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Cover: Longtime 6abc anchor Jim Gardner prepares for his final sign off

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Michelle Williams, Spielberg's mom in 'The Fabelmans,' to raise kids Jewishly

Michelle Williams is one of the only non-Jewish actors with a starring role in "The Fabelmans," director Steven Spielberg's autobiographical film based on his Jewish family.

But it turns out that Williams, who plays the mother of the Spielberg character, has a Jewish family of her own. She told The Wall Street Journal that she and her Jewish husband, director Thomas Kail, are raising their two young children with Judaism and that she is studying the religion herself. (Williams is also the mother of a 17-year-old daughter by the late actor Heath Ledger.)

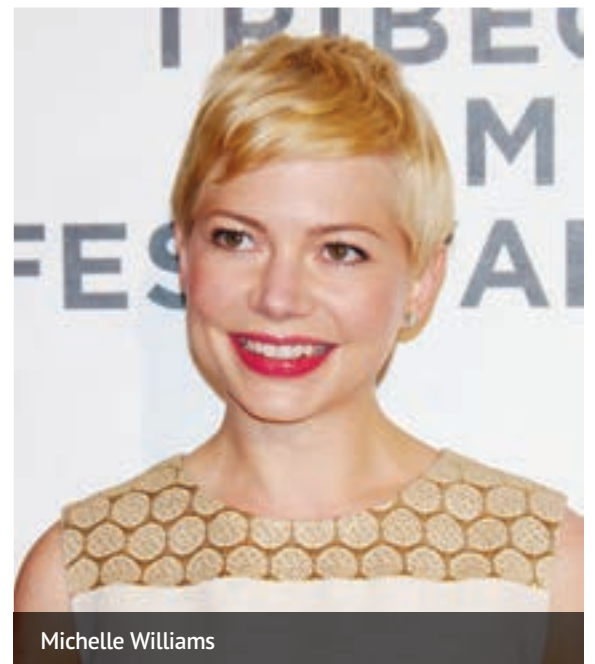
"I can't teach it to them unless I learn it first," Williams, who was raised Christian, told the newspaper. She said that she and Kail had picked out a synagogue for their family and also said that she had positive memories of traditions from her Jewish childhood friends.

"I adored being in their homes; a lot of it is those early memories of the discourse at the tables and the deep sense of belonging that tradition fosters," said Williams. "It has always been something that

I've gravitated towards — something that felt immediately exciting and deep and very different from the tinsel and cheer. I say this as somebody who also sings Christmas songs to my kid before he goes to bed. I love both."

In raising their children with Judaism, Williams and Kail are falling into line with the majority of Jews in the United States, according to a large-scale study of American Jews released last year. Nearly three quarters of non-Orthodox Jews who have gotten married since 2010 have married someone non-Jewish, according to the survey. A majority of those families are raising their children Jewishly, with another 12% raising their children partly Jewish, as it sounds like Williams and her husband are intending. All together, two-thirds of intermarried couples are raising their kids with some Jewish identity, a rate that seems to have risen over time.

Williams has won acclaim, along with two Golden Globes and an Emmy Award, for her performances in indie drama movies and shows such as "Brokeback Mountain," "Blue Valentine" and



Michelle Williams

"Fosse/Verdon." She is winning accolades now for her portrayal of a character loosely based on Spielberg's mother, Leah Adler, a popular Los Angeles kosher restaurateur who died at age 97 in 2017.

Kail is best known for directing Lin-Manuel Miranda's hit Broadway musical "Hamilton." In 2020, he was tapped to direct a film remake of "Fiddler on the Roof" that is still in development.

— Philissa Cramer

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Josh Shapiro Transitions to Governor's Office

Jarrad Saffren | Staff Writer

In late October and early November, as Josh Shapiro's resounding victory over Doug Mastriano in the Pennsylvania governor's race became apparent, a new narrative emerged about the Jewish Democrat: Could Shapiro become the future of the Democratic Party in the post-Joe Biden era? And could he run as early as 2024 or 2028?

HuffPost and Rolling Stone both wrote stories along those lines. And they were not far-fetched, either. In his gubernatorial campaign that started in October 2021, Shapiro combined support for progressive culture war victories — like a woman's right to choose to have an abortion — with support for more conservative approaches to practical issues, like hiring 2,000 more

police officers to fight rising crime. And then he got more than 3 million votes and beat Mastriano by 15 percentage points.

But at Shapiro's election night victory party at The Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, his supporters demurred on 2024, saying their candidate might have to wait until 2028 to consider running for president. One woman even said 2032.

Shapiro also remains a great distance from Washington, D.C. The Abington resident and Beth Sholom Congregation member in Elkins Park has yet to serve a day as governor. But on Jan. 17, he will be inaugurated in Harrisburg, and the unglamorous work of delivering for Pennsylvanians will begin.

"Today, I stand before you, humbled and honored and ready to make

this transition to serve as Pennsylvania's next governor," Shapiro said during a Nov. 16 press conference in Harrisburg with Gov. Tom Wolf, also a Democrat. "And now is when the real work begins to meet these expectations and deliver real results on our economy, on education and public safety."

Shapiro, though, hasn't detailed his plans for using his mandate from the commonwealth's masses to build a safer, more prosperous Pennsylvania. Instead, he has spent the past month focusing on how to transition from the state office he holds, that of attorney general, to the one that will define his legacy in Pennsylvania.

At that Nov. 16 press conference, Shapiro said he will continue serving as attorney general until his inauguration. He mentioned that, by law, Deputy Attorney General Michelle Henry of Bucks County will take over once he takes the oath of office as governor.

Shapiro added that he would announce his intention to nominate someone to the state Senate for consideration as attorney general. He did not make clear if that would be Henry, whom he selected in 2016 because she had the prosecutorial experience that he lacked at the time. (Shapiro had been a state rep and Montgomery County commissioner as well as a corporate lawyer.)

Between his campaign and service as attorney general, Shapiro has worked two jobs at once for over a year. And since his victory on Nov. 8, he has continued with that heavy workload.

The Democrat's office has announced a series of lawsuit victories that will bring millions of dollars in settlements to the Keystone State. There was \$453 million from CVS and Walgreens for their role in the opioid crisis, \$38.8 million from JUUL for "deceiving consumers about e-cig safety" and more than \$19 million from Google over its location tracking practices.

Shapiro used those types of wins to portray himself on the trail as a candi-

date who took on "big fights." It seems evident that he intends to add to that reputation in his final months as the state's top prosecutor.

As a candidate, he talked about himself as a leader who could bring a diverse coalition, in terms of race, income and political views, together. And he has tried to live up to that reputation in his effort to build a transition team.

The Philadelphia Gay News credited Shapiro with bringing on 13 members of the LGBTQ+ community. His transition leadership board includes both CEOs, like Gregory E. Deavens of the Independence Health Group, and labor leaders, like Angela Ferritto of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO. And his team has brought in leaders from, as a recent transition email put it, Erie to Indiana to Philadelphia.

Since the Shapiro administration is not yet an administration, perception is reality ... for now.

"We're going to assemble a talented, hardworking, capable administration, one that looks like Pennsylvania," Shapiro said. "For anyone who's willing to take off the red jersey and the blue jersey and just wear the Pennsylvania jersey — you're welcome to be part of our team." **JE**

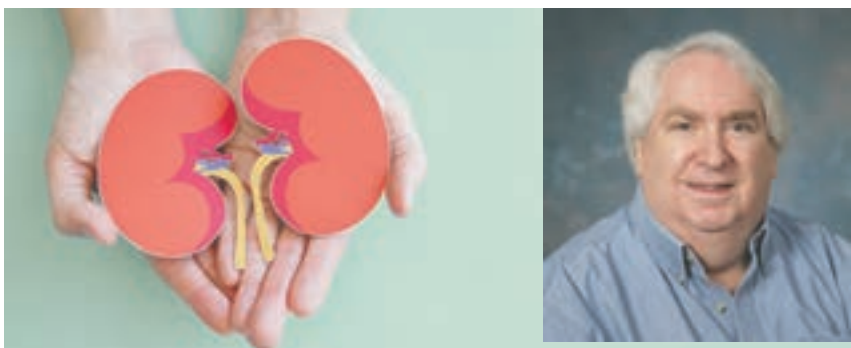
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Josh Shapiro talks to supporters at a canvass kickoff in Swarthmore on Oct. 8.

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Beth Chaim Reform Congregation Selling Banned Books

Jarrad Saffren | Staff Writer

A 2022 Pen America study found more than 2,500 instances of school districts around the country taking books out of their libraries and curriculums during the 2021-'22 year. More than 40% of the 1,648 titles impacted contained LGBTQ+ themes and/or characters, while 40% included Black or brown characters. Many of the 1,648 books were about sex (22%), race and racism (21%) and rights and activism (10%).

To combat efforts to ban such titles, Beth Chaim Reform Congregation in Malvern, is dedicating the fifth night of Chanukah to giving some of them.

Beth Chaim's social justice committee put together a list of 75 books to order from Children's Book World in Haverford. Members of the committee are also going around to the synagogue's religious school sessions and other activities to see if congregants want to place orders.

People outside of the temple are welcome to buy books as well and can do so by emailing socialjustice@beth-chaim.net. All buyers can pick up their orders at the synagogue at any point during Chanukah, which begins on Dec. 18. The social justice committee is recommending that people who buy books give them to family members and friends as gifts on the fifth night of Chanukah to start a new tradition.

The goal, according to social justice committee member Lois Lamond, is to "make our community aware of what is happening in terms of book banning and what they can do." That includes contacting school board members, attending school board meetings and saying "we want our children to have these materials," Lamond said. The committee is selling "Heather Has Two Mommies" by Leslea Newman and "Hair Love" by Matthew A. Cherry, a story about a Black girl growing to love her hair, among others.

"For a child who's never had an experience with someone who's different from them, a book would be an opportunity," Lamond said.

The idea for the banned book sale came up a month ago during a meeting of the social justice committee. Later, Rabbi Michelle Pearlman told the committee about a Yom Kippur sermon given earlier this year by Rabbi Sharon Brous in Los Angeles. Brous recommended that people buy the banned books they were concerned about losing.

Beth Chaim members saw it as a Jewish issue, too. A small percentage of the books taken out of schools, like "The Diary of Anne Frank" and "Maus" by Art Spiegelman, were about Jews. Plus, as Pearlman explained, "We're lifting up the fact that historically banning books is dangerous." Pearlman mentioned that the Nazis started burning books in 1933, years before they began putting Jews in concentration camps.

Removing a book from a school library is, of course, not the same as burning it. Districts and parents always need to make decisions about which books are best-suited to educate children. This does not mean that they are attempting to purge them from public spaces in the United States.

But Pearlman believes that any ban can be a slippery slope. The rabbi, Lamond and Heather Hebert, the owner of Children's Book World, think that it's important for kids to be able to at least access books about people from a wide variety of backgrounds and life experiences. Pearlman said she drew strength from Elie Wiesel, the Holocaust survivor and author of "Night," when she agreed to help host the book sale.

"Wiesel wrote that whoever listens to a witness becomes a witness," Pearlman said. "The greatest amount of books banned now are books about people of color, books about the LGBTQ+ community. These books reflect the experience of real people."

But Hebert and Lamond both acknowledged that it is up to adults to decide which books are appropriate for children to open. Hebert believes that it should be up to the librarian since the librarian is a paid professional. Lamond said she doesn't have the solution for picking the right titles for kids.

In Children's Book World, Hebert and her team pick try to select a story for "every child who would want one or need one, as inclusively and as openly



Beth Chaim Reform Congregation's social justice committee is selling books that have been banned in school districts across the country.

and as widely as we can," she said. But they also "try to make sure these are good books that we'd feel good about putting in a child's hands," she added.

Lamond concluded that these bans are "meant to prevent empathy for people who are different from us." She

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hopes that the social justice committee can turn its sale into an annual event.

"Our goal is to try to change the world in the three feet around us," she said. **JE**

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Congregation Beth Israel Celebrates Chanukah by Conserving Energy

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They call Chanukah the “Festival of Lights,” commemorating the time in the Temple when oil that was supposed to last for just one night lasted for eight.

But at 5 p.m. on Dec. 18 — just before the menorah is lit to signify the start of Chanukah — Congregation Beth Israel of Media will celebrate a different festival of lights of sorts.

The synagogue will dedicate 62 recently installed solar panels on its roof that will save energy and help deal with climate change. Rest assured, the panels will last much longer than eight nights.

“I love the message of Chanukah,” said Beth Israel Rabbi Nathan Martin, who, in conjunction with fellow Rabbi Linda Potemken, has spearheaded the effort over the past few years. “It talks about having the light you’re using last

longer. It’s a great energy efficiency holiday — this notion that celebrating light and connecting to that fits nicely.”

For Martin, this is the culmination of a decade-long project that began after he took a training session with GreenFaith, a worldwide organization that encourages religious institutions to combat climate change. But the biggest obstacle faced was a lack of funding and getting the same kind of financial incentives and tax breaks as fossil fuel companies.

That changed with the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act in August, which provides a 30% tax credit for families installing solar panels while providing other ways for private institutions to take advantage.

“The synagogue had explored solar options before,” said Martin, who’s been at Beth Israel since 2015 after growing up in San Diego. “The challenge



Solar panels on the roof of Congregation Beth Israel of Media

has been [that], until the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, nonprofits were not eligible for federal tax credits.

“That made it trickier to figure out how to move forward. What we’ve have done is create an LLC (limited liability company) who bought the panels on the synagogue’s behalf. The synagogue pays them for a certain number of years from electricity saving it gets, and eventually it transfers back to the LLC, who’s able to get the tax credit.”

Money aspects aside, the bigger picture has to do with Beth Israel and other synagogues in the area “going green,” part of the tikkun olam repair the world credo.

“It’s a way that we can do our part, even if only in a small way, to help reduce global CO2 emissions,” Martin said. “That’s critical for much of the planet if we are to avoid the worst impacts of living in a warmed world. I also hope that this work continues to inspire us to work and advocate for communities facing immediate impacts of global warming and most affected by fossil fuel infrastructure.

“Installing solar panels should be one of the many actions that hopefully is a natural expression of our Jewish identity.”

GreenFaith leaders said there’s still opposition to the idea, some of which is political, some that is based on corporate greed and some due to ignorance.

“There’s not so much climate change denial,” said Rev. Fletcher Harper, executive director of GreenFaith, which advised Beth Israel. “Just general skepticism on political ideology. Folks realize it’s a slow end for fossil fuels. It’s important because it helps accelerate cultural, moral and political momentum. People

see this can be done and should be done.”

It didn’t get done for Beth Israel until Martin saw the response to a presentation by a representative from St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Ardmore.

“The other kippah I wear is head of the board of Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light, which is not a utility company,” he said. “I came across a woman who was helping her church purchase and install solar panels. She did a presentation to the folks on the board, and it got the wheels turning again.”

Getting the job done required people with technical skills, as well as someone who could handle complicated financial issues. But eventually, the \$70,000 project, consisting of 62 panels, the majority of which are 3-feet-by-5-feet, were installed and activated.

Before that, Beth Israel implemented two other energy-saving measures, beginning in 2007, which the rabbi estimates have saved \$16,000 a year. First, the synagogue switched from oil to gas to make the building’s lighting system more efficient. Then it did the same with the heating and cooling system.

Now it’s the solar panels, which Martin believes will save another \$5-10,000 annually and can lead the way for others.

“We’ve had talented volunteers familiar with building operations working at this incrementally for 10-15 years,” he said. “But congregations can start anywhere. There’s still more work to do. ... My hope is this will build energy and inspire people in the synagogue to take it into their own homes. The bottom line is we all need to be moving in a direction to cut down our carbon emissions.” **JE**

Courtesy of Congregation Beth Israel of Media

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Tax Planning News and Ideas for 2022 Year End

While there is always talk of changes in the taxes applicable to individuals, little has actually changed this year so far. The “Inflation Reduction Act” (Public Law 117-169), a slimmed-down version of “Build Back Better,” did not include many of the individual tax changes that the Biden administration originally proposed. The act, however, does include tax incentives relating to green energy.

Legislation aimed at boosting retirement savings gained significant traction in the House and Senate this year and was enacted in October. As a result, the annual retirement contribution amount was increased for retirement plans and catch-up provisions (for those age 50 and over) as well as Individual Retirement Accounts.

In addition, the following legislative proposals have been under consideration by Congress:

- Expansion of the universal charitable deduction for nonitemizers. Proposed legislation (S. 618 and H.R. 1704) seeks to expand the universal charitable deduction first enacted in the CARES Act, the COVID relief legislation passed in March 2020. The proposed legislation would allow a charitable deduction of up to one-third of the standard deduction available to nonitemizers (about \$4,000 for individual filers and \$8,000 for a joint return). In addition, it is possible that a year-end tax package could provide an “above the line” deduction of \$300 (\$600 for a joint return) similar to what was available for 2021.
- Expansion of the IRA Charitable Rollover. Bipartisan legislation that has passed the House (the Securing Strong Retirement Act, H.R. 2954) has been introduced in the Senate (Enhancing American Retirement Now Act, S. 4808). It would make changes to the IRA Charitable Rollover regime, indexing the current \$100,000 rollover amount for inflation and permitting one-time transfers to charitable remainder trusts and gift annuities of up to \$50,000.

Key considerations for year-end tax planning

- Use appreciated assets to make a charitable gift in 2022. As in previous years, gifts of appreciated assets (stock) remain a best practice. Such gifts not only provide a deduction to the donor but also avoid the capital gains tax. Conversely, built-in loss assets generally should be sold (generating a tax loss) with the resulting cash proceeds donated, if desired. Note that, as in previous years, up to \$3,000 of capital losses may be used to offset ordinary income.
- Consider donating to a donor-advised fund for maximum flexibility. If you are considering making a significant donation to charity over time but want a deduction today, consider adding funds to an existing DAF or opening a new DAF. It can be especially beneficial to donate appreciated property because by doing so capital gains taxation with respect to the contributed assets is eliminated. The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia operates donor-advised funds and would be happy to assist.



- Look into an IRA charitable rollover. The IRA charitable rollover is an attractive option because it can help satisfy the minimum distribution requirement without incurring income tax, even if you don't itemize your deductions. If the proposed legislation expanding the amount and nature of rollovers is enacted, this option will become even more attractive.
- Consider taking advantage of energy incentives in the Inflation Reduction Act. There are new and recently expanded and extended green energy incentives provided by the Inflation Reduction Act, including the tax credits for rooftop solar panels, insulation, electric vehicle purchases and energy-efficient home improvements. Each of these incentives has somewhat complex rules, and some do not go into effect until 2023, so careful research is required.
- Consider accelerating noncharitable gifts. The unified estate/gift credit of \$12.06 million is scheduled to automatically reduce to around \$6 million beginning with transfers made in 2026. Accordingly, taxpayers who intend to make significant gifts (either during their lifetime or in the form of bequests) may want to consider accelerating some or all of those gifts.
- As with any significant tax and charitable planning, it is advisable to carefully consider potential changes in the context of your complete financial profile and to consult your tax adviser.

Endowment professionals at the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia remain available to work with you and your other professional advisors to maximize the benefits of these and other tax-planning strategies for you and the Jewish community. For more information, contact Jennifer Brier, director of planned giving and endowments, at jbrier@jewishphilly.org or 215-832-0528.

YOU SHOULD KNOW ...

Michael Moshkovitz



JON MARKS | Special to the JE

Don't expect Michael Moshkovitz to become the eighth native Israeli to make it to the NBA.

No, he said he doesn't intend to follow the trail blazed by Omri Casspi, Gal Mekel and his former national team teammate and current Washington Wizard forward Deni Avdija, among others.

The 24-year-old University of Pennsylvania senior from Jerusalem, who's spent the last two seasons playing for Steve Donahue's Quakers, said his hoops career may be well nearing its end.

"This is my senior year, my last year here, and the way I feel right now, it's probably the last year I play basketball," said the 6-foot, 7-inch Moshkovitz, who started 16 games last season, averaging 5.1 points and 4.7 rebounds but has seen his playing time greatly diminished this year. "I feel like I want to focus on something else. For now, I want to stay here (in the U.S.), get a job and some experience. I'm considering New York and the West Coast. San Francisco might be a good place."

Not that he has any complaints about Philadelphia, other than he hasn't gotten out to as many places as he'd like, including the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History. But considering the road that got him here — being "recruited" out of Kankakee (Illinois) Junior College via Zoom amid the pandemic — the soft-spoken "Mosh" as his teammates call him, has enjoyed the experience.

That's because it would've been easy to simply give up and stay home.

"The biggest reason why Israelis don't go to schools in the U.S. is because you have to do your army service first," explained Moshkovitz, who's averaging just 1.9 points and 2.2 rebounds for the Quakers. "I was in for two years, eight months which is required time for males. I was in a special program for athletes because I played ball. I was a weight room instructor on a base in Jerusalem, right near my house."

He completed his service in April 2019, too late to apply to Division I schools.

"I had a friend who I used to play with who went to community college at Kankakee," Moshkovitz said. "I played one year there and lived with my friend and another Israeli. That was my first time in the U.S. Kankakee was such a different place. Everything was different -- the people, the food, the stores. I had a really tough time, and I don't think I met a single Jewish person."

During the season, Moshkovitz started considering Division I schools, emphasizing some in the Ivy League. He was leaning toward Columbia University when the pandemic hit, at which point school was canceled and he headed home.

"There was a complete lockdown in Israel," said Michael (pronounced Mik-hail) — who once met Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the Cheltenham High School grad, after his Israeli Youth team won gold at the 2017 European Championships. "You couldn't leave your house for more than a 100-meter radius. I don't think I touched a basketball for a month. I tried talking to schools, but it got much harder because of the time difference. At one point, I gave up on the idea and signed up for Hebrew University."

"But then I talked with my mom (Ayelet), and we decided to give it one last try. I texted the head coach at Columbia. He never replied. She emailed the assistant at Penn, Coach (Nat) Graham. He replied and said, 'We'd like to have a Zoom call with you.' That was the first time I spoke with Coach Donahue."

Donahue told Moshkovitz that he'd seen tapes of all his games and wanted him to come to Penn. But when the Ivies canceled all sports in 2020, he remained home, taking classes virtually. Not until

well into 2021 did Moshkovitz finally arrive.

The transition was difficult.

"Last year was my first year playing, and it started pretty rough," said Moshkovitz, the second oldest among two brothers and a sister. "It took me a while to adjust, I think, because of the combination of being rusty and the difference in the game from community college."

"The second half was much, much better. I gained some confidence and, because of some injuries, I had to start. I think with our offense my game fits that position. What I do best is pass. I can rebound, play good defense and score when we need it."

Yet Moshkovitz has come off the bench this season, though Donahue insists he hasn't lost confidence in him.

"I think the role for him has changed — sometimes from game-to-game," said Donahue, who played Moshkovitz a season-low two minutes in the Dec. 10 77-57 win over Temple. "The thing about Michael is he's so versatile."

"He can play against bigger guys, yet can guard quicker, smaller guys. He was the No. 1 assist-turnover ratio guy in the Ivies last year. He can really pass. He's very smart, has a high IQ and is a tough defender who does all the little things."

He's also someone who won't question his coach's decisions.

"I don't think starting or not is the most important thing," said Moshkovitz, who's majoring in cognitive science and computer science and wants to be a computer engineer. "I feel my thing with the team now is to help whenever I can. I respect every decision and if it means playing less I'll do my best when I get the chance."

As for being a student on campus with a large Jewish community, that was unexpected.

"I was surprised to find out how big the Jewish community was at Penn," said Mosh, who attends Hillel meetings and goes to Shabbat services when his schedule permits. "I've made some good friends, which is nice. Having this Jewish community here is amazing. I can talk about things related to my life in Israel and people understand." **JE**

Jon Marks is a freelance writer.

Photo by Jon Marks

Volodymyr Zelensky Named Time's 'Person of the Year'

Volodymyr Zelensky, the Jewish president of Ukraine, was named Time's "person of the year" on Dec. 7 for galvanizing "the world in a way we haven't seen in decades," in the words of the magazine's editor-in-chief, JTA.org reported.

"From his first 40-second Instagram post on Feb. 25 — showing that his Cabinet and civil society were intact and in place — to daily speeches delivered remotely to the likes of houses of Parliament, the World Bank, and the Grammy Awards, Ukraine's President was everywhere," Edward Felsenthal wrote in an article explaining the choice. "His information offensive shifted the geopolitical weather system, setting off a wave of action that swept the globe."

Zelensky is only the third Jew to claim the honor in the magazine's almost 100 years of awarding it. Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg earned it in 2010, and former Treasury Secretary Ben Bernanke won it in 2009.

Israel Condemns Netflix Movie About 1948 War of Independence

Israel's government has lashed out at Netflix over a new Jordanian movie that they say disparages the country's military and their actions in the War of 1948 that led to Israel's independence, JTA.org reported.

"Farha," Jordan's entry into the Academy Awards' best international feature race, is a historical drama about the "Nakba," or "catastrophe," the Palestinian term for the events that led to the founding of the state of Israel. In the film, a Palestinian teenager locked in a storage room witnesses a family being slaughtered by the Israel Defense Forces. Two small children and a baby are among the victims.

The movie debuted on Netflix on Dec. 1, and Al Saraya Theatre, a theater in Jaffa popular among Arab Israelis, planned to screen it. Its director, Darin Sallam, has said she based the film off twice-removed real-life testimony from a Palestinian refugee of 1948 who ended up in Syria.

But Israel has attacked the film and its producers over what the government says is an unfair portrayal of the IDF.

"To me, it is ridiculous that Netflix chose to release a film whose entire purpose is inciting mockery against IDF soldiers," Israeli Finance Minister Avidgor Lieberman said.

USDA Launches Webpage Listing Kosher Foods Available to Communities in Need

After a year of advocating, The Jewish Federations of North America said it welcomed the Department of Agriculture's decision to create a webpage listing kosher foods in The Emergency Food Assistance Program, JNS.org reported.

In September 2021, Jewish and Muslim members of Congress sent a letter to the USDA urging the department to expand options for kosher and halal food. The USDA subsequently invited faith institutions to discuss the dietary needs of their communities.

Beginning in January, the USDA will increase the available kosher food products under its TEFAP program by 50%.

TEFAP, a federal program providing surplus food to food banks, recently launched a new website that lists kosher items and gives guidance and information on kashrut guidelines.

Israel's PM, MKs, Ministers, President to Get 15% Raises

Come January, the salaries of key Israeli government officials, including the president, prime minister, ministers and members of Knesset, are expected to rise by up to 15%, as a wage freeze imposed during the COVID-19 outbreak expires at the end of December, JNS.org reported.

The pay increases will also apply to judges. Supreme Court President Esther Hayut will see her monthly salary increase from about \$30,000 to about \$35,000.

President Isaac Herzog's monthly salary will rise from around \$19,000 to roughly \$22,000.

Prime Minister Yair Lapid earns about \$16,500 a month, while the incoming prime minister, Likud chief Benjamin Netanyahu, will make around \$19,000. **JE**

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

This Chanukah, give the gift of life.



There are many ways to support Israel and its people this holiday season, but none is more transformative than a gift to Magen David Adom, Israel's paramedic and Red Cross service. Your gift to MDA isn't just changing lives — it's literally saving them.

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Warnock, Sinema, Trump and Biden

Democratic Sen. Raphael Warnock's victory over Republican challenger Herschel Walker in a Georgia runoff election last Tuesday was significant. When it occurred, it sealed a 51-49 Democrat majority in the Senate, which was seen as a big deal.

That's because 51-49 would make it much easier for Democrats to move legislation through their chamber without having to worry about assuring sometimes difficult party unanimity on every issue, and because the margin would give Democrats control on all Senate committees, making it easier, for example, to confirm federal judge appointments more quickly.

But all of that was thrown into some doubt three days later when Arizona Sen. Kyrsten Sinema announced she is leaving the Democratic Party and registering as a political independent. While not yet clear, Sinema's shifted allegiance probably won't change the power balance that was in place just before her announcement since Sinema's vote with Democrats was never a sure thing.

But whichever way Sinema goes, the Warnock victory boosts the Democratic Party and raises expectations. With control of the White House, the Senate and only a very modest Republican majority in the House, Democrats are going to have to deliver on their promises if they want to hold the Senate and regain control of the House in 2024.

*President Joe Biden
can spend the next
two years focused on
doing what the
American people
elected him to do.*

Beyond its impact on Senate numbers, the Georgia runoff has other significant implications: It is another blow to the dwindling popularity and diminished star power of former president Donald Trump. Quite apart from the ever-mounting legal challenges Trump and his company are facing, Walker is the fourth Trump-backed Senate candidate to lose a very winnable race.

As in Pennsylvania, Nevada and Arizona, Georgia was a state in which a quality Republican candidate would reasonably be expected to win. But like several other Trump candidate choices, Walker was

not a quality candidate. He was, of course, a very talented and popular football player. But when it came to politics, policy and issue detail, Walker was wanting. He lost the election even though every other statewide Republican candidate in Georgia sailed to victory.

Ever since the stunning collapse of the Republican Party's anticipated "red wave" in November — much of which is attributed to the Trump allegiance of election deniers and others on the far right of the party — more and more Republicans are talking about the need for new faces to lead their party and their 2024 presidential ticket.

The good news for Republicans is that they have a deep bench with a full range of choices to lead their ticket. The bad news is that Trump will not get out of the way graciously. As a result, Republicans will need to navigate a complicated minefield in their own nomination process.

This brings up another potential dividend of the Warnock win: President Joe Biden can spend the next two years focused on doing what the American people elected him to do. And given his well-developed political savvy and skills, he has the tools to get that done. Biden has the time and the support to build on his successes. He should spend the next 24 months finishing that important work. **JE**

No Time to Waste on Ceremony

Last week, the White House hosted a roundtable meeting on antisemitism led by second gentleman Douglas Emhoff. Numerous administration officials and several representatives of Jewish organizations attended.

The urgency for the meeting was clear and was reflected in the words of one of the attendees, Deborah Lipstadt, the U.S. State Department's special envoy to combat antisemitism, who declared that antisemitic beliefs "must be stopped by any means necessary." It begs the question of how to get that done.

Emhoff, who is Jewish and married to Vice President Kamala Harris, spoke of an "epidemic of hate facing our country." That's certainly true. Days before the roundtable meeting, former President Donald Trump outraged a bipartisan chorus of his critics and longtime supporters and friends by hosting a dinner with the gleefully antisemitic Kanye West, and white nationalist and Holocaust denier Nick Fuentes. Trump giving oxygen to hate-mongers is as offensive as the hate they spew.

Rising antisemitism has Congress worried as well. On Dec. 7, a total of 122 members of the

Senate and House sent a letter to President Joe Biden, urging him to develop a unified, national strategy to monitor and combat antisemitism. The bipartisan letter called for a "whole-of-government approach" to combat the "anti-Semitic voices" that are "finding new audiences, with anti-Jewish conspiracies gaining traction."

Similar recognition is coming from the states. For example, a recent report from the state-chartered Virginia Commission to Combat Antisemitism tracked the growth of antisemitism in that state, which has recorded nearly 350 reports of such acts this year. But the Virginia report does more than just record numbers. It explains the commonwealth's monitoring process, reviews the history of antisemitism in the state and in a frank manner admits that "some of the most high-profile antisemitic incidents in recent history have occurred in the Commonwealth" — most notably, the deadly "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville in August 2017.

In addition to its comprehensive review of antisemitic trends and activity in the commonwealth, the Virginia report makes 21 recommendations to address the problem. First among them is adopt-

ing the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition of antisemitism, including its "Contemporary Examples." It calls on the state to expand Holocaust standards of learning and include the study of Jewish history in world history courses. And it proposes banning public entities from adopting and practicing BDS positions.

We are encouraged by the Virginia report. It goes beyond traditional hand-wringing and inflated rhetoric and suggests tangible action. That's the kind of comprehensive approach we need from the federal government.

We agree with the members of Congress' letter that urges a "whole of government approach" to address poisonous antisemitism. But we need the right people leading the effort. In that regard, the designation of Emhoff to chair the task force seems more ceremonial than substantive, as he lacks the necessary background or experience to lead the comprehensive government effort that is needed.

We need an experienced hand leading this crucial government effort. We don't have time to waste on ceremony. **JE**



Blowing the Whistle on FIFA's Systemic Antisemitism

By Jordan Cope

The FIFA World Cup in Qatar has arguably become the most controversial to date, raising widespread indignation over myriad issues concerning its host, including Qatar's decision to ban beer from stadiums and its mistreatment of the press, the LGBTQ+ community and migrant workers, 6,500 of whom have died since Qatar was awarded the Cup.

Many issues have been spotlighted, but another has gone unaddressed: FIFA's refusal to handle its own systemic antisemitism. Since this World Cup's festivities began, Qatar and FIFA's proxies have made their intent to exclude Jews very clear. FIFA's silence has been deafening.

First, a FIFA website designed to sell World Cup tickets and accommodations sought to make easily identifiable Jewish guests feel unwelcome. To book tickets, fans had to book through an intermediary page according to their country of residence. Israel — where nearly half of all Jews live — was initially omitted, replaced with "Occupied Palestinian Territories." Silence from FIFA.

Reports then emerged that Qatar had banned Jewish guests attending the World Cup from public prayer and reneged on a promise to offer cooked kosher food at games, despite the demand for it, given that 10,000 to 20,000 Israelis were expected at the Cup. Again, silence from FIFA.

On four occasions, high-profile experts on antisemitism wrote to FIFA, asking that two antisemitism advisers be permitted to attend and monitor the tournament. The proposal could have been implemented for free. These advisers and their insights certainly could have been valuable at an event hosted by a country that has given nearly \$2 billion to Hamas, which aspires to commit genocide against the Jews. FIFA ignored the letters.

Antisemitism has since surged at the games. Qatar has allegedly exercised double standards, allowing fans to protest against Israel at the Cup, but not against other countries. Fans have also sought to bully Israeli reporters, at times denying the Jewish state's existence and screaming that Israelis are not welcome.

With FIFA evidently struck dumb in the face of antisemitism, fans and FIFA officials must seize on this World Cup as an opportunity to demand that FIFA rectify its systemic antisemitism, both current and historical.

FIFA must first do so by offering Israel the opportunity to rejoin FIFA's Asian Football Confederation. Israel's expulsion from the AFC in 1974 was antisemitic and has permanently stifled the Jewish state's world soccer prospects.

Attempts to boycott Israel, including its presence in the AFC, have long been designed to undermine and eliminate Israel's existence and the Jewish people's right to self-determination. The first large-scale boycotts against Israel in the AFC arose during the 1958 championship — well before Israel assumed control over the disputed territories, belying any notion that they were based on specific political issues. Such boycotts were predominantly spearheaded by Muslim countries, many of which forfeited their matches in order to avoid engaging with Israel. This was an attempt to normalize antisemitism in the global community.

Eventually, in 1974, Kuwait spearheaded a resolution that, based on stolid Arab rejection of Israel's sovereignty, resulted in Israel's expulsion from the AFC. Team Israel would remain a nomad in the international soccer world until joining the much more competitive Union of European Football Associations 20 years later.

Israel's expulsion from the AFC, and FIFA's institutionalization of this discriminatory conduct, stifled Israel's sports ambitions. Despite having won an Asian Cup and qualified for the World Cup while in the AFC, Israel has qualified for neither a World Cup nor a European Championship since joining UEFA. Israel's presence in UEFA is unnatural. It remains the only country in the league that is not located in Europe.

To combat antisemitism, FIFA must combat the double standards it has institutionalized against the Jewish state. Article IV of FIFA's statutes clearly proscribes discrimination against a country, individual or group based on national origin, ethnic origin, religion or political opinion. In accordance with its own governing policies, FIFA must offer Israel the option of returning to the AFC. FIFA must also use Article IV, as appropriate, to punish any team that threatens to impede such efforts.

FIFA's senior leadership must also refrain from normalizing antisemitism targeting Israel, such as agreeing to meet with patent antisemites, such as Palestinian Authority chief Mahmoud Abbas, a Holocaust denier who has incited violence, and head of the Palestinian Football Association Jibril Rajoub, who was banned from FIFA after inciting violence against the Argentinean team because it planned to play in Israel.

Lastly, but perhaps most important as an immediate first step, FIFA should adopt the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism in order to guide the organization in addressing future discrimination towards Jews and the Jewish state. The IHRA definition represents an international consensus. It has been endorsed by 865 institutions, including nearly

40 countries and some of soccer's greatest institutions — the English Premier League, the Argentine Football Association and Borussia Dortmund.

FIFA's inaction in the face of antisemitism has enabled the institutionalization and acceptance of hate in the world of international soccer. FIFA should give itself a thorough review and finally show antisemitism the red card, disqualifying anti-Jewish bigotry from the game for good. **JE**

Jordan Cope is the director of policy education for StandWithUs, an international, nonpartisan educational organization that supports Israel and fights antisemitism.

letters /

Sugar's Op-ed Left a Sour Feeling

In the Nov. 24 issue of the Jewish Exponent, there was an op-ed by Rebecca Sugar entitled "Dave Chappelle Was More Than Funny. He Was Right." After watching Chappelle's monologue twice, he was neither funny, nor right; his monologue was borderline or outright antisemitic. Nothing he said was amusing.

Forever, Jews have blamed Jews as to how they react or don't react to antisemitism; the Jews were too docile to the SS or our parents' generation, "Shhh, talking about it will only make it worse."

As a message from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum recently stated, "Antisemitic rhetoric is escalating in its frequency, visibility, and intensity." Now is not the time to blame the Jews for this.

Sugar did not like any of the responses to the antisemitism of Kanye West or Kyrie Irving. Among others, she criticized the ADL's response to Chappelle's attempts at humor and did not appreciate Irving's \$500,000 donation to a group that fights hate. She even thought Chappelle making fun of the dress of Brooklyn Jews was hilarious. Sugar made no meaningful suggestion as to how to respond.

The only thing worth laughing at was the nonsense Sugar espoused. **JE**

Robert M. Schwartz, Bala Cynwyd

Letters should be related to articles that have run in the print or online editions of the JE, and may be edited for space and clarity prior to publication. Please include your first and last name, as well your town/neighborhood of residence. Send letters to letters@jewishexponent.com.



Annexation by Any Other Name

By Michael J. Koplow

When the previous Binyamin Netanyahu-led Israeli government was moving toward annexing parts of the West Bank in 2019 and the first part of 2020, it was easy for everyone to see what was transpiring.

The proposals floating around were straightforward and simple to comprehend, whether it was talk of annexing specific spots such as the Jordan Valley or the Etzion settlement bloc, or absorbing all of Area C, or incorporating 30% of the West Bank into Israel based on the map in President Trump's Peace to Prosperity plan, or applying sovereignty and Israeli civilian law to all 127 recognized Israeli settlements.

Any of these measures would have immediately transformed the legal status of parts of the West Bank and made them indistinguishable in Israeli law from Israel inside the Green Line, and this made these plans and their potential impacts easy to understand and evaluate.

The Netanyahu government that is about to be formed is proceeding in a different manner. Unlike the blunt force of previous annexation attempts, the new approach is much smarter by being more tactical. Moving to annex parts of the West Bank in one fell swoop created an easy target for annexation's opponents and also caused a stir outside of Israel, as demonstrated by the public Emirati concern over the policy that led to annexation being shelved in favor of normalization with the UAE and eventually to the Abraham Accords.

Having learned from their previous mistakes, Israeli proponents of annexation — led by Bezalel Smotrich — are now taking a piecemeal approach that gives them cover to argue that they are not actually moving to change the West Bank's legal designation, but are only implementing administrative changes to make life easier for the West Bank's Israeli residents.

As these efforts unfold, it will be vital to recognize them for precisely what they are. They are not an attempt to build settlements at a more rapid pace or make it easier to get approval for West Bank infrastructure. They are also not creeping annexation, a catch-all category that has come to describe Israel's growing presence inside the West Bank. They are the first stages of actual annexation, designed to remove authority over and control of the West Bank from the military — which is the proper address for a military occupation — to civilian bodies, effectively annexing the West Bank in every way short of doing it in name.

The plan laid out by Smotrich and incorporated into the coalition agreement signed between his Religious Zionism party and Netanyahu's Likud has a number of elements that accomplish this. The first

is legalizing illegal settlement outposts, which are illegal under Israeli law because they have been constructed without authorization and outside of the established approval and permitting process, and in many cases because they have also been built not on state land but on private Palestinian land.

Retroactively legalizing about 70 of these illegal outposts is the first step in normalizing them by putting them beyond the reach of IDF bulldozers or the Israeli Supreme Court and treating them like established settlements. Doing so will make it so that there is no longer a category of construction inside the West Bank that is deemed to be illegal under Israeli law, and in the process weakening the rule that settlements cannot be constructed on private Palestinian land. The term that the right uses for these illegal outposts is "young settlements," which itself is designed to erase any distinction between what is deemed legal and legitimate, and what is not.

Standardizing the status of all West Bank settlements, including previously illegal ones, is a precursor to the next step, which is shifting the West Bank from a territory governed by the IDF to one governed by Israel's civilian government. The Religious Zionism-Likud agreement stipulates that Religious Zionism will receive a new minister in the Defense Ministry — likely to be Smotrich himself — who will oversee all issues related to territory, construction, demolition and civilian life. In addition to creating what is effectively a settlements minister apart from the defense minister, the agreement dictates that the legal department that oversees the West Bank will be moved out of the IDF Judge Advocate General's office and into the Defense Ministry under the authority of the new Religious Zionism minister.

While this will be explained as nothing more than a bureaucratic reorganization, it is in reality a momentously significant step, since it officially removes the authority to sanction things in the West Bank as legal or illegal out of the military and to a civilian body. The only proper way to describe this is as an extension of civil governmental authority to the West Bank, which functionally means annexation, even if it is intentionally not described as such.

In addition to shifting some responsibilities over settlements out of the IDF to the purview of this new minister, Smotrich has also ensured that the power to shape facts on the ground will lie with him. The new minister will be in charge of the permitting and planning process for both Jewish and Palestinian construction in Area C by overseeing the Supreme Planning Committee, dictating how often it meets and what is on its agenda. The new minister will also be able to influence what illegal construction is subject to demolition by ratifying the appointment

made by the IDF chief of staff of the head of the Civil Administration, which is the body charged with overseeing construction and demolition.

Given Smotrich's frequent contentions that Israel is engaged in a "war for Area C" with the Palestinian Authority, it should not surprise anyone when Jewish construction spikes while the pace of demolitions of unpermitted Palestinian structures is supercharged. Smotrich will also have the power to ramp up the land survey process in Area C, which is critical to designating more land as state land and thus available for future settlement construction. The legal aspect to this also is not confined to moving the legal department for the West Bank into the Defense Ministry, as the agreement also grants the new minister the power to approve the state's responses to Supreme Court petitions challenging settlement construction, meaning that Smotrich will oversee the legal strategy for settlement expansion.

These moves have a twofold purpose. The first is to make Israel's hold on the West Bank even more boundless and impervious to being limited or rolled back. The second is to do so in a manner designed to be maximally opaque, tied up in bureaucratic language and administrative maneuvering that will tangle the U.S. and European governments in knots the more they try to understand and object to what is unfolding. It is much easier to protest building new settlements than it is to protest providing water and electricity on the state's dime to settlements that already exist, albeit illegally.

It is much easier to condemn applying sovereignty to settlements on occupied territory than it is to condemn moving the office of legal counsel overseeing those settlements out of the military and into the Defense Ministry. It is much easier to fight against not granting construction permits to Palestinians than it is to fight against land surveys that limit the amount of land that is available for those construction permits. This is all meant to usher in a new era of annexation under the noses of those who are on the lookout for annexation.

The Biden administration and Democratic members of Congress are likely going to maintain their previously stated red line of formal annexation as the one that must not be crossed. What cannot get lost in the shuffle is the fact that the moves that the incoming Israeli government will make are all either right on or over that red line, even if they are harder to recognize. When they arrive, they should not be mistaken for anything other than the annexation that they are designed to implement. [JE](#)

Michael J. Koplow is chief policy officer at Israel Policy Forum.



What I Learned Lecturing on Israel and the Middle East at Columbia and Yale

By Dr. Eric R. Mandel

A professional in the pro-Israel world read that I had lectured at his and his son's alma mater, Columbia University. He wanted to know what kind of reception I received, what I spoke about and what questions I was asked.

Then other readers reached out who were concerned with the atmosphere on American campuses and asked me to write an article about my experience.

When I spoke, I began by saying that my goal is to share information in context, with analysis based on my first-hand experiences. I asked the students to challenge their preconceived notions and form their own judgments, knowing that 91% of Middle East "scholars" favor boycotting Israel. Unfortunately, today's college educators are more political activists than educators.

My talk was entitled, "Israel Challenges 2023: Iran, Hezbollah, Hamas/P.A., Antisemitism, the Israeli Election and U.S.-Israel Relations."

The most prominent concern for the students was the new Israeli government. Like many Americans, they were concerned about two far-right candidates and whether they would harm Israel's democracy and judiciary, straining its relationship with the U.S.

They knew that soon-to-be ministers Itamar Ben-Gvir and Bezalel Smotrich are lightning rods for a nationalist agenda and had disparaged Arabs and liberal Diaspora Jews. The students were concerned about Ben-Gvir and Smotrich's power over the police, their ability to legalize illegal settlements and their demand to override the Supreme Court with a simple majority vote of the Knesset.

I told them Israeli politics has always been a fractious, tumultuous tug-of-war melee with no one party ever receiving a majority vote. However, there is a big difference between harshly criticizing Israel for policies they disagree with and using politicians like Ben-Gvir and Smotrich as a weapon to delegitimize Israel's right to exist.

I pointed out that when we strongly disagree with what's being done in other countries, we object to the language or the actions, but no one denies that China, Russia or Iran has a right to exist. As Secretary of State Antony Blinken said, we will judge the new Israeli government by its policies, not by its coalition members.

Walter Russell Mead, writing in *The Wall Street Journal*, said, "To argue that the Jewish state must continually earn the right to exist by satisfying its moral critics and political opponents is absurd. People criticize Chinese actions in Xinjiang and

Tibet without saying that those misdeeds deprive the Chinese people of the right to a state of their own. The Palestinian plight is real, and criticism of Israel is not unwarranted ... but Israel's legitimacy doesn't need to be earned. The new anti-Zionism, however, is becoming entrenched among many American progressives ... on-campus individual American Jews are being challenged to earn their way into progressive respectability by dissociating themselves from the Jewish state and the Jewish national movement."

I told the students that Prime Minister-designate Benjamin Netanyahu will be the most left-wing member of his government. He is likely to be a moderating voice compared to his problematic partners, albeit a right-wing one. Netanyahu is also thinking about his legacy.

There is little doubt that Netanyahu's government will do and say many things that will upset students on U.S. university campuses, many American Jews, the Reform and Conservative movements and members of the Democratic Party, even those in the party's mainstream.

However, those who care about Israel need to realize that, if they relegate Israel to the status of a pariah state, its enemies in Iran, Russia, Hezbollah, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and Hamas will be dangerously encouraged. Daylight between the U.S. and Israel will be perceived as weakness. It must be clear that Israel's swing to the right isn't the chance these enemies have been waiting for to annihilate Israel while its erstwhile allies look the other way.

The students seemed surprised when I showed them the following:

How deep and sophisticated Hezbollah's tunnels constructed under Israel's northern border really were.

How enormous Iran's underground missile and nuclear tunnels are in Natanz.

My pictures of the displacement of the Yazidis because of Iran's control of Iraqi militias in Sinjar province.

Evidence of the potential for the resurrection of the Islamic State.

Evidence that the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement was never going to end Iran's ability to have nuclear weapons in the future, despite the promises of former President Barack Obama.

I spent a good amount of time talking about today's Iranian protesters and how we abandoned them in the Green Revolution in 2009. I explained why we need to be more supportive of their efforts for peaceful regime change. As a Kennedy School of Government researcher discovered, the

most successful regime changes are non-violent and only 3.5% of the population needs to be actively involved in order to reach critical mass and effect change.

I also asked the students to put aside preconceived notions of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict when I discussed a non-politicized analysis of international law. I explained why the West Bank is more appropriately defined as the occupation of a disputed territory, whether or not one considers it unwise for Israel to hold on to it.

I presented graphic evidence of how the Palestinians preach hatred and incite their young people against Israel, and showed them that Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas says point-blank that he cannot accept a Jewish state.

When I showed former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's map that offered the Palestinians 100% of the West Bank with land swaps and eastern Jerusalem as their capital – which Abbas rejected – as well as numerous P.A. maps that erased Israel completely, it seemed to make a strong impression. At Columbia, I also showed evidence that the BDS movement on their campuses is not about two states for two peoples but rather about destroying the Jewish state.

To help the students understand Iran's grand scheme, I shared a map showing how the Islamic republic encircles Israel through proxies in Syria, Lebanon and Gaza. I explained that keeping control of the Jordan River valley is essential for Israel's security if Jordan is the next domino to fall. I next showed photos of Hezbollah and Hamas military structures embedded in civilian areas, setting the scene for cries from the international community of alleged Israeli war crimes in the inevitable next war.

At both Yale and Columbia, students stayed well after the Q&A session, wanting to discuss the topics and share their viewpoints. Given what has recently happened to some non-woke speakers on campus, I was relieved that there were no disruptions and that only a few students left during my talk. I was also pleased to receive inquiries by email in the days that followed.

What I learned at Columbia and Yale was that as bad as cancel culture is on many campuses, there are still opportunities to present facts and analysis in context and to respectfully discuss complex issues with a receptive audience of very impressive young adults. [JE](#)

Dr. Eric R. Mandel is director of the Middle East Political Information Network.



Will Marwan Barghouti Be the Next Palestinian President?

By Ksenia Svetlova

The first thing one sees after crossing the Qalandiya checkpoint from Jerusalem en route to Ramallah is a huge mural of Marwan Barghouti, the imprisoned Fatah leader who is seen by many Palestinians as the successor to Mahmoud Abbas.

Next to Barghouti's portrait is that of the late Yasser Arafat. Placing these two figures together implies an obvious connection; both are revered for their struggles against Israel.

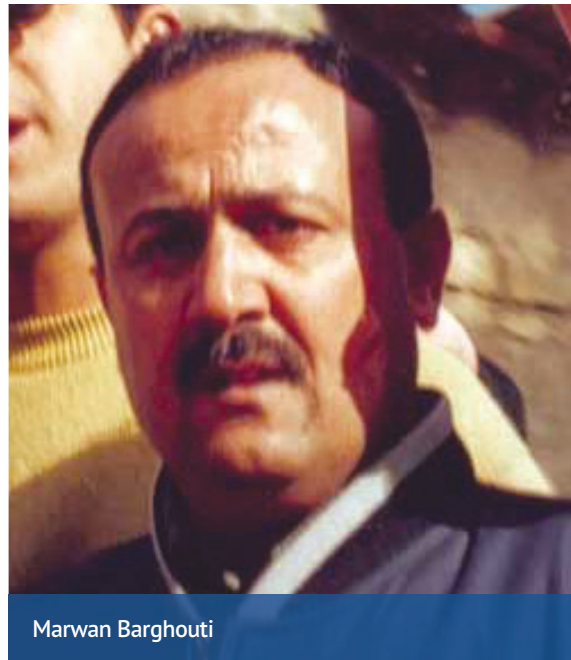
According to a poll of Palestinian public opinion conducted in September, if presidential elections were held for the Palestinian Authority and Mahmoud Abbas did not run, Barghouti would receive 41% of the vote; Ismail Haniyeh, the international leader of Hamas, would receive 17%; ex-Fatah leader Muhammad Dahlan, 5%; the leader of Hamas in Gaza, Yahya al-Sinwar, 4%; and Abbas's confidant Hussein al-Sheikh only 2%.

It's unclear when presidential elections for the P.A. will take place. Abbas, who was elected to office in 2005, postponed indefinitely the vote scheduled for May 2021. But this is not the only barrier facing Barghouti.

Once an energetic student leader from the West Bank village of Kobar, Barghouti rose to become a leader in Fatah's military wing, and was arrested 20 years ago in Ramallah by the Israeli Defense Forces. He was tried and convicted on five counts of murder in an Israeli civilian court, unlike most Palestinians, who are tried in Israeli military courts.

He was found guilty of authorizing and organizing the murder of a Greek Orthodox monk, a shooting near the settlement of Givat Ze'ev in which an Israeli civilian was killed, and the 2002 Seafood Market restaurant attack in Tel Aviv in which three civilians were killed. Security sources in Israel said that among the documents the IDF found during raids on the Ramallah offices of the Tanzim (Fatah's military branch) were memos that showed Barghouti's direct involvement in planning terrorist attacks.

Barghouti claimed that he supported armed resistance to the Israeli occupation yet condemned attacks against civilians inside the 1967 Green Line. He refused to recognize the legitimacy of the court and waived his right to defend himself. The question of his release was widely discussed in Israel and the West Bank immediately after the trial. Yet in 2006, Knesset Member Avi Dichter, who had served as the director of the Israel Security Agency (Shin Bet), said sarcastically during a TV interview I conducted with him that "Barghouti can certainly expect an earlier release—after some 100



Marwan Barghouti

years or so." Today his release seems no more likely than it did 16 years ago.

During the first years of his imprisonment, Barghouti remained active politically. He negotiated a unilateral truce declared by the main Palestinian factions in June 2003, during the Second Intifada. He drafted the so-called Prisoners' Document in 2006 (in this document all imprisoned Palestinian leaders of all factions called to establish a Palestinian state within the pre-1967 borders and demanded the right of return for refugees). In 2007 Barghouti was involved in the creation of the Mecca Agreement that intended to heal the split between Fatah and Hamas.

In recent years, however, Barghouti has seldom made important statements on the burning issues that preoccupy the Palestinians. He often emphasizes in general terms the importance of national reconciliation, and just recently called for dates to be set for presidential and parliamentary elections. "The lack of elections for (almost) 20 years makes the Palestinians live in a dangerous political vacuum," he explained in a letter to his wife Fadwa. Yet, he has not uttered a word about corruption or violations of civil rights in the P.A., the future of a two-state solution, or other issues.

While there is no doubt that for many Palestinians, including the youth, Barghouti is a powerful symbol of resistance, it is unclear how well the imprisoned leader would do in managing internal Palestinian politics. Sources in Ramallah say that while Barghouti has the sympathy of the street, he hasn't been active or clear enough about his goals, ideology or agenda. Barghouti's relations with the

Fatah Party and the level of support that he enjoys there are also foggy.

According to senior analysts and friends who preferred to remain anonymous, "We knew who Barghouti was years ago. Little is known about his ideology today. He was a popular student leader and an aide of Arafat. But is he ready for the heavy burden of responsibility as president? Will he be able to unite the Fatah ranks? Or will he use this opportunity to just bargain his release out of jail?"

During the preparations for the parliamentary elections last year, Barghouti decided to run on an independent list with his wife Fadwa and Yasser Arafat's nephew, Nasser al-Qudwa. Over the years, Abbas has successfully purged the leadership of both the Palestine Liberation Organization and the P.A. of Barghouti's sympathizers. Apart from Barghouti, there are many Fatah contenders for the role of a successor to Abbas, such as Jibril Rajoub, Hussein al-Sheikh and probably Muhammad Dahlan, now based in the United Arab Emirates. Some Palestinian analysts predicted last year that parliamentary elections would lead to another victory for Hamas at the expense of Fatah.

From the Israeli perspective, Barghouti's winning future Palestinian elections would be dangerous for several reasons. Since currently there is no scenario for his release, if Barghouti were elected president of the P.A., someone else would need to govern in his name. The chance of chaos and anarchy would increase and the P.A.'s legitimacy would continue to decrease, to the benefit of Hamas. At the same time, the international pressure on Israel would grow; Israel could find itself in the shoes of the South African regime that jailed Nelson Mandela. Interestingly, the Palestinian media rarely draw this comparison between the two men, while the international and Israeli press often make use of it.

In short, Israel would find itself in an impossible situation. The Palestinians also would be faced with the difficult reality of having a symbol of resistance instead of a political leader who is able to govern, negotiate and make deals. Combine this messy situation with the emerging far-right Israeli government and you get a perfect storm. In fact, a perfect storm may hit Israel and the P.A. whenever Abbas departs the scene and the battle for his succession officially starts. **JE**

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BDalim / WikiCommons

A SYMBOL ENDURES

Public menorah lightings withstand controversy, antisemitism, pandemic



Audience members at the National Menorah Lighting at the Mall in 2021

Sasha Rogelberg | Staff Writer

The crowd for this year's National Menorah lighting in Washington, D.C., is expected to exceed 4,000 guests. That's the estimate of Rabbi Levi Shemtov, executive vice president of American Friends of Lubavitch (Chabad), the group that has lit the menorah and put it on display near the White House annually since 1979.

In its first year, the White House Chanukah candelabra was a humble 4 feet tall; today, it's about 30 feet. And just as the menorah has grown in size, so, too, have the crowds to see the spectacle. Shemtov expects this year's turnout to surpass the pre-COVID crowds.

This year, he adds, the menorah lighting on Sunday, Dec. 18 — the first night of the eight-day holiday — is especially important. In a climate of increasing antisemitism, the menorah represents defiance against hate, as it did 2,000 years ago when the Maccabees overthrew their Greek-Syrian oppressors, the sustained light of the menorah representing Jewish resistance.

"The central message of Chanukah is that light will always prevail over darkness, no matter how dark it seems," Shemtov said. "And this story hasn't changed in millennia."

For thousands of years, the menorah has been a symbol of Chanukah's message of resilience and Jewish pride, but its presence in America's public sphere has

only emerged relatively recently — for the past 48 years, in which time it endured a Supreme Court case, dissent within the Jewish community, a pandemic and a rising tide of antisemitism.

However, year after year — though not without controversy — it still emerges as a motif of both Jewish grit and joy.

Before Levi Shemtov became the steward of the National Menorah lighting, the torch was held by his father, Rabbi Abraham (Avrohom) Shemtov.

In December 1974, the elder Shemtov, regional director of the Philadelphia Lubavitcher Center, organized the nation's first public lighting in Philadelphia in front of Independence Hall. The menorah itself was small — white and made of wood — not even coming up to the collarbones of the rabbi and four yeshivah students accompanying him.

Though the celebration was understated, it was a snapshot of American culture, Jewish and not. It came two decades after the Rebbe — Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson — took over the leadership of the Chabad-Lubavitch movement in 1951, when he began transforming Chabad from an insular group to a widespread Jewish philosophy, according to Maya Balakirsky Katz, assistant professor of Jewish art at Bar-Ilan University

in Israel and author of "The Visual Culture of Chabad."

'JUST WAKE THEM UP'

In the years following the Holocaust, the Rebbe wanted to instill deep Jewish pride and rejuvenate American Jews from assimilation that could diminish Jewish identity.

"Their intrinsic value was to go wherever you need to go to find any last Jew: Just wake them up, not religiously, but to their culture, to their selfhood and to their nationhood as Jews," Katz said of what is now the well-known Chabad *modus operandi*.

In the early 1960s, President John F. Kennedy created the Peace Corps, designed to send young American volunteers overseas to advance U.S. ideals such as democracy. Schneerson, said Katz, employed a similar strategy, sending Jewish emissaries (*shluchim*), throughout the country and the world to boost Jewish life and education.

PUBLICIZING THE MIRACLE

Before that, Jewish rituals and celebrations were relatively private affairs.

"Public Chanukah menorah-lighting was not considered something we do. Like, you do it in your home;

be modest, a man in the street,” Katz says of the Jewish thought at the time. “He was like, ‘You’re mixing it all up; [be a] Jew in the street, be a man at home.’ ”

The 1974 menorah lighting in Philadelphia — and a 1975 lighting by Chabad Rabbi Chaim Drizin of the Bill Graham Menorah at Union Square in San Francisco, a monumental 25-foot tall structure — followed Schneerson’s 1973 campaign to deliver mass-produced tin menorahs to Jews, encouraging them to light candles.

Shemtov saw the menorah as a symbol that occupied a liminal space between public and private, sitting near the window of a home where it spread warmth inside, while visible to viewers outside. A public lighting of the menorah still occupied this similar space, he argued. Far from just publicity, the public lighting extended the spiritual message of Chanukah and fulfilled the mitzvah of *pirsum hanes*, the “publicizing” or “proclamation” of the miracle of the day’s worth of oil that lasted for eight in the traditional story of Chanukah.

“This started the whole activity, the effort and activity, which now is spread through the world; the celebration, the marking of Chanukah, is shared with the world outside,” he says.

But not all Jews welcomed the public menorah lightings. In the late 1970s, leaders from the Reform movement wrote to the Rebbe, objecting to the public lighting.

“Pushing this symbol in public spaces has far greater implications for the Jewish community than just Chanukah,” Gratz College President Zev Eleff said.

Some Jewish leaders were concerned that the public display of a menorah was a violation of the separation of church and state. Jews were particularly sensitive to this issue, he said, because “where the church operates as government, Jews do not always fare that well.”

The debate over the menorah’s role in church-state separation culminated in the 1989 Supreme Court case *County of Allegheny v. American Civil Liberties Union*, in which the court considered the constitutionality of the presence of a public nativity scene at the Allegheny Courthouse and an 18-foot tall menorah outside the City-County Building.

The court found that the nativity scene violated the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, as it depicted explicitly religious content, while the menorah, like a Christmas tree, was a symbol of a holiday that had come to represent the winter holiday season and had adopted a more secular meaning in the social milieu.

The image of Chabad rabbis lighting a menorah in front of a crowd has since become iconic, with President Jimmy Carter, followed by Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald Trump and Joe Biden, taking part in a ceremonial lighting beginning in 1979. Embroiled in managing the early days of the Iranian hostage crisis,



Chabad-Lubavitch rabbis light the National Menorah in 2021.



Courtesy of the National Menorah on the Ellipse and the American Friends of Lubavitch (Chabad)

Carter made a rare emergence from the White House to light the menorah’s *shamash* (or “helper” candle) on the White House lawn.

‘MORE CRITICAL THAN EVER’

Though the practice of public menorah lighting has grown over the years, Katz suggested that the significance of the menorah itself as a public symbol has diminished. Its presence in media, popular culture and the public eye has eroded some of its original religious substance, she believes.

While lightings may not hold the same controversy or social gravity as they did in the 1970s and ’80s, Chabad leaders of today argue that the presence of these public events is necessary in the face of both continued assimilation and growing antisemitism.

“It’s very important not to pull back because of it. We hold our ground and be bold, not to demonstrate fear,” said Rabbi Shmuel Kaplan of the Lubavitch Center in Baltimore.

But as much as rabbis are aware of the importance of Jewish visibility in the face of antisemitic intimi-

dation, the purpose of public menorah lightings still harkens back to their original goals.

“It’s more critical in this country than ever before,” Kaplan emphasized. “Not because there’s coercion — we don’t have the coercion anymore — but because of the lack of identification. We have a serious problem with Jewish identity.”

While visible Jewishness can speak back against antisemitism, a “robust semitism” is how to truly combat antisemitism, Levi Shemtov said.

The lighting of the menorah, as a symbol for Chanukah and an age-old tale of Jewish pride in the face of bigotry and oppression has remained relevant for Jews for thousands of years and in the public eye for the past half-century. The ritual might just offer some insight into how the next generation can find unwavering Jewish identity.

“It may not be a panacea,” Shemtov acknowledged. “But it’s definitely a trigger and a good start for a very positive [holiday] experience.” **JE**

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Choosing a Camp: Why Start Now?

Faygie Holt | Special to the JE

It may not be the first thing that comes to mind amid the hustle and bustle of the late fall and early winter holiday season, but now may be a good time to lock in a summer camp program for your child.

“The holiday season is a great time to look for a camp. Camp is a gift, and what better time to give the gift of camp than during the holidays?” said Rachel Steinberg, of Fort Washington, who serves as manager of new family engagement and community at Camp Harlam. “Camp offers kids so much — the opportunity to try new things, make lifetime friends, build independence, confidence and resilience, all while having lots of fun!”

While there is “no wrong time to look for a camp,” according to the American Camp Association, it’s worth reaching out early to see if your camp offers early-bird pricing or holiday specials.

Discount or not, the ACA notes, open enrollment for many camps starts in January, so it’s a good idea to have your preferred camp options narrowed down before then. “Some camps fill quickly, so there may be waitlists,” a spokesperson explained. “Some camps open their enrollment even sooner, like the end of summer, so be mindful of those facts when looking at camps.”

Last year, following two years of COVID-19 pandemic precautions, parents eager for their children to have fun registered them for camps as early as possible. That meant some longtime campers were shut out of their summer home for lack of space.

That’s what happened to the Lisa family of Broomall last summer.

“We’ve been going for years to one camp, and I didn’t usually register my kids until February or March,” Stephanie Lisa said. “Then, last year, the camp was fully booked in December. It didn’t matter if you were a returning camper. I was very upset about it, but they couldn’t add any bunks or more kids.”

Although Lisa ended up finding a much different camp that year that her boys loved, she did not want to be put in the same position again.

To avoid the same problem this year, she is already trying to find the right experience for Steven, 10, and Elliott, 8,



for next summer. She’s also weighing the all-important question: Are they ready for sleepaway camp?

“I’ve toured four sleepaway camps, did research on two more and then the same thing with two day camps,” Lisa said. “It’s almost like interviewing for a private school or a college. You need to make sure the atmosphere, the personality of the people working there and the program itself offer what your kids need and like.”

According to Steinberg, “When looking for a camp, you should consider your goals for your child’s summer experience. There are hundreds of amazing camp options to consider, so it’s important to hone in on the things that are important to you and them. That could be things like values, the facility, program offerings, inclusion, etc. There are traditional camps that offer diverse programmatic experiences and specialty camps that offer kids more depth in their experience around a particular interest area like sports or arts.”

Parents should find out if the camp has received accreditation from the American Camp Association, which would indicate it has strict operational measures in place in areas like health, safety and risk management. Also, camp officials advise parents to “interview” the camp director, talk to parents whose children are already in the program and make sure you are comfortable with what you are learning from these discussions.

As to whether a child is ready for a sleepaway experience, Jamie Simon, who serves as the senior adviser of camps and talent at the national JCC Association and CEO of Camp Tawonga in California, suggested parents have their kids go on sleepovers and see if they can put themselves to sleep.

that are deep and meaningful and make friends for life.”

However, camp experts are clear that there is no one age when kids should or must go to sleepaway camp, and it’s important to consider each child individually when making summer camp plans.

Lisa says she’s narrowed down her choices — one sleepaway camp and one day camp depending on which route she and her husband feel is best — and will be making a decision shortly. But she knows it’s not a decision she could have made lightly.

“Camp is not something to do to keep kids busy for the summer,” she said. “It’s a significant investment in helping your child grow.”

To learn more about summer camps in general and find a camp for your child, the American Camp Association maintains a list of camps on its website, ACAamps.org. JE

Faygie Holt is a freelance writer.







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A Chanukah Cocktail Party

LINDA MOREL | SPECIAL TO THE JE

I love when Chanukah starts on a Sunday evening. Naturally, I was thrilled when I looked at my calendar and found the first night of Chanukah falls on Dec. 18 — a Sunday!

The end of the weekend is the perfect time to invite family and friends, simply because they rarely attend a Sunday party at sunset. It's the perfect time for people of all ages to enjoy a casual get-together, light candles, exchange gifts and have fun.

A cocktail party works well because of its versatility. The occasion revolves around hors d'oeuvres, which are easy to make and can be stretched into a light dinner. Because so many cocktail foods call for cheese, I suggest a dairy menu.

Young and old alike adore mini latkes. I rely on my usual latke recipe but

form the batter into two-inch latkes. I serve applesauce and sour cream with these silver-dollar latkes.

I supplement the hors d'oeuvres I prepare with hummus, baba ghanoush, crudites and a cheese board accented with grapes. Cookies are always a welcome addition at the end. Because these foods can be bought pre-made, this is an easy way to entertain.

No cocktail party is complete without alcoholic beverages. Prosecco, vodka and a crisp white wine, such as sauvignon blanc, complement these foods. I have plenty of juices and seltzer on hand too.

There's something joyful about sharing good food and warm feelings with special people on the first night of Chanukah. I'm mesmerized as I watch those first two miraculous candles flicker, knowing a whole week of possibilities lies ahead.



fahnwasser / AdobeStock

Nova Roll-Ups | Dairy

Yield: 16 roll-ups or more

- 1 pound Nova Scotia smoked salmon
- 1 large container whipped cream cheese
- 4 tablespoons fresh chives, minced
- 16-20 toothpicks

Open the package of smoked salmon. There should be about 16 strips of smoked salmon about an inch wide. If the slices are wider, cut them vertically with a sharp knife. Place the smoked salmon on a plate.

Spread some cream cheese along the length of the smoked salmon. Sprinkle some chives over the cream cheese.

Take one of the narrow ends of each smoked salmon slice and roll it toward the other narrow end until the entire smoked salmon slice is rolled up. Place it on a serving plate with the seam side facing down so it doesn't open. Put a toothpick through the roll-up. Continue until all of the smoked salmon slices are rolled up.

Cover them with plastic wrap until serving. The roll-ups can be refrigerated, but bring them to room temperature before serving.

Artichoke Dip | Dairy

Serves 16-20

Equipment: two 2-cup ovenproof baking casseroles

- Nonstick vegetable spray
- 2 cans of artichoke hearts (not jars marinated in oil)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup reduced-fat mayonnaise
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup reduced-fat sour cream
- $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon garlic powder
- Seasoned breadcrumbs for sprinkling
- Paprika for dusting
- Crackers for spreading

Coat the casseroles with nonstick spray. Preheat your oven to 350 degrees F.

Drain the artichokes in a colander. Using your hands, squeeze as much liquid from the artichokes as possible. Break off the leaves and place them into a mixing bowl.

Remove the hairy part attached to the hearts and discard it. Cut the hearts into small pieces, and add them to the bowl.

To the bowl, add the Parmesan cheese, mayonnaise, sour cream and garlic powder. Mix the ingredients with a spoon until well blended. Dividing evenly, move them to the prepared casseroles. Even out the surfaces.

Sprinkle the casseroles with the bread crumbs, covering the entire surface area. Dust it with paprika for color. Bake them for 15 minutes or until the casseroles are bubbling. Serve this immediately with crackers.

Scallion Squares | Dairy

Yield: 25 squares

- Parchment paper
- 6 tablespoons sweet butter
- 6 bunches of scallions
- 2 cups flour, plus more for dusting
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- $1\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoons salt
- $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon nutmeg
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup whole milk, plus 1 tablespoon

Place the parchment paper on a cookie sheet and reserve. Preheat your oven to 450 degrees F.

On a plate, cut the butter into $1\frac{1}{4}$ -inch cubes. Microwave the butter for 5-10 seconds to soften it. Reserve.

Cut off the scallion roots and the coarse ends of the leaves at the other end. Discard both. Dice, then chop the scallions. You should have about 1 cup. Reserve.

In a large mixing bowl, whisk the flour, baking powder, salt and nutmeg until combined. Add the butter, and mix it with a fork until a crumbly dough forms. Add the scallions and milk, and mix until well incorporated.

Lightly dust your kitchen counter with flour. Turn the dough out onto the surface, and knead it with your hands 6-8 times. Spread the dough into an 8-inch-by-8-inch square. With a sharp knife, cut it into 25 squares (cut 5 down and 5 across). Move the small squares onto the parchment paper.

Bake the dough for 12-15 minutes or until the squares turn a deep golden brown. Serve them warm or at room temperature. **JE**

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A Chanukah Tradition Since 1882



What's happening at ... Congregation Beth Or

Congregation Beth Or in Maple Glen Continues to Thrive

Jarrad Saffren | Staff Writer

On Dec. 7, Rabbi Gregory Marx presided over the funeral of the last living founder of his synagogue: Congregation Beth Or in Maple Glen. The man, who died at 104, was a member of one of the six families that started Beth Or in 1955.

It was a sad day, according to Marx. As the rabbi put it, he will now look out on the High Holidays and see another empty seat.

But, at the same time, he will see that most of the chairs are still full.

Congregation Beth Or has lost about 100 families over the past five years, according to Marx. The congregation is down from its all-time high of about 1,100 households. But it still retains an active membership of roughly 985 families. The last founder may be gone, but the synagogue remains.

And it doesn't just remain. It is strong, with a recently paid-off mortgage, 450 students in the religious school, 185 kids in the preschool and more than 100 weekly attendees at hybrid Shabbat services. Marx has been the temple's spiritual leader since 1989 and spent much of that time raising money, he said. Now, as he prepares for his retirement in June 2024, he is excited to have the resources to spend more on members than on interest payments, as he put it.

"We've weathered the storm," he said of the larger movement away from synagogue membership.

Marx learned from original congregants that Beth Or was built on a helpful spirit. Members came from "well-established, well-heeled congregations," the rabbi said, with assigned seats that placed wealthier congregants up front. At Beth Or, they did not want the same arrangement. Instead, they wanted their new Reform temple to be egalitarian. People could sit where they wanted, and everyone would help with more than just their wallets.

Members had to pitch in with their hands and feet because the synagogue, as Marx explained, "didn't have the



Congregation Beth Or members are devoted to helping the synagogue and the community around them. Courtesy of Congregation Beth Or

resources it has now." So in the 1950s and '60s, if there was a job that needed to be done, congregants came by and did it. They painted the walls; they moved furniture to set up for events; they mowed the lawn; they plowed the snow.

"There was a can-do spirit," Marx said.

Today, Beth Or has enough money to hire people to mow the lawn and plow the snow, according to the rabbi. But its members maintain that spirit. They just focus it outward a little more.

Every year on Christmas morning, Beth Or congregants travel around town "doing mitzvahs," Marx said. A couple hundred people volunteer for tasks like bringing food to hospital staff members and gifts to children in the hospital. One year, they did a highway cleanup.

Earlier in 2022, Beth Or congregants raised \$110,000 for Marx to bring with him to the Jewish Community Center in Krakow to help refugees from the war in Ukraine. The money provided child support to a group of mostly women.

The Maple Glen synagogue also

keeps a disaster fund that it can use in any situation. It sent money to Houston after Hurricane Harvey in 2017, to Haiti after the 2010 earthquake that killed more than 100,000 people and to California after the deadly Camp Fire in 2018.

"Our community is all about giving. Giving to one another and giving locally," said Gwen Silverstein, the synagogue's president and a member in her 22nd year. "We all believe that we get more from what we give."

Silverstein, now in her second year as president, said she gets the same type of support that members used to give each other in the temple's early years. When she needs something, people come, whether it's a repair, an issue relating to COVID or a financial concern.

The longtime member raised both of her daughters in the synagogue, sending them through preschool, bat mitzvahs and confirmation. Both girls made friends at Beth Or whom they went to camp with and traveled to Israel with. Silverstein said the girls now consider those friends to be family members.

"They got to make new friends



Rabbi Gregory Marx Photo by Dara King



Congregation Beth Or in Maple Glen Photo by Dara King

and create a Jewish community," the mother said.

And then hopefully, that microcommunity will come back to the bigger one in Maple Glen, explained Amy Abrams, the temple's executive director and a member for 27 years. Beth Or, even without any founding members left, has many multigenerational families, according to Abrams.

"You want to build Jewish identity in the children so hopefully they will come back with their children," she said. **JE**

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com



Will We Be Judahs or Einsteins?

By Rabbi Gila Colman Ruskin

Parshat Vayeshev

I just finished reading “The Other Einstein” by Marie Benedict, published in 2016.

How disturbing was this depiction of Albert Einstein’s first wife and collaborator, Mileva Maric, a brilliant mathematician who may have been the actual author of the theory of relativity. How distressing was Einstein’s abject neglect of his family and his attempts to erase Mirac’s scientific contributions from history, depriving her of sharing the Nobel Prize.

My view of his greatness has been significantly dampened by this (somewhat fictionalized) account of his personal cruelty toward her.

nately a heroine, paired with the ancestor from whom most of us Jews claim our descent: Judah, son of Jacob.

The behavior of this childless widow seemed debauched when she seduced her father-in-law Judah by disguising herself as a prostitute, seeking to be impregnated by him. Yet her actions were driven by noble intention: continuing the family line of her deceased husband Er. In contrast, after his wife died, Judah relinquished his responsibility as tribal leader by squandering his “seed” with a prostitute while on his way to a festival with a friend.

To guarantee payment for sexual services, Tamar shrewdly demanded that Judah leave with her his seal, cord and staff until he can send payment. When Judah’s friend attempts to deliver payment and retrieve the personal effects, the prostitute is nowhere to be found.

his reputation would be ruined. The baby is left with her parents, and they wed. When that child dies of scarlet fever, Einstein seems relieved. Although the groundbreaking discoveries in physics resulted from their combined study and collaboration, he removes Maric’s name from their publications.

As his reputation grows, his mistreatment of her increases. She and her children are dependent on his earnings.

She has no opportunity to proclaim to the world the truth, that these were her ideas, her mathematical findings; the articles were her compositions. Finally, when infidelities are revealed, she musters the courage to find a lawyer who crafts a divorce agreement entitling her to the cash award for the Nobel Prize that she is certain he will win. She leaves with her children; Einstein marries his cousin, leaves for America and goes on

to fame and fortune.

Life presents us all with opportunities to transcend the fear of shame and to do what is right. Will we be Judahs or Einsteins? **JE**

Rabbi Gila Colman Ruskin, emerita of Temple Adas Shalom in Havre de Grace, Maryland, is an artist of Mosaic Midrash, which is displayed at Beth David Reform Congregation in Gladwyne. 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.



Life presents us all with opportunities to transcend the fear of shame and to do what is right.

As we read this week Parshat Vayeshev, how striking are the remarkable parallels between the alleged heroics of our ancestor Judah, son of Jacob, and Albert Einstein.

Both men lived in times when men utterly controlled the financial and social fate of women, when their word would be believed over any woman’s claim. Both of them could have had their reputations marred by being shamed by a brilliant, yet powerless woman. But the difference in their reactions to this risk spells the difference between accomplishment and true valor.

You, our readers, may not be familiar with the 38th chapter of Genesis. The story of Tamar was never taught in the religious school I attended, nor in the day school my children attended. With its references to a harlot, masturbation and burning at the stake, even adults may be alienated from what seems like a sordid tale.

That is indeed sad; Tamar was defi-

Judah worries about becoming a laughingstock.

When Tamar does become pregnant and the news is revealed to Judah, he resolves to have her burned, as is his prerogative as tribal chief. Why? Because having had sexual relations with one outside his household, when she is his son’s widow, could bring shame to Judah.

Tamar then presents to Judah his personal effects. Judah rises above his fear of being shamed, publicly acknowledging that Tamar was in the right. He declares that he would claim her and her offspring as his family and his future. Tradition tells us that as a result of Judah’s acknowledgment, God decided to appoint him as the ancestor of King David, and of us, the Jewish people.

In contrast, Einstein, when confronted with the news that Maric is pregnant with his child out of wedlock, refuses to acknowledge the child, finds excuses not to marry her, claiming that



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DECEMBER 16-DECEMBER 22



**THURSDAY,
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CHANUKAH JAZZ CONCERT

Award-winning jazz and klezmer violinist Ben Sutin will bring his talent and energy to South Jersey for a community Chanukah concert at 7:30 p.m., sponsored by Temple Har Zion, Congregation Beth Tikvah and Temple Sinai. **For details and to RSVP:** templeharzion.org/holidays-2.

FRIDAY, DEC. 16

PARSHA FOR LIFE

Join Rabbi Alexander Coleman, Jewish educator and psychotherapist at the Institute for Jewish Ethics, at 9 a.m. for a weekly journey through the Torah portion with eternal lessons on personal growth and spirituality. **Go to ijethics.org/weekly-torah-portion.html to receive the Zoom link and password.**

MUSICAL KABBALAT SHABBAT

Join Beth Sholom Congregation's Rabbi David Glanzberg-Krainin, Cantor Jacob Agar and the band at 6 p.m. for a musical Kabbalat Shabbat. The community is welcome to attend. **Call 215-887-1342 for information. 8231 Old York Road, Elkins Park.**

MONDAY, DEC. 19

MAHJONG GAME

Melrose B'nai Israel Emanu-El Sisterhood invites the community to join our weekly mahjong game at 7 p.m. Cost is \$36 per year or free with MBIEE Sisterhood membership. **For more information, call 215-635-1505 or email office@mbiee.org. 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park.**

TUESDAY, DEC. 20

BINGO WITH BARRY

Join Barry at Tabas Kleinlife for an afternoon of bingo at 12:45 p.m. on Dec. 20 and 21. Free parking and free to play with snacks available on Dec. 21. **For more information, call 215-745-3127. 2101 Strahle St., Philadelphia.**

THURSDAY, DEC. 22

CANASTA GAME

Ohev Shalom of Bucks County Sisterhood invites the community to a canasta game, Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. Open play is \$4. **Call 215-968-6755 for more information. 944 Second Street Pike, Richboro. JE**

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BELL

On Friday, December 2, 2022, we lost William "Billy" Bell, the patriarch of our family. Billy spent his final day at home with his beloved wife, Sylvia, and spoke with each of his children and grandchildren that day in celebration of his 92nd birthday. He died peacefully in his sleep. Born December 1, 1930, Billy was raised in Philadelphia along with his younger sister and brother. As an offensive end on the Central High School football team, Billy walked to school with a football under one arm and a violin in the other. He graduated from Pennsylvania Military College and then went on to his first year at Jefferson Medical School. Following the sudden death of his father, Billy left medical school in order to run the family business and support his mother and siblings. Billy ran his father's coal yard with his brother, Jerry, and then quickly converted that business to a wholesale and retail home heating oil company known as Bell Fuel & Co. During this time, Billy found the love of his life, Sylvia, when she was a mere 16 years old. They married a few years later and have celebrated a miraculous 64 years of marriage, raising their children in the suburbs of Philadelphia and spending summers at the Jersey Shore. In his retirement, South Florida became their home. Quiet yet driven, Billy found time to be an active fisherman, fish breeder, equestrian and horse owner, dog lover and dog handler, antique collector and one of the rare Jewish handymen we knew. Billy is survived by his beautiful and loving wife, children and his grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister. Donations in Billy's memory may be made to JCHAI.ORG
THE GARDENS OF BOCA RATON
www.thegardens.com

BEZAR

LLOYD M. - November 25, 2022, of Burlington, NJ; husband of Andrea (nee Lindsay); father of Dana L. Bezar and Ian F. Bezar; brother of Arlene O. Silberman. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Lloyd's memory may be made to Wounded Warrior Project <https://support.woundedwarriorproject.org/>
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BRITCHKOW

MARTIN, December 3, 2022. Beloved husband of the late Lillian Britchkow and the late Lois Margolin Britchkow. Loving father of Linda (Howard) Dvoskin and Andrea (Bruce) Brownstein. Adoring grandfather of Lily (Casey) O'Neil, Julie (Kevin) Pickett, Jacob (Rachel) Brownstein, Benjamin Brownstein, and Rachel (Cory) Barnet. Great-grandfather of Daisy O'Neil and Eli Brownstein. Dear brother of Sandra Bernstein. Also survived by Lois' children Debbie Somers (Steve Greene) and Wendy Somers, and Lois' grandchildren Alec and Jason Greene and Sydney Somers. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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DUNOFF

MARVIN died peacefully on December 1, 2022 at the age of 88. He was born in Philadelphia on June 2, 1934 to Louis and Mollie Dunoff. After graduating high school, Marvin attended Penn State. Following two years of service in the army, he married Barbara (nee Trachtenberg). During their 64 years of marriage, they raised two children, Jeffrey (Theresa) and Joy Stein (Stuart), at their home in Penn Valley. For much of his adult life Marvin managed and eventually owned Dan's Shoes, a renowned woman's shoe store in Center City Philadelphia. He was an avid golfer, and with his wife traveled extensively. He was devoted to his family and took great pleasure in being deeply involved in the lives of his loving children and grandchildren. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America, or to a charity of the donor's choice.

KOHN

EMANUEL (Manny) J. of Abington, PA, passed away peacefully on December 4, 2022 at the age of 104 years and 8 months. Loving husband of the late Jane Hammerschlag Kohn; father of David (Phyllis, deceased) Kohn and Ellen (Henry) Mishel; grandfather of Jamie (William) Seifert, Joshua (Rebecca) Kohn, Jessica (David Padula) Mishel, Daniel (Alexandra) Mishel, Lisa (Duane) Kolar, and the late Robert Cooperman; great-grandfather of Jackson, Wyatt, Everett, Elinore, Nathan, Olivia, Aiden, and Lucy. He will also be missed by his nephew Alan (Joan) Kober. A humble World War II Army veteran, Manny went on to become a Purchasing Agent for Blumenthal Brothers Chocolate Company where he enjoyed an unlimited supply of Goobers, Raisinets, and Sno-Caps during his days at the office. He then joined Spectra Graphics (formerly Forms, Inc of Willow Grove) as Sales

Service Manager, bringing home scrap rolls of paper much to the delight of his grandchildren. For many years, Manny maintained an impressive model train layout covering three walls of his basement. His love of trains lives on among multiple generations of the family. He could often be found on the golf course well into his 90s. From Cousins Club bridge nights to monthly poker nights, playing cards was also among his favorite pastimes. As recently as three months ago, he could be found playing poker with three younger generations of his family. Manny did not miss out on the Wordle craze and took pleasure in figuring out the daily puzzle with Ellen and David. Manny and Jane, along with 6 other couples, were founding members of Congregation Beth Or, originally in Mt. Airy and now located in Maple Glen, PA. He enjoyed over 50 years as a member of the Beth Or Mens Bowling League, actively bowling beyond his 100th birthday. An extensive world traveler, he and Jane explored 5 of the 7 continents together. He was a long time resident of Sunrise Senior Living of Abington where he was held in high regard by both staff and fellow residents. Though he had many great achievements, his proudest accomplishment was his family. His greatest joy was watching them come together in both small and large celebrations and gatherings throughout his years as patriarch. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to Jewish Relief Agency, The Breathing Room Foundation, or Congregation Beth Or.

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MEYER

DR. HAROLD. Dec. 7, 2022. Devoted husband of the late Eleanor Meyer (nee Rieder). Loving father of Rae (Robert) Shay, Billie Meyer, Carol (Michael) Crehore, and Charles (Sheryl) Meyer. Beloved Pops of David, Rebecca (Clay), Joachim, Tillie (Jason), Amy (Alberto), Erica, Lesley, Brian, Melissa, Avery, and Griffin, and great-grandchildren John Henry, Emilia, and William. Contributions in his memory may be made to Albert Einstein Medical Center Department of Pediatrics, or to the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University.

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SCHWARTZ

KENNETH STEPHEN - December 1, 2022. Husband of Jacqueline "Jacqui" (nee Karp). Father of Howard Alan (Hope) Schwartz and Eric M. (Kelly) Schwartz. Brother of Dr. Harry (Terri) Schwartz. Grandfather of Avery, Samantha, Zachary, Gregory and Jeffrey. Kenneth was the founding member and owner of Quaker

City Cab Company, a life member and board member of Congregation Tifereth Israel of Lower Bucks County, President of East Halls Council, a member of Skull and Bones and a graduate of Penn State University. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation, www.parkinson.org or Lewy Body Dementia Association, www.lbda.org

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SOLOMON

EDWARD F., age 101, of Lower Merion Township, passed away on December 5, 2022. Beloved husband of Bernice (Bunny) of 80 years. Loving father of Lyn Segal (Alex Sarratt), Saul Solomon (Arlene Isaacson) and Sandy Kaplan (Mitch). Brother of Maxine Weinstein. Devoted grandfather of Carli Snyder, Brad Solomon, Stacy Berry, and Toni Caroto, and Great Grandfather of 9. He grew up in West Philadelphia and was the 1939 Class President at West Philadelphia High. After graduating from Wharton School of Univ. of Pennsylvania, he served as a navigator in the Army Air Corp, serving in Europe during WWII and reaching the rank of 2nd Lt before his discharge in October 1945. He started the Pride Dog Food Company and was instrumental in the ground-breaking conversion of dog food from a frozen container into a can. Eddie and Bunny were avid travelers for over 50 years visiting 6 continents and dozens of countries. Their greatest enjoyment was having his children and grandchildren traveling with them. He was active in the Gryphons (West Philly High fraternity) for 85 years and was the last living member. And a member of Beth David Synagogue for over 65 years. His wit, wisdom and kindness to all will be remembered by those who knew and loved him. Donations to the Parkinson Foundation are appreciated.

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WERLINSKY

REMEMBERING FLORENCE (nee Ginsberg) on the first anniversary of her passing. Florence is deeply missed by her friends and family and all of the lives that she has touched. Florence was the daughter of the late Samuel and Betty Ginsberg and sister of the late Morton Ginsberg. She was married to Dr. Samuel Werlinsky for 49 years, until his passing in 1999. Florence was an ambitious woman. She graduated from The Jewish Hospital with a nursing degree and she worked as a nurse, in many different capacities, for many years, until she became a nursing home administrator. She undertook many ventures in her lifetime, including continuing her education into her 90's. Florence was always there for a friend in need. She utilized her nursing skills to assist friends who required help with medical needs. She was selfless, generous and had an excitement for life, always ready to take on an adventure. She was a world traveler, even riding an elephant in Africa in her late 80's. She wasn't the type to observe, if she wanted to do it, she did it. Florence was a social butterfly with beautiful wings. She was active in her synagogue, Hadassah and her condo's entertainment committee, as well as many other things, too many to mention. She was small but mighty, a true force of nature. Anyone lucky to have known her has been blessed. Florence's greatest accomplishments, her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren miss her beyond words. Not a day goes by that her influence has not been felt in our lives. Mom and Grandmom, thank you for all of the wonderful memories. We love and miss you.

WEXLER

GAIL JAY (nee Wilderman) on December 3, 2022. Wife of the late Joseph. Mother of Susan (Steven) Freiberg, Holly Wexler (Maureen Frederick) and the late Herman Wexler. Sister of Pat Dinney, also survived by 7 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org.

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Out & About

Courtesy of Mindy Shapiro



Courtesy of Davida Chornock



Courtesy of Chani Baran



Photo by Christopher Brown



Courtesy of Wayne Pollock



Courtesy of Julie LaFair Miller

❶ Philadelphia residents participated in a fundraising bike ride in Israel. ❷ Main Line Reform Temple-Beth Elohim congregants toured Philadelphia's Jewish quarter. ❸ The Philly Friendship Circle held its Philly Friendship Walk on Nov. 13 at the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's Schwartz Campus in Bryn Mawr. ❹ The American Jewish Committee Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey presented its 2022 Civic Achievement Award to Center City District CEO Paul Levy at the Down Town Club in Philadelphia on Nov. 16. ❺ Nancy Winkler of the Eisenberg, Rothweiler, Winkler, Eisenberg and Jeck law firm and her son Zachary Winkler of Hangley Aronchick Segal Pudlin & Schiller law firm received the 2022 Founder's Award at the Evening of Hope for the Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Chapter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation. ❻ The sisterhood at Or Shalom in Berwyn honored board member and events chair Ellen Gross with a leaf on the synagogue's tree of life.

Jim Gardner

THE LEGENDARY ANCHORMAN REFLECTS ON HIS CAREER

Jarrad Saffren | Staff Writer

Jim Gardner was neither born nor raised in Philadelphia. He did not start his career here, either. The Jewish anchorman was born, raised and had a bar mitzvah in New York City and spent the first six years of his professional life in New York State with radio and television stations in the city, White Plains and Buffalo.

But when he came to Philadelphia to take a job as a street reporter and noon anchorman with WPVI or, as it's more popularly known today, 6abc, in 1976, he never left. Gardner (his birth name is Goldman) became 6abc's 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. anchor in 1977 and has held the seat ever since, becoming the region's most trusted face and voice in news.

Gardner became part of the city, but Philadelphia also became part of him. Perhaps even the biggest part. During an hour-long interview with the Jewish Exponent, he made sure to clarify that he now roots for the Philadelphia Eagles when they play the New York Giants. And not only does he cheer for the Birds, but he relishes in their victories over his childhood team.

On Dec. 21, the 74-year-old will sign off on his last broadcast. He said it's time, especially now that the Earth-shattering stories of Donald Trump's presidency and the pandemic are receding into history.

Gardner kept 6abc at No. 1 in the local TV news ratings for the duration of his tenure, save for one month. But before the Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El in Wynnewood member left his anchor seat, he took a look back.

On the trust he built with generations of Philadelphians

The anchorman hears from a lot of people about how their grandparents watched him; their parents watched him; and now they watch him, too. It's a distinction he appreciates.

"We take very seriously what people are concerned about; what their wor-



ries are; what their anxieties are; what their joys are; what their triumphs are," he said. "And we try to cover that."

When asked why people trust him, Gardner said, "Because I'm trustworthy." Then once his smile from his joke receded, he explained that he just sat in that chair year after year.

He said that he does not care so much about breaking a story first. What matters more to him is getting it right. He also explained that he does not try to reflect "what the emotional response will be of a viewer to a particular story." The reporter just tries to stay even-keeled.

"But if you do have empathy, I think a viewer recognizes that," he said.

On how he got to Philadelphia

Gardner worked for WKBW-TV in Buffalo when got a job offer in Miami. He told his boss he was going to accept it. But the boss said, "Wait a minute: Would you mind if I talked to the folks at WPVI in Philadelphia?" WPVI was owned by the same company as WKBW.

The reporter said, "Sure," and the next day, he was in Philadelphia talking to station General Manager Larry Pollock. Within a day, Pollock offered

Gardner a job.

"And I came here instead of Miami," the anchorman said.

On becoming the anchorman

ABC's previous six and 11 anchor Larry Kane left for a job in New York in 1977, opening up the seat. Gardner said, "It didn't even appear on my radar screen." But he auditioned, and it was Pollock who chose Gardner over more experienced candidates from across the country.

"For whatever reason, he thought that maybe I was the person to do that job," the anchorman said. "I think he felt that there was a good chance that I might decide to stay here for a long time."

Before his promotion, Gardner did not see himself as an anchorman. He just thought he was a reporter.

"Think about being curious. Think about becoming a really good writer," he said. "Think about the kinds of stories that you want to tell."

On Philadelphia's evolution since 1977

Frank Rizzo was mayor when Gardner arrived, and as the anchorman put it, "the Black community felt that he was not their best friend." There was a question, Gardner recalled, about whether Philadelphia would ever have a Black mayor. Since then, though, it has had three: Wilson Goode in the 1980s and early '90s and John Street and Michael Nutter in the 2000s and 2010s.

And from a business standpoint, "the city has grown dramatically," Gardner said. "Just look at the skyline," he added.

But one thing, according to the newsman, has not changed.

"When I came here, people said that Philadelphia is either the biggest small town in America or the smallest big city in America," Gardner said, smiling. **JE**

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Legals

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 26, 2022 for **The Writers Seat** at 2104 Shelmire Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19152. The entity interested in such business is The Grow House Publishing LLC, whose

Commercial Registered Office provider's address is at 2104 Shelmire Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19152 in Philadelphia County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 22, 2022 for **Inner City Real Estate, LLC** at 4634 N 11th St. Philadelphia, PA 19140. The entity interested in such business is Y.M.M. Enterprises LLC, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is at 4634 N 11th St. Philadelphia, PA 19140 in Philadelphia County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 25, 2022 for **Where Loyalty Lies Within** at 7302 Malvern Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19151. The entity interested in such business is The Butlers Dikit LLC, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is at 7302 Malvern Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19151 in Philadelphia County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 26, 2022 for **Black N' PhDish** at 2104 Shelmire Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19152. The entity interested in such business is The Grow House Publishing LLC, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is at 2104 Shelmire Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19152 in Philadelphia County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 26, 2022 for **The Sutton Institute for Psychotherapy** at 207 Leedom Street, Suite 101, Jenkintown, PA 19046. The entity interested in such business is Abington Behavioral Health Consultants, LLC, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is at 207 Leedom Street, Suite 101, Jenkintown, PA 19046 in Montgomery County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 30, 2022 for **RELLAVENT RELIABLE DISPATCHING** at 138 East Loudon, Philadelphia, PA 19120. The entity interested in such business is RELLAVENT RELIABLE TRANSPORTION LLC, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is at 138 East Loudon, Philadelphia, PA 19120 in Philadelphia County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 31, 2022 for **K&J Groceries** at 6340 Stenton Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19138. The name and address of each individual interested in the

business is James Pitts at 6340 Stenton Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19138. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

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 July 25, 2022 for **Toro Insurance** at 22 E Hortter Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119. The entity interested in such business is TAMAREZ GROUP, Inc., whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is at 22 E Hortter Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119 in Philadelphia County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 01, 2022 for **Nexus Readers** at 826 N. Brooklyn St., Philadelphia, PA 19104. The entity interested in such business is Killips Educational Consulting LLC, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is at 826 N. Brooklyn St., Philadelphia, PA 19104 in Philadelphia County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 13, 2022 for **Born Again Builders** at 2834 Tyson Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19149. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Samuel Molett at 2834 Tyson Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19149. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

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 13, 2022 for **Foursquare Realty Advisors** at 412 N Broad St. Lansdale, PA 19446. The entity interested in such business is Schrodinger's House, LLC, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is at 412 N Broad St. Lansdale, PA 19446 in Montgomery County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 15, 2022 for **Impact96** at 235 Ridge Road, Winfield, PA 17889. The entity interested in such business is Amy Thomas consulting LLC, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is at 235 Ridge Road, Winfield, PA 17889 in Philadelphia County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 16, 2022 for **One Level Goods** at 325 Madison St. Apt. B 304, Lansdale, PA 19446. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Benjamin Robinson at 325 Madison St. Apt. B 304, Lansdale, PA 19446. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

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 20, 2022 for **SKNDUSTRY** at 220 S 8th St., Philadelphia, PA 19107. The entity interested in such business is Kaitlyn Nelson Medical Aesthetics LLC, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is at 220 S 8th St., Philadelphia, PA 19107 in Philadelphia County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on September 21, 2022 for **Polari Events** at 2309 S. Woodstock St., Philadelphia, PA 19145. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Kyle Firestone at 2309 S. Woodstock St., Philadelphia, PA 19145. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

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 23, 2022 for **McFarland Home Solutions** at 1370 N Keim St., Pottstown, PA 19464. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Jared McFarland at 1370 N Keim St., Pottstown, PA 19464. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

Islamic Center of Delaware County, Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988. Harry J. Karapalides, Esquire 42 Copley Road Upper Darby, PA 19082

Larry's Steaks on the Avenue Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988. Lundy Beldecos & Milby, PC 450 N. Narberth Ave. Suite 200 Narberth, PA 19072

Notice is hereby given that Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on 12/3/22 with respect to a proposed nonprofit corporation, **Restore Venture**, which has been incorporated under the Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.

Notice is hereby given that Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on 12/3/22 with respect to a proposed nonprofit corporation, **Safe Place Church**, which has been incorporated under the Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.

Notice is hereby given that Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on 12/5/22 with respect to a proposed nonprofit corporation, **Shellann House**, which has been incorporated under the Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.

Notice is hereby given that **CBCC Tenant, Inc.**, a foreign corporation formed under the laws of the State of Delaware, and its principal office is located at Circa Centre, 2929 Arch St, Fl. 28, Philadelphia, PA 19104, has registered to do business in

Pennsylvania with the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, at Harrisburg, PA, on 10/27/22, under the provisions of Chapter 4 of the Association Transactions Act.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 4129 of the Business Corporation Law of 1988, **GENERAL DYNAMICS CORPORATION**, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware with principal office at 1101 Sunset Hills Road, Reston, VA 20190-5311, and having a Commercial Registered officer provider and county of venue as follows: C T Corporation System, Philadelphia County, which on 09/27/1957 was registered to transact business in the Commonwealth, intends to file a Statement of Withdrawal with the Department of State.

UNITED STAFFING SOLUTIONS INC., a corporation organized under the laws of the state of New York, has applied for registration in Pennsylvania under the provisions of Chapter 4 of the Associations Code. The alternative name under which the association is registering in this Commonwealth is UNITED STAFFING SOLUTIONS PENNSYLVANIA INC. The address of its principal office under the laws of the jurisdiction of formation is 1385 Broadway, Ste. 1005, New York, NY 10018 and the address of its proposed registered office in this Commonwealth is c/o M. Burr Keim Company, 2021 Arch St., Philadelphia, PA 19103.

WWP CONSTRUCTION, INC. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

BOV 413 INC. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988. McCreesh, McCreesh, McCreesh & Cannon 7053 Terminal Square Upper Darby, PA 19082

Center Pointe Law PC has been incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 29 of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation law of 1988 as a Professional Corporation. Robert M. Tobia, Esquire 123 S. Broad Street Suite 1640 Philadelphia, PA 19109

Custom Jewelers, Inc has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988. Jensen Bagnato, P.C. 1500 Walnut Street Suite 1510 Philadelphia, PA 19102

NOTICE OF RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR A PAWNBROKER LICENSE
Notice is hereby given that **Watches Etc., Inc.** did on 01/01/2023, submit to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Dept. of Banking, an application for renewal licensure of a pawnbroker at this location, which is as follows: 3140 Kensington Ave., Phila., Phila. County, PA 19134. All interested persons may file written comments in favor of or in opposition to the Application with the Pawnbroker Hearing Officer, Pennsylvania Department of Banking, 17 N. 2nd Street 13th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101-2290. All comments to be considered must be received by the Department within thirty (30) days from the date of this newspaper publication.

ESTATE OF AARON JENKINS, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia, PA. Letters of



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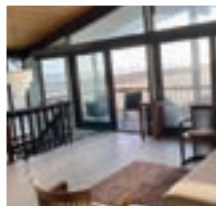
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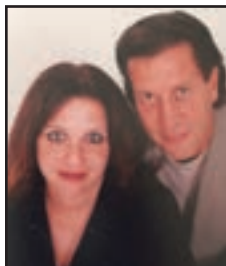
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Send resume or cv by no later than December 31st, 2022,
to Sammi Parmer, Administrative Assistant,
Congregation Beth Israel,
411 S. 8th St, Lebanon, Pa 17042
or beth.israelsynagogue@verizon.net

Administration on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons having claims against or indebted to the estate should make claims known or forward payment to, Keisha Jenkins, Administratrix, 1446 W. Sparks St., Philadelphia, PA 19141 or to their attorney Mu'min F. Islam, Esq., MFI Law Group, PLLC, 1117 Ivy Hill Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19150.

ESTATE OF AURORA CARRASQUILLO, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia 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 payment without delay to REINA ROSA DONES, EXECUTRIX, c/o Stephen C. Zumbun, Esq., 130 N. 18th St., Philadelphia, PA 19103-6998, Or to her Attorney: STEPHEN C. ZUMBRUN BLANK ROME LLP 130 N. 18th St. Philadelphia, PA 19103-6998

ESTATE OF BONNIE K. CRANER, DECEASED. Late of Telford Borough, Montgomery County, PA LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to BRUCE H. BENJAMIN (a/k/a BRUCE HERBERT BENJAMIN), EXECUTOR, c/o Howard M. Soloman, Esq., 1760 Market St., Ste. 404, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to his Attorney: HOWARD M. SOLOMAN 1760 Market St., Ste. 404 Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF BRUCE ALEXANDER SHAW, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia 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 JOYCE SHAW PETERSON, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Stanley A. Pelli, Esq., 1880 JFK Blvd., Ste. 1740, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to her Attorney: STANLEY A. PELLI ALEXANDER & PELLI, LLC 1880 JFK Blvd., Ste. 1740 Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF CAROL PERLOFF a/k/a CAROL BENENSON PERLOFF, DECEASED. Late of Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, PA LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to ABBI L. COHEN, EXECUTRIX, c/o Amy Neifeld Shkedy, Esq., 1 Bala Plaza, Ste. 623, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004, Or to her Attorney: AMY NEIFELD SHKEDY BALA LAW GROUP, LLC 1 Bala Plaza, Ste. 623 Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

ESTATE OF CECIL EDWARD FLOYD, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to STEPHANIE MARIE FLOYD BROOKS, ADMINISTRATRIX, 16331 Hawfield Way Dr., #2412, Charlotte, NC 28277, Or to her Attorney: MARK J. DAVIS CONNOR ELDER LAW, LLC 644 Germantown Pike, 2-C Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

ESTATE OF CECIL FLOYD, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to STEPHANIE MARIE FLOYD BROOKS, ADMINISTRATRIX, 16331 Hawfield Way Dr., #2412, Charlotte, NC 28277, Or to her Attorney: MARK J. DAVIS CONNOR ELDER LAW, LLC 644 Germantown Pike, 2-C Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

ESTATE OF DORIS A. McDOWELL, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia 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 CRYSTALL E. McDOWELL, EXECUTRIX, c/o Adam S. Bernick, Esq., 2047 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to her Attorney: ADAM S. BERNICK LAW OFFICE OF ADAM S. BERNICK 2047 Locust St. Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF ERVIN T. GLENN a/k/a ERVIN T. GLENN, SR., DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia 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 ADRIENNE A. GLENN, EXECUTRIX, 6342 Ardleigh St., Philadelphia, PA 19138, Or to her Attorney: DANIEL BALTUCH 104.5 Forrest Ave., Ste. 10 Narberth, PA 19072

ESTATE OF FAYE A. FLITTER, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia, PA. Letters of Administration on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons having claims against or indebted to the estate should make claims known or forward payment to Andrew M. Flitter, Administrator, 35 Grand Banks Circle, Marlton, NJ 08053 or to their attorney Edward L. Paul, Esquire, 1103 Laurel Oak Road, Suite 105C, Voorhees, NJ 08043.

ESTATE OF G. STEPHEN TINT, DECEASED. LETTERS of TESTAMENRY 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 EXECUTOR, Or to Attorney: DAVID N RUBIN, ESQ 1500 JFK BLVD STE 1030 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102 215-564-2672

ESTATE OF GEORGE SWIERCZYNSKI a/k/a GEORGE ALBERT SWIERCZYNSKI, DECEASED Late of Philadelphia, PA. LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay, to Executor, Janice Ciepiela. Beneficiaries Janice Ciepiela, Richard Ciepiela, Bernadette Ciepiela Ruch, Nicholas Ciepiela, Michael Ciepiela, Jacqueline Ciepiela, Steven a/k/a Stephan Ciepiela, Janice Williams. The Law Offices of Jon Taylor, Esquire, PC, 1617 JFK Blvd., Suite 1888, Philadelphia, PA19103 also the attorney

ESTATE OF HAROLD REUBEN STERN, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to GREGORY STERN, ADMINISTRATOR, 19 Moredon Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

ESTATE OF HARVEY GOLDBERG, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to CRISTINIA LOPUSZANSKI, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Jay E. Kivitz, Esq., 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150, Or to her Attorney: JAY E. KIVITZ KIVITZ & KIVITZ, P.C. 7901 Ogontz Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19150

ESTATE OF HAZEL LATHAM, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia 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 REID OAKLEY, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Jay E. Kivitz, Esq., 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150, Or to his Attorney: JAY E. KIVITZ KIVITZ & KIVITZ, P.C. 7901 Ogontz Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19150

ESTATE OF HU AU, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia 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 ASHLEY J. AU, EXECUTRIX, 7511 Pennsylvania Dr., Amarillo, TX 79119

ESTATE OF JAMES C. RUSH, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION DBN 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 LA-VERN LUNS福德, ADMINISTRATRIX DBN, 225 W. Hansberry St., Philadelphia, PA 19144, Or to her Attorney: ROBERT DIXON 6800 Clearview St. Philadelphia, PA 19119

ESTATE OF JOHN J. PANAS, SR., DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia, PA. Letters of Administration on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons having claims against or indebted to the estate should make claims known or forward payment to Bernice Panas, Administratrix, 3064 Edgemont St., Philadelphia, PA 19134 or to their attorney Andrew I. Roseman, Esquire, 1528 Walnut St., Suite 1412, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

ESTATE OF JOSEPH THOMAS PARIS, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia, PA. Letters of Administration on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons having claims against or indebted to the estate should make claims known or forward payment to Jason Paris, Administrator, c/o Hope Bosniak, Esq., Dessen Moses & Rossitto, 600 Easton Rd., Willow Grove, PA 19090.

ESTATE OF KEVIN DOERR, JR., DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia, PA. Letters of Administration on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons having claims against or indebted to the estate should make claims known or forward payment to Kevin Doerr, Administrator, 517 Oak Lane, Tamaqua, PA 19252 or to their attorney Mark Feinman, Esquire, 8171 Castor Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19152.

ESTATE OF LOUISE BARLOW, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia 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 AQUILA N. LEVY, EXECUTRIX, c/o Jay E. Kivitz, Esq., 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150, Or to her Attorney: Jay E. Kivitz Kivitz & Kivitz, P.C. 7901 Ogontz Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19150

ESTATE OF MAURY WENDELL SINGLETON, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to ELISE BROWN, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Jay E. Kivitz, Esq., 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150, Or to her Attorney: JAY E. KIVITZ KIVITZ & KIVITZ, P.C. 7901 Ogontz Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19150

ESTATE OF MICHAEL O. DIGGS, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to PATRICIA A. DIGGS, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Jay E. Kivitz, Esq., 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150, Or to her Attorney: JAY E. KIVITZ KIVITZ & KIVITZ, P.C. 7901 Ogontz Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19150

ESTATE OF MONICA ANN HEALEY, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia, PA. Letters of Administration on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons having claims against or indebted to the estate should make claims known or forward payment to Patrick J. Healey, Esq., Administrator, 7104 McCallum St., Philadelphia, PA 19119.

ESTATE OF NANCY M. ELLIS, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia 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 ANGELA CAROLINE ELLIS, EXECUTRIX, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to her Attorney: DANIELLAA. HORN KLENK LAW, LLC 2202 Delancey Place Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF PAVEL ABUKHOUSKI, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to PIOTRE ABUKHOUSKI, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Zachary R. Dolchin, Esq., 50 S. 16th St., Ste. 3530, Philadelphia, PA 19102, Or to his Attorney: ZACHARY R. DOLCHIN DOLCHIN, SLOTKIN & TODD, P.C. 50 S. 16th St., Ste. 3530 Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE OF RAYMOND SYLVESTER MILLER, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to BETTY JEAN MILLER, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Harvey Abramson, Esq., 7 Neshaminy Interplex, Ste. 400, Trevoese, PA 19053, Or to her Attorney: HARVEY ABRAMSON LAW OFFICES OF HARVEY ABRAMSON, P.C. 7 Neshaminy Interplex, Ste. 400 Trevoese, PA 19053

ESTATE OF REINALDO ALAMO, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to YOLANDA MORALES, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to her Attorney: DANIELLAA. HORN KLENK LAW, LLC 2202 Delancey Place Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF ROSE DOLEZAR a/k/a RUZA DOLEZAR, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia 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 SANJIA MOTZ, EXECUTRIX, c/o D. Keith Brown, Esq., P.O. Box 70, Newtown, PA 18940, Or to her Attorney: D. KEITH BROWN STUCKERT AND YATES P.O. Box 70 Newtown, PA 18940

ESTATE OF SONDRABROWNWELL, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia, PA. Letters Testamentary on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons having claims against or indebted to the estate should make claims known or forward payment to Mark Feinman, Esquire, Executor, 8171 Castor Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19152.

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DAVID GROVERMAN

Helps Athletes Find Jewish Identities, But First Had to Discover His Own

Jarrad Saffren | Staff Writer



Courtesy of Jake Kornblatt

From left: Jake Kornblatt and Dave Groverman organized The Peace Tournament in Israel together.

David Groverman lettered in soccer, lacrosse and wrestling at The Haverford School and helped lead its wrestling team to three consecutive Inter-Academic League championships from 1968-'70. So, as he put it, you can imagine how he felt about Judaism when his religious parents told him he couldn't play in a Haverford soccer game on Yom Kippur during his senior year.

Groverman was the team's captain.

A few years later, though, he decided to try out for the U.S. wrestling team for the 1973 Maccabiah Games in Israel. Groverman, who also wrestled at the University of Pennsylvania, made the team and wanted to go. It was a free trip to Israel for being a good wrestler, he explained.

But the trip helped him understand why his parents hadn't allowed him to play that day.

Groverman met survivors of the Munich massacre at the Summer Olympics in Germany the year before. He met Holocaust survivors and visited Yad Vashem, Israel's memorial to Shoah victims, for the first time. The wrestler won the gold medal in his 125-pound weight class at

that competition. But decades later, Groverman doesn't remember the wrestling as well as the awakening.

"Judaism became real to me," he said.

Ever since, the Blue Bell resident has worked to help other Jewish athletes make the same connection.

In the 1981 Maccabiah Games, Groverman coached the U.S. team that included four Jews who hadn't had bar mitzvahs. The team threw bar mitzvahs for them at the Wailing Wall. It became a tradition.

Three years later, he organized the first "Philadelphia Youth Maccabiah team to participate in the first North American Maccabiah Games," according to his bio on the Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame's website. Philadelphia sent 50 to 60 athletes to Detroit for the games that year and sends hundreds today.

And this year, the 50th anniversary of the Munich massacre, Groverman helped organize "The Peace Tournament" in Israel. Sanctioned by United World Wrestling, the tournament wel-

comed athletes from North America, Europe and Asia. It included a team from Morocco, the first time that an Arab country participated in an athletic competition on Israeli soil.

"The success is measured by the fact that the national team of Morocco came to the tournament," Groverman said.

As an athlete, Groverman understands what's expected of them. Athletes a lot of times, especially successful ones, are recognized as leaders in the community, he explained. This is true for Jewish athletes, too, and the expectation from a young age often motivates young people to work as hard in life as they do in sports.

The 70-year-old credited his commitment to wrestling for shaping him into a successful businessman. As a commercial real estate developer, the Blue Bell resident builds shopping centers in North Philadelphia, West Philadelphia and the suburbs, among other places.

This is why Groverman works so hard to build the connection between sports and Judaism. A successful athlete is likely to become a success-



Dave Groverman, back right, red shirt, posing with the U.S. wrestling teams for the 2022 Maccabiah Games in Israel

Photo by Larry Slater



A successful athlete is likely to become a successful man or woman. A successful Jewish athlete is likely to become a productive member of the Jewish community.

Dave Groverman, left, red shirt, celebrates a win for a U.S. wrestler.



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Dave Groverman, right, at the 2022 Maccabiah Games in Israel

Groverman has devoted much of his adult life to helping young people find their Jewish identities, and he wants to continue to do that.

ful man or woman. A successful Jewish athlete is likely to become a productive member of the Jewish community.

He also believes that wrestling, in particular, can mold a kid. It's a test of character in which the strongest person does not always win. It's the kid who, as the former Haverford standout puts it, "knows things."

"It's a very coachable sport where you can develop a kid and challenge him and they can become a very good wrestler," Groverman said.

In a sense, Groverman has become his parents. Judaism is important to him outside of the sports arena, too. He's been a member of Congregation Beth Or in Ambler for almost 40 years. All three of his children, son Peter and daughters Leslie and Jennifer, had b'nai mitzvahs there.

But while Groverman and his wife Linda kept a Jewish home, they did not keep a kosher home. Nor did



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they pressure their kids to marry Jews. One of their daughters married someone who isn't Jewish, but the couple is raising their kids Jewish. Groverman said he's fine with that, and that he would also accept whatever religious path his children choose.

"They knew that Judaism was important," he said of his kids.

Groverman has devoted much of his adult life to helping young people find their Jewish identities, and he wants to continue to do that.

The coach and his fellow Peace Tournament organizers, co-chairmen Jake Kornblatt and Aviram Shmuely, are already planning the next tournament. Groverman said it may be annual or semi-annual. He also wants to bring in more Arab countries.

Shmuely, a national wrestling champion in Israel and the chairman of New York Athletic Club Wrestling, came up with the idea for the tournament by reminding Groverman of the 50th anniversary of Munich that was approaching. But Shmuely said it was Groverman who drove the effort to organize the competition. The Philadelphian was "involved in every little detail from accommodation to venue to politics to safety," he said.

"He's a very intense guy," Shmuely added.

Groverman was especially keen on making sure Morocco participated. He pushed to take care of whatever the team couldn't afford. The organizer felt that hosting an Arab country would be a great way to remember the victims of the massacre and to show that "we move on with peace," Shmuely said.

When the Moroccan athletes arrived at the Israeli airport, they were nervous, according to Shmuely. The Israeli said he could see it on their faces. But then people approached them, talked to them and took pictures with them. Shmuely credited Groverman.

"It was a tremendous success," he said. "The next peace tournament is already in the works because of him." **JE**

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Calligraphy Artist

PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE ABCS OF JUDAISM

Sasha Rogelberg | Staff Writer



Photos by Sasha Rogelberg



Top: Mordechai Rosenstein with one of his more recent pieces, which contains recycled carved blocks of Hebrew letters

Bottom: Mordechai Rosenstein began scribing a Purim Megillah during his time at Akiba Hebrew Academy in the 1940s.

While studying at the Philadelphia Museum School of Art, Mordechai Rosenstein learned figure drawing and color theory, which he calls the “ABCs” of fine art, the fundamental skills needed to be an artist.

But Rosenstein had a fascination with his own ABCs, which served as his fundamentals before he even stepped into an art studio. For almost 80 years, Rosenstein has created calligraphy art, transforming the Hebrew alphabet, stretching characters and bending them into trees or musical notes and breathing new life and color into brachot.

In his 88 years, Rosenstein has created more than 700 pieces, and he has no plans of stopping soon. He most recently spent the weekend of Dec. 1-3 at Ohev Shalom of Bucks County, where he led community workshops and classes and created an art piece with the help of congregants and visitors.

“I sit there and people come and we let them fill in an area,” Rosenstein said. “They sign the list of artists, and then when a copy [of the painting] goes back to the synagogue to memorialize our visit, they also get a list of the artists.”

At a recent visit to Lombard, Illinois, Rosenstein created a calligraphy piece of Etz Chaim, the Tree of Life, with the Hebrew letters of “Etz Chaim” bending, twisting and elongating to form a tree’s trunk and branches. Community participants added additional designs, letters and leaves to the tree.

Though formally trained as an artist, Rosenstein’s manner of teaching his calligraphy is much more proletarian. He grabs a piece of printer paper and clicks a pen that was resting in his shirt pocket and starts drawing swoops of letters to create an uneven, curved rhombus. It’s a *yud*, he says, the foundational shape of all Hebrew letters.

He draws *yuds* of all shapes and sizes, which begin to interlock and form *alephs* and *lameds*. In the negative space within the letters, he draws symbols and shapes, transforming letters into musical notes on a staff and basketballs and soccer

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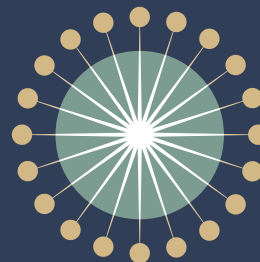
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balls sitting above goals.

He cited the philosophy of abstract expressionist Franz Kline, also a professor at the Philadelphia Museum School of Art in the 1950s: “He said, ‘I don’t paint black on white; I paint black and white.’”

Rosenstein’s inspirations come from Jewish thinkers across millennia, beyond the mid-century artists of Philadelphia.

“In Kabbalah, they say that the space between letters are letters,” Rosenstein said, shading a *shin* with his pen. “This space, if you alter it, you affect the letters; you change them.”

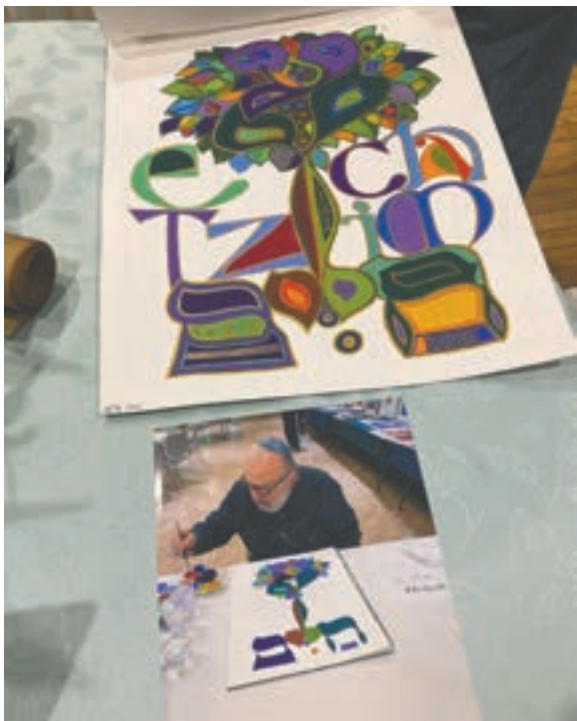
Rosenstein’s art has always been woven into his Judaism. Attending Akiba Hebrew Academy — and graduating as part of the school’s first class in 1951 — Rosenstein fell in love with Hebrew letters but had an absence of materials from which to learn.

“As far as I knew, there was no scribe in Philadelphia, no sofer,” he said. “And there were no books from Israel showing all the typefaces.”

Rosenstein instead began to act as an amateur scribe, creating a Purim Megillah with intricate lettering and vibrant patches of color.

Born in 1934 in Strawberry Mansion, Rosenstein grew up with an American-born mother and Russian immigrant father, who would tell him stories of sipping tea from glasses — including empty yahrzeit candle holders — in his mother country.

Sticking to his immigrant sensibilities,



Mordechai Rosenstein recently visited a Jewish community in Lombard, Illinois, with whom he created a piece depicting the Tree of Life.

Rosenstein’s father was skeptical of his son’s artistic passion.

“He felt that it would be really difficult and chancy to make a living,” Rosenstein said.

But Rosenstein’s mother supported him, buying

him a big art set one year for Chanukah, containing crayons, clay and colored pencils, which Rosenstein fiddled with as a child. Rosenstein’s two uncles in the framing business helped guide the young artist, who decided to attend art school.

“I bought a pack of Camel cigarettes, a pair of what we call dungarees; I took off the kippah, and I went to the Philadelphia Museum School of Art,” Rosenstein said. “I wasn’t studying chumash anymore.”

In art school, Rosenstein was studying “to become the next Matisse,” doing figure drawings, paintings, weaving and silkscreen printing. But by the time he graduated, Rosenstein was a far cry from the famous French impressionist.

He instead joined the Army for two years, stationed in Columbia, South Carolina, drawing training aids for weapons and equipment. He then moved to New York City to get a job in the textile industry, working at 40th and Broadway as an assistant stylist, mostly doing administrative work and continuing his calligraphy art at home after hours.

It was there he met his wife and created the ketubah for their wedding. Rosenstein began to find his footing as an artist once more, creating ketubot for the several other Jewish couples getting married around the same time; he did the silver work for an exhibit for The Jewish Museum in Manhattan.

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In 1967, Rosenstein got a letter from his uncle that his son died, so Rosenstein and his young family moved back to Philadelphia; Rosenstein became the foreman of his uncle's factory until his uncle's death about a decade later, at which point his cousin had sold the business. Rosenstein ran a frame shop in Northeast Philadelphia for a couple of years but found it difficult to make a living.

Around that time, Rita Poley, director and curator at the Temple Judea Museum at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, was the art education consultant for the Division of Community Services at Gratz College and was looking for Jewish artists to display their works. She stumbled across Rosenstein.

"I just took one look at his work, and I said, 'I have to exhibit it,'" Poley said.

In 1979, Rosenstein was able to make his art his career and had one of his first art shows at La Salle College, now La Salle University, where he displayed only three pieces. He now displays about 40 pieces per show.

Since 2003, he's worked with business partner Barry Magen, who was drawn to Rosenstein's unique style.

"It has a modern way of looking at the Torah and a modern way of looking at the Hebrew alphabet because his pieces are not black and white people praying at the wall," Magen said. "It's very bright and creative, full of color and full of life, and, really, the big thing is that they're happy."

Though his subjects for more than 50 years, Hebrew calligraphy is still exciting to Rosenstein. His pieces vary in color and size and recently, he's taken old wood blocks with Hebrew words carved into them, sent to him by a friend, to give his pieces a three-dimensional quality.

He was incredulous when asked if he ever got bored of creating the style of art.

"The letters? Are you kidding?!" he said. "They're my companions." **JE**

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Restroom Visits Lead to a Book

Jon Marks | Special To The JE

Toilet humor.

That's what Larry Glanz is focused on these days. Not funny stuff with the kind of four-letter words that can't be used in print or, for the most part, said on TV or radio. But laugh-producing observations about what takes place — or doesn't take place — when you go to the bathroom.

No, he's not here to tell you the best pot to — as his Russian-born grandmother who spoke Yiddish in the house would say — “pish” in. Or where you can feel most comfortable taking a load off.

Rather, this longtime traveling salesman, who frequented hundreds, if not thousands, of restrooms throughout his 40-year career, is more concerned about what you do once you've taken care of business. And he's written a book about it: “The Ultimate Book of Bathroom Etiquette,” spelling out all the do's and don'ts of something we can all relate to.

“My book is about a universal subject that will enlighten people about what they need to know about bathroom etiquette,” said Glanz, who grew up near Oxford Circle in the Northeast, was a bar mitzvah at the since-closed Temple Sholom and graduated from Northeast High School and Temple University before moving to Cherry Hill, New Jersey, nearly 20 years ago. “I cover every issue. If you don't always flush the toilet ... leave the light on ... spray before you leave ... or not lock the door when you go in. It's very disarming.”

Glanz presents those and other issues in a unique way, ranging from disastrous personal experiences to nursery rhymes to song parodies to an imaginative historical perspective. His “Commandments of Bathroom Etiquette” go well beyond 10. And there's a whole chapter devoted to what he calls “yingles.”

“Yingles are Jewish bathroom etiquette jingles,” explained Glanz, who wrote three prior books, including the original “Ultimate Book of Bathroom Etiquette” in 1999. “Some people are uncomfortable with them because they don't know them. But they're all rhyming and, hopefully, smile-producing. And they definitely keep you in touch with your Jewish background.”

For example, there's “When You ‘Pish’ Upon a Star,” “Too Many Knishes,” sung to the tune of “My



Favorite Things” from “The Sound of Music” or “Don’t Get Paper on my Shoes,” sung like “Blue Suede Shoes.”

Each parody has at least one Yiddish word, while the rest of the lyrics go into graphic detail about bathroom issues. And in case you don’t know the meanings, there’s a Yiddish translation guide at the end of the chapter.

So why does a man who once made two appearances on “Oprah,” following the 1994 publication of his first book, “How to Start a Romantic Encounter” and later wrote “Guy Gets Girl, Girl Gets Guy,” get fixated on bathrooms?

It sort of came with the territory.

Each parody has at least one Yiddish word, while the rest of the lyrics go into graphic detail about bathroom issues.

“Back in the day, I drank a ton of coffee and water, so I’m pishing every time I get to a store,” said Glanz, who sold vitamins for a health food company for years and still has his own business. “While I’m using everyone’s bathrooms, I start noticing signs everywhere.

“Please jiggle the handle... Please spray the air ... Please flush ... Don’t leave a mess. It was mainly in health food stores.

“Eventually, I started taking pictures of those signs to document it. ‘Do not throw towels in the toilet.’ ‘Don’t sleep.’ Eventually, we get one that says, ‘If you sprinkle when you tinkle please be neat and wipe the seat’ at Haars Health Food in Vineland, New Jersey. You could not believe how many people were obsessed with this issue.”

And there’s a good chance you won’t believe some of what’s in this book. It’s certainly funny in places. When you start singing the words to “Will You Please Wash Your Hands,” a take off on a Beatles



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Larry Glanz

Photo by Jon Marks

classic or TV favorites like “The Beverly Spillbillies” or Gilligan’s “Tale of a Bathroom Slip,” you might well laugh out loud.

But it’s also crude and raunchy, detailing what can happen when someone leaves the facility in a disgusting way. While trying to be funny, Glanz can paint a pretty unpleasant picture.

Not that he’s separating himself from the matter. He’s got a chapter confessing to his personal bathroom-related disasters — one on a date, another at a family gathering. He’s got one listing “Fartlett’s Unfamiliar Quotes” that might cause Shakespeare, Mark Twain, Vince Lombardi and others he takes liberty with to cringe.

There’s even a section on “petiquette,” with song parodies about curbing your dog like Sinatra takeoff “It Had to be Poop” and “This Tragic Moment,” based on the Jay and the

Americans song.

As for historians wondering about the origin of all this, Glanz said it dates to two Chinese philosophers. “The character Confuse-us is based on a fifth century B.C. philosopher who moralized over proper behavior in the bathroom,” revealed Glanz, who said his plan down the road is to tell Confuse-us’ backstory in greater detail. “Scholars have said he and Confucius were best buds until one terrible day Confuse-us accused his host of not stocking enough spray. Legend has it Confucius threw Confuse-us out of his house.”

That kind of vivid imagination comes in handy when you’re on the road as much as Glanz has been. But since the pandemic hit, forcing him to stay close to home, he’s had more time to put together all the ideas that would come to him amid his travels, where he’d often pull over to jot them down.

The result is a book that is more complete than the original, which he rushed to get out, fearing that his company was about to clean house and he'd be out of work.

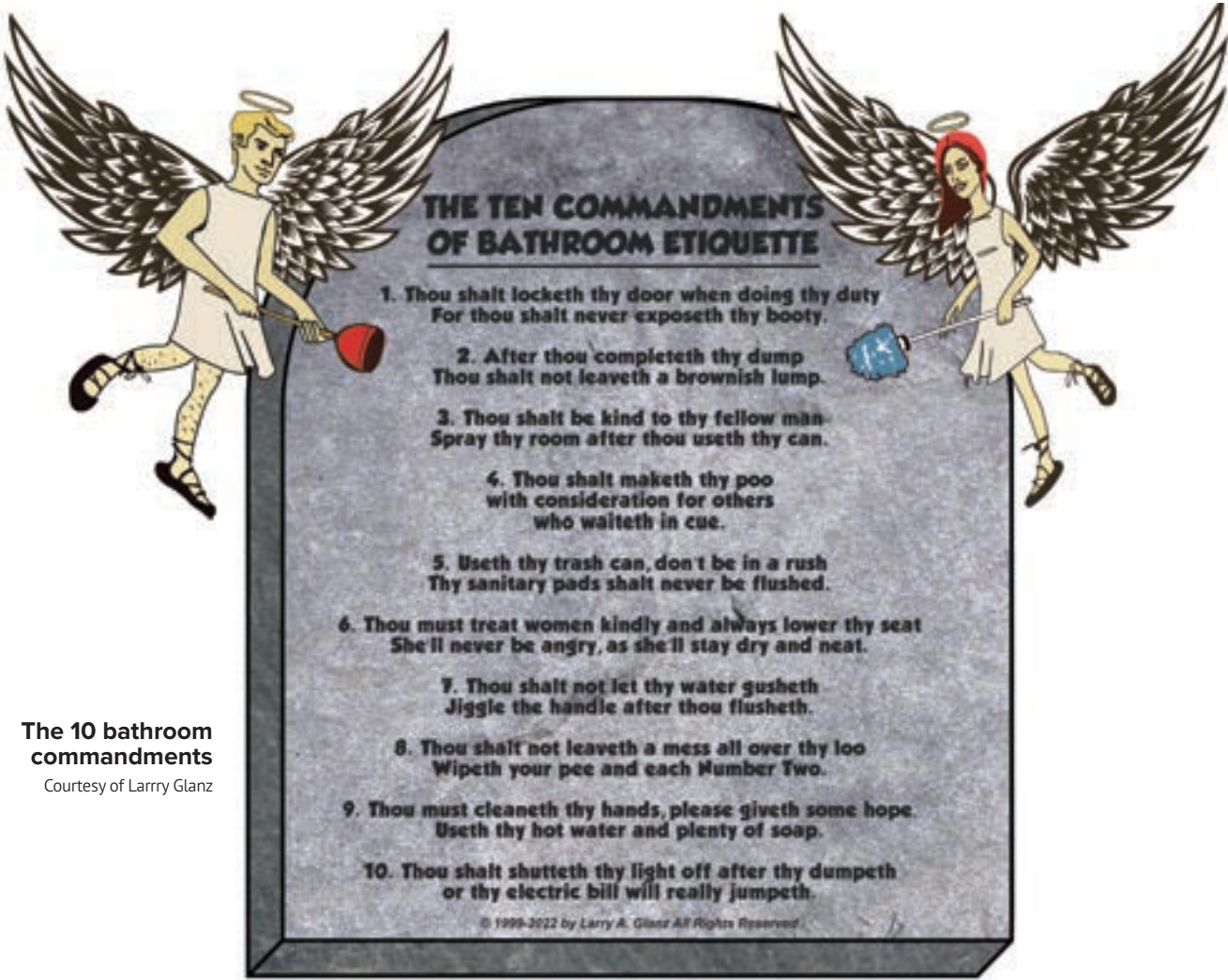
"I really regretted it and felt if I had time I'd like to have a do-over," Glanz said. "So I called the original publisher and said, 'Let me do this again.'

"I knew what people liked about it and what I hated. The songs are a hoot. They'll be amazing for karaoke parties. And the end of the book has a quiz — a 'plop' quiz — to see how much you know from reading it."

But according to Glanz, you don't have to know all the Beatles or Stones songs to appreciate the parodies or know the words to the Mickey Mouse Club song to get a kick out of what he calls his masterpiece.

"There's going to be things they don't know," he said. "Sayings they don't know. Nursery rhymes they don't know. I want them to discover the original artists and fall in love with them like I did." **JE**

Jon Marks is a freelance writer.





The 10 bathroom commandments
Courtesy of Larry Glanz

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PAULA MANDEL

URNS DISCARDED ITEMS INTO ART

JON MARKS | SPECIAL TO THE JE

Photos by Jon Marks

No, Paula Mandel doesn't go from house to house sifting through trash cans, looking for items she can incorporate into her unique form of art.

But if you happen to have an old appliance, busted musical instrument, watch, sewing machine or some other piece of equipment you're ready to throw out, she'd be happy to take it off your hands.

"I love things people don't have a purpose for anymore," explained Mandel, who just completed a three-month show, "The Threads that Bind Us," at the Temple Judea Museum at Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park as part of its Artists Collaborative. "I can use them in my art."

(New Jersey) Community College to study glass for two years," said Mandel, who began her professional career as a play therapist at St. Christopher's Hospital. She moved to Florida for a couple of years while her husband Rich was completing his residency, before returning home to work at the Art Forms Gallery in Manayunk painting personal stories for customers.

"It was hard to learn," she continued. "But I learned to create characters out of rods with glass. To make a hand out of wax cast in glass."

"The way I work is I make a lot of parts — hands, eyeballs, characters — and then I'll go into my storage room, take things out and start playing with them like I used to play with

"I love things people don't have a purpose for anymore ... I can use them in my art."

"A bunch of pieces I did recently I don't consciously know what their stories are going to tell until after I've finished them — and I love that. To me, it's about the journey."

Mandel grew up in Mount Airy, then attended Girls High School and Temple University, where she was a combined art and psychology major, then painted professionally over the next few decades while raising a family. She said her art began to change once she went back to school to study the intricacies of glass.

"I went back to school at Salem

my dolls. The time I spend thinking about it usually takes as long as the creation, and glass takes a long time."

But the result is pretty spectacular. Sculptures from the exhibit, which drew as large a turnout to KI as anyone could remember, now reside in her Conshohocken home.

That includes a number with deep, personal meaning.

"I loved my Bubbe Sarah," she smiled while explaining the intricacies of a piece dedicated to her. "My grandmother was a seamstress."

"She sewed for 50 years. This is



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her garment worker's card, which I scanned into the piece, covered with glass and painted with fabric. A lot of pieces have to do with sewing because my grandmother and the ladies she worked with were always sewing men's suits."

Mandel believes such strong family connections not only resonate with her but everyone.

"The show was about my growing up as a Jewish woman with Jewish values and putting that into my artwork," she said. "People I knew and who knew of me said it was a really valuable experience for them because they could see into my soul. People who knew me got to know me even more personally, but also people who didn't know me could use the exhibit and explore their own families and ancestry."

As much as she enjoys displaying her work and selling some of it, Mandel is engaged in a few ventures she considers her tikkun olam.

"I have this after-school program, the Stained Glass Project, where we

teach high school kids how to do stained glass work," said Mandel, who partners with Joan Myerson Shrager on the program now in its 18th year. "For any child in high school who wants to come to the program every week for a year, we give them carfare, snacks and teach them how to do stained glass.

"They design and execute windows for a designated place. Some are in South Africa. Some in Ojibwe, Minnesota, and New Orleans. All are places that need inspiration. Our kids have done over 125 windows all over the world. This year we're making windows for a place in Detroit."

She's also been engaged in "Souls Shot," a program that makes portraits of people lost to gun violence for their families.

"It's been a really powerful program for me personally and for the community," she said. "The portraits are exhibited, and sometimes we get to meet the families. There's such a heart behind it that it really

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feels like a mitzvah to be able to do them.”

Heartwarming as that is, it’s her ability to make art out of everyday items like toasters, heaters, rocking chairs and dolls that makes the mundane unique.

She turned her grandfather’s old newspaper rack, where she remembers him reading *The Forward* in Yiddish, into a conversation piece. A butter churner turned into a kaleidoscope of colors.

And during the pandemic, she even found a way to express both her frustration and her hope.

“Lifeboat” was a broken clay boat: “I put it back together as my response to the pandemic. And ‘Point the Way’ is fascinating because sort of a subliminal message comes out in my work. It’s looking for a way to get out of where we are.

“My art has a very important psychological component to it. I use things evocative of our parents’ and grandparents’ generations. I’ll use the same image over and over but in different ways, different orientation, different colors, which gives them different meanings.”

That resonates with her family.

“What I have learned over the years is artists need to create,” said her husband, Rich, a hand surgeon who played guitar while she played piano in a four-couple band they used to perform in known as the Hip Replacements. “Her work is very meaningful. It evokes emotion. Even now, when I look at this painting she did of my Dad who passed away when I was 30, it’s nostalgic. It reminds me of my father and our relationship.” **JE**

Jon Marks is a freelance writer.



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