them at 215-832-0671.

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## SPRINGER

On November 27, 2020 surrounded by his family, Stephen Springer, 71 peacefully passed away. Loving husband and best friend of Linda (nee Barankin). Devoted father of Jason Springer (Sarah), Jared Springer (Gabriella), Jillian Springer and Jaymee Springer, Dani Becker (Jonathan) and Joshua Rabinowitz. Doting Poppy of Jordyn, Brandon and Adam Springer. Dear Brother of Susan Hammer (Alan) and Janet Levine (Sanford) and faithful puppy Paddy. Stephen will be sadly missed by his friends, neighbors and his Ohev Shalom Family, as well as his colleagues of EMM Loans where he was known as the Father of Mortgage Banking for over 50 years. Contributions in his memory may be made to Ohev Shalom Sisterhood, 944 2nd Street Pike, Richboro, PA 18954.

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## DEATH NOTICES



**SANDLER**

Rose Sandler, on November 23rd, 2020. Our beloved daughter Rose, age 39, fell victim to the agony of Depression. She is survived by her parents, Jay and Lisa Sandler, her sister Jenny, her aunts, uncles and cousins, and her beloved feline companion, Beedie. Rose was a world traveler, an experienced equestrian, fisherwoman, ocean Scuba diver, and much more. She graduated from Penn State with a degree in Special Engineering, and went to work at Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation in Stratford, CT. She developed a particular interest in Material Science and worked with composite materials for the aerospace industry. Rose was exuberant, adventurous, fearless, and was open to learning about anything and everything. Among many adventures, she completed the Mongol Derby and rode camels in the Gobi Desert during the Mongolian winter. She also learned about PA wildflowers and mushrooms from her Mom. Her Dad got her a Sailrite heavy duty sewing machine and she enjoyed repairing torn horse blankets. When Rose wasn't traveling, she paddled with the Hanohano Outrigger Canoe Club and her beloved Paddle Sisters. With that experience, she was then able to join her Aunt Meryl on the annual Pink Paddlers' cancer survivors Voyage to Lanai. At a moment's notice, her Aunt Abby in L.A. would swoop in like a Guardian Angel and stay with Rose for a week or more, helping her and taking care of anything that needed to be done. She was repeatedly dragged down by her illness, but always came out of it. She finally lost her brutal battle with Depression. We all lost our Rose despite all the therapies and medical professionals, and our continued attention to her needs and problems. For the past several years, Rose had been living in Poway, San Diego County, working for General Atomics; in July, she relocated to Pipersville to live with her parents. Because of Covid, her burial was private. She was laid to rest at Green Meadows in Fountain Hill, PA, a natural cemetery that will bloom with native wildflowers in the Spring. She has left her family, friends, and many others she adventured with throughout the world, bereaved and heartbroken. Rose loved volunteering with Traveling Stories, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the reading skills of low-income kids. Donations in Rose's memory may be made to traveling-stories.com, or to your local food pantry.

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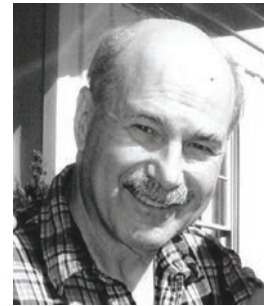
**WEINSTEIN**

Arnold (Arnie) Weinstein born April 15, 1928 in Wynnefield, PA died of a life well lived and of heart failure with his loving family by his side on November 25, 2020. Arnie led a life that was full and truly awesome. He was loved dearly by his beautiful wife of 72 years, June Weinstein (nee Gross), their three children, Eileen Donohue, Hal Weinstein and John Weinstein as well as their spouses, nine grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Arnie was an entrepreneur and the consummate salesperson having owned his own plumbing sales agency for many years as well as being on the board of directors of many organizations within the plumbing industry including being a founding member of the Philadelphia Manufacturers Representative Association. His sales acumen was uncanny, and he flourished in a time when personal relationships were as important as what we now call metrics. Arnie was an excellent athlete having been named "All Public" while playing football at Overbrook High School and being on the varsity track and boxing teams. Arnie's love of sports continued throughout his life as he took up playing tennis winning many championships while living down the "shore" at his beloved home in Loveladies, N.J. He was also an expert skier and introduced many of his friends to the sport as well as all of his children. While his love of athletics was truly inspirational, he also had a passion for the theatre where he acted in many roles over the years at Allen's Lane Art Theatre and Abington Theatre as well as being in a few TV productions. Whether playing Big Julie in Guys and Dolls, Chief Sitting Bull in Annie Get Your Gun or Earthquake McGoon in Lil' Abner he did so with aplomb. With his best friend Irv Bloom they owned the Philadelphia Playhouse and hosted many notable plays and actors. Arnie's love of sports and theatre was only surpassed by his love of his family, especially his lifetime love, June. He was extremely proud of his family and their accomplishments and let everyone around his circle of friends know this. Arnie had an amazing memory and used this to muster up his prodigious catalogue of thousands of jokes that he could recite at will. Yes, he had a great sense of humor that continued throughout his life. Arnie outlived many of his best friends and frequently had dreams of them calling him to the slopes to go skiing. Irv, Norm and Bob now have their bestest skiing buddy to join them as they "schuss" down the biggest slopes with a dusting of new powder. We will always love you and miss you Arnie, dad, daddy, poppy, Poppy Arnie! Contributions in his memory may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Weinstein Family Team (<http://www2.jdrf.org/goto/Weinstein>). JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS  
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## DEATH NOTICES



**ZELDIN**

Burton (Burt) Zeldin Passed away Nov 28th 2020 in Altadena California. Burt was born in Philadelphia Pa. Nov. 4. 1935 to Samuel and Claire Zeldin. He received a PHD in engineering from Penn State and in 1969 began working at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in La Canada Ca. Burt spent the next 29 years working as a thermal engineer and was involved in many projects including the first Mars lander named Viking as well as other projects including Voyager, Galileo, Cassini, and the first Mars rover named Pathfinder. Burt married Sheila Dubrow Zeldin March 4th 1962 and is survived by their 2 sons Brian & Mark Zeldin, two grandchildren Evan and Emily Zeldin and sister Barbara Zeldin. Burt's first wife Sheila passed away in 1981. Several years later he married Judy Neely Zeldin and over the next 35 years they had many adventures together. Judy passed away on May 16th 2019. A link to a memorial can be located at <https://www.forevermissd.com/burtonzeldin>

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## MEMORIAL



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your many Friends, Family  
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my life PHILIP TAYLOR  
May your memory be a Blessing  
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## Bloom

Continued from Page 16

call my own. Time after time, I hear from both Asian American and Jewish American communities a joke that the two groups are so similar; that my parents come from two extremely “learned” communities; that my parents are such a perfect relationship match. A worse joke is how “Jewish guys have a thing for Asian chicks” — straight-up fetishization. When we take the time to unpack the reactions to this match, we arrive at the deeply planted American model minority myth.

We must stop holding up Asian and Jewish communities as examples of “success” while ignoring the systemic barriers facing other minority communities.

When I was applying for colleges, a counselor (who was Jewish) advised that I focus my entrance essay on my Asian and Jewish identities because the two communities “highly value education, and others just don’t.” I was taken aback, but it was only recently that I’ve been able to identify why that remark made me uncomfortable. The implication behind my college counselor’s statement is rooted in the model minority myth: that Asians and Jews are somehow smarter or more “learned,” and that other minority communities (Black, Latinx, etc.) aren’t. Embracing the idea that Jews and Asians achieve higher economic success in the U.S. from a “pull yourself up by your bootstraps” mentality is weaponized against other minorities.

The obvious difference between the story of the African American community and the Asian American and Jewish American communities is clear: Black people came here enslaved. Jews and most Asian people did not. Yet white people and other minorities consistently

fail to make the connection of how the history of slavery in this country forever shapes the Black American experience in entirely harsher and more systematic ways. On top of this, both Asian Americans and Jewish Americans often fail to address their anti-Blackness.

To begin to rectify this, we must dismiss the notion that the American minority experience is monolithic. By comparing experiences of minorities in the U.S. based on “economic success,” which unfortunately decides the assessment of overall “success” in this country, the premise perpetuates the false notion that if you simply adopt

a strong work ethic, you will “succeed.” It buys into the myth that the “American dream” is a tangible goal that supposedly ignores barriers formed by race, gender, faith and other identities. We must stop holding up Asian and Jewish communities as examples of “success” while ignoring the systemic barriers facing other minority communities.

The intersection of my identities doesn’t create the ideal student/worker/contributor to a capitalist system. My parents don’t love each other because they’re supposedly smarter or supposedly harder workers. They don’t love each other because they’re learned individuals who relate to one another on some shared value placed on education. They love each other because they make each other laugh. •

Hanah Bloom is an honors first year student majoring in political science and philosophy at Miami University of Ohio. She’s on the prelaw track and is a 2020-2021 Alma College Writing Fellow. A version of this article originally appeared on Alma.

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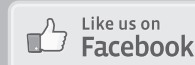
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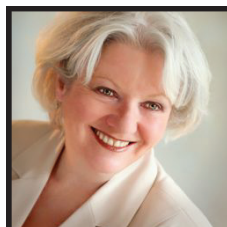
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### INFORMATION

### LEGAL NOTICES

1602 North Third Condominium Association has been incorporated under the provisions of the PA Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.

24th and Federal Condominium Association has been incorporated under the provisions of the PA Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.

508 West Norris Condominium Association has been incorporated under the provisions of the PA Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.

Carlos B. Sports, Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.  
Bovarnick & Assocs., LLC  
1 South Broad Street  
Suite 1600  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Commercial Roofing & Solar, Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.  
Robin, Kramer & Green, LLP  
550 Pinetown Rd.  
Suite 410  
Fort Washington, PA 19034

Digiovanni & Bradley, Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.  
Bovarnick & Assocs., LLC  
1 South Broad Street  
Suite 1600  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

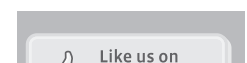
Germantown Square Condo Association, Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the PA Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.

Locomotive Content, Ltd. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

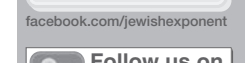
Notice of Application for Formation of Bank Holding Company  
Hyperion Bancshares, Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania intends to apply to the Federal Reserve Board for permission to form a bank holding company with respect to Hyperion Bank, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Federal Reserve considers a number of factors in deciding whether to approve the application, including the record of performance of banks we own in helping to meet local credit needs.

You are invited to submit comments in writing on this application to the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, Ten Independence Mall, Philadelphia, PA 19106. The comment period will not end before January 9, 2021 and may be somewhat longer. The Board's procedures for processing applications may be found at 12 C.F.R. Part 262. Procedures for processing protested applications may be found at 12 C.F.R. 262.25. To obtain a copy of the Federal Reserve Board's procedures, or if you need more information about how to submit your comments on the application, contact Judy Lynn, Director, Mergers and Acquisitions, at (215) 574-6171. The Federal Reserve will consider your comments and any request for a public meeting or formal hearing on the application if they are received in writing by the Reserve Bank on or before the last day of the comment period.

ESTATE OF ARLEEN L. HOROSCHAK, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION - CTA 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 JASON HOROSCHAK, ADMINISTRATOR-CTA, c/o Bradley Newman, Esq., 123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030, Philadelphia, PA 19109.



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### LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF RENEWAL APPLICATION for a Pawnbroker License. Notice is given that Cheltenham Pawnshop LLC did on 12/1/2020, submit to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Dept. of Banking & Securities, an application for renewal licensure of a pawnbroker office at this location, which is as follows: 8160 Ogontz Ave., Wyncote PA 19095, Montgomery County. All interested persons may file written comments in favor of or in opposition to the application for renewal with the Pawnbroker Hearing Officer at: PA Dept of Banking & Securities, Non-Depository Licensing Div, 17 N. 2nd St, Ste 1300, Harrisburg PA 17101. All comments to be considered must be received by the Department within thirty (30) days from the date of this newspaper publication.

Solidarity, Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the PA Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.  
Philip E. Hughes, Jr., Esq.  
3936 Netherfield Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19129

Steggy, Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.  
Friedman, Schuman, PC  
101 Greenwood Ave.  
Fifth Floor  
Jenkintown, PA 19046

Washington Parks Condominium Association has been incorporated under the provisions of the PA Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.

### ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF AGNES LEE MAIER a/k/a AGNES MAIER, 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 RONALD D. FRIEDMAN, EXECUTOR, c/o Stephen H. Frishberg, Esq., 50 S. 16th St., Ste. 3530, Philadelphia, PA 19102.  
Or to his Attorney: STEPHEN H. FRISHBERG DOLCHIN, SLOTKIN & TODD, P.C. 50 S. 16th St., Ste. 3530 Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE OF ARADEAN L. RICHARDS a/k/a ARADEAN RICHARDS, 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 payment without delay to JAMES E. MONK, EXECUTOR, c/o Len Haberman, Esq., 1800 JFK Blvd., Ste. 1500-A, Philadelphia, PA 19103.  
Or to his Attorney: LEN HABERMAN HABERMAN LAW, P.C. 1800 JFK Blvd., Ste. 1500-A Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF ARLEEN L. HOROSCHAK, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION - CTA 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 JASON HOROSCHAK, ADMINISTRATOR-CTA, c/o Bradley Newman, Esq., 123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030, Philadelphia, PA 19109.  
Or to his Attorney: BRADLEY NEWMAN ESTATE & ELDER LAW OFFICE OF BRADLEY NEWMAN 123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030 Philadelphia, PA 19109

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**ESTATE NOTICES**

ESTATE OF BARBARA ALEXANDER, DECEASED  
Late of Pennsylvania  
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 Chad Alexander, Executor, c/o his attorney:  
David Neal Rubin, Esq.,  
2 Penn Center Suite 1030  
1500 JFK Blvd.  
Philadelphia, PA 19102.

ESTATE OF BARBARA D. BARNES a/k/a BARBARA BARNES, 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 ALTHA BURGEE, EXECUTRIX, c/o Howard M. Solomon, Esq., 1760 Market St., Ste. 404, Philadelphia, PA 19103.  
Or to her Attorney:  
HOWARD M. SOLOMAN  
1760 Market St., Ste. 404  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER DIEHL SCHMITT, DECEASED.  
Late of Pennsylvania  
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 Kristen Schmitt, 24 Wynmere Drive, Horsham, PA 19044.

ESTATE OF FRANCIS HARDMAN a/k/a FRANK J. HARDMAN, 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 JOSE LORENZO CRUZ, DECEASED  
LATE OF PENNSYLVANIA  
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 decedents to make payment without delay, to George Cruz 1801 Allen Circle Jamison, PA 18929.

ESTATE OF GUIDO SERANO, 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 ADRIANA SERANO, EXECUTRIX, c/o Kristy E. McCabe, Esq., 1515 Market St., Ste. 1801, Philadelphia, PA 19102.  
Or to her Attorney:  
KRISTY E. MCCABE  
FRITZ & BIANCULLI LLC  
1515 Market St., Ste. 1801  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

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**ESTATE NOTICES**

ESTATE OF JOANN D. RAFFA a/k/a JOANN RAFFA, 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 JOHNNY ARMSTRONG, 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 ANTONIO ARMSTRONG, EXECUTOR, 7937 Buist Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19140.  
Or to his Attorney:  
SHAUN GRIFFITH  
6234 Ridge Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19128

ESTATE OF LAWRENCE FREDERICK BRICKNER, JR. a/k/a LAWRENCE 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 Schaar & 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 Schaar & 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

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**ESTATE NOTICES**

ESTATE OF NAJEE JONES, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, 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: Lisa Dorman, Administratrix c/o attorney Gary Stewart Sefflin, Esquire 30 West Third Street Media, PA 19063  
Or to Attorney:  
Gary Stewart Sefflin, Atty.  
30 West Third Street  
Media, PA 19063

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 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

**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 17, 2020 for **420 Muzik** at 1823 W. Thompson St. Philadelphia, PA 19121. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Raynell Jones at 1823 W. Thompson St. Philadelphia, PA 19121. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.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 August 27, 2020 for **C&C Mini Market** at 5748 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19139. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Charisse Taylor at 5748 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19139. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.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 01, 2020 for **Doe Window & Carpet Cleaning Service** at 1244 Pratt St. Philadelphia, PA 19124. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Warren L. Doe at 1244 Pratt St. Philadelphia, PA 19124. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.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 **Just Like Mama's** at 4640 Walnut St. Philadelphia, PA 19139. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Gwendolyn Hedgepeth at 4640 Walnut St. Philadelphia, PA 19139. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.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 August 27, 2020 for **Luxe House Cosmetics** at 6931 Chelwynde Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19142. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Eric Stradford at 6931 Chelwynde Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19142. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.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 **Maha Day** at 766 S. Marvine Street Philadelphia, PA 19147. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Kaitlin Kozak at 766 S. Marvine Street Philadelphia, PA 19147. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.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 **PoiseBeauty** at 7244 Castor Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19149. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Jade James at 7244 Castor Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19149. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.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 August 28, 2020 for **RnD Media 2** at 5748 Haddington St. Philadelphia, PA 19131. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Alonzo Gibbs at 5748 Haddington St. Philadelphia, PA 19131. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.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 16, 2020 for **Shot By Daniel K** at 190 West Berks St. Apt.3, Philadelphia, PA 19122. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Daniel Knoll at 190 West Berks St. Apt.3, Philadelphia, PA 19122. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

FICTITIOUS NAME REGISTRATION - Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of Act of Assembly, No. 295, effective March 16, 1983, of the filing in the office of the Dept. of State, of the Commonwealth of PA, at Harrisburg, PA for an Application for the conduct of business in Phila. County, PA, under the assumed or fictitious name, style or designation of **S3G**, with a principal place of business at 737 Cornelia Pl., Phila, PA 19118. The name and address of the entity interested in said business is **Social Science For Social Good Inc.**, 737 Cornelia Pl., Phila., PA 19118. KLEINBARD LLC, Solicitors, 1717 Arch St., 5th Fl., Phila., PA 19103

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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 04, 2020 for **WhyMyKicks** at 1246 W. Sergeant St. Philadelphia, PA 19133. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Devante Johnson at 1246 W. Sergeant St. Philadelphia, PA 19133. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

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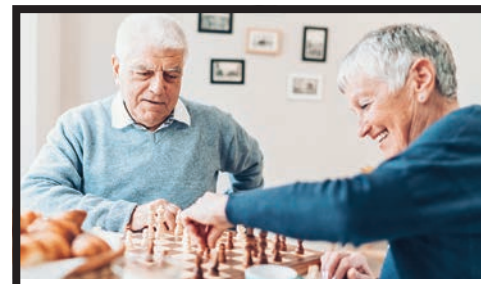
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WEDDING

SHAISH-MEODED

Marlyn and Herb Harris of Philadelphia announce the marriage of their granddaughter, Shalvah Shaish, to Or Meoded on Aug. 16 in Israel.

The ceremony took place at their shul under the chuppah in an outdoor ceremony in Ness Ziona. Even though limitations were in place because of the pandemic, Zoom allowed relatives to view the ceremony.

Shalvah and Or are living in Ness Ziona.

BAR MITZVAH



ELLIOTT BRONNER

Mazel tov to Elliott Bronner, son of Guri and Jill Bronner of Gladwyne, who was called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on Nov. 28.

Elliott is the grandson of Daniel and Sandra Farbman of Lake Worth, Florida, and Yossi and Debby Bronner of Edison, New Jersey. Elliott is also the younger brother of Joshua.

Photo by Michelle Camperson Photography

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

**Penn Hillel Rabbi to Depart for New Job**

**RABBI MIKE URAM**, the executive director of Penn Hillel, announced via email on Dec. 3 that he was leaving after 16½ years to head a project to build Pardes North America, an institute of Jewish studies.

“It is truly bittersweet because I still am so excited about Penn Hillel, about students and about the larger Penn family, but it feels like this is the right time. Penn Hillel, organizationally, is in a great place,” he wrote. “We have finished building an endowment, built a solid financial grounding for the organization and its facility, and have transformed a centralized regional Hillel structure into a collaborative network of independent Hillels that are all thriving.”

Uram won a National Jewish Book Award in 2016 for “Next Generation Judaism: How College Students and Hillel Can Help Reinvent Jewish Organizations.” He was also honored in 2017 with Hillel International’s Edgar M. Bronfman Award, established in 2014 to reward a “Hillel professional who has served the movement with distinction and honor.”

Rabbi Gabe Greenberg will serve as interim director starting Jan. 1. He also will head the search process for a new executive director

**Builder Irwin Robbins Dies at 91**

Irwin Robbins, who built more than 5,000 homes and apartments in the Philadelphia area, died Nov. 30 in Jupiter, Florida. He was 91.

After graduating from Temple University with a degree in business administration, Robbins was working as a traveling salesman for his family’s burlap bag business when he decided to make a switch into home building, son Chris Robbins said.

Although Irwin Robbins lost money on the first job, he found a strategy that worked — building houses on lots owned by his customers. With partner Edward Meyers, Robbins began building more than 100 homes per year. By the late 1960s, they were planning their own communities. Ultimately, Robbins built more than 5,000 homes, his son said.

Aside from construction, Robbins started PFA Technologies in the early 1990s, which licensed analog videoconferencing technology and engineered early video calling for corporate computer network,

and co-founded Asian importing company At Home International.

In addition, Robbins supported Jewish causes, including the JAFCO Jewish Children’s Village. He also assisted the Israeli Defense Forces in the 1980s with the renovation of a swimming pool in a captured Syrian military base in the Golan Heights.

Robbin, who was an Army veteran, is survived by his wife of 48 years, Beth Susan Robbins; his children, Andy, Nancy, Lisa, Chris and Jenn; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**National Liberty Museum Honors United Hatzalah of Israel Founder**

The National Liberty Museum honored Eli Beer, the founder and president of United Hatzalah of Israel, with its Healthcare Hero of Israel award at a virtual event on Dec. 3.

The award is given to an Israeli whose life’s work has resulted in breakthroughs in health care research, technology and treatment.

United Hatzalah offers fast and free emergency medical first response through Israel, with more than 6,000 volunteers staffing it. Using GPS technology, the organization said its average response time is less than three minutes across Israel and 90 seconds in metropolitan areas.

The awards are sponsored by TEVA Pharmaceuticals, which has dual headquarters in Petah Tikva, Israel, and Parsippany, New Jersey. They recognize “inspirational heroes in health care research and treatment whose accomplishments have profoundly benefited their patients, their field and the global community.”

Beer almost died this year while battling COVID-19. He was in two induced comas and spent four weeks in a U.S. hospital.

**Longtime Jewish Federation Employee Sandi Brecher Dies at 86**

Sandi Brecher, who worked for Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia for many years, died Nov. 30 in Philadelphia, according to daughter Leslie Freeman. She was 86.

A native of Dayton, Ohio, she moved to Philadelphia in 1955 to be near her late husband Fred’s family and

raise their own.

For many years, she was an administrator for the nursery school at Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El in Wynnewood. Later, Brecher worked for Jewish Federation, keeping the community calendar and fielding calls for Jewish Information Referral Service.

Brecher was a strong proponent of sending her children to Jewish overnight camp and created the Sandi Brecher Family Fund at Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, which provided camp scholarships.

She was a member of Congregation Keshet Israel. Brecher also frequently traveled worldwide and often visited New York City to attend theater and enjoy the restaurants and shopping.

She is survived by her children, Leslie (Gary), Deanne, Neil (Emily) and Andrew (Dara); eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**Shir Soul Releases Chanukah Music Video**

Jewish band Shir Soul released “On Chanukkah,” a Chanukah music video based on a Stevie Wonder medley.

Managing Director Jesse Shore, who grew up in Havertown and later moved to Wynnewood so his family could walk to Congregation Beth Hamedrosh, penned the adapted seasonal lyrics along with the band’s two lead singers.

The group adjusted to COVID-19 restrictions by filming with sanitized equipment in individual homes, staying six feet apart when performing and wearing masks when they had to stand closer together.


The band has made music videos for Jewish holidays like Passover and Purim, but Shore said its Chanukah-themed medleys are always the most popular.

“Perhaps it’s just Chanukah’s proximity to Christmas, but it is also the most commercially sensitive time for Jewish musicians, so we put most of our efforts into our Chanukah music videos. Who knows, maybe we will create just the right kind of music video for say, Sukkot, and that video will take off!” Shore said in an email.

The band was founded in 2006 by David Ross and is based in Teaneck, New Jersey. ●

— *Compiled by Andy Gotlieb and Sophie Panzer*

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