



JEWISH EXPONENT

— WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA —

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OF NOTE

LOCAL

Local Man Steps Up to Plate for Hall of Famer

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Gal Gadot Makes Another Impact

She's changing the image of Jewish women.

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Volume 133
Number 37

Published Weekly Since 1887



Influential Jewish Leader Ted Mann Dies at 92

ANDY GOTLIEB | JE MANAGING EDITOR

PHILADELPHIA LAWYER Theodore “Ted” Mann, who led numerous Jewish organizations both worldwide and locally for years and was an early critic of Israel’s West Bank occupation, died Dec. 12 from COVID-19, JTA reported. He was 92.

Burt Siegel, a retired director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Philadelphia — an organization Mann headed in the 1970s — said his mentor was a modest man who understood the meaning of Jewish ethics.

“He did not think of himself as an important man,” Siegel said. “He thought of himself as someone doing important work.”

“He was comfortable with people and comfortable with ideas,” said Larry Rubin, another former JCRC leader, who first met Mann as a Washington, D.C., representative of the American Jewish Congress.

Mann gained particular notoriety in 1987, when the group, with Mann as

See Mann, Page 12



▲ Dr. Richard Fine receives his first COVID-19 vaccine dose.

Photo by Wesley Hilton

Health Care Workers Receive First Vaccine Doses

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

FRONT-LINE HEALTH CARE workers at hospitals and clinics throughout Philadelphia received their first doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine last week after the Food and Drug Administration granted an emergency use authorization on Dec. 11.

Hannah Leeman, a pandemic planner for the Public Health Preparedness Program for the city’s Department of Public Health, Division of Disease Control, got hers on Dec. 17. She couldn’t be more excited.

“It feels really historic to be part of this,” she said.

Leeman, who is also a resident at

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JEWISHEXPONENT.COM

Miriam's Advice Well

DO VIRTUAL EVENTS REQUIRE GIFTS?

A reader asks Miriam whether she should send a gift to a friend who invited her to virtually join her family for a night of candle lighting. The reader notes that if she had attended in person, she would have brought a small gift. Miriam responds that it's a good idea to send thanks, such as a handwritten card or even an online donation to a local charity. For details, read Miriam's Advice Well online. From dating to parenting, Miriam welcomes all questions. Email yours to news@jewishexponent.com and put "Advice Well Question" in the subject line. jewishexponent.com/2020/12/21/dear-miriam-do-virtual-events-require-gifts

Philacatessen

CRANBERRY CAKE

Cranberry sauce perplexes food columnist Keri White a bit because she can't think of too many uses for it other than the Thanksgiving meal. But she found a unique recipe for cranberry cake that doesn't use any leavening, instead relying on the beating of the eggs to help it rise. The cake is not overly sweet, so it could work for dessert or with coffee and tea. Read Philacatessen, her online blog, for the recipe. And check Philacatessen regularly for content not normally found in the printed edition, including other recipes, gift ideas, restaurant reviews and food news from around the Delaware Valley. jewishexponent.com/2020/12/21/cranberry-cake



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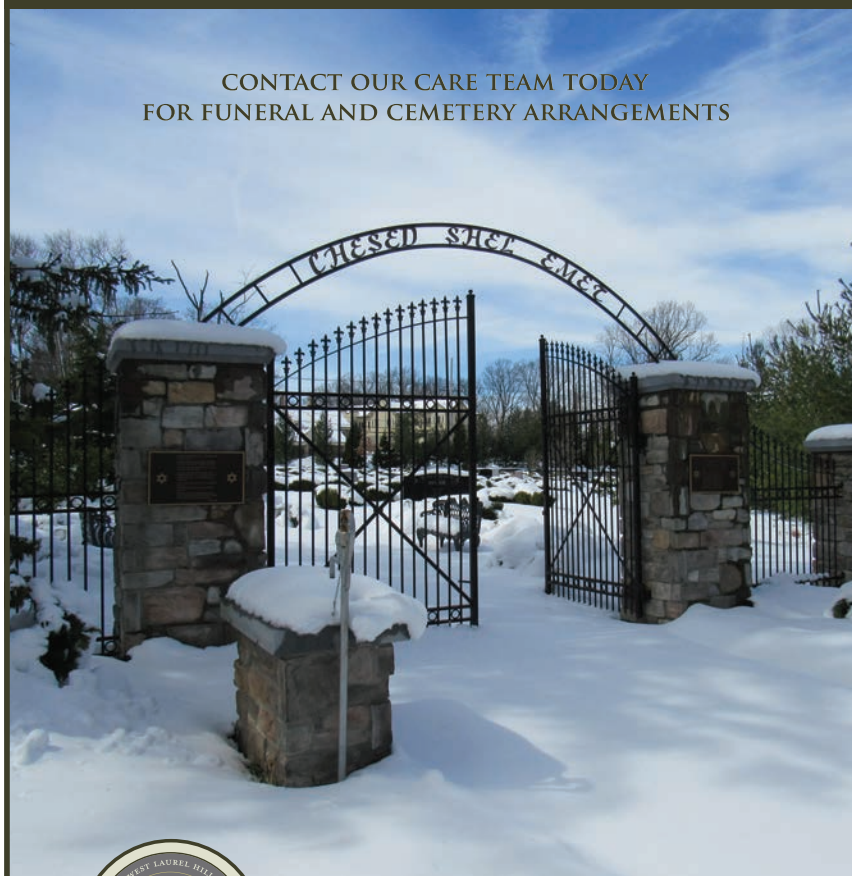
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SNAPSHOT: DECEMBER 24, 1948

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Abelard and Heloise
Floating down the stream of story comes
a legend old and hoary,
Ivied with the echoes of a mythical re-
frain.
Steals into my heart a rev'rie, dream of
grief-engendered fancy,
Song of youthful, yearning passion —
and of pain.

I can see the lovers standing on the
sunlit happy shore,
Dancing scintillations of the Cytherean
sea;
Pulse-beats throb with mystic frenzy,
speeds the blood in wild ducor,
Flushed the light on rose-cheeked faces,
burning to be free.

Freed the struggle, freed the shackles,
freed the garbling qualms of truth;
Sunken is the higher in the willing of
the strong.
Love triumphant sways the spirit, scorned
the dully-plodding earth;
Love is love the same forever, love can
know no wrong.

Comes a storm with black-mouth'd fury,
rushing over land and sea;
Flowers wind-tossed feel the mournful
cadence of the rain.
Comes the gloaming, dismal heavy; and
the sorrow-stricken world,
Sadly sobs in rhythmic movements plaints
of angry pain.

Oh, inexorable! Oh, relentless! Oh, the
bitter, bitter gloom!
Sorrow is an aftermath that pleasure
reaps fore'er.
God, oh, God, where is thy mercy? Life,
oh, life, where is thy need?
Hope is hushed in bitter tears of agonized
despair.

—HORACE STERN

The Historical Society's Meeting

The next meeting of the American Jewish Historical Society will be held in Philadelphia, on the 26th inst., and a hearty reception should be given to the learned members of this organization. Its achievements in the past have been important and its session interesting. The absence of its president, Hon. Oscar S. Strauss, United States Minister to Turkey, will deprive this meeting of his valuable services, but the election of his successor, whose identity it is difficult to forecast, will be a deserved tribute to the founder and most active worker in its ranks. The assignment of this honor will be especially appropriate at the meeting held in Philadelphia.

While the subjects considered at these meetings are largely of antiquarian interest, yet, as it is the sources of our own history that are disclosed, the Jewish public ought to feel an interest in its deliberations and discussions.

Evils of Exclusion and Disfranchisement

Jews have reason to know the evils bound up in legislation excluding races and religions from citizenship and the privileges of subjects of the first class, after we have annexed them and given them the protection of our laws. The troubles in Russia are based on the fact that Jews are not and cannot be citizens; in Roumania, because the law holds them to be aliens; while our enemies in Germany and France say that we are foreign in spirit. We, who have suffered from exclusion and disfranchisement, should strive to save others from such a fate and our beloved country from entering upon a path that repudiates the declaration that all men are created free and equal, and that governments derive their true sanction from the consent of the governed.

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57

Sixers Superfan Returns \$1M of Memorabilia to Baseball Hall of Famer Johnny Bench

LOCAL

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

WHAT'S THE PERFECT gift to celebrate a lifelong friendship?

If you're Alan Horwitz, it's buying your buddy Johnny Bench's baseball memorabilia at auction and returning the items to him and his family.

The Philadelphia real estate developer behind Campus Apartments and famous Philadelphia 76ers "Sixth Man" fan bid \$1 million for various awards, trophies and equipment garnered by the Cincinnati Reds' Hall of Fame catcher over the course of his baseball career.

Horwitz, 76, and Bench, 73, first met on Christmas vacation in San Juan, Puerto Rico, before

Bench started playing for the Reds during the 1967 season. Back then, Horwitz was 23 and just starting out in Philadelphia real estate, and Bench was 19.

"After that, for the next 16 seasons, I met Johnny at every spring training in Tampa and, along with his fans, watched him play at All-Star Games, World Series games and, of course, witnessed his Hall of Fame induction," Horwitz said in a press release from Hunt Auctions, the Exton auction house that ran the 17th annual Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory live auction on Nov. 14.

They struck up a friendship that lasted for years. Whenever the Reds were playing in Philadelphia, Horwitz would arrange lunch or dinner and Bench would give him

tickets to the game.

Horwitz is first and foremost a basketball fan, but this friendship moved him to bid on baseball memorabilia.

"When I learned of the auction of Johnny's memorabilia I felt compelled to participate, with the goal to return some of the items to the Bench family and Johnny's fans," he said in the press release.

He told Action Network he wanted his friend to keep the recognition he deserved.

"There was no way I was going to let Johnny sell these to collectors. Seeing how hard he worked to be recognized that way he was after all these years," he said.

Bench, speaking on The Dan Patrick Show, said Hunt didn't use Horwitz's name

when he shared the results of the auction. Instead, he told him the buyer asked to remain anonymous, but requested that Hunt tell Bench the gift was from "a white-haired old Jew."

Bench only knew one white-haired old Jew — and was immediately overwhelmed.

"David Hunt called me after the auction and asked, 'Are you sitting down?'" he said in the Hunt Auctions press release. "When I heard this, I was flabbergasted and moved to tears. I am truly stunned by Alan's generous gesture and am grateful and proud that these trophies and memorabilia pieces will be on display for millions of fans to experience."

He told Patrick he texted Horwitz once he had composed himself to ask if it was all true.

"Let me know if I'm barking up the wrong Jew," he joked. Horwitz confirmed he wasn't.

Bench told The Associated Press in October that he planned to use the proceeds to fund his youngest sons' college education.

Bench's collection consisted of materials dating from his minor league career until after his final MLB season in 1983. Horwitz bought 35 items, including Bench's 1968 Rookie of the Year Award, 1969 All-Star Game bat, 1970 and 1972 National League MVP Awards, 1975 and 1976 World Series rings, and several of Bench's 10 Gold Glove Awards.

Horwitz's purchases accounted for approximately half the sale of \$2 million, Hunt Auctions reported.

Bench and his family have decided to have the items displayed to the public in institutions like the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, the Reds Hall of Fame and Museum, Oklahoma Hall of Fame and the Johnny Bench Museum in the player's hometown of Binger, Oklahoma.



▲ Johnny Bench's 1975 World Series ring
Courtesy of Hunt Auctions

"There really are no words that can properly describe the generous act of kindness by Alan Horwitz," said David Hunt, president of Hunt Auctions, in his statement. "While the items that Alan purchased totaled over \$1 million in value, I think what is most poignant is the purpose behind the gesture. Alan not only wished to see these incredible baseball artifacts displayed for Johnny's family and fans, but he made it a reality. Through his immense personal success in the business world he never lost sight of his friendship with Johnny and, in turn, enacted one of the most generous endeavors that I have witnessed in my professional career."

Horwitz did have one condition for Bench.

"Alan's only request was to meet my boys, which will happen as soon as we can resume safe travel," Bench said.

The Bench items aren't Horwitz's only major giving project this month.

On Dec. 13, he launched Sixth Man Shop, a sportswear store whose proceeds go to local Philadelphia nonprofits on a rotating basis. The store stocks custom Sixth Man T-shirts, hats, sweatshirts and other gear. The first organization it will support is Philadelphia Youth Basketball. ●

spanzer@jewishexponent.com;
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Robert and Ruth established a Holocaust education endowment fund in memory of his parents, both Holocaust survivors. Each spring, they educate hundreds of local high school students through the Jewish Federation's Youth Symposium on the Holocaust.

Thanks to Robert and Ruth's deep commitment to the Jewish community and their endowment fund, their generosity will extend beyond their lifetimes.

To establish your Jewish legacy, contact Jennifer Brier:
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Cantor, Radio Host Roger Wechsler Dies

OBITUARY

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

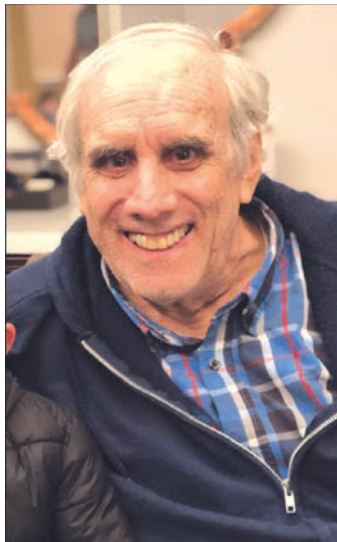
ROGER WECHSLER loved the spotlight.

Whether he was leading services as a cantor, commenting on his sports radio show or instructing students as a substitute teacher, he had a passion for entertaining an audience.

“Dad was definitely a showman his whole life,” daughter Erica Rovinsky said.

Wechsler died Dec. 8 at the age of 72.

Born in Philadelphia to Mildred and Gerald Wechsler, Roger Wechsler was an eldest child with two younger brothers, Peter and Scott. The family later moved to Dresher and joined Temple Sinai, where



▲ Roger Wechsler
Courtesy of Erica Rovinsky

machines and provide unlimited snack access.

“Dad working for a vending machine company, owning a vending machine company

happy with his performance they asked him to stay and fill in until the other cantor returned. He planned to act in a temporary capacity, but his predecessor never recovered enough to resume his full duties, so he remained with the congregation and became a regular cantor, leading services on Fridays and Saturdays.

He and his wife, Robin, raised their children as Conservative Jews. He also regularly led holiday celebrations at relatives’ houses or a country club.

“We had some legendary Passover seders with him leading services upwards of maybe 50 people,” son Jeffrey Wechsler said.

He was an avid Philadelphia sports fan, and the family had two television sets so they

Wechsler said.

He passed his love of sports down to his children, who were both athletes in high school and college. Jeffrey Wechsler took it a step further and pursued a career in sports production, earning three Emmy awards.

“My dad was so super proud of that. If my dad could have worn the Emmy around his neck, he would have,” Rovinsky said.

Jeffrey Wechsler previously worked at ESPN and is now a sports producer at NBC Sports Philadelphia.

“He was pretty happy with that,” he said. “It was a lot of fun when he got to work with me and I could show him around ESPN and Sports Philadelphia.”

Later, Roger Wechsler left the world of business to become a

substitute teacher, and taught in schools in the Philadelphia area for 10 years. Jeffrey Wechsler said he started teaching as a favor to a friend, but began to enjoy being in school, getting to know the students and joking around with them.

He said his father struggled with diabetes in his later years, but was always an energetic grandfather to his two children.

“The last couple of years were really tough, physically, for him. Especially this last, since COVID was really hard,” he said. “But you’d never really know when we FaceTimed. He was just himself, full of energy and love and making the kids laugh.” •

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“The last couple of years were really tough, physically, for him. Especially this last, since COVID was really hard. But you’d never really know when we FaceTimed. He was just himself, full of energy and love and making the kids laugh.”

JEFFREY WECHSLER

he was a member and served as a backup cantor for many years. As an adult, he served as president of the Men’s Club and captain of the softball team.

He graduated from Central High School and earned his undergraduate degree in business from Temple University. After college, he went into business with his brothers at their vending machine company Vendrite. His children have fond memories of him using his master key to pop open

and having all the vending machine goodies at his disposal is definitely a fun memory of mine,” Rovinsky said.

Wechsler was passionate about Judaism and became a cantor at Temple Beth Ami. Rovinsky said he took up the position in 2000 when his friend’s son was having his bar mitzvah and the cantor fell ill. The friend knew it was something that Wechsler would love to do, so he asked him to fill in for the event.

The family and staff were so

could watch games simultaneously if the Flyers were playing at the same time as the Phillies or Eagles.

He hosted the sports talk radio show “Sports Monday With Roger Wechsler” and served as the sports director at WBCB radio station in Fairless Hills for many years.

“He got a chance to sort of live every sports fan’s dream in that he could host his own radio show and, you know, complain about the Phillies and Eagles as much as he wanted to,” Jeffrey

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HEADLINES

Yeshiva U. Students Hold LGBTQ Event

NATIONAL

HANNAH DREYFUS | JTA

TEN YEARS AFTER an event featuring gay students and graduates divided Yeshiva University, students at the Modern Orthodox school planned another event on LGBTQ issues — with trepidation.

The students who helped plan the event set for Dec. 20 said they do not want their names associated with the panel out of concern that it could have negative academic, personal or professional consequences in the Orthodox world. One said he saw rabbis at the school tearing down flyers promoting the virtual event and filed a federal discrimination complaint against the school as a result.

Dr. Chaim Nissel, Yeshiva's vice provost for student affairs, said the school does not comment on discrimination complaints because of privacy concerns. He declined to comment on the incident but said "there is more work to be done" to make the school a "compassionate and respectful campus" for all students.

The school has said it wants to foster "an inclusive community" but has rejected several other efforts by students to organize LGBTQ events or groups on campus. This time, the student organizers secured an official faculty sponsor, hoping for a different outcome.

That sponsor, psychology professor Jenny Isaacs, said the process to gain the university's approval had been "arduous" but that she had taken on the task because she had seen the impact of having gay students feel supported during and after the 2009 event.

"There aren't many moments in life when you are asked to take on some risk in

order to do the right thing, but this was one of them," said Isaacs, who has taught at YU since 2005 and has tenure.

Zipporah Spanjer, a senior at Stern College for women who identifies as queer, said she was surprised that Isaacs had prevailed. "Last I heard it was going to be run unofficially," she said. "In the past, getting any LGBTQ event approved by the university has been like pulling teeth."

The 2009 event, colloquially known at YU and in Orthodox circles as "the gay panel," was a watershed moment for Modern Orthodoxy's flagship institution. While non-Orthodox denominations of Judaism now embrace LGBTQ members, Orthodoxy remains hesitant to do so because of the Torah's edict against homosexuality.

So a live event featuring four students and graduates who identified as gay was a departure. Hundreds of people packed into the university's largest auditorium for the panel, and at least 100 more had to be turned away, according to news reports from the time. On the panel, three alumni of the university and one then-current student described their personal experiences of being rejected, stigmatized and isolated within their Orthodox communities of origin because they were gay.

At the time, a significant donor threatened to withdraw part of a \$30 million donation toward a new learning center on YU's uptown campus if university leaders allowed the panel to take place, according to email exchanges from 2009 and 2010 obtained by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Afterward, the donor accused one of the panelists of having "committed a horrible *chilul hashem* (desecration

See LGBTQ, Page 10

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Jewish Federation Raises \$1M, Secures \$500K Match

LOCAL

ANDY GOTLIEB | JE MANAGING EDITOR

THE JEWISH FEDERATION of Greater Philadelphia announced that its Maimonides Fund reached a \$1 million fundraising goal in just six weeks — and that total will be bolstered by an additional \$500,000 grant from Jewish Federations of North America.

The entire \$1.5 million will be distributed to Jewish community organizations for pandemic-related needs.

Jewish Federation Executive Vice President Melissa Greenberg said the donations received either came from new donors or were from existing donors who went above their prior donation levels.

“People have been beyond generous,” she said. “We really are amazed by the generosity of the community.”

Both professionals and volunteers had one-on-one conversations with potential

donors about contributing, Greenberg said, noting that this is how Jewish Federation can best serve the public.

“We are here to really provide the resources to support people,” she said, adding that the organization is nimble in marshaling assets in times of crisis.

The ongoing pandemic has increased demand on local agencies trying to meet the need of clients — needs such as food insecurity, financial instability, job loss and isolation.

Agencies receiving grants include Abramson Senior Care, Federation Housing, Inc., Female Hebrew Benevolent Society, Friendship Circle, Golden Slipper Gems, Hebrew Free Loan Society, Jewish Family and Children’s Service, JEVS Human Services, Jewish Relief Agency, KleinLife, KAVOD SHEF, Mitzvah Food Program and JCHAI.

Allocations will be used for a variety of needs, including rent relief, home repairs for seniors, extra meals, infor-



▲ Andre Krug Courtesy of KleinLife



▲ Melissa Greenberg Courtesy of Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

“People have been beyond generous. We really are amazed by the generosity of the community.”

MELISSA GREENBERG

Agencies selected to receive funding are on the front lines of meeting pandemic-related needs.

mation technology upgrades for clients, technology assistance, supermarket gifts cards, additional staff, a new refrigerator/freezer, overtime costs, transportation and for buying health and safety items like hand sanitizer and personal protective equipment.

“Food insecurity and mental health are two of the areas we wanted to focus our COVID-19 philanthropic dollars on,” donors Bethany and Garrett Shiner said. “We know that a lot of people are struggling this year and feel fortunate to be able to make our gift go further and help even more people by supporting the Jewish Federation’s Maimonides Fund,”

KleinLife President and CEO Andre Krug said the money his organization receives will be used to buy meals to deliver to homebound seniors.

“Jewish Federation has really stepped up and helped us

since day one” of the pandemic, he said.

KleinLife has delivered about 90,000 meals to more than 600 seniors since the pandemic began. The number of meals delivered each month has nearly tripled since the pandemic began, Krug said.

The fund provided will allow KleinLife to buy about 45,000 meals, Krug said.

Transitioning online required a significant early effort in revamping delivery programs and teaching seniors how to use computers, Krug said. KleinLife is now offering 10 to 15 programs a week online for seniors, in addition to other virtual programming.

“We’re as busy as ever,” he said. “It’s just been a different kind of busy.”

In addition to agencies receiving grants, there will be two other initiatives — an emergency cash assistance fund managed by JFCS that will provide individual grants

to those in need — and an emerging need funds for things such as bulk purchases of tablets to help reduce social isolation, trauma-informed training to care for Holocaust survivors and the acquisition of PPE.

Brian Gralnick, who is Jewish Federation’s director of social responsibility, said agencies are generally seeing increases in the need for their services, which ebbs and flows as the pandemic continues.

“We’re seeing a wide variety of individuals who are coming and seeking support,” he said. “We’ve seen people who’ve never been in these circumstances before.”

He noted that some former agency volunteers are now clients themselves.

Greenberg said the money likely will be distributed in the first quarter of 2021. ●

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HEADLINES

NEWSBRIEFS

Senate Passes Bill Elevating Anti-Semitism Monitor

THE SENATE PASSED A BILL that would elevate the anti-Semitism monitor position to ambassador — adding weight to the envoy's mission of pushing governments elsewhere to confront anti-Jewish bigotry, JTA reported.

"Anti-Semitism continues to rise at an alarming rate across the globe," Sen. Jacky Rosen, D-Nev., who led sponsorship of the bipartisan bill, said in a statement Dec. 16 after the unanimous vote. "To equip the State Department to better address rising anti-Semitism, it is critical that we elevate the role of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism to Ambassador-at-Large."

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a similar bill, making it likely to become law shortly.

A broad array of Jewish groups backed the measure.

The anti-Semitism monitor position was created by Congress in 2004.

Four Convicted for Terrorism in 2015 Charlie Hebdo, Kosher Store Murders

A Paris court convicted one man on Dec. 16 of being an accessory to murder in the 2015 jihadist terror attacks on the Charlie Hebdo satirical magazine and the Hyper Cacher kosher store, JTA reported.

Along with Ali Riza Polat, a 35-year-old French citizen of Turkish descent, three others were convicted of the lesser offense of being a part of a terrorist enterprise. Polat received a 30-year prison sentence, Le Monde reported.

The men were among 14 on trial in connection with the terrorist assaults in January 2015. The actual perpetrators were killed after planning the attacks.

Brothers Said and Cherif Kouachi attacked Charlie Hebdo and were killed there after murdering 12. Partner Amedy Coulibaly killed four at the kosher store two days later before he was shot dead by police. He also killed a police officer.

Polat and the others — Nezar Pastor Alwatik, Amar Ramdani and Willy Prevost, who received sentences ranging from 13-20 years — were prosecuted for providing the killers with the weapons, equipment or intelligence to carry out the attacks.

Six other defendants were convicted of belonging to a criminal enterprise without the aggravated element of terrorism.

EU Court Upholds Belgian Bans on Ritual Slaughter

The European Union's highest court upheld Belgium's bans on slaughtering animals without first stunning them — confirming the prohibition on kosher and halal meat product in parts of Belgium, while clearing the way for other bans across Europe, JTA reported.

The EU Court of Justice ruled Dec. 17 that bans on the slaughter of animals for meat without stunning don't violate EU principles on freedom of worship.

Israel's ambassador to Belgium said the ruling was "a blow to Jewish life in Europe."

Two of Belgium's three states last year banned the slaughter of animals without first stunning them. The laws were passed despite strong objections from Jewish and Muslim community leaders. Several groups, including one that represents French-speaking Jews in Belgium, filed a petition contending that the bans illegally limit religious freedom.

The ruling is a major defeat for efforts underway to challenge similar bans in EU countries including Sweden, Finland, Estonia, and Luxembourg.

Jewish Doctor to Head CDC Under Biden

Rochelle Walensky, the chief of infectious diseases at Massachusetts General Hospital and a professor at Harvard Medical School, was selected by President-elect



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Joe Biden to lead the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, JTA reported.

Biden's transition team said in at Dec. 7 statement that Walensky is a "leading expert on virus testing, prevention, and treatment."

Walensky told Boston's Jewish Journal in April that she sought solace in her Jewish community as she faced down the disease.

"I said to them, the last time I spoke with them, 'I'm thinking I need you more than you need me,'" Walensky said. "I have a sense it's getting emotionally pretty hard. I certainly have everybody's cell phone number ... I may need to use it in the weeks ahead."

Coffee Table That Helped Stop Chanukah Attack in Monsey, New York, Turned Into a Menorah Stand

A coffee table used to repel an attack last year at a Chanukah celebration in Monsey, New York, was turned into a dreidel-shaped menorah stand, JTA reported.

A machete-wielding man, who was later ruled incompetent to stand trial, entered the house of a Chasidic rabbi on Dec. 28, 2019 and began stabbing the guests, one of whom later died. Party guest Joseph Gluck picked up the coffee table and threw it at the man, who later fled.

The menorah stand has the Hebrew words "A big miracle happened here" emblazoned on its sides. •

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

LGBTQ

Continued from Page 6

of God) in public, which is a grave sin in the eyes of the G-d of Israel, and its people," according to one email.

While university administrators allowed the event to proceed, they issued multiple statements in the days afterward distancing themselves from it.

"Homosexual activity constitutes an abomination," the school's five top rabbis said in one statement. Then-president Richard Joel and Yona Reiss, then dean of the rabbinical school, issued a separate statement saying that public events must be clear about what halacha, traditional Jewish law, says about homosexuality.

"Sadly, as we have discovered, public gatherings addressing these issues, even when well-intentioned, could send the wrong message and obscure the Torah's

requirements," they said.

The statements ground to a halt whatever momentum some students felt around YU becoming a more welcoming environment for gay students. In more recent years, some students have reported an atmosphere of increasing tolerance, including from Joel, but the university's policies have remained firm, and student efforts to advance inclusion have met roadblocks.

In September 2019, the school denied students a permit to hold a Pride march on campus; about 100 marched nearby instead. Spanjer said she hung flyers afterward in the main building of the women's campus with mostly anonymous quotes from LGBTQ students describing the difficulties they faced on campus. Within two days, all the flyers had been removed, she said.

In February, seven student activists filed a complaint charging discrimination with

the New York City Commission on Human Rights. The case is ongoing. And this fall, the university denied club status to a gay-straight student alliance on campus, meaning that the group would need to meet off campus. At the same time, the university announced policies it said was meant to make LGBTQ students feel more included.

Spanjer said she filed a federal discrimination complaint with the campus Title IX coordinator, in keeping with federal regulations that require schools to put in place procedures for students to file complaints of discrimination based on sex or sexual orientation. She said she learned earlier this month that an investigation had concluded that the complaint was unfounded.

Isaacs said she was able to convince university authorities to allow the upcoming event only by emphasizing that it is intended to "alleviate the

negative outcomes associated with LGBTQ youth who do not have social support," not tell students that it is OK to be gay.

"There is still tension between many of those with religious authority and the student body," said Isaacs, who said the "hesitancy" she confronted at first was "soothed by reiterating that the panel is not a conversation about religious values, or even about the university's values, but a forum to support students and further the university's goal of inclusion."

Since announcing the event earlier this month, student volunteers say they have received a positive response from students but a muted — and at times outright negative — response from university faculty.

One student organizer told JTA he witnessed two different faculty rabbis ripping down flyers he hung up on the uptown campus to publicize the event. (While most classes are taking place virtually due to COVID-19, the uptown yeshiva is persevering with in-person Talmud study.)

The student, who requested anonymity to avoid backlash, said he confronted both rabbis personally before reporting the incidents to an administrator and filing two Title IX complaints. He said the administrator declined his suggestion to send out a university-wide email or take any public stance condemning the flyers' removal.

"I would expect this kind of thing from some of the faculty rabbis, but it's more concerning to me that the administration wasn't willing to do anything about it," the student said.

Nissel, one of the administrators, wrote in an email that YU is "striving to create an understanding, compassionate and respectful campus for all our faculty, students and staff."

"There is more work to be done and we are continuing to design programs and convene conversations to deepen the respect and compassion that is the hallmark of Torah character

and community," Nissel said.

Rachael Fried, the executive director of JQY, a nonprofit that supports Jewish LGBTQ youth, said compassion is not sufficient. Research shows that LGBTQ young adults who do not feel supported are at elevated risk for depression and suicide.

"YU is taking some steps in the right direction. But it's not enough to say you're a safe and welcoming space, you have to prove that with actions," she said. "You have to work to build the trust of a community that has been systematically rejected for so long."

It is "telling," Fried said, "that students are not comfortable with their names being associated with this event."

Spanjer said she understands why that is: "They're worried about the response from family, friends and the possibility of discrimination from future employers. I'm OK being out, but I understand that's a privileged attitude. Many don't have the luxury of a support network."

Some Orthodox LGBTQ advocates say the event's very existence suggests that the university has come a long way.

It's an "undeniable sign of progress," said YU graduate Mordechai Levovitz, who was on the 2009 panel and said he faced an intense backlash afterward, including having his social media accounts hacked. "We can celebrate this while still saying we can do better."

Levovitz now works as JQY's clinical director. Reflecting on what has changed since 2009, he said, "Back then, it was a *chiddush* that there were gay people at YU," he said, using the colloquial Talmudic term for a novelty. Today, he said, it is more open, but "still dangerous, scary and problematic to be an LGBTQ person at YU. That's why it's so important to have another panel like this, so fellow students and faculty understand what it's like to be queer on this campus." •



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HEADLINES

ISRAEL BRIEFS

UAE Visits Popular With Israelis

MORE THAN 50,000 ISRAELIS have visited the United Arab Emirates since the nation's normalization pact with Israel, JTA reported, citing a Washington Post article.

That number came after only two weeks of open commercial flights between the countries, which signed their agreement in August. Thousands more were expected to visit during Chanukah.

The Post report said the Jewish community center in the capital of Dubai is increasing its staff from five to "about 30" employees — and that nearly 150 restaurants are now serving kosher food. A mikvah is planned "befitting Dubai's luxury standards."

"It will probably be the nicest mikvah in the world," said Rabbi Mendel Duchman, who works for the JCC.

Israelis Skeptical of COVID-19 Vaccines

Just 40% of Israelis polled by the Jerusalem-based Israel Democracy Institute said they were willing to participate in the first round of COVID-19 vaccinations, JTA reported.

Of those 40%, half said they were convinced they would agree to vaccinations, while the remainder said they thought they would agree.

"People are afraid that because the vaccine hasn't been tested for as long as other vaccines that were developed in the past that maybe we don't know everything about the long-term effects," said Dr. Or Anabi, an institute researcher.

In a separate poll conducted by Haifa University, "7.7 percent of Jewish men, 29.4 percent of Arab men, 17.2 percent of Jewish women and 41.2 percent of Arab women would refuse the vaccine under any circumstances."

Israel has ordered millions of vaccine doses, which were developed jointly by Pfizer and BioNTech

Israel Formalizes Ties with Bhutan, Morocco

Israel formalized ties to both Bhutan and Morocco, JTA reported.

Bhutan, a small Buddhist majority Himalayan kingdom, already had informal and cordial ties with Israel, including receiving agricultural training from Israel since the 1980s. The country's constitutional monarchy is known for policies eschewing materialism in favor of seeking "gross national happiness."

In addition, Morocco announced it will recognize Israel, making it the fourth Arab country this year to do so, joining the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Sudan. Israel also has relations with Egypt and Jordan.

Moroccan King Mohammed VI has a Jewish adviser and the country opened a Jewish culture center earlier this year. There are approximately 3,000 Jews in Morocco, down from the 200,000 who lived there before Israel's establishment. Morocco also grows etrogs, the citrus fruit Jews use ritually on the holiday of Sukkot, and have exported them to Israel.

Poverty in Israel Up Sharply Because of Pandemic

Israeli poverty has increased by more than 50% since the pandemic began, Globes reported, citing a report by poverty and food insecurity nongovernmental organization Latet.

The percentage of households living in economic distress climbed from 24.1% to 38.6%. The number of families living below the poverty line increased to 850,000 (29.3%) compared to 582,000 a year earlier.

The report concluded that only 25% of Israeli households "are doing fine economically." •

Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

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Mann

Continued from Page 1

president, adopted an unprecedented statement warning that Israel's failure to divest itself of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip would eventually force it to choose between being a Jewish state and a democracy.

Siegel said Mann, who lost numerous relatives to the Holocaust, thought it was worth giving up land to save Jewish lives.

"He really did care about every Jew," Siegel said, adding that Mann pushed for others to be involved with the Jewish community. "Nobody wanted to say 'no' to Ted Mann."

The Washington Post, among other publications, published obituaries of Mann, who was almost better known outside of Philadelphia than within it. The Post quoted Rabbi David Saperstein, director emeritus of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, talking about Mann's influence: "When others were challenging the right of American Jews holding dovish views on Israel-Palestinian issues to speak out publicly in criticism of Israeli policy," Saperstein said, "Ted helped lead the argument asserting

not only the moral right but moral obligation of critics to speak out."

As chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Mann flew with then-Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin to Egypt to celebrate the signing of a peace treaty with the country, later falling asleep during a belly dance show.

Mann also chaired the Israel Policy Forum, launched Project Nishma to support the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, was a trustee at the New Israel Fund, was involved with the Jewish Council for Public Affairs and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, and was the founding chairman of Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger in 1985. In 2012, he published a memoir entitled "If I Am Only for Myself."

"He was at the forefront of social justice in the country generally, and certainly in the Jewish community," Abby J. Leibman, Mazon's president and CEO, told the Post. "You felt that from the moment you were in his presence. There was a force of both passion and compassion that emanated from him in everything he said or expressed."



▲ Legal lion Theodore "Ted" Mann died of COVID-19 last week.

Photo via JTA

Born in Czechoslovakia in 1928, Mann came to the U.S. as a baby. He served in the U.S. Army and later earned a law degree from Temple University. He argued several religious freedom cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mann was one of the founding partners of Mann, Ungar, Spector & Labovitz, which focused on complex commercial litigation, though he also collaborated on friend of the court briefs regarding First Amendment cases, former partner Marc J. Zucker wrote in an email.

Those cases included the early portions of Abington School District v. Schempp, a 1963 case where the court ruled 8-1 that it was unconstitutional for a school to sponsor Bible readings.

"It was an honor to practice law with Ted, trying cases together and formulating strategy. He was a brilliant litigator, a forceful advocate and a true mentor to me," Zucker wrote. "He had an intuitive understanding of human nature, a keen business acumen and was a terrific storyteller — all great assets as a commercial litigator."

"He was a fabulous lawyer," fellow law partner Barry Ungar said, adding that in 31 years of

their partnership, they never had a major disagreement. "I learned my craft from him."

Ungar said Mann demonstrated unwavering integrity. When Mann was asked to serve a two-year term to lead the Conference of Presidents, he made sure to clear it first with Ungar, his sole partner then, because he was worried about the potential revenue loss from having to split his time.

Mann also was witness to numerous historical events, which he related in Jewish Exponent articles.

Mann recounted in a 2013 article how he was present during Dr. Martin Luther King's iconic "I Have a Dream" speech in Washington, D.C., in August 1963, but didn't hear a word. He was near the stage by the Lincoln Memorial listening to Rabbi Joachim Prinz who spoke right before King. But Mann fainted from the heat.

"Somehow, the people that ran the enormous event got a stretcher into this phenomenal crowd," he said. "I was really pissed off. King's speech turned out to be everything. It was a great occasion."

The following year, upon the death of Ariel Sharon, Mann detailed his 1979 interaction with the former Israeli

prime minister. At the time, Sharon was Israel's agriculture minister, while Mann chaired the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations — and opposed Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. Sharon wanted him to change his viewpoint.

"He never took no for an answer," Mann said of Sharon. "He flew us around in his helicopter to the various settlements he wanted us to see."

One of Mann's daughters, Julie, said that her father was modest about his accomplishments and allowed his children to pursue their own interests. Mann was inquisitive in conversation, and loved to laugh.

"As somebody said in the shiva, he led several different lives," Julie Mann said. "And he really gave his full self to all of them."

Mann is survived by daughters Julie Mann (Ernie Cohen) of Wyncote and Rachel Mann of Philadelphia, son Marcus Mann of Philadelphia, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Additional reporting by Ben Harris for JTA •

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Vaccine

Continued from Page 1

Moishe House Philly, is eligible to receive the vaccine because she works at the newly developed citywide clinics providing vaccinations to health care workers who are unaffiliated with hospital systems.

Dr. Steven Sivak, president of Einstein Physicians Philadelphia at Einstein Healthcare Network, leads the network's COVID-19 task force and is responsible for its vaccine rollout. In the face of limited doses, that means deciding who will get access first.

"We decided a couple of months ago that we were going to try to develop the most ethical approach possible. And what we did was we took into account professional risk and personal risk," said Sivak, who is Jewish.

Professional risk is based on a recipient's job. Workers in the emergency room, the intensive care unit or the anesthesiology department have the highest professional risk because they treat patients in an environment where respiratory droplets and aerosols can spread the virus.

Personal risk is based on age and health. If a staff member is over 65 or has an underlying condition, such as diabetes or heart disease, they are also considered high risk and eligible to get the vaccine early.

Dr. Richard Fine, who is also Jewish, faces both professional risk as network chair of the department of anesthesiology at Einstein and personal risk as a survivor of leukemia and melanoma. On the morning of Dec. 16, he got the shot.

"I truly feel privileged to have received it early on," he said.

Albert Gutmaker, a senior respiratory therapist who has worked at Einstein for more than 47 years, faces personal and professional risk as a front-line worker over 65. He also was vaccinated on Dec. 16.

He said it added new meaning to his Chanukah celebrations this year.



▲ Dr. Steven Sivak, right, speaks with Dr. Eric Sachinwalla at Einstein Medical Center Philadelphia.

Photo by Wesley Hllton

■ We decided a couple of months ago that we were going to try to develop the most ethical approach possible. And what we did was we took into account professional risk and personal risk."

DR. STEVEN SIVAK

"One day of an injection will lead to many years of life. We can call the Chanukah festival a Festival of Life," he said.

Sivak said administering Pfizer's vaccine is a complex process. Unlike a typical flu shot, the COVID-19 vaccine must be chilled at -94 degrees Fahrenheit and thawed before it is reconstituted. Once thawed, health care workers have six hours to administer the vaccine before it goes bad at room temperature.

At Einstein, recipients have to sit for a few minutes after getting the shot so they can be monitored for allergic reactions. They leave the vaccination site with instructions for how to monitor and report side effects.

Fine said staff were notified of the possibility of a low-grade fever, fatigue, aches and chills. If those symptoms did not resolve within the first two days, they would be evaluated in the emergency room.

"We've worked hard to differentiate the symptoms of

a significant COVID exposure versus a side effect of the vaccine itself. And that's hugely important because we certainly want to optimize our health care force to return to work," Fine said.

All staff members who are vaccinated must have their vaccine information entered in an electronic medical record and receive a second dose 21 days later.

Despite these complicated steps, Sivak said the first vaccine session on Dec. 16 went so smoothly the task force decided to add a fifth vaccinator and reduce appointment times from every 15 minutes to every 12 minutes. They will also start vaccinating people six days a week rather than every other day.

Sivak said Einstein hopes to administer the rest of its first doses by Dec. 30, and will receive 1,950 more vaccines to provide second doses. This will be enough to vaccinate almost half of Einstein's workforce.

Although Fine feels fortunate to be an early recipient of

the vaccine, he acknowledged that he felt a bit apprehensive.

"On a personal note, I'm certainly not cavalier about my own health care. And I took the time to email my own oncologist and say, 'What do you think about this, based upon my medical history?'" he said. "And in capitals, he said, 'Get the vaccine. The risk of COVID far outweighs the issues with regard to your medical history.'"

Gutmaker felt some soreness at his injection site, but it only lasted for a couple of hours. Leeman experienced some achiness that also passed quickly. Fine feels as though he has gotten any other vaccine. He is, however, anticipating more side effects once he receives his second dose on Jan. 5 based on the studies he has seen.

He looks forward to the relief that day will bring, and the relief more doses will bring to his colleagues, who have been fighting on the front lines of the pandemic for nine long

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months. His staff face particularly high risk because they are responsible for intubating COVID patients.

"I have a member of my staff that intubated someone to put them on a ventilator that was unfortunately an Einstein employee. The last thing he said to my colleague was, 'I hope you're not the last human being that I ever see,'" he said.

Gutmaker, who has lost several friends to coronavirus, said it was important for people to remember that other safety measures have to be taken in addition to the vaccine to stop the spread. Scientists do not yet know whether the vaccine can prevent people from passing the virus on to others, even while the recipients avoid the worst of its effects, so masks and social distancing must continue until more people have immunity.

"The Army, the Navy, the Air Force, Marines, they all work together in a war to win. Well, you have Pfizer, Moderna, two other vaccine developers. You've got masks. You've got disinfecting agents and all that. They're all the military forces we have available to beat this thing. And we can do it, but it's a matter of cooperation, coordination and caring, more than anything else, caring about other people and yourself," he said. ●

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How Gal Gadot Is Changing the Image of the Jewish Woman



BY BENJAMIN KERSTEIN | ALGEMEINER

IF THERE IS SUCH a thing as the most famous Israeli or even the most famous Jew in the world, it is in all likelihood the actress Gal Gadot. Indeed, when a film like “Wonder Woman” is a hit from the U.S. to China and back again, it could hardly be otherwise.

One imagines that the film has thousands, perhaps millions, of fans who have never heard of, say, Benjamin Netanyahu. Being a prominent world leader is one thing — being a blockbuster movie star is quite another.

Generally speaking, Israelis and Jews are fairly proud of Gadot’s success, mainly because she is seen as an excellent, if informal, cultural ambassador for the Jewish state. And Gadot, unlike previous Israeli international stars, plays roles more

in accordance with Israel’s sabra archetype — the Zionist “new Jew” liberated from the Diaspora: beautiful, smiling, athletic, slightly exotic and with just a touch of swagger.

She feels, in other words, both genuinely Israeli and very much the image Israelis would like to present to the world.

More than anything else, however, Gadot is unapologetic, completely open about her Israeli and Jewish identities, with none of the cringing deference other Jewish celebrities often make to potentially hostile audiences.

But there is something else Gadot is doing, perhaps involuntarily, that is less tangible and less connected to Israel per se: By simply being who she is with the celebrity she enjoys, Gadot is remaking the cultural image of Jewish women in the non-Jewish world.

Over the last century, non-Jewish cultural products — and, regrettably, quite a few Jewish ones — have tended to portray Jewish women according to a rather small set of derogatory stereotypes: the ugly but conveniently promiscuous slut; the materialist, demanding and sexually withholding JAP; and, of

course, the grasping and suffocating Jewish mother.

None of these are particularly appealing stereotypes, and they weren’t meant to be. Nonetheless, they were and, in many ways, still are immensely popular, especially in American cultural products, where they are usually played for cheap laughs and tend to get them.

It should be noted that this is, in fact, a relatively new development. For most of Diaspora history, such as in Shakespeare’s “Merchant of Venice” and 19th-century European literature, the “Jewess” was in fact seen as an exotic, highly sexualized and desirable object: the beautiful, inscrutable woman of the East who the non-Jewish man sought to capture and conquer. This was, of course, an equally derogatory stereotype in its own way, but it does point to the fact that the image of the Jewish woman in non-Jewish eyes has always been a malleable one, and subject to rapid change.

What Gadot — or at least the image of Gadot — is accomplishing, however, is something quite new: She is remaking the image of the Jewish woman via Israeli means. That is to

say, the image is finally being remade by Jews. While it still has remnants of the old stereotypes, especially of the exotic Oriental, it nonetheless is taking place almost entirely on Gadot’s own terms. That is, on Jewish terms, and this is something that, interestingly, the non-Jewish world appears finally ready to accept.

One can see this in the very fact of Gadot’s casting as Wonder Woman. While comic book films are, of course, not profound art, they do speak to the collective unconscious of a particular culture. Wonder Woman has for decades been a feminist icon around the world; an embodiment of the ideas of female strength, intelligence, beauty and power.

And the film itself was also groundbreaking, not only because it was the first female-led superhero blockbuster. More important was the uniqueness of the story it told — most superhero “origin stories” are about the coming of age of a young boy, a classic universal archetype. “Wonder Woman” was about the coming of age of a young girl, introducing a new universal archetype into mainstream pop cinema. That the non-Jewish world has

proven itself willing to not only accept a Jewish actress in such a role, but to embrace it enthusiastically, is in historical context fairly remarkable.

It is true that, in some ways, Gadot had to be Israeli to accomplish this. Israel’s relatively unusual policy of drafting women into the army has long created an underground fetish for such things as “the girls of the IDF” — that is, powerful and forceful women who can hold their own among men — and it was likely that putting a non-Israeli Jew in such a role would have been a step slightly too far for an ever-cautious Hollywood. But by giving the world a new image of how a Jewish woman can and ought to be seen, Gadot’s success may be a step toward changing this.

Jewish girls around the world can look at Wonder Woman and see themselves in a way they cannot with other female heroines, and perhaps they too will begin to insist on putting an end to pernicious stereotypes that have already persisted for far too long. •

Benjamin Kerstein is a columnist and Israel correspondent for The Algemeiner.

Why Christmas Is the Best Day to Be a Jew



BY ALEX KIRSHNER

THE CHRISTIANS OF my childhood tried hard to make me feel welcome around

Christmas, and they succeeded as much as possible in a Catholic and Protestant suburb of Pittsburgh.

Our next-door neighbors invited my family to their big Christmas Eve party every year. The crowd always welcomed us, and eventually we reached a customary status as the Jews of the party. We were among the last to leave, with a short commute and no church the next morning.

Christmas could be hard, though, especially early on. When you are 5, the slow

drip of Chanukah presents doesn’t match a bearded man chimneying in to shower you with gifts all at once. (And when you are 5, you don’t realize how lucky you are to get gifts at all.) A menorah in the window for eight days doesn’t match extravagant lights all over the yard for a whole month. Christmas isn’t for us, and it’s hard for a kid to internalize the notion that something so culturally dominant is not for you. Shouldn’t everything be for you?

But adulthood brings wisdom. As I’ve aged, I’ve

come to view Christmas as a uniquely wonderful experience for American Jews. In fact, when I look upon Christmas through a particular lens, Dec. 25 reveals itself as the single best day of the year to be Jewish.

As Jews, we spend a lot of time being yelled at. Even when we are not being implicated in world-dominating conspiracy theories by anti-Semites, life is hectic. But on Christmas, there may be nobody at all to even bother us, much less subject us to their worst vitriol. In fact, on

Christmas, Jews can enjoy an almost unprecedented serenity.

Even before a pandemic relegated many Americans to work-from-home setups that tore down whatever thin boundaries existed between work and home, it had become difficult to live a single day of responsibility-free life without going on a solo vacation or throwing your phone into a lake. Even then, your boss or someone in your house might find you and ask for something.

See Kirshner, **Page 15**

Has COVID Killed the B'nei Mitzvah Party?



BY RABBI ALEX LAZARUS-KLEIN

I REMEMBER MY bar mitzvah party well, not because of how big it was, but because of how small.

As a middle class child going to a wealthy suburban Jewish day school, I knew how outlandish some of the parties could be — large halls, DJs, and five course meals. Even the invitations were big, arriving in the mail with intricate packaging as a signal of just how expensive the affair would be. One of my classmates was carried out on a throne to begin the festivities.

For me, it was terrible. I actually had to go to the guidance counselor for support. My parents tried hard, but all they could afford was a small band and a buffet style meal. As a 13-year-old, I was mortified.

The competition has only grown fiercer over the years. “Keeping Up With the Steins” was funny, not because it was

satire, but because of how close it was to reality.

In the age of COVID, all of that has been thrown out the window, replaced by small outdoor gatherings at the family home — that is, if the weather cooperates. Early on in the pandemic, a family had wanted to use the synagogue parking lot to host a socially distanced gathering, complete with food trucks and a sibling musical act. Even that seemed outlandish.

Both as a pulpit rabbi and a father of an upcoming bat mitzvah student, I must say I am relieved.

The battle over family status and bragging rights has grown old. While b'nei mitzvahs where I live in western New York tend to be a little more subdued, they still can wreak havoc on the family budget. Not only that, they take away from the real purpose of the event: to celebrate the accomplishments of a young woman or man becoming a Jewish adult.

During the past eight months, I have witnessed the most meaningful b'nei mitzvah ceremonies in my career. Despite the obstacles, the students and their families have risen to the occasion, overcoming great odds to demonstrate their commitment to a 4,000-year-old

faith. Whether via Zoom or in person, the look they have given me after it is all over has been priceless.

At my niece's recent celebration in Philadelphia, my sister-in-law remarked at how meaningful it all had been, even more so than those of her other children. I have to agree. Not because the others didn't do an amazing job — they did — but because this one had to be earned. Reading Torah and Haftarah in an almost empty sanctuary was far from ideal, but it helped remind everyone why we were there in the first place.

As we prepare for my daughter's bat mitzvah later on in 2021, I have to ponder if this will become the new normal. Even after the vaccine has arrived, can we please take stock of the new rituals that have been developed and never look back? •

Alex Lazarus-Klein is the rabbi of Congregation Shir Shalom, a dual affiliated Reform and Reconstructionist Congregation in Buffalo, New York. He is a participant in the fourth cohort of the Clergy Leadership Incubator: Training Visionary Spiritual Leaders for the American Jewish Community sponsored by Hazon: The Jewish Lab for Sustainability. This piece was first published by eJewishPhilanthropy.com.

KVETCH 'N' KVELL

Cantor Mourns Cohen's Death

I JUST PICKED UP my Exponent and was beyond saddened to learn of the passing of Elias Cohen (“Advocate for Elderly Elias Surut Cohen Dies at 93,” Dec. 17).

There was a whole aspect to Cohen's persona that should be mentioned, especially poignant for me at this moment in that in a few hours I will kindle the last candle of Chanukah.

Cohen singlehandedly maintained all the religious objects at Main Line Reform Temple for more than 30 years, including the many *chanukiyot* in the Temple's possession. This was not a few hours' work. He came into the building weeks before the High Holidays, painstakingly cared for every kiddush cup, Havdala set, Torah breastplate, Shabbat candelabrum, etrog holder, Megillah container, Passover plate and other objects beyond counting.

This was not the act of someone who expected or wanted recognition. As always, Cohen simply saw a need and quietly stepped up. He did it because he loved the *klei kodesh* (sacred objects) that beautify Jewish life. Most people were unaware of Cohen's contribution but, when the Holy Ark was opened on Erev Rosh Hashanah, his handiwork gleamed as brightly as did his soul.

May this beloved shammash be bound up in the bonds of life eternal. •

Marshall Portnoy, cantor emeritus | Main Line Reform Temple

STATEMENT FROM THE PUBLISHER

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

A NOTICE TO OUR READERS

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

Kirshner

Continued from Page 14

The bill from ignoring them comes due within days.

Unless, of course, you are observing Jewish Christmas.

To be a Jew on Christmas is to spend an entire day doing either nothing at all or whatever you want. Like most Jewish families, mine had traditions for this day. I kept a strict calendar growing up: Wake up (whenever I wanted), clean out

my closet (whenever I wanted, or skip it), shoot baskets at the still-open JCC (whenever I wanted), go sit in a 100-seat auditorium to watch a movie with 30 other people, nearly all of them from our synagogue (whenever I wanted, pending showtimes), and go for Chinese food, coincidentally with many of the same people. I just as easily could have done none of these things and faced no consequences or guilt.

When I moved away from home and joined the

workforce, I adopted a new Jewish Christmas tradition: to talk to exactly one person all day, and for that person to be the woman who took orders over the phone at a Chinese restaurant on 14th Street in Washington, D.C. Roommates need me to clean the kitchen? No, they're home with their families. Colleagues need something? No, this is the one day they're not on Slack. Parents want to talk?

See Kirshner, Page 19

Be heard.



Email your letters
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JEWISH EXPONENT

Green Curry Chicken

FOOD

KERI WHITE | JE FOOD COLUMNIST

WITH THE CHILL in the air these days, I am craving hearty, warming foods. Stews, soups, roasts, casseroles.

Lately, I've branched out from my typical palate into some Thai flavors. This recipe was simple, and the results were quite good. Many supermarkets carry jarred curry pastes, and these would all work well in this recipe, but I was fortunate enough to source mine from Kalaya Market.

Like many restaurants these days, Kalaya has had to retool. The creative chef/owner Nok Santaroanon did so rather nimbly, opening a Thai market on Ninth Street to supplement her acclaimed restaurant just a block away.

The market houses a rotating menu of Thai dishes, along with the building blocks for meals using Santaroanon's handcrafted spice blends and curry pastes, sauces, salads, dumplings and other ingredients. They also offer expert advice on how to use the ingredients, how to assemble meals using their offerings and simple recipes.

Curry paste can be used as a rub, a marinade, the base for a sauce or a way to add zing to soup or stew. I have not tried putting it over cereal or in coffee, but give me time. A little goes a long way, and it can be mixed with oil, broth, coconut milk or water to dilute the intensity.

In the recipe below, I used the paste as both a marinade and the base for the sauce.

The curry delivered plenty of complexity and flavor, so I kept the sides pretty simple — brown basmati rice and sautéed broccoli/cauliflower.

There is a lot going on flavor-wise in this meal, and the curry is quite filling, so we skipped dessert. But if you have a hankering for something sweet, I suggest keeping it simple: Fruit sorbet, fresh mango or pineapple, dark chocolates, sponge cake or spiced cookies would complete this meal nicely without being overly heavy.

GREEN CURRY CHICKEN

Serves 4-6

I kept this straightforward, using just carrots and chicken in the curry, but you could branch out with other protein or vegetables. If you use fish, I would not marinate it for longer than 30 minutes, and the cooking time would be cut in half. This would lend itself well to tofu, chickpeas and/or a mélange of vegetables.



▲ Thai dinner

Photo by Keri White

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That's what we call house to house service.

- 2 pounds boneless chicken breasts or thighs, cut in bite-sized pieces
- 1 tablespoon green curry paste (plus more if needed)
- ½ teaspoon salt, plus more to taste
- 2 tablespoons mild oil like vegetable or canola, plus more for sautéing
- 2 carrots, sliced in coins
- 1 can coconut milk
- 1 cup water or broth
- Juice of 1 lime
- Chopped fresh cilantro for serving

Place the chicken, curry paste and 2 tablespoons of oil in a sealable container. Mix to coat and refrigerate for at least 2 hours.

In a pan with a lid, heat a light coating of oil and add the chicken with the marinade. Add the salt and carrots, and sauté until the chicken is seared.

Add the coconut milk and

water, bring it to a boil, lower the heat, cover and simmer for 1 hour until the chicken is done and tender.

Taste for seasoning, then add the juice of the lime, salt and a bit more curry paste, if desired. Serve over rice or Thai noodles topped with fresh cilantro.

SAUTÉED BROCCOLI AND CAULIFLOWER

Serves 4

I loved this color combo — I had purple cauliflower, which looked beautiful on the plate with the bright green broccoli. Sautéing this with garlic and ginger added just enough to keep the vegetables interesting and in the theme of the meal without overpowering the curry.

If you don't have this combo, a whole head of either one works fine. And if you don't love this vegetable choice, you can use this recipe with whatever you

like — just be sure to adjust the cooking time depending on the size and hardness of the vegetable. Sweet potatoes, turnips, parsnips or collards will take a while, but string beans and spinach are quick.

If you have leftovers, toss these in a green salad for lunch or dinner tomorrow and spritz it with some lime, salt, pepper and oil.

- ½ head broccoli, cut in florets
- ½ head purple cauliflower, cut in florets
- 1-inch piece ginger, grated
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- ¼ teaspoon salt

Heat the oil with salt, garlic and ginger over medium-high heat in a large skillet. Stir until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add the vegetables and stir-fry until cooked to crisp-tender, about 8 minutes. Serve immediately. ●

‘Mayor’ Makes Mundane Matters Meaningful

FILM

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

THE FIRST TIME we see Ramallah Mayor Musa Hadid, subject of David Osit’s new documentary “Mayor,” he’s striding into the lobby of Ramallah City Hall.

A waist-high decorative snowman wearing a Santa Claus outfit greets Hadid with a black half-ramp of a smile. There are potted plants. There is a vending machine in the lobby, which is presumably restocked semi-regularly.

In Hadid’s first meeting of the movie (which is largely in Arabic, but subtitled in English), a goofily boring exploration of Ramallah’s “city branding,” the slideshow is shown with a Microsoft operating system. Out front, there is a fountain, with lights.

Ramallah City Hall and the duties of the people who walk its halls — trash collection, street cleaning, filling potholes and, yes, city branding — are totally and completely mundane. It is a place where city council, led by Hadid, administers municipal services to a city of about 35,000 people. In this mundanity, Osit finds an utterly compelling story.

The movie is an interesting departure from the usual conversation about Israel and Palestine. Even the most fervent partisans could write the other side’s lines at this point. The positions have been stated and restated. With the collected text of cable news screaming matches, seder table debates and poorly formatted chain emails, you could teach computers how to argue about disengaging from Gaza in 2004.

And when it comes to movies, if you want to find the one that adheres to your exact view of what’s happened, it’s out there, surely.

Meanwhile, people die,



▲ Mayor Musa Hadid watches a Christmas celebration.

Courtesy of Rosewater Pictures

become embittered and dig in further. Generations of Israelis feel besieged and generations of Palestinians feel dispossessed.

But while the fates of Israelis and Palestinians are played out in the halls of power, in Washington, in Jerusalem, someone has to make sure that in Ramallah, the Christmas tree lighting ceremony is properly sequenced (national anthem, *then* moment of silence). Someone has to be in charge of deciding whether “WeRamallah” is meant to use the “R” as a stand-in for the word “are.” After clashes between Israeli soldiers and Palestinians clear, someone has to go around and put out the literal fires.

In Ramallah, that someone is Musa Hadid, a man seemingly born with a hand clasped to his forehead, when it’s not holding an e-cigarette.

Hadid is the tired mayor at the center of the movie, bearer of a deeply lined face and a bushy, graying mustache. It’s a good face, one that Osit keeps his camera on for much of the movie.

Hadid rubs his eyes and his temples with regularity, smiles at Prince William during his official visit, looks upon soldiers in the street with horror, and at the naive German parliamentary delegation with

indignation. When a teacher demonstrates the crappy doors on her classroom, he frowns.

“I can’t bear to see these doors again next years,” Hadid grumbles.

Even when Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh is telling cameras that he hopes Easter will be celebrated in Jerusalem next year, it’s Hadid’s face in the foreground, seemingly occupied with more immediate matters.

That shot encapsulates the spirit of the movie. The day-to-day is the focus, with the exceptional nature of the occupation as the contextualizing backdrop. The most moving sequences of “Mayor” return to this reality repeatedly; one montage early on, preceding a protest quelled with tear gas and bullets, shows American restaurants, social media logos on a billboard, hands raised in protest, fences, trucks with Hebrew lettering, the “WeRamallah” sign, a Christmas tree and an ominously smiling green light. There are thorny questions and a fraught history to every image, but we don’t have time to deal with that all right now, because a city that uses the currency of a country it is not a part of has to be governed. The meaning is built through the images.

jarring experience for viewers who are not used to hearing serious newscasters describe Yom Ha’atzmaut as being the anniversary of “the Israeli regime’s installment,” and those who are accustomed to seeing Israel Defense Forces soldiers as more than far-off blurs toting big guns.

If those viewers would like to watch a movie that conforms to their experience of reality, they’re out there. But if you’re just a little curious about one Ramallah-ite’s experience of living in Ramallah, it’s worth seeing Mayor Hadid, the morning after an IDF raid on Ramallah, in disbelief that a school’s volleyball court could be so poorly designed. ●

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Genealogist Asks: 'Who's Your Daddy?'

GENEALOGY

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

JOEL SPECTOR IS a self-described genealogy addict.

The director of the Jewish Genealogical and Archival Society of Greater Philadelphia has compiled a family tree consisting of close to 1,000 members.

For him, it's about much more than identifying names and dates.

"You don't just create a tree, but you create all of the data that goes with a particular person: family stories, documents, all kinds of things that are fascinating," Spector said. Through his research, he was even able to find a third cousin he never knew who lived just five miles away.

On Dec. 20, Spector gave a Zoom presentation for the Germantown Jewish Centre called "Who's Your Daddy? or How to Research Your Family Background" and outlined the best research methods for Jews looking to explore their ancestry.

Spector said records that might seem mundane at first can yield surprising amounts of information. He found his grandfather's occupation on a federal census, the Canadian address of an aunt who died in Montreal on a death certificate and the town where his great-grandmother used to live in Russia on his uncle's draft registration card.

He said that the best place to start when compiling a family tree is with yourself and the information you know about your immediate family, such as birthdays, places of birth, marriage dates and information about spouses. You also may have letters and photos from family members or newspaper articles about important events in their lives.

"Sometimes you know who you are named after, which is a fascinating thing in Jewish genealogy because, in Ashkenazi

Form V. S. No. 5B

You are viewing Joel Spector's screen

View Options

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

263
File No. 20297
Registered No. 3026

1. PLACE OF DEATH
County of Philadelphia
Township of 51
Borough of 51
City of 51

2. FULL NAME Mary D'Accardo
(a) Residence, No. 4623 Shiloh
(Usual Place of Abode)
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred yrs. mos. ds. How long in U. S. if of foreign birth? yrs. mos. ds.

3. SEX Female
4. COLOR OR RACE White
5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED (write the word) Married

6a. If married, widowed, or divorced (or) WIFE of Chas. D'Accardo

6. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day and year)
7. AGE 28 Years Months Days IF LESS than 1 day hrs. or min.

8. OCCUPATION OF DECEASED
(a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work
(b) General nature of industry, business or establishment in which employed (or employer)
(c) Name of employer

9. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or Country) Phila

10. NAME OF FATHER Max Skibinsky

11. BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (city or town) (State or Country) Russia

12. NAME OF MOTHER Elizabeth

13. BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (city or town) (State or Country) Russia

14. Informant (Address) Louis Burns 1943 4. Cambria

15. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
16. DATE OF DEATH Feb. 1 (Month) (Day)
17. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased Jan. 29, 1931, to Feb. 1, 1931, that I last saw her alive on Feb. 1, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 10:35 P.M.
The CAUSE OF DEATH* was as follows:
124-124-126 (duration) yrs. mos. ds.
CONTRIBUTORY Pneumonia (Secondary)
18. Where was disease contracted If not at place of death?
Did an operation precede death? Yes Date of 1-31-31
Was there an autopsy? No
What test confirmed diagnosis? Cholangitis
(Signed) Joel Spector
(Address) Jefferson Hospital

* State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES, state (1) MEANS AND NATURE OF INJURY, and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, or HOMICIDAL. (See reverse side for additional space.)

19. PLACE OF BURIAL, CREMATION OR REMOVAL Montefiore
DATE OF BURIAL 2/3/31

Sophie Panzer

Ed Lake

Joel Spector

barbaramenin

▲ Joel Spector (third from top) presents a death certificate for one of his relatives.

Courtesy of Joel Spector

practice, people were named after deceased ancestors, which usually alternated through generations," Spector said.

The next step is to interview your living relatives, especially the older family members. This is even more important if you have immigrant ancestry, as these relatives may be the only people who have information about how their branch of the family tree ended up in the United States, and as well as information about relatives in the old country. Spector advised researchers to keep the conversations informal, but to be sure to get details like places of birth, marriage dates and port of entry into the U.S.

Once you've gleaned as much information as you can from yourself and your family members, it's time to turn to archives and documentation. This was a much more complicated process before the rise of

the internet, which made many of these records available in digital forms.

Spector recommends JewishGen, the main Jewish genealogy website, where users can look up family names and find contact information for other people researching the same ones. They can also look up town names and join research divisions for specific areas, including Belarus, Scandinavia, Ukraine, France and Britain. The group is usually quick to respond to questions. He also recommended Ancestry, a paid family history site with an extensive library of records, and FamilySearch, a research library based in Salt Lake City and run by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"When I visited them last about five years ago, they had two-and-a-half million reels of microfilm. They probably have more now," he said.

For local families, Spector recommended his own organization, which he said is 40 years old and the third-oldest Jewish genealogy society in the country after the groups in New York and Los Angeles. He recommended the archives at local universities, such as Temple University's Urban Archives, especially for newspaper records.

He added that the City of Philadelphia houses marriage documents at City Hall and birth certificates at the City Archives. Death certificates are maintained by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in Carlisle.

There is a certain type of information that is especially difficult for even the most thorough researchers to find: birthdays.

"People put down different birth dates so they could get married legally, so they could work legally and for various

other reasons," Spector said.

His own great-uncle kept his birthday private because his parents had paid a customs agent to add six years to his age to make him beyond the reach of the draft in Russia. His younger brother had years subtracted from his birthday to make him too young for the draft in the United States.

Dick Menin, president of the Germantown Jewish Centre's Men's Club, has done his own research into his family's Russian ancestry.

"I do recommend that if you have any older living relatives, this is the time to talk, ask questions," he said. "Unfortunately, all of my relatives that I'd like to have had more information on are now available only on a Ouija board." •

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Same Words, Different Meaning

BY RABBI JASON BONDER

Parshat Vayigash

THERE IS A wonderful teaching about a student who approached a rabbi and asked, “Rabbi, why is it that we read the Torah year after year?” The rabbi replied, “The beauty of reading the Torah each year is that while the words of Torah are always the same, *we* return as different people each year.”

It was when I sat down to write this commentary that I realized I had written about this very portion, Vayigash, in the Jewish Exponent last year as well. (Go ahead, I’ll give you a moment to type “Vayigash Jewish Exponent Rabbi Jason Bonder” into Google.) The teaching above holds true here. The words of Vayigash remained the same. But I have returned to them a different person.

When I realized that I wrote on this portion last year as well, I typed those very words above into Google myself to check if my memory was correct. Sure enough, I found my article and saw the date, Jan. 3, 2020. Suddenly, the memories came flooding back.

I remember the strong smell of coffee that Shabbat morning after the article was printed as I sat in our library at Congregation Beth Or where our weekly Torah study was held. Congregants brought in printed copies of my article to share with me. I remember the smiling faces of our group as we gathered, and I remember smiling as I witnessed one member of our community embracing friends after they had returned from a hiatus of just a few weeks from our class.

Toward the end of our study session that morning, I remember the familiar sound of chatter upstairs. Hundreds of people were gathering for a Shabbat morning service as two b’nei mitzvah were quietly, and nervously, rehearsing their Torah portions one last time before being called to the Torah for the very first time. Things I once looked at with nothing but joy — sitting together in a small room to study, embracing those we have not seen in some time, and being in a large crowd for prayer — I now see as risky endeavors.

Last year, when I read

this week’s portion, I saw the sons of Jacob standing across from one another, face to face, fundamentally changed. I attributed the root cause of their changes to their behavior toward one another. Joseph’s years of flaunting his status as Jacob’s favorite son, and the brothers’ act of tossing Joseph into the pit, had left scars on these now fully-grown men.

This year, I come face to face with Vayigash as a changed person, living in a changed world, and that is reflected back to me in the way I see this week’s portion. This year, I see brothers who were profoundly changed not only by each other, but by a problem of pandemic proportions — famine.

When Joseph’s brothers don’t recognize him, I think, with a smile on my face, about the people in my life who have become unrecognizable due to “pandemic beards” or new hair styles. But I see and identify with Joseph in other ways which are not nearly as lighthearted.

I see myself in Joseph — a man longing to see a parent, knowing they are just a moderate journey away. I see

myself in Joseph — a parent raising two children who often ask him, “When can we go back to our grandparents’ homes?”

Last year, I understood the verse about Joseph’s crying as a release of the anguish of his childhood. “His sobs were so loud that the Egyptians could hear and so the news reached Pharaoh’s palace.” (Genesis 45:2) This year, I encounter these words with bittersweet hope, seeing in this moment a time when Joseph can, even if just momentarily, set down from his shoulders the pressures of living through a famine, and I pray that our world can experience this too amid our trying times.

Last year, I read the verse about Joseph and his brothers embracing one another as a willingness to put their past behind them. “He kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. Only then were his brothers able to talk to him.” (Genesis 45:15). This year, I see this as a mutual recognition of the suffering everyone had endured through the ongoing famine and a promise to hold onto a hope that times would soon be better.

CANDLE LIGHTING

Dec. 25
Jan. 1

4:23 p.m.
4:29 p.m.

The Torah can act as a mirror for us. When we return to the same words, they show us something about ourselves and the times in which we live. If we can see a bit of ourselves in Joseph and his brothers, and if we can see our hard times of coronavirus in the great pressures of the era that Jacob’s sons endured, that gives me great hope.

If we can see our reflection in the words of Vayigash, then we can see ourselves embracing once again, learning from the obstacles we are enduring, and working together toward a safer and brighter future. •

Rabbi Jason Bonder is the associate rabbi at Congregation Beth Or in Maple Glen. 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.



Kirshner

Continued from Page 15

No, they’re napping. All day? Yes. I fell in love with the extreme solitude of this one day, despite a general extraversion that makes silence grating in normal times.

There are many wondrous days to be Jewish. I haven’t experienced weddings of enough denominations to firmly call Jewish weddings the world’s best, but the combination of the chuppah, the hora and liquored-up pre-wedding tish have to put our nuptials near the top of any list. Shabbat, Passover and

the High Holidays have many virtues.

But all of these days also carry obligations. A wedding is expensive and hassling. The Sabbath is a day of rest that, at least during nonpandemic times, still involves schlepping to shul, standing up on the rabbi’s request and waiting out a service of several hours. Passover is a week-plus of reflection — but I like bread. Yom Kippur is a vital day of atonement, but the whole premise of the day is that it is difficult.

On Jewish Christmas, my sole obligation is not to inadvertently get dumplings with shrimp in them. Even that is only because of an allergy, not because anyone would bust me for eating treif.

The last two years, I have been in an interfaith relationship with an Episcopalian. Our time together has strengthened my respect for Christianity, as I’ve seen how her family’s interpretation of faith meshes seamlessly with our concept of tikkun olam, to repair the world.

They have welcomed me into all their traditions, including filling a stocking for me and having me to my first Mass last Christmas Eve. I didn’t eat the little wafer or drink the wine, but I took joy in seeing a community of a different faith coming together on one of its most sacred days.

On Christmas Day, my girlfriend’s family even eats Chinese food — an incursion on Jewish turf, I have told her, but one I can forgive. The chance to see another religion in action up close, without any

proselytization or pressure, has hopefully made me more well-rounded.

I’m embracing these new traditions. But they have severely cut into an event that for me carries a different kind of sacredness. Long live Jewish Christmas, the most blissful 24 hours this Jew has ever been blessed to enjoy. •

Pennsylvania native Alex Kirshner is a writer, editor and podcast host based in Washington, D.C. This piece was originally published by JTA.

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Jewish Federation
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MARRIAGE

► LEES-KEISER

Joy and Bennett Keiser of Bryn Mawr and Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, and Laurie Donaldson and Steven Lees of Stewartstown announce the marriage of their children, Michael Stone Keiser and Caroline Elizabeth Lees.

Caroline graduated from Franklin and Marshall and earned a graduate degree in English from Villanova University. She recently produced the text for Terrain's artisan book "Terrain: Ideas and Inspiration for Decorating the Home and Garden" and works for the Beholden subsidiary of Urban Outfitters.

Michael graduated from Penn State University and works for Sidecar in Philadelphia.

The couple was married on Oct. 31 at the Lees' farm in Stewartstown. Michael's sister Davi Keiser officiated.

The couple resides in Philadelphia and will move to suburban Philadelphia in the spring.



Photo by Joy Wilf Keiser

BIRTHS

► BRADLEY MILES KEISER

Joy and Bennett Keiser of Bryn Mawr and Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, and Ellen and Steve Goldman of Elkins Park and Ventnor, New Jersey, announce the birth of their grandson, Bradley Miles Keiser, on Sept. 11.

Rachel and Harrison Keiser of Philadelphia are the proud parents.

Bradley is named for his maternal great-grandfather Bernard and his paternal great-grandfather Morton.

Sharing in the happiness are Bradley's great-grandmother Frances Orkin; Rachel and Harrison's siblings Brett Goldman, Cory and Kirsten Baritz, Davi Keiser and Michael Keiser and Caroline Lees; cousins Logan and Cameron Baritz and Satchel Keiser; and many great-aunts and great-uncles.

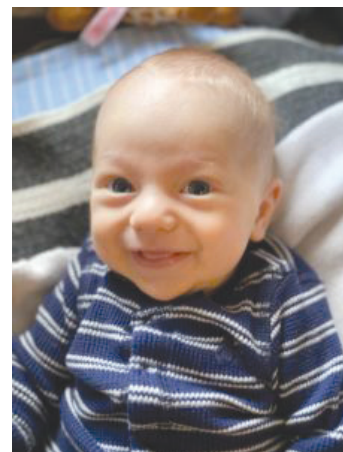


Photo by Joy Wilf Keiser

ENGAGEMENT

► GOLDBERG-CZAPOR

Michael and Sandra Goldberg of Cheltenham and John and Stephani Czapor of Richboro announce the engagement of their children, Emily Goldberg and Chad Czapor.

Sharing in their happiness are grandparents John and Roz Warren and Donna Czapor. Emily is the granddaughter of the late Jerry and Joan Polin and the late Irv and Elaine Goldberg. Chad is the grandson of the late Richard Czapor.

Also sharing in their happiness are siblings David Goldberg and Sami Goldberg, Troy and Danielle Czapor and Reid Czapor and niece Sage Czapor.

Emily and Chad live in Hatboro and are planning a wedding in 2021.

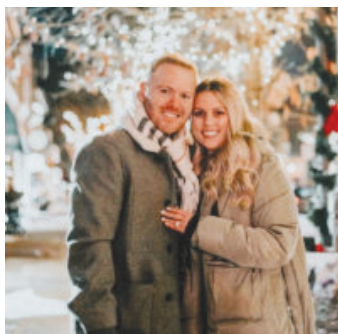


Photo by meggancookphotography

► LIVIA HANNAH KATZ

Sima, Uri and Gabby Katz of Merion Station announce the birth of their sister, Livia Hannah (Livia Chana), on Dec. 9.

Sharing in the simcha are parents Tamar and Joshua Katz, grandparents Ronnie and Janis Sterling of Silver Spring, Maryland, and Marion and Howard Katz of Owings Mills, Maryland, and great-grandfather Frank Katz of Tinton Falls, New Jersey.

Livia is named for her maternal great-grandparents, Ken and Hannah Sterling.



Photo by Joshua Katz

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Former Exponent Editor Joshua Runyan Joins DJOP Board

DEMOCRATIC JEWISH OUTREACH of Pennsylvania announced that former Jewish Exponent Editor-in-Chief Rabbi Joshua Runyan has joined its board.

Runyan is a tax attorney with the Center City law firm of Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhoads LLP. He earned his law degree from Temple University's Beasley School of Law, his undergraduate degree in political science at the University of Pennsylvania and his rabbinical ordination from the Lubavitch Yeshiva in Lod, Israel.

A native Philadelphian, Runyan directed the editorial operations of the Exponent and served as senior editorial director for Mid-Atlantic Media and its projects at the Pittsburgh Jewish Chronicle, Washington Jewish Week, Baltimore Jewish Times and the Phoenix Jewish News.

DJOP was formed in 2008 to support progressive candidates and legislation and sponsor educational programs on contemporary issues.

NMAJH to Host Annual 'Being _____ at Christmas' Event

The National Museum of American Jewish History will host its free annual "Being _____ at Christmas" event online on Dec. 25.

The event, which will occur virtually, will feature live music and on-demand programming for adults and kids that includes arts and crafts and virtual museum tours. Activities will be available on the museum's website and Facebook page.

"While we won't experience the joy of hundreds of kids running around the building with painted faces in person this year, we're looking forward to being together with everyone online," said Emily August, the museum's director of communications and public engagement.

The event begins at 10 a.m. with a live, interactive concert featuring Alex Mitnick of the Emmy Award-winning children's music group Alex & the Kaleidoscope.

Joining the on-demand lineup are Philadelphia's Portside Arts Center, whose educators create customized art lessons that families can do at home with everyday household items; Massachusetts-based Ladino (Judeo-Spanish) artist Sarah Aroeste, with music and insights into Sephardic culture; and Baltimore-based Beatbox Dads, who use emceeing and beatboxing to make music.

There also will be a mindfulness activity for families of all abilities and ages facilitated by Asia IrgangLaden, the founder of Purposeful Parenting.

And the museum will offer online tours of its core and special exhibitions through the virtual NMAJH portal.

Details and the full activities lineup are available at nmajh.org/events/December25. •

DEATH NOTICES

BERKOWITZ

Ruth Lillian Berkowitz (nee Deckelbaum) passed away on December 15, 2020. Wife of the late Morris. Mother of Steven (Eiko) Berkowitz. Ruth taught Religious School at Reform Cong. Keneseth Israel for 34 years. Contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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BERRIS

Rabbi Shimon L. Berris, passed away on December 17, 2020. Husband of Linda (nee Falk). Father of Cantor Neil (Mary Beth) Berris, Michael (Susan) Berris and Herschel (Eileen) Berris. Brother of Fayga Greenbaum and Judith (Herbert) Speiser. Also survived by 7 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Private Graveside Services were held at New Montefiore Cemetery. Contributions in his memory may be made to Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org.

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BLOOM

Bernard (Bernie) Bloom, on December 14, 2020. Beloved husband of the late Minnie Bloom and the late Betty Bloom; Loving father and stepfather of Saul (Celia Hinrichs) Bloom, Anita Bloom, Sharon (Sam) Hankin, Naomi (Amos Gil) Paiss, and the late Deborah (Paul Naprstek) Paiss; Devoted grandfather of Aaron (Erin), Amy (James), Molly (William), Maya and Joseph; great-grandfather of Emerson, Adeline, Henry and Owen. Private interment at Roosevelt Memorial Park, Trevose, PA. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Abington Health Foundation, www.abingtonhealth.org/WaysOfGiving/ or to Philabundance, www.philabundance.org

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BRODY

Scott Brody, December 15, 2020 of Yardley, Pa. Son of Edmund A. Brody (The late Lucille Brody). Brother of Lee Brody (Melissa Brody). Also survived by nephews Benjamin Brody and Joshua Brody, as well as many family and friends. Services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donors choice.

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COHEN

Suzanne L. Cohen (nee Mann), 85, of Margate, NJ, passed away on December 15, at Meadowview Nursing Home in Northfield, NJ. Sue was born on April 15, 1935 in Philadelphia and was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania (summa cum laude) with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. She had a successful career in advertising sales, as well as, working as a schoolteacher. Sue loved to travel the world with her loving husband, Mort, for over 40 years. She enjoyed shopping at the local markets to bring back items to decorate her home and purchasing keepsakes for her family. Her favorite areas of travel were the Far East, Australia, South Pacific, and South America. She enjoyed cooking family dinners as well as large holiday meals. She loved to plan many parties which were always a great success. After living in Lafayette Hill for 15 years, Sue and Mort became permanent residents of Margate. There, she enjoyed walking the beach, riding her bike on the boardwalk, relaxing with friends and family, and walking her dogs. Her hobbies included being an avid bridge player at the Shore Bridge Club in Northfield and spending many hours at the library finding books to read. Sue is survived by her devoted husband, Mort, daughter, Susan and her husband Steve, and her two sons, Alan, and Lon and his wife Kathy, and by four grandchildren, Dr. Shelly Toub, Lee, Paige, and Erica Mamolen. A private service was held on Thursday, December 17. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. For condolences, please visit www.jsjfunerals.com

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GOLDMAN

Adele Leib Goldman of Lafayette Hill, PA, passed away on December 8, 2020. Adele had many educational and professional accomplishments. After falling in love with and marrying Alfred E. Goldman in The Bronx, NY, where she grew up, she attained bachelor's and master's degrees in Sociology at Temple University in Philadelphia. Adele subsequently worked for Einstein Hospital in Philadelphia, doing geriatric research. Adele served as a district Democrat committee woman in Plymouth Meeting, and later served as Chair of the Whitemarsh League State Constitutional Revision Committee for the League of Woman Voters. In that capacity she published eleven articles presenting historical background and arguments for state constitutional revision and later was invited to address the League's Convention in the State Capitol. Adele devoted significant time to volunteer work, especially to aid the elderly with disabilities. She was elected to the Board of Directors of Eldernet in Lower Merion and Narberth, and also served as their Treasurer. She created Eldernet's endowment fund and was its first Chairperson. Just as importantly, she served the blind elderly with personal services while also playing a leadership role in Eldernet's public events. Adele was a very gifted cook, something her family can attest to. She was also a talented jewelry artisan, crafting silver jewelry and selling a large number of pieces at various Philadelphia venues, including the Gem Dell, and as a partner at Les Artisanes, a craft boutique, gallery and studio in Wallingford, Pa. Adele also engaged in extensive study of the investment markets, and her expertise was reflected both in the results she achieved and in her service as an officer for a local chapter of the National Association of Individual Investors. Throughout her adult life, Adele had a great passion for international travel, and she and Al traveled to every continent, and to both urban and remote, rural (and even primitive) parts of the world. But most important of all, Adele was a loving wife for 68 years and a loving mother for 65 years. Adele and Alfred were deeply in love for their entire marriage and Adele's daughter, Julie, and her son, Marshall, could not have asked for nor imagined a more loving, nurturing, and generous mother.

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GORDON

Saul "Richard" Gordon, on December 11, 2020. Loving father of Beth Segal and Reese Stana; Devoted grandfather of Brian, Craig and William; Dear companion of Clara Liebers. Services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to Katz Jewish Community Center, 1301 Springdale Rd., Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 or to Faith Farm, 9538 US Highway 441, Boynton Beach FL 33472.

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HIRSCH

Stanley Hirsch, on December 15, 2020. Beloved husband of Sandra (nee Gordon) for 57 years; Loving father of Dr. William (Dawn) Hirsch, Daryl (Mindi) Hirsch and Louis (Antonia) Hirsch; Devoted grandfather of Jason, Danielle, Harrison and Bennett. Graduated Olney HS and Penn State University. An entrepreneur who began his career in truck franchising, Stan worked for many years in NY's Garment District, self-owning an independent textile converting company. Enjoyed competitive racquetball, softball, bowling, & all Philadelphia sports. Services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to Philabundance, www.philabundance.org

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KEDAR

Dr. Heather Kedar, aka "Hobie", beloved wife and mother, passed away at the age of 46, on December 3, 2020 after a fiercely brave battle with Leukemia. Beyond anything, Heather's greatest joy in life was her family. She is survived by her devoted husband, Yinon, and beautiful children, Leor and Hannah. They take comfort knowing their true angel will now always watch over them. She was a strong, passionate woman, a wonderful dentist, and a loving friend to all who knew her. Known for her infectious smile and indomitable spirit, Heather was a light in her community. Born in Philadelphia, PA Heather was the daughter of Edward Mutchnick and Carole Zeitz. She graduated from Penn State University and attended Temple University for Dental school. She worked for over 20 years as a dentist, becoming the lead practitioner at Lifetime Dental in Langhorne, while balancing motherhood with work and service to her community. Privately, she was an inspiration to those around her, helping manage a busy household, while she quietly battled health issues. She always had the unique ability to inspire the people around her. She found strength in her family that supported her, in the religious traditions that guided her, and the endless friends that loved her. She was especially fond of her synagogue and the congregation that loved and respected her. It was her contagious laugh and outgoing personality that gave her a capacity for living that very few will ever know. She lived life like the candy she loved--full of color, hard enough to break your teeth and sweet enough to fill you with child-like euphoria. Heather treasured her children and embraced every moment with them. Heather really loved watching Leor play baseball and other sports and enjoyed watching Hannah play basketball and baking. She was always so proud of her children. Her love story of over 20 years with her husband was what people dream about. They loved enough for two lifetimes. Her family is grateful to all of the family and friends that stood by her husband and children for the past 13 years. All whom loved her dearly will never forget her strength, tenacity, wit, charm, grace and undying love and caring for them. She will be sorely missed and survived by her children Leor & Hannah, husband Yinon, mother-in-law Lea Kedar, father Edward Mutchnick, mother Carole Zeitz and her husband Howard, Aunt Judi Gases and her husband Uncle Murray, brother-in-law Yishai Kedar and his wife Amber and their three children Ariela, David & Gavriel, brother Richard Zeitz and his wife Ally and daughter Emily, sister-in-law Yifat Kedar-Mehl and her husband Brad and their three children Aliza, Maya & Shira, brother Craig Mutchnick and his two children Sydney & Brandon, brother-in-law Maurice Verschelde and his wife Erica and their son Tyler and sister Elysa Zeitz.

LIPMAN

Melvin "Mickey" Lipman, on December 12, 2020. Beloved husband of Joan (nee Waldman); Loving father of Sherri Carenzo and Jason Lipman. Services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to Ann's Choice Benevolent Care Fund, 30000 Ann's Choice Way, Warminster, PA 18974 or to a charity of the donor's choice.

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LIPSCHUTZ

Howard L. Lipschutz passed peacefully at his home surrounded by family on December 13, 2020. Beloved husband of 52 years to the late Marcia (nee Abrams); loving father of Margo (Jonathan) Marmon; dear brother of Isabel Forrest; devoted grandfather of David. He leaves behind a legacy of wisdom, intelligence, strength, and wit. "Lippy," as he was known to close friends, was born and raised in Germantown. He was a member of the Central High School class of 176, and completed his undergraduate studies at Temple University. Howard served in World War II as a corporal in the United States Army Air Force and was stationed in Biloxi, MS. He was involved in several business ventures including liquor distribution, refrigeration equipment and supply, and, finally, health care administration as one of the founding partners of HBA Inc., a position he held actively well into his mid-90s. Howard was a true friend to many. He maintained close relationships since childhood, and always enjoyed his regular tennis games, golf outings, and charity tournaments at Green Valley Country Club, where his grandfathers were founding members. Howard loved adventure and travelled with his wife and close friends, including and especially the group affectionately known as the "fearsome foursome", around the world, visiting 6 out of 7 continents. Always impeccably dressed, he is described by everyone who knew him as a true gentleman. He will be greatly missed by those whose lives he touched. Services and interment are private. A memorial celebration of Howard's life will be held post-COVID, when it is once again safe for family, friends, and colleagues to be together. Contributions in his memory may be made to Associated Alumni of Central High School (Philadelphia) and the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia for vulnerable populations.

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MANN

Theodore R. "Ted" Mann, of Philadelphia, PA. Husband of the late Rowena (nee Weiss). Father of Julie Mann (Ernie Cohen), Rachel Mann and Marcus Mann. Grandfather of Noah Cohen and Julia Quintero Mann. Great grandfather of Cameron, Adriana and Aurora. The family respectfully request that contributions in his memory be made to Mazon, a Jewish Response to Hunger.

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PRESSMAN

Joseph I. Pressman, on October 24, 2020. Beloved husband of the late Sheila Becker; Loving father of Anne (Wayne) Goldschneider, Mark (Michelle) Pressman and David Pressman; Devoted grandfather of Alyssa, Jami, Craig and Emily. He was 90 yrs. old and lived in Elkins Park, PA. He was an army veteran. Contributions in his memory may be made to Melrose B'nai Israel Emanuel, 8339 Old York Rd., Elkins Park, PA 19027.

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PRITZKER

Eli Pritzker, Dec. 12, 2020. Husband of Helen Pratt (nee Niemtzow) and the late Lois Pritzker (nee Schneider). Father of Michael (Jennie) Pritzker, Nina (Scott Cohen) Pritzker-Cohen. Stepfather to Suzanne (Jonathan Davis) Pratt Davis and Elizabeth (David Black) Pratt. Brother-in-law of Greta (Saul) Schiffman. Grandfather of Lily and Jeremy Cohen, Leo Pritzker, Ava and Charlotte Black and Nate and Ben and Alec Davis. Uncle of Jeffrey and Steven Shubert. Services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to any charity pertaining to homelessness and/or hunger.

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PULWER

Ruth H. Pulwer, died peacefully at home on 11/16/20, following a long illness. She was the beloved wife of the late Murray G. Pulwer, for 51 years. Daughter of Anna and Israel Hersh. Sister of the late Bernard Hersh (Mildred). Ruth is survived by her three children, Ellen (known as Cookie) Brenner (Gabe); Mitchell (Miki); and Sarah Myer (Bainish). Ruth was the proud Mommy of her 11 adored grandchildren, Jennifer Shute (Gary), Matthew Brenner (Liz), Lauren Pulwer (Pete), Bob Pulwer, Kess Myer (Meg), Fraida Solomon (Yossi), Yehuda Myer (Mimi), Chaya Snyder (Asher), Nechama Hersh (Isaac), Devo Krief (Meni), Kraina Myer (fiancé Daniel). She also adored her 18 great-grandchildren: Hannah, Ethan, Jake, Maya, Nina, Mendel, Benny, Miri, Moshe, Avi, Mendy, Shimmy, Goldie, Bella, Jack, Esther, Serena, and Ella. Beloved aunt to nieces and nephews. Ruth was immensely proud of everyone in her family, and devoted to each of them. Nothing pleased her more than a boisterous family gathering! Ruth graduated from West Philadelphia High School at the age of 16. Her childhood friends, Rae, Ruthie and Gert, maintained their close friendship for almost 90 years. She maintained many other friendships from her youth and developed many friends in many walks of life throughout the years. For the last 30 years of her life, she had a passion for swim exercise and the group of friends she formed were very dear to her heart. In the early 1980's, Ruth opened her own business, Penn Valley Travel, at a time that many were thinking about retirement. Travel combined her love for adventure, her passion for the beauty of nature, and her curiosity about the world. Being in the travel business allowed her to see most of the world, which delighted her. She was the oldest on her African safari, when she was in her 80's, and all marveled at her strength, enthusiasm, and tenacity. She did not miss a thing! Ruth was also active in many organizations, such as Hadassah, National Womens League, Sisterhoods in several synagogues, and volunteered up until one year ago at the JCFS Food Pantry. Her calendar was filled with meaningful and charitable activities. She was an accomplished balabusta, superb cook, baker, seamstress—and just about anything she set her heart to. Always an animal lover, she adopted older needy rescue pets in her later years, showering them with love and much needed attention, as they shared their journey together. Ruth was a devoted friend. Her warmth, genuine caring, ability to listen, and wisdom made her a cherished and loved friend. She was fun and energetic and always made time for those she loved. Ruth was an extraordinary woman who wanted to make a difference in this world, and she certainly did so. Funeral and shiva were private due to COVID. Donations in Ruth's memory may be made to the no-kill animal rescue charity of your choice. Condolences and more at Berschler-AndShenberg.com

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RABELOW

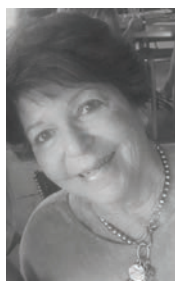
Sandra Y. Rabelow (nee Weiser), on Dec. 11, 2020, wife of Arthur Rabelow, mother of Ross (Madelaine) Rabelow, Jeffrey (Susan) Rabelow and Nicole (Dr. Jeffrey) Gerber, grandmother of Samantha (Arthur) Vinitzky, Justin (Sarah) Gerber, Andrew Rabelow, Courtney Gerber, Amanda Gerber, Daniel Rabelow and Dakota Rabelow. Services and interment were private. Contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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RAY

Edward Ray, December 14, 2020 of Ghent, Belgium, 88. Beloved husband of Loretta (nee Gumbs); loving father of Jude Ray (Paul Trapido), Dr. Dena Ray, Dr. David Ray (Margaret Carver), Jean Ray, Walter Dunston and Philip Dunston (Yolanda Lyght); adoring grandfather of Allison and Cori Gold, Zazie Ray-Trapido, Julian Ray, Isabella and Sophie Speckbacher-Ray, and Tori and Tyler Dunston; cherished uncle, and devoted brother-in-law. Edward was beloved and respected by all. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to Mishkan Shalom, a synagogue through which acts of caring and repair seeks to transform our world to reflect values of justice and compassion (https://mishkan.org/donations) or the Southern Poverty Law Center, a catalyst for racial justice and protecting human rights (https://donate.splcenter.org).

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RENDELMAN

Marcia (Polatnick/Schwartz) Rendelman, on October 12, 2020, otherwise known as "Tante" passed away unexpectedly. She was born and raised in Philadelphia and moved to Del Ray Beach Florida 18 years ago. She was loved by many friends and family. She will be dearly missed.

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ROBBINS

Robert S. Robbins, Esq., passed at the age of 89 on December 10, 2020 as a result of arm wrestling with a grizzly bear, or maybe it was from complications of Parkinsonism. Either way his dry sense of humor persisted to the end. Robert was born in Philadelphia on November 30, 1931 and raised in the Strawberry Mansion section of town. He attended Central High School and Temple University before a stint in the U.S Army stationed in Europe. After a brief educational course in London he returned to Temple University earning a law degree (J.D.) Thus, he began a half century of legal criminal practice initially with his brother Willie and later in solo practice. His fulltime law practice was delayed by the entrepreneurial success of a variety store, Marketown, around 12th and Market Sts. and then moved to 52nd and Market Sts. with his brother Melvin. Under eminent domain SEPTA took over the store's location which transitioned Robby to fulltime law practice. His athletic nature introduced him to one of his life's passion - handball. He was found 8 days a week playing handball at the Broadwood later known as the Philadelphia Athletic Club. Despite his modest beginnings as the youngest of 8 children to Russian immigrant parents he was a self-made man. He valued culture and intellect being an avid classical music and opera fan as well as a daily Crossword puzzler. He was a man of the people who was happiest in front of a buffet. Fortunately, his athletic activities balanced his love of food allowing him to live a long life to share with his family and many dogs. A few months ago, he celebrated his 58th wedding anniversary with the love of his life Sandra Goldstein of Jeweler's Row. He is survived by his wife Sandra (nee Goldstein); his children Brad (Shelley) Robbins, Marlie (Kevin Gillen) Robbins and Shira (Peter Durdaller) Robbins; his loving grandchildren Johana, Lily and Arielle; and grand dogs Finch, Otis, Izzy, Bean and Lailah. He was preceded by parents Rubin and Esther Rabinowitz; siblings Sarah, Sam, Willie, Label, Herman, Sylvia, Melvin and grand dogs Spike, Purl, Boomer, Brittany, Jessie, Tova, Mazel, Chelsea, Tucker, Paco, Max, Schmendrick, Dobby and Rocki. Contributions in his memory may be made to: SPCA, www.montgomerycountyspca.org, Philadelphia Opera Company, www.operaphilly.org, Adath Jeshurun Synagogue, www.adathjeshurun.info Mervyn Sluizer Jr. Scholarship Fund (for Eagle Scouts established by son Brad Robbins), www.philafound.org/give-now

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TINT

Myra Johnne Tint (nee Goldstein), December 12, 2020, of Phila.; beloved wife of G Stephen Tint; loving mother of Neil Tint, Debbie Feller (Brian) and Marci Kotay; cherished grandmother of Benjamin, Jordan, Madison, Nira and Shaina; adored great-grandmother of James. Due to Covid-19 restrictions services will be private. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to Philabundance (www.philabundance.org) or any similar charity to feed people.

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DEATH NOTICES

WEXLER

Lillian Wexler (nee Winokur), on Dec. 15, 2020. Wife of the late Max Wexler. Mother of Robbee Perlman and Pattie Wexler. Grandmother of Ryan Perlman (Tracy Zigler) and Lee (Kristen) Perlman. Great Grandmother of Kate and Jared Perlman, and Joah Perlman. Services and interment private. Contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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ZENSTEIN

Mark Jay Zenstein, Penn Valley, Pennsylvania, February 15, 1946 to December 11, 2020. Beloved husband of Ann Rose (née) Abramoff. Cherished father of Barry Zenstein, Cherie (David) Shulick and Kevin (Alycia) Zenstein. Devoted brother of David (Eve) Zenstein. Loving grandfather of Julia Shulick, Gavin Zenstein and Skylar Shulick. Uncle to Ilene Hess Smith, Joseph Zenstein, Julie Zenstein Singer, and the late Andrea Zenstein. Great Uncle to Stephen and Alex Singer and Amanda and Asher Zenstein. Due to the Covid19 Pandemic, services, interment and shiva were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to the National MS Society in his memory.

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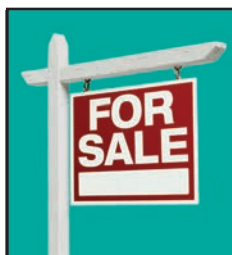
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PENN VALLEY "OAK HILL"

TERRACES-Top floor. Immaculate, designer, rarely available 1 BD, 1.5 BA, open kitchen, custom window treatments, lots of closets, main BD suite w/dressing room area, W/D, wood floors, lrg. sunny balcony, just steps to elevator. **\$199,900**

ESTATES-Renovated 2 BD, 2 BA, walk up town home, granite kitchen, custom lighting, new paint, ceiling fans, large sunny balcony. **\$259,900**

TERRACES-NEW LISTING -drenched 2 BD, 2 BA, granite kitchen, custom lighting, new paint, ceiling fans, large sunny balcony. **\$259,900**

ESTATES-Renovated 2 BD, 2 BA, walk up town home, granite kitchen, custom lighting, new paint, ceiling fans, large sunny balcony. **\$259,900**

TOWER-5th floor, renovated 2 BD, 2 BA, open kitchen, lots of closets, washer/dryer, wood floors, sunny balcony, pool, gym, doorman, reduced cable package(\$76). Heat/AC included. **\$209,900**

TERRACES-2nd floor, Designer, roomy 1 BD, 1 BA, open kitchen, custom lighting, new paint, ceiling fans, large sunny balcony. **\$199,900**

TERRACES-Top floor, 2 BD, 2 BA, new granite kitchen, new refrigerator, new washer/dryer, new heating and a/c, new electric, custom lighting, custom closets. Sunny balcony. Near elevator and parking. **\$219,900**

TOWER-4th floor All new, designer studio apartment. New kitchen, bathroom, lighting. Wood floors. Sunny balcony. **\$1300**

TOWER-3rd floor, Roomy 2 BD 2 BA, Sunny front balcony, modern kitchen, custom closets, washer/dryer, custom lighting, mirrored closets, wv carpets, coat closet, large balcony. Available immediately. **\$1900 Includes Heat/AC**

TOWER-9th Floor All new, renovation 2 BD, 2 BA, kitchen, custom lighting, new paint, ceiling fans, large sunny balcony. **\$199,900**

TERRACES-2 BD, 2 BA, open granite kitchen, wood floors, washer/dryer, lots of closets, custom lighting & window treatments. Available immediately! **\$2150**

TOWER-NEW LISTING Expansive, renovated 3 BD, 3.5 BA "home". Extra space with one floor living. All new expanded, open granite kit., with breakfast bar. New bathrooms, W/D, lots of closets, corner balcony. Includes heat, A/C, gym, pool, parking.

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INFORMATION

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS NAME REGISTRATION
An application for registration of the fictitious name Big Nick's Cold Cuts & Italian Specialties, 1311 W. Moyamensing Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19148, was filed in the Department of State at Harrisburg, PA, December 03, 2020, pursuant to the Fictitious Names Act, Act 1982-295. The name and address of the person who is a party to the registration is Brian Maiale, 1311 W. Moyamensing Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19148.

G & G Delivery, Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Business Corporation Law of 1988, **Granite Services International, Inc.**, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware, has withdrawn from doing business in Pennsylvania. The address of its principal office in its jurisdiction of incorporation is 191 Rosa Parks Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202 and the name of its commercial registered office provider in Pennsylvania is C T Corporation System.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Business Corporation Law of 1988, R.T. Beers & Company, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of California, will withdraw from doing business in Pennsylvania. The address of its principal office in its jurisdiction of incorporation is 100 OCEANGATE, STE 850, LONG BEACH CA 90802 and the name of its commercial registered office provider in Pennsylvania is C T Corporation System.

Notice is hereby given by a Pennsylvania business corporation, **WINDSOME FARMS LIMITED**, that said corporation is winding up its affairs in the manner prescribed by section 1975 of the Business Corporation Law of 1988, so that its corporate existence shall cease upon the filing of Articles of Dissolution in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF NAJEE JONES, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make payment without delay to: Lisa Dorman, Administrator c/o attorney Gary Stewart Seflin, Esquire 30 West Third Street Media, PA 19063
Or to his Attorney: Gary Stewart Seflin, Atty. 30 West Third Street Media, PA 19063

ESTATE OF ARLEEN L. HOROSCHAK, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia, DECEASED. LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION -CTA on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make payment without delay to JASON HOROSCHAK, ADMINISTRATOR-CTA, c/o Bradley Newman, Esq., 123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030, Philadelphia, PA 19109, Or to his Attorney: BRADLEY NEWMAN ESTATE & ELDER LAW OFFICE OF BRADLEY NEWMAN 123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030 Philadelphia, PA 19109

ESTATE OF ARLEEN L. HOROSCHAK, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia, DECEASED. LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION -CTA on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make payment without delay to JASON HOROSCHAK, ADMINISTRATOR-CTA, c/o Bradley Newman, Esq., 123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030, Philadelphia, PA 19109, Or to his Attorney: BRADLEY NEWMAN ESTATE & ELDER LAW OFFICE OF BRADLEY NEWMAN 123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030 Philadelphia, PA 19109

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fourlevens@comcast.net

ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF BARBARA D. BARNES a/k/a BARBARA BARNES, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make payment without delay to ALTHA BURGEE, EXECUTRIX, c/o Howard M. Soloman, Esq., 1760 Market St., Ste. 404, Philadelphia, PA 19103.
Or to her Attorney: HOWARD M. SOLOMAN 1760 Market St., Ste. 404 Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF JOSE LORENZO CRUZ, Deceased
LATE of Pennsylvania
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the decedent to make payment without delay, to George Cruz 1801 Allen Circle Jamison, PA 18929.

ESTATE OF GUIDO SERANO, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make payment without delay to ADRIANA SERANO, EXECUTRIX, c/o Kristy E. McCabe, Esq., 1515 Market St., Ste. 1801 Philadelphia, PA 19102
Or to her Attorney: KRISTY E. MCCABE FRITZ & BIANCULLI LLC 1515 Market St., Ste. 1801 Philadelphia, PA 19102

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on July 09, 2020 for **Onyx Engine** at 303 Bridle path Road Lansdale, PA 19446. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is William Hubbard at 303 Bridle path Road Lansdale, PA 19446. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on July 21, 2020 for **Doomsayers Network** at 408 Ross Rd. King of Prussia, PA 19406. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Richard I Kreischer Jr. at 408 Ross Rd. King of Prussia, PA 19406. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on July 07, 2020 for **Exime Technologies** at 1122 Cornwallis Way Collegeville, PA 19426. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is David Exime at 1122 Cornwallis Way Collegeville, PA 19426. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

FICTITIOUS NAME

FICTITIOUS NAME REGISTRATION
- Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of Act of Assembly, No. 295, effective March 16, 1983, of the filing in the office of the Dept. of State, of the Commonwealth of PA, at Harrisburg, PA, for an Application for the conduct of business in Phila. County, PA, under the assumed or fictitious name, style or designation of **FAMILIAR MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP**, with a principal place of business at 1228 S. 51st St., Phila, PA 19143. The names and address of the individuals interested in said business are Aaron G. Goldner, Steven B. Goldner & Laurie S. Post, 1228 S. 51st St., Phila, PA 19143.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on June 22, 2020 for **Janet Simmons Volce** at PO BOX 263 Pottstown, PA 19464. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Janet Ruth Simmons at PO BOX 263 Pottstown, PA 19464. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on July 27, 2020 for **Kelly's Amazing Creations** at 876 Fernhill Road Glenside, PA 19038. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Kelly Key at 876 Fernhill Road Glenside, PA 19038. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration
Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on July 09, 2020 for **Onyx Engine** at 303 Bridle path Road Lansdale, PA 19446. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is William Hubbard at 303 Bridle path Road Lansdale, PA 19446. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.



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3 DECKS WITH OCEANVIEWS,
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PARKWAY! RENOVATED 7 POS-
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FULL BATH IN OCEANPLAZA!
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TWO BOAT SLIPS & TWO
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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR A PAWNBROKER LICENSE

Notice is hereby given that Watches
Etc., Inc. did on 12/18/2020, sub-
mit to the Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania, Dept. of Banking, an
application for renewal licensure of
a pawnbroker at this location,
which is as follows: 3140 Kensing-
ton Ave., Phila., Phila. County, PA
19134. All interested persons may
file written comments in favor of or
in opposition to the Application
with the Pawnbroker Hearing Of-
ficer, Pennsylvania Department of
Banking, 17 N. 2nd Street 13th
Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101-2290.
All comments to be considered
must be received by the Depart-
ment within thirty (30) days from
the date of this newspaper publica-
tion.

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in opposition to the Application
with the Pawnbroker Hearing Of-
ficer, Pennsylvania Department of
Banking, 17 N. 2nd Street 13th
Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101-2290.
All comments to be considered
must be received by the Depart-
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▼ FRIDAY, DEC. 25

Kabbalat Shabbat Services

Join the **Melrose B'nai Israel Emanu-El** Kehillah for an exciting, interactive and musical Kabbalat Shabbat and Maariv service with Cantor Stephen Freedman at 3:30 p.m. at facebook.com/groups/mbiee.org. For more information, call 215-635-1505.

▼ MONDAY, DEC 28

Caretakers Support Group

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

▼ TUESDAY, DEC 29

Family Bingo

Bring the kids (or grandkids) and join **JAFCO FamilyMatters** at 10 a.m. for a fun morning of BINGO via Zoom to support our cause. Play virtually on a device or print your cards and play the old-fashioned way. Prizes for every round. One card is \$18. RSVP by Sunday, Dec. 27 to receive your bingo cards and a link to attend the virtual event. For more information, contact JAFCO FamilyMatters Events Manager Melanie Foldes at melanie@familymattersnetwork.org or 267-637-0210.

Prayer Series

Join Cantor Stephen Freedman of **Melrose B'nai Israel Emanu-El** for his continuing virtual prayer series, "These Are A Few Of My Favorite Prayers," at facebook.

com/groups/mbiee.org at 1 p.m. Call 215-635-1505 for more information.

Cooking Classes

Join **Judaism Your Way's** virtual cooking classes at 6:30 p.m. to make our favorite Jewish comfort foods during a fun, hands-on lesson sure to produce tasty results! You'll receive the easy-to-follow recipe and easy-to-find ingredient list ahead of time. Find more information and register at judaismyourway.org/cooking-classes/. Cost is \$36.

▼ WEDNESDAY, DEC 30

IT Support

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

▼ THURSDAY, DEC 31

Programs from Israel

Volunteers for Israel announces VFI EDUCATES, its new online content-rich live Zoom programs from Israel. The programs are designed to transport you to archaeological digs, historic neighborhoods and homes, ancient cultural sites, and bustling streets in the Jewish homeland. All programs are free and interactive, with real-time discussions. To be notified of future programs and Zoom codes, email your name, email and state to vfivolunteer@gmail.com. Starts at 2 p.m. •

NEWSMAKERS

Ann's Choice resident Joe Shrager turned 100 on Dec. 1. Shrager sits on the board of the Jewish Residents Council and continues to take courses at Gratz College.



▲ Joe Shrager at Kabbalat Shabbat services

Photo by Bernie Roseman

OceanFirst Foundation presented Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties with a \$20,000 grant to support Village by the Shore, a membership program which provides a multitude of concierge, professional and volunteer services and socialization for residents over the age of 50.



▲ Veronica Morey (back row, right) presented a \$20,000 check to benefit Village by the Shore. Beth Joseph, Andrea Steinberg and Marla Rosenthal accepted the check on JFS' behalf.

Courtesy of Jewish Family Service of Atlantic and Cape May Counties

A NOTICE TO OUR READERS

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

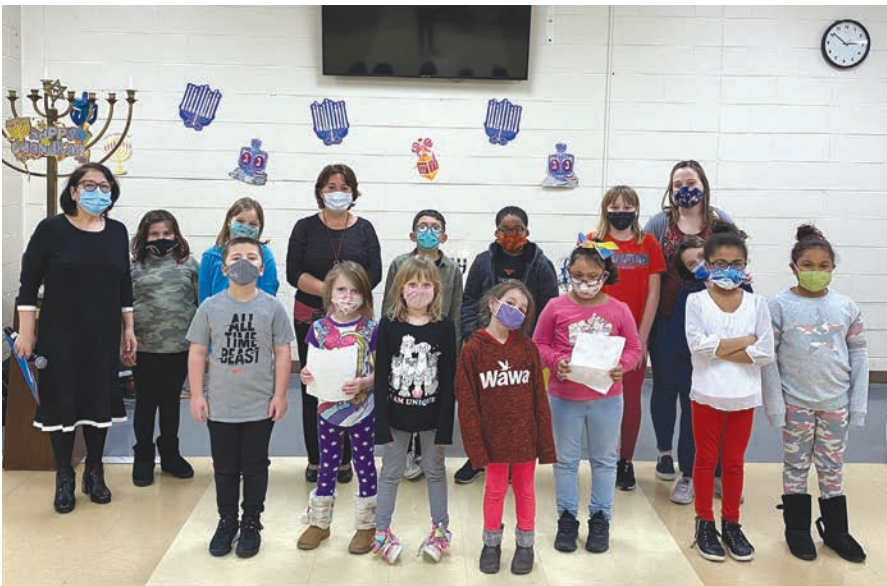
JEWISH EXPONENT

The KleinLife Jewish Children’s Sunday School in Northeast Philadelphia distributed holiday gift bags filled with goodies donated by the NetCost Market. The bags were assembled by staff and volunteers from the school. There was music, dancing and a menorah-lighting ceremony.

► From left: Lana Mirmishteyn, Lana Mokilev, Margarita Zelfon, Victoria Faykin, Dylan Rossin and Andrew Maksymov
Photo by Stephanie Hampson



Young participants in the KidSpace program at KleinLife in Northeast Philadelphia lit a *chanukiah* on the first night of Chanukah.



▲ With children, from left: Esther (Fira) Kogan, Victoria Faykin and Colleen Lane
Photo by Stephanie Hampson

The National Museum of American Jewish History inducted Harry Houdini and David Copperfield into the Ed Snider Only in America Gallery/Hall of Fame on Dec. 12.



▲ David Copperfield accepted the award at his International Museum and Library of the Conjuring Arts in Las Vegas.
Photo by Homer Anthony Liwag

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