



# JEWISH EXPONENT

— WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA —

\$1.00

## OF NOTE

### LOCAL

#### Community Shines Light on Antisemitism

Solidarity event lights menorah in Center City.

Page 4

### GIVING

#### Focus on Charitable Giving

Section explores how agencies raise money, volunteers.

Page 15

### OPINION

#### See Something, Say Something

Orthodox rise up against an accused abuser.

Page 24

Volume 134  
Number 34

Published Weekly Since 1887



## NMAJH Digitizes Core Exhibits in Virtual 'Revolution'

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM of American Jewish History launched a virtual tour of its core exhibit on Nov. 14, digitizing the museum's permanent exhibits across the building's three stories.

The project's completion was enabled by the undisclosed financial support of Jewish philanthropist George Blumenthal, who has been involved with NMAJH periodically since 2014 when he and frequent collaborator and Israeli digitization expert Ardon Bar-Hama digitized NMAJH's "Chasing Dreams: Baseball and Becoming American" special exhibit.

"Ever since I became involved with NMAJH to help digitize the 2014 special exhibition, 'Chasing Dreams: Baseball and Becoming American', I've been interested in expanding access to the museum's core exhibition," Blumenthal said in a press release. "As a Jewish American, I know how important it is to tell the story of our people in this country. Now, NMAJH

See Digitizes, Page 12



▲ Latkes are the big Chanukah order at local delis.

Courtesy of The Kibitz Room

## Jewish Delis See Latke Surges on Chanukah

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

WHEN ASKED WHY LATKES are his annual Chanukah bestseller, Schlesinger's Deli owner Allan Domb echoed Tevye from "Fiddler on the Roof."

"It's tradition," Domb said.

Other deli owners in the Philadelphia area said the same thing. To nobody's surprise, latkes, or potato pancakes, are

their best-selling item during Chanukah each year.

Jeremy Thomas, the owner of Manny's in Holland, sells thousands of them during the Festival of Lights. This is triple and sometimes quadruple the number he sells in a normal week.

The same thing is happening this year, too, according to Thomas and other deli owners.

See Latke, Page 13

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IN THIS ISSUE

4 HEADLINES

Local  
Israel  
National  
Global

23 JEWISH FEDERATION

24 OPINION

Columns  
Kvetch 'n' Kvell

26 LIFESTYLE  
& CULTURE

Food  
Arts

29 TORAH COMMENTARY

30 COMMUNITY

Mazel Tov  
Deaths  
Calendar

32 CLASSIFIEDS

CANDLE LIGHTING

Dec. 3 4:18 p.m.  
Dec. 10 4:18 p.m.



Holocaust survivor Joseph Gringlas dies at 96.

6



Sophie Don's connections to the Holocaust run deep.

8



Turkish onion salad proves versatile.

26

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Miriam's Advice Well

SUBMIT A QUESTION

Our resident advice giver is seeking questions from our readers. Are you perplexed about Jewish traditions? Unsure of pandemic-era protocol? Confused about child care and its related issues? Concerned about changes in your life? From dating to parenting, Miriam welcomes all questions. Email yours to [news@jewishexponent.com](mailto:news@jewishexponent.com) and put "Advice Well Question" in the subject line.  
[jewishexponent.com/category/community/miriams-advice-well/](https://jewishexponent.com/category/community/miriams-advice-well/)



Philacatessen

KALE SALAD: DELICIOUS AND LOW EFFORT

Food columnist Keri White knows that not everyone likes kale, in part because it's chewy when raw, but has come up with an easy salad where the leafy green tenderizes itself. All it requires is a bit of advance planning and a couple other steps. Check Philacatessen for the recipe and check the blog regularly for content not normally found in the printed edition, such as other recipes, restaurant reviews and food news from around the Delaware Valley.  
[jewishexponent.com/2021/11/29/kale-salad-delicious-and-low-effort/](https://jewishexponent.com/2021/11/29/kale-salad-delicious-and-low-effort/)

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### HANUKAH WINDOW DECORATIONS

#### For Stores in West Oak Lane Area

Two Business Men's Associations in the West Oak Lane area have unanimously agreed to decorate their stores with Hanukah symbols in recognition of the Festival of Lights.

The arrangement was announced this week by Rabbi Alex J. Goldman of the West Oak Lane Jewish Community Center, Thouron and Sedgwick Sts. The arrangement is unique in the annals of community living and promises to set a pattern for communities throughout the country.

Plans call for appropriate Hanukah decorations in all of the store windows along with decorations recognizing the Christian season. The Wadsworth Avenue Business Men's Association, headed by Bernard Weinstein, of 1536 Wadsworth Ave., and the Vernon Road Business Men's Association, headed by Miles Grossman of 1455 E. Vernon Road, are fully in agreement with the aesthetic value of Hanukah decoration in a community where a large Jewish population resides.



# Chanukah Event Focuses on Antisemitism

LOCAL

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

THE JEWISH FEDERATION of Greater Philadelphia, in partnership with ADL-Philadelphia and AJC South Jersey/Philadelphia shined a light on antisemitism on Nov. 30 in Center City.

Together, the groups hosted a Chanukah candle-lighting and a series of speakers inside the Municipal Services Building that, together, illuminated antisemitic issues and dispelled “the darkness of hate,” as an event listing put it.

Jewish Federation CEO Michael Balaban, Director of Campaigns and Outreach for the Anti-Defamation League Shira Goodman and American Jewish Committee



▲ Philadelphia Councilman Allan Domb introduces the first speaker at the “Shine a Light on Antisemitism” event.

Photo by Jarrad Saffren



▲ Jewish Federation CEO Michael Balaban, left, and Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney, center, light the menorah at the “Shine a Light on Antisemitism” event in Center City on Nov. 30.

Photo by Jarrad Saffren

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## Enriching Elder Lives

Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey Regional Director Marcia Bronstein all spoke. Representatives from the City of Philadelphia, including Mayor Jim Kenney, also attended and addressed the audience.

The event was part of a national initiative to “Shine a Light on Antisemitism” organized by the Jewish Federations of North America. More than 80 federations across the country took part, according to Allan Domb, a city council member who spoke at the local event.

Jewish Federation officials purposely planned the local version during the Festival of Lights. Like most Chanukah gatherings, it was also a celebration, they said. The listing called it a chance to share “in the light of love and acceptance for the Jewish people.”

But unlike most Chanukah gatherings, it was not just a celebration. It was also another reminder of “the danger of antisemitism in all of its

modern-day forms.” “In recent years, the rate of hate-motivated attacks in America has been steadily rising,” Balaban said. “We cannot allow antisemitism or any form of bigotry to remain unchecked.”

Robin Schatz, the Jewish Federation’s director of government affairs, said it was the JFNA’s idea to align the event with Chanukah. But she added that the local organization agreed with the decision.

“Given the uptick in antisemitic attacks across the country, they thought this would be the right time to shine a light,” Schatz said.

According to Schatz, Chanukah is not just the Festival of Lights, either. It’s a reminder of the long history of antisemitism.

The Maccabees were revolting against a king, Antiochus, who tried to marginalize Jewish life.

And regionally, as Schatz noted, antisemitism has reared its ugly head.

Before the November

## HEADLINES

election, Jewish Pennsbury School Board members said they were receiving antisemitic threats. Last month in Central Bucks, a resident spoke at a school board meeting and said the ADL had Mafia ties.

Exaggerated comparisons between COVID restrictions and Nazi Germany discrimination against Jews also have popped up there.

"We need to say hate speech is not acceptable," Schatz said. "Antisemitism is not acceptable."

It would be one thing, Schatz explained, if the JFNA had not felt a need to declare this

Street and Goodman followed. Upon stepping to the podium, Kenney called it "an honor to be here today."

"The Jewish American community has a long, storied history here in Philadelphia," Kenney said. "As mayor, I can assure you that Philadelphia will always be a welcoming city to everyone. No matter what they look like or where they come from or how they worship."

The mayor said that Philadelphia's inclusivity was one of its "greatest strengths."

"When we see any form of hate or discrimination, we

■ In recent years, the rate of hate-motivated attacks in America has been steadily rising. We cannot allow antisemitism or any form of bigotry to remain unchecked."

MICHAEL BALABAN

Chanukah-based initiative. But since it did, it became incumbent upon the Jewish Federation to show solidarity with federations across the country.

"That many are going to be doing it makes it more significant," Schatz said. "It's important that leaders in our community make public statements."

Even though the JFNA decided on the initiative in November, Jewish Federation had no trouble putting the event together. The biggest tasks were scheduling speakers and alerting local media outlets.

"It was an event that we felt we had the bandwidth to put together," Schatz said.

Domb, a city council member at-large, introduced the speakers and served as host. Balaban, the Rev. Lorina Marshall-Blake, Kenney, Bronstein, state Sen. Sharif

must continue to speak out and condemn it," he said. "It's up to us not to repeat the mistakes of the past, and to celebrate our differences."

After the last speaker, Kenney stepped back up to light the menorah on the podium. He lit the shamash candle, then allowed other dignitaries to light the candles representing the first three nights of Chanukah.

Pennsylvania Attorney General and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Josh Shapiro could not attend the event but sent in a statement for Goodman to read.

"I wanted to take a moment to thank you for shining a light on the antisemitism that still infects our society," he said. "I wish you and your family a happy Chanukah." •

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# Holocaust Survivor Joseph Gringlas Dies at 96

OBITUARY

ANDY GOTLIEB | JE MANAGING EDITOR

JOSEPH GRINGLAS, who survived the Blizyn, Auschwitz and Mittlebau-Dora concentration camps, died Nov. 8. He was 96.

“He had the courage to create life, live life and enjoy life,” daughter Marcy Gringlas said from Jerusalem, where her father was buried. “He was my true hero.”

Born in Ostrowiec, Poland, Gringlas grew up as the youngest of six children of Lazar and Blima Gringlas. His father worked as a shoemaker.

The German army invaded Poland on Sept. 1, 1939, and occupied Ostrowiec a week later. Food soon was rationed, and Lazar Gringlas was not permitted to work, according



▲ Joseph Gringlas lights candles and says Kaddish in the ruins of Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1992.

► Joseph Gringlas waves the Israeli flag outside Auschwitz on a trip to Poland with Israel Defense Forces officers in April 2013.

Courtesy of the Gringlas family



to a biography by the Echoes and Reflections Partnership based on a 1996 USC Shoah Foundation interview. A ghetto was established in the town in 1941, although the Gringlas

family didn’t have to move since their home was inside ghetto borders.

While in the ghetto, Gringlas cleaned the streets, performed manual labor, worked in a

kitchen and toiled in a steel mill.

In 1942, most of the family was sent to Treblinka when the ghetto was liquidated — only brother Sol, the family’s only other survivor, stayed behind.

The brothers were later separated, with Joseph Gringlas sent to help build the Blizyn concentration camp. He later was transported to Auschwitz, where he lied about his age and



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## HEADLINES

was sent to work at Auschwitz III-Monowitz — and also was reunited with his brother.

“I will never forget the day I arrived here,” Gringlas told his granddaughter Sara Greenberg in a 2005 Jewish Exponent article about a return to Auschwitz. “When I got off the train, I could see that the sky was red. The permanent smell of burning bodies is something I will never forget. It is a miracle I survived.”

Greenberg produced a documentary called “B-2247, Granddaughter’s Understanding” — her grandfather’s Auschwitz tattoo number — that incorporates footage of that trip, including a visit to Auschwitz.

In several cases, the skills Gringlas learned early in life saved him, he said in a 2018 Exponent article.

“Would you believe in Auschwitz, while they are killing people, the Germans decided they wanted to plant flowers? When I was in Poland, I had learned about flowers. I still like flowers. So I got the job. I got double bread and double soup, so I wasn’t so hungry anymore. What happened [is that] a lot of people came and stepped on the flowers. Thousands of people came through, and they stepped on the flowers. They ruined the flowers. But what am I going to do? People are going to be gassed.

“The next morning the [guard] comes and says, ‘You see what happened? The only thing you have to do is take a stick and hit them over the head!’ But Joe wouldn’t do it! No! Because you’d never believe it, but a lot of people behaved like that. I wasn’t raised like that. I said, ‘No, sir.’ If he had been a bad [guard] he could have killed me. But what he did was took away my double bread and double soup. But I didn’t care.”

The brothers endured the Death March from Auschwitz in 1945, ending up at

Mittlebau-Dora. They were liberated by the United States Army on April 11, 1945, although not before being injured by shrapnel, which Joseph Gringlas carried in his lungs for the rest of his life.

Those days before liberation were harrowing, as the brothers endured Allied bombings, fleeing the barracks and hiding amid kitchen pipes to survive. They learned that the SS guards murdered anyone in the barracks who survived the bombings.

“I weighed 80 pounds. I was running,” he said in the 2018 Exponent article. “I was excited — I never thought I would get out of there.”

Joseph and Sol Gringlas — who died in May 2020 at the age of 100 — lived at the Landsberg Displaced Persons Camp after the war, where the former attended technical school before immigrating to Detroit in 1950 and owning a television repair business. He moved to Philadelphia in 2008.

“He struggled, and he worked hard and had his own life and his own business,” Marcy Gringlas said. “It was never easy.”

Gringlas spoke often to school groups, where teachers asked him why he wasn’t bitter about his experience.

“He was the opposite of bitter,” Marcy Gringlas said, noting that her father learned that carrying around bitterness would only hurt him.

Gringlas debuted as an artist in 2018 at the age of 93, displaying his watercolor and oil paintings at Haverford College’s Visual Culture, Arts and Media Center through the Stories that Live fellowship program of the Rohr Center for Jewish Life Chabad House.

Gringlas is survived by his wife of 64 years Reli, who is also a survivor; daughter Marcy (Joel Greenberg); son Larry (Karen Fink); five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. •

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Photo by Kobi Gideon / FLASH90

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# Philly Faces: Sophie Don

## PHILLY FACES

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

AT JUST 29, Sophie Don manages one of the most prominent Holocaust memorials in the United States.

Don is the senior manager of programs for the Philadelphia Holocaust Remembrance Foundation, which oversees the Horwitz-Wasserman Holocaust Memorial Plaza in Center City.

For the Cheltenham native, connecting students, politicians and residents to that important history is a passion. But it's also deeper than that.

Don's grandparents, Samuel and Shirley Don, were Holocaust survivors who put

up some of the money for the statue in the plaza. Upon opening in 1964, the structure became the first Holocaust memorial in the U.S.

Samuel Don died before Sophie was born but wrote a book about his Holocaust experience. Shirley Don is still alive and close with her granddaughter.

"My grandfather wrote about the importance of telling the story," Don said. "Bubbie said that's what I'm doing."

### Tell us about your grandparents' Holocaust experience.

Bubbie was from a tiny town, Dorf. During Passover of '44, Hungarian soldiers told them to prepare to go to the



▲ Sophie Don, right, with her bubbie, Shirley Don. Courtesy of Sophie Don

**Tuesday, December 7th, 2021 at 6:30 pm**



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*Tal Schneider is the Political and Diplomatic Correspondent for the Times of Israel. She covers Israel's fierce political arena, including Israel's unprecedented political crisis and four rounds of the intense 2019-2021 elections. She is a top Israeli analyst in high demand, a frequent media commentator, writer and speaker who served as the Washington DC correspondent for Ma'ariv covering the 2004, 2008, 2016, 2020 US election cycles. She covers the Israeli political scene, Israeli foreign policy, the US-Israel relationship, Middle East diplomacy and the Jewish world in her daily beat. She lives in Israel but frequently visits the US.*



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“We all need to be aware of what can happen when people don't stand up for each other.”

SOPHIE DON

ghetto. In May of 1944, she was taken to Auschwitz.

She asked a woman, who was directing people where to go, where their family was going. The woman pointed to the smoke and the crematoria.

In April of '45, she was on a death march. Then she was liberated by English soldiers on May 3.

We call that her second birthday and we celebrate it every year.

Zayde was in prison by standards we wouldn't consider criminal. Disobeying Nazi law about whatever he could or couldn't do in the ghetto.

He was transferred to Birkenau in December of '42 and then to Auschwitz. He was there until he was liberated.

They met at a displaced persons camp in Germany. He saw her being chased by another boy, so he started talking to her.

He wanted to go to Israel. She was like, 'I've got family in Philly. If you wanna be with me, we're going to Philly.'

### What was their life like in the United States?

They started a bakery.

But also coming here with so little family, and all the survivors that had come here and had lost their families. A community formed among people who were having kids.

Luncheons. Figuring out how to get jobs. Having the kids hanging out.

Then, once they got



▲ Sophie Don, front, at podium, hosts a Kristallnacht remembrance event on Nov. 9 at the Holocaust Memorial Plaza in Center City. Photo by Joseph Bradley

approval for the statue, it was those survivors who raised the money for it.

## Did your grandma discuss this history with you growing up?

Little stories, whether about her time in the Holocaust or recounting times from before.

I feel like every time I see her, something comes up.

## Were you interested in museums as a kid?

I would go to museums with my parents all the time. A lot of art museums. Plus the Franklin Institute and science museums.

## How did the interest grow from there?

I found out public history was a thing. I started doing

internships at museums.

After graduating (college), I worked at the (Philadelphia) art museum. I was a museum educator for family programs and school groups.

Then I went to Brown (University) for a master's in public humanities. I realized that my joy was being the connector.

## This is your first job since getting your master's. How did you feel once you landed it?

I was pumped. This feels the most in line with my identity that any job could be.

My bubbie is very proud.

## So far this year, the plaza has hosted school trips, political speeches and commemorations. How do you view its mission?

Teaching the lessons of the Holocaust to build more tolerant communities. There are so many horrible things that happened in the past, and we see recurring themes.

We all need to be aware of what can happen when people don't stand up for each other.

## Where do you want to go in your career?

This is a fantastic position at this point. My boss is incredible. There's a lot of support for me learning what leadership in a nonprofit looks like.

Whatever comes next, this position is preparing me to have done something I'm proud of and to go forward. ●

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### Bipartisan Lawmakers Push to Ease Visa Requirements for Israeli Travelers

**MORE THAN 50** House members from both parties are urging the Biden administration to include Israel in the visa waiver program, which would enter Israel into a system allowing travelers easier entry into the United States, JTA reported.

The letter sent Nov. 22 to Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said the issue was on the agenda in recent meetings between top U.S. and Israeli officials; it noted that Mayorkas has said that Israel's entry into the program is in the "pipeline."

"Israel's participation in this program would grow the U.S. economy, strengthen national security at each of our borders, and increase opportunities for people-to-people exchange, which bolsters our already unique bilateral relationship," the letter reads.

Israel has sought entry to the program for years. It would allow for 90-day stays and doesn't require prearranged visas. Israelis believe it would enhance business and trade with the U.S.

### Great Britain to Criminalize Support for Hamas

A prison sentence of up to 14 years could be the punishment for anyone in the United Kingdom who

expresses support for the Palestinian political party Hamas or its militant wing, JTA reported.

The U.K. already considers the group's military wing a terrorist group and British Interior Secretary Priti Patel said on Nov. 19 that parliament will add the designation to Hamas' political wing.

Hamas officials are already banned from entering the U.K., but the British government previously maintained that Hamas' political and military wings are separate organizations — even though Hamas itself has referred to the military wing, the Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades, as part of the organization.

### Romania Makes High School Holocaust Education Mandatory

The Romanian Senate adopted a law on Nov. 15 that makes it mandatory for all high schools and vocational schools there to teach about the history of the Holocaust and the Jewish people, JTA reported.

The law stipulates that the course will be taught starting in 2023. Course contents will be determined by the country's education ministry in collaboration with the Elie Wiesel Institute for the Study of the Holocaust in Romania.

The law, which Romania's lower chamber previously approved, was supported by 107 senators; 13

legislators voted against it, and one abstained.

Between 280,000 and 380,000 Romanian and Ukrainian Jews were murdered in territories under Romanian administration during World War II, according to the Elie Wiesel Institute.

### Sweden's National Theater Stages its First-ever Yiddish Production

Actors in "Waiting for Godot" at the Royal Dramatic Theater in Stockholm performed neither in the classic play's original English nor in a Swedish translation, JTA reported.

Instead, they spoke Yiddish, a language spoken by few Swedes but increasingly cherished by many.

The Yiddish version of Samuel Beckett's classic play premiered in 2013 through the New Yiddish Rep, a theater company in New York City and has toured as far afield as Paris and Enniskillen in Northern Ireland.

The performances marked its debut in Sweden and the first time that a play in Yiddish was staged at Sweden's national theater company.

In Sweden today, no more than 3,000 people out of a Jewish population of about 25,000 can speak Yiddish, according to the country's Society for Yiddish (Jiddischsällskapet). •

— Compiled by Andy Gottlieb



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ISRAEL BRIEFS

Council Projects One in Three Israelis to be Haredi Orthodox by 2050

ABOUT ONE-THIRD of Israel’s Jewish population will be haredi Orthodox by 2050, according to projections from Israel’s National Economic Council, JTA reported.

Israel’s population of 9.2 million is expected to reach 16 million by 2050. Of that total, about 25% are projected by Israel’s National Economic Council to be haredi Orthodox.

Those population estimates point to a future in which Israel’s Jewish population continues to make up about 80% of its population but in which that Jewish population skews far more heavily Orthodox.

Israel’s Orthodox community now makes up 12.6% of the population.

Most of that growth will come from the Orthodox community’s birth rate of 6.7 children per woman — more than double the rate of 3.01 among the overall population.

Most of the nation’s Orthodox Jews are expected to remain concentrated in and around Jerusalem and also in the city of Beit Shemesh.

Girl Finds Rare 2,000-year-old Coin

An 11-year-old girl found a rare silver coin dating from approximately 67-68 CE in dirt excavated

from the City of David park in Jerusalem, JTA reported.

Liel Krutokop was visiting the site with her family when she found the coin, the Israel Antiquities Authority said.

After cleaning and examining the coin, archaeologists believe the coin may have been minted by Temple priests sympathetic to Jewish rebels in their war against the Romans who controlled Jerusalem at the time.

One side of the coin is marked with a cup and the letters “shin” and “bet,” which indicate that it was minted during the second year of the war, sometimes also called the Great Revolt. The other side includes an inscription associated with the headquarters of the High Priest in the temple and the words “Holy Jerusalem.”

86-year-old Crowned Miss Holocaust Survivor

Salina Steinfeld, who was born in Romania and survived Nazi attacks before moving to Israel in 1948, was crowned Miss Holocaust Survivor in an annual beauty pageant, The Jerusalem Post reported.

Steinfeld, 86, competed with nine other contestants ranging in age from 79 to 90 at a museum in Haifa. A team of volunteer make-up artists and stylists prepared the contestants.

Contest organizers say the pageant “bestows glamour and respect on a dwindling number of Jewish women whose youth was stolen during World War II but who went on to build new lives in Israel,” the Post reported.

But some commentators and survivors say the event cheapens the memory of the 6 million Jews killed by the Nazis.

Archaeologists: Hellenistic Fortress Ruins Show ‘Tangible Evidence’ of Chanukah Story

Archaeologists excavating a 2,100-year-old fortress say it provides “tangible evidence” of Chanukah story events, JTA reported.

The site west of Hebron in the Lachish Forest includes remnants of a fortress made of stone and wood that archaeologists working with the Israel Antiquities Authority believe was burned by the Hasmoneans — Judean descendants of the Maccabees — during a battle with the Macedonian Greek Seleucids.

The excavation has turned up burnt wooden beams as well as pottery, weapons and coins. The coins point to the destruction of the fortress by the Hasmonean leader John Hyrcanus around 112 BCE, the archaeologists say. ●

— Compiled by Andy Gottlieb

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## Digitizes

Continued from Page 1

will be able to reach a larger audience than ever before. The sky's the limit."

Bar-Hama also partnered with Blumenthal for NMAJH's most recent digitization project, which allows an online user to not only explore the museum's layout by clicking

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▲ A digitized view of the National Museum of American Jewish History's second floor core exhibit

Photos by Ardon Bar-Hama

around the page but also view all display cases, zooming into the cases to view each object and descriptions in more detail.

Bar-Hama set up a server for the virtual exhibit in Germany at a robust server farm different from the one used by the museum's website, from which the exhibit can be viewed across the globe.

The virtual exhibit provides audiences with even greater detail than the physical exhibit, allowing online users to flip through books and view objects from different angles, rather than simply view them from behind the display glass.

"Not only have we made the point that [audiences viewing the exhibit online] can actually come to the museum — for those who cannot come to Philadelphia — but they can get more detail and more comfort on the computer screen by doing it in that way," Bar-Hama said.

NMAJH flew Bar-Hama from Israel to Philadelphia in September 2020 when the museum was closed, and Bar-Hama spent almost two weeks just photographing the exhibit.

The exhibits' digitization consisted of Bar-Hama taking 360-degree panoramic

photographs around the museum to capture its layout, followed by photographing hundreds of objects in and out of their display cases from different angles. He used a camera with ultraviolet-protected flash tubes, so as not to damage the objects with light.

Bar-Hama used that technique to photograph and digitize the Dead Sea Scrolls for the Israel Museum in Jerusalem and the Aleppo Codex, the earliest known Hebrew manuscript that contains the Torah's full text. He's also digitized an exhibit for Philadelphia's Museum of the American Revolution, but the digitization of NMAJH's entire core exhibit is his biggest undertaking.

"This is a revolution," Bar-Hama said. "I don't think you will find — if you Google it — not even a single museum on the web that you can see completely."

NMAJH has been at the forefront of museum efforts across the country to make museums more accessible to audiences, according to NMAJH Chief Curator and Director of Exhibitions and Interpretation Josh Perelman.

During the pandemic-induced museum shutdown, NMAJH hosted a wealth of



▲ Ardon Bar-Hama

Courtesy of Ardon Bar-Hama

online programming, bringing in 4 million audience members. Perelman hopes the virtual tour makes the museum even more accessible.

"The root of a project is a commitment to access and accessibility," Perelman said. "We often think about museums as destinations — as they should be ... but the knowledge, the educational potential, the exploration shouldn't be limited just to the few who can visit."

But now that the museum is contemplating reopening to the general public after only being available for select private events, Perelman believes that the virtual exhibits won't replace visiting NMAJH's physical space.

"I envision a future where museums are creating both in-person and virtual experiences with much more

See Digitize, Page 14

## Latke

Continued from Page 1

Chanukah started on Nov. 28 and will continue through Dec. 6.

“This is the latke holiday,” said Robin Foy, the cashier coordinator at Murray’s Deli in Bala Cynwyd.

It’s not the latke holiday every night, though. Among the eight nights of Chanukah, the first two see the most potato pancake orders, according to Foy. Thomas said, regardless of when they fall during the holiday, the weekend evenings see the most latke orders.

On those nights, families are not just asking for individual servings, either. They are calling in party trays.

Murray’s customers ask for between 20 and 25 latkes during the Festival of Lights. Manny’s patrons have called in for stacks of 15, 24 and 32.

“Sometimes it’s for the family. Sometimes it’s for big parties,” Foy said. “This is a holiday where we give them quantities.”

Like all Jewish traditions, though, latkes are not just something we do. They have an origin, too.

Since potato pancakes are cooked in oil, they symbolize the miracle of Chanukah.

At the beginning of the Maccabean revolt against King Antiochus, Jews lit a candle in the Second Temple. It only had enough oil to burn for one night, but it lasted for eight.

Local delis also have a second-most-popular item during Chanukah — sufganiyot — and it has the same origin. Jewish jelly donuts, like potato pancakes, are fried in oil.

“Fried food symbolizes Chanukah,” said Josh Bray, the manager of The Kibitz Room in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

So, like many Jewish traditions, this one comes back to food. But it’s not just food, Bray said. It’s good food.

“People do the same thing because it’s good,” he said.



▲ The Kibitz Room in Cherry Hill, New Jersey

Courtesy of The Kibitz Room

But on Chanukah, the Jewish food tradition is a little different than on other holidays. Passover, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and even Shabbat are all based around meals.

The Festival of Lights, on the other hand, doesn’t have a big meal at its core. Latkes and sufganiyot are sides.

As Bray explained, Chanukah is “not really a dinner holiday.” It’s more of a festival among family members with games and gifts.

Hors d’oeuvres pair perfectly with this environment, Bray said.

“Spin dreidel, eat jelly donuts and potato latkes,” he added. “Exchange gifts and eat good food.”

This is not to say that Chanukah parties do not have main courses. They do.

Manny’s sells meat and sandwich trays during Chanukah, Thomas said. Murray’s and Schlesinger’s get a lot of brisket orders, Foy and Domb said.

Latkes and sufganiyot are not the only popular Chanukah hors d’oeuvres. Deli owners mentioned matzah ball soup, blintzes, hamentashen and Jewish apple cake as other common orders.

Latkes, in particular, are not even just a Chanukah delicacy. Local delis do pretty well offering them year-round, often as a side to meals.

But once a Jewish food

ritual takes root, Jews cultivate it for eternity.

Chanukah means latkes, and latkes mean Chanukah.

Tradition!

“It’s what we grew up knowing throughout the years,” Bray said. “It keeps going and going.”

But, as Bray explained, while Jews do love traditions, modern Jews are not maintaining all of them. That’s why it’s important to keep the holiday food rituals, including latkes on Chanukah, alive.

“A lot of Jewish things are going away in this day and age,” he said. “It’s nice to keep some of the holiday traditions going.”

Early in this holiday season, Domb, who is also a city councilman, has noticed a new vibrancy to the old Chanukah tradition. In Schlesinger’s at least, more people are both ordering latkes out and dining in than they did in 2020 when the pandemic was raging.

So, Jews are not just ordering Chanukah food or getting together out of habit. In many instances, they are getting together after 21 months apart. They also seem much happier to do it than they did two years ago, Domb said.

“Many grandparents lived to see their grandchildren,” the owner concluded. •

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▲ A digitized photograph of a fez, donated in 2000 by Donna, Joseph and Victor Hatchwell

Photos by Ardon Bar-Hama

## Digitizes

Continued from Page 12

intentionality,” Perelman said, “blending both the experiences they offer inside their buildings with associated experiences that can be explored on the internet or any sort of device.” NMAJH emerged from Chapter 11 bankruptcy on Sept.

17 after receiving a \$10 million commitment from former longtime trustee Mitchell Morgan, who bought the museum’s building and is loaning it back to the museum for \$1,000 a month.

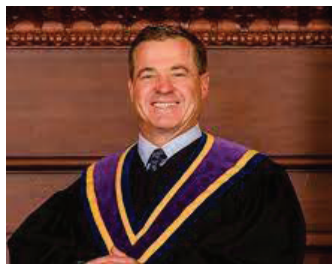
The museum is now able to prioritize its growth through innovative experiences, and the digitized exhibits exemplify NMAJH’s focus on transforming the experience of visiting a museum.

Perelman believes NMAJH can be a trailblazer on that front.

“What this really does is expands the museum’s capacity to continue to lead, to continue to be a leader in the nation for educating and interpreting experiences of American Jews,” Perelman said. “It broadens our reach and reputation at the same time.” •

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# Charitable Giving



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## Young Givers Want to See Where Money Goes

### GIVING

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

**MILLENNIALS LIKE TO** donate their money and time to charitable causes, according to local nonprofit leaders.

But — unlike older generations — they don't just want to donate. They want to know why.

As we enter a new giving season, the Generation Z cohort continues to grow into adulthood. And, like their older siblings, Gen Z kids want to know why.

"A lot of them want to know the impact of their money," said Polly Edelstein, the program manager of Tribe 12, which connects young Jews to Jewish life. "They want to see it."

As Edelstein explained, older generations would just donate to a reputable organization. It was reliable, so they'd trust it to put their money toward worthwhile causes.

Millennials want to be in the rooms where allocation decisions are made.

"They want to be the ones who say this money should be allocated to x, y, z," Edelstein

said.

Tribe 12 focuses on Jews in their 20s and 30s. It connects them to Jewish life today so they stay connected tomorrow.

Founded in 2010, the nonprofit had to understand the young generation to survive, so it catered its fellowship program to the millennial mindset. Each year, the program includes 12 fellows who pay dues of \$360 each. Half of each fellow's dues go to a cause that the group selects together.

All 12 young people are welcome to pitch potential businesses and nonprofits as worthy recipients. The process includes talking to people from the outside organization and then presenting to the fellowship group.

"We work together in a consensus model," Edelstein said.

One year, the fellows helped The People's Paper Co-Op in North Philadelphia, which shares the stories of formerly incarcerated women trying to gain re-entry into society. In recent years, they have also helped an organization that



▲ A young family participates in Project H.O.P.E.'s Passover meal drive at Temple Sinai in Dresher in 2018.

Courtesy of Samuel Domskey



▲ Young people volunteer at Project H.O.P.E.'s Passover meal effort at Temple Sinai in Dresher in 2019.

Courtesy of Samuel Domskey



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**JEWISH EXPONENT**

organizes visits to children's hospitals and one that offers legal services to survivors of domestic abuse.

These causes are not just worthwhile, but specific — another quality that's important to younger adults,

Edelstein said.

Millennials graduated into an economy pockmarked by the Great Recession of the late 2000s. Many have dealt with economic precarity or know people who have, or both.

Therefore, they are used to

dealing with specific problems like expensive medical procedures or unpaid rent.

"If we donate to something that's not hardship or something we can see, it gives people pause," Edelstein said.

The millennial mindset

## CHARITABLE GIVING

translates to volunteering, too. Some nonprofit leaders have found that Jews of this generation enjoy donating their time.

Malkie Schwartz is the founder of Bikkur Cholim of Philadelphia, which helps kids who are hospitalized or homebound. Bikkur Cholim offers fresh food, toys and “anything to make it easier,” Schwartz said.

In November, a group of high school girls made salads and lasagna to deliver. A school approaching the organization with an offer to help is common, according to the founder.

So is a Bat Mitzvah girl asking to do her service project with Bikkur Cholim. The most recent one consisted of the girl wrapping sashes of soap and shampoo with bows on top.

Since COVID broke out in March 2020, older volunteers have been more hesitant about going to hospitals. So now, the organization has younger people visiting local hospitals to stock its food pantries.

“When you help somebody else, you feel good about it,” Schwartz said.

Samuel Domsky is the chair of Project H.O.P.E. in the Dresher area. Every Passover, the charitable organization provides meals to the needy and elderly.

While Domsky doesn’t get much money from millennials, he does get their time. Each spring, young Jews come to Temple Sinai in Dresher to bag food and then drive it out to people.

By participating, millennials see what their efforts are

doing. They grow to understand that they are helping people in their community.

“It gives them a sense that they really have contributed to something that’s meaningful,” Domsky said.

Participation also makes millennials more likely to donate at least a little bit of money. Domsky gets 200-plus donations a year. Many are small, like \$10 or \$25, and, therefore, doable for younger residents.

“We want people to volunteer, get involved in the program and then take ownership of it,” he said.

Galvanizing millennials into deep involvement is difficult for organizations. But, as Domsky explained, it’s not impossible.

For a generation skeptical of

institutions, commitment must be earned.

This is perhaps easier for narrowly focused initiatives like the Tribe 12 fellowship program, Bikkur Cholim and Project H.O.P.E. But for a wide-ranging nonprofit like the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, it’s a little harder.

“Our parents’ generation gave to the (Jewish) Federation because it’s what you do,” said Adam Klazmer, the board chair of NextGen, the Jewish Federation’s under 40 group. “Our generation has needed more of a purpose.”

To handle this challenge, NextGen tries to recruit local Jews into its leadership development program. The program requires little more than a commitment to learn about what the Jewish

Federation does.

“Here’s what we do to support Israel, Holocaust survivors, Jewish education,” Klazmer said. “Here’s what we do to make sure Jewish kids get Chanukah presents.”

By explaining those efforts, the program helps millennials learn which Jewish Federation cause might mean the most to them. Then, once they get involved, they stay involved and are more likely to trust the organization.

Klazmer and several other NextGen board members got involved through the development program.

“That seems to be the most successful way for people to get involved,” Klazmer said. ●

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## Despite Israeli Unrest, Organizations Find Support

### GIVING

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

IN 2020 AND 2021, Israel weathered storms on multiple fronts: ongoing response to the pandemic and the distribution of vaccines and boosters, as well as the violent Israel-Hamas conflict flare-up in May 2021.

In Israel's time of need, Israel advocacy organizations in the United States with the help of donors, have risen to the occasion to assist the nation-state, and those organizations have seen an increase in giving this year.

Since 2019, American Friends of Magen David Adom, which assists Israel's emergency medical service, has seen exponential growth in revenue from the Philadelphia region, from \$578,522 in 2019 to \$1,025,711 in 2020 and \$2,780,368 in 2021.

"Our very strong fundraising year is really in response, in many ways, to the tremendous needs that Magen David Adom has faced as a result of events happening in Israel," AFMDA CEO Catherine Reed said.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, MDA has provided testing and vaccinations. After the deadly Mount Meron disaster, a crowd rush that killed 45 on April 30, MDA was the first to respond and, this May, MDA was able to treat victims within hours of Hamas rocket attacks, largely thanks to the proactive giving from U.S. donors, Reed said.

AFMDA has not been alone in having a good fundraising year.

Jewish National Fund-USA raised \$4 million in 2021, \$1.5 million above its fundraising goal, according to JNF-USA Eastern Pennsylvania President Dale Danilewitz.

"We make long-term philanthropic investments in Israel," Danilewitz said, "meaning that when Israel faces a crisis, we already have the infrastructure needed to help them respond effectively and remain resilient."

JNF-USA has effectively extinguished forest fires in Israel's Eshkol/Gaza Envelope region and provided clean-up resources after the Western Galilee Now Tourist Information



▲ Seventy MDA paramedics and emergency medical technicians provide COVID testing to Orthodox Jews in Ukraine in September. Courtesy of American Friends of Magen David Adom

Center in Akko was destroyed.

In October, six JNF-USA Eastern Pennsylvania lay leaders took part in JNF-USA's first official mission to Israel since the onset of the pandemic, and they are preparing for the Celebrate Israel Mission from Jan. 14-20.



▲ A JNF-USA firefighter puts out a wildfire in the Eshkol/Gaza Envelope region of Israel. Courtesy of Jewish National Fund-USA



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The American Jewish Committee Philadelphia/South Jersey saw a 20% increase in donations this year, Regional Director Marcia Bronstein said.

AJC has initiatives to counter the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement and to strengthen ties between Israel and the American diaspora.

"Our donors tend to have a more nuanced, long-term approach to the conflict,"

Bronstein said. "They remain hopeful for peace in the region. The path to peace sometimes is not very clear, but they do know that by supporting AJC, they're promoting Israel's safety and security, and those are things they really care deeply about."

These organizations have largely attributed increased giving to the challenges Israel has faced this year and growing antisemitism in the U.S.

## CHARITABLE GIVING

"It's partially because of rising antisemitism," Bronstein said. "Our donors are motivated to do something ... It comes up in the majority of our conversations with our donors."

And though no organization wants to see increased antisemitism and anti-Israel sentiments, those incidents correlate with an increase in giving.

"[Donors] see it in our own emails or Facebook page and social media, and people respond," Reed said.

Even though many of these nonprofits experienced an increase in giving this year, not all members of the Jewish community are interested in donating to them.

Zev Guttman of Center City hasn't donated to any Israel advocacy organizations because of his focus on giving locally.

"Our sages say that a man who is very wealthy and gives proudly to all kinds of causes in the community or the world, but then his own wife and children go hungry with tattered clothing — that man is a wicked person," Guttman said. "Charity starts at home. Once you're done taking care of your home, then you expand that charity by giving to your immediate community."

Instead of giving to larger organizations, Guttman, who considers himself "a man of extremely modest means" and financially impacted by the pandemic, prefers to give to Jewish communities in which he's already involved, such as B'nai Abraham Chabad and Congregation Mikveh Israel in Philadelphia.

By giving locally, Guttman can more easily see the impact of his donation.

Even without giving money to Israel advocacy organizations, Guttman is still a proud supporter of Israel. His family lives in Tzfat, and he hopes to one day make aliyah to Israel. If he were to move to Israel, he could begin giving to Israeli organizations because Israel would

become his local community.

If Guttman were to give to larger Israel advocacy organizations, he would seek greater transparency from them, wanting organizations to "show exactly how their money is being spent and where it's going."

In addition to contending with those whose giving priorities lie elsewhere, Israel advocacy organizations must also confront criticisms of those disagreeing with policies or actions of the Israeli government. Some organizations are

using any ambivalence toward Israel to their advantage.

"What those kinds of sentiments allow is for us to educate people about Israel," Reed said. "In many ways, AFMDA is a great argument to the ridiculous attitudes people have and the unfortunate rise we see [in antisemitism] from time to time."

AJC is continuing to focus on advocacy campaigns, rather than explicit fundraising campaigns, knowing that involving the community in its mission translates to increasing

There's a lot of work to be done. American Jews are feeling like (they're) on the defensive with anti-Zionist voices."

MARCIA BRONSTEIN

giving. Like other organizations, AJC is trying to keep the fundraising momentum of the past year.

"There's a lot of work to be done," Bronstein said. "American Jews are feeling like (they're) on the defensive

with anti-Zionist voices. We're aware of those challenges, and we want to work towards a world where there's zero tolerance." •

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## Trends in Charitable Giving as 2021 Ends

### GIVING

ALLISON L. KIERMAN | JE FEATURE

**THANKSGIVING MAY** be over, but here's something that's still related to giving thanks: There are fewer than 30 days left in the year. That's less than a month to complete your 2021 charitable giving, develop or follow through on a tax strategy and make certain tax elections. Yikes!

But there's still time to act. As you think about end-of-year giving, here are some current trends to consider:

### Tax strategist versus philanthropist

Charitable giving is often thought of as something for those who are philanthropy-minded. It certainly can be. Charitable giving allows one to provide financial support to causes that are meaningful and make a legacy in one's community. To others, however, charitable giving is foremost a tax strategy. It is giving to causes and organizations, instead of giving to the government.

For 2021, the Consolidated

Appropriation Act of 2021 (the sixth COVID-related bill enacted by Congress) permits the following:

A charitable deduction of up to \$600 for couples filing jointly, \$300 for individual taxpayers. This is an above-the-line contribution that is deducted from the individual taxpayer's income.

Individual taxpayers who itemize their deductions can deduct up to 100% of their adjusted gross income.

Corporations can deduct 25% of taxable income in 2021.

The donations must be in cash, to a qualified charity, not a Donor-Advised Fund or private foundation, and must be made during 2021.

### Using a Donor-Advised Fund

A DAF is like a charitable investment account. You can set one up through many institutions. A donor contributes cash, securities or other assets and can claim a tax deduction in the year in which assets are contributed to the DAF. However, the DAF holds the fund for future distribution to



arthon meekodong iStock / Getty Images Plus

qualified charitable organizations, after consultation with the donor.

Distributions can be made at any time, during life and after the death of the donor. Assets in the DAF are invested by the institution and may grow over time, increasing in the amount that is ultimately donated for charity, but with no tax to the donor. The donor

can modify the beneficiaries of the DAF at any time (with some limitations).

Many donors even use funds in their DAF to make their annual synagogue membership contributions. It is important to note, once funds are contributed to a DAF the gift is irrevocable; and the funds cannot be later withdrawn and used for other purposes.

### Conservation easement

A conservation easement is a voluntary legal agreement to permanently limit the use of land to protect its conservation values. Conservation easements are either sold or donated by a landowner to a conservation organization, typically a land trust. The easement preserves the land by



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## CHARITABLE GIVING

It is important to take into consideration both your charitable intentions and consult with a tax professional when weighing whether a tax strategy through charitable giving is right for you.

restricting its development for commercial uses.

Conservation easements provide tax benefits to landowners who can claim the value of the easement as a tax-deductible charitable donation. Because land is often an appreciating asset, this amount frequently exceeds the price paid for the land.

For individuals that do not have land to donate, there may be opportunities to invest in an entity that is purchasing land in which a conservation easement is later donated. The individual donor thereafter receives a K-1 and can claim a portion of the donation on his/her personal tax returns.

These types of investments are closely scrutinized by the IRS and may increase the risk of an audit, so all proper procedures must be followed before claiming a deduction for such an easement.

### Charitable trusts

Charitable trusts are also important tools in successful tax planning. Like a DAF, the charitable trust is created to allow for a one-time lump sum contribution that is later distributed over a longer period. There are two main types of charitable trusts:

**Charitable Lead Trust.** This is a trust which provides a stream of income to a charity of the trustor's choice for years or a lifetime. After the period of years, or at death, whatever is left goes to the trustor's beneficiary(ies) with significant tax savings.

**Charitable Remainder**

**Trust.** This trust provides a stream of income to the trustor for years or a lifetime and then gives the remainder to the trustor's charitable beneficiaries, with significant tax savings once the trust term is complete.

### RMDs

Those who are over 70 ½ can donate all or a portion of their IRA-required minimum distributions (RMD) directly to charity. This is called the qualified charitable distribution (QCD). Typically, IRA distributions are treated as taxable income. However, if it is a QCD, the distribution is excluded from taxable income. For those already giving annually to a religious or other charitable organization, there is a strong benefit from making the distribution a QCD instead of taking the RMD and then later making a charitable donation.

These are some of the ideas and trends I'm seeing in charitable giving as we near the end of the year. As always, it is important to take into consideration both your charitable intentions and consult with a tax professional when weighing whether a tax strategy through charitable giving is right for you. •

Allison L. Kierman is the managing partner of Kierman Law, PLC, an estate planning law firm based in Scottsdale, Arizona. This originally appeared in the Phoenix Jewish News, an affiliated publication of the Jewish Exponent.



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## Significant Tax Changes Likely

**PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN'S** "Build Back Better" bill was just passed by the House of Representatives and is now on its way to the Senate, where it will likely be negotiated and revised. While it is difficult to predict what additional updates will be made to the bill, individuals should consider the following potential changes as they make year-end tax decisions:



▲ The Build Back Better bill will likely be updated with changes that should be considered for year-end tax decisions.  
Courtesy of Getty Images

- 1. Increase in top income tax rates and capital gains tax rates, and decrease in the estate and gift tax exemption.** The originally proposed bill contained provisions that would significantly increase the top marginal income tax rates and top capital gains tax rates for individual taxpayers with adjusted gross income (AGI) in excess of \$400,000. It also reduced the unified estate and gift tax exemption from \$11.7 million to the 2010 exemption level of \$5 million. The latest version of the bill eliminates those provisions.
- 2. Surtax on millionaires and billionaires starting in 2022.** For joint filers, the extra tax would equal 5% of modified AGI from \$10 million to \$25 million and would jump to 8% of modified AGI above \$25 million.
- 3. 3.8% surtax expanded to cover net investment income derived in the ordinary course of a trade or business** for single or head-of-household filer with a modified AGI over \$400,000, a joint filer with a modified AGI over \$500,000 or a married person filing a separate return with a modified AGI over \$250,000.
- 4. SALT cap increased to \$80,000.** The latest version of the bill contains a provision that rolls back the state and local tax (SALT) deduction limit. The 2017 tax reform law placed a temporary \$10,000 cap on the itemized deduction for state and local taxes until 2026. By limiting the deduction, the cap tends to increase taxes paid by wealthier people, who typically pay more state and local taxes and customarily itemize instead of claiming the standard deduction. Under the Build Back Better Act, the cap would be extended through 2031 but would increase to \$80,000 for 2021 to 2030 (and return to \$10,000 for 2031).

In addition, the following changes will be effective for 2022 unless Congress acts by the end of this year:

- An end to the expanded charitable deduction for itemizers.** COVID relief legislation passed in 2020 provided that charitable contributions made in cash to most charities were generally deductible to up to 100% of a taxpayer's gross income, rather than the usual 60%.
- Required minimum distributions (RMDs) are back.** For 2020, the CARES Act suspended the requirement that those who are 70½ or older take an RMD from certain retirement accounts (including IRAs, 401(k)s and Roth 401(k)s). This requirement is back for 2021 (though it applies beginning at age 72). RMDs from IRAs and 401(k)s are taxable income.

### Key Considerations for Year-End Tax Planning

- Use appreciated assets to make a charitable gift in 2021.** As in previous years, gifts of appreciated assets (stock) remain a best practice. With the continued bull market and the possibility of a retroactive increase in the capital gains tax

rates, charitable donations of appreciated property are more valuable than ever, providing not only a deduction to the donor but also the potential to avoid the higher capital gains tax.

- Amir Goldman, chair of the Jewish Federation's Investment Committee, commented that "donating appreciated stock is a fantastic way for you to support critically important institutions in a tax-efficient manner. For Pennsylvania residents, the highest long-term federal income tax is 23.80%, plus a 3.07% Pennsylvania resident tax on capital gains. So if a Pennsylvania donor can donate appreciated stock, they will save 26.87% of taxes on the gains. What a wonderful opportunity to do good and have your resources make a larger impact!"
- Consider the impact of the potential SALT cap increase on your tax situation.** If the provision is passed and effective in 2021, this may be a good year to increase your charitable giving, perhaps with appreciated stock (see above), and take advantage of itemizing your deductions.
- Consider accelerating noncharitable gifts.** The possible decrease to the unified estate/gift credit would apply to transfers that occur after Dec. 31. For taxpayers who are intent on making significant gifts (either during their lifetime or in the form of bequests), accelerating those gifts may provide a significant tax advantage.
- Charitable donations of cash may be useful if offsetting a large portion of taxable income.** 2021 likely will be the last year you can use a charitable donation of cash to offset more than 60% of your adjusted gross income. This may provide an opportunity for taxpayers who are in a position to make a significant charitable gift. Note that contributions in excess of 60% of AGI cannot be made to a Donor Advised Fund (DAF), so plan carefully to balance DAF and non-DAF contributions.
- Look into an IRA charitable rollover.** The IRA charitable rollover is an attractive option because it can satisfy the RMD requirement without incurring income tax, even if you don't itemize your deductions. Depending on whether proposed legislation expanding the rollover amount and allowing rollovers to charitable remainder trusts and gift annuities is enacted, this option could become even more attractive in future years.

As with any significant tax and charitable planning, it is always advisable to carefully consider potential changes in the context of your complete financial profile. Please also continue to monitor the above legislative proposals that will be considered by Congress later this year.

**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, please contact Director of Planned Giving and Endowments Jennifer Brier at [jbrier@jewishphilly.org](mailto:jbrier@jewishphilly.org) or 215-832-0528.**

*Content is for informational purposes only and should not be construed as legal, tax or financial advice. When considering gift planning strategies, always consult with your own legal and tax advisers.*

# The Orthodox Community Rose Up Against Accused Abuser Chaim Walder. That Needs to Become the Norm



BY ASHER LOVY

**ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD** sexual abuse against Chaim Walder, the author of children's books beloved in the haredi Orthodox market, and the uncharacteristically swift and harsh community response, have left many wondering if this case could mark the turning point in how the community addresses sexual abuse.

As an abuse survivor who supports and advocates for victims of sexual abuse in Orthodox communities, it's a question I've been asked many times over the last week. That was when Mordy Getz, owner of Eichler's of Boro Park, a Judaica store in Brooklyn, took the unprecedented step of removing Walder's books from its shelves, setting off a cascade of action including Feldheim Publishers halting the sale of Walder's books.

Those who come to me want to know: What led to this moment, and what does it mean for the future of the community? And why do some allegations stand out when so many do not result in swift changes?

Part of the answer may be the unknowable vagaries of human behavior. Sometimes it's because someone is victimized in a shocking way or decides to go public with their experiences. Part of it is no doubt thanks to the foundation laid by activists and advocates working to raise awareness and change how people think about the issue. In this case and some others, careful reporting by reputable journalists lay the facts bare and make them harder to discard. And sometimes it's because there's a reserve of pent-up frustration that just hits the boiling point.

Too often abuse allegations in the haredi Orthodox community are met with fierce denials by the accused's defenders or stony silence from leaders. Accusers have been vilified and ostracized for daring to come forward, especially but not only when the alleged abuser is someone who's revered or beloved by their own community.

I see the impact of that dangerous dynamic all the time, when people in the haredi community call and tell me their stories of being sexually abused. Consistently, after I explain their legal options, most will express that they're too scared to come forward because of the backlash they expect to receive. Many are scared they won't be believed, or of losing their livelihoods, homes or positions in the community, or are concerned about what will happen to their children or loved ones in retaliation.

In one extreme case a man told me he'd sat outside the home of his daughter's abuser with a baseball bat mustering the courage to kill him, only to leave once he realized he'd gotten the wrong address. When I asked him if he'd like to report the abuse, he said he had other children whose futures he was scared to jeopardize. He asked me instead to "embarrass" the abuser in the community.

Walder's is the rare case in the Orthodox community where the alleged abuser is beloved by, well, everyone. This is our Bill Cosby, our Jimmy Saville (the late British entertainer accused of assault). Every millennial and Gen-Z haredi child, and even many Modern Orthodox children, grew up reading "Kids Speak" and "People Speak," Walder's popular book series. In Israel, where Walder is a prominent speaker, columnist, radio host and child-treatment expert, he's even more universally known and beloved. I knew that whatever the reaction was going to be to the allegations against him, it was going to be fierce, and visceral.

Indeed, in different parts of the community there were equally forceful — if opposite — reactions. While some did go on the offensive and vigorously defend Walder against what they claimed were false allegations, many others were disgusted and threw out his books.

There are those who are hailing the community's response to the Walder

allegations as a sign that it has turned the corner on sexual abuse and is now a safer place for survivors to come forward and receive help and support. That's a mistake — understandable, but a mistake nonetheless.

Flashpoint cases are never themselves definitive indicators of sustained, systemic change. They merely provide the opportunity for such change. For example, the murder of George Floyd caused America to take a hard look at the system of policing within which he was killed. But even though Derek Chauvin, the police officer who killed him, was convicted at trial of murder, it is clear that lasting and widespread change is still far off. Others remain at risk.

The Orthodox community is still not a place where survivors of sexual violence are encouraged to come forward. Institutions like Agudath Israel of America still require as their stated policy that a rabbi be consulted before abuse is reported to secular authorities. Whether that rule is written or unwritten in other parts of the Orthodox community, it's very often the expected norm. That has to change.

Survivors must also know that they will receive the support they need from the community when they come forward about abuse. They must know and feel that their allegations will be taken seriously, and that they will receive the resources they need, whether that's mental health, financial or legal resources, following their disclosure. The

community has a large and impressive network of *chesed*, or charitable care, organizations for every possible need imaginable, yet spends precious little time, effort and money on supporting survivors of sexual abuse — not because it can't but because it chooses not to. That has to change.

Furthermore, the culture of backlash against survivors who dare to disclose their abuse publicly, or pursue a case against their abuser, whether civil or criminal, must end. Too often we've seen rabbis or community leaders make public statements insulting survivors or minimizing their experiences. Lately, with the spotlight that Child Victims Act cases have shone on the issue in New York — allowing victims to report abuses sometimes decades old — some have resorted to making these statements in private, but to people they know will spread them. The result is the same: Survivors feeling too intimidated and too scared to want to come forward.

This should not be remembered as the moment the community solved the issue of child sexual abuse, but as the moment it was given the opportunity to begin fixing the problem. •

Asher Lovy is an abuse survivor and director of ZAAKAH, which raises awareness about child sexual abuse in the Orthodox Jewish community, advocates for legislative reforms, and operates a Shabbat and Yom Tov mental health peer-support hotline.

## STATEMENT FROM THE PUBLISHER

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## Join the conversation!

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# Sephardic Spice Girls Helped Me Connect My Jewish Roots

BY CAROLINE LEVINE

**JEWISH COOKING** in my family has always been an act of revival and reconnection.

My family, though very dedicated to Judaism, has very few Jewish recipes that have been preserved throughout the generations. Growing up, I felt disconnected from Jewish culture. I hadn't heard of many Jewish dishes, and I certainly didn't know how to make them. I knew that about a quarter of my Jewish roots were Sephardic and the rest Ashkenazi — and that's about all I knew. I didn't know how to celebrate the festive Jewish holidays and, ultimately, I just didn't celebrate them.

But everything changed when I discovered the Sephardic Spice Girls.

Sharon and Rachel, aka the Sephardic Spice Girls (@sephardicspicegirls), are a cooking duo who run an Instagram account by the same name. They post their families' recipes from Morocco, Iraq and Rhodes, sharing traditional Sephardic dishes as well as their own takes on non-Jewish dishes such as strawberry shortcake, curry and so on.

For me, the true highlight of their page are the traditional Sephardic recipes.

I discovered their account after following numerous accounts on Jewish culture and history in an attempt to learn more about my mysterious Sephardic heritage. Instagram then featured their account on my recommended feed, predicting that I would have an interest in learning about Sephardic culture through cooking.

Instagram was right. Considering my love of cooking and my desire to respectfully reconnect to my distant Sephardic roots, I gladly picked

a recipe from the Sephardic Spice Girls and took a leap.

What resulted was the best cake I have ever eaten. I made their Abe Abraham's apple cake, and it was fantastic. Though not strictly a traditional Sephardic dish, it introduced me to their world. I promptly made it a second time.

I have since looked for any opportunity to make one of their recipes. For Rosh Hashanah 2020, I made their Seville orange chicken and suddenly, I had a newfound passion: Jewish cooking.

Over the next year, I tried countless dishes from their blog. Though every dish I have made with their recipes has been amazing, here are my favorites:

## Biscochos

These are the ultimate tea cookies, often made with the flavors of cinnamon, orange juice and anise extract. They are sweet, but not too sweet, and for those not raised with Sephardic culture, they are the perfect segue into experiencing Sephardic joy.

Biscochos date back to Spain, pre-Inquisition, and are thus shared by every Sephardic community. Today, they are mainly served during Jewish holidays or celebrations, and they offer a rich opportunity to subtly connect with — or even educate others on — Sephardic traditions.

To me, biscochos have served a very important purpose in reconnecting to my Sephardic heritage because they are a universal Sephardic dessert. It can be difficult to connect when you do not confidently know where your family called home before arriving in the United States. Though I have a rather good idea, I will never know what countries they truly identified

with or if they identified with none of them. The universality of biscochos helps me to feel connected to my ancestors respectfully, without making any false assumptions.

## Boynos

For those unfamiliar with boyos, they are thinly rolled dough with cheese and spinach inside that originated in the former Ottoman Empire. The Sephardic Spice Girls recipe for boyos is wonderful: Though fairly simple in concept, they are very flavorful and a fantastic comfort food (especially if you go heavy on the feta like I do!).

To me, the significance of making boyos extends past the flavor, however. In addition to the delicious taste, I find them empowering to cook. With each fold of the dough, I am connecting to my Jewish ancestors — knowing that I may never know the names of many of them, I find comfort in partaking in traditions they too may have done. In a sense, it is my way of telling them that they will never be fully forgotten.

## Abe Abraham's Apple Cake

Seriously, this cake is amazing. You can pair it with an autumn-inspired frosting if you like, but the cake is so delicious that it is not necessary. Even though the ingredient list is fairly simple, the recipe is an all-time favorite of mine. And interestingly enough, I am not usually a huge fan of the apple and cinnamon combination. This cake, however, has converted me. The autumn feeling that comes from the apples and cinnamon is so comforting and delicious that I intend to make it again for Thanksgiving.

Thanks to Sharon and Rachel's expansive collection

of recipes, I have discovered a way to respectfully connect to my Sephardic heritage — which I have struggled with doing properly, considering how it is not something I was raised with. Cooking, however, has not only inspired me to learn more about and connect with Sephardic culture, but it has taught me to connect with Jewish holidays as well. Whenever a new Jewish

holiday rolls around, I now know exactly how to celebrate: by opening up Instagram and trying a new recipe by Sharon and Rachel. More than ever before, I have felt Jewish. And I have the Sephardic Spice Girls to thank. •

Caroline Levine is a junior at the University of Florida and a 2021-2022 Alma College Writing Fellow. This originally appeared in Alma.

## KVETCH 'N' KVELL

### Archbishop Sends Chanukah Greetings

**DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS** in the Jewish faith community, together with the bishops, priests, deacons, consecrated religious and lay faithful of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, I extend sincere and prayerful best wishes as you celebrate the great Festival of Lights.

As you recall the ultimate triumph of G-d over oppression in all of its forms, may the light of the menorah fill you with joy and hope as you strengthen the bonds of love with family and friends.

Shalom Aleichem!

Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez | Archbishop of Philadelphia

### Recent Incident Shows Flaws of Cash Bail

If Bob Lankin's Nov. 11 op-ed "Why Judaism Prohibits Cash Bail" had been scheduled for a December publication date, I highly doubt the Exponent would ever have published it.

Darrell Brooks, who is accused of running his SUV through a Christmas parade in Waukesha, Wisconsin, on Nov. 21, murdering six innocent people and seriously injuring dozens, had a long criminal history and was released from prison twice by posting bail amounts of: 1) \$500 in February after being charged with second-degree reckless endangerment and possession of a dangerous weapon as a convicted felon; and 2) \$1,000 last month after being charged with resisting or obstructing an officer, bail jumping, recklessly endangering safety, disorderly conduct and battery.

The murderous assault in Waukesha was the direct result of releasing a repeat violent offender prior to trial because of low or no bail.

Lankin makes the case that many who are charged with a crime and presumed innocent prior to trial remain incarcerated for being poor since they do not have the funds to post bail. Certain people charged with crimes should be given no or low bail amounts if they are first-time offenders, if the nature of the crime they were charged with was nonviolent or other similar circumstances. But Lankin puts forward a misleading argument when he conflates cash bail with the Jewish principle not to persecute and oppress poor people.

It is inappropriate to conclude that Judaism has an absolute ruling about cash bail. •

Joel Leon | Huntingdon Valley

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# Triple Threat Salad

FOOD

KERI WHITE | JE FOOD COLUMNIST

I HAVE WRITTEN before about a Turkish onion salad that is versatile, simple to make and is adaptable with different ingredients.

I had occasion to make it last week to top some roasted salmon. Because the salad is so useful and tasty, I doubled the batch, figuring that I would chuck it on a bunch of other dishes throughout the week and save myself prep time later.

It was a strategic and delicious move; the salad did triple duty — first, as planned with the fish, then mixed with chickpeas as a side with a simple dinner of turkey sandwiches and, finally, mixed into a can of tuna for a flavorful and healthy lunch.

Talk about bang for the buck!

**TURKISH ONION SALAD**

*Makes about 2 cups*

This version contains a higher proportion of parsley — just a riff that inspired me and because I had a lot of parsley on hand. It also uses yellow onion as opposed to the red in the original

because I only had yellow on hand. The red lends more visual pop, but most onions work fine here — just avoid sweet or Vidalia onions because they are too mild to deliver the punch this salad provides.

Another variation I have implemented is to chop, rather than slice, the onions. Since I planned to use it for future dishes, the chopped pieces lent themselves better to the other two salads.

If you don't have sumac — a citrusy red aromatic spice commonly used in Middle Eastern cooking — you can use a small amount (½ teaspoon) of grated lemon zest or the juice of 1 lemon instead.

- 2 large onions, sliced
- 2 tablespoons coarse kosher salt
- 2 large bunches chopped fresh parsley
- 2 teaspoons sumac

Place the onion pieces in the colander and toss them well with coarse salt. Place them in the sink and allow them to drain, tossing occasionally. After about



▲ Chickpea turkish onion salad

Photos by Keri White

30 minutes, taste the onion; it should be soft and milder than a regular raw onion. The longer you leave it in the salt, the more the onion flavor will mellow, the saltier it will become and the softer the onions will be.

When the onions reach desired the texture and flavor, a minimum of 30 minutes, rinse and drain them. Toss the onions in a bowl with the remaining ingredients. Serve as desired.

**CHICKPEA TURKISH ONION SALAD**

*Serves 2-4*

This dish made for a lovely, substantial side dish to accompany a rather skimpy dinner



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of turkey sandwiches. It could easily stand on its own as a light meal, round out a selection of salatim or stand alongside a fish or meat main course.

- 2 cups Turkish onion salad, see above
- 1 15-ounce can chickpeas, drained, or ½ cup cooked and cooled chickpeas
- Olive oil, if needed, for texture

Mix the onion salad, along with any “juice” that has accumulated, with the chickpeas. If the mixture seems dry, add a bit of olive oil to coat. Stir, and either serve immediately or refrigerate for several hours or overnight.

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**CHICKPEA TURKISH ONION TUNA SALAD**  
*Serves 2-4 depending on portions*

The gift that keeps on giving: After the second meal that was improved by this workhorse of a salad, I squeezed out a third. The chickpea salad mixed beautifully with a can of tuna, which I placed on some lightly dressed greens for a healthy and tasty lunch.

- 2 cups chickpea Turkish onion salad
- 1 9-ounce can tuna, drained
- 2-3 tablespoons mayonnaise or olive oil, if needed, for texture

Mix the salad with the tuna; if needed, add mayonnaise or olive oil to ensure that all ingredients are coated and distributed. Serve atop a bed of lightly-dressed greens or on whole-grain bread. ●



▲ Chickpea turkish onion tuna salad



Happy Hanukkah

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# Essen Pastry Chef Tova du Plessis 'Beat Bobby Flay'

## FOOD

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**PASTRY CHEF** Tova du Plessis has kept a secret for more than two years.

At the end of 2019, du Plessis, owner of the South Philadelphia Jewish bakery Essen and four-time James Beard Foundation Award nominee, traveled to New York and spent a day taping interviews, cooking and competing on Food Network's "Beat Bobby Flay," a competition series where chefs around the country go head-to-head with the former "Iron Chef."

Since taping the episode — its airdate delayed due to the pandemic — du Plessis could neither confirm nor deny whether she bested Flay in the competition, but finally du Plessis' secret is out.

On Nov. 23, "Beat Bobby Flay" episode "It's a Cakewalk" premiered, where du Plessis takes the cake, baking a superlative Jewish apple cake to the show's titular chef, not only showing off her culinary chops but having a great time doing so.

"I would totally do something like that again," du Plessis said.

In the show's tight 21-minute format, du Plessis first bested California-based chef Holden Jagger, crafting a superior dish in 20 minutes with the secret ingredient raspberries. She then faced off against Flay — who boasted 23andMe results indicating his 25% Jewish ancestry. Her apple cake with buttermilk sherbet and rum caramel was deemed victorious over Flay's iteration topped with chopped apples, walnuts and a pomegranate

creme fraiche.

Du Plessis grew up in South Africa, where she cooked alongside her mother in the kitchen, baking challah almost every Shabbat. She loves cooking Ashkenazi favorites, such as brisket, and her bakery sells spins on these classics, such as her cinnamon hazelnuts and chocolate halvah babka.

But all of those dishes have one thing in common: They all take a long time to prepare.

"All my favorite things take hours to make," du Plessis said. "I'm a patient chef."

And though all dishes she finds joy in making, their long braising, proofing and baking times made them impossible options with which to challenge Bobby Flay in a 45-minute competition.

In the months leading to the competition, du Plessis memorized ratios for ingredients in simple bakes like shortbread and prepared simpler, stripped-down versions of recipes that provided a blueprint and could easily incorporate a mystery ingredient. It's how she was able to throw together a dish of raspberry mascarpone-filled blintzes with a raspberry pomegranate gastrique in just 20 minutes.

"I figured, 'What could be the foundation of my dish, and it wouldn't matter like what the secret ingredient was?'" du Plessis said of how she prepared for the competition. "So I started to think, 'What if it was a fruit? What about nuts? What if it was chocolate?' And I just kind of played through my mind how I would use it."

And despite the show's kitschy antics (hosts Damaris Phillips and Ace of Cakes' Duff Goldman really, really want to see Flay's defeat), the format of "Beat Bobby Flay" really requires contestants to be nimble, working under steep time constraints with unknown ingredients.



▲ Tova du Plessis bested chef Bobby Flay in "It's a Cakewalk," on the Nov. 23 episode of Food Network's "Beat Bobby Flay."

Courtesy of Tova du Plessis

"It really is real," du Plessis said. "You see the secret ingredient, and then you have to go into the kitchen and make a dish. I cannot believe what I made in 20 minutes, and that's so gratifying; it feels so good. It really brings out your competitive spirit."

But beyond bragging rights and the intrinsic reward of surviving a competition show, du Plessis' presence on a national cooking show — and one that du Plessis used to watch in its earlier seasons — is something she hopes to use to Essen's advantage.

"I knew I wanted to be ready to ship nationwide, and that was a big motivator to get nationwide shipping set up," du Plessis said.

Last year around Thanksgiving, du Plessis began shipping Essen favorites around the country through Goldbelly, an online artisanal food marketplace, expanding her business beyond her petite storefront on East Passyunk Avenue.

Though du Plessis has received national recognition

in the past several years as a James Beard nominee and semifinalist, her stint on a Food Network show can impact business more, she said.

"Going on at Bobby Flay's show reaches a wider audience," du Plessis said. "Not many people know about the James Beard Foundation ... Bobby Flay's show has such a large audience across the country that I felt was a really big deal — amazing exposure."

And while du Plessis works on growing businesses across state lines, she has a community at home where she is thoroughly supported.

When du Plessis announced she would be competing on "Beat Bobby Flay," customers and community members assumed du Plessis' victory before they had even seen the episode.

"The response I got most was, 'Oh, you're totally gonna beat him,'" du Plessis said. "That was the overall sentiment, and it's a big compliment." •

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# Light Can Overcome the Darkest Night

CANDLE LIGHTING

Dec. 3  
Dec. 10

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

BY RABBI ABE FRIEDMAN

Parshat Miketz

ONE OF THE most-cherished ritual items in our house is a hanukkiyyah that my wife's parents bought for us in Israel. What sets this hanukkiyyah apart from all of our others is its design, which will be familiar to anyone who has been in Israel for Chanukah: The candleholders sit inside a glass-walled box that allows you to light the hanukkiyyah outdoors without worrying that the wind will blow out the candles.

Even though each member of our family lights their own candles, lighting the "outside menorah" is the highlight every night: Everyone gathers on the front stoop, sometimes in PJs, sometimes bundled in coats and scarves against the snow, as we sing the blessings together.

The miracle of the oil — that a single jar of sacred oil could light the menorah in the

Temple for eight days, until new oil could be produced in purity and brought to Jerusalem — is one of Judaism's best-known stories. But what are we really celebrating when we remember this miracle?

We often look to this story for reassurance that, even in times of darkness and difficulty, all is never lost. The timing of our celebration reinforces this reading of the story. We celebrate Chanukah as we approach the winter solstice, as the nights grow longer.

The nighttime also gets darker as Chanukah begins: This is the only holiday we celebrate during the second half of the lunar month, as the moon's light wanes each night toward the darkness of Rosh Hodesh. Here, the Chanukah candles tell us, in the darkest nights, we can still find light. All is never lost.

The Haftarah for Chanukah, the prophetic selection read on Shabbat morning, offers a different window onto the

meaning of this holiday. The prophet Zekhariah lived in ambiguous times: the waning days of the Babylonian exile, the dawn of the Second Temple and the Jewish people's return to our homeland in Israel. The facts on the ground could look very different, depending on one's perspective.

In our Haftarah, Zekhariah sees a vision of Joshua, the still-exiled High Priest, as a broken man wearing soiled clothes and standing in judgment before the heavenly court. God intercedes directly, chastising the accusing angel and ordering that Joshua be given new, pure garments and restored to his post in the Temple. In Joshua's defense, God refers to him with the unique phrase, "a brand plucked from the fire" (Zekhariah 3:2).

As a young boy Joshua witnessed the Temple's complete destruction; grew up in exile, suffering unspeakable horrors; and now, in his elder years, will preside over

the Temple's restoration. Zekhariah's overall vision is one of hope and renewal — but as the 19th-century commentator Malbim points out, the use of "brand," is telling.

Brands are those pieces of wood that you find in the midway point of a bonfire: They have an untouched wooden core, but the outside of the log is deeply charred, cracked and ashen. Joshua has lived through exile to see redemption — and he is also indelibly marked by the experience.

When I light our "outside menorah" and watch the flames flicker and bend and struggle in the wind, it never seems certain that the light will catch against the darkness. Sometimes, in fact, it doesn't — now and again the wind will blow out a candle or two before I can close the door, and I need to try again.

We can't take for granted that our light will overcome the darkness. Each of us is, in our own way, a brand plucked from the fire. Life

has marked us, charred our outsides, left us smoldering. Like the candles, we waver in difficult times. Sometimes our light goes out, and we need someone to rekindle our flame. We move between being a fragile glimmer of heat in the cold night air and a clear light beckoning in the darkness.

Chanukah reminds us that our defeats are not abject failures — and it also teaches us that our victories are rarely, if ever, total. We find life's richness in the balance between. •

Rabbi Abe Friedman is the senior rabbi at Temple Beth Zion — Beth Israel. The Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia is proud to provide diverse perspectives on Torah commentary for the Jewish Exponent. The opinions expressed in this column are the author's own and do not reflect the view of the Board of Rabbis.





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## JEWISH EXPONENT

## ENGAGEMENTS

### ► SMOLEN-KRASNA

Dr. Alan and Jill Smolen of New York City announce the engagement of their daughter Sophie to Michael Krasna. Sophie is the granddaughter of the late Diane and Norman Smolen and the late Sandra and Arthur Feinberg. Michael is the son of Judi and Gary Krasna of Boca Raton, Florida.

Sophie graduated from the University of Maryland and works in NYC for Cushman & Wakefield as a commercial real estate broker. Michael also graduated from the University of Maryland and works for AIPAC as a deputy political director in its NYC office.

Sophie and Michael live in New York City and are planning a 2022 wedding.

Photo by Alan Smolen



### ► COHEN-KROLL

Debbie and Richard Cohen of Lafayette Hill and Madlyn and Steven Kroll of Pikesville, Maryland, announce the engagement of their children, Alison Cohen and Joseph Kroll.

Alison is a graduate of Lehigh University with a bachelor's degree in supply chain management and marketing. She is a merchandise planner for Ross Stores.

Joseph is a graduate of the University of Maryland with a bachelor's degree in supply chain management and marketing. He is an e-commerce manager for Unilever.

Sharing in their happiness are siblings Steven Cohen and Cynthia (Eric) Glickman.

The couple resides in New York City and plans to be married in Philadelphia in October 2023.

Photo by Kat Stanas Photography



## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Grandson of Holocaust Survivor Releases Album Inspired by Grandfather's Life Experiences

**PHILADELPHIA SONGWRITER** Avi Wisnia released an album in November called "Catching Leaves" that was inspired by his grandfather David Wisnia's legacy as a Holocaust survivor.

David Wisnia, who served as a cantor at two area synagogues, died June 15 at the age of 94.

David Wisnia spent three years in Auschwitz-Birkenau after Germany invaded Poland in 1939 — a day after he turned 13; three years later, his parents and

brother were murdered, and another brother was never seen again.

Upon arriving in the United States in 1946, he worked as an encyclopedia salesman.

He and his late wife, Hope, moved to Bucks County and, taking advantage of his voice, served as cantor of Temple Shalom in Levittown for 28 years, then cantor at Har Sinai Hebrew Congregation of Pennington, New Jersey for 23 more years. Later in life, he began telling his story.

David Wisnia returned to Auschwitz several times later in life, singing at the 70th and 75th anniversaries of the camp liberation. Both times, he sang with his grandson.

On a 2020 trip to Auschwitz, David Wisnia abruptly turned to Avi Wisnia and said, "You're the proof that Hitler did not win."

Avi Wisnia performed at City Winery Philadelphia on Nov. 28.

### Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey Names Former Police Chief as its Director of Regional Security

The Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey named William "Bud" Monaghan as its director of regional security.

Monaghan recently retired as chief of the Cherry Hill Police Department after 26 years and started his new position on Nov. 15.

In his new role, Monaghan will oversee the security and safety of the community and staff at the properties and facilities of the Jewish Federation and its family of agencies, as well as advise and coordinate on security for area synagogues and Jewish day schools. •

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

### ► "Catching Leaves" album cover

Courtesy of aviwisnia.com



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## DEATH NOTICES



### APFELBAUM

Beatrice Apfelbaum (nee Bitman), passed away on November 13, 2021, at the age of 99. Beloved wife of the late Herbert Apfelbaum and daughter of the late Morris and Leah (Rechtman) Bitman. Loving mother of Michael Apfelbaum and Marc (Melissa) Lawrence-Apfelbaum, adored grandmother of Rachel, Eric, Hedley, Lachlan, Beckett, Annaliese, and Marielle. Services were private. Contributions in her memory may be made to The Environmental Defense Fund. <https://www.edf.org>

### BLAUSTEIN

Alan Stanley Blaustein, November 13, 2021. He was predeceased by his beloved wife Rosalind (nee Rusoff); his parents Edward and Anne; and his brothers Morton and Fred. He is survived by his son Dean, grandson Max and was adored by numerous nieces and nephews. A graduate of West Philadelphia High School Class of 1943, he was named to Philadelphia's All-City Football Team. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Army Air Force as a Ball Turret Gunner on a B-17 Bomber. He later went onto work for 35 years as a Treasury Agent for the IRS. Al was a kind and good man. While he would claim to not want to sit and chat, once he started talking, you couldn't get him to stop; his wit and humor was sharp. He loved to be informed and read several papers daily. He was an avid fan of the local sports teams. Donations in his memory can be made to the VFW Relief, 11 Hilltop Road, Media, PA 19063.

### BUDMAN

Rita M. Budman (nee Chalal) on November 17, 2021, Wife of the late Edward. Mother of Dr. Derek (Tephanie) Budman and Brandon (Molly) Budman. Grandmother of Dean, Ford, Brooki and Sophie.

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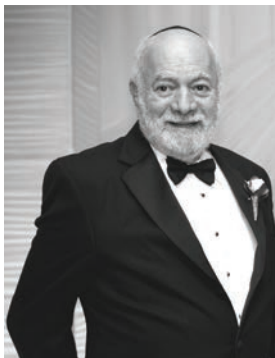
### BRANDEIS

Joan Brandeis (nee Oppenheimer) of Elkins Park, age 82, died the morning of Monday November 22, 2021 at Abington Hospital following complications from surgery. She was born in Mount Vernon, NY, November 23, 1938. As a child, she moved to Philadelphia where she was raised by her mother Eleanor and stepfather, Lester Oppenheimer in Center City. They relocated to Elkins Park from where she attended, and graduated from, Abington Friends. Following high school, Joan attended Smith College but finished her Bachelor's degree at the University of Miami where she'd moved following her marriage to Bill Brandeis in 1961. After returning to the area, she was the co-founder of Chapter & Verse, an independent bookstore, located at the Yorktown Inn. The family moved to Allentown, PA in 1979 and soon after Joan decided to attend Villanova University School of Law where she was elected to the Order of the Coif. Her first job out of law school was with Bethlehem Steel. Joan later practiced at Schnader, Harrison, Segal & Lewis, LLP in Philadelphia and specialized in public utility law. Throughout her life, Joan was an enthusiastic fan of classical music, opera, theater and film. Her recreational passions led her to become a master gardener and a Life Master in bridge. Joan's greatest love was for her family. A devoted mother, mother in-law and grandmother, nothing brought her more joy than a raucous game of Monopoly with her grandchildren or teaching them the finer points of poker in a penny-ante game while gathered together at the shore. Joan O. Brandeis is survived by her daughter Sally B. Kramer (Howard) of Cleveland Heights, OH, son Daniel Brandeis (Jennifer) of Pittsburgh, PA, grandchildren Benjamin, Samuel, William, Sophie, Eleanor and Jacob. Additional survivors include Dennis O'Brien, Dodie Tomkin, Alex Tomkin and many dear friends. A celebration in her honor will occur at Congregation Rodeph Shalom, 615 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19123 at 1:00 PM on Sunday December 19, 2021. Masks and vaccinations are required. Memorial donations can be made to the Mitzvah Food Program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, Planned Parenthood or the charity of your choice.

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## DEATH NOTICES



### FINKELSTEIN

Norman Finkelstein passed away peacefully on November 17, 2021, three days shy of his 93rd birthday. His loving wife of 22 years, and partner for decades longer, MaryAnne (née Brodsky) was by his side, as always. Norman was born and raised in Philadelphia by his parents, Herman and Sara (née Shubin) Finkelstein. He owned and operated NF Glass Co. in North Philly for over half a century, producing glass and mirror for many of Philadelphia's restaurants, businesses and houses of worship. He was also an owner of the Erlanger Theater at 21st and Market. During his bachelor years, Norman was a fixture at Jimmy's Milan. Those years yielded many stories that cannot be shared, but it was at The Milan where Norman met the love of his life, "M.A." in 1968. After Norman's retirement, he and MaryAnne moved to Sarasota County, Florida in 2007. In addition to MaryAnne, Norman is survived by his daughter Sharon (Mitchel) Greenstein, grandchildren Jaclyn (Jacob) Polakoff and Taylor (Mark) Woodcock, and great-granddaughters Vivian and Alexandra Polakoff. He was predeceased by his brother Mark and daughter Patricia (Dan) Marrs.

### GOLDBERG

Merle (Merri) Cantor Goldberg of Silver Spring, MD and Coconut Creek, FL. Merle was the daughter of the late Stanley and Alberta (Bertie) Cantor. She was the loving mother of Stephanie Goozh and the adoring Grandmom to Jayden and Aliyah. She is also survived by her sister Wendy Santoro (Jerry) and her nephews Eric (Jennifer Jordan), Craig (Jennifer Skirnanich) and their children Brady, Chloe, Alec, Eli, and Hannah. She was raised in Philadelphia and graduated from Overbrook High School and the University of CT. She completed a psychodrama internship under Dr. Jacob Moreno. She earned her MSW from the University of MD. She had a long career in Maryland as a psychiatric social worker specializing in later years in eating disorders and wrote several books and articles on the subject. Merle was a recognized leader in her field and was invited to lecture all over the world. She was a true friend who always put others before herself. Services were held graveside at Montefiore Cemetery on November 24. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the ALS society at [donateALS.org](http://donateALS.org)

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### GOLDSTEIN

Sylvia P. Goldstein (nee Volusher), passed away on November 19, 2021. Wife of the late Harry Goldstein. Mother of Diane (Marvin) Horowitz, Penny (Irving) Kenig and Linda Goldstein. Grandmother of 5 and Great Grandmother of 12. Contributions in her memory may be made to Lion's Gate, 1110 Laurel Oak Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043, [www.lionsgateccrc.org](http://www.lionsgateccrc.org), or to a charity of the donor's choice.

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### GOODMAN

Robert B. Goodman, on November 19, 2021, husband of Carol (nee Levenson), father of Rachel Goodman and Emily (Danny Rappin) Goodman, brother of the late Stephen Goodman, sister-in-law Susan Goodman. Services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Magee Rehab Foundation, 1513 Race St., Phila. PA 19102 [mageerehab.org](http://mageerehab.org) or the charity of the donors choice.

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### ROVNER

Julius "Jules" Rovner, age 91, father of Beverly (Rick) Walanka, Richard (Rhonda Ryznar) Rovner, Sharon Rovner, and one other daughter. Grandfather of Rebecca (Adam) Hauben and great grandfather of Zachary and Drew. Contributions in his memory may be made by planting a tree in Israel through Jewish National Fund.

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## DEATH NOTICES

### SCHWARTZ

Patty Jean Schwartz (nee Faidley) on November 23, 2021. Beloved wife of Stewart; Loving mother of Jennifer (Jonathan); Devoted daughter of Roy and the late Geraldine Faidley; Dear sister of Bonnie (David) Herrilko, Joni Booth, and Shirley Henry; Adoring niece of Richard (Angela) Means. Services and interment were private. Contributions in her memory may be made to Shriners Hospital for Children, 2900 Rocky Point Dr., Tampa, FL 33607, [www.lovetotherescue.org](http://www.lovetotherescue.org)

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### WOLF

Allen E., Wolf, on November 18, 2021. Beloved husband of the late Dorothy (nee Rosen). Loving father of Ronald Wolf (Joyce Tenenbaum), Michael Wolf (Barbara) and Steven Wolf (Sheila Tepel). Loving grandfather of Marc Wolf (Joanne), Stuart Wolf (Lexi), Jason Wolf (Stefanie), Samantha Epps (Phil), Allyson Wolf, Brett Wolf (Lindsey), Greg Wolf, and Elyssa Wolf. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Jewish National Fund.

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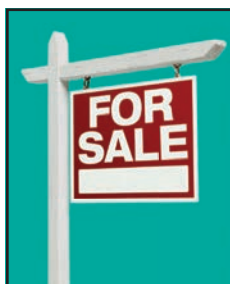
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## INFORMATION

### LEGAL NOTICES

Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, November Term, 2021 No. 0622 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 8, 2021 the petition of Eliza Drake Fletcher was filed, praying for a decree to change their name to Ezra Drake Axinto-Fletcher. The Court has fixed January 7, 2022 at 10:00AM in Room 691, City Hall, Philadelphia, PA for hearing. All persons interested may appear and show cause, if they have any, why the prayer of the said petitioner should not be granted.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Business Corporation Law of 1988, Indymac Financial Services Corporation, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of California intends to withdraw from doing business in Pennsylvania. The address of its principal office in its jurisdiction of incorporation is 340 Mt Kemble Ave, Ste 100, Morristown, NJ 07960, and the name of its commercial registered office provider in Pennsylvania is C T Corporation System.

Schecter Family Trust Agreement dated 11/01/2017. Edward Morris Schecter, Deceased. Late of Philadelphia County, PA. This Trust is in existence and all persons having claims or demands against said Trust or decedent are requested to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to Grant Rawdin and Jennifer Schecter, Trustees, c/o Bess M. Collier, Esq., 820 Homestead Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046. Or to their Atty.: Bess M. Collier, Feldman & Feldman, LLP, 820 Homestead Rd., Jenkintown, PA 19046

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### LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR A PAWNBROKER LICENSE**  
Notice is hereby given that Watches Etc., Inc. did on 12/01/2021, submit to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Dept. of Banking, an application for renewal licensure of a pawnbroker at this location, which is as follows: 5247 Frankford Ave., Phila., Phila. County, PA 19124. 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 NOTICES

**ESTATE OF AnneMarie FRAZER, DECEASED.**  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make payment without delay to JEAN SOLL, EXECUTRIX, c/o Gerald M. Hatfield, Esq., 2000 Market St., 20th Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103-3222.  
Or to her Attorney: GERALD M. HATFIELD FOX ROTHSCHILD LLP 2000 Market St., 20th Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19103-3222

### ESTATE NOTICES

**ESTATE OF BARBARA AUSLANDER, DECEASED.**  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make payment without delay to LISA DIEFENDERFER, EXECUTRIX, 1355 Westminster Drive, Downingtown, PA 19335.

**ESTATE OF DAVID B. SOLL, DECEASED.**  
Late of Whittemarsh 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 payment without delay to JEAN SOLL, EXECUTRIX, c/o Gerald M. Hatfield, Esq., 2000 Market St., 20th Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103-3222.  
Or to her Attorney: GERALD M. HATFIELD FOX ROTHSCHILD LLP 2000 Market St., 20th Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19103-3222

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**ESTATE NOTICES**

ESTATE OF DON WALDMAN a/k/a DON WOLFE WALDMAN, DECEASED.  
Late of Cheltenham 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 RAYMOND L. SHAPIRO, ESQ. and ROSLYN WALDMAN, EXECUTORS, One Logan Square, 130 N. 18<sup>th</sup> St., Philadelphia, PA 19103-6998,  
Or to their Attorney:  
ANDREW J. HAAS  
BLANK ROME LLP  
One Logan Square  
130 N. 18<sup>th</sup> St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-6998

ESTATE OF ERNESTINE SWINTON a/k/a ERNESTINE S. SWINTON, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JAMES SWINTON, JR., EXECUTOR, c/o Charles A. Jones, Jr., Esq., P.O. Box 922, Glenside, PA 19038,  
Or to his Attorney:  
CHARLES A. JONES, JR.  
P.O. Box 922  
Glenside, PA 19038

ESTATE OF IRVING KOROSTOFF, DECEASED  
Late of 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: Susan Okun, Executrix  
5507 Broad Branch Road NW  
Washington, DC 20015

ESTATE OF JEROME GUBERNICK, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia -  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to STEVEN GUBERNICK, EXECUTOR, c/o Bradley Newman, Esq., 123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030, Philadelphia, PA 19109.  
Or to his Attorney:  
BRADLEY NEWMAN  
ESTATE & ELDER LAW OFFICE OF  
BRADLEY NEWMAN  
123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030  
Philadelphia, PA 19109

ESTATE OF KEVIN J. RHODES, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to KENNETH RHODES, EXECUTOR, c/o Carol S. Sharp, Esq., 412 E. Street Rd., Feasterville-Trevose, PA 19053,  
Or to his Attorney:  
CAROL S. SHARP  
CAROL S. SHARP, P.C.  
412 E. Street Rd.  
Feasterville-Trevose, PA 19053

Estate of LILLIAN L. SUGARMAN  
Late of Pennsylvania  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who bequest 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 Rachel Bellman, Executrix, c/o Samuel Ben Samuel, Esquire, 223 Upland Road Merion Station PA 19066;  
Attorney:  
Samuel Ben-Samuel  
223 Upland Road  
Merion Station, PA 19066

**ESTATE NOTICES**

Estate of Linda Ann Zanczuk; Zanczuk, Linda Ann, Deceased  
Late of Philadelphia, PA.  
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to Nicholas Zanczuk, 10211 Woburn Place, Philadelphia, PA 19114, Administrator.  
Andrew I. Roseman, Esquire  
1528 Walnut St.  
Suite 1412  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Estate of Curtis Womack aka Curt Womack aka Curtis E. Womack; Womack, Curtis aka Womack, Curt aka Womack, Curtis E. 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 Falecia Henry, c/o Paul J. Perpiglia, Esq., Perpiglia & Assocs., 1332 Jackson St., Philadelphia, PA 19148, Executrix.  
Paul J. Perpiglia, Esq.  
Perpiglia & Assocs.  
1332 Jackson St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19148

ESTATE OF ROSALINDE WEIMAN, DECEASED.  
Late of Montgomery County  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to KAREN KAMENS, Executrix c/o 822 Montgomery Avenue, Suite 204 Narberth, PA 19072 or to her attorney:  
Dahlia Robinson-Ocken Esq.  
822 Montgomery Ave  
Suite 204  
Narberth, PA 19072

ESTATE OF THOMAS J. PIRRING, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to KEVIN PIRRING, EXECUTOR, 1001 Woodside Ave., Secane, PA 19018

ESTATE OF WILLIAM R. CLOUSER, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JOSEPH J. BRADLEY and KRISTI BRADLEY, EXECUTORS, c/o Peter L. Klenk, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103,  
Or to their Attorney:  
PETER L. KLENK  
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2202 Delancey Place  
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## NEWSMAKERS

### Ann's Choice Hosts Lecture on Stephen Sondheim

The Jewish Residents' Council at Ann's Choice sponsored a lecture by Karl Middleman on "The Intense Magic of Stephen Sondheim" on Nov. 17.

More than 100 area residents attended the event in Warminster. Middleman, a conductor and a professor at Temple University, discussed the legendary composer's Jewish heritage and soul.



▲ From left: JRC President Phyllis Halpern, Karl Middleman and Joe Shrager. Photo by Bernie Roseman

### Americans for Ben-Gurion University Hold Tribute Brunch

The Philadelphia and Delaware chapters of Americans for Ben-Gurion University held their annual Tribute Brunch on Nov. 7. This year's version was both in-person at Har Zion Temple in Penn Valley and virtual, reaching more than 100 homes.

The Philadelphia chapter honored Dr. Marcia Halpern and Jay Leistner. The Delaware chapter recognized Drs. Carolyn Glazer Hockstein and Neil Hockstein.



▲ Seated from left: Dr. Neil Hockstein, Dr. Carolyn Glazer Hockstein, Dr. Marcia Halpern and Jay Leistner. Photo by Shoot from Within

## COMMUNITYCALENDAR

### ▼ FRIDAY, DEC. 3

#### 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 of the week with eternal lessons on personal growth and spirituality. Go to [ijethics.org/weekly-torah-portion.html](http://ijethics.org/weekly-torah-portion.html) to receive the Zoom link and password.

#### Geography of Summer

What is the history of the summer vacation? How does it apply to the Jewish community? Why and where and how do we travel? What is a Jewish "staycation"? **Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel's Temple Judea Museum** 2021 fall exhibition "The Geography of Summer" is open. Visit the gallery in person at 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park, or follow the exhibition on the Temple Judea Museum Facebook page and on YouTube.

### ▼ SATURDAY, DEC. 4

#### Lights and Latkes

At 5 p.m., join Beth Sholom Congregation for Light and Latkes! There will be music with Cantor Jacob Agar, Havdallah, a Hanukkah lighting, a Mad Science Light

program, face painting, a balloon artist, a latke and wine tasting and sufganiyot. 8231 Old York Road, Elkins Park.

### ▼ SUNDAY, DEC. 5

#### Bowling with Brotherhood

**Old York Road Temple-Beth Am** presents Bowling With Brotherhood from 1-4 p.m. at Pike Lanes. Join us for bowling, pizza, snacks and drinks. \$10 per adult/\$5 per child under 18. RSVP to [srigecky52@gmail.com](mailto:srigecky52@gmail.com) or call 215-266-0466. 121 Second Street Pike, Southampton.

#### Nefesh Mountain Concert

Bluegrass band Nefesh Mountain will perform two concerts at **Adath Jeshurun**: At 4 p.m. for young children and families, complete with goody bags; and at 7:30 p.m. for adults. The cost is \$5 per person, with a \$20 maximum per family for each concert. 7763 Old York Road, Elkins Park.

#### Chanukah Celebration

Community Chanukah celebration outside at House of Kosher with **Northeast Jewish Life**. All are welcome to come and enjoy music by Eliyahu Bass, latkes and other nosh by HOK and candle-lighting by various community members.

For information, contact Carrie at [northeast@kehillah.jewishphilly.org](mailto:northeast@kehillah.jewishphilly.org). 9806 Bustleton Ave., Philadelphia.

#### Event to End Hunger

Growing Needs, Glowing Deeds: **Jewish Relief Agency's** 2021 annual event to end hunger will illuminate the stories of some heroic JRA volunteer families, whose compassion, generosity and appetite to help inspire others to do good, and whose constant presence serves as a beacon of hope. Register for the Zoom event: [jewishrelief.org/annual-event-2021](http://jewishrelief.org/annual-event-2021).

### ▼ MONDAY, DEC. 6

#### Our Closet Pop-Up

**Jewish Family and Children's Service's In Your Neighborhood** mobile program will be at the Drexel Dornslife Center from 1-3:30 p.m. Shop for up to 25 items of clothing, shoes and accessories, receive healthy food and talk to a social worker to gain access to services. For more information, contact Ricki Gever Eisenstein at [reisenstein@jfcshilly.org](mailto:reisenstein@jfcshilly.org) or call 267-273-5537.

#### Mahjong Game

**Melrose B'nai Israel Emanu-El Sisterhood** invites the community to join our weekly friendly 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](mailto:office@mbiee.org). 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park.

#### Sisterhood Bingo

**The Sisterhood of Congregations of Shaare Shamayim** is hosting a virtual bingo starting at 7:30 p.m. on both Dec. 6 and 13. The cost is \$36 per person and includes two cards for eight games of bingo for both events. For further information, call the CSS office at 215-677-1600 and ask for Gerry or Nancy.

### ▼ TUESDAY, DEC. 7

#### JAFCO Fundraiser

Join **JAFCO FamilyMatters** for an evening at Woodcrest Country Club with a program featuring licensed psychotherapist Joanna Kleinman and a mindful meditation with yoga instructor Suzanne Levy Polikoff. There will be a shopping boutique, raffle prizes, dinner and a presentation. Register at [familymattersnetwork.org/events](http://familymattersnetwork.org/events). 300 E. Evesham Road, Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

#### Journalism Speaker

At 6:30 p.m., Tal Schneider, political

and diplomatic correspondent for The Times of Israel, will join **Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel** in person. All are welcome to attend or stream the program online for free: [kenesethisrael.org/stream](http://kenesethisrael.org/stream). For more information: [contact@kenesethisrael.org](mailto:contact@kenesethisrael.org) or 215-887-8700. 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park.

#### Text Study

Join **Beth Sholom Congregation** Rabbi David Glanzberg-Krainin at 8 p.m. for a close reading of Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg's work "Moses: A Human Life," which reveals Moses as far from perfect — a very human man, riddled with insecurities, anxieties and uncertain of his faith. 8231 Old York Road, Elkins Park.

### ▼ WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8

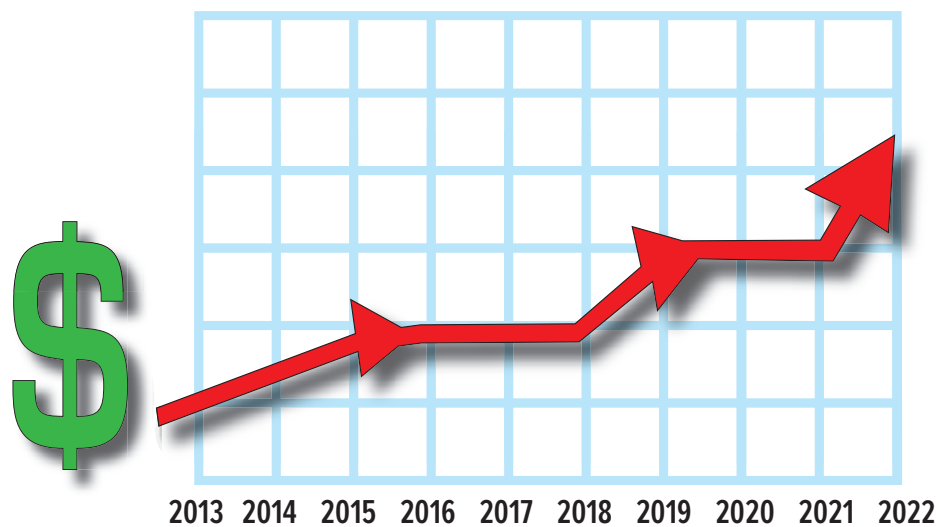
#### Golden Years Crafting

**Jewish Family and Children's Service's** Crafting Your Golden Years art program is offering an in-person group to NORC members at 1 p.m. Don't miss this fun opportunity to socialize with one another through the art of crafting together. Transportation and lunch will be provided. RSVP Liliana Barbour at 215-302-0351, ext. 1, or [lbarbour@jfcshilly.org](mailto:lbarbour@jfcshilly.org). 345 Montgomery Ave., Bala Cynwyd. ●

**PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT** Published weekly since 1887 with a special issue in September (ISSN 0021-6437) ©2021 Jewish Exponent (all rights reserved) Any funds realized from the operation of the Jewish Exponent exceeding expenses are required to be made available to the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, a nonprofit corporation with offices at 2100 Arch St., Philadelphia, PA 19103. 215-832-0700. Periodical postage paid in Philadelphia, PA, and additional offices. Postmaster: All address changes should be sent to Jewish Exponent Circulation Dept., 2100 Arch St., Philadelphia, PA 19103. A one-year subscription is \$50, 2 years, \$100. Foreign rates on request.

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