

# JEWISH EXPONENT

— WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA —

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Volume 133  
Number 42

Published Weekly Since 1887



## PPP Loans a Lifesaver for Many Jewish Organizations

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

**THE SMALL BUSINESS** Administration began accepting applications for the second round of Paycheck Protection Program loans on Jan. 11, as \$284 billion in additional funds were made available to businesses and other organizations — with first dibs for those that did not receive money last spring.

The initial \$349 billion was allocated within two weeks of the program's launch last April, and organizations that received funds last spring were able to apply beginning Jan 13.

For local Jewish nonprofits that successfully applied for loans during the program's first iteration, the new round is a strange blessing. Though the loans allowed many Jewish nonprofits to make payroll and keep people employed at a time when such a feat seemed out of reach, the fact that such loans need to be made available a second time signify that the economic consequences of the pandemic aren't going away soon.

"If we hadn't had a PPP loan ... we would have probably ended up depleting our entire

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▲ Then-Vice President Joe Biden visits Israel in March 2016.

Photo by US Embassy Jerusalem is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

## Jewish Groups Respond to Early Biden Agenda

SOPHIE PANZER AND GABE FRIEDMAN

**AMONG THE FLURRY** of actions President Joe Biden took during his first week as president were several with special resonance for some Jewish voters.

Biden issued several executive orders and multiple legislative proposals shortly after his Jan. 20 inauguration. These

included enacting new measures aimed at combating the coronavirus pandemic (including a mask mandate in federal government buildings) and extending pandemic limits on evictions, foreclosures and student loan payment requirements.

He unveiled a detailed agenda for immigration, an issue that many American Jewish groups and Jewish

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Miriam's Advice Well

MAKE LIFE WORK FOR YOU

A grad student writes that she's struggling to ground herself in the moment even when she needs to reflect on the past or plan for the future. Among other recommendations, Miriam suggests making detailed schedules, dividing work and living space and subscribing to daily rituals. It's more complicated than that, so for a more detailed explanation, read Miriam's Advice Well online. From dating to parenting, Miriam welcomes all questions. Email yours to [news@jewishexponent.com](mailto:news@jewishexponent.com) and put "Advice Well Question" in the subject line. [jewishexponent.com/2021/01/25/dear-miriam-make-life-work-for-you/](https://jewishexponent.com/2021/01/25/dear-miriam-make-life-work-for-you/)



Philacatessen

POLO WITH BREAD TAH DIG

Polo is a traditional Persian rice dish that food columnist Keri White favors because of its versatility. Although there are several steps involved in making the dish, White says the results are well worth it. And polo can be served as a vegan main course or be an excellent side dish for something like roasted chicken. Read Philacatessen, her online blog, for the recipe. And check Philacatessen regularly for content not normally found in the printed edition, including other recipes, gift ideas, restaurant reviews and food news from around the Delaware Valley. [jewishexponent.com/2021/01/25/polo-with-bread-tah-dig/](https://jewishexponent.com/2021/01/25/polo-with-bread-tah-dig/)

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## SNAPSHOT: JANUARY 27, 1905

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### THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS.

Dr. Berkowitz Outlines Results of Its Work.

CONCLUDING SESSIONS OF COUNCIL IN CHICAGO.

In his sermon last Sabbath, entitled "A Message from the West," Dr. Berkowitz expounded to his congregation the important services rendered to American Israel by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. He had come directly from attending the Nineteenth Biennial Council, held in the city of Chicago. About two hundred delegates, representing congregations of all sections of the country, had been in attendance. The purpose of the gathering were to be most easily inferred from the terms from which the title of the organization is made. First then, and

floor and presented a resolution which was passed at the meeting of the Hebrew Sabbath School Union on Monday afternoon, providing for the appointment of a special committee by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations to consider the question of merging the two organizations. On motion of Mr. Bettman, the convention resolved that this matter should be referred to the incoming Executive Board with favorable instruction for its adoption. There being no further business before the meeting, the Sabbath School Union adjourned to

Convention. The Hon. Simon Wolf objected to the reprinting of the Board of Delegates on Civil and Religious Rights, in reference to its action in the Kishineff matter and stated that the action of the I. O. B. B. was inspired and advised by the Board of Delegates on Civil and Religious Rights of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. In reply Rev. Dr. Phillipson, of Cincinnati, said that while the statement of the chairman, the Hon. Simon Wolf, was true, the I. O. B. B. got all the credit for what was done. Mr. Israel Cowen in a vigorous speech took exception to the report of the committee. In his opinion the Board of Delegates did its duty and performed every action required of it. He stated that the I. O. B. B. was an international body and should take the initiative, while the Union of American Hebrew Congregations was confined to the United States, and the I. O. B. B. extended throughout the civilized world and in his opinion was in a better position to take up the matter with our government. Rev. Dr. Max Heller, of New Orleans, thought the matter was of serious moment and was

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# Reconstructing Judaism Creates New Position, Hires Rabbi Sandra Lawson

## LOCAL

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

**RECONSTRUCTING JUDAISM** has hired Rabbi Sandra Lawson as the movement's first director of racial diversity, equity and inclusion.

Lawson, 51, is a graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, and will be tasked with helping Reconstructing Judaism to "realize its deeply held aspiration of becoming an anti-racist organization and movement," according to a press release. She'll begin in March, working remotely from her home in North Carolina.

"We are joining together to build and to sustain the

community we want to live in. That means, necessarily, it's going to look different from what it looked like in the past," said Rabbi Deborah Waxman, president of Reconstructing Judaism. "For us to really put into place anti-racist policies, it means transformation and change. And that is a good thing. It is not always easy, but it is just and it is beautiful. And it is worth working hard for."

Though the leaders of movement had held discussions about the possibility of creating such a position since the fall of 2017, it wasn't until the past fall that such a move became realistic. A grant from the Jews of Color Initiative gave Reconstructing Judaism the necessary funding to act.

Lawson, who has been a leading voice on Reconstructing Judaism's Tikkun Olam Commission, was a natural fit for the job.

"She's really been a go-to person for us," Waxman said.

A musician, writer, power-lifter and popular social media personality, Lawson was named to the Forward 50 last year and also recognized by Keshet as an LGBTQ Hero. The St. Louis native and military veteran, who has served as associate chaplain for Jewish life and Jewish educator at Elon University in North Carolina since 2018, said that she's received more requests in the past year than ever before to speak with primarily white Jewish groups about race and

Judaism. She's looking forward to broadening her impact beyond that of being the Black rabbi brought in to lecture and then leave.

"I'm invested in the movement, I believe in our movement, I believe in our values," Lawson said. "And I just started talking to [Reconstructing Judaism] and we worked it out to get to this position."

Lawson will work virtually out of Waxman's office, where her role will include a wide range of duties.

She'll provide mentorship and guidance to people of color studying to become rabbis at RRC, while developing new courses and curricula to guide all RRC students. Lawson will work directly with communities affiliated with Reconstructing Judaism, leading the effort to implement anti-bias training and racial equity in hiring practices. She'll work with the Jews of Color and Allies Group, the board of governors and the aforementioned Tikkun Olam Commission to "set priorities and strategies related to diversity and inclusion."

"I don't believe Jewish communities are setting out to be unwelcoming," Lawson said. "But they need to understand that when they look at a candidate and can't get past the candidate's race or gender or sexual orientation or [gender identity], whatever, that they are bringing biases that don't need to be there in hiring."

She doesn't know a single Black rabbi, she said, who hasn't experienced some racial bias during a hiring process. What she wants is for Black Jews in primarily white Jewish spaces to not have their religious credentials questioned. In five years, Lawson hopes, students of color entering RRC today



▲ Reconstructing Judaism has hired Rabbi Sandra Lawson as the movement's first director of racial diversity, equity and inclusion.

Photo by Jordan Cassway

will step into religious communities that are more welcoming than they are today.

Rabbi Micah Weiss, assistant director of thriving communities/tikkun olam specialist at Reconstructing Judaism, said that Lawson's work there will have some continuity with what the movement is already doing, but will introduce novel aspects as well. What could prove especially valuable to the work of racial justice, Weiss believes, is Lawson's status as "a beautiful messenger and communicator and teacher of what that work looks like."

Though Reconstructing Judaism is still working to secure long-term funding for the position, Waxman said, the hope is that Lawson will remain in the position for as long as she wants it. And after that?

"I really hope that this is a position that, whenever Sandra is ready to move on from it, we will have institutionalized this position," Waxman said. ●

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## HEADLINES

# Labor Leader Ted Kirsch Dies at 81

### OBITUARY

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

**TED KIRSCH, A TEACHER** and labor leader well-known for his work in Philadelphia and across the country, died on Jan. 19 at his home in Jenkintown. Kirsch, who had been retired for about 18 months, was 81.

Kirsch's children, Joel Kirsch and Jodie Kirsch Lachman, said their father, who had traveled the world, visited the White House and went to jail in 1973 during a picket line protest on behalf of the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers, had not quite figured out what retirement looked like. But even so, the man who dedicated his life to the cause of teachers and students was content.

"In the last few months, this is what my dad would say. He would say, 'I lived my life. I have no regrets,'" Kirsch Lachman recalls.

Kirsch was born in South Philadelphia to two trade unionists, and was educated in Philadelphia public schools on his way to becoming the first person in his family to earn a college degree, from what was then West Chester State Teachers College and Temple University.

When he was 18, he met his future wife Roberta on a blind date. They were married for 57 years, until her death in 2017.

"They were symbiotic," Joel Kirsch said. "It was just one of those couples, where you say, 'Oh, it's Ted and Roberta.'"

Kirsch started out in the The School District of Philadelphia in 1960, teaching social studies at Thomas Junior High School. According to The Philadelphia Inquirer, he is believed to have taught the first African American history class in the history of the school district

while he was at Overbrook High School. Kirsch also taught at Washington High School and, at each destination, he saw overcrowded classrooms, overworked teachers and not enough resources. In 1964, he joined the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers, still in its infancy.

It was with the PFT that Kirsch flourished. He met Martin Luther King Jr. when the civil rights leader came to Philadelphia in support of the union and, within three years of joining, Kirsch was elected to the executive board. Soon after, Kirsch began to work for the union full time. Following a long stint as vice president and staff director for former PFT president Marvin Schuman, Kirsch was elected president in 1990.

For 17 years, Kirsch lead the PFT through trials and tribulations, strikes and negotiations and everything else that comes with leading a union of thousands of state employees. He became well-connected within the world of Democratic politics, becoming friends with the Biden family and the Clintons.

Serving as secretary-treasurer of the Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO, Kirsch won praise from national labor leaders. Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers, told The Philadelphia Inquirer that Kirsch was "foundational to the AFT, one of the people who kept our movement together." At the end of his time as president, he led the state chapter of the union, American Federation of Teachers Pennsylvania, until his retirement in 2019.

Arthur Steinberg knew Kirsch for the majority of his time in the movement, and remembers his friend and



▲ Ted Kirsch and his wife, Roberta Kirsch  
Courtesy of Joel Kirsch

“In the last few months, this is what my dad would say. He would say, ‘I lived my life. I have no regrets.’”

JODIE KIRSCH LACHMAN

colleague as an exceptional listener and mentor who, above all else, was dedicated to improving the lives of the people who depended on him.

Outside of his professional life, Kirsch was your typical Philadelphia sports generalist/fanatic, invested in the success of all four major teams and Villanova University, too. Joel Kirsch recalls a 2 a.m. wakeup time for a drive to Happy Valley, as his father wished to beat the traffic on the way to a Penn State football game.

“He was a Philadelphia guy, through and through,” Kirsch Lachman said. His children also said he was as attentive,

passionate and loving as a parent as he was to the teachers and students he served.

Kirsch was passionate about Israel as well, visiting 19 times. Zionism was an important part of his life; the family has requested that memorial donations in his name be sent to the Jewish National Fund for the “Ted Kirsch Forest.”

Kirsch is survived by his sister, Phyllis Soufer; children Joel Kirsch and Jodie Kirsch Lachman; four grandchildren; and Bev Davis, his companion for the past four years. ●

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# Local Radio Host Gets Presidential Pardon

LOCAL

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

ON THE MORNING of Jan. 20, Gary Hendler woke up to find that he was among the 73 people who received a pardon from outgoing President Donald Trump.

“I went online, and I looked at the list. I saw names like Steve Bannon, Lil Wayne or

Kim — whoever that artist is — and some other people, and then I came to my name,” said Hendler, 67. “And I absolutely couldn’t believe it.”

Hendler, who lives in Ardmore, hosts the “Clean & Sober Radio” show on WWDB-AM, and serves on the Pennsylvania Advisory Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse. In 1984, Hendler was convicted of conspiracy

to distribute and dispense controlled substances, several years after he’d gotten sober. Since then, the Suburban Real Estate Co. owner has dedicated his time to helping others find their way to sobriety. Still, his status as a convicted felon lingered. Until Jan. 20, that is.

Hendler spoke about receiving the pardon and what comes next.

**Who was the first person you wanted to tell?**

My wife. And then I wanted to tell everybody my story, you know what I mean? I couldn’t believe it. The feeling I got — I don’t know what this would be like — but if you found that you hit a lottery of major money. And you’re in shock. I jumped out of bed. I start walking around the house, I couldn’t even believe it. ‘Cause

I’ve been waiting so long for this.

**What does the pardon mean for you in a legal sense, and what does it mean for you personally?**

Legally, all of my rights have been restored to me. I had a federal felony conviction, and all my rights have been restored. For a personal reason, it is the final chapter of the life that I led in addiction and criminal activities. It’s closure.

**What were you barred from doing prior to the pardon?**

The only thing that I was barred from were my gun rights. And nothing else. You know, I’m sure if I applied for a job with the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, something like that would be a problem, but it hasn’t stopped me from getting any kind of licensing that I’ve gotten in my real estate practice.


**At what point did you start to think about a pardon?**

It was a little over six years ago. It was in June of 2016.

**Why then?**

You know, I don’t know the answer to that. I was given the name of an attorney by the name of Margaret Love, who was an attorney in the Clinton administration. She handled the pardons then. And I had been in touch with her for several years prior to 2016. And I said to myself, “Hey, this looks like a good time to do it.” And I actually thought that Hillary Clinton was going to become president. And I have a lot of personal connections to her.

Little did I know that she was not going to win. And so that went down the tubes. But what pushed me was thinking that she would become president and I would get a pardon from her.



## Thank You...

The family of the late Donald Love would like to thank each and every one of you for your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Donald was the pillar of a husband, father, pop-pop, and helped so many in our community.

The overwhelming outpouring of love and support is truly appreciated, along with the food, contributions, flowers, cards, and kind words. We want you to know you have helped us more than you know with your support and messages of sympathy.

*With love,*

Judy Love  
 Sylvia, Michael and Rebecca Miller  
 Susan Love, Ashley Freedman, David Farber, and Drew Farber  
 Roberta and Abby Budman



▲ Gary Hendler

Photo by Ken Keagy

“Legally, all of my rights have been restored to me. I had a federal felony conviction, and all my rights have been restored. For a personal reason, it is the final chapter of the life that I led in addiction and criminal activities. It’s closure.”

GARY HENDLER

**What does it feel like that the pardon came from an administration you didn’t support?**

It made it that much more surreal, I guess, that he actually gave me a pardon. He doesn’t know me, but I knew that my story and my record are really good. And I was hoping, during his administration, that he was going to

give legitimate pardons out. And it felt like he just gave them out to famous people, or people with money. I, at that point, figured that’s not going to happen to me, I’m not going to get it. So I was actually in the midst of trying to figure out the best way for me to get to the Biden administration.

**Your application mentioned that you led Alcoholics Anonymous meetings at Main Line Reform Temple. Do you still do that?**

I don’t, no. I led it for 33 or 34 years, and other people are leading it now. But it still goes on. It still goes on. ●

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# Philadelphia JCRC Names New Director

LOCAL

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

LAURA FRANK WAS drawn to the Jewish Community Relations Council’s mission since the day she joined

Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia as a public relations manager in 2017.

Now, after serving as JCRC’s interim director for seven months — after the departure of prior JCRC director Batya Glazer in July 2020 — she has

assumed the role of director. “I’m excited to really be able to dig deep and work with all the amazing people that are involved to make sure we’re doing everything that we can and should do to keep our community safe and thriving,” she said.



▲ Laura Frank Courtesy of Laura Frank

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A Seattle native, Frank came to Philadelphia after a year at a music conservatory in New York to study political science at Temple University. As an undergraduate, she was involved in pro-Israel advocacy and anti-boycott, divestment and sanctions work on campus, and worked in Harrisburg for a year as the government relations director for Pennsylvania’s community colleges after finishing her degree.

She returned to Philadelphia for an associate position at Ceisler Media & Issue Advocacy. A local PR project with the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs toward the end of her time with the agency sparked her interest in getting involved with Israel advocacy and the Jewish community again.

When a public relations manager position opened at Jewish Federation in 2017, she

applied and joined the organization. She later worked as the director of public relations for Jewish Federation and as the publisher’s representative for the Jewish Exponent.

JCRC Board Chair Arlene Fickler said Frank’s background in political science and community relations make her uniquely qualified for the role.

“I am confident that Laura will help us expand the participation in JCRC’s work by members of every sector of the Jewish community, strengthen our relationships with other communities of faith and ethnicity, and advance our efforts to build a just and pluralistic society in which all Americans, including our Jewish community, are secure and free to flourish,” she said in a statement.

Frank had a chance to try that out starting last summer, when she became interim director.

See JCRC, Page 23

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## PPP

Continued from Page 1

endowment,” said Amy Krulik, CEO of the Kaiserman JCC.

After initially laying off 176 of its 178 employees, the JCC, which received a loan of about \$466,000, was able to bring back 38 full-time employees less than a month later.

As unemployment spiked

last spring, the loans were intended to help employers cover payroll costs, as well as health insurance, retirement benefits, sick leave and more.

According to publicly available data, 172,566 businesses and organizations in Pennsylvania received PPP loans from the SBA last spring, averaging \$119,941 per loan. In Southeastern Pennsylvania, Jewish nonprofit



▲ Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia received a PPP loan of just under \$1.5 million last spring.

Photo by Jordan Cassway

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“We lived in the same fantasy world as everybody else. ‘Oh, maybe we’ll be able to go back on, you know, April 7.’”

AMY KRULIK

organizations were among the successful applicants, scrambling in the confusing early days of the program to understand the terms and gather the necessary documentation in hopes of approval.

The Raymond and Ruth Perelman Jewish Day School received a loan of around \$1.5 million to ensure that its staff would remain employed. The Jewish Relief Agency, Jewish Learning Venture and even the Messianic Jewish Alliance of America were all able to secure loans for their employees. The Jewish Exponent received PPP funds, too.

When the JCC applied for its loan last April, “We lived in the same fantasy world as everybody else,” Krulik said. “‘Oh, maybe we’ll be able to go back on, you know, April 7.’”

But now, almost a year later, businesses and organizations that missed out on the initial loans are lining up next to those that have exhausted their

first loan.

The Germantown Jewish Centre, which received a loan of \$351,100 last year, is applying for a second loan.

According to GJC President Dan Livney, the first loan allowed the organization to refrain from layoffs to give prorated refunds to parents for the time that their children missed in the Early Childhood Program. Such moves did more than allow GJC to operate in the short-term, Livney believes; it let the institution signal to its constituents that they were not being abandoned. It was a long-term investment in goodwill.

“It was obviously very helpful the first time, and being able to help the institution, being able to support the community, in terms of the parents, is important to us and the staff,” Livney said.

Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia received a loan

of just under \$1.5 million last spring. The social services organization, which serves Jews and non-Jews alike, was determined from the beginning to retain all of its employees at a time when they were stretched thinner than ever, serving an expanding client base remotely. The PPP loan, JFCS President Paula Goldstein said, helped the organization achieve that goal.

“That was very, very important to us,” Goldstein said. JFCS CFO John Sawyer added that the loan also allowed the organization to stay current on its rent and utilities.

Even so, JFCS was forced to close sites in Northeast Philadelphia and Elkins Park, but its finances are in a good enough place that it doesn't qualify for this newest PPP loan.

“Which is good,” Sawyer said. ●

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## Biden

Continued from Page 1

voters are deeply invested in, fueled by an awareness of their roots as perpetual refugees and recent immigrants.

Biden put forward a plan that outlines an eight-year pathway to citizenship for immigrants without legal status and an expansion of refugee admissions. That would dramatically change the current system and allow millions of immigrants to pursue citizenship. After a waiting period of five years, those who pass a background check and prove that they have paid taxes would be granted green cards and allowed to apply to become citizens three years later.

Under Biden's plan, the "Dreamers," or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients, who were born in the United States to parents without legal status, will be allowed to apply for green card status immediately.

Cathryn Miller-Wilson, executive director of HIAS Pennsylvania, said the new plan would help 11 million undocumented immigrants — many of whom came to the country legally but were not able to renew their visas — live without fear of being deported and separated from their loved ones.

"The proposal for a pathway to citizenship is the right proposal. It allows people who have formed roots, who are busy contributing to everything that is wonderful about the United States — they're contributing their tax dollars, they're contributing their diversity of language and culture, they're contributing their love of democracy, which is most often what drew them here in the first place — to strengthen their standing," she said.

Miller-Wilson said raising the number of refugees admitted to the U.S. would benefit the country by creating population growth in the face of declining birth rates. It would also make the U.S. a global

leader during an unprecedented humanitarian crisis of displacement caused by armed conflict and climate change.

Immigrants from Israel would also benefit from the plan, according to Yoni Ari, the Philadelphia regional director of the Israeli-American Council.

"The immigration restrictions had a significant effect on workers and immigrants from Israel," Ari said. "Many Israeli Americans who came to work, especially in the tech industry, are waiting a long time for a green card, and some Israelis with legal status issues are waiting for the DACA plan. The executive order about immigration is a great relief to so many."

Biden hopes to revive other programs for refugees, including ones for minors from places such as Central American countries and Cuba seeking asylum. On his first day in office, he reversed President Donald Trump's 2017 executive order banning travelers and immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries.

Biden is also taking steps to tackle domestic violent extremism, which is often closely tied to anti-Semitism. On Jan. 22, he asked the director of national intelligence to draw up a comprehensive threat assessment on domestic violent extremism, which the new administration deemed a "serious and growing national security threat" in the wake of the Capitol insurrection on Jan. 6.

Violent acts of anti-Semitism like the deadly Tree of Life and Poway synagogue shootings fall under this category.

"We need a comprehensive approach to battling anti-Semitism that takes seriously both the violence that accompanies it and the hateful and dangerous lies that undergird it," Biden wrote in a JTA op-ed.

White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said the threat assessment will be coordinated with



▲ Cathryn Miller-Wilson (right) with a refugee  
Photo by Susan Kessler

the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security and will draw on analysis from across the U.S. government and outside organizations. She said the administration is aiming to strengthen the National Security Council's ability to focus on domestic violent extremism.

"We welcome the administration's commitment to making these issues, especially fighting anti-Semitism and fighting domestic extremism, a priority, and following through already," said Shira Goodman, regional director of Anti-Defamation League Philadelphia. "It's important for our leaders to use the power of their positions to set an example to stand up against anti-Semitism and racism and all forms of bigotry, and so we look forward to seeing that coming out of the highest levels of government, coming from the president."

She hopes the new administration will appoint an anti-Semitism envoy and expand Holocaust education, and that Congress will pass legislation that will help the federal government monitor and thwart extremist violence.

"We need to quickly enact legislation like the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act, which was just reintroduced this week in the House and the Senate," she said.

Biden signaled a commitment to combating climate change by revoking a permit for the Keystone XL oil pipeline.

"That was extraordinarily important, both symbolically

and in practical terms," said Rabbi Arthur Waskow, climate activist and founder and director of The Shalom Center in Philadelphia.

He added that he was delighted that Biden decided to rejoin the Paris Agreement, an international climate change treaty to cut carbon emissions, but that it was a more symbolic action.

Waskow, who authored a petition calling for action on climate change last year that amassed 500 signatures from Jewish spiritual leaders, wants the administration to take more decisive steps, such as creating a federal program for creating solar co-op developments that would provide clean energy and cut fossil fuel emissions.

As of press time, several other areas of Jewish concern will have to wait on Biden's

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desk. They include the questions of the Iran nuclear deal and Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, among others. •

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215-832-0729. Gabe Friedman is a reporter for JTA, where portions of this article first appeared.

# Elana

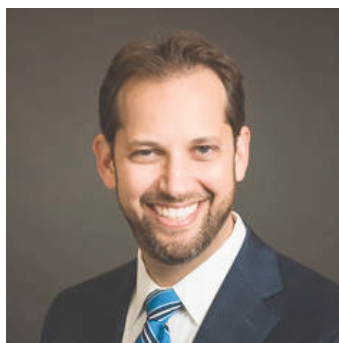
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# Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine Is a Jewish Imperative



BY RABBI MICAH PELTZ

**VACCINES AGAINST** COVID-19 have been invented and approved for use at a record pace. While polls indicate that Americans in overwhelming numbers are ready to take the shot — and are already doing so — there are some holdouts. We must consider as a community what our position is regarding vaccination and other precautions against the pandemic.

Now that a vaccine is available, there arise inevitable questions about the moral-religious obligation to receive the shot, whether our Jewish institutions should mandate it for workers, congregants and students, and how we can ensure the fair distribution of this lifesaving intervention.

The Conservative movement, along with the other dominant streams of American Judaism,

leaves very little room for ambiguity on these matters.

As I recently wrote in a teshuvah (rabbinic response) that was unanimously approved by the Conservative movement's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards, vaccination is a Jewish imperative when recommended by medical professionals. Even when vaccines are approved by an emergency process, as the COVID-19 vaccines have been, they meet the halakhic standards of a *refuah b'dukah*, an established treatment.

This is especially true in the midst of this terrible pandemic, which has claimed more than 420,000 lives in the United States and over 2 million lives worldwide. The Moderna and Pfizer vaccines, approved for use in the United States and now having gone into the arms of more than 10 million of our citizens, including my own, clearly meet these standards.

The Conservative movement has been accompanied by the main bodies for Reform and Orthodox rabbis in stressing the necessity and justice of being so vaccinated. And for good reason: Jewish law is replete with injunctions to take steps to protect our health and avoid danger.

"Be careful and watch

yourselves" (Deuteronomy 4:9), Moses instructs the Israelites. The Torah even commands us put guardrails on our roofs (Deuteronomy 22:8). Maimonides extrapolated from this specific case that we should take measures to protect ourselves and others.

Rabbi Moses Isserles, in the great code of Jewish law the Shulhan Arukh, insists that we are to avoid all things that endanger ourselves and instructs us that these concerns are to be treated "more stringently than ritual prohibitions."

Leviticus (19:16) echoes these same messages, with its exhortation to "not stand idly by the blood of your neighbor." This is understood in our tradition to mean that we do everything we can to safeguard the health of others.

One would think that none of this should be controversial, that there would be unanimity among rabbis and Jews on these points. Common sense practices that prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as wearing masks, maintaining physical distancing and washing hands are not just recommended but are obligated by Jewish law. Nevertheless, there have been well-publicized cases of physical distancing being ignored at large

weddings and funerals, and even protests against wearing masks in some communities.

There is a strong consensus among mainstream Conservative, Reform and Orthodox Jews. Jewish law and tradition include ethical obligations to pursue healthy living and to embrace established scientific practices that contribute to the well-being of all. That well-being can be physical, and it can also be spiritual. To that end, many of my Conservative rabbi colleagues have written prayers and meditations to help people who are coping with illness and who are receiving or administering vaccines.

Our movement's religious opinion on these matters stipulates best practices for this time.

Taking preventive measures against the spread of COVID-19 by wearing masks, washing hands and physical distancing are to be regarded as mitzvot and mandated by Jewish law. Vaccines approved by government health agencies are to be regarded as *refuot b'dukot*, established medical procedures, and with proper medical guidance Jews are obligated to be vaccinated. Jewish institutions are permitted by Jewish law to require employees, students and congregants to be vaccinated

against COVID-19, though secular legal counsel should be consulted.

On a more collective level, we are obligated to ensure the ethical distribution of vaccines globally and nationally. We should favor the most vulnerable, and we should maximize the social benefit by prioritizing first responders and those who can set an example by receiving the vaccine that will encourage others to be vaccinated. Jewish ethics prohibit us from using personal connections, wealth or influence to receive the vaccine sooner than triage criteria would indicate. Effectively, "jumping in line" is prohibited.

We have made it through an awful period of plague, but we might be able to soon turn the corner thanks to vaccination. Let us do our part as members of the Jewish community, Americans and citizens of the world. ●

Rabbi Micah Peltz is the senior rabbi at Temple Beth Shalom in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. He is a member of the Conservative movement's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards, which sets halakhic policy for Rabbinical Assembly rabbis and for the Conservative movement as a whole.

# Capitol Events Make Me Recall History, Personal and Institutional



BY HERBERT CHUBIN

**FOR ME**, the attempted coup at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, and the racism and anti-Semitism

of the rioters, recalled an earlier age when discrimination was an accepted part of life.

While attending the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business MBA program in 1959, I made several appointments for job interviews with recruiters of major companies. As students at one of the top business schools in the country, Wharton's MBA candidates — mostly white Christian men — were highly sought-after.

But I knew that few

companies would hire Jews, even from Wharton. The two interviews I had with companies that did hire Jews resulted in job offers. Yet I signed up for other interviews simply to aggravate the recruiters; this was my way of fighting back against the many companies which still discriminated against Jews. I almost felt sorry for the person who sat opposite me at the table and had to pretend that he was conducting a real 10-minute interview with a Jew.

So, as recently as 1959, anti-Semitism was still very much present in its covert form, although America was well past the years when overt anti-Semitism flourished.

As my father used to tell me, anti-Semitism was both overt and mainstream in the 1920s in America, and continued as such through the 1940s. During those decades, the Ku Klux Klan and the Nazi party openly expressed their anti-Semitic views. They held rallies and marches. There were others

who showed hatred for Jews on radio stations and in many publications. The United States' entry into World War II in December 1941 ended most of the overt Jew hating; however, anti-Semitism continued to exist as a major issue for Jews until the 1960s.

Although overt white supremacist displays like the march in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 2017 had been rare in recent years, I knew

See Chubin, Page 25

# I'm a Student and I'm Afraid of Where My Party's Headed



BY SOPHIA RODNEY

**I AM A PROUD JEW**, a proud American, a proud supporter of Israel and a Democrat too. But there are two main reasons why I am struggling to reconcile my identity as a supporter of Israel and a Democrat.

First, I believe President Joe Biden's plans to rejoin the Iran nuclear deal poses an enormous threat to the safety and even existence of Israel.

Second, I believe the Democratic congresswomen who are part of "The Squad" are contributing to a heightened climate of hatred of Israel and Jews.

Let's discuss the Iran deal.

During former President Barack Obama's first term in office, Iran had allegedly been developing a nuclear program. So, various countries, including the United States, imposed crippling economic sanctions on the country. In 2015, Iran agreed to a deal that lifted these sanctions. This was the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, now informally known as the Iran nuclear deal.

The deal was a disaster for three main reasons: Iran did not comply and lied about it, Iran used its new access to

the formerly frozen assets to increase its ballistic missile program, which now poses a threat to Israel, and Iran used these assets to also fund Israel-hating proxy militant groups across the Middle East.

In terms of Iran's lack of compliance, in 2018, Netanyahu announced, according to the Daily Mail, that Israel's intelligence services had documents that proved Iran secretly continued developing a nuclear program that violated the treaty.

In terms of how Iran used its new access to the once frozen assets, according to the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies, Iran used deal-acquired finances to strengthen its ballistic missile program. Also, in March of 2016, Iran tested ballistic missiles with the words "Israel must be wiped out" on them, as CBS News reported. So, Americans are naive to think Iran would never use its new ballistic missile power to attack Israel.

In terms of how Iran used funding from the deal to strengthen proxy groups that seek to destroy Israel, Nathan Sales, the former U.S. State Department's top counter-terrorism official, averred in early 2020 that Iran gives Hezbollah \$700 million and Hamas \$100 million annually. These are funds that would be much harder to provide if the Iran nuclear deal had not made Iran so much wealthier.

Biden is reportedly going to settle for some version of this extremely flawed deal again.

Then there's "The Squad," the nickname applied to four female Democrat members of Congress,

including Rashida Tlaib, Ilhan Omar and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

When Biden announced his nominee for Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, who happens to be Jewish, Tlaib tweeted, "So long as he doesn't suppress my First Amendment right to speak out against Netanyahu's racist and inhumane policies. The Palestinian people deserve equality and justice."

So Biden nominates a Jew to his cabinet and Tlaib automatically assumes he wants to suppress her right to speak out ... because he is Jewish? This is anti-Semitism.

In March of 2019, Omar said at a public forum, "I want to talk about the political influence in this country that says it is OK for people to push for allegiance to a foreign country," while speaking about the US-Israel relationship.

Jonathan Greenblatt, the CEO of the Anti-Defamation League, explained why Omar's remarks were anti-Semitic: "Accusing Jews of having allegiance to a foreign government has long been a vile anti-Semitic slur used to harass, marginalize, and persecute the Jewish people for centuries."

Last but not least, we have Ocasio-Cortez, who is affiliated with Democratic Socialists of America, which has voted to adopt the anti-Israel boycott, divestment and sanctions movement. BDS is anti-Semitic for many reasons, as CAMERA has outlined. But, for starters, a South African BDS leader alleged in March 2020 that COVID-19-related materials were not printed in Arabic, which was false. This is blatant anti-Semitism.

How can I, a Jewish person who believes in the Jewish right to self-determination, associate myself with these people? When

## KVETCH 'N' KVELL

### More on Cemetery Issues

**I HAVE BEEN READING** the Jewish Exponent for over 50 years and always see similar articles about Jewish cemeteries being neglected, kept in disorder and being overgrown.

First of all, it is the owners of these cemeteries' business to keep the grounds and cemetery in good order.

Secondly, they ought to make tools like hand mowers and clippers available for the families with loved ones at the cemetery and options to keep their family plot in trimmed order.

The community at large and the synagogues must be made aware of their responsibility to keep the sacred grounds in orderly fashion in respect of their departed loved ones.

Harry Leibson | Elkins Park

My husband and I spent Martin Luther King Day cleaning debris at Har Jehuda Cemetery ("Har Jehuda Cemetery Struggles as Business Declines," Jan. 7) from the gravesites in the vicinity of E17, 67, line 1. This area was totally entwined with thorny vines and weeds, which climbed into the trees, totally obliterating everything in the area.

We managed to clear away 90% of the mess, storing it on the side so the trash would not hide any gravesite. We were specifically looking for the great-grandmother of my husband, Toubie Krauss. After many attempts, we finally were able to cut away many of the vines, which were hiding her stone. Many of the stones in her area sadly had been pushed over or fallen on their own.

We did our best to clear every gravesite in her area. We will need to return to put the trash in at least 12 bags and transport them to our home for disposal. We will be back to continue this cleanup project. May their memory be for a blessing.

Ann Krauss | Havertown

### More on Interfaith Debate

Regarding the current debate about the Exponent's covering of interfaith family holiday practices and also Jesse Bernstein's recent review of Rachel Gross' book about viewing Jewish cultural practice, like eating kosher-style pastrami sandwiches at Hymie's, as Jewish religious practice, I concur with Bernstein's dubiousness.

As a former shomer-shabbat, kosher-in-and-out Ramahnik whose religious practice has waned over the decades as I transitioned from my childhood theism to my current devout atheism, I have long struggled to identify what about Jewish ritual for me is the baby to be preserved and what is the bathwater that I can safely discard. The more I looked, the more appeared to be bathwater and the less baby, until I belatedly (and embarrassingly) realized that the baby is the bathwater.

The fact is that, unless you live in Israel, if you want there to be even a slim chance of your great-grandchildren being Jewish then you better observe the Sabbath and keep kosher. Eating kosher-style pastrami sandwiches at Hymie's just ain't gonna cut it. Besides, I much prefer their extra-lean corned beef specials.

Steve Mendelsohn | Penn Valley

#### STATEMENT FROM THE PUBLISHER

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

See Rodney, Page 25

See Letters, Page 25

# Healthy, Wealthy & Wise

## Pandemic Prompts Tax Changes for 2020

ANDY GOTLIEB | JE MANAGING EDITOR

WHILE THE PANDEMIC'S created heartaches and headaches galore for everyone, taxpayers may find themselves benefiting a bit when they go to file their 2020 returns.

That's especially true if you live in the suburbs and normally work in Philadelphia, but instead spent most of the year working from home, said

Caryn Nelson, a West Chester-based CPA. You will be able to claim a credit for those days at home from the 3.5% wage tax Philadelphia levies on nonresidents.

As always, numerous changes occurred to the tax code, especially for businesses.

"As far as regular changes, there aren't many more than usual, but there are many related to COVID," Nelson said.

"It's no different this year than any other, except we're working from home and setting our own hours," agreed Michael Casey, a CPA with Savran Benson LLP in Bala Cynwyd.

Here are a few things to know, according to local CPAs. As always, check with your own accountant to see how the changes might impact you.

- The standard deductions increased. For a single person, it increased \$200 to \$12,400 and grew \$400 to \$24,800 for a married couple filing jointly. Those who file as head of household now get \$18,650, up \$300. The income brackets increased as well.
- Stimulus checks do not count as taxable income. However, if you didn't

receive payments or may have received the wrong amounts, you might be able to claim the difference for a refund.

- The required age for taking minimum IRA distributions climbed to 72 from 70½. And those over 70½ who are still working can, for the first time, make a contribution to their IRA. There also were no required



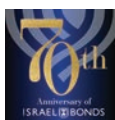
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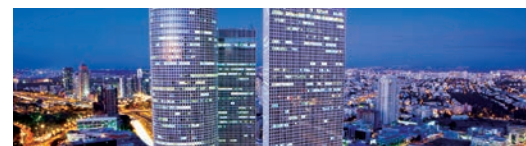


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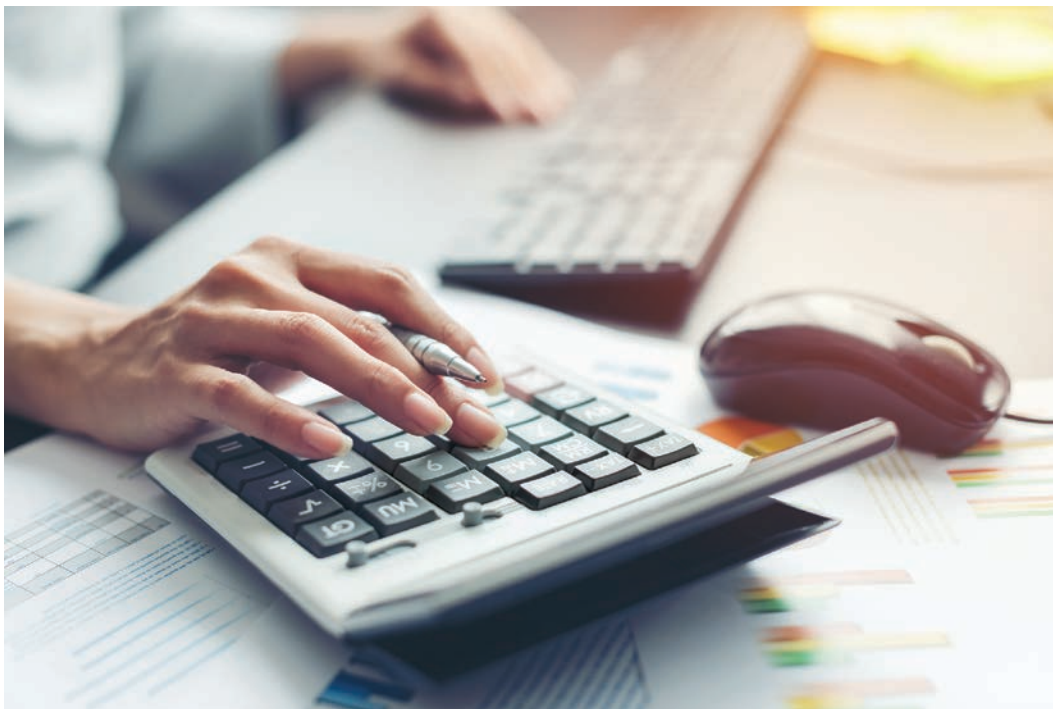


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# Healthy, Wealthy & Wise



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As far as preparing to have your tax return done, the usual advice applies about not waiting until the last minute, especially with the IRS likely facing a backlog. Staying organized is more important than ever.

electronically,” he said, as a means of having a receipt, receiving refunds faster and the chance to avoid penalties.

Bookman said there is still reluctance on the part of some taxpayers, who don’t want key information like Social Security numbers and bank account numbers submitted electronically, to go the paperless route, but he’s never

experienced any problems with the method.

As far as 2021 goes, stay tuned; the accountants expect taxes to increase — just not to what extent.

“With the new administration, we won’t know what the landscape will be,” Casey said. ●

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minimum IRA distributions for 2020.

- The CARES Act allows withdrawals of up to \$100,000 out of IRAs and 401(k) for those under 59½ without the usual 10% early withdrawal penalties if hardship can be demonstrated.
- For those not itemizing, there is a new \$300 deduction for charitable contributions. In addition, the normal limit of 60% of adjusted gross income on deductions is potentially suspended.
- Payroll Protection Program loans are forgivable and tax free for the IRS.
- There’s 100% deductibility for meal expenses, compared to only 50% in prior years, as a way to help restaurants.
- The mileage deduction for self-employed people dropped from 58 cents per mile to 57½ cents.
- If you’re self-employed there are new sick leave and family credits available to apply for if you couldn’t work because of COVID-19 or cared for someone ill from it.

- The medical expense deduction, which was supposed to jump to 10% of a recipient’s adjusted gross income, remains at 7.5%.

As far as preparing to have your tax return done, the usual advice applies about not waiting until the last minute, especially with the IRS likely facing a backlog. Staying organized is more important than ever.

“They are significantly behind in everything they’re doing,” Nelson said, noting that extensions she filed by mail last July weren’t even opened until November.

The IRS recently announced that it won’t begin accepting and processing individual income tax returns until Feb. 12, The New York Times reported. Usually, it begins that process in late January. Do note that even though the filing deadline was pushed back three months in 2020, the filing deadline remains April 15.

Jeff Bookman, a Bala Cynwyd-based CPA, recommended keeping as many electronic records as possible.

“What I really tell people

to do this year is absolutely, if you can, file your return



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## Healthy, Wealthy

### Track Income, Expenses for Financial Health

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

ANGELIQUE BUCHANAN has a weakness for Starbucks.

"My husband and I made an agreement that I would only get Starbucks twice a week. I'm trying to get him to potentially go to three or four," the branch manager of Citizens Bank in Fairless Hills said during "Your Income and Expenses," a financial literacy webinar hosted by JEVS Human Services.

She brought up her expensive caffeine habit to make a point: She didn't realize how much she was spending until she forced herself to cut back.

"I'm saving about \$20 a week. That's a big deal. I mean that's \$80 a month, \$100 a month," she said. "I'm just putting that money into our savings account every day I don't get a Starbucks."

During "Your Income and Expenses," Buchanan covered how to keep track of money and expenses, including different types of income, taxes and bills. Understanding one's income can be especially tricky for freelancers, seasonal workers and workers with side hustles because money comes in irregularly. The rise of online commerce also means that anyone, including salaried workers, can make irregular or unpredictable income by selling items on platforms like Facebook Marketplace.

Common financial wisdom holds that making a budget is the best way to keep track of spending and saving, but Buchanan recommended taking it a step further if you struggle to stay on top of your finances. An expense diary, or

written log of your spending habits, can be helpful for people looking to find areas where they can exercise more financial control.

Keeping track of payments can help spenders avoid fees, loss of services and damage to credit as a result of paying bills late. For those who pay their bills by mail, recent delays at the United States Postal Service make it especially important to be on top of payment schedules.

Buchanan recommended filing taxes as early as possible this year. While this is generally sound advice, it's especially important for those counting on a tax return for 2020.

"I've been seeing and hearing a lot, with everything going on with the impact payments and the stimulus payments, and they are saying that the IRS is a bit lagging," she said.

The ultimate goal in tracking income and expenses, she added, is making sure your finances align with your goals and values, whether it's paying off debt, saving for emergencies or buying a new car.

"YourIncomeandExpenses" was part of a series of financial wellness seminars created by JEVS and Citizens Bank. When JEVS sought a partner to help host the programs, it reached out to the bank, with whom there's a longstanding corporate partnership, to see if there were volunteer experts who could help. The two groups worked together to build the curriculum.

"The goal of the sessions was to provide important financial literacy information to our job seeking clients," said Kristen



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▲ Tracking income is important for tax season.  
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Rantanen, senior vice president of communications and public affairs at JEVS.

Topics of other webinars in the JEVS series included protecting identity to reduce the risk of senior financial exploitation, disaster preparedness and recovery, building a credit score and the pros and cons of owning a business. Two sessions were designed specifically for the needs of people 55 and up, but were open to the general public regardless of age.

Most of the topics are relevant at any time, and JEVS has offered similar sessions in the past. However, Rantanen said JEVS wanted to offer the sessions now because financial issues often go hand-in-hand with unemployment, a result of the current economic crisis.

“Many in our community are struggling with job loss and facing financial hardships right now,” she said.

Rantanen said the webinars were part of the JEVS mission to help job-seeking clients, who often face other financial challenges along with unemployment.

“Over the years, we have found that clients have needs beyond the specific challenge that brought them to JEVS

in the first place,” she said. “We have staff in many of our programs that help clients connect to public benefits, help with budgeting, understanding the importance of credit and savings and other financial empowerment issues.”

The last JEVS webinar, which is about owning a business is at noon on Feb. 4. Registration is at [jevshumanservices.org/finance0204](http://jevshumanservices.org/finance0204). •

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# Rack of Lamb Dinner

## FOOD

KERI WHITE | JE COLUMNIST

**RACK OF LAMB** is a relatively simple thing to prepare — marinate it, or not, and roast it at a high temperature for a short time.

It is delicious, decadent and makes a beautiful presentation, so it is an ideal meal for a holiday or special occasion. We made this for New Year's Eve. It was a special meal, a bit of a splurge, but as it was dinner à deux, we justified the extravagance.

I served “smashed” potatoes with the lamb, and an arugula-avocado salad dressed with a balsamic vinaigrette, but there are any number of sides and combos that would complement this meal nicely — see

the menu suggestions below. The key is to not overwhelm the lamb; it is rich and flavorful and, as a result, you don't want to “gild the lily.”

A whole rack for two people may seem like a large portion, but the chops are quite small and there is a good bit of bone and fat on each rack. You could certainly stretch this to three servings with ample sides and some appetizers or a starter course, especially if your guests are not huge eaters.

### RACK OF LAMB

*Serves 2 generously*

- 1 rack of lamb (8 chops)

#### Marinade:

- 2 cloves garlic

- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon wine vinegar
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- Generous pinch of salt
- Generous grinding black pepper
- ½ teaspoon dried rosemary

Puree all the marinade ingredients in a blender until smooth. Using a sharp knife, make hash marks in the fat side of the lamb. Do not permeate the meat; just score the fat. Pour the marinade over the lamb in a zipper bag or sealable container and allow it to marinate for several hours. Before roasting, bring the lamb to room temperature.

Heat your oven to 450 F. Place the lamb in a baking dish, rounded side facing up, and pour the marinade over it. Roast the lamb for 25 minutes to an internal temperature of 125 degrees for medium-rare meat. (Beyond medium lamb will be tough and gamey, so it's best to stop there.) Allow the lamb to rest for 10 minutes under the foil, and then carve it into chops and serve.

To round out the menu, consider any of the following side dishes — feel free to mix and match to your taste and the contents of your pantry:

- Roasted root vegetables
- Steamed green beans with lemon zest
- Rice pilaf
- Sautéed Swiss chard (or other leafy green)
- Mashed potatoes
- Baby kale salad with citrus vinaigrette
- Garlic bread
- Roasted cabbage
- Steamed peas and carrots
- Couscous, quinoa, barley, groats or farro with lemon zest and chopped fresh herbs
- Shaved Brussels sprout salad
- Mashed sweet potatoes
- Chopped Israeli salad



Photos by Keri White



- Lemon and chili flake-roasted broccoli
- Spaghetti squash
- Oven-roasted tomatoes

For dessert, we had some dark chocolate bark laced with dried cherries and salted pistachios, again sticking with the “less is more” theme. Any type of dark chocolate treat delivers a nice endnote to the lamb — it packs a lot of flavor, is not overly sweet and a little goes a long way.

Consider chocolate-covered pretzels, jellies or just plain chocolate bars. If that is not to your taste, look to citrusy flavors such as a lemon chiffon, a sponge cake infused with orange or lemon syrup, or even candied orange or grapefruit.

Another dessert option: fruit sorbets. The refreshing palate cleanse of a raspberry or mango sorbet is an ideal finish to the rich meal.

Fresh fruit is always an option, but it can sometimes be a bit of a challenge to find top-notch fruit in the dead of winter. If so, a poached pear or a baked apple would do nicely here. Poaching the fruit in cinnamon and sugar-infused wine or baking it with nutmeg and maple syrup or honey can mask less-than-ideal textures as apple and pear seasons wane and the fruit is not fresh quite off the tree.

Finally, a simple wafer or spiced cookies, either homemade or bought, is another sound choice to cap this meal. The key is to avoid heavy desserts that compete with the lamb, which is the star of the show. •

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# Linguist Asks: Do You Speak Jewish?

## LANGUAGE

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

IF SOMEONE ASKED you to name a Jewish language, Hebrew, Yiddish or Ladino would likely be the first few that came to mind. But what about Ge'ez, Judeo-Greek or Judeo-Golpaygani?

These are just some of the Judaic languages used by global Jewish populations throughout history, according to Dina Maiben. The assistant director of Gratz Advance and Hebrew programs at Gratz College discussed the evolution of these languages for Gratz's Jan. 19 continuing education webinar "Do You Speak Jewish?"

During her talk, Maiben refuted a common claim about Hebrew.

"There are people that will tell you that Hebrew was a dead language, that it died sometime around the first or second century of the Common Era. But I don't believe that at all, because the definition of a dead language is a language that doesn't create new words. And yet, in every single period of its existence, Hebrew was generating new terminology," she said.

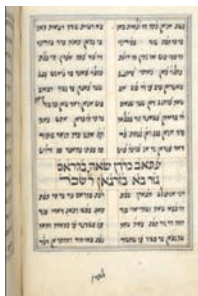
This was because Jews were scattered throughout the world, and the only language they shared was Hebrew. For much of the Middle Ages, scholars wrote to each other in Hebrew because it was a common tongue they could be sure other Jewish communities would have access to.

Maiben explained that Hebrew itself did not exist in a vacuum and was created from other languages that came before it. Scholars call its main linguistic ancestor Proto-Semitic, which is the parent language of all Semitic languages, including Hebrew, Babylonian, Assyrian and Arabic.

"We don't have anything written in Proto-Semitic. We have no idea what the language was like, except we can sift through all of its descendants

### ► Medieval Judeo- Persian manuscript

Courtesy of the  
British Library



and find commonalities, which is how historical linguists determine what family a language belongs to," Maiben said.

But what makes a language other than Hebrew Jewish? Maiben said Judaic languages have several traits in common. Most have a non-Jewish base language that provides grammatical structure while also incorporating Hebrew or Aramaic vocabulary. There are usually influences from other Jewish languages, a Hebrew or Aramaic writing system, and distinct vowel pronunciations.

Jewish languages consist not only of grammar and vocabulary but of discourse style. The practice of overlapping speech, or multiple people speaking at once, is a habit that may seem familiar to anyone who has sat around a Jewish family dinner table, regardless of nationality or language. This discourse style is distinct from interrupting, because it consists of actively building on ideas rather than going off on different tangents. Maiben attributed this practice to the discussion and debate styles of ancient Torah study, as well as chanting patterns in synagogue prayer.

Jewish languages flourished in the Diaspora, from Judeo-Malayalam in India to Judeo-Arabic in the Middle East. Many words from non-Jewish base languages made their way into their Jewish variants and later into English. In the Persian Empire, where Jews spoke variations of Persian like Judeo-Shirazi and Judeo-Golpaygani, the Old Persian word for garden, *pardis*, became the base of the Hebrew word for orchard and the English word paradise.

In central Asia and parts of China, Jews spoke another Persian dialect, Judeo-Hamedani. In Africa, Ethiopian Jews wrote in the ancient Semitic language Ge'ez. In Europe, Romaniote Jews spoke Judeo-Greek from the rise of the Byzantine Empire to the 1940s, when the Holocaust drove its speakers to the brink of extinction.

Judeo-Spanish, or Ladino, developed in the medieval era with additional influences from Arabic, Latin and Romance

languages. Around the same time, Judeo-German, or Yiddish, grew into two distinct variants, Eastern European Galicianer and Western European Litvak. Semitic and Hebrew words comprise up to 25% of the lexicon.

Maiben argued that there is also a version of Judeo-English evolving primarily in Orthodox communities and Jewish summer camps in the United States today. Speakers will often use English grammar structures interspersed with Yiddish and Hebrew

vocabulary, or use Yiddish and Hebrew grammar structures while speaking English, like saying "make a party" rather than "have a party."

"Even people who are not in the Orthodox community and not in the camp world, but just within the Jewish community as a whole, use a ton of Hebrew and Yiddish words in their vocabularies," she said. •

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# Mural Arts Program Finds News Ways to Support Struggling Artists During Pandemic

## ARTS

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

IT'S BEEN AN eventful 11 months for Jane Golden.

While the pandemic has brought the operations of many arts organizations grinding to a halt, the executive director of Mural Arts Philadelphia has been hard at work transferring regularly scheduled educational programming online and developing new projects in response to national crises.

"I would say we've been very busy," said Golden, who is Jewish.

When the pandemic began in March, Mural Arts partnered with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health to



▲ "To the Polls 2020" mural  
Photo by Steve Weinik

design "space pads," or signs that contain messages about public health measures like social distancing and wearing masks. The space pads were distributed throughout the city, and there are now 5,200 installed. The organization also partnered with Broad Street Ministry to create murals at hand-washing stations.

"That means that hundreds of artists actually had opportunities to design the space pads and had

money in their pockets at the time when the ecosystem that is the arts sector in our city, which is fragile under good times, was really struggling" Golden said. "We were able to provide support for about 350 artists."

When the George Floyd protests erupted nationally over the summer, the organization decided to create a fellowship for Black artists in support of marginalized voices. It will fund two fellows this year.

During the presidential election, Mural Arts partnered with StreetsDept.com founder and curator Conrad Benner for "To the Polls 2020," a nonpartisan initiative aimed to rally the Philadelphia community around civic participation through the act of voting. Six local artists displayed

their democracy-themed work in Love Park in October.

Mural Arts also recently announced several projects with Jewish businesses and artists.

On Jan. 12, event planning company Catering By Design opened DOHO Taqueria, a Mexican-Asian fusion restaurant in Mt. Airy with a logo designed by high school students enrolled in the Artrepreneur program.

"I said I would never own a restaurant, but I've never lived through a pandemic either that canceled over 700 events," said Peter Loevy, president of Catering By Design, in a statement. The Jewish business owner was excited by the talent of the students and how well the logo turned out.

Golden said the Artrepreneur program is designed to give high school students a tangible way to use their skills in the real world and learn how creativity manifests in business.

"We feel it's really important for young kids to learn about applying their learning to the city. That is in part creating large scale or small scale works of public art, about doing their own work, but it's also about being a creative thinker so as they move on in their life, they realize that they can have an idea, and have the confidence to bring it to fruition," she said.

Mural Arts announced another new project on Jan. 8. "Floating Dogwood," a brightly colored mural that will be installed outside the oncology wing of Thomas Jefferson University Hospital.

When artist Michele Tremblay was diagnosed with leukemia, she was hospitalized at Jefferson and her only view during her treatments was a window overlooking a blank wall. Her friend Christina Morin Graham often visited, and she suggested that Michele create a mural on that wall once she was out of the hospital. When Tremblay recovered and took

up the project, Graham and her husband donated and raised money.

Tremblay partnered with Polly Apfelbaum, a Jewish artist and friend from art school, to create the mural, which will contain flowers and hidden ladybugs to visually engage viewers.

"It was an honor to make something beautiful for the community in collaboration with Michele, and there is, in the largest sense, something spiritual in the generosity and joy of the piece," Apfelbaum said.

Mural Arts also is planning a late spring or early summer screening for "Making Home Movies," a project created by Jewish artists Shira Walinsky and Paul Farber and filmmaker Corin Wilson.

"It is a way of using video, poetry and ESL classes to provide a format for people in new immigrant communities to tell the stories of their lives," Golden said. "They've been able to bring together communities in Southeast Philadelphia, Northeast Philadelphia and West Philadelphia to tell remarkable stories."

While the value of the arts can often be overlooked in times of crisis, Golden said their healing and therapeutic qualities, as well as their ability to teach resilience, are not to be dismissed.

"We see art being put to work all the time on behalf of people who have been struggling with trauma, or dealing with PTSD, or facing housing insecurity or addiction," she said. "When you think about the complexity of not just our city, but all cities, and the complexity of our world, the truth is that our solutions are probably going to come about because of non-traditional intervention. And that's where the role of the arts really steps in." •

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# The Question of Unity

BY RABBI JANINE JANKOVITZ

PARSHAT BESHALACH

**PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN** has spent a great deal of time over the past few months speaking on the topic of unity. His message is clear; these past four years have divided our country more than ever before and his intended mission in office will be to mend our broken country and bring us together once again. I have heard from many people this shared hope.

As a rabbi, I generally believe in the power of mending disagreements and working toward healing. I have witnessed the miraculous transformation this kind of healing can have on a person, on a family and on a community.

But there is also a counter-argument to the call for unity. Should the Democratic Party be responsible for mending the past four years that were led by an unhinged, narcissistic bully?

The former president was supported by a party that ensured he was able to get into the Oval Office and remain there for four years. They were cowards or, even worse,

unbothered by his divisive rantings and dangerous disregard for truth. Every person who turned a blind eye or answered “no comment” over the past four years is responsible for what culminated in the storming of our nation’s Capitol and the death of five people.

Why should the newly elected administration spend its first year in office trying to mend our nation’s sense of unity when surely their time is more needed to fix the problems that have resulted due to the last administration’s refusal to take responsibility?

Unity is not something we can achieve without addressing the reasons for the disruption. Until we fix the desperate situation we find ourselves in today we can’t move forward as one unit. We are desperate for help — help for growing unemployment and the widening gap between the haves and have-nots; for the disenfranchised students who, without the safety net families of more means have, are falling further and further behind in school; and for a mass vaccination program and mask mandates. These concerns are a

part of Biden’s plan, so why not just focus on those enormous tasks?

Calls for unity put an unjust onus on disenfranchised and vulnerable people. How can we ask the people who have suffered the most over the last four years to work toward forgiving and uniting with their oppressors? How can we ask Jews who witnessed images of rioters proudly wearing T-shirts with slogans such as “Camp Auschwitz” and “Six Million Wasn’t Enough” to understand their oppressors?

How can we ask those who have lost their family members and friends to this pandemic due to gross political negligence to understand? How can we ask Black and brown people who have suffered the most under the hands of a militarized police force, who have witnessed their loved ones killed at the hands of police to forgive? How can we ask women and LGBTQ+ people to forgive those who try to remove their rights and threaten their safety?

This week in Beshalach we read the epic moment of our people’s liberation from slavery. Pharaoh has a change of heart

and sends his army after the Israelites. The Sea of Reeds opens and once the Israelites cross over dry land, G-d closes the waters over the Egyptians. When the people see what has happened they rejoice. Our tradition teaches that at this moment the ministering angels wished to join in with the Israelites and sing their song of freedom but G-d rebukes the angels, saying, “The works of My hands are drowning in the sea and you would utter song in My presence?” Just as we spill our wine at the seder for each of the 10 plagues, we are taught that the destruction of life is no celebration, even when it seems to us that the victims deserve it.

However, this doesn’t mean we are commanded to forgive our oppressors. G-d never commands the Israelites to forgive the Egyptians for the hundreds of years of slavery. Instead, G-d commands that we remember that we were once strangers in the land of Egypt. Remember that we were once slaves oppressed by the hands of a powerful pharaoh. Remember our suffering so that we may never, ever become like our oppressors, even when we

finally have the power to do so.

Instead of asking for us to unify with those who sought to destroy us, let us move forward remembering what oppression feels like. Let us instead spend our energy and resources fighting for more justice for those who remain oppressed. The fight for justice is not over with the change of administration. The very fact that our civil liberties are up for debate every four years shows how broken our country’s political system is.

May we remember always that we were once strangers, and may we vow that we will never become like our oppressors. •

Rabbi Janine Jankovitz is the rabbi of Congregation Beth El-Ner Tamid in Broomall and grew up in the Philadelphia suburbs. 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.



## JCRC

Continued from Page 10

One of her first major responsibilities was coordinating a response to the anti-Semitic memes shared by Minister Rodney Muhammad, president of the local chapter of the NAACP, on Facebook in July. She organized an interfaith panel discussion with leaders from Philadelphia’s Black and Jewish communities and members of the Concerned Clergy Coalition of Greater Philadelphia to discuss the incident and identify paths forward.

She said Muhammad’s actions hurt many minority communities in addition to the Jewish community because he promoted ideas rooted in white supremacy, and people were eager to come together to strengthen relationships.

“It was definitely a test,” she said, “but it also was a way for me to learn and to really understand the resilience, the strength, of these community partnerships that already existed, that people already had done so much work on, and also how helpful it was to build new ones to move forward.”

As director, one of Frank’s first priorities is to embark on a virtual “listening tour” of 25 to 30 minority groups and activists in the Philadelphia area to learn more about the challenges they are facing, the projects they are working on and the areas they could use support. She intends to use what she hears to create a new set of strategic imperatives for JCRC.

Her plans include building community relationships to tackle local issues like food insecurity and education disparities, along with broader issues like dismantling white

supremacy. Supporting Jews of color, educating communities about their history and increasing their representation in Jewish leadership, is also high on the agenda.

“Strengthening Jewish communal engagement with [non-Jewish] Black communities is really one of our most top priorities, especially after the summer that we all just experienced,” Frank said, referring to the national protests that erupted in response to the killing of George Floyd. “JCRC can and should play a pivotal role in educating our Jewish

communities about racism, setting local priorities and mobilizing our communities to action.”

Jewish Federation Board Co-chair Gail Norry said Frank, who lives in Philadelphia with her husband and dog, will continue to use her relationships to lead the organization forward.

“She is going to do a fabulous job of not just building community but building bridges,” she said. •

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215-832-0729

The Jewish Federation's

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## March 6 & 7

Saturday, March 6

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**Havdalah** service with Joey Weisenberg of Hadar's Rising Song Institute followed by **Schmooze Rooms** to catch up with friends old and new.

Sunday, March 7

*Do A Mitzvah*

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# COMMUNITY BRIEFS

## Jewish Future Essay Contest Announced

ATLANTIC SEABOARD NCSY and Jewish Future Pledge's Youth initiative Jewish Future Pledge announced a video/essay competition called the Jewish Future Contest.

Although the contest is open to teens across the United States, the focus is on high school students in the Greater Philadelphia area.

The contest kicked off recently when NCSY gathered 35 teen leaders from regional high schools to hear from Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia board co-chair David Adelman, who is the CEO of Campus Apartments. He described how he got where he is and how each of them could embody philanthropic principles and give back to the Jewish community.

"The businessperson in me looks at philanthropy as — is there a problem I am invested in, and can I help solve it? Certainly money is one way to do that, and another is time. ... I encourage all young people to find something you are passionate about and get

involved. Bring your ideas. We may learn from you and be able to change something to make it better."

Teens can enter the content by either writing or videoing themselves answering the following question: What would you do for the future of the Jewish people?

First prize will receive \$1,000, second will receive \$500 and third will receive \$250. The submission deadline is March 30, with winners announced on April 20.

To enter, visit [atlanticseaboard.ncsy.org/Jewish-future-contest](http://atlanticseaboard.ncsy.org/Jewish-future-contest).

## JFCS Dental Fund Named in Honor of Longtime Employee Joanne Lippert

A Jewish Family and Children's Service dental fund for older adults is being renamed in honor of Joanne Lippert, a longtime JFCS employee who died in July.

An anonymous donor contributed money for the Joanne Lippert Memorial Dental Fund. That same donor helped fund the program in 2008, working

with Lippert to ensure elderly residents received proper dental treatment.

Lippert established a partnership with Albert Einstein Medical Center Dental Medicine along with her husband, Dr. Rick Titlebaum, an endodontist and faculty member at Einstein's I.B. Bender Division of Endodontics.

"Joanne advocated for the elderly, provided food assistance to those who were hungry, offered a financial bridge when someone was in a crisis, and accommodated access to dental care for patients who lacked the means or even guidance on how to start the process," Titlebaum said.

Over the years, JFCS expanded its partnerships to include private dentists and Penn Dental Medicine.

"Joanne was a remarkable woman and clinician with a kind heart who gave tirelessly of her time here at JFCS to support vulnerable members of our community," said Pia Eisenberg, a JFCS senior vice president. •

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

## Chubin

Continued from Page 14

that racism and anti-Semitism remained below the surface.

The election of our first African-American president Barack Obama in 2008 was a wake-up call to white supremacists and other hate groups; they realized that they would soon become one of many minorities and needed to find a means to retain economic and political control. Donald J. Trump's presidential campaign gave oxygen to these racist and anti-Semitic groups and individuals and multiplied their dangers.

Although Trump has now been defeated at the ballot box, the election was not a repudiation of racism, anti-Semitism and white supremacy. Over 70 million voters cast their ballot for Trump, either despite or because of his encouragement of hate groups, and some down-ballot Republican candidates who have supported extremist groups, such as QAnon supporter Marjorie Taylor Greene, won their races.

President Joe Biden's As President Biden and

victory is a positive step but it is not enough. The racists and anti-Semites have found a home in Trump's Republican party. In the past two elections, they may have become the nation's largest group of single-issue voters, and they are using not only the ballot box, but voter intimidation and violence to remain in control. In the minds of the haters, if white supremacy requires the end of our democracy and replacing it with a dictatorship, so be it.

The violent attempt to overthrow our democracy on Jan. 6 was a wake-up call to all true patriots; we must actively protect the Constitution and the institutions that comprise our constitutional republic. The insurrectionists carried Confederate flags and wore shirts with messages of hate, such as "Camp Auschwitz." Those of us who value equal opportunity for all people, regardless of their race, religion or ethnicity, need to support our democratic institutions. In addition, overt prejudice by any group against another group must be unequivocally condemned.

others have pointed out, we are competing for the very soul of our nation. Our democracy is at stake. We cannot allow our country to continue to backslide to the overt displays of hatred my father experienced before World War II or the covert anti-Semitism I experienced in 1959. We must prove to the world and ourselves that despite the events of the last few months and days, we are better than that. •

Longtime business executive Herbert Chubin, a Philadelphia native, moved from Yardley to Bethesda, Maryland, eight years ago to be closer to his grandchildren. He is now retired.

## Rodney

Continued from Page 15

my political party starts spreading messages against the Jewish right to self-determination, a basic human right, and endorses movements that spread blood libels about my people, then I begin to feel ostracized and scared.

I am a student at the University of Pennsylvania. When I pitched this op-ed topic to my classmates and explained that I fear these congresswomen and their potential abilities to push the Democratic Party to hate Israel even more, one classmate told me to "be careful because my

argument sounds Trumpian."

These congresswomen have normalized hating Israel and Jews so much so that I am now considered a "Trumpian," and completely ostracized by my peers, for expressing my concerns for Israel and the anti-Semitic rhetoric these women are spreading.

I am not a "Trumpian." I am a proud Zionist Jew who feels like my party, the Democratic Party, has taken a turn for the worse. •

Sophia Rodney, a student at the University of Pennsylvania, is a campus fellow for Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America and president of Jewish Heritage Programs.

## Letters

Continued from Page 15

### On Inter marriage and Assimilation

Susan Yemin comments on another letter ("Kvetch 'N' Kvell," Jan. 14) and states that the writer doesn't understand the reality of inter marriage and assimilation. She also states that we have to be more inclusive of those who have married out of our faith.

But in any inter married couple, we must keep in mind that the non-Jewish spouse is not of our faith and the children may not be Jewish either. Should we have accepted the reality of Egyptian slavery and not left Egypt? Should we have accepted the reality of Babylonian or Roman subjugation and abandoned Torah?

It may be nice that her son is raising her grandchildren "to be good and ethical people," but without the basis of Torah and Jewish law, what ethics are being taught? Secular ethics can and have changed over the centuries. Torah ethics have remained immutable. •

Harold Rose | Narberth

DEATH NOTICES



**BROWN**

Bernard A. Brown, the visionary behind National Freight, Inc., one of the oldest trucking companies in the United States and the predecessor to the third-party logistics leader NFI, died on January 14, at the age of 96, at his home in Palm Beach Gardens, FL. Mr. Brown was formerly of Philadelphia and Vineland, NJ. Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, into a family that fled Europe from religious persecution, Mr. Brown embodied the American dream. At the age of nine, Bernie, as he was affectionately known, and his family moved to Vineland, New Jersey. He graduated from Vineland High School in 1942 and went on to attend Temple University, but left prior to graduating to help his father with his business. At an early age, Mr. Brown was enamored with the trucking business that his father started. Following the untimely death of his father, at age twenty-six he had the vision and courage to take a small company operating a few small dump trucks and turn it into one of the most respected trucking companies in the country. Mr. Brown embodied all of the attributes of a self-made businessman. He quickly figured out that business was all about relationships. In the early part of his career, he created contracts with the government, hauling supplies and goods that supported the military through World War II. He formed partnerships with local glass manufacturers in South Jersey which ultimately led to contracts with the largest companies in the United States. Mr. Brown was a trailblazer in the trucking industry and was at the forefront of federal transportation regulations in the 1980's. His work led to the acceptance of high-cube trailers and the expansion from traditional 48 foot trailers to 53, 55 and eventually 57 foot trailers. In 1988, he was honored as the Man of the Year by the New Jersey Motor Truck Association. He knew the importance of hard work and perseverance as he led his company through wars, recessions, natural disasters and de-regulation. Most importantly, he knew that his employees were his company's most important asset and he continued his relationships with many of his colleagues and veteran drivers following his retirement. His vision and spirit led to what ultimately became of the largest and most successful, family-owned and operated, third-party logistics companies in North America, NFI. Today, that company employs more than 14,000 employees, operates over 250 locations in the United States and Canada and serves the largest and most sophisticated shippers in the world. To this day, his sons' continue to own and operate the legacy freight business that was started in 1932. Mr. Brown's entrepreneurial spirit did not start and end in the trucking business. He was a real estate investor, founder of two banks and an owner of a professional hockey team. Mr. Brown saw the natural extension of his transportation business and invested in warehousing and real estate. His real estate company, Vineland Construction Company, of which he was the Chairman of the Board until his death, is led by his daughter Anne and continues to own and operate commercial and retail properties throughout the United States. He was the Chairman of the Board Emeritus of NFI, Sun Bancorp and Citizens United Bank. In 1960, Mr. Brown was a founder of Citizens United Bank, which was later sold in 1983. In 1986, he was founder of Sun Bancorp, a small, re-

DEATH NOTICES

gional bank that operated more than 50 branches and was ultimately listed on the NASDAQ. Bernie loved sports and although it was short lived, he was the owner of the Philadelphia Blazers, a World Hockey Association franchise in 1971. He was the first owner to give a million dollar contract to a professional hockey player. Mr. Brown even owned a horse farm in Vineland where he bred and raced horses under the stable name of Redwood Acres. Business was a huge part of Mr. Brown's life but it was not the only thing that defined him. He was a man who cared deeply about his family and his community. Bernie is survived by his wife Shirlee, whom he loved and admired. She was the solid foundation that allowed him to pursue his dreams. They would have been married 70 years this coming February. Mr. and Mrs. Brown believed in giving back to the community and never forgot their roots. Over the years Mr. and Mrs. Brown supported numerous local and national organizations with their time and philanthropy. In the mid-1960's Mr. Brown was instrumental in founding the Cumberland County Community College, where he believed that quality, affordable education should be accessible to all. As an original founding member and Trustee of Cumberland County Community College he served as Chairman of the Board from 1972 through 1975. In 1991, he was awarded an honorary Associates of Arts degree from Cumberland County Community College. In 2008 the Shirlee and Bernard Brown University Center opened on the campus to support student life. Mr. Brown also served on the Board of Trustees at the former Newcomb Hospital and was a director and member of the Vineland YMCA. He was the Director of the Arthritis Foundation at Hahnemann University Medical Center in Philadelphia. Mr. and Mrs. Brown were also active supporters of the Vineland United Way and the Jewish Federation of Cumberland County. In 2004 they joined the Department of Ophthalmology Advisory Board of the Harkness Eye Institute at Columbia University. They endowed a glaucoma research laboratory at Columbia University in 2005 and in 2007 they established the Shirlee and Bernard Brown Professorship of Glaucoma at Columbia. Later, in 2018, they established the Shirlee and Bernard Brown Glaucoma Genetics Initiative Fund at Columbia University. Mr. and Mrs. Brown established the Edward Viner Intensive Care Unit at Cooper Hospital, donated to the Humanism Center at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University and endowed a scholarship fund for the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University. In 2006 Mr. and Mrs. Brown established scholarships at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City. He was the President of Beth Israel Congregation in Vineland serving two non-consecutive terms and a supporter of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County. Mr. Brown was a thirty-second degree mason. Bernie Brown was larger than life and an icon in the trucking industry. He was able to impact the lives of many through his hard work and generous spirit. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Bernard A. Brown was preceded in death by his parents, Israel and Anna Brown; brother Sidney Brown and sister Reba Shuman. He is lovingly survived by his wife Shirlee (nee Greenblatt); children Anne Koons, Ike (Candy) Brown, Sid (Sandy) Brown, Jeff (Tracy) Brown; ten grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and niece Barbara Weinstein. Memorial contributions in honor of Bernard A. Brown can be donated to the Cooper Foundation at Cooper Hospital, 3 Cooper Plaza, Suite 500 Camden, NJ 08103 or The Cooper Medical School at Rowan University 401 South Broadway, Camden, NJ 08103.

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**BERMAN**

Arnold Berman, January 14, 2021 of Philadelphia, Pa. passed away peacefully at the age of 95. Devoted husband of the late Joan (nee Dickler). Loving companion of Elaine Lutz. Beloved father of Ellis (Jody) Berman, Jay Berman (Genia of blessed memory, Elisa), and Ronald (Sharon) Berman. Brother of the late Sylvia Wallace and the late Morton Berman. He will be deeply missed by brothers and sisters-in law Leatrice Dickler, Mickey & Marvin Dickler, and Gerri & Ron Fash. Zadye Arn loved the shore and was often surrounded by his ten grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren, and friends & family. Due to Covid-19, services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS  
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**COPE**

Mary Grace Heller Cope died January 10, 2021, Yardley, PA (Alzheimer's Disease/COVID-19). Mary was born June 10, 1934 in Englewood, NJ. She was extremely proud to be one of the first International exchange students to Germany with American Field Service (AFS) after WWII. She is an Oberlin College graduate and received a masters degree from Radcliffe. In 1957 she married Constantin Cope, M.D. They were married for 59 years. Eventually they ended up living and raising their children in Cheltenham, PA. She was on executive committees for local chapters of: The League of Women Voters, American Cancer Society, AFS-American Field Service, Cheltenham Township Government Study Commission, PTA, School Board Candidate, President of The Cheltenham Adult School, Board member of The Cheltenham Art Center and The Elkins Park Library. Mary was awarded a citation from The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for her exemplary record of service. In 2004, she and her husband retired and spent several happy years enjoying the high desert mountains of Bend, Oregon. She loved her family and friends dearly. She enjoyed: The NY Times Crossword Puzzles, tennis, singing, performing with the Sweet Adelines, playing clarinet in her local senior band in Bend, OR, theater, weight-lifting, traveling, animals and her dogs: Micros, Amelia and Peris. (Father)George Heller, M.D., (Mother)Dorothy Lubin Heller, M.D., (brother)David L. Heller, (husband)Constantin Cope, M.D. She is survived by (brother)George Heller II(Lucy Messick Heller), (son)Leonard Cope(Susan DelPizzo Cope), (son)Daniel Cope(Dawn Higginson Cope), (daughter)Evelyn Stainthorpe, (daughter)M. Constance Cope Frackle(William Frackle IV, M.D.) and (son)James Cope(Vania Shih). Grandchildren include: Michael Cope, James Cope, Nicholas Cope, Danielle Cope Cox, Timothy Cope, Kevin Cope, Matthew Stainthorpe, Jehna Stainthorpe, Garrett Frackle and Maxwell Frackle. Great Grandchildren include: Caden Cox, Ellie Cox, Jackson Cope, Oliver Cope, Emma Cope and Cecilia Cope. A service will be announced in the future. If you would like to donate in her memory: Alzheimer's Foundation, Animal Shelters/Zoos, Oberlin College or your favorite educational institution.

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**DAFILOU**

Selma Irene Dafilou (nee Batt) born August 5, 1938 passed away Thursday, January 14, 2021. Wife of the late Donald Dafilou. Beloved mother of the late Steven (Lori) Dafilou and David (Dr. Sharon Gertzman) Dafilou. Grandmother of Sarah (Dr. Elliot) Canfield-Dafilou, Emily (Joseph) Selvaggio, Benjamin, Caleb and Jonah Dafilou, Rose Gertzman. Sister of Dr. Murray (Carole) Batt and Stanley (Nancy) Batt. Longtime active member of Old York Road Temple Beth Am and the League of Women Voters. Selma was a world traveler who loved meeting people. She loved going to the theater, spending time in her garden, and being with her friends and family. Donations in her memory can be made to The Donald Dafilou Building Fund at OYRT-Beth Am 971 Old York Road, Abington PA, 19001 or to The Steven Dafilou Tutoring Fund at Springside Chestnut Hill Academy 500 W Willow Grove, Philadelphia PA 19118. GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S  
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**DICHTER**

Claire Dichter (nee Grobman). Passed away on January 17, 2021. Wife of the late Dr. Albert Dichter. Mother of Sheryl Dichter, Randee Winters (Gus), Helene Marczyk (Geoffrey) and Gail Sugarman (Rob). Grandmother of Leksey and Noah. Private Graveside Services were held at Haym Salomon Memorial Park. Contributions in her memory may be made to Alzheimer's Association, [www.alz.org/delval](http://www.alz.org/delval), or Jewish National Fund, [www.jnf.org](http://www.jnf.org). GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S  
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**FREED**

Carol Freed (nee Koff) passed away January 19, 2021. Beloved wife of Marvin Freed. Loving mother of Sharon Mosenkis(Rick), Diane Cavanaugh (Paul), and Michael Freed (Lori). Adoring Mommom of Laura Gianinni (Adam), Julie Burke (Sean), Jocelyn Freed, Jordan Freed, Adam Mosenkis, Ryan Mosenkis, and five great-grandchildren. Dear sister of the late Skip Koff. She was an avid golfer, passionate gardener and an accomplished pianist, orchestra conductor and voice coach who was known around Delaware County for her work in local musical theater productions. Contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. Funeral services are private. GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S  
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[www.goldsteinsfuneral.com](http://www.goldsteinsfuneral.com)

**FRIEDMAN**

Vincent Friedman, Jan. 14, 2021. Husband of the late Paula (nee Portnoy). Partner of Missy Decker. Father of Ross (Fania) and Craig Friedman. Brother of Diana (Ray) Greenberg. Grandfather of Gianna. He was loved and will be missed by all. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Bucks County SPCA, [www.bcpsca.org](http://www.bcpsca.org) or to the Comprehensive Heart Failure Program at Abington – Jefferson Health. GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S  
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DEATH NOTICES

**GOLDEN/BRODKIN**

Edith Golden/Brodkin (nee Rosen) January 17, 2021 at 100 years of age after a life full of family, elegance and love. Devoted wife of the late Philip Brodtkin and the late Eugene Golden. Beloved mother of Amy (Stephen) Gaylon, Jeffrey (Ellen) Brodtkin and Mark (Teresa) Brodtkin. Proud grandmother of Alisa, Robin (Jeffrey), Alexander, Hailey (Gregory), Hope, Kimberly, Paige and Philip (Katie). Adoring great-grandmother of Trace, Ryan, Jenna, Eric, Gavin, Katie, Sadie and Lucy. A special thank you to an honorary member of our family Sandra Brown for her care and love. Due to Covid-19 Services and Interment were private. Contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS  
[www.levinefuneral.com](http://www.levinefuneral.com)

**GOLDMAN**

Wilma Goldman, 76, of Malvern, Pennsylvania, formerly of Philadelphia, died on Saturday, January 16, 2021. She is survived by her Aunt Janet Cherry, sister-in-law, Marilyn Goldman and her nieces and nephews, Jeffrey (Ellen) Goldman, Michael (Robyn) Goldman, and Dr. David (Lisa) Goldman, and six great-nephews and a great-niece. Also survived by her cousins, Alisha Dubb and Deborah Cherry. Preceded in death by her parents Gertrude Cherry Goldman and Joseph Goldman, brother Leonard Goldman and six aunts and uncles. Funeral services were private. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Philadelphia Animal Welfare Society ([phillypaws.org](http://phillypaws.org)) or National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI.org). GOLDSTEINS-ROSENBERG'S  
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**KALINA**

Leah Kalina, 91, Jan. 15, 2021, of Voorhees, NJ. Wife of the late Gershon Press and the late Harry Kalina. Mother of Shirley (William Rapoport) Press and Barbara (Rob) Elkan. Grandmother of Andrew, Gershon, Sarah, Madeleine (Andrew) and Joshua. Great-grandmother of Luna and Simon. Leah was a Holocaust survivor. Contributions in her memory can be made to Raab-Goodwin Holocaust Museum and Education Center, [www.jcrsncj.org/goodwin](http://www.jcrsncj.org/goodwin) PLATT MEMORIAL CHAPELS, Inc.  
Cherry Hill, NJ

**KATZ**

Philip Isaiah Katz January 7, 2021, of Wynnewood, PA. Brother of Terry Katz and the late Harry J. Katz. Son of the late Lawrence and Selma Katz. Services and Interment private. Contributions in his memory may be made to Jewish National Fund or a charity of the donor's choice. JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS  
[www.levinefuneral.com](http://www.levinefuneral.com)

**KIRSCH**

Theodore "Ted" Kirsch passed away January 19, 2021. Beloved husband of the late Roberta Kirsch (nee Dechter). Loving father of Jodie Lachman (Andy), and Joel Kirsch (Emily). Adoring grandfather of Rachel, Emma, Benjamin, and Gabrielle. Dear brother of Phyllis Soufer (Danny). Also survived by his companion of three years, Bev Davis. Contributions in his memory may be made to The Jewish National Fund for the "Ted Kirsch Forest" [www.jnf.org](http://www.jnf.org). Funeral services were private. GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S  
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## DEATH NOTICES



### KOHN

Ruth Kohn, age 97, peacefully passed away on Jan. 14, 2021 at Wesley Enhanced Living, Media PA. Ruth was the beloved wife of the late Leonard L; mother of Kenneth (Judy), grandmother of Lori (Brad) Phillips, and great grandmother of Kaylee and Evan Phillips. Ruth was born in Pittsburgh Pa. She was an elementary school teacher in the Upper Darby school district for over 30 years. There will be no visitation. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Contributions in Ruth's memory can be made to Wesley Enhanced Living 100 Halcyon Dr., Media, PA 19063 or to a charity of your choice.  
JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS  
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### LEVINSON

Arnold E. Levinson of Margate passed away on January 20th. Arnie was a graduate of West Philadelphia High School in 1954 and Temple University's Class of 1958 with a degree in business administration. He was owner and operator of AAFEL Associates Advertising Agency and more recently was the cemetery administrator for the three Jewish cemeteries in Atlantic County. Arnie is survived by his wife of 61 years, Ethel F., children, Alan Levinson, Lisa (Aaron) Riseman, and Faye (Gary) Shapiro, grandchildren, Matthew and Jillian Riseman, and Andrew, Allison, and Melissa Shapiro, and brother, Marvin Levinson. Services were held Friday January 22nd. To view the service or leave a condolence, please visit, www.jsfunerals.com. The family asks that contributions in his memory may be made to Shirat Hayam, 700 North Swarthmore Ave., Ventnor, NJ 08406.  
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### LITTMAN

Geraldine "Gerry" Littman (nee. Dantowitz) on January 19, 2021. Wife of the late Samuel Littman. Mother of Caren Littman, Major Robert (Ruth) Littman and Dr. Louis (Dr. Suzanne Datto) Littman. Sister of Sydney Stein and Dr. Jaclyn Danton. Grandmother of David and Nathaniel. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. A clown for over 25 years with Samuel, known as "Dusty", you could often find her volunteering at Jeannes Hospital before moving down to Florida. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation www.jdrf.org or American Heart Association www.heart.org or Multiple Sclerosis Society https://www.nationalmssociety.org/Donate.

GOLDSTEIN'S ROSENBERG'S  
RAPHAEL-SACKS

### MALINOFF

Edward Allan Malinoff, 84, born and raised in South Philly, most recently of Yardley, PA, died on January 19, 2021 after a hard-fought battle with COVID-19. Known to most as Ed or Eddie by his beloved wife Karen, who passed away in 2007 after 40 years of marriage, he was the loving father of Josh (Elisa) and Dori (Doug) and adoring grandfather of Eden, Zack, Holly and Karina. He had 3 nieces and nephews he cherished as well as 3 grand-dogs. Ed was known for his endless puns and wit. If there was a pun to be made, he would come up with one almost immediately. It was an innate talent. He loved his Philly sports teams, was a great appreciator of music and sang all the time. Ed was a movie buff and remembered songs from old movies word for word despite having dementia. He loved the Jersey shore, especially Margate and AC where he enjoyed the buffets and shows. Ed was a graduate of Temple University and served in the Air Force. He worked as a logistics manager for the U.S. Navy with the Tomcat F-14 for 35 years. In lieu of flowers, donations to The Dementia Society of America, PO Box 600, Doylestown, PA 18901, www.dementiasociety.org are most appreciated.

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RAPHAEL-SACKS  
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### OLNEY

Fay Olney, a retired microfilm processor in the medical field, died January 21. She was 93 and a resident of Holland, PA. A widow, she was the former Fay Golden. She is survived by a daughter, Renee (James) Stanton. Services & interment were private.  
GOLDSTEIN'S ROSENBERG'S  
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## DEATH NOTICES

### PARRIS

Anthony "Tony" Parris on January 15, 2021. Beloved husband of Thelma "Tamy" (nee Rubin) and the late Jacqueline (nee Goldman); Loving father of Steve (Sue) Parris, Gary (Belle Scarpignato) Parris, Ilene (Larry) Berman, Connie (Steve) Berger, Donna (Richard) Solomon; Dear father-in-law of the late Andrea Parris; Devoted grandfather of Laurie (Craig), Jaimie (Jeff), Danny, Jenna (Patrick), Jessica (Farrell), Kenny, Samantha, Justin, Shelby (David), Scott (Sarah), Danny (Rachel) and Joey (Jamie). Also survived by 14 great grandchildren. Services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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### ROSENBERG

Edith Rosenberg of Anna, Texas passed away on January 20, 2021 at the age of 91. She was born on February 7, 1929 to Jack and Rose (Black) Pollack in Brooklyn, New York. After she graduated from high school, Edith attending a secretarial school for a number of years. Edith married Julius Rosenberg on June 19, 1956 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. After getting married, Edith spent her time raising her kids and taking care of her family. Edith worked for the nationally famous retail store Wanamakers for 25+ years, She enjoyed going to Broadway shows and museums with her husband. She is survived by her son, Mitchell Rosenberg and wife, Carla of Anna, Texas; ex-daughter-in-law, Gina Rosenberg-Walsh of McKinney, Texas; granddaughters (her pride and joy), Savannah Rosenberg of Charleston, South Carolina and Cassidy Rosenberg of Norman, Oklahoma; and numerous other loving family and friends. Edith was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Julius Rosenberg; son, Barry Rosenberg; and sister, Ethel Wyman. Edith will always be remembered as the nicest person anyone had ever met.  
TURRENTINE-JACKSON-MORROW  
McKinney, TX



## DEATH NOTICES



### SEGAL

Jacob (Jack) Meyer, beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, passed away on January 14, 2021, 4 days after his 97th birthday. Jack was born on January 11, 1924 in Philadelphia, the eldest of three children to Eva and David Segal. Jack is survived by his daughters Debra Saranga and Lauren Foster and their husbands Yves Saranga and Peter Foster, his grandchildren David Romani and his wife Yelena, Nicole Romani, Luca Romani. He is preceded in death by his loving wife Jule (Dee) Gloria Elfman Segal to whom he was married for 60 years before her passing in 2010. Jack had a full life as a husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He would regale everyone with wonderful stories about growing up in Philadelphia, his time in the Air Force during WWII, his screen writing adventures for the Honeymooners and his long career in advertising. He continued his love of theater and the arts in his retirement, directing variety shows at his retirement home and starting art and dance lessons. Jack will be remembered by all for his quick wit, his sharp mind and his incredible memory. He will be missed beyond measure. Donations in Jack's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society.

GOLDSTEIN'S ROSENBERG'S  
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### SERVETNICK

Sally Robin Servetnick Jan. 15, 2021 of Plymouth Meeting formerly of Penn Valley. Beloved wife of the late Samuel Servetnick; loving mother of Rory and Michael (Morgan) Servetnick, cherished grandmother of Skyler Servetnick and devoted daughter of the late Bea and Abbey Rosenberg. Graveside services were held Jan. 17, 2021 at Roosevelt Memorial Park. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.  
JOSEPH LEVINE & SONS  
www.levinefuneral.com

## DEATH NOTICES

### SHUWALL

Martin Oscar Shuwall 87, formerly of Wellington, FL, died Sunday January 10, 2021 in New Jersey after a long struggle with dementia. Born June 8, 1933 in Philadelphia to Ida (nee Redmond) and Mitchell Shuwall, Marty grew up in West Philadelphia. He recalled great times as a young child growing up across the street from Cobbs Creek Park, sledding, exploring the woods, and horse-back riding. He also spoke happily of playing tennis, as well as "box ball", "step ball" and "stick ball" by the steps in front of their house. After losing his father at an early age, young Marty worked in a variety of jobs to help the family. Paper delivery, door to door magazine salesman, shoveling snow, soda fountain jerk, factory worker, movie usher/barker, and Good Humor Ice cream man – Marty was never afraid of hard work. In 1952, at the age of 19, Marty met the love of his life, Glenda (nee Bress) and within the year they would marry. The Korean war was going on and, in 1953, Marty enlisted in the Air Force. In his memoirs, Marty fondly recalled many adventures he and Glenda shared while they lived in Fairbanks during his years of military service. Honorably discharged in 1957, Marty returned to Virginia where he and his brother David acquired and ran George Friend's bookstore, which was famous for its new and used books and unique selection of magazines. In 1961, Marty and his brother purchased one of the first Budget Rent A Car franchises in the country and Marty moved to Philadelphia to launch this new endeavor. Later joined by his brother David, they ran and grew the company for the next 20 years. In 1967, Marty and Glenda moved to Lafayette Hill, Pa. Over the next many years, they raised three children and also spent many hours enjoying good times with neighbors. Marty especially enjoyed his weekly chess matches at the house as well as playing tennis and walking in the Wissahickon Park. Marty "retired" in 1982 to embark on a life of boating, fishing, travel and adventure with Glenda which they greatly enjoyed for the next 13 years. Sadly, Glenda passed in 1995. Several years after his loss, Marty was fortunate to find a second partner – enjoying over 10 rejuvenating years of travel, honing his photography skills, fine dining, great cooking and laughter with Thelma Weinberg of Wellington, Florida and Montauk, NY. Marty is survived by his three children Mitchell (Tina Walch), Julie Sinatra (Tom) and Pamela Steinberg (Phil), 8 grandchildren and one great grandchild. A graveside memorial service at Haym Salomon Memorial Park, Frazer, Pa, will be announced at a later date. At the family's request, donations in Martin Shuwall's name may be made to The American Brain Foundation or Friends of the Wissahickon.  
JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS  
www.levinefuneral.com

### WALL

Cantor Isaac Wall, Jan. 11, 2021 of Ventnor, NJ; husband of the late Sheva (nee Heller), father of Ahavia Scheindlin (Lon Levin), Shalom Wall (Kathy Conti) and Joshua Wall (Kathleen Dougherty); also survived by 13 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. Private graveside services were held on Jan. 13th at Haym Salomon Mem. Park. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.  
JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS  
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## ***A Community Remembers***

Monthly archives of  
Jewish Exponent Death Notices  
are available online.

[www.JewishExponent.com](http://www.JewishExponent.com)



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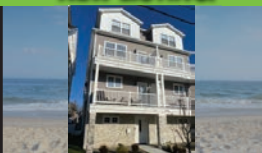
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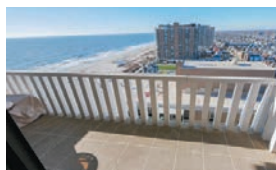
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#### ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF ORALEE GREEN, DECEASED.  
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LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to KAREN M. BROWN and ANGELA T. GREEN, EXECUTRICES, c/o Adam S. Bernick, Esq., 2047 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19103; Or to their Attorney: ADAM S. BERNICK LAW OFFICE OF ADAM S. BERNICK 2047 Locust St. Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF PAUL M. JAMES, JR., DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to PAUL M. JAMES, III, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Andrew J. Barron, Esq., 1701 Walnut St., 6th Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103; Or to his Attorney: ANDREW J. BARRON THE LAW OFFICES OF PETER L. KLENK & ASSOCIATES 1701 Walnut St., 6th Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF REGINA EVANS; EVANS, REGINA Deceased  
Late of Philadelphia, PA  
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay, to: James Morris, c/o Brem Moldovsky, L.L.C., 100 N. 18th St., Suite 300, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Administrator.  
Brem Moldovsky, L.L.C.  
100 N. 18th St.  
Suite 300  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

#### ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF ROBERT E. WATERS, SR., 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 BARBARA A. WATERS, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Benjamin L. Jerner, Esq., 5401 Wissahickon Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19144; Or to her Attorney: BENJAMIN L. JERNER JERNER LAW GROUP, PC 5401 Wissahickon Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19144

ESTATE OF ROBERT P. DISTEFANO  
Late of Philadelphia  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons as 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 Spingler and Mary Spingler, Executors or to their attorney Michael Wolinsky, Esq. 1015 Chestnut Street Ste. 414 Philadelphia, PA 19107

ESTATE OF WILLIAM SYDNOR a/k/a WILLIAM EDWARD SYDNOR, WILLIAM E. SYDNOR, 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 Genelle Kelley, Executrix, c/o Adam S. Bernick, Esq., 2047 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19103; Or to her Attorney: ADAM S. BERNICK LAW OFFICE OF ADAM S. BERNICK 2047 Locust St. Philadelphia, PA 19103

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#### ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF WILLIAM ZELINSKI, 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 Robert Zelinski and Richard Zelinski, Administrators, c/o Stephen M. Specht, Esq., 2332 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19145; Or to her Attorney: STEPHEN M. SPECHT GREEN & SCHAFLE, LLC 2332 S. Broad St. Philadelphia, PA 19145

#### PETITION NAME CHANGE

Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, December Term, 2020, No. NC1912006. Notice is hereby given that on December 23, 2019 the petition of Anya Goodman was filed, praying for a decree to change her child's name from Audyn Nova Goodman to Nova Orion Goodman. The Court has fixed February 16, 2021 at 9am, for remote/virtual hearing in Courtroom 3D, Family Court, 1501 Arch Street, Phila. PA, for hearing. No parties shall appear in Courtroom 3D. Each petitioner shall provide the court with a current email address to Shirlene Alseed at: Shirlene.Alseed@courts.phila.gov or call 215-686-7568. The court will notify each petitioner by email as to how to participate in the hearing.

#### STATEWIDE ADS

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▼ FRIDAY, JAN. 29

**JAFCO Wellness Experience**

During January, access the Wellness Experience Library, including exercise classes from yoga to HIIT workouts, calming meditations, expert tips and DIY self-care. For more information, contact **JAFCO FamilyMatters** Events Manager Melanie Foldes at [melanie@familymattersnetwork.org](mailto:melanie@familymattersnetwork.org) or 267-637-0210.

▼ SUNDAY, JAN. 31

**Maritime Strength in Israel**

Yosef Ashkenazi, rear admiral in the Israel Navy and recently retired officer in the Israel Defense Forces, will discuss how the IDF and the Israel Navy build strength in the Mediterranean Sea based on technology and innovation. Join **Gratz College** at 11 a.m. on Zoom to dive deep into the current challenges Israel is facing in its maritime arena. Call 215-635-7300 for more information.

**Israel Gems**

Join renowned hosts Gadi Ben-Dov and Selma Roffman and **Hebrew Free Loan Society** at 11 a.m. for this exciting Zoom tour of Israel. The stops include a view of Jerusalem through the tunnels and tasty morsels at the shuk in Tel Aviv. This is a fundraiser for HFLS. Cost \$54-\$540, and ticket buyers are entered into a drawing to win a \$100 Amazon gift card. Call 215-820-7703 for more information.

▼ TUESDAY, FEB. 2

**JFCS – Nourishing Community**

Join **Jewish Family and Children’s**

**Service** at 6:30 p.m. for a virtual cooking series to raise funds for the food insecurity program. Learn unique recipes from renowned chefs, home cooks and cookbook authors while supporting JFCS’ work to address food insecurity in our community. Support this work by making a donation from the mitzvah “menu” as your “entree” to the event series. Donations of \$25 or higher include attendance to all five events. Visit [jfcsphilly.org/nourishingcommunity](http://jfcsphilly.org/nourishingcommunity) for more information.

▼ THURSDAY, FEB. 4

**Owning a Business**

Join **JEVS Career Strategies & Career Solutions** for a series of financial education webinars geared toward those aged 55 and up in partnership with Citizens Bank. This session’s topic is understanding what it takes to own and operate a business. RSVP at [jevshumanservices.org/finance0128](http://jevshumanservices.org/finance0128) to join the noon event.

**The Race for America**

“Jews, Race and Religion,” a free online lecture series offered by the **Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies** at the University of Pennsylvania, will focus on intersections of race and religion, drawing lessons from the history of anti-Semitism, examining the role of Jews in the racialized culture of the United States and exploring the role of race in Jewish identity. All events in the series will take place on Thursdays, 1:30–2:30 p.m. Register at [katz.sas.upenn.edu/resources/blog/jews-race-and-religion](http://katz.sas.upenn.edu/resources/blog/jews-race-and-religion). ●

David Seltzer, a vice president of the executive committee at Congregation Adath Jeshurun, delivered a lecture titled “Being Grandparents in an Interfaith Family” to the AJ Grandparents Group on Jan. 14.



▲ David Seltzer, Sheva Cohen and Barb Sholtz during Seltzer’s lecture.

Photo by Rachel Palitto

Einstein Healthcare Network held a free community virtual Women’s Health Symposium on Jan. 13. Attendees heard information about obstetrics, gynecology and preventing Jewish genetic diseases.

► Clockwise from top left: Chani Yondorf, Julie Hensler-Cullen and Lisa Jablon

Courtesy of Einstein Healthcare Network



Each week, families from Congregation B’nai Jacob deliver 40 boxes of groceries from JRA and 10 more in coordination with Phoenixville Area Community Services. Here, congregants pack and deliver boxes on Jan. 17.

Photos by Lisa Anton



▲ Selene Gabbert



▲ Madelyn Anton

**What’s going on in Jewish Philadelphia?**

Submit an event or browse our online calendar to find out what’s happening at local synagogues, community organizations and venues!

Submit: [listings@jewishexponent.com](mailto:listings@jewishexponent.com)  
Online: [jewishexponent.com/events/](http://jewishexponent.com/events/)

**JEWISH EXPONENT**

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



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Be a part of our March 25<sup>th</sup> holiday edition.  
**DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup>**

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**A**  
\$95

## Best Wishes

to all for a

## Happy Passover



YOUR NAME

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**B**  
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A SWEET & JOYOUS

## Passover

YOUR NAME

DESIGN  
**D**  
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## HAPPY PASSOVER

YOUR NAME

DESIGN  
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