



JEWISH EXPONENT

— WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA —

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OF NOTE

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Female Rabbis Ponder Current Challenges

The first female rabbi was ordained 50 years ago.

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Volume 134
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Crypto-Jewish Descendants Connect, Obstacles Remain

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

"SHABBAT SHALOM a Todos" wrote one member in the "Sephardic and Crypto-Jewish Research" Facebook group to an audience of more than 400 members, many of whom live in northern Mexico or the United States Southwest.

The post is nestled above a query to find a book on Spanish marine and navy guards published in 1954 in Madrid and below a posting of an old textbook image showing a woman facing the Inquisition in Mexico City.

The contents of the posts to the group run the gamut, but all pertain to crypto-Judaism, the secret practice of Judaism by Sephardic Jews in Spain and its colonies during, and after, the Inquisition.

In a time where Catholics remain the vast majority in Spanish-speaking countries and in Iberia, Jewish people in these countries remain stigmatized, though the Inquisition ended centuries ago. It's why these Facebook groups are precious to so many people just now uncovering their Sephardic

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▲ Robert and Molly Freedman

Courtesy of David Freedman

Jewish Music Collection a Longstanding Labor of Love

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

PENN LIBRARIES, the University of Pennsylvania-based repository for the Robert and Molly Freedman Jewish Sound Archive, calls it "among the most important resources in the world for the study of Jewish culture, folklore, history, linguistics and literature through the

medium of sound."

That description comes from Penn Libraries' website, which explains that the archive includes more than 40,000 songs, 5,923 albums and 1,510 pieces of sheet music. Donated to Penn in 1998 after it got too big for the Philadelphia-based Freedmans to house, the collection holds Yiddish songs, klezmer music and

See Music, Page 13

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Miriam's Advice Well

LIFE CYCLE EVENTS IN COVID ERA REQUIRE FLEXIBILITY

Life cycle events are among the things often interrupted in the era of COVID, so Miriam tackles several questions related to specific scenarios. The common thread in her answer is that people must remain flexible regarding their plans and also prioritize their various needs. 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/2022/01/10/dear-miriam-life-cycle-events-in-covid-era-require-flexibility/



Philacatessen

PRETTY WINTER SALAD

Food columnist Keri White received a case of oranges and grapefruits for Chanukah and has tried various ways to enjoy them. One way is to use them in salads. White created a salad that includes an orange, baby greens and half of a beet that she dressed with a mixture of olive tapenade, white wine vinegar, olive oil and salt, pepper and garlic powder. The combination worked perfectly. Check Philacatessen for the recipe, and check the blog regularly for content not normally found in the printed edition, such as other recipes, restaurant reviews and food news from around the Delaware Valley. jewishexponent.com/2022/01/10/pretty-winter-salad/

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JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

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

Andrew L. Cherry, Chair
Jay Minkoff, Immediate Past Chair

SALES & MARKETING

DISPLAY
sales@jewishexponent.com

Sharon Schmuckler
Director of Sales
215-832-0753
sschmuckler@jewishexponent.com

Susan Baron
215-832-0757
sbaron@jewishexponent.com

Taylor Orlin
215-832-0732
torlin@jewishexponent.com

Shari Seitz
215-832-0702
sseitz@jewishexponent.com

**CLASSIFIED/
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215-832-0749

BUSINESS

Stacye Zeisler
Publishers Representative
szeisler@jewishphilly.org

Mike Costello
Finance Director
215-832-0727
mcostello@jewishexponent.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS
subscriptions@jewishexponent.com
215-832-0710

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
215-832-0797

News & Tips
news@jewishexponent.com

Letters
letters@jewishexponent.com

Calendar Events
listings@jewishexponent.com

Andy Gotlieb, Managing Editor
215-832-0797
agotlieb@jewishexponent.com

Jarrad Saffren, Staff Writer
215-832-0740
jsaffren@jewishexponent.com

Sasha Rogelberg, Staff Writer
215-832-0741
srogelberg@jewishexponent.com

Eleanor Linafelt, Contributing Writer
215-832-0729
elinafelt@jewishexponent.com

PRODUCTION
production@jewishexponent.com

Jeni Mann Tough, Director
Steve Burke, Art Director

Frank Wagner, Graphic Designer

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JEWISH EXPONENT

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Flyers' Fans Urged to Aid Soviet Jews

Soviet Jewry Council Maps Non-Disruptive Campaign for Sunday Match With Russians

If you have tickets to see the Philadelphia Flyers battle the Soviet ice hockey team this Sunday, this story is for you.

Flyers' fans have been asked by the Soviet Jewry Council of the Jewish Community Relations Council to make a special stop inside the Spectrum—all to aid Soviet Jews.

"FREE SOVIET JEWS" T-shirts and posters supporting the struggle of Soviet Jews to immigrate to Israel will be available at tables in the Spectrum concourse at sections A-2 and M-N.

These plans were announced by the Soviet Jewry Council of JCRC as part of a range of activities aimed at using

Sunday's contest between the Flyers and the Soviet team to focus attention on the plight of Soviet Jewry.

Officials of the Soviet Jewry Council of JCRC said that in addition to asking Flyers' fans to wear the "Free Soviet Jews" T-shirts and to carry in and display the posters in a non-disruptive manner, members of the Soviet Jewry Council will be at the doors to the Spectrum to distribute free to the audience a \$3 souvenir book published in honor of the Flyers' Stanley Cup victory.

THE SOUVENIR books have been donated to the Soviet Jewry Council of JCRC by persons who wish to remain unidentified, according to Joseph Smukler

and Stuart Wurtman, co-chairmen of the Soviet Jewry Council of JCRC.

Inside each book, the Soviet Jewry Council has inserted an information message and call for action on behalf of Soviet Jews.

The call to action includes the request that Flyers' fans mail an attached public opinion card to Soviet leaders protesting the treatment of Soviet Jews.

BETWEEN PERIODS of Sunday's game, volunteers from the Soviet Jewry Council of JCRC will circulate inside the Spectrum to collect the cards for mailing to the Soviet Union.

This project is the result of discussions with the management of the Spectrum.

At the same time, the Soviet Jewry Council of JCRC urged individuals and members of synagogues and organizations to demonstrate Greater Philadelphia's solidarity with Jewish activists and prisoners of conscience by taking part in a demonstration outside of the Spectrum.

Smukler and Wurtman said participants should gather at the Spectrum at 11:45 a.m., and should bring signs pointing to the plight of Soviet Jews.

IN ADDITION, Smukler and Wurtman urged members of the community to contact any individuals they might know who will be attending Sunday's game, to ask them to stop at the Soviet Jewry tables outside the Spectrum before they enter.

ODDS 'N ENDS WEEK

We've done a few favors in our time. Like for that nice young couple who couldn't use all six chairs of a dining room set. Or the gentleman who loved our rosewood bedroom suite but had his own antique headboard. Now we seem to have accumulated quite a few interesting "odds" and some exceptional "ends". And since we need the room to accommodate new shipments, we're going to do you a favor by marking them all down. You'll find a bit of everything...furniture for the living room, dining room, bedroom. Accessories, lamps and accents. Beautiful pieces...at BEAUTIFUL SAVINGS. We may call them "odds and ends". You'll call them sensational.

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Female Rabbis at 50: Challenges Remain

LOCAL

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

FIFTY YEARS AGO, Sally Priesand became the first publicly ordained female rabbi in the United States.

Today, thanks to Priesand and the women who followed her into the rabbinate, female rabbis are abundant and normal. Many Philadelphia-area synagogues have women leading their congregations.

Two generations on from Priesand, who was ordained in Cincinnati and served at temples in New York City and Tinton Falls, New Jersey, young women have no trouble imagining themselves as rabbis. Outside of the Orthodox tradition, they face no roadblocks to becoming rabbis, either.

Local female synagogue leaders call that progress.

But at the same time, they still struggle against the perception that men should be rabbis. In the Philadelphia area, female rabbis are often the recipients of comments about how surprising it is that women are in the rabbinate now.

"We've come so far, and we still have so far to go," said Rabbi

Alanna Sklover of Or Hadash: A Reconstructionist Congregation in Fort Washington.

Sklover is in her late 30s. She grew up in a Washington, D.C., temple that had a female associate rabbi.

For the Reconstructionist, a woman leading a congregation was something she saw every week.

When Sklover reached her senior year of high school, she realized that she wanted to become a rabbi. The young Jewish woman also had no doubt that she could.

"That representation mattered," Sklover said. "And it continues to matter."

Beth Janus, the rabbi at Holy Redeemer Lafayette, a retirement community in Philadelphia, had a similar experience as a young woman. She graduated from Hebrew Union College with a class that was 50% female.

So for Janus, becoming a rabbi was not a matter of acceptance. It was a journey of self-discovery.

In college, Janus and her Catholic best friend took one class on Christianity and another on Judaism.

Janus would express her



▲ Rabbi Beth Janus of Holy Redeemer Lafayette in Philadelphia

Photo by Enoch Purnell

Judaism to the chaplain who taught the Christianity class. The chaplain told her she should become a rabbi.

"When I really thought about it, it actually made sense," Janus said. "I loved being Jewish and found a lot of meaning in being Jewish."

But even for women of the Sklover-Janus generation, acceptance was lukewarm.

As Rabbi Anna Boswell-Levy of Congregation Kol Emet in Yardley, put it: "People said things they would have never said to a male rabbi."

Boswell-Levy, 45, was ordained in 2006 and has worked at multiple synagogues. She started at Kol Emet, a Reconstructionist congregation, in 2014.

In the past, congregants called her sweetie and told her, "You look like a baby." The rabbi occasionally got comments on outfits that she wore to lead services. Sometimes, women were making those comments.

Boswell-Levy would respond to the statements about her age by saying, "Well, I'm older than I look." She'd answer the outfit commentary by asking, "OK, but what did you think of my sermon?" Of course, she always had to respond in the most polite tone she could muster.

"Outwardly smile," she said. The Kol Emet leader doesn't get those comments much

anymore. She attributes that to both her age and tenure, going on eight years in her position.

Rabbi Lauren Grabelle Hermann, who opened Philadelphia's Reconstructionist Kol Tzedek in 2004, said that's a common experience for female rabbis.

A woman will use the title rabbi to describe herself, and the other person will respond with her first name. She will talk about her ideas and see that they aren't taken seriously. She will apply to lead a big congregation and face questions about how, inevitably, she will want to have kids in the future.

Grabelle Hermann, like Boswell-Levy, is 45. Also like Boswell-Levy, she's been at her current synagogue, SAJ in New York City, for years. So after working hard to earn respect, the Reconstructionist rabbi no longer hears those comments too often.

"It's still true that it's often harder for women to feel like their authority as a rabbi is respected, especially when they are younger," Grabelle



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▲ Rabbi Lauren Grabelle Hermann started Kol Tzedek in Philadelphia back in the 2000s. Now she leads a congregation in New York City.
Photo by Chrystie Sherman

Hermann said.

But in the generation above Grabelle Hermann and

Boswell-Levy, the comments weren't so passive-aggressive. They were just aggressive.

“It's still true that it's often harder for women to feel like their authority as a rabbi is respected, especially when they are younger.”

RABBI LAUREN GRABELLE HERMANN

Rabbi Cynthia Kravitz was ordained in 1983. She spent 22 years leading Keshet Israel Congregation in West Chester. She also served at Congregation Or Ami in Lafayette Hill, the Germantown Jewish Centre in Philadelphia and Temple Har Zion in Mount Holly, New Jersey.

Kravitz said that when she started, reactions to female rabbis fell into two categories: open to it and vehemently against it.

“There were going to be any number of people who would tell you you couldn't be a rabbi,” she added. “You had to deal with that.”

Female rabbis of Kravitz's generation had no women to look up to, either. They were

the ones blazing the trail.

Kravitz explained that two beliefs got her through: She felt that she was supposed to be a rabbi and that she was making history.

“The world was changing. There were enough signs that the Jewish world was ready to change,” she said. “You listened to it and you just kept going.”

Today, perceptions are less harsh but still a challenge. Nor are they the only remaining difficulty.

Rabbi Beth Kalisch of Beth David Reform Congregation in Gladwyne was ordained in 2009 and faced “sexism from search committees” during her early job application process.

Independent Rabbi Lynnda Targen said that couples and funeral homes often prefer men to preside over weddings and funerals.

But as Grabelle Hermann explained, kids are now growing up with female rabbis. She even heard one story, from a Philadelphia family, about kids looking through a book with the stereotypical image of a rabbi: the old man with the long beard.

“They said, ‘Wait, men can be rabbis?’” Grabelle Hermann recalled. “That stereotypical image didn't resonate with them.” ●

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JCCs Remain Relevant Via Unique Business Models

LOCAL

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

IN 2022, Jewish Community Centers remain what they have always been: community centers.

Or, as several local JCC leaders explained, whatever their communities need them to be.

The only difference is, nowadays, JCCs do not need to provide safe spaces for Jewish residents who aren't always accepted in the broader community. Luckily, Jews today don't face that kind of discrimination.

But that doesn't mean they don't need their old, reliable community centers. In four regions of the Philadelphia area, at least, they very much do.

On the Pennsylvania

side, the Kaiserman JCC in Wynnewood and KleinLife in Northeast Philadelphia, which is not technically a JCC but serves a similar function, help nearby residents of all ages. In New Jersey, Cherry Hill's Katz JCC and Margate's Milton & Betty Katz JCC do the same.

Each organization, though, has a business model that is slightly unique compared to the others. After all, different populations in the region have different needs.

The Kaiserman JCC largely serves a Main Line area with wealthy families, so it caters its programming to core family needs.

Kaiserman's most successful programs are its summer camp, Camp Kef, and its preschool, The Robert J. Wilf Preschool. Kef welcomed between 450 and 465 kids last summer, and

Robert J. Wilf has its highest enrollment in years in 2021-22.

Beyond those two needs, Kaiserman leaders are still figuring out what else their families might want. In 2022, CEO Alan Scher, who started there last July, is in the process of meeting with more than 100 members.

So far, the Wynnewood JCC is working in fitness classes for older adults, cultural events like Chanukah parties and local partnerships like a spring plan to host games and practices with the Lower Merion Little League.

Scher has worked at five JCCs across the country. When he was just starting out, he called Brian Schreiber, the CEO of the JCC of Greater Pittsburgh, for advice.

"He said, 'The JCC in Pittsburgh keeps families in Pittsburgh,'" Scher recalled.

You could apply that same statement to the community centers in South Jersey.

Both the Katz JCC in Cherry Hill and the Milton & Betty Katz JCC in Margate are similar to Kaiserman: They focus on the families in their region.

The Cherry Hill community center serves about 300 students in its preschool, the Sari Isdamer Early Childhood Center, and almost 2,000 in its summer camp, the JCC Camps at Medford.

Unlike Kaiserman leaders, though, who are reevaluating their workout space, Katz JCC leaders call fitness and wellness their "heart and soul," said Bryan Lentine, the facility's sports and leagues director.

Katz has a workout room, pools, group classes, adult leagues, youth leagues and pickleball, among other offerings. The fitness room is "crowded all the time," Lentine said.

"The generations who have been here in the past are loyal to the facility," he added. "Their parents went here, and



▲ A senior program at the Milton & Betty Katz JCC in Margate

Courtesy of the Milton & Betty Katz JCC in Margate

now their kids come here."

The Margate JCC takes a similar approach but to a longer geographical area. Most of the Cherry Hill facility's regulars come from Cherry Hill, Voorhees and Marlton. But the Margate organization draws people from as far south as Cape May, according to CEO Marg Rosenblatt.

Rosenblatt's institution also sees its largest demand during the summer months when vacationers come down the shore. She described her JCC's summer camp, the Camp By The Sea, as "huge."

But with the Margate area's recent uptick in year-round residents, Rosenblatt's preschool, the Early Childhood Education Center, is up to more than 130 students.

The shore also has fewer gyms around, according to Rosenblatt. So in the summer, the Milton & Betty Katz JCC welcomes more than 5,000 people to its 4,500-square-foot fitness area.

"It becomes a family place," Rosenblatt said. "Parents drop their kids off and then workout."

KleinLife in Northeast Philly, like its JCC contemporaries, is also a family place. It's just not serving wealthier

suburbanites and/or shore vacationers.

Andre Krug, KleinLife's president and CEO, describes his organization's mission as "social services" for seniors, immigrants and children.

Northeast Philly has the largest senior and immigrant populations in the city, according to Krug. It also has a lot of young families who have been gentrified out of Center City. Most of the seniors, too, bring in less than \$24,000 a year.

So, KleinLife's biggest program is not preschool or summer camp or fitness: It's lunch. In 2021, the organization delivered and served, via grab-and-go due to the pandemic, 90,000 meals to area residents.

But Krug and his team do still offer traditional JCC services as well, like fitness programs for seniors, after-school programs for kids and a summer camp for kids. The CEO estimates that between 600 and 700 people enter his building per day, though that number is down from about 2,000 before the pandemic.

"We're never closed," he said. •

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Jewish Philadelphians Are Over COVID

LOCAL

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

IN THE ERA of omicron within the age of COVID, Jewish Philadelphians, like many Americans, are sick and tired of the whole thing.

But they are not just over the virus itself. They also are sick of its attendant political climate, its endless cycle of restrictions and new restrictions and of how it has isolated so many of us.

"I'm so done with all this," said Brett Goldman of Center City.

Almost two years into the pandemic, even though society is, for the most part, with momentary exceptions, back open from lockdown, that pre-COVID flow has not returned.

Jewish Philadelphians, like many Americans, now think twice about seeing family members and friends, about going to work outside the home and about going out to eat or see a movie.

Sometimes, even when they decide to do those things, they run into restrictions that either inconvenience them or outright ruin their plans.

On Jan. 5, Grant Schmidt of Ardmore got a call from his buddy asking him if he wanted to see the new "Matrix" movie. They drove to the Regal UA Main Street Theatre in Manayunk.

But they couldn't walk into the mostly empty theater because Schmidt wasn't vaccinated.

The guy checking tickets told Schmidt that he was "just following orders." The Ardmore resident looked back and saw no one in the parking lot. He asked the guy one last time if he could get in.

"He said, 'I'm trying to keep my job,'" Schmidt recalled.

Jed Margolis of Dresher

retired from a career with Jewish Community Centers a few years before the pandemic.

During COVID, he has still enjoyed retirement. Margolis and his wife tend their garden and watch their granddaughter, who puts on dance recitals for them.

But they have not been able to see their son and 4-year-old grandson, who live in California, often. The Margolis' have only seen them once in two years, last summer before the delta variant started spreading rapidly.

"In the best of times, we'd be out there in California with him," Margolis said. "But we've hunkered down."

Younger Jewish Philadelphians also were forced to hunker down.

Steffany Moonaz, of Doylestown, has watched her 13-year-old daughter Soleil "come of age during COVID," she said.

Soleil was always creative, the mother added. But over the last two years, she has blossomed into an artist.

She draws, paints and makes murals out of buttons. Recently, Soleil used objects from around the house to build a model telephone for her American Girl doll.

"She's carving out a place for herself," Moonaz said. "How she shows up in the world."

Except during COVID, Soleil can't really show up in the world.

Most art programs were closed, went virtual or continued in a limited capacity. Last year, the girl started middle school online and then did hybrid schooling. Now she has to wear a mask all day.

"It's hard to find your people," Moonaz said.

Randy Leib and her 33-year-old daughter, both of Elkins Park, have the opposite problem. They know who



▲ Jed Margolis and his wife enjoy time with their granddaughter. They have spent a lot of time with her during the pandemic.

Photo by Carley Margolis Taylor



▲ Steffany Moonaz, of Doylestown, with her family. Moonaz's daughter Soleil front left, has "come of age during COVID," the mom said.

Photo by Carol Ross

ONLINE LECTURES

This semester, Penn's Katz Center is continuing its exploration of Jews and premodern law with a series on the major works of the Jewish legal canon. Register for free lectures on the Mishneh Torah, the Shulhan Arukh, the iconic layout of the *daf*, and more. We are also offering mini-courses on Judeo-Spanish music and Arabian Judaism; these offer a chance to re-experience the college seminar, and are taught by international faculty to adult learners online for limited enrollment.

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Tu B'Shevat More Than Just a New Year For Trees

LOCAL

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

AMID WINTER IN North America, celebrating new plant growth seems unfathomable, but Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish celebration and "New Year" for trees, celebrated on Jan. 16-17 this year, approaches anyway.

Even in a period where so many trees lie fallow, area Jews still believe there's plenty to celebrate, reflecting in the host of events being held over the holiday.

"The day you plant a tree is not the day you enjoy and eat the fruit," said Zalman Wirnberg, director of the Old City Jewish Arts Center.

During another COVID-era Tu B'Shevat, just because there are fewer opportunities to spend time outside of

one's house or with loved ones doesn't mean internal growth isn't occurring, Wirnberg said.

Themes of internal sowing and change are reflected in OCJAC's two Tu B'Shevat exhibits by Elkins Park-based artist Diana Taflin Myers on display until Jan. 20: "Branching Out: A Celebration of Trees" and "SOS:2020."

Myers' collections of more than 20 pieces are composed mostly of natural materials and found objects, such as twigs, branches and wooden puzzle pieces.

"Branching Out" was inspired by the Tu B'Shevat celebrations she experienced while living in Israel in the '60s and '70s.

"It's not only work with branches, but it was also an opportunity for me to branch out — challenge myself in the art to see how many things I



▲ Alliance Community Reboot will host a ramp cultivating workshop led by gardener Ahron Moeller. Courtesy of Ahron Moeller

could do with branches and trees and natural pieces," Myers said.

"SOS: 2020," displayed alongside "Branching Out" is an examination of the themes from the early days of the pandemic: isolation, racial strife and preservation of democracy.

In one piece, "Sheltering in Place," Myers uses chess pieces, small toys and teeth separated into little boxes to represent families in isolation. Her other pieces, "Life Reimagined" and "I Can't Breathe," address the political climate of early summer 2020.

"Those are pieces really meant to be a tool for social change for people to see and hopefully, react," Myers said.

The Artist's Reception for the exhibits is on Jan. 16 from 2-4 p.m. at OCJAC, 119 N. Third St., Philadelphia.

For those looking to find meaning in the holiday, The Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History is hosting a set of programs designed to celebrate the "mystical" nature of the holiday, Weitzman Director of Public Programs Dan Samuels said.

The Weitzman will host a tree tour of West Laurel Hill Cemetery, led by Arboretum Manager Aaron Greenberg, on Jan. 16 at 1 p.m.

"It's a pretty cold time of year — maybe not everyone's

favorite time to go outside, but there's actually a lot going on inside of trees around here this time of year," Samuels said. "What does it mean for it to be a new year for the trees?"

The tour will focus on the hidden biological processes trees undergo during the winter, as well as the history of the arboretum on which the trees are located.

Beyond the hidden growth trees undergo during Tu B'Shevat is also a hidden mystical meaning, observed in a Tu B'Shevat seder held in partnership with the Rising Song Institute.

The Musical Tu B'Shevat Seder, led by Rebekka Goldsmith, Batya Levine, Jessie Reagen Mann and Rabbi Micah Shapiro, will be held virtually on Jan. 16 at 8 p.m.

"Tree time is slow time," Goldsmith said. "There are changes and growth [that is] not even perceptible to the human eye, and yet over time, we see big changes happen. For me, when we slow down, and we open up with sound, sound is the same thing. There's change that happens when we sing together."

The seder, similar to the Passover seder, features a meditation through the four "worlds" outlined in Kabbalistic texts, Goldsmith said. Each world, marked by changes in

the type of wine drunk and fruits and nuts consumed, represent physicality, thought, spirituality and emotionality.

"Any ritual is always greater than the sum of its parts," Goldsmith said. "All this can be explained, but it's really magic what happens when you get into it."

Information on the Weitzman's events can be found at nmajh.org.

Below are additional area Tu B'Shevat events:

Alliance Community Reboot Tu B'Shevat Winter Garden

Jan. 17, noon; virtual

Join ACRE gardener Ahron Moeller and team on Facebook Premiere for an experiment in cultivating wild ramps and preparing the Passover garden for the new Alliance Historic Model Farm.

Tribe 12 Breathe In & Branch Out: A Guided Meditation/Reflection

Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m.; virtual

This Zoom meditation for LGBTQ+ Jews in their 20s and 30s allows attendees to reflect on the ideas of privilege and oppression at the intersection of Tu B'Shevat and Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Beth Sholom Congregation Virtual Israel Tour

Jan. 17, 7:30 p.m.; virtual

Take a virtual tour of Israel to gain a better understanding of the country's green energy sources, bird migration and initiatives to plant new trees.

Congregation Kol Ami Virtual Seder

Jan. 19, 7 p.m.; virtual

This Zoom seder will feature the three types of fruits eaten on this holiday. The grocery list and details for the seder can be found by emailing kolamirabbi@gmail.com. •

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‘Beloved Community’ Prioritized on MLK Day

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PHILOSOPHER-THEOLOGIAN Josiah Royce coined the term “beloved community” in the early 1900s, but the phrase gained popularity when it was used frequently by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in his call to transform his community with “an all-inclusive spirit of brotherhood and sisterhood” and eradicate the violent racism still prevalent in U.S. society.

On MLK Day, Jan. 17, Jewish Community Relations Council Director Jason Holtzman hopes to strive toward a beloved community through JCRC’s programming and community partnerships.

“It’s important for us to show up for other communities because we want other communities to show up for us,” Holtzman said. “We want to create a more just society, a more equitable society, that offers fair treatment and opportunities for everyone.”

JCRC will co-sponsor Global Citizens’ 27th annual Greater Philadelphia Martin Luther King Day of Service, which has more than 160 in-person and virtual volunteer opportunities on this year’s theme of “Combatting Racism & Building Community.”

The organization, part of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, is participating in and inviting community volunteers to a cleanup of the Finley Recreation Center in East Mount Airy. The cleanup will take place from 8 a.m. to noon on Jan. 17, followed by three city-wide youth basketball games at the center.

The clean-up effort affirms recreational centers as places for community gatherings and face-to-face interaction,



▲ Main Line Reform Temple in Wynnewood, a partner of Alliance of Trust, collaborated with Taylor Tabernacle Church in West Philadelphia to collect and donate masks and hand sanitizer in October 2020. The pair also worked to distribute election information to local residents.

Courtesy of Alliance of Trust

Holtzman said.

“If you look across the city, over the past year, there’s been such a high rise in crime, such a high rise in gun violence,” Holtzman said. “It’s very important that there are flourishing recreation centers for youth to turn to the community to go to.”

Global Citizens President and King Day of Service Founder and Director Todd Bernstein affirmed the event, along with the additional

programs, as “a vehicle to build bridges” that goes beyond just showing up to volunteer.

“We very actively and very intentionally have folks that are very different from one another — have different experiences or [who are] different racially, religiously or geographically — doing projects together for that very reason of finding common ground and building ongoing relationships,” Bernstein said.

The event will have enforced COVID protocols, such

as required mask-wearing and social distancing when possible. Sign-up slots for the event are limited.

JCRC also will host a session on Jan. 14 at 1 p.m. with Alliance of Trust called “The Role of Sports in Combatting Racism and Antisemitism: Women in Sports.”

Panelists include Joanne Pasternack, co-founder of Athlete’s Voices and former vice president of philanthropy for the San Francisco 49ers and Golden State Warriors; Kendyl Moss, former president of communications for the Atlanta Falcons; and Odessa Jenkins, founder of the Women’s National Football Conference.

The virtual event will be the third installment in Alliance of Trust’s “Role of Sports” panel series, which is intended to illuminate the pervasive discrimination in sports history and the resilience demonstrated by Black and Jewish athletes to overcome that adversity.

“Sports is the great equalizer,” said Alliance of Trust co-founder David Edman. “When you’re on the playing field, and you got teammates, and you’re trying to win, the color of someone’s skin is irrelevant.”

Alliance of Trust began three years ago in response to community members’ desire to revamp the now-defunct

Operation Understanding, a partnership between the American Jewish Committee Philadelphia/South Jersey and the Urban League of Greater Philadelphia.

The organization, which kicked off public programming two years ago on MLK Day, aims to build Black-Jewish solidarity in an increasingly divisive political climate.

For more information on Global Citizens’ MLK Day of Service, visit mlkdayofservice.org. To register for Alliance of Trust’s “Role of Sports” panel, visit allianceoftrust.org. ●

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NEWSBRIEFS

Poway Rabbi Injured in Shooting Sentenced to 14 Months for Fraud

A JUDGE SENTENCED Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein, who lost a finger in the 2019 antisemitic shooting attack in Poway, California, to 14 months in prison for his role in a fraud scheme, JTA reported.

The prosecution and the defense agreed that Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein should receive only home confinement.

“You not only committed this offense yourself, but you took a lot of people with you,” U.S. District Court Judge Cynthia Bashant told Goldstein. “It’s important to send a message to the community, and it’s important to send a message to you.”

Goldstein pleaded guilty to tax fraud in 2020. His co-conspirators must pay \$2.8 million in restitution.

Under the scheme — which federal agents were investigating long before the shooting — donors contributed to Goldstein’s synagogue, then got most of the money back, enabling the donor to claim a tax deduction.

Goldstein retired from the Chabad synagogue in November 2019.

Utah Tech Boss Quits After Writing Email Blaming Jews for COVID

The board of directors of a Utah-based property management software firm Entrata asked Chairman

Dave Bateman to resign after he sent an email accusing Jews of planning “genocide” through COVID and its vaccine, JTA reported.

“Dave agreed and is no longer a member of the Entrata board, effective immediately,” the company said in a statement. “To be absolutely clear, we at Entrata firmly condemn antisemitism in any and all forms.”

Bateman sent an email to associates, including Utah Gov. Spencer Cox and Utah Jazz owner Ryan Smith, with the subject line “Genocide.” The email suggested that COVID-19 and its vaccines are the work of Jews, and that both are “attacking the reproductive systems of women” and eroding natural immunity.

Spain, Portugal Naturalize 90K-plus Sephardic Jew Descendants Since 2015

At least 90,000 descendants of Sephardic Jews have become Portuguese or Spanish citizens since 2015, when those countries passed laws offering a naturalization process for applicants, JTA reported.

The laws were meant to atone for the Inquisition, a campaign of religious persecution unleashed at the end of the 15th century on the Jews who inhabited the Iberian Peninsula.

Spain has received at least 153,000 applications for citizenship, while Portugal has received at least 86,000.

Spain has granted citizenship to 36,000 people, or about 23% of applicants. Portugal has granted citizenship to 63%, or more than 54,000 people. Thousands of applications are pending in both countries.

Jon Stewart Calls ‘Harry Potter’ Gremlins Antisemitic, Then Backtracks

Following a podcast in which he suggested that goblin characters in the “Harry Potter” series resembled antisemitic caricatures, Jewish comedian Jon Stewart posted a follow-up video to Twitter on Jan. 5 saying that he didn’t mean to accuse series author J.K. Rowling of antisemitism, JTA reported.

“Let me just say this, super clearly, as clearly as I can ... I do not think J.K. Rowling is antisemitic,” Stewart said.

In his earlier podcast, Stewart talked about the series’ goblins, who run the wizarding world’s bank and covet gold. Stewart compared the goblins’ movie version to stereotypes found in the infamous antisemitic tract “The Protocols of the Elders of Zion.”

Stewart said his initial comments were made in jest.

“There is no reasonable person that could’ve watched it [the podcast] and not seen it as a light-hearted conversation,” he said. ●

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

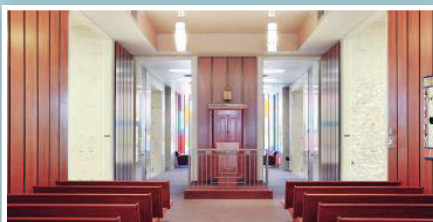
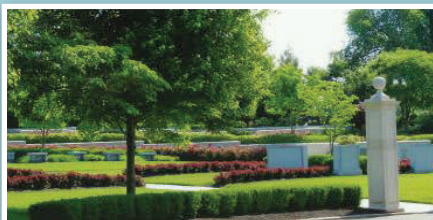
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HEADLINES

ISRAEL BRIEFS

US Visitors Now Allowed to Visit Israel

Israel lifted its COVID-related travel ban on visitors from the United States, United Kingdom and several other countries on Jan. 6 for the first time since November, JTA reported.

Visitors may enter if they can provide a negative COVID test taken within 72 hours of their flight. They will still be required to quarantine upon arrival until receiving a negative COVID test result.

The foreign traveler ban has been controversial, especially among U.S. immigrants to Israel who haven't had family members present for life cycle events such as weddings or the birth of a grandchild.

Director-general Nachman Ash said that as coronavirus rates in the country spiked to record levels, it made the impact of the travel bans minimal, The Times of Israel reported.

Israel Reviews Ties With China After US Pushback

Israel pledged to keep the Biden administration in the loop on major deals with China and will reconsider those deals if the United States is opposed, JTA reported, citing Haaretz.

Both the Biden and Trump administrations have raised concerns about growing ties between Israel and China — as the latter's relationships with the United States and European countries have become strained.

China and Israel have grown closer in recent years, especially related to tech and innovation. Haaretz cited unnamed sources as saying Israel was taking a "business as usual" approach with China.

And Israel has aligned itself diplomatically with China — in 2021, Israeli President Isaac Herzog called Chinese President Xi Jinping to discuss Iran's nuclear program, and Israel didn't sign a United Nations statement protesting China's treatment of Uyghur Muslims.

Kfar Saba Scores First, Jerusalem Last in Quality of Life Survey

Jerusalem placed last in a Central Bureau of Statistics survey about the quality of life of Israel's largest 16 cities, while Kfar Saba scored highest overall in the 51 measures that were evaluated, Globes reported.

Jerusalem lagged in the level of unemployment, satisfaction about the neighborhood, satisfaction about the economic situation, and access to computers.

Kfar Saba, which is in the Central District of Israel, scored well in life expectancy, housing density, satisfaction with housing, satisfaction with the cleanliness of the neighborhood, satisfaction with parks and green areas, and general confidence about their residential neighborhood.

The other top five cities were Rehovot, Ramat Gan, Rishon Lezion and Beersheva. Tel Aviv ranked sixth.

Ben-Gurion University Researchers Teach Goldfish to Drive

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev researchers said they taught a goldfish to use a "fish-operated vehicle" — which proves that fish can develop spatial awareness and navigate foreign environments, The Jerusalem Post reported.

In the study, the fish were placed in a tank attached to a wheeled apparatus navigated by a camera tracking the fish's movement and a linked computer system that followed its movement toward the tank walls, subsequently moving the vehicle in that direction.

The fish "were able to operate the vehicle, explore the new environment and reach the target, regardless of the starting point, all while avoiding dead-ends and correcting location inaccuracies," said study co-authors Shachar Givon and Matan Samina. •

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

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Crypto

Continued from Page 1

backgrounds after generations of it being hidden from them.

Philadelphia local Ronit Treatman is a member of more than 25 of these groups, including “Sephardic and Crypto-Jewish Research.”

In 2012, Treatman found out about her own background through DNA testing: A surprise finding indicated that family members had moved to Poland from Spain.

“It showed that part of them were forced to convert and had to go to Brazil,” Treatman said.

The uncovering of one’s Jewish backstory, particularly finding out about having crypto-Jewish ancestors, has become more common in the age of accessible DNA testing, Treatman said. Companies such as Family Tree DNA can look more specifically at Sephardic roots.

Treatman describes herself as “the other side of the mirror.” While so many other members from the groups are raised Catholic and are just now trying to learn more about their Jewish roots, Treatman has always known she was Jewish (Her father was an Israeli diplomat).

After almost a decade of networking in these groups,

she’s been able to assist scores of people in finding texts, resources and community members to connect these crypto-Jewish descendants back to Judaism.

Philadelphia Jews are no strangers to helping descendants of crypto-Jews, also called Conversos, Bnei Anusim or Marranos — the Spanish word for “pig,” which Treatman finds an unfit terminology for the group.

Congregation Mikveh Israel, the oldest synagogue in Philadelphia, was founded by Spanish and Portuguese Jews by way of a Sephardic synagogue in Amsterdam.

In the 1920s, it was the first Sephardic synagogue to respond to the requests of the Portuguese Marranos Committee, “for funds to be expended in reclaiming to Judaism more than 14,000 Marranos, who have been living in Portugal, openly as Christians and secretly as Jews for over four centuries,” wrote Mikveh Israel religious leader Leon H. Elmalah in an Oct. 31, 1926 letter.

The appeal was made in partnership with the Sephardic Community of London, the Anglo Jewish Association and the Alliance Israelite, the letter explained. The donation made by Mikveh Israel would be worth \$50,000 today, Mikveh Israel Rabbi Albert Gabbai said.

“Since we are a Spanish and Portuguese synagogue, and we trace our ancestry to the Jews who escaped — because we are a congregation that follows this tradition started by these Jews, it was a natural address for us to help them out,” Gabbai said.

Gabbai visited the Portuguese Jewish community, which now numbers between 50 and 100, in 2017, decades after it received a Jewish education from Israeli rabbis sent to teach about Jewish holidays.

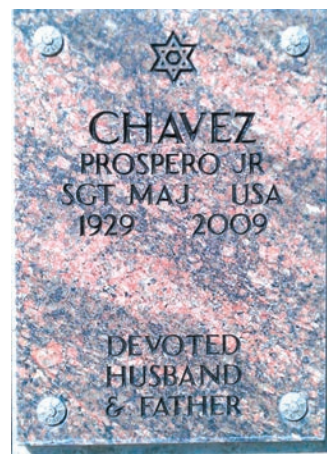
The trip was heartening, Gabbai said, as he was able to see what Mikveh Israel’s assistance 90 years prior was able to do. But misconceptions around Jews in the area persist, he said.

On the trip, Gabbai witnessed a tourist at a church — erected in the place of an old synagogue — who asked what had happened to the Jews who left the synagogue.

“The guide said, ‘We invited them to leave the country,’” Gabbai said.

The continued stigma reaffirms Treatman’s work, she said. It has also driven the work of a friend of Treatman’s, whom she met in one crypto-Jewish Facebook event: Keith Chavez, an Albuquerque, New Mexico, native who found out he was Jewish at age 13.

“My great-grandmother was dying. She was bedridden for a



▲ The gravestone of Keith Chavez’s father with a Star of David at the top. Chavez was raised attending a Catholic church with his father.
Photo by Keith Chavez



▲ Ronit Treatman found out about Jewish family members who lived in Spain after a 2012 DNA test.
Courtesy of Ronit Treatman

length of time before she passed away, and she wanted to talk to me, my brother and my cousin,” Chavez said. “So she called us together. She said, ‘Somos Sefarditos.’ We are Sefarditos.”

In hindsight, Chavez’s Jewish background made sense to him, despite attending a Catholic church with his father growing up. While most every Catholic woman in New Mexico would sweep dust out their front doors, his great-grandmother used a dustpan, as sweeping outside one’s door violated the laws of a mezuzah (though the family never had mezuzahs on their doorposts). She insisted upon having her meat for weekend meals sourced and prepared in

a way that resembled kosher law.

Chavez’s story resembles those of many other crypto-Jewish descendants, but he still considers himself different.

So many other people with crypto-Jewish backgrounds have staunchly denied their family backgrounds, instead favoring their Catholic upbringings. If they do choose to pursue learning more about Judaism, they can face scrutiny from some Jewish leaders who don’t consider crypto-Jewish descendants to be valid Jews without conversion.

Now an adjunct history and anthropology professor at the University of New Mexico, Chavez has taught about the presence of crypto-Jewish descendants in the Southwest U.S. and their own Inquisition, which only ended in the 19th century.

Like Treatman, Chavez is the administrator of a handful of crypto-Jewish Facebook groups. Facebook has helped change the landscape for crypto-Jewish descendants looking to connect, Chavez said, though these connections remain fewer than he hopes.

At one point, he helped a Finnish woman, who just found out about her Jewish ancestry, connect with a rabbi in Helsinki. The rabbi eventually led her through the conversion process.

“That I felt good about,” Chavez said. “Because she came home.” ●

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Music

Continued from Page 1

vaudeville acts, among others, from the United States, the former Soviet Union and Israel, among others.

“Faculty at Penn regularly bring their students to learn about the Freedman archive,” the website description reads.

The university labeled the Freedmans’ six-decade effort to build the collection “a labor of love.”

And that label could not have been more on point.

Robert Freedman, now 92 but still a savvy husband, gave most of the credit to his wife, Molly Freedman. He said she motivated him to start buying the old recordings on work trips to different towns.

The Yiddish music reminded her of her childhood, and she wanted to preserve it.

At some point during each trip, Robert Freedman, who worked as a lawyer, would stop in an old record store in the downtown area. Eventually, the Freedmans started making these visits together during their vacations.

“No matter where I traveled, instead of taking a lunch hour, I would walk downtown, find a record store,” Freedman said.

“I had a lot of business in New York. Michigan. Almost any town you can name,” he continued.

“On vacations when we traveled, South America. Argentina was a real treasure trove. They have a big Jewish community. France. Including Sephardic records. Amsterdam, I was amazed, had the largest Jewish record store in Europe,” he continued. “Would you believe that I found a couple of Yiddish records in the Vatican? I bought two records there.”

But Robert Freedman further explained that to truly understand why this became the couple’s passion, you have to understand their background.

Robert Freedman and



▲ A program from the Robert and Molly Freedman Jewish Sound Archive
Courtesy of Robert Freedman

Molly Freedman did not grow up together; he came from Upper Darby, she from West Philadelphia. But they nonetheless came of age in a similar Jewish culture.

Their families were secular, cultural Jews who sent their kids to afternoon schools that taught students how to read and write in Yiddish, as well as summer camps where they played and sang Yiddish music. Robert Freedman also has memories of singalongs in his parents’ “tiny Upper Darby living room,” as he described it, in which relatives and friends would “sing all night.”

The Freedmans came from an Old World culture, and they were set up in an Old World kind of way, too.

His mother and her aunt ran a beauty parlor together, and with Robert Freedman a young lawyer and Molly a 22-year-old beauty, they saw them as a natural fit. So her aunt, Sophie Fireman, invited Robert Freedman and his parents to a dinner party at her house.

When they arrived, there was no party. Just a conversation between Robert Freedman and Molly’s uncle at the basement bar.

Later, Molly walked in with her parents and her father addressed Robert Freedman’s mother by her maiden name. They had grown up in neighboring shtetls in Ukraine.

Six weeks later, the couple

was engaged. Though he may not have had a choice in the matter, Robert Freedman agreed that his wife-to-be was “gorgeous,” he said.

But his father may have liked her even more.

“She understands Yiddish, she reads Yiddish, she writes Yiddish, and with it all, she’s good-looking,” Robert Freedman recalled, quoting his old man.

After marrying and having two sons, Albert and David, Molly Freedman asked her husband a question one day.

“I miss the music,” she said. “Why don’t you look for records, and bring them home?”

That’s when the collecting started.

David Freedman, now 59, remembers his father playing the music in their living room. He also recalls his father getting up on Sunday mornings to listen to the “The Barry Reisman Show.”

“It was the only place in Philadelphia that was on the radio with Yiddish music back in the ’60s, ’70s and ’80s,” David Freedman said.

What started as a fun nostalgic activity grew into something more over time.

Robert Freedman began cataloging the records and songs into a computer database. When the Freedmans lived in an apartment complex in Rittenhouse Square, word got out about the collection,

and they started receiving donations.

“The collection got so large that we had to buy another apartment, a studio apartment, to store the recordings,” Robert Freedman said.

Researchers started visiting and asking to stay over at the studio, so the Freedmans put a bed in there. One Klezmer enthusiast stayed for more than a week.

“We finally decided that it belonged in an institution,” Robert Freedman said.

Robert Freedman wanted to donate it to an organization in New York City. But again, it was his wife who made the final call: It had to stay in Philadelphia.

“Molly said, ‘We’ll never see it again,’” Robert Freedman recalled. “It belongs here.”

When they donated the collection to Penn, the

Freedmans got an appraisal valuing it at \$240,000, according to Robert Freedman. But it’s worth much more than just dollars.

The Freedmans celebrate their 63rd wedding anniversary this month. Molly Freedman has dementia, but she can still remember the Yiddish songs and sing along.

Robert Freedman will start a song, and Molly Freedman will “go right into it,” as her husband described it, and then the two will sing together.

“The significance to the Jewish community,” said their granddaughter, Maya Pratt-Freedman, a Penn student who recently made a short film about the archive for a final assignment. “It’s a gold mine of the past.” •

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Too Many Chose to Look Away from Chaim Walder's Crimes. We Can Make Other Choices Now



BY RAHEL BAYAR

DURING MY FIRST MONTH as an assistant district attorney in the Bronx, I spent most of my time engaged in an intensive orientation. As part of that training, a senior ADA taught us the art of an effective opening argument. Whether you are prosecuting a child rape case, robbery or homicide, your ability to seek justice is affected by the words you choose to use.

To illustrate this, the ADA shared an effective and impactful opening argument in a case involving a drunk driver, which started like this:

Choices. Choices are what we make every day. We walk through each moment deciding what to do and how to do it. Choices are how we make it from point A to point B; they are why we are here. In the case of a DWI, the choices are your road map. The choice to drink. To leave the bar. To pick up those keys. To walk to your car. To open the door. To get in. To put the key in the ignition. To turn it. To shift into Drive. Those small choices are what

led to this moment. To crash. To kill.

Every single person who has sexually abused a child has made a choice. So too have the adults, parents, teachers, coaches, role models, clergy, spiritual advisors or communal leaders who have chosen not to act — or not to act in the right way.

The recent scandal surrounding Israeli children's book author Chaim Walder, accused of sexually abusing dozens of people, including minors, is rife with people making the right and wrong choices. The revelations inspired a surprising and welcome backlash within the Orthodox Jewish community in which Walder was a celebrity, with retailers and media companies severing ties with him.

On the other side, too many rabbis, communal leaders and educators kept silent, chose to say little or cautioned against "gossip," especially after Walder's apparent suicide in the wake of the allegations. Some publicly blamed his accusers for going public, appeared at Walder's funeral and shiva house or, as the Jerusalem-based teacher and author Rebbetzin Tziporah Heller did on her Facebook page, spoke of Walder as having "lost his balance."

He did not "lose his balance." He preyed on children. And the choice to use such benign words only inflicts more pain,

trauma and harm.

In all my years of prosecuting child abuse and sex crimes cases, the impact of choices was apparent in every case, every day. Choices made by others meant I could not indict a perpetrator or take them to trial because of the trauma inflicted on the victim, in many cases — a young child. Choices had an impact on every person who could not testify because the pain and trauma were too raw and real. Choices made by some meant a child could not disclose their suffering for years because there was no safe space to do so. Other survivors couldn't come forward because they knew they would be ostracized in communities that choose to blame the victims.

It is a choice to remain uneducated about what a child's experience of abuse might feel and look like. It is a choice to ignore red flags, boundary-crossing behavior or grooming tactics by adults in positions of power or trust. It is a choice to attribute sole authority to religious and spiritual figures to determine whether something should be reported, to whom and how. It is a choice when our communal leaders choose to impart — or withhold — knowledge about the reality of sexual abuse. These choices change lives and, many times, not for the better.

So now, we have another choice.

For communal leaders, the

right choice means saying this: "We stand with and believe survivors and victims. We are committed to learning more, to reporting abuse to law enforcement and to educating our communities — the adults, teachers and rabbis who should bear the onus of preventing abuse. We are committed to providing the tools to communicate and empower our kids, without placing the burden of preventing abuse on them. We are sorry. We must do better. We will do better."

The wrong choices include suppressing effective talk and knowledge of sexual abuse by invoking the so-called dangers of "*lashon hara*" (speaking badly), false allegations, rumor-mongering or smear campaigns. The wrong choice is using your social media platform to share inaccurate information or play the "both sides have suffered" argument.

The wrong choice means leveraging the power of spiritual trust and guidance to downplay reports of sexual abuse. The wrong choices include spreading the harmful canard that a child adhering to the Jewish laws of "*yichud*" and "*negiah*" — sexual modesty — will be protected from sexual abuse.

Such choices are dangerous, erroneous and put the onus of child protection on the children themselves.

It is our communal responsibility to be the protectors. To be a protector, we must make

better choices.

Effective abuse prevention is about the little moments. The choices we make in sharing information at the dinner or Shabbat table. The words we choose, especially when we think our kids aren't listening. If a parent's first reaction to these reports is "innocent until proven guilty," or that "Walder's books did so much good in the world," their children, whether they have witnessed abuse, experienced abuse, or just want to understand more about it, are unlikely to come forward.

Anyone who does this work professionally will tell you that it won't matter how often you tell children that they should let you know if something unsafe ever happens to them: They are unlikely to share if they sense that "I won't be believed" or "I did something to cause this."

So, make a choice.

Choose guidance from real experts in the field over spiritual leadership with no expertise.

Choose to use your platforms to convey accurate information.

Choose to be educated and informed, and to ask a professional when you don't know enough.

Choose better.

Choose to save a life. ●

Rahel Bayar is a former sex crimes and child abuse prosecutor and the CEO of The Bayar Group, which works with schools, camps and faith-based organizations on effective abuse prevention.



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**JEWISH
EXPONENT**

Pro-Semitism: A New Path



BY GAVRIEL KAUFMAN

IF YOU WERE SHOCKED by the alarming growth of anti-Israel sentiment after Israel's spring 2021 engagement in Gaza, you haven't been paying close enough attention.

For years, America's "finest" institutions have been promulgating an anti-Israel agenda. Most schools seem as committed to promoting the notion that Israel is a colonizer as they are to their students' post-graduation employment outcomes. I had the opportunity to witness this firsthand as an undergrad at the University of Pittsburgh, where a sociology

ignored Israel's many peace offers and gestures of good faith.

Allow me to provide a couple examples of these gross distortions: In one video, its creators opine that "Israelis receive vaccinations ... that Palestinians typically do not get." In fact, in June of this year, the Palestinian Authority rejected a deal in which Israel would have provided 1 million COVID vaccines to those living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Palestinian Authority valued optics more than its citizenry.

Another video claims that "between 250,000-350,000 Palestinians were expelled from their homes by Zionist paramilitaries" between November 1947 and May 1948. Although this number may be accurate, its purpose is to confuse, not clarify. In truth, Israel did its best to avoid conflict in the years before 1948; in 1937, when the Peel Commission announced that Israel would be provided with

likely realized that most of the Palestinians' problems stem from corrupt, inept leadership.

But for most anti-Israel activists, this realization has not come. It never will. They will continue to demonize Israel and spew disinformation about the world's only Jewish state. Hatred of Am Yisrael is not new; it has been with us for as long as our people have existed.

My intention is to not depress or dishearten. My intention is only to point out that what we've done up until now has not reaped the rewards we hoped for. When we decry the horrors of antisemitism, we are met with only more hate, more vitriol.

So, what's a Yid to do? Should we just accept that people will always hate us and smear us?

For many, the solution has been to spread awareness of antisemitism. We delude ourselves into thinking that if we teach our neighbors about enough pogroms and

emphasis on antisemitism and focus our attention elsewhere: on the beautiful inheritance we have, on the G-dly message we have for the world.

If we are serious about combating antisemitism and anti-Israel hatred — which are really the same thing — we ought to launch a campaign of pro-Semitism. If we wear a Magen David around our neck, we should replace it with one that is twice the size; if we wear a kippah full-time, we should wear one that is larger and more colorful.

If we are serious about combating the hatred of those who seek to distort our truths, we must be proud and resolute. We've tried for years to combat our enemies with the realities of antisemitism and its dangers. It has not worked.

Maybe it's time for something new. •

After graduating from the University of Pittsburgh, Gavriel Kaufman pursued Jewish studies at Mayanot Yeshiva, a Chabad yeshiva in Jerusalem. The Philadelphia native is a student at Rutgers Law School.

If we are serious about combating antisemitism and anti-Israel hatred — which are really the same thing — we ought to launch a campaign of pro-Semitism.

professor assigned a book, "The Making of a Human Bomb," that justified suicide bombings, claiming they were a rational response to having occupiers in your homeland.

Although I've heard this rhetoric for many years, it still hurts to hear people demonize a country and a people that have done so much good in the world. Recently, much to my disappointment, Rutgers Law School — where I am a student — posted 22, minute-long videos about Palestine. Unsurprisingly, these videos slandered and demonized the Jewish state. In so doing, they

a tiny, discontinuous piece of land, the Jews quickly accepted the offer. The Arabs, who would not abide by a Jewish state of any size, categorically refused. Such refusals would become a recurring theme in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

In 2001, after eight years of failed peace negotiations, President Bill Clinton met with Yasser Arafat, then chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organization. Arafat praised Clinton and called him a great man; Clinton responded, "I'm a colossal failure, and you made me one." After years of disappointments, Clinton

the Holocaust, perhaps they will start to support Israel as staunchly as we do. Our efforts have not worked.

After seeing the videos posted on Rutgers Law's YouTube page, I contemplated sending the creators an email, explaining their videos were a false portrayal of what's going on in Israel and Palestine. But then I would be falling into the trap that we always fall prey to: Maybe, just maybe, I can convince the person who hates me of the truth by using facts and logic.

Instead, it's time that Jewish people turn away from their

KVETCH 'N' KVELL

Article Overlooked Local Resource

I READ WITH INTEREST your front-page article about Yiddishists seeking community ("Yiddishists Search for Community to Preserve Revered Language," Jan. 6). No mention was made of the living, vibrant resource found at Gratz College in the person of Rita Ratner, who single-handedly founded the Yiddish program there and, like the eternal light, keeps it alive and growing.

My classmates and I began our Yiddish studies there and keep going as an intermediate study group going on our fourth year.

What are we, chopped liver (*gehakte leber*)?

No mention was made either of the the Yiddish Book Center in western Massachusetts where Stephen Spielberg has underwritten the digitized Stephen Spielberg Library where you can find any existing Yiddish book online and can print it out for no charge. •

Betty-Jeanne Korson | Hatboro

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.**

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

Source of Relief: Jewish Federation, Old York Road Kehillah Organize COVID-19 Testing Clinic

AFTER A WEEKEND OF NEW YEAR'S FESTIVITIES, 345 people received PCR COVID-19 tests at Gratz College on Jan. 3. The pop-up COVID-19 testing clinic was conducted in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, the Kehillah of Old York Road, Gratz College and Tang Pharmacy. In an effort to reduce financial barriers, test-takers without insurance were not charged for their PCR COVID-19 tests.

"As COVID cases rise, it's so important that people have access to free and accurate testing," said Kim Decker, director of the Old York Road Kehillah and lead organizer of the clinic. "It's a Jewish value that we care deeply about all the members of our community, and it is a real source of pride that we were able to embody this value through organizing the testing clinic."

That Jewish value of care was deeply felt by many of those who visited the site that day. The clinic provided relief for hundreds of nervous individuals and families that were unsure of their health status during a nationwide shortage of tests and a surge in COVID-19 cases due to the delta and omicron variants.

"My family was in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID. While my wife and I are vaccinated and boosted, my children are not, and I was extremely concerned for their health," explained Josh Katz, who was tested at the clinic. "I am so grateful for the OYR testing clinic, and we are so blessed to have a Jewish community that comes together at this most difficult time in our lives."

This is not the first time the Old York Road Kehillah, a neighborhood initiative of the Jewish Federation, was there for its community during the pandemic. Last year, the kehillah partnered with the Jewish Federation, Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel and Wellness Pharmacy Services on a community-wide vaccination clinic. Overall, the clinic provided 1,432 people, Jewish and non-Jewish, with their first and second dose of the Moderna vaccine on March 19 and April 16 at KI synagogue.

"The Jewish Federation is proud to partner with the Old York Road Kehillah throughout the COVID pandemic and most recently with the scarcity of tests,"



▲ The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, the Kehillah of Old York Road, Gratz College and Tang Pharmacy organized a pop-up COVID-19 testing clinic.

Courtesy of Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

said Rachel Berger, Jewish Federation's director of Jewish Life and Neighborhood Initiatives. "It is a privilege to be able to provide this resource, knowing that many in our community need tests for a variety of reasons, such as safely returning to school after winter break and visiting friends and family."

The Jewish Federation has provided relief and support throughout the pandemic, having quickly mobilized at COVID's inception to raise funds to help agencies on the frontlines to address emergency needs. To date, the Jewish Federation has raised and leveraged \$4.8 million to assist those impacted by the pandemic. Funds supported individuals struggling from financial distress, food insecurity, physical and mental health challenges, and more.

The testing clinic at Gratz College remained open for five hours, from 3-8 p.m., on Jan. 3. All visitors were required to properly wear masks when not being tested and wait outside to keep indoor occupancy to a minimum.

"Gratz College has a long record of standing alongside the Kehillah of Old York Road and the Jewish Federation," Gratz President Zev Eleff said. "We are grateful for the opportunity to renew that commitment and support the health and safety of our beloved community."

Tests were available for all ages and backgrounds, and the clinic accommodated walk-ins in addition to those who preregistered. As a result of the increased demand in tests, some results were delayed. However, the mass effort to bring testing to Old York Road was an achievement of fortitude, quick planning and the commitment to uplift the community through these challenging times.

"As a nurse, I keep a close eye on the effects of COVID and its implications for families. Younger families are most vulnerable, since our youngest are not eligible for vaccines, and families need tests to remain in day care, playing with friends and developing new skills," explained Sharon Katz, a psychiatric nurse practitioner who received a test from the clinic. "I want to thank all of the groups that made this clinic possible and helped our community navigate another surge."

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Do-It-Yourself Grain Bowls

FOOD

LINDA MOREL | JE FOOD COLUMNIST

GRAIN BOWLS ARE the rage in restaurant dining. They are served anywhere from salad bars and cafes to fine restaurants. Even Chipotle has grain bowls on the menu.

But because they are easy to assemble, why not save some money and make grain bowls at home?

But what is a grain bowl? Just as it sounds, this dish is served in a bowl. Although the bowl needs to be deeper than a rimmed soup bowl so ingredients don't topple over the sides, the portion size is for one person.

A generous amount of grain is nestled at the bottom, such as rice, quinoa or couscous. This is followed by layers of just about any kind of food, including veggies that can be cooked or raw, and a protein, such as meat, fish, tofu, cheese or hard-boiled eggs. Sometimes a sauce is drizzled over the top.

Grain bowls often fall into cuisine themes, such as Israeli, Italian, Tex-Mex or Asian. They are terrific for lunch or casual dinners. Frequently, the ingredients are on hand, and substitutions are always welcome. Using store-bought ingredients, such as hummus, baba ganoush and guacamole, et cetera, is highly recommended to make life easy. Leftovers should definitely land in any grain bowl you make. Let your imagination run wild.

Note: Recipes are for single portions. If several people will be at your table, increase the ingredients to accommodate the number of diners. You can also serve the ingredients buffet-style and let people fill their bowls according to preferences.

ISRAELI GRAIN BOWL | DAIRY
Serves 1

- 1 cup cooked couscous
- ¼ cup tomato, diced and seeded
- ¼ cup cucumber, peeled, diced and seeded
- ¼ cup radish, sliced thin
- ¼ cup hummus
- ¼ cup baba ganoush
- ¼ cup tzatziki sauce
- 1 tablespoon red onion, diced
- 1 tablespoon dill, minced
- 1 tablespoon parsley, minced

Place warm couscous in the bottom of a deep bowl. Arrange on top of it the tomato, cucumber radish, hummus, baba ganoush and tzatziki sauce. Sprinkle on the red onion, dill and parsley. Serve immediately.

TEX-MEX GRAIN BOWL | DAIRY
Serves 1

- 1 cup cooked quinoa
- ¼ cup canned black beans, drained
- ⅓ cup guacamole or ½ an avocado, sliced
- ¼ cup tomato, diced and seeded
- ¼ cup cucumber, peeled, diced and seeded
- ⅓ cup red pepper, seeded and diced
- ¼ cup cheddar cheese, grated or shredded
- ¼ cup sour cream
- ¼ cup salsa, or more if desired
- 1 tablespoon cilantro, minced

Place warm quinoa in the bottom of a deep bowl. Arrange on top of it the black beans, guacamole or avocado slices, tomato, cucumber, red pepper, cheddar cheese and sour cream. Drizzle salsa over the top, and sprinkle on cilantro. Serve immediately.



Anna Puzatykh / iStock / Getty Images Plus

ASIAN GRAIN BOWL | MEAT OR PAREVE
Serves 1

- 1 cup cooked white or brown rice
- ⅓ cup canned water chestnuts
- 6 asparagus, steamed, roasted or grilled
- ¼ cup sliced mushrooms of any kind, raw or sautéed
- ¼ cup snow peas, cut in half
- 1 carrot, sliced matchstick thin
- ¼ cup alfalfa sprouts, pulled apart to unclump
- 2 scallions, sliced thin
- ¾ cup firm tofu, cubed, at room temperature — optional
- ¾ cup sliced or cubed chicken at room temperature or warm — optional
- Soy Ginger Salad Dressing (Iron Chef brand is kosher)

Place warm rice in the

bottom of a deep bowl. Arrange on top of it water chestnuts, asparagus, mushrooms, snow peas, carrots and alfalfa sprouts. Top that with scallions, plus tofu and/or chicken. Drizzle the soy ginger salad dressing on top. Serve immediately.

ITALIAN GRAIN BOWL | DAIRY
Serves 1

- 1 cup cooked white rice, Arborio, if possible
- ¾ cup arugula, lightly chopped
- ¼ cup cherry tomatoes, cut in half
- ¼ cup cucumbers, peeled, seeded and diced
- ⅓ cup Kalamata olives, pitted
- ¼ cup canned artichoke hearts, drained
- ⅓ cup roasted red peppers in a jar
- 1 hard-boiled egg, cut in half

- 6 bocconcini, small mozzarella cheese balls (Paesanella brand is kosher)
- 3 slices provolone cheese, cut into strips (Naturally Good Kosher brand is kosher)
- 1 tablespoon red onion, chopped
- Bottled balsamic vinegar salad dressing, or olive oil and balsamic vinegar for drizzling

Place warm rice in the bottom of a deep bowl. Arrange on top of it the arugula, cherry tomatoes, cucumber, Kalamata olives, artichoke hearts and roasted red peppers. Over that, arrange the hard-boiled egg, mozzarella balls and provolone cheese.

Sprinkle red onion on top and drizzle with bottled balsamic vinegar salad dressing or olive oil and balsamic vinegar. Serve immediately. ●

Books: 'Tunnels' Digs for Complicated Truth

BOOKS

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

IN GRAPHIC NOVELIST Rutu Modan's most recent work "Tunnels," published on Nov. 2 by Drawn & Quarterly, archaeologist Nili is hardly the heroic and striking protagonist Indiana Jones is in "Raiders of the Lost Ark," but their goals are the same: find the Ark of the Covenant, and do it quickly.

The frumpy single mother, followed closely by her first-grader son Doctor, glued to his mother's iPhone, stumbles upon an inscription to the location of the Ark in the possession of a clueless collector, the catalyst of her quest to avenge her archaeologist father — a man sickened with dementia for the better part of two decades — whose scholarly contributions to the field were wrongly eclipsed.

The task is both daunting and familiar: Finding the Ark would not only save her family name, but it would be a continuation of a dig she began with her father 30 years prior.

In her perpetually worn

khakis and blue button-up, accompanied by her apathetic, but easily swayable Doctor, Nili embarks with her humble equipment to the site of the dig, which, coincidentally, lies at the crossroads of Israeli and Palestinian land.

As she approaches the dig site, she is joined by a gaggle of eccentric settlers led by the jolly Gedanken, who is keen on the spiritual rewards promised to whoever finds the Ark (and the claim to the heavily-contested land on which it's found).

Out of nowhere appears her brother Broshi, who is surreptitiously in cahoots with their father's academic nemesis Rafi Sarid, and later, in the tunnels, childhood acquaintance Mahdi, a Palestinian man, digging a tunnel intersecting Nili's, in hopes of smuggling vegetables to the other side of the wall dividing the territories.

The more people interested in the tunnels leading to the Ark, the more the meaning of the holy object becomes convoluted, and the more Modan's colorful "Tin-Tin"-esque comic becomes an ensnaring political allegory, 3,000 years

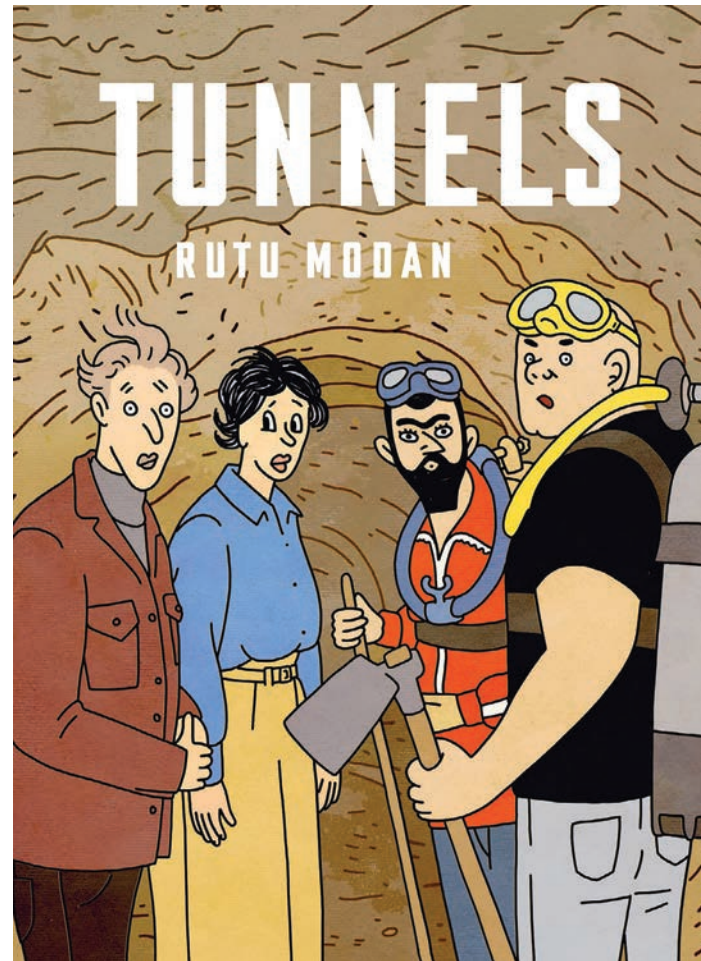
in the making.

The respective motives for the characters' finding of the Ark — be it glory, vengeance or an ideal bar mitzvah locale — are completely contradictory and, in the end, they don't matter. Alliances are forged and broken, lives are put at risk and the fate of the ark remains — spoilers — slippery at best.

With smart color work, clean lines and enthralling backdrops, "Tunnels" is crystal clear and consistent stylistically. Its playful drawings, exemplified best by the classic cartoon expressions of hair and eyebrows standing on end to depict a surprised character, pleasantly disrupt the seriousness of the concepts tackled, preventing the reader from growing frustrated with a heated and often-tackled topic of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Modan's lesson is painted with the same simplicity and clarity with which she draws: everyone's right; no one's right; it's complicated.

On one particularly striking page, Nili and Mahdi, face-to-face at the mouths of their respective tunnels, begin to squabble: "With all due respect,



▲ "Tunnels" by Rutu Modan, published Nov. 2 by Drawn & Quarterly
Courtesy of Drawn & Quarterly

it's our tunnel," Mahdi says.

"Maybe this part, but from there on out it's the tunnel that my dad dug," Nili retorts.

The quarrel over the tunnel's rightful digger continues. Mahdi concludes, referring to when the tunneling began several decades prior: "Depends where you start counting."

Even Modan's biting satire of the pious settler Gedanken, fixated on and limited by his hatred for Palestinians, is pointed, despite its silliness.

"Tunnels" greatest gift is its ability to skirt the line of satire and critique while never explicitly crossing it. In a time when others politics are assumed, and honest and vulnerable conversations are few and far between, "Tunnels" offers an easy (or easier) entry-point to conversations around

the conflict.

Clearly rooted in today's day and age, the graphic novel still feels timeless, for better or for worse, a snapshot of scenes throughout history, likely on disputed lands around the globe.

Through her plea for deeper understanding of the land's fraught history, brought to life by the conflicting core beliefs of two groups of people who ultimately want peace, Modan offers no solace to the reader. But with no questions answered or political solutions proposed, "Tunnels" still remains satisfying in its art and characters.

"In these dark times," Modan writes in her afterword, "I would happily settle for just the search." •

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Local-born Actor, Comedian Bob Saget Dies at 65

OBITUARY

SHIRA HANAU | JTA.ORG

BOB SAGET, the Philadelphia-born comedian and actor famous for playing a wholesome sitcom father figure but who never lost his flair for raunchy comedy, died Jan. 9 at 65.

Saget died shortly after performing in Orlando, where he had delivered a show with his trademark mashup of dark humor and dad jokes that he first developed while misbehaving in Hebrew school.

Saget was found dead in his hotel room in Orlando. The cause of his death is unknown, but police do not suspect drugs or foul play.

As a performer, Saget alternated between the raunchy stand-up comic known for darkly funny bits peppered with curse words and the wholesome dad that he played on the 1990s sitcom “Full House,” bringing together his audiences of children and adults in his role as host of “America’s Funniest Home Videos.”

Even before he got to Hollywood, Saget honed his comedy as a misbehaving Hebrew school student at Temple Israel in Norfolk, Virginia.

“Well, a lot of it was rebellion,” Saget told the Atlanta Jewish Times in 2014. “In my Hebrew school training, I would spend more time trying to impress the girls in the class. I remember the rabbi taking me up to his office and saying ‘Saget, you’re not an entertainer; you have to stop doing this.’ I couldn’t stop.”

He never did.

After a short stint contributing to CBS’ “The Morning Program,” Saget was cast to play a morning show host on TV. As Danny Tanner on “Full House,” Saget played a widowed dad and morning show host raising three daughters in San Francisco with

the help of his brother-in-law and his best friend. Saget played the role until the show ended in 1995 and reprised it in the “Fuller House” reboot that premiered in 2016. In 1989, Saget started hosting “America’s Funniest Home Videos,” which he continued until 1997.

Saget was born in Philadelphia in 1956 to Jewish parents but spent much of his childhood in Norfolk. His father, a supermarket executive, and his mother, a hospital administrator, probably would have preferred to see their son follow through on his original plans to become a doctor. But Saget’s plans changed in high school when his English teacher, Elaine Zimmerman, encouraged him to become a filmmaker. “To the next Groucho-Fellini,” she wrote in his yearbook.

For college, Saget was the typical Temple University commuter, taking public transportation while living at home. He’d already figured out that entertainment was his bag: comedy, singing and filmmaking, he said in a 2017 Jewish Exponent article.

“I opened for Frank Stallone at Stars, Stephen Starr’s old restaurant,” he said. “I did improv at the University of Pennsylvania and hung out with a bunch of guys called the Mixed Nuts. And I won the student Oscar for Through Adam’s Eyes, about my nephew who had his face reconstructed.”

Saget moved to Los Angeles and became a regular at the Comedy Store, the legendary comedy club famous for launching the careers of comedians like David Letterman and Jay Leno. His comedic role models included Richard Pryor, Rodney Dangerfield and Don Rickles, who, as Saget recalled in 2017, once said of him: “He comes out like a Jewish Clark Kent.”

At the same time that Saget was becoming the most



▲ Comedian Bob Saget performs at the Improv Comedy Club at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Hollywood, Florida, on Feb. 24, 2006. Ralph Notaro/Getty Images

recognizably beloved father in America, he experienced his own share of tragedy within his real family. Saget lost both of his sisters relatively young; Andrea died of a brain aneurysm in 1985 and Gay of systemic sclerosis in 1994. Throughout his career, Saget frequently performed at events to benefit charitable causes and served on the board of the Scleroderma Research Foundation.

In 2021, Saget participated in a Purim spiel, or comedic reading of the Purim story, to benefit the Met Council, in which he played the villain of the story, Haman. “I’m self-loathing, too,” he quipped as he and other members of the cast sounded groggers to drown out Haman’s name.

Saget recalled his Jewish upbringing, including his Hebrew school experience and the Jewish foods his bubbe cooked, in the foreword he wrote for the 2011 book, “Becoming Jewish: The Challenges, Rewards, and Paths to Conversion,” by Rabbi Steven Carr Reuben and Jennifer S. Hanin.

“I was born a Jewish boy. I was circumcised. Thank God by a professional. That is not something you want done by

a novice. Or someone doing it for college credit. So I ‘became Jewish’ instantly upon birth,” he wrote.

As a teenager and through college, Saget worked at a deli. Food was an important part of Saget’s Jewish upbringing, especially his bubbe’s stuffed cabbage and mandelbread cookies.

Speaking to Jay Sanderson of the “Jay’s 4 Questions” podcast in 2018, Saget recalled the time he almost got fired from his deli counter job after he stuck a half-smoked cigarette in a carp’s mouth and showed it to a customer who wanted to be sure the carp was fresh. Despite the years he spent grinding carp, Saget never lost his taste for gefilte fish, though he couldn’t stomach the jarred variety. His preferred combination for gefilte fish, he told Sanderson in 2018, was a mix of carp, pike and whitefish.

“The food of the Jewish people stays within me. It is still within me. I am writing this with a matzah ball inside me from 1975. It is next to the kishka,” he wrote in the foreword to “Becoming Jewish.”

Saget did not consider himself to be very observant. But he did feel a sense of

spirituality on a trip he took to Israel with his parents in the ’80s or ’90s.

“It was quite a gift and there were many spiritual things that happened throughout and that I think is still the closest I’ve felt, because you can actually see it and feel it in the air in Israel,” he said.

And he talked about being Jewish in the 2017 Exponent article.

“I have more pride now than before about being a Jew,” he said. “It’s what I am. I’m not very observant, but I like the traditions. And, at this time, when it feels like a fuse is being lit because of ignorance and lack of caring for your fellow man, I show my love through my comedy.”

Having lost his sisters and both of his parents — his father in 2007 and his mother in 2014 — at the time of his conversation with Sanderson, Saget talked about the difficulty in feeling spirituality or belief in God after experiencing so much loss.

“I go back and forth with my belief system, by the way. I’m not the best, most observant Jewish person you’ve ever met or talked to, and yet I’m Jewish and proud to be,” he said. ●



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What We Carry With Us

BY RABBI ERIC YANOFF

Parshat Beshallach

TOO MANY TIMES over the past nearly two years, I have been asked to expand my role as rabbi and assume the impossible role of prophet: *When will this all be over? When will life return to normal? What will normal feel like? What will never return? What will we learn? What will we mourn? What will we celebrate?*

Admittedly, there is something attractive, even therapeutic, about the mental exercise of floating above our sense of crisis during the pandemic, to ask and speculate about the meta lessons we will glean from COVID. People are desperate for a way out, but in the meantime, such speculation is an intellectual form of escapism: If we can *imagine* a time of redemption from our difficulties, perhaps it makes it feel like such redemption is attainable.

On a grand scale, in several places, our greatest rabbis remind us that it is forbidden by Jewish tradition to calculate the time of a future Messianic redemption; in an act of irony and chutzpah, many of them stress this warning just before they cite verses from the Book

of Daniel and other eschatological texts that hint at an answer to such calculations. But in this time, when people hunger for some hope for a better, more redemptive time, I prefer to learn by looking backward, to chart our path forward.

Indeed, my great-aunt Shulamith Elster, z"l, a brilliant Jewish educator, encouraged me in my decision to become a rabbi: At the time, I had taken the coursework to apply to medical school, but all of my extracurricular activities, summer experiences and work experience were in Jewish education and community-building. Aunt Shulamith said, "Eric, sometimes to know our future course, we can look backward, see the path we've walked thus far — and the path ahead becomes clear, because we're already on it." (She was right. I'm writing for the Jewish Exponent right now and not for The New England Journal of Medicine.)

With this in mind, I found a midrash on this week's Parshat Beshallach particularly moving: Drawing on a verse early in the Torah portion (Exodus 13:19), we are reminded that Moses took it upon himself to fulfill Joseph's dying wish from generations earlier, that his coffin (*aron*,

in Hebrew) be carried out of Egypt at the time of redemption, to be buried in Israel.

The midrash imagines this *aron* carried through the wilderness, side-by-side with the ark (also *aron*) that contained the words of the Covenant after the gathering at Mount Sinai. When asked, "What are these two Arks (*aronot*, the plural)?" — the answer was, "This ark carries of our honored dead — and this ark carries Eternal Life [literally, 'the Life of the Worlds,' the key to eternity, i.e., the Torah]" (Mekhilta d'Rabbi Ishmael 13:19).

What was so important that it fueled the redemption? What did we carry in those arks that redeemed us so? We carried:

Joseph. A symbol of innovation, of *chutzpadik* insistence on surviving and thriving, against all odds, left for dead, rising from the darkness of imprisonment to the highest levels of pre-eminence in a country not his own — all the while yearning for that homeland and that sense of family; and

The Ten Commandments (The Torah). The living, evolving guidelines on how to construct (and if need be, reconstruct) a society based on eternal values and traditions.

But stowed in the Ark of the Covenant were two

other contents:

The shattered fragments of the first tablets. God asked Moses to gather up those broken tablets. We carry our brokenness with us, into the wilderness, and toward redemption ahead.

A sampling of the manna provided in the wilderness. God does not leave us hungry; we must remember that there are miracles that make our survival possible.

These four ingredients, perhaps, serve as an indicator for how (God-willing) we may emerge from our current travails:

We will carry our dead. The overwhelming sense of loss, and the inspiration of those who have come before us, will be a burden, worthy of its own *aron*;

We will rely on timeless guidelines and values. We may be navigating uncharted waters, but thanks to our timeless wisdom, we know when we're on the right track;

We will mourn and recall our brokenness, when we failed, when we were vulnerable and unsure. That fragility, too, will inform our course; and

We will know and honor and recall the miracles and caregiving that brought us forth. The experts, the hard

work, the risks taken by those on the front lines and those more unsung, the vaccines and other medications developed, the small stories of love and the grand gestures of sacrifice — we will carry them all.

I cannot know, any more than any of us, what is to come, and when we will see better times; indeed, our parshah reminds us that redemption is not a straight path (Exodus 13:18).

May we carry our lessons with honor, with compassion for one another, and with hope for better times, soon ahead. Shabbat Shalom. •

Rabbi Eric Yanoff is a rabbi at Adath Israel in Merion Station and immediate past co-president of the Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia. The Board of Rabbis 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.



COVID

Continued from Page 7

their people are; they just can't see them.

Both women are immunocompromised. Every week, they get subcutaneous immunoglobulins, which, as Leib explained it, "is supposed to give you the immune system that you can't generate yourself."

If one of them gets COVID, they would probably get "extremely sick," Leib said.

So instead of going back out, they have not proceeded much

beyond the lockdown state of 2020. The women do not even go out for groceries.

Leib has only seen her Florida-based parents once in the past 20 months. She has not seen her other daughter, who lives in California, since the beginning of the pandemic.

A third daughter who lives nearby can't come inside due to omicron. They talk to her from a distance.

Over Zoom, Leib still

attends Shabbat services with her congregation and a challah-making hang out with other women. Her daughter has virtual get-togethers with her friends.

But Zoom is still not real life. "It's not the same as getting a hug from somebody," Leib said.

For Jewish Philadelphians, like other Americans, there is no end in sight.

The "light at the end of the tunnel" rallying cry, shouted

throughout the reopening process, at the arrival of the vaccine and then, at least before delta, in anticipation of July 4, 2021, is no longer spoken very often, if at all.

"We're going to have to make decisions based on our risk understanding, our risk overall and our risk tolerance," Moonaz said. •

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Challah for Hunger Rebrands as Nazun

PHILADELPHIA-BASED CHALLAH for Hunger, which was founded in 2004, announced that it is changing its name to Nazun, which is Hebrew for “we will nourish.” The organization, which was founded at Scripps College in California and relocated to Philadelphia in 2013, “inspires people to embrace their power and put it into practice to end campus food insecurity, and other pressing social justice challenges.”

Participants in more than 60 chapters across the country continue to bake challah to combat college hunger— the original mission — the organization’s work has grown to include leadership development, community building, advocacy and collective philanthropy.

The organization said one in three students suffers from food insecurity and doesn’t know where their next meal might come from because of lack of resources, time or money to obtain nutritious food.

“Challah for Hunger has grown exponentially in the last decade, and the students’ commitment to ending campus hunger has grown, too,” board chair Wendy Rhein said. “The board has taken on an extensive process to come to Nazun as a name and brand,

and I couldn’t be happier to see Nazun step into the future.”

Nazun plans to roll out a new logo, website, merchandise, social media and digital marketing.

“We were hearing from both students heavily involved in chapters across the US, as well as those not affiliated (with Challah for Hunger), that the name conveyed certain aspects of who people thought we were, but not who we actually are or how we operate on the ground,” Nazun Executive Director Rebecca Bar said.

Locally, there are chapters at the University of Pennsylvania, Temple University, Muhlenberg College, Lehigh University and the University of Delaware, as well as a family chapter at the Kaiserman JCC and social change bakeries at Tiferet Bet Israel, Or Hadash, Main Line Reform Temple, Keshet Israel, Judith Creed Homes for Adult Independence, Jewish Family and Children’s Service, Beth Or and Adath Jeshurun, according to the organization’s website.

Samuel P. Mandell Foundation Gives Grant to Update NC Jewish Art Exhibit

The Philadelphia-based Samuel P. Mandell Foundation gifted a \$50,000 grant to the North Carolina Museum of Art to support the reinstallation of the Judaica Art Gallery in the People’s Collection, according to a Dec. 16 news release from NCMA.

The exhibit will undergo updates to its display cases, labels, gallery walls and additional hardware, its first update since its 2010 opening in its current location in the museum’s West Building. The NCMA is host to one of two permanent art galleries in the U.S. dedicated to Jewish arts.

“The reinstallation of the Judaic Art Gallery will move visitors to experience this captivating display of beautiful and historic ceremonial objects in such a way that will heighten their appreciation of the historical importance of these works of art,” NCMA Consulting Curator Gabe Goldstein said.

The West Building is projected to close for renovations on June 1 and will reopen to the public in October.



▲ Michael Krupit
Courtesy of the Philadelphia-Israel Chamber of Commerce

PICC Names New Leadership Team

The Philadelphia-Israel Chamber of Commerce announced a new leadership team on Jan. 10. The chamber has a mission of “strengthening the region’s commercial, research, investment and friendship ties with Israel.”

Mike Krupit, the founder and lead coach of Trajectory LLC, will serve as president.

The vice presidents are Matt Dane Baker, senior vice provost for academic affairs at Thomas Jefferson University and Tiffany McKeever, the founder and CEO of Consensus Healthcare Consultants.

Other executive committee members are Vice President Secretary Lawton Laurence, the senior director of applied research and technology at West Pharmaceutical Services; Treasurer Michael L. Riesenbach, the chief operating officer of Isdamer & Co. LLC; immediate past President Matthew I. Fingerman, vice President and senior wealth manager at BNY Mellon; past President Neil Cooper, an executive partner at Royer Cooper Cohen Braunfeld LLC; and PICC Executive Director Vered Nohi. ●

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb and Sasha Rogelberg



◀ Rebecca Bar
Courtesy of Nazun



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ADONI
Lisa Adoni (Rossman), age 58 of Narberth, PA passed away in her home on 1/1/2022. Lisa was born in Huntingdon Valley and lived most of her life throughout Montgomery County. She graduated from Methodist Hospital School of Nursing and worked nearly 30 years in healthcare. Later in life, Lisa earned her bachelor's degree from Temple University and MBA from Eastern University. Her greatest joys in life were spending time at the Jersey shore, traveling the world, and spoiling her granddaughters. She is survived by her parents, Fonda Hartman of Bala Cynwyd and Donald Rossman (Patricia) of Escondido, CA; children, Stacie Silvestri of Wyomissing, Alex Adoni (Jaclyn) of Fort Washington; grandchildren, Emma & Sloane Adoni; sister, Maria Milgram (Richard) of Bryn Mawr; brother, Adam Rossman (Marcelle) of Escondido, CA; nieces and nephews, Lauren and Caroline Milgram, Benjamin and Maxwell Rossman. A celebration of life will be held at a later date for immediate family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.
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BERSON
Arnold J. Berson, on December 30, 2021, at the age of 84. Beloved husband of Sandra (nee Felsher) for 61 years. Adoring father of Alan (Cheryl) and David (Rita) Berson. Devoted grandfather of Benjamin (Sarah), Jessica, Eliana, Risa, Henry, and Hannah Berson. Contributions in his memory may be made to Montgomery County SPCA, 1006 Edge Hill Road, Abington, PA 19001.
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BRITCHKOW
Saul Britchkow, Jan. 4, 2021. Husband of the late Charlotte (nee Dunoff). Father of Dr. David (Lisa) and Robert Britchkow. Brother of Martin Britchkow and Sandra Bernstein. Grandfather of Jason and Evan. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.
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BROOKMAN
David Brookman, the son of Leanore and the late Alvin Brookman, suddenly passed away Tuesday, December 28, 2021. David loved life and people and they loved him! Recently David expressed the hope of retiring at the age of 65 and looked forward to new experiences in the future. Unfortunately, this was not to be. David graduated from Law School and practiced for a short time but instead of continuing – decided to go in a different direction and followed his interest in computers and all the activities encompassed in this field. David was a firm believer in the tradition of Judaism he learned as a child – and lived. He also took great pride in the fact he was given the privilege to blow the Shofar for the High Holidays. As a son – David was totally devoted to his mother. He was her rock! David was passionate about all kinds of music from Jazz to Classical. David left behind his mother, his sister Cheryl, and her children, Alexa and Matthew and David's long-time friend Linda. Any contributions in David's honor may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.
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BUSH
Stephen I. Bush on December 29, 2021. Beloved husband of Susan (nee Slipakoff); Loving father of Shelly Shotel (Howard), Julie Rome (Jonathan), Andrew Bush (Alicia); Step-father of Stacy Dalinka (Roddy), Jennifer Rosenwald, and Glenn Witman (Matt); Dear brother of Essie Cherkin (Bob) and the late Gladys Golden (and the late Donald); Devoted grandfather of Jared, Izzy, Jacob, Zachary, Brendan, Devin, Brandon, Allie, Halle, and Remi. Contributions in his memory may be made to Ruth and Raymond Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine, 3400 Civic Ctr. Blvd., Phila., PA 19104, https://giving.apps.upenn.edu or American Heart Assoc., www.heart.org
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COHEN
Stephen Cohen, Jan. 5, 2022, husband of Rhonda (nee Feldman) of King of Prussia. Father of Marshall (Barbara) Cohen, Dr. Gary (Shirley) Cohen, Josh (Jen) Cohen and Corey Cohen. Brother of Susanrae Harrison. Uncle of Remy Feldman. Grandfather of Jake, Jordyn, Noah and Julie. Contributions in his memory may be made to Temple Brith Achim.
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COHEN
Annie Cohen, January 2, 2022, formerly of Dresher, PA. Annie Cohen's Life was Focused on Family and Education Annie lived for her children! When she referred to her children, she meant her 3 loving children Lisa, Evelyn, and Allan, her grandchildren David and Leslie, and generations of Hebrew school students at Temple Sinai in Dresher, PA and Philadelphia public school students at Ethan Allen School, William Cramp Elementary School, and Ada Lewis Middle School. Annie was born in the Russian-Jewish community in Shanghai, China and lived there until she was 15 years old. She was an only child and orphaned at a young age, so she always dreamed of having a family and bonded with her school friends who became life-long friends. When the Maoist revolution in China forced many non-Chinese to flee, Annie's beloved aunt took her with her on a Jewish refugee boat bound for the newly established Jewish homeland, Israel. After a long journey and stopover for processing in Cypress, Annie spent her first 6 months in Israel living in a refugee camp. Later she graduated high school from the famous Zionist agricultural boarding school Nahalal and then served in the Israeli Defense Forces. She met the love of her life Dieter Cohen, himself a former refugee and veteran (U.S.), on a trip to the United States at age 23. They had 3 children and were married for nearly 50 years until Annie was widowed. Annie and Dieter raised their family initially in Roxborough, Philadelphia and then Dresher, PA. Annie was a mainstay at Temple Sinai for 3 decades, teaching Hebrew language and Siddur prayers to the children in the Aleph and Bet grades and leading their High Holiday Services. She began her public-school teaching career with special education students and then found her calling teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. Her personal experiences as a refugee and immigrant gave her a deeper understanding of the challenges facing these children. As a mother of 3, Annie went to college. She received a Bachelor of Hebrew Literature from Gratz College, a Bachelors of Science in Education from Temple University, and a Master of Education from Beaver College (now called Arcadia University). Annie is survived by daughters Lisa Burton (Richard) of Johns Creek, GA and Evelyn Cohen of Johns Creek, GA, son Allan Cohen of New York, NY, and grandchildren David and Leslie. Contributions in Annie's memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association Longest Day fundraiser in memory of Annie and Dieter Cohen: act.alz.org/goto/AnnieDieter
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CUTLER
Gladys Cutler, 97, (nee Rosenberg) 1/05/21, of Phila. Loving wife of the late William, mother of Jack, & Sam (Kathy Perron), devoted grandmother of Alexandra, Alice & the late James. Doting Great-grandmother to Kellan. Survived by her sister Henrietta as well as many beloved nieces and nephews. Gladys took great pride in living a full life. Her main priority was her family spending many hrs. sharing her feelings, values, and stories about growing up with 5 brothers & sisters in S. Phila. Prior to attending Temple, she started her working career in her parents' fish & produce business; then as an executive secretary to the Personnel director of the City of Phila., then in the Health Commissioner's office for a decade. Even while working full-time, and raising a family, she co-founded a non-profit organization called the Women's League for Medical Research (WLMR), which provided funding for heart, lung and kidney research to the Albert Einstein Medical Center (AEHN). She became national president, developed many chapters in 4 states raising millions of dollars over the years. Her own chapter, (Emile Zola), funded the Cardiac Catheterization Lab at AEHN. Her motto was, "If you have a dollar, you can give 10 cents to charity." She was deeply committed to helping others and realized that many more could be helped through a large organization than individually. In addition to her work in charity and her giving to many organizations, Gladys was a lifetime member of Hadassah as well. She also considered herself to be a feminist, always encouraging the women in her life to be independent. She was proud that she had the opportunity for higher education, to work while being a mother, for building credit in her own name as soon as the law allowed it, and was dedicated fully in each of her endeavors. Gladys felt voting was important, and never missed an election. She cared about the world she would eventually leave for her grandchildren, and hoped to make it a better one while she was here. Whenever the family was together "GC" would "hold court." They would gather round to hear stories about what life had taught her. She sincerely believed we could build a better world by putting others ahead of ourselves. Her basic pleasures were playing Mahjong with friends, attending literally hundreds of Broadway shows, (she kept every Playbill since her first show in 1939), attending many of Alexandra's violin concerts, and spending winters in Aruba and Italy with her beloved husband of 47 years. Gladys passed a year ago and is already dearly missed. She was admired by many who knew her as someone who was dedicated to what she believed in, devoted to her family, and committed to helping others having a better life. May her life be for a blessing. Internment through Goldstein's was private. Contributions in her name may be made to: Women's League for Medical Research
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DEATH NOTICES



ELLENBOGEN
Ellenbogen, Ruth M., age 78, Died January 4, 2022; she is predeceased by her mother and father, Giza and George Mark, as well as her son-in-law, Andrew Gibbs. Ruth was a devoted Mother to Rena (Andrew Margulies), Michelle Gibbs, and David Ellenbogen (Ruwida Al Krekshi-Ellenbogen). She was the ultimate Nana to Evan Gibbs, Isabelle Margulies, Alexander Bellantine, Juliet Margulies, Cas Ellenbogen, Joshua Ellenbogen, and Emma Gibbs. She also leaves behind her dear friend and former spouse, Alan Ellenbogen(Nancy). Ruth immigrated to America from Haifa, Israel when she was 13 years old. Much of her soul remained with her homeland, which she paid homage to by making sure we were aware that Israel invented everything from running water to just about anything that anyone has ever used. Ruth raised her children and her grandchildren with laughter, love, and traditions that have become the core of our entire family. She valued love and family more than any dollar she had in her pocket. Everything she could give, she gave. Ruth(Nana) represents our family's moral code of goodness, kindness, forgiveness, and desire for family to come above all else. Her demands were always simple - "Love each other no matter what." Her humor, intelligence, and perceptiveness drew everyone to her. We would be so proud of how cool and hip she was - crossing boundaries and being able to discuss anything from sex to the Torah. She allowed people to be themselves and would embrace them without judgement or censor. She always spoke of her mother with great respect and humility, never thinking much of herself compared to her regal mother. Well Mom, you eclipsed all souls and set an impossible standard of bravery, kindness, love, work ethic, altruism, and of course family. Much of who we are is from your example. Your spirit is deep within all of us which gives you immortality. You are the beautiful, dancing, gourmet-cooking, hugging, financing, bridge playing, fashion-ironing, shopping, hollering, laughing, crying, listening, traveling, gorgeous being - You took the biggest bite out of life in a fearless way and rose to the stars for us to look upon with awe. We are Ruth's heart splattered all over the world singing her songs, telling her stories, cooking her dishes, repeating her mantras, harnessing her bravery, and following the legacy that only a grand dame like Ruth could have made. We do not cry for Mom (Nana), for we know she is there, amazed at her new adventure. We cry for ourselves who will ache to be with her until the day we see her again. Donations in Ruth Ellenbogen's honor can be made to birthrightisrael.foundation.

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FIRESTONE

Samuel Ephraim Firestone on January 3, 2022. He was just 3 months shy of completing his 95th year. He died peacefully with family present following a severe stroke. Beloved husband of the late Norma (nee Toiv); Loving father of Gail Furman (Barry), Daniyel Firestone (Lewis Rodin), and Joanne Firestone; Dear brother of Marvin Firestone; Devoted grandfather of Melissa (Nathaniel), Rachel (Ryan), Molly (Chris), and Mandy (Chris); Adoring great-grandfather of Samantha, Olivia, Alana, Zachary, Rebecca, Nicholas, Noah, Idina, Logan, Adam, and Maya. Services and Interment are Private. Contributions in his memory may be made to any Jewish charity of the donor's choice. He will be missed by many.

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GETZ

Martin Getz, January 4, 2022; of Merion Station, PA; loving father of Leonard Louis Getz (Susan), Elissa Lynne Stein (Robert) and Judy Blank (Mark Harris); cherished grandfather of Philip Dov Getz, Sharona Rina Whisler (Joshua), Ariella Naomi Tsirlin (Yisrael), Jacqueline Lew (Jack), Dana Paige Poulson (Eric), Jason Kushner and Adam Stein; adored great-grandfather of Meira, Akiva, Nessa, Amalya, Gavriel, Raquel and Presley. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Martin's memory may be made to Chabad of Kendall (www.chabadokendall.org/donate) or Zionist Organization of America (www.zoa.org.)

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GORDON

Rosalyn S. Gordon on December 22, 2021. Born December 25, 1932, Rosalyn passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family. She shared a 70-year marriage to the love of her life Marvin J. Gordon. Marv and Ros were passionate about their yearly travels, enjoyed sitting and reading, spending time with their grandchildren, and enjoying Ros's famous party trays with a cocktail. Loving mother of Joye (Gordon) and Christopher Minnick, Edye (Gordon Schaffel) and Howard Cooperman. Adoring Grandmother of Evan and Claudia Katz Minnick and Leah (Minnick) and Gary Pearce, Erica Schaffel, David and Jessica (Schaffel) Caine. Cherished Great grandmother of Ava Lorraine Pearce. Contributions in her memory can be made to either: The Breathing Room 600 West Ave., Jenkintown PA 19046 or Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park PA 19027 Neysa Adams Library Fund

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DEATH NOTICES



KAUFFMAN

Larry David Kauffman, 70, of Smyrna, DE, formerly of Philadelphia, PA, Mt. Laurel and Hainesport, NJ, passed away on Thursday December 30, 2021 at Bayheath Kent General Hospital, Dover, DE. He was born in Philadelphia, PA on March 1, 1951 to the late Jonas Kauffman and Geraldine Burns. After college, he Flew C-130's in the Air Force Reserves, and was a small jet, twin and single engine pilot. He was a musician who played bass in the band 1910 Fruitgum Company, and also played bass, guitar, and keyboards in various other bands. He also loved boating, cats, drag racing, and progressive rock music including Yes and Genesis. He was a business owner who specialized in rebuilding and selling car starters and alternators and he owned a mortgage business. He served as a Colonel in the Civil Air Patrol (Air Force Auxiliary) and worked to develop their airplane maintenance program and he enjoyed mentoring young guys towards aviation careers. He is survived by his wife, Robin Kauffman, of Smyrna; a sister, Randi (Fred) Kauffman-Sadoff; brothers-in-law, Jeff (Marva) Heckert and Keith (Lisa) Heckert; a niece, Dana Kauffman; nephews: Matthew Heckert and Grayson Heckert; and his beloved cats, Jeffy Kauffman and Zoey Kauffman. He was predeceased by his nephew, Kristofer Heckert; and his beloved cats Missy, Sabrina, Tasha, Cinder, Rusty, and Princess Kauffman. In lieu of flowers please donate to New Pawsibilities of NJ cat rescue, PO Box 3, Marlton, NJ 08053. To sign the online guestbook, please visit www.matthewsbryson.com

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KAUFMAN

Edith (nee Litman) Kaufman, on December 30, 2021. Beloved wife of the late Joseph (Jerry) Kaufman. Devoted mother of Barbara Ponczek, Beth Ann Sidewater (Elliot) and Harold Kaufman (Judy). Loving grandmother of Dana Ponczek, Joseph Ponczek, Helen Kaufman, David Kaufman (Jordan), Elyse Goldberg, and Eric Sidewater. Contributions in her memory may be made to Ohev Shalom of Bucks County, 944 2nd Street Pike, Richboro, PA 18954.

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KLINGHOFFER

Barbara Klinghoffer, 87 of Philadelphia, passed away on January 1, 2022. She was married for 62 years to Leonard Klinghoffer, who predeceased her in 2018. The daughter of Emanuel and Dora Asbell, she was born on April 18, 1934 in Philadelphia, graduated from Olney High School and earned a BFA from the Tyler School of Fine Arts at Temple. She is survived by her brother, Michael (Sucha), her children Nancy (Malcolm), Andrew (Ilaria) and Joanne (Alexander), and six grandchildren, Alison (Benjamin), Jonathan (Tracey), Isabelle, Jonah, Luca and Benjamin and one great granddaughter, Eliana. Her family will remember her privately. Contributions in her memory may be made to LiveWell Foundation: www.livewell-foundation.org or to Penn Memory Center and Alzheimer's Disease Center: giving.apps.upenn.edu/find-fund

DEATH NOTICES

KRATCHMAN

Herbert Kratchman passed away on December 28 at the age of 92, at home in Lafayette Hill, PA, surrounded by his loving wife and children. He was known for his good nature and humor and will be missed by all who knew him. Herb was born March 23, 1929, in Philadelphia, PA and was a life-long resident of the Philadelphia area. He graduated from Central High School and received his Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Temple University. Following college he served stateside in the U.S. Army from 1952-1954 as a Personnel Administrator. Herb worked for various companies, including ITT-Nesbit and Burroughs Corporation, before launching Renninger's Antique Guide, a leading East-Coast antiques newspaper, in 1976. He and his wife continued publishing Renninger's Antique Guide until 2020. He met his beloved wife of 66 years, Harriett (Ackerman) Kratchman, on a blind date arranged by mutual college friends, and were married in 1955 in Philadelphia. They raised two children, Paul and Michele, and the family settled in Lafayette Hill, PA. Herb and Harriett loved to spend time together along with their extended family and friends. Herb was preceded in death by his father William Kratchman, mother Katherine Kratchman and brother Lowell Kratchman. He is survived by his wife, Harriett Kratchman, son Paul Kratchman (Candace Smith), daughter Michele Kratchman (Jon Fishman), granddaughters Isadora Kratchman and Rose Kratchman, and brother-in-law Alvin Ackerman (Janet Ackerman). In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate donations to World Central Kitchen, or a charity of the donor's choice.

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MAZER

Morton D. Mazer, 86, of Jupiter, Florida, passed away on January 3, 2022. Formerly of Dresher, Pennsylvania, Mort was the cherished husband of Connie, and the loving father of Ellen Zarge (Dr. Joseph) and the late Randi Waxman. Mort was also a devoted and proud Poppo to Nikki and Tammi Waxman, David and Jason Zarge, and Lauren and Michael Kolodin. Mort is survived by the rest of his beloved family, including brother Robert Mazer (Edy), brother-in-law and sister-in-law Mel and Deena Stein, and daughter-in-law and son-in-law Debbie and Rich Waxman. Mort was a graduate of the 198th class of Central High School, and of University of Miami, class of 1956. He was also a dedicated Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy. Mort will be fondly remembered for his quick wit, adventurous spirit, and heartfelt generosity. Mort will be profoundly missed by everyone who knew him. Graveside Services for Mort were held Wednesday, January 5, 2022. Contributions in Mort's memory can be made to the Randi Joy Waxman Memorial Foundation via mail at the following address: Greater Washington Community Foundation, PO Box 49010, Baltimore, MD 21297-4910. If donating via check, please note the Randi Joy Waxman Memorial Foundation in the memo line or contributions may be made online by selecting the fund called "Randi Joy Waxman Memorial Foundation" on the drop-down list at the following link: www.thecomunityfoundation.org/donate

DEATH NOTICES

PELTZMAN

Bernice Zelda Peltzman (nee Pearlstein) On January 1, 2022. Beloved wife of the late Edward Peltzman. Loving mother of Howard and Judi Peltzman (nee Abramson), Audrey Freedman (Michael), and David Peltzman. Adoring grandmother to her "good as gold" grandchildren, Keith Peltzman (Carly), Jaimie Fuller (Michael), Daryl Freedman (Jackie), Jaryd Freedman (Lindsay), Carly Freedman, Daniel, Meredith, and Drew Peltzman. Exuberant great grandmother to Ezra, Caleb, Jonah, Nolan, Rosie, and Elijah. She was faithfully committed to her family, friends, and Judaism. Contributions in her memory can be made to American Red Magen David (WWW.AFMDA.org).

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SAVETT

Stuart Hubert Savett, 82, of West Conshohocken, PA, died Tuesday, December 28, 2021. He is survived by his wife Maxine; children Stacy (Ross), Scott (Shani), Lauren (Marc), Andrew (Michelle), Steven (Karen), Edward (Dana); grandchildren Ariel Borer, Elan, Ari, and Zev Savett, Ella and Noah Hausman, Madeline, Noa, and Natalia Denker, Bennett and Landon Denker, Ruby and Benjamin Denker; brother Steven (Freda) Savett; first wife Sherrie Savett; and countless friends. Stuart was raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Temple University, 1960 and Villanova School of Law, 1963. He was an esteemed litigator involved in lead positions in numerous class action lawsuits. Of his many positions and honors, Stuart was most proud of being a member of the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board, an Adjunct Professor and member of the Board of Consultants at Villanova Law School, and a Trustee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia. Before his passing, Stuart shared that he had a rich and wonderful life and was very grateful. His family and friends gave him countless moments of joy and laughter. He will be remembered for his intelligence, kindness, generosity, and love. Memorial contributions may be made to the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, 2100 Arch St, Philadelphia, PA 19103 or Temple Beth Chaim, 389 Conestoga Rd, Malvern, PA 19355. Funeral Service, Wednesday, January 5th at 11:00 AM, at West Laurel Hill Funeral Home, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004. You can also join via Zoom. Burial immediately following at West Laurel Hill Cemetery.

WEST LAUREL HILL FUNERAL HOME
www.westlaurehill.com

SMITH

Nancy (nee Sagar) December 31, 2021; of Wynnewood, PA; loving mother of Howard W. Smith (Cori Stelzer) and Scott J. Smith (Samantha); beloved sister of Susan Sagar Toll (Brent); cherished grandmother of Noah, Amanda, Skylar and Savannah. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Nancy's memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS
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DEATH NOTICES



SIMON

Marilyn W Simon, Artist, Teacher, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother. Aug 25, 1927- Nov 10, 2021 Marilyn Simon was a prolific artist, creating sculpture, paintings, prints, sketches and ceramics, all while raising four children. A known artist in the Philadelphia region, her work won numerous awards and commissions. One famous piece is the life size bust of Yitzhak Rabin that is installed in the University of Pennsylvania Van Pelt-Dietrich library. A lover of Israel and distressed by Rabin's assassination, Marilyn was inspired to compete and was awarded the Alumni Class of 1956's commission to memorialize him. Immersing herself in the details of Rabin's life and surrounding herself with his images, Marilyn worked tirelessly to bring him to life in bronze. Passionate about Rabin's life story, Marilyn reached out and formed a friendship with his widow, Leah Rabin. Marilyn created a smaller bronze sculpture that Leah Rabin presented in 1999 to President Bill Clinton, the first recipient of the Shalom Chaver award. Marilyn attended that ceremony with tremendous pride. Always creating Marilyn had sculptures in galleries, pieces in juried shows and shows of her own. She was involved in artists' cooperatives and had a studio at Crane Arts in Philadelphia. In her later years her ceramic art became playful, whimsical, and beautifully free. She celebrated her 85th birthday party at Crane Arts where family and friends could witness how her sculptures and ceramics were alive to her. Family was of utmost importance to Marilyn and when her children gave her grandchildren, she was thrilled to have fresh young minds to engage with and inspire. They became her models and her students. She drew them, sculpted them, and captured their images and spirits. She gave them clay, teaching them to create freely while sharing her view of the world through her unique artistic lens. A student and a teacher, Marilyn taught elementary art at Wyncote and Cheltenham Elementary Schools and sculpture to orthodox students at the Temple University School of Dentistry. Even as a grandmother she took classes at Tyler School of Art and was never old in the presence of the young graduate students. As an advocate for the art programs, she stressed that problem solving was learned through art. Marilyn attended the University of Chicago on a full scholarship in 1946, an admirable accomplishment for a woman at that time. While Marilyn was known as an artist, she cared deeply about the world around us. She was a lifelong supporter of her political beliefs, Jewish causes, the environment, equality, diversity, women's rights, and the cultural arts. She was a season ticket holder to the Philadelphia Orchestra, The Wilma Theater, and later the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. She encouraged others to enjoy these performances with her, or when circumstances prohibited her attendance she joyfully shared those seats with family and friends. Marilyn is lovingly survived by her four children, Nina (Robert Rosenthal) Simon, Jacob (Jenny Su) Simon, Maurine (Mark Rubinstein) Simon, Linda (Neil) Shapiro, grandchildren Ruth (Julienne Bautista) Rosenthal, Elana (Jesse Theisen-Toupal) Rosenthal, Lea (Zachary) Ludwig, Benjamin (Rebekah Sternbach) Rubinstein, Adina (Evan) Kerkhoven, Sarina Rosenthal, io

DEATH NOTICES

Simon, Ariel Shapiro, Joel (Emi) Shapiro, Elena Bunker, and great grandchildren Isaiah, Dorian, Charlie, Ezra, Lorelei, Rafael, Samara and Colton. She is also survived by her sisters Beverly Hoffman, Ardith Asher. Both her baby brother Louis Weintraub z"l, and former partner Walter Simon z"l of blessed memory predeceased her. Marilyn Simon died peacefully on Nov 10, 2021 of natural causes. She was 94 years old.

STOLOFF

Jerome (Jerry) Stoloff, age 87, passed away December 31, 2021. Beloved husband of Joanne Stoloff (nee Moldauer). Loving father of Judi Sanders (Scott), Andy Stoloff, Ron Stoloff (Vanessa), and Ellen Stoloff (Jason Kessler). Adoring pop pop of Quentin, Lexi, Grant, Jillian, Jessica, Reid, Ruby, and Juliette. Jerry had a passion for tennis, family, and friends. He loved pizza, M&Ms, potato chips, dad jokes and good movies. He hated skiing but went every year because it made his family happy. He grew up in Strawberry Mansion and graduated from West Philadelphia High School. He and his partner Richard started a company from nothing and turned it into a successful business and lifelong family friendship. Jerry, you were loved and respected. You will be incredibly missed and lovingly remembered. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association www.alz.org or the National Kidney Foundation www.kidney.org
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WEINSTEIN

Joel Phillip Weinstein, age 86, on December 31, 2021. Husband of Florence "Cookie" (nee Oberlander); father to Stacy (Chris) Geryk and Adam Glickman. Grandfather to Olivia Glickman. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project.
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WEISS

Leon (Lee) Weiss (1920-2022), beloved husband, father, uncle, grandfather, great-grandfather, and one of the oldest surviving veterans of the Second World War, passed away on January 4 in Boynton Beach, FL after a remarkable life. He was 101 years old. Lee was born in McKeesport, PA on December 24, 1920, to Minnie Klein and Aaron Weiss and spent his early years in Pittsburgh, PA. As a young man studying art at Carnegie Tech and working as an interior designer, he learned of the attack on Pearl Harbor and immediately volunteered for the war effort. Lee trained as a radio operator and was first deployed to England as a member of the 3103d Service Battalion where he worked on the top-secret Operation Fortitude South intended to deceive the Germans about the location of the Allied invasion ahead of D-Day. It was over thirty years later, when the details of this operation were made public, that Lee learned he had been a part of this famous "Calais Hoax," and that the encrypted transmissions he had sent had redirected the German forces to Pas de Calais, allowing for the successful Allied landing at Normandy. Lee and his unit were

had been a part of this famous "Calais Hoax," and that the encrypted transmissions he had sent had redirected the German forces to Pas de Calais, allowing for the successful Allied landing at Normandy. Lee and his unit were then sent to France, arriving on Omaha Beach two days after D-Day. As a signal service operator, Lee "went where he was needed," helping to liberate Paris, the port at Brest, and then on to Belgium, where he later fought in the Battle of the Bulge. After the war, Lee joined the Duro-Test Corporation, where he spent his career as a top salesman for over fifty years. Lee married his sweetheart Renee Grosser Weiss in 1945 while home from the war on furlough. Lee and Renee settled in the Philadelphia area, raised two children together and enjoyed 54 years of marriage until her death in 1999. Lee knew how lucky he was to find love again with his second wife, Cele Heyman Lieberman, who was by his side for the last 22 years. Lee was an avid sportsman who was active in both mind and body nearly up to the end. He took pride in pitching weekly doubleheaders for his Sunday softball team at Wall Park until the age of 87 and continued to golf and bowl twice a week well into his nineties. Always the life of the party, Lee was known for his irrepressible charm, his colorful wit, his artistic talents, and his unwavering loyalty to the Pirates and Steelers. In addition to his wife, Cele Heyman Lieberman, Lee is survived by his children, Barbara Strogatz Pankhurst (Mark Pankhurst) and Steven Weiss (Linda Marcus Weiss), his grandchildren Melissa Strogatz Burnett, Benjamin Strogatz, Laura Weiss Farrell, David Weiss, and Craig Weiss, his wife's son David Lieberman and grandsons Jesse and Jordan Lieberman, as well as his three great-grandsons. Lee was also a cherished uncle to his brother Elek Klein Weiss' children, Bert Weiss (Suzie Laskin), Ronna Weiss Nichamin (Bill Nichamin), and great-niece Mindy Nichamin. Lee and his family are also grateful for the care and friendship of Anne Losiaste during the final years of his life. In a recent interview to commemorate his 100th birthday, Lee was honored by his modern-day Signal Service Battalion now out of Fort Hood, TX, and presented with a hand-written letter and director's coin from 4-star General Paul M. Nakasone of the U.S. Army. Toward the end of the interview, Lee remarked that life was a miracle and that he had no regrets. With his usual humility and cheer he added, "All in all, I've had a good run."

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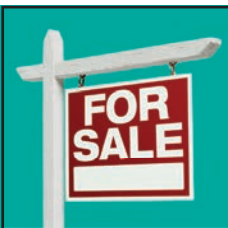
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ESTATE OF , MICHAEL P. SHAW a/k/a PATRICK MICHAEL SHAW, M.P. SHAW, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to LISA BROPHY, EXECUTRIX, c/o Harry Metka, Esq., 4802 Neshaminy Blvd., Ste. 9, Bensalem, PA 19020,
Or to her Attorney:
HARRY METKA
4802 Neshaminy Blvd., Ste. 9
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ESTATE OF ANNETTE RUBIN, DECEASED.
Late of Upper Merion Township, Montgomery County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to RICHARD BIRCKETT, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Jermaine Harris, Esq., 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1523, Philadelphia, PA 19110,
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Or to her Attorney:
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ESTATE OF BESSIE BIRCKETT, DECEASED.
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Or to his Attorney:
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ESTATE OF CHHATH CHIP, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
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Or to her Attorney:
RICHARD L. VANDERSLICE
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ESTATE OF DAVID M. INGBER, DECEASED.
Late of Abington Township, Montgomery County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to ROSALIND INGBER, EXECUTRIX, c/o James M. Orman, Esq., 1600 Market St., Ste. 3305, Philadelphia, PA 19103,
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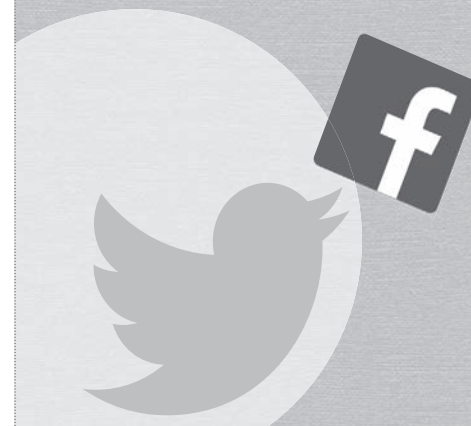
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ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF DENNIS OLIVER CARTER, SR., DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DENNIS OLIVER CARTER, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Peter L. Klenk, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to his Attorney:
PETER L. KLENK
THE LAW OFFICES OF PETER L. KLENK & ASSOCIATES
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF DONNA FEATHER, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JAMES MILLER, EXECUTOR, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to his Attorney:
DANIELLA A. HORN
KLENK LAW, LLC
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF EUGENE A. RUDOPLH
Deceased
Late of Pennsylvania
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to John Frank Sonsini, Administrator c/o his attorney Debra G. Speyer, Two Bala Plaza, Suite 300, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004.

ESTATE OF HORTENSE CHRISTIAN, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to LISA CHRISTIAN BROWN, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Lisa M. Nentwig, Esq., 1500 Market St., Ste. 3500E, Philadelphia, PA 19102,
Or to her Attorney:
LISA M. NENTWIG
DILWORTH PAXSON LLP
1500 Market St., Ste. 3500E
Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE OF ISADORE GOLDBERG, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to BRUCE GOLDBERG, EXECUTOR, c/o Rachel Fitoussi, Esq., 62 W. Princeton Rd., Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004,
Or to his Attorney:
RACHEL FITOUSSI
62 W. Princeton Rd.
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

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ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF JOAN O. BRANDEIS, DECEASED.
Late of Cheltenham Township, Montgomery County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DANIEL BRANDEIS and SARAH KRAMER, EXECUTORS, c/o Rebecca Rosenberger Smolen, Esq., 1 Bala Plaza, Ste. 623, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004,
Or to their Attorney:
REBECCA ROSENBERGER SMOLEN
BALA LAW GROUP, LLC
1 Bala Plaza, Ste. 623
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

ESTATE OF JOANNE M. POTTER a/k/a JOANNE M. CARLSON, DECEASED.
Late of Pocopson Township, Chester County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to EDWARD T. POTTER, JR., EXECUTOR, c/o Adam S. Bernick, Esq., 2047 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to his Attorney:
ADAM S. BERNICK
LAW OFFICE OF ADAM S. BERNICK
2047 Locust St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Estate of Josephine M. Ingelido; Ingelido, M Josephine
Late of Philadelphia, PA.
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to: Helen Anderson, c/o Ned Hark, Esq., Goldsmith Hark & Hornak, PC, 7716 Castor Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19152, Administratrix.
Goldsmith Hark & Hornak, PC
7716 Castor Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19152

ESTATE OF LUZ N. ROSARIO, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DAMARY V. STOKES, ADMINISTRATRIX, 127 Palm Beach Plantation Blvd., Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

ESTATE OF MALVA BASKIN, DECEASED.
Late of Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, PA
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION CTA on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to BONNIE MAZIS and LISA McINTOSH, ADMINISTRATRICES CTA, c/o Rachel Fitoussi, Esq., 62 W. Princeton Rd., Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004,
Or to their Attorney:
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ESTATE OF MARGARET CORNELIA AGURS a/k/a MARGARET CORNELIA AGURS TUCKER, CORNELIA A. TUCKER, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to LESLIE ANN HOLDER, EXECUTRIX, c/o Amy F. Steerman, Esq., 1900 Spruce St., Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to her Attorney:
AMY F. STEERMAN
AMY F. STEERMAN, LLC
1900 Spruce St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF MARIA MOLLINEDO a/k/a MARIA TERESA MOLLINEDO, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to MARTHA BUCCINO, EXECUTRIX, c/o Andrew Gavrin, Esq., 306 Clairemont Rd., Villanova, PA 19085,
Or to her Attorney:
Andrew Gavrin
306 Clairemont Rd.
Villanova, PA 19085

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

ESTATE OF PETRO SOKIRNIY, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to IVAN SOKIRNIY, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Peter L., Klenk, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to his Attorney:
Peter L. Klenk
The Law Offices of Peter L. Klenk & Associates
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF ROBERT A. MOREEN, DECEASED.
Late of Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to VERA B. MOREEN, EXECUTRIX, c/o Rebecca Rosenberger Smolen, Esq., One Bala Plaza, Ste. 623, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004,
Or to her Attorney:
REBECCA ROSENBERGER SMOLEN
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ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE of Robert Spolin, Deceased
Late of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY
Notice is hereby given that, in the estate of the decedent set forth below, the Register of Wills has granted Letters Testamentary to the person named. All persons having claims against said estate are requested to make known the same to her or her attorney and all persons indebted to said decedent are requested to make payment without delay to:
Administratrix: Jane Levy
c/o Diane H. Yazujian, Esquire
P.O. Box 1099
North Wales, PA 19454
Attorney: Diane H. Yazujian, Esquire
P.O. Box 1099
North Wales, PA 19454

ESTATE OF SHIRLEY WHITE, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to SANDER WHITE, EXECUTOR, c/o Adam S. Bernick, Esq., 2047 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to his Attorney:
Adam S. Bernick
Law Office of Adam S. Bernick
2047 Locust St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

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ESTATE NOTICES

Estate of Wanda Marie Carter aka Wanda Carter; Carter, Wanda Marie aka Carter, Wanda
Late of Philadelphia, PA.
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to: Nakia Stevenson, c/o John R. Lundy, Esq., Lundy Beldecos & Milby, PC, 450 N. Narberth Ave., Suite 200, Narberth, PA 19072, Administratrix.
Lundy Beldecos & Milby, PC
450 N. Narberth Ave.
Suite 200
Narberth, PA 19072

Estate of Walter K. Debes aka Walter Debes, Walter K. aka Debes, Walter
Late of Philadelphia, PA.
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to: John A. Debes, c/o Henry S. Warszawski, Esq., 413 Johnson St., Ste. 201, Archways Prof. Bldg., Jenkintown, PA 19046, Executor.
Henry S. Warszawski, Esq.
413 Johnson St., Ste. 201
Archways Prof. Bldg.
Jenkintown, PA 19046

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ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF ZELDA GOLUB, DECEASED.
Late of Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to BONNIE RAE GOLUB, EXECUTRIX, c/o Rachel Fitoussi, Esq., 62 W. Princeton Rd., Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004,
Or to her Attorney:
RACHEL FITOUSSI
62 W. Princeton Rd.
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

ESTATE of WILLIAM JOHN SCHISSLER
Deceased
Late of Pennsylvania
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to John Anthony Lomonaco, Administrator c/o his attorney Debra G. Speyer, Two Bala Plaza, Suite 300, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004.

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NEWSMAKERS

Zionist Organization of America Recognizes Local Couples

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the Zionist Organization of America honored two local couples with its Zionist in the Spotlight Award Dec. 19.

During the virtual event, Executive Director Steve Feldman presented the honor to Morton and Ruth C. Gleit and Ronald Werrin, who received it along with his late wife Marguerite.



◀ The Gleits, left, receive their Zionist in the Spotlight Award on Dec. 19.

Courtesy of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the Zionist Organization of America



◀ From left: Steve Feldman presents Ronald Werrin with the Zionist in the Spotlight Award.

Local Woman Selected as Fellow

Rachel Robinson, the director of individual giving for Reconstructing Judaism and a former Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia employee, was selected to be part of Class 6 of the Wexner Field Fellowship. The fellowship focuses on developing Jewish professionals' leadership skills and connecting them to a network of Jewish colleagues.

▶ Rachel Robinson

Courtesy of The Wexner Foundation



Barrack Head of School Treats Teachers

Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy Head of School Rabbi Marshall Lesack delivered snacks to classrooms and offices on Jan. 6. He did it in appreciation of the school's teachers.



▲ Rabbi Marshall Lesack drops off treats to a classroom.

Courtesy of Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy

Barrack Screens Documentary for Students

Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy showed the documentary "Dreaming of Jerusalem," about the emigration of Ethiopian Jews, to students. Peter Decherney, a Barrack parent and University of Pennsylvania professor of cinema and media studies, produced and directed the movie. Decherney and Sigal Kanotopsky, a Barrack parent who made aliyah from Ethiopia, also spoke to the students.

▶ Peter Decherney talks to Barrack students.

Courtesy of Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy



COMMUNITYCALENDAR

▼ FRIDAY, JAN. 14

Branching Out Exhibit

The **Old City Jewish Arts Center** will host "Branching Out: A Celebration of Trees" by award-winning artist Diana T. Myers of Elkins Park until Jan. 30. The exhibit commemorates the Jewish holiday of Tu B'Shevat and honors the four seasons. Private showings can also be arranged by contacting dianatmyers@gmail.com. 119 N. Third St., Philadelphia.

Climate Fest

Participate in the last day of the **Big Bold Jewish Climate Fest**, an international Jewish climate festival reflecting a cross-collaboration of hundreds of Jewish organizations committed to making climate action a central priority of the Jewish community. For more information, visit jewishclimatefest.org.

Shabbatune!

Discover "The Energetic Torah," part of **Temple Har Zion's** Shabbatune series, as

we sing and study with scholar-in-residence Rabbi Ora Weiss of Boston on Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 10 a.m. Join us for a mystical havdalah, study and a wine and cheese reception on Jan. 15 at 5:45 p.m. Visit templeharzion.org/shabbatune-series-at-thz for more information.

▼ SUNDAY, JAN. 16

Writing Course

In the **Briya Project's** "Sh'ma – Hear Your Inner Voice" weekly course of eight, two-hour class sessions from 6-8 p.m., we gather on Zoom for moments of ritual and writing, to harness our creative spirits, to seek our artistic voices and to let them speak out. The course continues until Jan. 16. Contact talia@briyaproject.com for more information.

▼ MONDAY, JAN. 17

MLK Day of Service

Har Zion Temple is hosting a day of volunteer

opportunities. Donations are being accepted daily through Jan. 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Items may be left in the cart at the main entrance. All volunteers must be vaccinated and wear a mask. Register with Norma Dworkin at nldworkin58@gmail.com.

Mahjong Game

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

▼ TUESDAY, JAN. 18

Zionism Conversation

Join **Jewish National Fund-USA** for a series of interviews, panel discussions and more — all meant to facilitate a dialogue and expose the beautiful and diverse facets of modern Zionism. This virtual event features Scott Shay,

a businessman, thought leader and author, in conversation with Jewish National Fund-USA's CEO. 7:30 p.m. Contact svanadelsberg@jnf.org for more information.

Film Discussion

Join the **Bucks County Kehillah, The Clergy Council of Bucks County and The Peace Center** for a virtual screening of "Shared Legacies: The African American-Jewish Civil Rights Alliance." Watch the film through Jan. 18 and join us for a discussion at 8 p.m. on Jan. 18 led by members of the Clergy Council of Bucks County and The Peace Center.

▼ WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12

Mahjong Class

Old York Road Temple-Beth Am presents weekly beginner mahjong classes until Jan. 19 from 6:45-9 p.m. \$80. Contact Gail Stein at aplusteacherus@gmail.com or 215-947-2203 for registration. 971 Old York Road, Abington. ●

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2022 Magazine AND Featured Content



JEWISH EXPONENT MAGAZINES are high-gloss, full-color, special interest supplements mailed with select issues of the Exponent focusing on a variety of subjects unique to Jewish life in the Delaware Valley. Their convenient size, modern design and sharp editorial make them favorites with our readers, and a smart choice for your advertising plan.

MAGAZINES

Mazel Tov! Celebrates the joy of bar/bat mitzvahs, weddings and other Jewish lifecycle events (published twice a year)

The Good Life Delivers the latest news and trends for those over 55 (published twice a year)

This Summer Ushers in the season with the best of fun-in-the-sun for everyone

The Guide to Jewish Philadelphia Annual resource for everything Jewish in the Delaware Valley.

Winter Holiday Magazine Features holiday feasting, gifting, traveling, giving and more.

FEATURED CONTENT

In-paper Featured Content sections explore various topics of special interest to our readers.

Camps Featuring day, sleep-away & specialty camps

Healthy, Wealthy and Wise In-paper section examining healthy finances and healthy families!

The Look Just when everyone is ready to shake off winter, we present the latest, freshest in personal and home fashions.

Passover Palate Our annual and much anticipated collection of Passover traditions, recipes and entertaining ideas

Cancer Awareness Published in October, this section takes a look at the latest techniques in treating and coping with cancer.

Publications by date

	AD SPACE DEADLINE	PUB. DATE
Camps	Jan 7	Jan 13
Healthy, Wealthy and Wise	Jan 21	Jan 27
Camps	Feb 4	Feb 10
The Look	Feb 18	Feb 24
Passover Palate	March 18	March 24
Spring Mazel Tov!	March 11	March 31
The Good Life	April 14	May 5
Confirmations	May 26	June 2
This Summer	May 27	June 16
Rosh Hashanah Food	Sept 1	Sept 8
Rosh Hashanah Food	Sept 9	Sept 15
Rosh Hashanah Greetings	Sept 16	Sept 22
The Guide to Jewish Philadelphia	Aug 18	Sept 20
Cancer Awareness	Sept 30	Oct 6
Fall Mazel Tov!	Sept 30	Oct 20
Winter Holiday Magazine	Nov 4	Nov 24
Hanukkah Gift Guide	Dec 4	Dec 8
The Good Life	Nov 25	Dec 15

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