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OF NOTE

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Volume 133
Number 39

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Educators Reflect on Dealing with the Pandemic

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

ONE EDUCATOR SAID it was like trying to put the wheels on a moving car. Another said it was more akin to building a plane midflight. Both of them were talking about teaching during a pandemic, and other educators at local Jewish educational institutions gave fairly similar accounts of what the last 10 months have been like.

After a hectic spring, when some schools were better prepared than others for the new reality of pandemic education, the summer provided an opportunity to survey students, meet with other teachers and develop a solid game plan for the fall.

Some schools chose to meet in person, and others remained online. All were forced to try new things, even as they tried to preserve as much of their pre-pandemic practices as they could.

Now, as many schools kick off their second full semester in the pandemic, educators talked to the Exponent about adjusting to unprecedented conditions.

Leslie Kornsgold, associate principal

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▲ Clockwise from top left: Drexel Hillel's Israel Engagement interns Rachel Sasson, Gabrielle Boiskin, Danielle Katsev and Alexa Gamburg lead a Zoom cooking class. Courtesy of Leah Thomas

New Round of Grants Supports Israel Engagement

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

HOW DO YOU HELP people connect with a country across the world when travel and gatherings are difficult, if not impossible?

That was the question the 2020-21 batch of Israel Engagement Grant recipients considered when they applied for Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's assistance in bringing Israeli culture to their communities. Twenty-four grants were

awarded to 18 organizations for the available funds of approximately \$45,000, and each local synagogue, school, camp and community center came up with its own answer.

For some organizations, modifying Israel engagement programming means moving classes and events to a virtual format.

David Weiss, executive director of Habonim Dror Camp Galil, said the camp plans to offer online Hebrew classes for young adults as well as virtual programs

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JEWISH EXPONENT

In the mailbox, online, on social media —
We've got you covered!

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Miriam's Advice Well

LIFE IS LIKE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES

A reader received a gift box of chocolates from a kind neighbor, but can't eat them because they're not kosher. Normally, she'd use a neighborhood Facebook group to give them away, but she doesn't want the neighbor to find out and think she's not appreciative. Miriam comes up with a couple possible solutions. For details, read Miriam's Advice Well online. From dating to parenting, Miriam welcomes all questions. Email yours to news@jewishexponent.com and put "Advice Well Question" in the subject line. jewishexponent.com/2021/01/04/dear-miriam-life-is-like-a-box-of-chocolates



Philacatessen

BANG-FOR-YOUR-BUCK BLACK BEANS

Cooking beans doesn't have to take hours, food columnist Keri White writes. By using canned black beans, she was able to sharply cut the required time and came up with a tasty side dish. You can flavor the beans with a variety of things, depending upon what you have on hand. 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/2021/01/04/bang-for-your-buck-black-beans

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SNAPSHOT: JANUARY 5, 1940

ANY ADVERTISER'S OFFERS FEATURED IN SNAPSHOT ARE NULL AND VOID

The Junior Exponent

Dedicated to the Interests of Our Jewish Youth
Edited by Cecelia G. Reinheimer

For a Better Understanding

Dear Boys and Girls:
We are beginning a new season. Winter days are in full swing. The winter holidays are at an end and once more we are back in harness, giving attention to lessons and work and taking our places in the class room with the other boys and girls. The class room is really a small community. In it you meet children from neighboring sections of the city. Gathered within its four walls are boys and girls from different backgrounds, with different ideas, with different outlook on life. Their home training may be very different from your own, their perspective of life may be from a different angle. To meet all these members of your small class room community, and to be sympathetic to their points of view

small town were two little Negro children. Now you know that there are not as many Negroes in England as are found in this country and the problem of how to find homes for these two little ones loomed big for the committee that was placing the children in their foster homes. In times of war every one is anxious to help everyone else. The common misfortune that had fallen upon the land had drawn all the people closer together. Yet to find a home for these two "different" children was a matter of perplexity for the townspeople. Finally, one elderly couple came forward and offered to take the two Negro children into their home. "We would want someone to do as much for one of ours," they said, "if our children found themselves strangers in a strange land." So with tolerance towards all people in distress these understanding townsfolk took the two children into their home and welcomed them as honored guests. That

and tolerant of their opinions and beliefs is to develop within yourself the ideal for which the nobler spirits of the world are striving.
It is a sad thing that we today are living in the midst of intolerance and misunderstanding. Of course, here in our own fine country we are more fortunate in meeting with less intolerance than our brethren across the sea. Nevertheless, it is often hard for people to see truths through another person's eyes. It would be well for all of us, starting out fresh upon the tasks of the school year to resolve to meet our fellows with open minds and with understanding hearts and sympathetic response. Just as we would want the other boys and girls to approach us in the spirit of good fellowship and tolerance, so we should try to make the way easy for them to find the same reaction in our own behavior. If all the people in the world would open their minds and their hearts to the feelings of their fellows what a happy, peaceful, glorious place this world would be.
Speaking of a better understanding between peoples reminds me of a newspaper clipping that found its way to my desk one day last Fall. It told of the evacuation of the children from London in the early days of the present European War. Among the group that found its way into one

night when the woman was undressing the tots to prepare them for bed, she found pinned to the underclothing of one of them an envelope, addressed to the good person who befriends my babies and inside of it was a note asking God to bless the kind soul that had shown sympathy, tolerance and understanding by taking the two strange children into her home, and with it a roll of paper money, not as payment for the kindness, but in appreciation.
If more people looked upon the world and the people in it through eyes of understanding and tolerance, then more speedily would come the day 'when brethren shall dwell together in unity.'
Your friend,
CECELIA G. REINHIMER.

Answers to Puzzles

Dropped Vowels
Do unto others as you would that they should do unto you.
Do You Know
David, Miriam, Joseph, Belthasser, Esau, Samson, Miriam,
Word Square
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D A R E
E R E A
N E A T

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History's Lessons: Jewish Anarchist Doctors Cared for Philadelphia's Immigrants

LOCAL

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

FOR HISTORY BUFFS, mentions of Jewish anarchists often conjure images of political activist Emma Goldman's fiery speeches or assassination attempts.

However, many influential members of Philadelphia's close-knit Jewish anarchist community in the 19th century have flown under the radar due to their relatively quiet occupations: providing health care to underserved communities.

"In Philadelphia in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, there was a large group of professionals who practiced medicine or pharmacy as a

livelihood, while committing great energies to the anarchist movement," labor activist and historian Robert Helms wrote in his Clamor Magazine article "Doctors and Druggists Among the Early Philadelphia Anarchists." These professionals, many of whom were Jewish, treated patients, provided public health education and contributed financially to political causes.

Anarchist health care was rooted in immigration and labor activism. In the late 19th century, Russian Jews flocked to the United States to escape deadly pogroms and anti-Semitic laws. Many settled in South Philadelphia, which was also home to Italian and Irish immigrants and African Americans.

The new immigrants, most of whom were poor, took jobs in the factories that grew during the rapid industrialization of American cities. The government imposed little to no regulations on these businesses, which resulted in starvation wages and hazardous conditions for workers. In his memoir, Philadelphia Jewish anarchist, Yiddish orator and labor activist Chaim Lein Weinberg recalled seeing Jewish bakers at union meetings who were so exhausted after their 16-hour shifts they fell asleep in their chairs.

Anarchism, or the political theory that deems governmental authority unnecessary and advocates for a society based on voluntary cooperation, appealed to members of



▲ The Southern Dispensary for the Medical Relief of the Poor opened in 1816 on Shippen (Bainbridge) Street. Photo by Steven Peitzman

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this growing working class, who saw no use for a government that failed to protect them. It also appealed to members of the Jewish intellectual elite, many of whom came from immigrant backgrounds themselves and wanted to help their comrades.

Anarchism and health care intersected in the dispensary movement.

Dr. Steven Peitzman, a retired physician and part-time professor of medicine at Drexel University College of Medicine, said while middle class and wealthy Philadelphians could afford to hire family physicians for home visits, health care options were limited for residents of these immigrant communities. The responsibility of caring for the sick and injured fell disproportionately on women of the household.

"The first level of care would usually be one's home remedies, or what we would call over-the-counter remedies, many of which

during that period were probably worthless and spiked with alcohol, and some even cocaine," Peitzman said.

Rather than hiring a doctor or going to a hospital, immigrants often turned to dispensaries, or free health care clinics. These institutions emerged in Philadelphia and other cities during the 1800s and provided outpatient medicine for coughs, "rheumatism," dyspepsia and other ailments. Dispensaries in industrial areas also treated cuts and burns. Young doctors fresh out of the city's medical schools often used them to gain experience, and the clinics reflected anarchist commitment to individual cooperation.

According to Helms, a group of Jewish anarchist physicians founded Mt. Sinai Dispensary at 236 Pine St. in 1899. The founding members included Max Staller, Leo Gartman, Bernhard Segal and Simon Dubin.

"It's not unexpected that some young Jewish physicians

See History, Page 22

Har Jehuda Cemetery Struggles as Business Declines

LOCAL

ANDY GOTLIEB | JE MANAGING EDITOR

HAR JEHUDA CEMETERY

President Larry Moskowitz knows conditions at the Upper Darby cemetery are a bit shabby.

He knows that complaints are on the rise and that maintenance has been deferred.

And he knows that this article will prompt even more complaints.

But he said his skeleton staff is doing the best it can, despite changing economics that make running and maintaining a cemetery increasingly difficult.

"It's very emotional for me because I've been around it so long," Moskowitz said. "I love it and it's in our blood. I was charged in 1981 with taking care of the place, and that's what I will continue to do."

Moskowitz is the fourth generation in his family to care for the 30-acre cemetery along Lansdowne Avenue that holds 20,000 graves. His great-grandfather, Jehuda Moskowitz, was part of the chevra kadisha that founded the cemetery in 1896.

The cemetery's sheer age increases the need for upkeep, but so is the decline in the number of people being buried. A decade ago, the cemetery buried 150 people a year; last year, there were just 30.

"When your burial revenue drops by 70%, you don't have what you think you have," he said.

Older cemeteries with few new burials have less money coming in and tend to exhaust their perpetual care funds.

Those trends may worsen, according to the National Funeral Directors Association Cremation and Burial Report. The 2020 cremation rate was 56%, up 8% from 2015, and the organization projects that by 2035 nearly 80% of Americans will be cremated.

Poor cemetery conditions



▲ Toppled tombstones at Har Jehuda Cemetery

Photo by Andy Gotlieb

aren't limited to the Philadelphia area — or strictly to Jewish cemeteries, as the Lebanon Daily News and The Morning Call have reported in recent months.

The Exponent previously wrote about poor conditions at Har Jehuda in September 2018. At that time, overgrown grass obscured many tombstones and some markers had fallen to the ground. Vegetation had sprouted in the sidewalks and weeds grew uninhibited in the cemetery.

A visit to the cemetery on Jan. 3 showed the grass only slightly overgrown, but markers here and there had fallen or were leaning. On one edge of the cemetery, in an older section, many tombstones were engulfed with vegetation.

That's what's frustrated Karen and Jeff Albert of Dresher. His great-grandmother Mollie Silverman and his great-uncle Jacob Albert are buried there.

While Jacob Albert's grave is in good condition, Silverman's grave is partially obscured by tree vines and vegetation the family says is poison sumac. The Alberts' efforts at genealogy are thwarted because they can't read the Hebrew inscribed on the tombstone, which dates to 1926.

"I can't get within 10 feet of it," Jeff Albert said.

The Alberts said they've been in touch with cemetery management and are willing to be patient, but are frustrated nonetheless.

"It's been a three-year slog," Jeff Albert said.

Meantime, Gail Dubin of Wynnewood and her sister, Faith Reese, said they have gotten no response as they seek to have the area around their parents' graves updated. Beatrice R. and Louis L. Gershman died within three weeks of each other in 2012.

Dubin said conditions were fine at first, but have deteriorated in the past 18 months.

"It's a lack of respect," she said of the cemetery conditions.

Moskowitz said the end of growing season will enable the cemetery to catch up on some of the maintenance.

"We're in a tough spot, but we're working our butts off," he said. "It takes us a while to get from point A to point Z."

Har Jehuda is far from the only older Jewish cemetery that has drawn complaints in recent years.

In 2015, the Exponent wrote about poor conditions at Har Zion Cemetery in Darby. In 2020, both Har Nebo Cemetery and Mount Carmel Cemetery in Philadelphia were criticized because of poor conditions and

See Cemetery, Page 22

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Golf Champion Louise ‘Bobbie’ Rose Dies at 104

OBITUARY

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

LOUISE “BOBBIE” ROSE, a Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Famer who played golf competitively for 70 years, died of a heart attack on Dec. 20 at her home in Meadowbrook. She was 104.

Rose won 13 consecutive club championships at Ashbourne Country Club and played in the Women’s Golf Association of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania State Women’s Golf Association tournaments. She won 11 Griscom Cup championships with son Michael Rose and four Mater et Filia titles with daughter Bonnie George. At 90, she teamed with George to win the Effie Derr Robey Cup, where

she shot better than her age five times, and she won the 2007 WGAP Class B Super-Seniors championship at 91. She was inducted into the Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 2014 at 98.

“Golf,” she told the Jewish Exponent before her induction, “is the most frustrating, irritating, imperfect, wonderful game I’ve ever played.”

Rose loved all sports and was an accomplished athlete from a young age. She grew up in Cheltenham and attended Cheltenham High School, where she was named a top athlete for her prowess in swimming, tennis, basketball and field hockey. When she studied physical education as an undergraduate at Temple University, she played badminton and qualified for a national championship. She

started bowling at Ashbourne Country Club and averaged 180.

She began playing golf, which would become her favorite sport, when her husband Leon Rose took it up in 1947. Her two children also took to the sport and went on to become successful amateur golfers.

Michael Rose, who writes for and publishes Great Golf Magazine, said his mother appreciated that golf was a lifelong sport. Players can constantly improve, rather than hitting a wall in their younger years and having their performance decline over time.

“She was somebody who said, ‘I’m going to get better. I want to get better.’ In fact, one of her little sayings was, ‘This is going to be my year,’” he said.

The whole family was proud of her accomplishments, and she of theirs — especially when her children got good enough to beat her.

“She was our biggest fan and we were her biggest fans. It



▲ From left: Bobbie Rose, holds the Mater et Filia championship trophy with daughter Bonnie George. Courtesy of Bonnie George

“She was our biggest fan and we were her biggest fans. It was a family thing we all could do together, and we could all strive to make everybody better.”

MICHAEL ROSE

was a family thing we all could do together, and we could all strive to make everybody better,” Michael Rose said.

Bobbie Rose and her family had strong ties to the Jewish community.

She attended Camp Council in Phoenixville as a girl, and she and her husband were members of Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel. Michael Rose played for the Maccabi USA men’s golf team in Israel’s international Maccabiah Games during 1981 and 1985, and George played for the women’s team in 1989 and 1997.

Bobbie Rose was also an accomplished artist. Michael

Rose said she worked in a wide range of mediums, from knitting to sculpting. At age 90, she decided she wanted to learn to weld and signed up for a class.

She displayed and sold her work at art shows, and the family hopes to hold a show in her honor when it is safe to do so.

George, who studied art as an undergraduate, remembers her mother’s dedication to parenting, as well as her passion for artwork. If she needed help with a school project or a volunteer for a classroom activity, Rose was always eager to step in.

“Her creative mind was always going, especially with projects that I had to do, whether it was social studies or science,” George said.

Rose remained close with her children as they grew older. In addition to playing golf, they often took trips to New York and Florida together.

“She was just always there for me,” George said.

Rose was preceded in death by her husband, who died in 1974. She is survived by her children, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. ●

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Ballet Founder Barbara Weisberger Dies at 94

OBITUARY

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

BARBARA WEISBERGER, the founder of Pennsylvania Ballet and the first American student of internationally renowned choreographer George Balanchine, died at her home in Kingston, Pennsylvania, on Dec. 23. She was 94.

Weisberger founded Pennsylvania Ballet in 1963. Since then, the company has become a cultural institution, embedded in the artistic life of Philadelphia and nationally respected. With a Ford Foundation grant and a desire to transmit what she learned from Balanchine to American students, Weisberger led the organization until her resignation in 1982.

Following her time with the company, Weisberger spent decades nurturing dancers and choreographers, founding the Carlisle Project, a mentorship program for choreographers in Carlisle, and serving as an artistic advisor at Peabody Dance, the dance program of the celebrated Peabody Institute.

Weisberger was repeatedly honored by the commonwealth for her efforts, and received many honorary doctorates.

"Mrs. Weisberger was a true visionary, a natural leader and a perpetually creative artist," read a statement from Pennsylvania Ballet, posted to its website. "A pioneer of every important movement in American ballet, Mrs. Weisberger was a remarkable force and we are forever grateful for the indelible impact she made on our art form."

Weisberger was born in Brooklyn, New York, to Herman and Sally Linshes in 1926, and began her ballet training at 5. She was accepted into Balanchine's program at the School of American Ballet, as his first American student, when she was 8. In 1940, the family moved to Wilmington,



▲ Barbara Weisberger, founder of Pennsylvania Ballet, died at 94.
Courtesy of the Weisberger family

and Weisberger continued her studies, commuting to Philadelphia for training with the Littlefield sisters, giants of American ballet. With her early graduation from high school and the start of World War II, her career as a dancer was interrupted.

But with her marriage to Ernest Weisberger in 1949 and subsequent move to Wilkes-Barre, where the Wilkes-Barre Ballet Theatre was soon established, her life in dance was far from over.

She was "Miss Barbara" to her many ballet students in the '50s and '60s and, according to her daughter, Wendy Kranson, even until her death.

"She was never Mrs. Weisberger," said her son, Steve Weisberger. "It was always 'Miss Barbara' to the ballet people, just like George Balanchine was Mr. B."

Both Steven Weisberger and Kranson emphasized that their mother, for all of her successes and busy schedule, was a normal, loving mother at home, even if work frequently took her away. They kept kosher, and attended synagogue with some regularity; Weisberger was a New York Times crossword

fiend, and skilled at Sudoku and poker.

She really taught me the importance of, among many things, creating a company that really, truly had a spirit about it."

ROY KAISER

In 1961, her path crossed with Balanchine again, as she was among a select group of ballet teachers invited to a ballet summit in New York. According to The Philadelphia Inquirer, Weisberger told Balanchine that Philadelphia was ripe for a serious company; Balanchine told her that she should be the one to bring it there. She'd spend the next 20-plus years commuting between Wilkes-Barre and Philadelphia, doing just that.

When Weisberger hired Roy Kaiser as a dancer in 1979, Kaiser wasn't sure he had the skill to be what he was expected to be. But over the course of a long association with Pennsylvania Ballet, first as a dancer, and then as artistic director, Kaiser learned invaluable lessons from Weisberger.

"She really taught me the importance of, among many things, creating a company that really, truly had a spirit about it," Kaiser said.

Martha Koenemen, hired by Weisberger to be a pianist

for the company in 1973, saw early on that Weisberger was the model of a visionary, effective leader in the arts.

"We have practically a 60-year-old ballet company in a major city," Koenemen said. "That's quite an astounding accomplishment."

Weisberger was predeceased by her husband, Ernest, and is survived by her children, Wendy and Steve, three grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. ●

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HEADLINES

Finding My Roots on JewishGen

LOCAL

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

THE SUMMER I turned 18, I sat on my paternal grandmother's porch while she presented me with an unusual gift: a binder containing her family tree.

The tree, along with the autobiography and biographies she wrote to accompany it, stretched back to her four sets of great-grandparents, who had all immigrated to New York and New Jersey from Eastern Europe in the 19th century. The documents were extraordinarily detailed, containing stories of relationships, occupations and military service, as well as birth and death dates, and they sparked my lasting interest in genealogy.

In a recent issue of the Jewish Exponent, I covered a virtual presentation called "Who's Your

Daddy? or How to Research Your Family Background." Joel Spector, director of the Jewish Genealogical and Archival Society of Greater Philadelphia, delivered the presentation about research methods and resources for people looking to learn more about their family history.

After the presentation, I decided to see if I could apply what I learned to trace my own Jewish immigrant relatives back to the old country.

I created an account on JewishGen, one of the largest databases of Jewish records and family trees, which Spector recommended. It's free to use and has access to tens of millions of records from around the world, as well as a section where users can upload their family trees and connect with others seeking similar information.

Since I already had detailed personal information about my father's side, I started with my



▲ Sophie Panzer as a child (center) with mother Claudia Trupp (lower left), great-aunt Johanna Zentz née Trupp (center) and great-grandmother Frances Trupp (right)
Courtesy of Sophie Panzer

mother's relatives, the Trupps. Initial searches in JewishGen's databases turned up results for Jews in Phoenix and Houston, which didn't make any sense for that Baltimore-based branch of my family.

After a few hours of frustrated searching, I decided to change my approach. Spivak had recommended checking local historical societies for more specific information, so I looked up the Jewish Museum of Maryland and typed "Trupp" into the search bar.

Armed with well-documented names, I returned to JewishGen to see if my findings could take me back across the Atlantic Ocean.

The first result was an artifact, a small ribbon meant to be pinned to a suit lapel.

"Gray ribbon belonging to Nathan Trupp, president of the Maryland Grocer's Association. Ribbon is imprinted in black, Delegate. Likely from Independent Retail Grocers of Baltimore," the caption read.

The museum noted that Nathan Trupp had seven sons. My grandfather, Michael Trupp, had six uncles. After checking their names with my mother, I realized I had found my great-great-grandfather.

The museum revealed that Nathan Trupp and his sons were deeply involved in their community. The elder Trupp's biography mentioned that he was president of Ohel Yakov Congregation. A 1949 letter from the Jewish Welfare Fund of Baltimore showed that Irvin Trupp, his son and my great-grandfather, was a chairman for the organization. A collection of old photographs showed Maryland Gov. Albert Ritchie attending the wedding of my grandfather's favorite uncle, Bernard Trupp.

Armed with well-documented names, I returned to JewishGen to see if my

findings could take me back across the Atlantic Ocean. This time, I requested exact matches for the full name Nathan Trupp in Maryland only.

His name popped up in their database "Family Tree of the Jewish People" alongside his wife, Rebecca Ida Saron. Birth records showed he was born in Karsava, Latvia, in 1876.

The tree stretched back even farther. Someone had uploaded information about Nathan Trupp's father, Phillip Trupp, who was born in 1837

in Rezekne, Latvia, and died in Baltimore in 1922. At the root of the tree was Nochem Halevi Trup, born in 1800.

The rest of the tree sprawled in various directions, but all the Latvian-born Trups, Trupps and Troops seemed headed for the mid-Atlantic United States, where they married and died as far south as Washington, D.C., and as far north as Altoona. Trupp daughters who took their husbands' names indicated I could be related to Rosenbergs, Skolskys and Foxes in the region.

I learned all this in a single afternoon, and there's still plenty of research to be done. I could contact the anonymous JewishGen researcher who uploaded my family tree to see if we're related, or check Holocaust records for names of relatives who perished.

For now, I'm content to call my grandfather, who I haven't seen in months due to the pandemic, and tell him that I found his great-great-grandfather Nochim, who lived and started a family more than 200 years ago. •

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Chance Meeting Fosters Friendship, Charity

LOCAL

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

A CHANCE MEETING between a Black Philadelphia police officer and a white congregant at Old York Road Temple-Beth Am resulted in some weighty conversations, new relationships and the donation of thousands of items of winter clothing to Philadelphia's homeless.

Officer Robin Robinson of the Philadelphia Police Department and Fred Goldstein, co-vice president of his shul's social action committee, aren't exactly sure why it happened.

"For whatever reason, I met Fred, and did the panel ... God's going to use it as my resume," Robinson said. "To go where, I have no idea. But I do feel as though it's just not going to be in vain."

The story begins in October, when Goldstein, 72, a teacher from Northeast Philadelphia, was walking around Center City. He believes he's open minded and has tried to enact those values with the committee; with co-vice president Sandie Buller, the committee has donated more than 4,000 pounds of canned goods to a local food pantry during the pandemic.

On that afternoon, walking around Chestnut Street with his wife, Julie, Goldstein was forced to confront his biases head-on.

A large group of Black teenagers ran in their direction. Goldstein didn't know what to make of it. He'd heard that teens had been assaulting older people and became fearful. He was prepared to strike at one of them.

It didn't come to that, as the teens ran past the Goldsteins. It turned out they were fleeing a

convenience store where they'd shoplifted some candy. Though perfectly safe, Goldstein felt unsettled, and decided that he needed to talk to someone. The following morning, he came upon Robinson.

Robin Robinson, 53, was born in Mt. Airy and raised in New Jersey. A police officer for 15 years, Robinson prides herself on her kindness and level-headedness; she describes herself as a peacemaker.

"I came on a job as a Christian, and I plan on leaving that way," she said.

The summer had been difficult for Robinson. As the killing of George Floyd sparked protests across the country, Robinson's days became filled with more invective than

usual, and more trash thrown at her and her colleagues than ever before.

Robinson was sitting in her car in Center City when Goldstein got her attention. As he told her the story of his encounter with the Black teens, she interrupted him.

First of all, she said, the best thing Goldstein had done was nothing — trying to confront one of the teens was about the worst option. As Goldstein started to respond, Robinson asked Goldstein if he would have felt the same fear if the group had been white teens. Goldstein thought about it, and said no.

"It dawned on me that this was a piece of my own reality,

See Charity, Page 10

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Charity

Continued from Page 9

and something that I needed to think about,” Goldstein said.

The pair talked about race and racism for a while, and Goldstein asked Robinson if she would be interested in sitting on a Zoom panel about racial justice that he was arranging with his synagogue and Abington Presbyterian Church. She accepted.

Robinson’s appearance was no picnic; she was the panel’s only police officer, and the criticism of the police by the other panelists was pointed. But Robinson took it in stride and, for nearly two hours, she answered every question that came her way. Goldstein was impressed with Robinson, and the two kept in touch.

The week before Christmas, Goldstein and Robinson were talking, and Robinson decided

to make a shidduch, but not for romance.

If the synagogue’s Social Action Committee could gather some winter clothing together, Robinson told Goldstein, she could distribute it. Working with another congregant, Brad Siever, Goldstein and the committee collected 960 wool caps, 960 pairs of winter gloves and 960 pairs of thermal socks. Working with several other officers, Robinson furnished 12 homeless shelters with the donations, and gave some to the homeless folks she regularly delivered coffee and breakfast to.

Robinson and Goldstein don’t know what the future holds for their partnership. But whatever it yields going forward, it’s already brought warmth to people who desperately needed it. ●

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“It dawned on me that this was a piece of my own reality, and something that I needed to think about.”

FRED GOLDSTEIN



▲ Robin Robinson Courtesy of Robin Robinson



▲ Fred Goldstein Photo by Julie Goldstein



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Educators

Continued from Page 1

and sixth-eighth grade social studies, Abrams Hebrew Academy

For a brief moment at Abrams, students were allowed to bring their cell phones to school, a break with long-established policy. The thinking, according to Kornsgold, was that students would need extra downtime during such a fraught school year, spending five school days a week wearing masks.

This didn't last long, and the phones once again became contraband.

In Kornsgold's eyes, the brief cell phone era is emblematic of Abrams' approach to pandemic education. When in doubt, give students structure, and show them that expectations are the same as they always have been.

It's easier said than done. Most clubs are out this year, and so is art and music class. Older students know that they'll likely miss out on their class trip to Israel and other privileges afforded the biggest kids.

"So there are disappointments," Kornsgold said. "But they're resilient. They're



▲ Rabbi Alan LaPayover leads a class for RRC students.
Courtesy of Reconstructing Judaism

making the most out of it all. And we are just really gratified by that."

Rachel Scheinmann, Humanities Department chair, Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy

Teachers at Barrack, Scheinmann said, had a pretty good sense of how to use teaching platforms like Canvas and Google Meets prior to the pandemic. What kept things moving in the spring was the fact that Barrack had an education technology officer on staff, allowing everyone to go from basic literacy in those programs to fluency without too much disruption.

Last fall, Scheinmann's

students found writing papers to be a less daunting task, as the immediacy of Google Docs-based edits gave them ample time to write. It also keeps them from potentially forgoing help because they didn't want to give up a lunch break to talk over a paper.

And in Google Meets breakout rooms, where Scheinmann will drop in on group conversations, she's pleased by what she's hearing.

"Whenever I go in, everyone's really active and engaged with each other and doing their work," she said.

That said, Scheinmann still prefers when her students are at the building, as Barrack students have been on a rotating basis.

Elsie R. Stern, vice president for academic affairs and associate professor of Bible, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

Stern figured that there would be a grace period at the beginning of the pandemic, three weeks or so to make some decisions about how RRC would move forward before students grew tired of full-day academic schedules that were simply moved to Zoom.

"It took a week," she laughed.

RRC's students now spend no more than four-and-a-half hours per day on Zoom. Based on student and faculty



▲ Gan students at the Stern Center with teacher Marlee Glustoff
Courtesy of Perelman Jewish Day School

feedback, one-sided lectures are kept to a minimum; students have reported that smaller, *hevruta*-size discussions yield more than those of a full-class Zoom discussion or written forum discussion. Students are encouraged to take a lighter academic load.

Avoiding burnout has been the name of the game at RRC thus far, and will be going forward.

Bryan Kirschner, fifth-grade general studies teacher, Perelman Jewish Day School Stern Center

More than any other semester that he can recall, Kirschner said, fall was a time for him and his students to really get to know each other.

While PJDS has managed in-person education, setting up outdoor classrooms, the social environment of pre-pandemic school can't quite be replicated; seeing that, Kirschner decided that this was the year to more actively foster relationships, and to "have conversations that maybe we would never have had with kids if we were in a typical school year."

With those relationships deepened, Kirschner and his students have more easily navigated the quirks of pandemic education. In graduate school, Kirschner noted, they don't teach you how to run a classroom while spotted lanternflies

fly in your face.

Paul Bernstein, CEO, Prizmah: Center for Jewish Day Schools

When it comes to assessing what works and what doesn't, Bernstein and Prizmah have the benefit of the 30,000-foot view.

Some of what they can see is quantifiable. After surveying 81 day school leaders in August, Prizmah found that early childhood centers and K-5 schools would be more likely to be fully in-person than middle schools or high schools, and that the most commonly reported precaution taken for in-person learning was "manipulating classroom space" (85% of respondents).

Now, with a full semester of observation, Bernstein and his team at Prizmah see things that can't be expressed numerically. The energy spent on fashioning something resembling communal experience during a difficult year can't be represented as a number; ditto for the relief felt in schools where in-person learning was able to last for the full semester.

"There are certain things we're learning to do that may well actually serve us better in the future," he said. ●

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Engagement

Continued from Page 1

for synagogues and day schools on topics like democracy and Zionism, art and culture, immigration and ethnic groups and life on the Gaza border.

One of the main priorities is keeping the programs targeted at younger kids interactive and engaging. The curriculum about Ethiopian aliyah, for example, typically involves a visit to an escape room.

“We’re not going to be able to visit an escape room right now, but there are other ways in which the kids can interact and offer their thoughts and feelings on the subject we’re talking about,” Weiss said. Games and activities will be a main component of the virtual lessons.

Greater Philly Hillel Network is using its grant to support its Jewish Graduate Student Network Israel Fellowship. The fellowship welcomed its second cohort in 2020, and fellows have conducted virtual programming about food in Israeli culture, Middle Eastern politics, Jewish identity and the nonprofit sector in Israel.

Mallory Kovit, program director of Jewish Graduate Student Network, said the virtual format has not changed the fact that the program is designed to be student-led.

“It’s not coming from a staff person saying, ‘This is the Israel program you’re going to do,’ but rather, they’re asking for speakers, they’re asking for content for whatever they’re planning,” she said.

Greater Philly Hillel Network also recently launched a separately funded partnership between West Chester University and universities in Israel that connects students at both of the schools for learning sessions about pluralism, Jewish identity, racial justice and democracy over six months.

The Israeli Film Festival of Philadelphia canceled in-person viewings just after they started last March. In

September, the organization used its grant, as well as support from private donors, to screen films online for free.

“We actually had a tremendous response because of the fact that people could watch it from their home and not have to go out,” said Mindy Chriqui, founder and artistic director. “I would say more people watched the films, than would normally have come to our actual venues.”

Other organizations are making box kits, which have proven popular during socially distanced holiday celebrations.

Leah Thomas, director of Israel, wellness and civic engagement, said Hillel at Drexel University is creating Israel Subscription Boxes modeled after brands students already use, like Blue Apron and Stitch Fix.

Drexel Hillel has four Israel Engagement interns that are responsible for having 10 friends “subscribe” to their Israel box each quarter and attend their virtual event related to the learning activity for that box. In October, the interns hosted a virtual cooking event where they taught their peers how to cook shakshuka and had a conversation about multiculturalism and Israeli food.

Lisa Litman, director of jkidphilly at Jewish Learning Venture, wants the content of jkidphilly’s boxes to focus on the diversity of Israeli culture, ancient history, spirituality and scientific discoveries.

“This year, I’m really hoping that we will focus on the five senses, and how we experience Israel physically and emotionally,” she said. “So we may provide visual art materials for a live session with an Israeli artist or an Israeli chef, and maybe thought-provoking games or puzzles or some combination of PJ Library books with those other things that families do on their own time to enhance their relationship with Israel and with being Jewish.”

Other organizations simply

decided to postpone programming that has to take place in person.

Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy plans to use a grant to host History of Israel Through Fashion, a runway show of Israeli fashion curated by educator Liraz Cohen Mordechai, in the spring of 2022.

Meryl Sussman, director of Israel education, experiences and special projects, said the runway show includes clothes that reflect movements in Israeli culture and history. Topics such as immigration, early wars, feminism and equality on kibbutzim and recent technology booms are all represented via their impact on outfits.

Barrack hosted Mordechai for a virtual assembly in early December. Her “Fashion of Resilience” presentation examined how Israeli creativity has flourished during challenging moments in the country’s history.

Adath Israel in Merion Station had a wide variety of programming planned for 2020 using an Israel Engagement Grant it received during the last grant cycle, and almost all of it needed to be modified. A December mission to Israel was canceled, and a presentation from Israeli photographer Udi Goren scheduled for Israel Independence Day was postponed before eventually taking place virtually.

“I am grateful to the Jewish Federation for the funding to support connection to Israel, and also for the flexibility to adapt our original plans to maintain that connection, even in these difficult times,” Rabbi Eric Yanoff said.

The synagogue wanted to bring musician Rabbi Josh Warshawsky to host a Koolulam, or Israeli mass singing event, with Perelman Jewish Day School, Barrack,

Temple Sinai in Dresher and other organizations in April 2020. When the pandemic made group singing impossible, Warshawsky gave a virtual concert for the synagogue to mark the occasion and returned later in the year for a virtual Chanukah concert.

Yanoff said he is hopeful the Koolulam can take place when it is safe to gather again.

“We say it every year, at the end of Yom Kippur, we say it every year at the end of the Passover seder: Next year in Jerusalem,” he said. “Even if it’s not this year, it’s next year, and we’ll keep the hope and pray for that even more fervently this time, because it would mean that we’ve seen ourselves through the pandemic to a point of greater safety and security.” •

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New Year's Resolution: Holocaust Survivors Needs Continue into 2021



BY MARCY GRINGLAS

THE SECULAR NEW YEAR can be similar to the Jewish new year. For both, we reflect on the year that has passed, and we set intentions for the new year to come.

Over these past weeks of reflection, renewal and hopeful resolutions, we look back at what we have accomplished as a community and we plan for the impact we can make when we join together and place our focus on where it is needed most. Many of us felt ready to say goodbye to 2020, a year in which those who were most vulnerable were made even more so. The 30,000 Holocaust survivors living in poverty across the United States were

among that population, and, became, like so many others, that much more disadvantaged and isolated.

And yet, amid the darkness of the pandemic, KAVOD SHEF (Survivors of the Holocaust Emergency Fund) serves as a bright light of assistance for survivor emergency needs. The KAVOD SHEF initiative, partners with the national nonprofit aid organization KAVOD, and directly responds to survivor needs in nine emergency areas: food, medical, dental, vision, urgent home needs (utilities, rent, repairs), emergency home care, transportation, essential deliveries and PPE.

Seed the Dream Foundation proudly partners with more than 25 foundations and philanthropists to provide national dollars that match all funds raised by local communities and enables KAVOD SHEF to address these ongoing and increasing needs.

What began in 2019 as emergency services for Holocaust survivors across 12 cities, including Philadelphia, quickly expanded in 2020

to community partnerships in more than 28 U.S. cities. Together, we succeeded in filling more than 15,000 emergency requests across the country — including 2,000 emergency assistance requests right here in our Greater Philadelphia community. When we come together and work together, our collective reach extends beyond what we thought possible.

KAVOD SHEF has become our proof. And, we have more to do as we enter into this new year. Too many Holocaust survivors, those who survived the unimaginable, are suffering still. Some face food insecurity, while others struggle to keep their homes. While some are forced to choose between heat or medical bills, others cannot afford basic home repairs.

My resolution for this new year is simple: We can and must do more to alleviate these impossible choices and help our survivors live in dignity during their last years.

Seed the Dream Foundation remains dedicated to addressing the emergency needs of Holocaust survivors

and supporting SHEF in the United States and Israel.

In 2021, we are committed to expanding these partnerships. It is our hope that current partners and new partners will join together with us to exponentially increase the resources available for our survivors. Through this unique initiative, we work together with Jewish Federations such as the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, Jewish Family Service agencies, national philanthropic partners and local donors to bring much needed emergency aid to our survivor community and amplify our impact. One hundred percent of all funds raised are directed toward these needs — and our heroic KAVOD staff partners continue to work tirelessly to fill all of the survivor requests with urgency.

In 2021, Seed the Dream Foundation will renew our commitment to match all national dollars raised for KAVOD SHEF during the next year. As a result of the COVID-19 crisis, Holocaust survivors in Philadelphia and across the United States need us *even more*. We will

continue to band together with local and national organizations to widen and deepen our reach, and we ask you to join us. The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia remains our strong and steadfast local partner. As we move into what we hope will be a much brighter new year, we are grateful for their leadership and the light they continue to bring to the ever-growing needs of our survivor population.

This is the time for us to come together, work together and act together, to ensure that the emergency needs of Holocaust survivors are met. Let us show our survivors that they are not forgotten. We are here.

As we begin this new year with new hope and new optimism, please join us in our collective communal response. May 2021 bring health, light and intention.

Survivors in need, please call this confidential national phone hotline for assistance today: 720-295-8484. •

Marcy Gringlas is the president and co-founder of Seed the Dream Foundation.

What Is the Story That Will Be Told?



BY PAULA GOLDSTEIN

THE PFIZER VACCINES are being distributed, and our country has approached the beginning of the end of a critically challenging time. COVID-19 has ravaged us, taking the lives of 1.8 million

people worldwide and more than 350,000 in the United States. Life has changed dramatically, and many say there is no going back to the way things were before. How our world will change in the long term has yet to be determined.

One thing I continue to think about, though, as a leader of a nonprofit, is the story that will be told: How will our response toward our employees and our community be remembered when we look back on the pandemic?

An analogy to answering the above question could come from how we conceptualize a person's life after they die.

We frequently hear family

and friends recount the deceased's life with less focus on their successes and more on the quality of their relationships and the choices they made. The memories of that individual are formed by their values and how those values guided their life.

Although it's certainly not the same with the pandemic, the coronavirus is a force that has inserted its presence into our lives over the past year, and as we work to eradicate it, we can perhaps apply the same principles upon its death to how we existed during this time, providing life lessons on what is ultimately important — namely, how we take care of and support one another in the midst of unfathomable challenge.

Nonprofit organizations are guided by mission and values. When the coronavirus hit, the pressure to respond to those in need was enormous. Leaders were challenged to find ways for their organizations to not only survive this crisis but also to thrive. The drive to design innovative and sustainable opportunities to deliver services, the ability to be nimble and the openness to pivoting to new modes of outreach were integral to thriving.

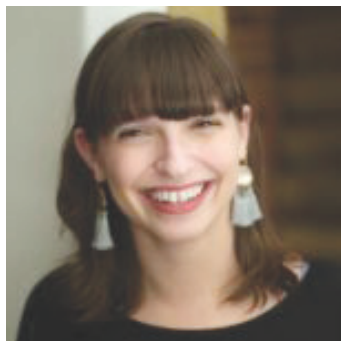
In the many discussions I had with nonprofit leaders in the Greater Philadelphia area and across the country, conversations centered on how organizations were raising dollars to support new needs, which technologies

could be used to reach those who were isolated, and how leaders drew on enhanced communication strategies to be transparent about decision-making and support staff.

I have found that the most profound sharing that has occurred with other executives has centered on our vulnerability as leaders. Looked to for answers and guidance, leaders at this time experienced the same fears and anxieties as their associates, consequently drawing them closer together and inspiring a greater ability for everyone to “hang in” and work through uncertainty.

See Goldstein, **Page 27**

Teaching Torah: Making Room for More Voices



BY AVIGAYIL HALPERN

MANY OF MY fellow rabbinical students and friends are enthusiastic about a new strategy for elevating women's voices in Torah study into the beit midrash this fall.

The Kranjec Test — named for Pennsylvania's Danielle Kranjec, the Jewish educator who created it — holds that collections of texts known as source sheets must include at least one non-male voice. It's the Jewish studies equivalent of the well-known Bechdel test for film — in which movies pass if they include two women having a conversation about something other than men — and it quickly gained currency among my colleagues.

On paper, I perhaps ought to have leapt at this new framework. I have been committed to women's Torah study since I spent summers during high school studying at the Drisha Institute, one of the first institutions in America to open the doors of Talmud study to Orthodox women, and I wrote my undergraduate thesis on finding new modes for feminist Talmud study. I'm currently blessed to spend my days immersed in full-time Torah study as a rabbinical student, and questions of what feminist and queer Torah are and ought to be are at the forefront of my interests.

And yet I balked.

My reservations were primarily practical. My current Torah learning involves intense study of Jewish law, and for the course of Jewish history, the vast quantity of received wisdom on

areas like kashrut and Shabbat simply has not included writing by people other than men. I worried that adding texts in those areas to meet the Kranjec Test would amount to tokenism at best.

My instinct was to look at the absence of non-men's voices with clear eyes. Yes, it's a canon written by men! That problem can't be solved, I thought, by pretending that's not the case.

I am not the first to point out that the problem is not a failure to include existing voices in the Jewish canon but the fact that these voices don't yet exist. Rabbi Becky Silverstein and my teacher Laynie Soloman made this argument in their response to the original article proposing the Kranjec Test. Some of my Orthodox women friends argued that meeting the test would require turning too often to texts from outside the traditional rabbinic canon. Rabbi Michael Rosenberg framed that criticism, which he ultimately argues against, in his writing about the Kranjec Test, as "Does such a source sheet send the message that 'Torah' is for men, and 'supplementary materials' are for non-males?"

I also had another concern: Learning Torah as a queer woman is already at times hard, and teaching it can be harder. There are the inevitable moments of hurt and alienation that come from loving a vast body of wisdom that was not created by people who share some of my most fundamental experiences. Along with that comes the workaday burden of sexism I face as a young woman trying to hold the attention of a classroom: interruptions, a student implying that I'm unqualified and the whole genre of experience so familiar to so many of us.

Should I now make that process even harder by also taking extra time and energy to seek out a source I otherwise would not have and try to integrate it into my work? Is this not an additional ask for

those of us who already strain so much for our Torah? And, on another level, would my voice as the teacher then be made invisible? After all, I was contributing to the Torah I offered by putting it together and teaching it, and I am a woman: Did I really need to put another non-man on the source sheet on top of that?

In the middle of all this thinking, I looked around and realized I had unwittingly been adhering to the Kranjec Test without meaning to. At my yeshiva, we start each day of Zoom learning with a 10-minute dvar Torah on the parshah from a student, and every other Tuesday it was my turn. The first time, I posted to Facebook looking for specific sources about the few verses of Lech Lecha I was planning to speak on. A friend recommended a recorded sermon from a woman teacher, and her Torah was exactly the insight I had been seeking. Two weeks later, preparing to teach my 10 minutes on Chayei Sarah, I was at a loss looking at the commentaries on the page of my Chumash. I turned to the bookshelf behind me and pulled out a book of essays on the parshah, and again the crystallizing insight I needed came from a woman.

After that, I committed to myself that each turn I had to teach on the parshah, I would include the voice of someone who was not a man in my dvar Torah. I made this commitment gently, tentatively — every time I told myself, "Well, I'll see what I can find, and if it becomes too hard, I won't hold myself to it." And every time I was able to turn up exciting, fresh Torah with minimal difficulty.

The parshah is doubtless the easiest area in which to find Torah teaching from women and other non-men. Thank God, there is such a wealth of weekly divrei Torah by people of all genders across every stream of Judaism, and the weekly parshah

See Halpern, Page 27

KVETCH 'N' KVELL

Interfaith Relationships No Call for Celebration

AS WE SETTLED IN to the read the Dec. 10 issue, we were surprised and disappointed that there was such a large [article] ("Interfaith Couples Navigate Unusual Holiday Season") highlighting the diversity of intermarried couples — a sizable percentage of whom were celebrating Chanukah and Christmas. Is this really a call for celebration?

If the author was trying to write a "feel good" story it may have had the reverse effect. Jewish people make up a very small percentage of the U.S. population, especially in comparison to those celebrating non-Jewish holidays. Due to this, it is just so much easier to be part of the mainstream religious celebrations and that is what so many of these couples will do. And studies show that couples who raise their children with both religions will very likely no have Jewish grandchildren, so who are we kidding?

Perhaps the Exponent will soon be listing baptisms, confirmations, et cetera and will still be calling itself "The Jewish Exponent." Let's not bring out the champagne just yet.

We no longer feel there is a reason to continue to read or support the publication if the publication paints a picture so anathema to the tenets of Judaism.

Bette Klein | Philadelphia

Torah Illuminates Current Context

I fully agree with Rabbi Jason Bonder's notion that each year we read Torah and may well find something new, a Chidush, in the stories ("Same Words, Different Meaning," Dec. 24).

I agree, too, that the context provided by the year 2020 or any other year potentially changes one's reading. Still, any given context may be understood differently by different readers.

For me, someone who has been disturbed greatly by the outgoing administration, in general, and by the president's behavior, in particular, I read it differently. My reading of Joseph's dreams — The Sun and the Moon and the Eleven Stars are bowing down to me and an analogous agrarian one in which sheaves bow down to him — are symptomatic of what occurs when one child (Donald?) is favored by a father (Fred) who had to himself be the chosen one (achieved by any means), in both birthright and blessing.

Joseph's inner world is one where others have no particular existence, no subjectivity, except in their relationship to him. The dream's faceless dancers, representing the brothers, are just nondescript stars or sheaves and are not permitted, in the dreams, to interact. They are not seen as persons in their own right.

Years ago, a psychiatrist in a class I was teaching asked me for a book on parenting. I suggested that she read Torah and wonder about the sequelae of the showing of favoritism and that she might consider doing just the opposite. Joseph's tormenting of his brothers — both before and in Egypt — serve as proof for me of the toxic effects of such parenting, just as the "Presidency of a Chosen Rich Kid Who Would be Emperor" convinces me of the dangers of preferential parenting, in general. •

Howard Covit | Elkins Park

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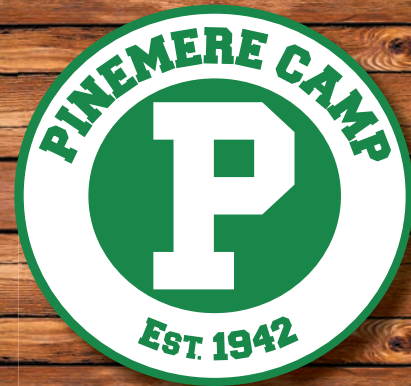
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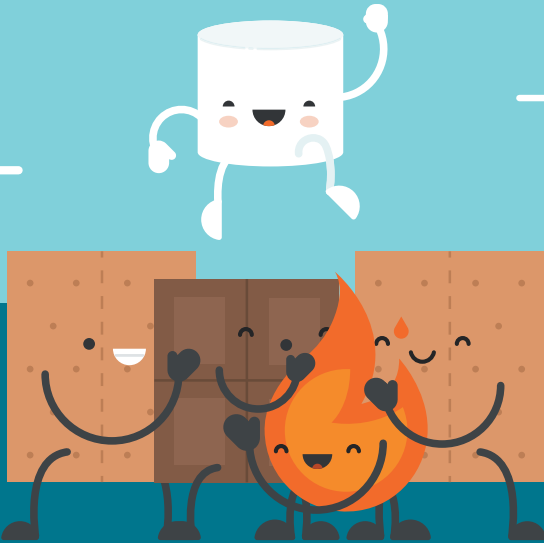
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One-Dish Chicken Dinners

FOOD

KERI WHITE | JE FOOD COLUMNIST

COOKS LOVE A one-dish meal. And winter really lends itself to this type of cooking — these dishes generally involve a lengthy simmer or braise and have a comforting, warm vibe.

I have discovered two fantastic chicken dishes, one an oven braise, the other a stovetop meal. Both were inspired by recipes I read about — one in The New York Times' food pages, the other in The Wall Street Journal, but I tweaked both to my preference, my audience (read: vegan cheese for a meat dish) and what I had in my fridge. Toss a simple green salad, and dinner is done!

Meals like this usually accommodate larger crowds, but for many of us these days, we are not gathering the whole family, so I have scaled these accordingly.

SUMAC-BRAISED CHICKEN STEW

Serves 2-4

I used a whole bone-in breast for this, but you could use whatever bits you like — thighs, legs, even a whole fryer cut in pieces would be fine. I marinated the chicken overnight, which resulted in a wonderfully tender and flavorful dish, but if you don't have time for that, fret not. The braise will do just fine without that extra step.

But if you do proceed with the marinade step, you will use a portion of the spices in the marinade and the rest in the assembly of the dish. If you skip the marinating, just use the entire amounts listed in the recipe as you prep the meal.

I served this with spaghetti squash, which cooked alongside the stew in the oven. I just scraped out the squash, tossed

it with a bit of salt and pepper, and dinner was ready.

- 1 whole bone-in chicken breast, cut down the middle, and each breast cut in half again (4 pieces total)
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 small onions, divided
- 2 tablespoons smoked paprika
- 1 tablespoons sumac
- 1 tablespoon salt, divided
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin, divided
- Generous grinding of fresh cracked pepper
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon, divided
- 4 Yukon Gold potatoes, cut in large chunks
- ½ cup chicken stock

In large zip seal bag or sealable container, mix the chicken with 1 tablespoon olive oil, one of the onions (sliced), 1 tablespoon paprika, ½ tablespoon sumac, ½ tablespoon cumin and ½ tablespoon salt. Rub the marinade into the chicken, and refrigerate it for 2-24 hours. Before cooking, bring the chicken to room temperature.

Heat your oven to 350 F.

Dump the chicken in the pan with onions and potatoes. In a small bowl, mix the oil and spices. Pour these over the chicken, onion and potatoes, and rub the spice blend over all ingredients to distribute. Add the chicken broth, cover the pan with an ovenproof lid or aluminum foil and bake in the oven, approximately 1 hour. Check the pan periodically to ensure that the liquid has not evaporated; if it is nearly gone, add more broth or water in ¼-cup increments. It should not be soupy, more like a stew.

The dish is done when the chicken is totally tender and the potatoes are cooked through. Taste for seasoning, adjust as needed and serve.



▲ Lemon chicken with couscous

Photo by Keri White

LEMON CHICKEN WITH COUSCOUS

Serves 4

I adjusted this dish, inspired by a recipe I saw in the NYT, to my personal preferences.

I served it with sautéed greens, but most any green vegetable or salad would complement this nicely. I would avoid starchy vegetables simply because the couscous provides a good amount of carbs, but greens, string beans, broccoli or a green salad would be a nice counterbalance to this dish.

- 1 lemon
- 2 ounces crumbled vegan feta or haloumi cheese, if desired
- ¼ cup salted almonds, coarsely chopped
- 3 shallots, divided
- ¼ teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 4 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 2 pounds boneless chicken breast, cut in large, bite-sized pieces
- ¾ teaspoons salt
- 1½ cups Israeli couscous
- 1½ cups chicken stock
- ½ teaspoon dried oregano flakes
- 1 handful fresh parsley, chopped

Zest the lemon and place the

the olive oil and vegan cheese, if using. Set aside.

Generously salt the chicken. Heat the remaining oil in the skillet, and sear the chicken on all sides, about 5 minutes total. Remove the chicken to a plate. Add the remaining 2 shallots, cut in chunks, to the pan, and cook to brown, about 4 minutes. Add the couscous, and stir to coat. Then add the broth and oregano, and bring to simmer.

Return the chicken to the skillet, along with any drippings from the plate, stir, cover and simmer over low heat for about 30 minutes until the chicken is cooked through, the couscous is tender and the liquid is absorbed.

Remove it from the heat, fluff the couscous, top it with the lemon mixture and then sprinkle it with chopped parsley. •

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Trouble in Mind: Shtisel, Season 3

TELEVISION

DAVID HOLZEL | CONTRIBUTING WRITER

TWO JEWS, three problems. That's the mathematics behind "Shtisel," the runaway hit Israeli dramedy about a family of haredi Orthodox Jews. In 2020, the show's creators and cast faced down a worldwide pandemic to shoot a third season, coming to Netflix in the spring.

And oy, the problems! The tsuris this Jerusalem family faces was manifest in the Season 3 opener, which a paying audience previewed online during Chanukah. The Temple Emanu-El Streicker Center in New York City, which staged a pre-COVID in-person talk with the stars of "Shtisel" in 2019, sponsored the Dec. 17 preview, which included a virtual panel

discussion with the show's actors.

It's been five and a half years since production of the second season wrapped. Are the characters older and wiser now? Having watched episode 1, I can say that the answers are "yes" (four years of "Shtisel" time have passed) and "I don't think so." Everybody loves "Shtisel" not because the family spends each episode learning Gemara or reading Psalms. It's because they're busy exercising their human foibles.

Yes, people plan and God laughs. "God, what do you want from your Jews?" Rabbi Shulem Shtisel, the patriarch, cries out during the episode. But sometimes people just run off the rails all by themselves.

Shulem (Doval'e Glickman) provides a proof text. The day starts off badly at the cheder where Shulem is principal. One of the boys has stolen from a teacher and Shulem goes to the classroom to chastise the boy. Instead of being humbled, the little stinker defies Shulem, who gives the kid a smack in the face.

Problems ensue.

Akiva (Michael Aloni), the son, the artist, is still painting. The show's own McDreamy is now a father himself, now married to Libbi (Hadas Yaron).

But there are money problems. And being three days away from eviction for not paying the rent isn't Akiva's worst problem.

And Yossele, Lipa and Giti's son, who will turn 19 on Purim, would rather learn Torah than have a coffee with the girl the matchmaker has set him up with.

Problems.

But iron-willed Giti (Neta Riskin) perseveres and Yossele (Gal Fishel) agrees to the meeting, if for nothing else than to keep the family peace. Driving his son to the



▲ The family is ready for 'Shtisel,' Season 3.

Photo by Ohad Romano for Netflix

appointment, Lipa (Zohar Strauss) has some fatherly advice in favor of rushing into marriage: "The less girls you meet, the less you'll have to compare them to and the happier you'll be in life."

Or as Shulem notes elsewhere: "When life hands you lemonade, take it."

Yossele meets the girl, whose name is Shira, and a shy chemistry ignites between them. There, at a table in the hotel lobby, he sings to her. She confesses that she goes to the Ramot Forest "when I'm scared."

"Describing yourself as being scared takes courage," Yossele tells her.

He's smitten. "We had an amazing connection," he tells his parents the next day. "I love her."

Very. Big. Problem.

On "Shtisel," the problems expand exponentially. There are so many of them in that first episode that there wasn't any room for Ruchami's problems. Played by Shira

Haas, Ruchami sits behind a desk in the cheder's office in her brief scenes with Shulem, her grandfather.

Since becoming an international phenomenon, there has been clamor for more from TV's favorite halachically observant family.

So what took Season 3 so long?

"It could have been much longer."

That's "Shtisel" co-creator and writer Ori Elon speaking during the virtual panel discussion. For Elon, the characters weren't packed away in mothballs during the hiatus.

"I always feel the Shtisel family is living their own lives without me. I imagine them sitting around the table without me," he said.

For the actors, playing a character is like riding a bicycle.

"It was great to come back to him," Glickman said, of Shulem. "I know him."

"The majority of the work of getting to know the character

we did eight years ago," Riskin said. "Even if you haven't met them for five years, it doesn't matter."

Eventually, the questioning from SiriusXM's Jessica Shaw reached answers that the cast wouldn't give. The audience was treated to polite responses to variations of "So what's going to happen this season?" They boiled down to, "I can't tell you. You'll have to watch the show."

Riskin delivered the most succinct reply. She pursed her lips and shook her head no.

It was dinnertime on the East Coast, nearly midnight in Israel. Despite the late hour, the Israeli actors each lit a menorah.

The yoke of Torah requires one set of obligations. The necessity of promoting a TV show another. The cast of "Shtisel" is familiar with both. ●

David Holzel is the editor of Washington Jewish Week, an Exponent-affiliated publication, where this article first appeared.



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Philly Faces: Ben Berman

PHILLY FACES

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

IN 2021, the most exclusive pizzas in Philadelphia aren't being baked at Tacconelli's, Pizzeria Beddia or any of the other usual suspects.

The hottest pies in town are coming from Good Pizza, a nonprofit endeavor run by 27-year-old Wharton student Ben Berman, who's baking pizzas and delivering them to hungry locals by lowering them via a box and some string out of his Center City apartment window. Good Pizza routinely holds lotteries with hundreds of entrants vying for one of 40 monthly pies.

Requesting that all pizza recipients consider making a donation as the only condition for receiving a pie, Berman has raised \$30,000 for local organizations

like Philabundance and Project HOME.

Berman, a native of Portland, Maine, has long melded his love for cooking with an entrepreneurial spirit — he ran a food truck company in high school, slinging burgers, sandwiches and sides. During the pandemic, a little bored, he started making pizzas for his friends. Finding that he could barely keep up with demand, he realized he had much more than flour and sauce on his hands: He had a chance to help some people when need was growing every day.

Why do you think baking has gotten so popular during the pandemic? Is it just the extra time people have, or is there something about baking that is more attractive in the pandemic context?

It's more of the latter. Baking and, for me, pizza, was this fun

challenge to solve. And there's so many variables that go into it.

Whether or not you're thinking about it as a scientific endeavor, there are all these different levers that you can pull to change the thing that you're creating, and there's something so fantastic about putting together just a few ingredients, and then giving it some sort of time. And so pizza, from the beginning, was this really fun challenge to try to figure out how to take very few ingredients and make something really delicious out of it.

And the spirit of baking for the last year is actually fairly similar. It is extremely approachable, and yet never something that you will be able to master. And even the bad versions of it turn out pretty good.

Is there a connection between the work you're doing now and being Jewish?

One, my family gatherings that I talk about, so many of those are Jewish holidays with my family and food being a central piece of that. That's a story for so many Jewish American families in particular, for food to be a central piece of gathering and family and love and fond memories. And so that's a big piece of it. My Jewish heritage made me more conscious of the power that food can have in gathering people, telling a story, showing your love, et cetera.

The other piece of it is that my Jewish upbringing taught me a lot about giving back to the community. And, you know, when I think about, like, level of *tzedakah*, I am cognizant of the fact that, in some ways, this endeavor has to be slightly self-serving because I have to get the word out. So I'm conscious of the fact

that I'm slightly comfortable with being at the center of all this. But it also felt natural for me, for my upbringing, from a faith perspective, from what my parents have taught me, to, when I am able, to give back to the community in some way. And this was just my form of being able to do that during a really hard year.

What's the next pizza innovation for you in 2021?

For now, I just want to make as much as much pizza as I can. My goal is just that everyone who's been signing up for these lotteries — and it blows my mind to see 900 people sign up for a pizza lottery every week — I just want to keep making pizza until everyone has had a chance to try it. •

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▲ Ben Berman makes a pizza.

Courtesy of Good Pizza



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WHAT IT MEANS TO BE
JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA

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Turning in Order to See

BY RABBI SHELLY BARNATHAN

Parshat Shemot

PARSHAT SHEMOT contains a story that we know quite well — the famous story of Moses and the Burning Bush. The narrative begins as Moses tends the flock of his father-in-law, Yitro, leads the flock to Chorev, the Mountain of G-d, and — well, we all know what happens next — Moshe looks and sees a bush that is aflame, but is not burning up.

The exact words of Moshe in Torah are, “*Asurah Na V’Er’eh et Ha’mar’eh ha’gadol ha’zeh ... Madua lo yiv’ar ha’sneh?*” “I will turn and I will see this great sight — why is the bush not burning up?”

I know that we have each read this story many times and have seen many artistic renditions of the burning bush. Every time I read this parshah, I think, of course, it is impossible for a bush be on fire and not to be consumed. Wouldn’t everyone notice this and be curious about it?

A Midrash tells us that this very bush had been burning for a long time and, that others,

presumably shepherds like Moshe, had passed by the bush, never noticing it. Did these shepherds miss the burning bush because they were working so conscientiously, focusing so carefully on their sheep that they didn’t even lift their eyes?

Or were they looking after their flock with their minds elsewhere — so consumed with their spouses, their children, their health or their homes that they didn’t even process that a bush was in flames but not burning up?

Or perhaps these shepherds did see the fiery bush, much like we might see someone or something in danger, intentionally choosing to pass it by, thinking that they didn’t want to get involved, and that someone else would take care of it?

We’ve all been there — so focused on our task that we block out everything around us, or presumably focused on our task, but really deep in thought around our personal lives, trying to solve this problem or that. And then there are those times when we do notice a serious problem in the world, and we choose to pass it by, rationalizing to

ourselves that it is OK not to pay attention because someone else will take care of it.

So, what made Moshe Rabbeynu different from the others who had passed by the burning bush? The words of the Torah give us a clue here. Moses says, “*Asurah*” — “I will turn and I will see this great sight.” The verb “*lasur*,” to turn, is used throughout Torah, sometimes meaning turning toward/coming closer, and sometimes meaning turning aside/departing from. In which direction, then, can we assume that Moshe was turning in his statement “*Asurah Na V’er’eh*”?

The Torah grammar helps us out here. Commentator Abraham Ibn Ezra clarifies that when *sur* is followed by a word starting with the letter *mem*, it means turn from, and when the word *el* (to) or a word with the letter *lamed* follows the verb *sur*, it means turn toward, but our Torah phrase, *Asurah Nah V’er’eh*, has neither the *mem* nor the *lamed* following *sur*! Ibn Ezra then explains that Moses’ words, “*Asurah Na*” imply that Moshe wanted to do both — to *turn aside* from his original spot in order to *turn toward* the burning bush.

In his turning, Moshe demonstrates *kavanah*, intentionality and mindfulness. He stops, notices that the bush is not burning up, and then chooses to turn to approach this amazing sight. Moses was drawn to the bush and felt that it merited his time and attention. He was willing to step out of his regular routine of shepherding, putting himself in harm’s way to approach a bush engulfed in flames.

So, who are we in this story?

Are we the shepherds who pass by the burning bushes in our lives hundreds of times — too busy to notice, too preoccupied to engage, too self-absorbed to turn toward that which needs our attention? Or are we like Moses, noticing what is around us, observing what is unusual and what is calling for our attention, willing to step out of the everyday to notice what G-d might be asking us to do?

When we notice godly moments and opportunities in our lives, we can choose to turn toward them, answering with a full heart and with full presence, as Moshe did, *Hineini*, here I am, G-d.

Hineini — I am here, present, awake, available, ready to turn my full attention to that which is before me that needs to be done in the world.

May we be blessed to be awake and aware like Moshe, to notice the moments in our lives when we are called to pay attention, to turn and to respond, moments in which we can be leaders and partners with G-d.

Let us answer *Hineini* when we are called, so that we, like Moshe, might turn to stand on holy ground, to notice, to act and to make change in the world, especially now in this new year of 2021. ●

Rabbi Shelly Barnathan is the rabbi and founder of Or Zarua, a co-constructed Jewish community on the Philadelphia Main Line. 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.



History

Continued from Page 4

would see a need there, particularly if they were already versed in Yiddish,” Peitzman said.

Staller served as the dispensary’s first president. Gartman, who hailed from a wealthy German Jewish immigrant family and started a cigar factory at Seventh Street and Passyunk Avenue before going into medicine, was the first treasurer. He graduated from Jefferson Medical College, now Sidney Kimmel Medical College, and practiced urology before going into private

practice nearby at 525 Pine St. He specialized in treating sexually transmitted diseases, was known for providing care to sex workers and often lectured at meetings held by the anarchist-led Social Science Club.

Segal, a widely respected pediatrician, was another graduate of Jefferson Medical College. His obituary in the Evening Bulletin stated that “he first established his practice at Fifth and Queen streets, where he became a charity physician, caring for

the poor at no charge.”

The clinic served local Jewish laborers and immigrants, who often suffered from work-related injuries, STDs and tuberculosis. Women took their children to be treated for earaches and colds.

Peitzman said that models of providing health care to the poor changed as the 19th century gave way to the 20th. The dispensary movement faded and was replaced with charity hospitals. In the 1940s, the Philadelphia Department of Health formed health clinics

that assumed some of the work once done by the city’s dispensaries.

Mount Sinai Dispensary eventually evolved into Mt. Sinai Hospital, which remained open until 1997. Some of the original dispensary founders remained, and Staller stayed on as a visiting surgeon. While the institution they created had changed, their mission to fill gaps in the health care system had not. ●

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Cemetery

Continued from Page 5

closed gates. Owner Richard Levy attributed the problems to the coronavirus.

Levy was pushed by Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia and state Rep. Jared Solomon, among others, to take care of the cemeteries. Jewish Federation helped arrange for a landscaping crew to cut the grass over the summer, but visitors say the cemeteries remain in overall poor condition. ●

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Building a Safer Workplace

The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia Welcomes Ta'amod to Reduce Risk of Harassment

THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA is holding up a torch to shed light on a pervasive problem that has long existed: workplace harassment. While the workplace has become largely remote during the pandemic, the virtual environment has created the space necessary to re-examine and retool Jewish organizations and institutions through the lens of faith-based values and ethics.

Teaming up with Ta'amod: Stand Up, a national initiative that combats sexual and gender-based harassment in the Jewish workplace, the Jewish Federation is excited to bring its holistic workshops, consultations and resources to the local Jewish community. Ta'amod is the only legally compliant respectful workplace training program that uses Jewish values as a framework for deeper exploration of diversity, inclusion and equity.

"This is a very exciting opportunity for Ta'amod and the Philadelphia Jewish community as we develop some new content and program offerings for 2021," said Nicole Nevarez, national director of Ta'amod. "We hope that we will also return to in-person communal spaces in 2021, and it is incumbent upon Jewish communal professionals and leaders to return with a commitment to creating the most holistic and psychologically safe environment possible."

Born out of the #MeToo movement, Ta'amod was created in partnership with the Jewish Women's Foundation of New York and the Good People Fund as a call to action to recognize and remedy the growing toxicity for women professionals, who comprise about 70% of the Jewish workforce. Designed for those who are invested in mutual respect, the training program imbues the following six Jewish principals into its curriculum: *kavod habriyot* (dignity for all human beings), *rachmanut* (compassion), *ometz* (courage), *emet* (truth), *derech eretz* (the right path) and *areyvut* (community).

Kicking off this community collaboration, all are welcome to attend one of two launch events, scheduled for Jan. 19 and Feb. 4. During these virtual sessions, participants will gain a greater sense of Ta'amod's vision for creating a healthier Jewish community that intrinsically reduces the risk of harassment and gender abuse. Victims of workplace harassment will also give first-hand testimonials, which will underscore the need for change to the current Jewish communal landscape.



kieferpix, iStock / Getty

Following the community-wide launch, the Jewish Professionals Network (JPRO) will continue to host subsequent Ta'amod workshops for synagogue and Jewish agency professionals throughout Greater Philadelphia.

"It was a natural fit for our local JPRO chapter to partner with Ta'amod on their work," said Addie Lewis Klein, director of community engagement at Jewish Federation. "We are delighted to be hosting and recruiting for the Ta'amod training sessions, which will begin later in the winter."

Leading these training sessions is Andrea Jacobs, Ta'amod's Philadelphia community trainer and the co-founder and partner at Rally Point for Collaborative Change, a consulting practice that transforms workplace culture. Bringing in more than 25 years of relevant experience, a doctorate in sociolinguistics and a background in theater, Jacobs provides a creative entryway to reevaluate the impact of words and actions as well as systems, once thought set in stone.

"As a member of the Philadelphia Jewish community, I'm thrilled to be raising the profile of this work," said Jacobs, the former director of education at Keshet, the national Jewish LGBTQ organization. "We have a real opportunity to engage in a community-wide conversation about these issues and engage in truly transformative work."

The launch events and training series will be free of charge, thanks to the support of Women of Vision (WOV), the Women's Foundation of the Jewish Federation.

"Our goal is to advance and support Jewish women and girls, and this includes working toward equity for women in the workplace," said Carly Zimmerman, chair-elect for WOV and co-chair of the group's Grant Review Committee. "When considering grants, we prioritize organizations whose work will have a cascading effect, and Ta'amod's mission to help Jewish organizations develop cultures of respect, safety and equity will not only affect Jewish professionals, but will have a larger impact on the Jewish community as a whole. We're grateful to be part of Ta'amod's Launch in Philadelphia."

Have you experienced or witnessed abusive behavior, discrimination or harassment in the Jewish workplace or communal space? Call Ta'amod at 833-760-0330. It's free, anonymous and confidential. To learn more about Ta'amod, please visit taamod.org.

**Join Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's
kickoff of this community collaboration with
Ta'amod at one of two launch sessions.**

FIRST SESSION

Tuesday, Jan. 19 • 12-1:30 p.m.

SECOND SESSION

Thursday, Feb. 4 • 4-5:30 p.m.

To register for the launch events and workshops,
please visit jewishphilly.org/taamod

DEATH NOTICES

ADLER

Janet M. Adler (nee. Cohen) December 29, 2020. Wife of Bertram. Mother of Robert (Susan) Adler, Craig (Lynn) Adler and Jamie Adler. Sister of Ron (late Gladys) Cohen. Also survived by 7 grandchildren.

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BRAUNSTEIN

Charlotte Braunstein (nee Stein), 91, on December 27, 2020, of Haverford, PA. Beloved wife of the late Lee Braunstein and loving mother of Amy Gordon and the late Margery Silow. Devoted sister of Burton K. Stein, cherished grandmother of 6 and great grandmother of 5 soon to be 6. Charlotte was a graduate of The University of Pennsylvania and had a Master's degree from Drexel in library science. Charlotte was a law librarian in addition to being a professional pianist. Graveside services are private. Contributions in Charlotte's memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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BRAVERMAN

Celia Braverman (nee Feldman) Dec. 19, 2020. Beloved wife of the late George Weisberg and the late William Braverman. Loving mother of Dr. Martin Weisberg (Diane) and Dr. Marilyn Deutsch (the late Henri). Devoted grandmother to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral services private. Contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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CHERRY

Arthur Cherry, 94 of Philadelphia succumbed to complications of Covid-19 on Thursday, December 24, 2020. Beloved husband of Janet (nee Ellis), loving father of Deborah Cherry and Alisha Dubb, grandpa to Hannah and Sydney Dubb, uncle to 3 generations of nephews & nieces. Preceded in death by his parents, William and Anna (nee Moscovitz), and his 6 siblings; Louis, Gert Goldman, Hymie, Albert, Lillian Blumberg, and Robert. He was a Customs House Broker for many clients, most notably Davies Turner and RCA & GE. He was a member of the West Philadelphia Boys Club, Society Hill Synagogue, and B'nai B'rith. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to HIAS or Philabundance:

https://www.hias.org
https://philabundance.org
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www.westlaurelhill.com

ESKIN

Dr. Bernard Abraham Eskin, on December 29, 2020. Husband of Debra Lynn (nee Kimelblot). Father of Gregg Eskin (Esther Cohen Eskin), JoAnne (Steve) Sutkin, and Catherine Eskin (Michael Barickman). Grandfather of Jessa and Anika Cohen Eskin, Shoshana, Mikaela, and Aiden Sutkin, Tilly and Manny Barickman. Graveside services were private. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to Planned Parenthood or Rutgers University Alumni Association.

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BALISTOCKY

Dr. Marvin H. Balistocky, 97 of Philadelphia, passed away peacefully on December 18, 2020, in Philadelphia. Born in 1923 to Tillie (Wright) and Meyer Balistocky, Marvin is survived by his beloved wife Lorie, a daughter Anne, a son Paul, and two grandchildren. He was predeceased by his sister, Lillian, and a brother, Louis. Marvin enjoyed a distinguished career of forty years as a dedicated general ophthalmologist. Marvin graduated from West Philadelphia High School in 1941 and went on to study at the University of Pennsylvania. He answered a call to serve his country in the Army from 1943-1945, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1946, and went on to University of Pennsylvania Graduate school and Hahnemann Medical School where he received his MD degree in 1953. His medical training was interrupted when he contracted pulmonary tuberculosis and spent eight months in the hospital. He then resumed training in 1952 to graduate the following year. After completing an internship at Philadelphia General Hospital where he served as Chief of Ophthalmology, Marvin served as a Lieutenant in the US Navy as Chief of Portsmouth Naval Hospital in New Hampshire. He served in the United States Navy Reserves until 1963. He was a Lieutenant in the US Coast Guard and served in the US Coast Guard Reserve. He started a practice of general ophthalmology in Norristown and later expanded to King of Prussia. He was chief of Ophthalmology at Sacred heart Hospital in Norristown and was appointed to the medical staff at Wills Eye Hospital, Montgomery Hospital and Mercy Suburban Hospital. Marvin was a Diplomate of the American Board of Ophthalmology. He taught and lectured in numerous medical education programs, including teaching surgical techniques to interns and residents at hospital programs including Thomas Jefferson Medical School, Wills Eye Hospital Residency Program, and Mercy Suburban Hospital. He was also a Professor at New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. Marvin generously donated his services, caring for the indigent at the State Prisons and providing medical care for patients at hospital clinics and nursing homes. Dr. Balistocky provided medical and surgical care for a Catholic Mission in Mexico. Patients traveled to Baja, Mexico from several hundred miles away to receive his sight saving services. Dr. Balistocky oversaw the care of those afflicted with mental illness in Eagleville, Norristown and Haverford State Hospitals. He frequently performed eye screenings for the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation of Montgomery County and for the Montgomery Association for the Blind. At a time before insurance plans were widely used, he had a policy of accepting all patients without regard for the ability to pay for care or surgery. He was commended frequently by hospitals for his willingness to handle emergency room calls. Marvin was an accomplished athlete and tennis player, first learning the game as a boy on the streets of West Philadelphia. He played well into his 90s until an accident left him partially paralyzed. He was a co-founder of the Frog Hollow Racquet Club and Worcester Tennis Club. He was the recipient of numerous championship awards in singles and doubles. Marvin was an avid photographer and an enthusiastic traveler. He enjoyed stand-up comedy shows, classic films, art shows, and Frank

DEATH NOTICES

Sinatra. He loved being outdoors and working on home and garden projects. He was a Founding Member of Congregation Or-Ami. His most treasured times were shared with Lorie, his devoted charming wife of 63 years. He was most proud of her tremendous accomplishments as a well known artist still active in award winning exhibitions. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations that will support access to tennis programs for youth in need throughout the USTA Middle States Section. Please mail a check to USTA Foundation, 70 West Red Oak Lane, White Plains, NY 10604 (Memo: "Marvin H. Balistocky") or donate online at www.ustafoundation.com/donate. Donations may also be made to Congregation Or-Ami in Lafayette Hill, PA.

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FRANK

Dorothy (Dot) Frank, nee Brenner, was the beloved wife for over 70 years to the love of her life, the late Nathan Frank. She passed away at her home at the age of 95 in Warminster, PA on Saturday, December 19. Devoted mother of Eileen (Bruce) Butler and Gail (Fred) Kaye. Proud grandmother of Alyson (Dave) Andrews and Jillian Kaye. She adored her family including her late identical twin sister Irma. Dorothy was a special person and was loved by everyone who knew her. Donations in her memory may be made to: http://act.alz.org/goto/DotsFight

FREEDMAN

Sarah Freedman (nee Lichtenstein), 97 passed away December 24, 2020 in Beachwood, Ohio. Sarah was born in Philadelphia to the late Bernard (Rodeo Ben) and Katherine Lichtenstein. A proud graduate of the Philadelphia High School for Girls, Sarah was married for 69 years to the late Bernard Freedman. Sarah is survived by her children, Robert Freedman (Mary Ann Morris) of Ann Arbor, MI and Lois Freedman (Mark Munetz) of Shaker Heights, OH; sister Blossom Fenster (Henry) now of Boston; and grandchildren Ben Freedman, Jonathan Munetz and Katherine Munetz. She was predeceased by brothers David and Gerson Lichtenstein. Sarah and Bernie had many wonderful retirement years in Boca Raton, Florida where Sarah helped keep beautiful the Century Village grounds and prepared the fish that Bernie brought home from his fishing expeditions. She was most proud of her adoring grandchildren who knew her as the beloved Bubs. She was a woman of strong convictions who saw the good in people and the patch of blue in a cloudy sky. Private graveside services were held in Mt. Lebanon Cemetery in Collingdale, PA. The family suggests donations to the Jewish Federation of Philadelphia, Shriners Hospitals for Children or the charity of your choice.

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FREIMARK

Margaret C. Freimark (nee Hartman), age 93; Hatboro, PA; on December 28, 2020 of complications due to Covid-19; beloved wife for 72 years of the late Jerry; loving mother of Linda Freimark (Bob Doyle) and the late Robert Freimark (Karan); devoted sister of Lore Homer (Bernard); cherished grandmother of Judith, Melissa and Cynthia, adored great-grandmother of Safira and Astrid. Margaret arrived in the U.S. on her 11th birthday from Germany in 1938. Services were private. Contributions in her memory may be made to Philabundance.

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GIMPEL

Gladys Gimpel (nee Loev), Dec. 20, 2020. Wife of Marvin Gimpel. Mother of Harriet (Haim Green) Gimpel and Lois (Mahmood) Gimpel Shaukat. Sister of Arthur (the late Iris) Loev, Norman (Nancy) Loev, Esq., and the late Beverly (the late Jerry) Jackson. Grandmother of Adam and Zohra Shaukat. Services and interment private. Contributions in her memory may be made to Hadassah, 1518 Walnut St., Suite 402, Philadelphia, PA 19102-3419:

www.hadassah.org.
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GLABERSON

Arnold Glaberson, December 15, 2020, of Huntingdon Valley, PA. Beloved husband of Doris (nee Shamberg) Glaberson; loving father of Amy Glaberson, Mark (Lisa) Oser, Dr. Craig Oser, Keith (Debbie) Oser and the late Sandra Glaberson; cherished grandfather of Halie Jewel Oser, Zachary Edward Oser and Justin Evan Oser; brother of the late Estelle Bornstein. He founded Rome and Glaberson, where he worked with his partner, Joel Rome, for 58 years. Mausoleum Services were private due to Covid. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Sandra Robyn Glaberson Foundation at 161 Filly Drive, North Wales, PA 19454.

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GOLDBERG

Herbert L. Goldberg on December 30, 2020. Husband of Anita (nee Lipshutz). Father of Merle (Rick) Gitomer and Bill Goldberg. Grandfather of Allison (Jon) Hight, Zachary Gitomer, Adrian Goldberg and Paige Goldberg. Great-grandfather of Harper Hight. Funeral Services are private. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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GORCHOW

Neil Gorchow (b. 1925 - d.2020) of Sioux City, IA, Philadelphia, PA, Sarasota, FL. An executive for Sperry Univac, WWII Veteran, community leader, Neil Gorchow passed away peacefully at home in Sarasota, FL, on December 26, 2020 at age 95. During a career spanning three decades at Sperry Univac in Blue Bell, PA, Mr. Gorchow is credited with the design the 418 and 1100 series of mainframe computers and software programs for Univac and helped usher in the computer age, working nationally and internationally on computer operations integration for NASA, the US Census, Disneyland and Disneyworld, the French National Railway, and Lufthansa. Born in Sioux City, IA, Mr. Gorchow served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, starting in the Navy's V-12 Program before his commission as a Lt Jr on the Destroyer USS Eugene A. Greene. After the war, he earned a degree from the University of Iowa. Mr. Gorchow married educator, Roslyn Wein of Madison, WI, in 1955. The couple moved several times after Mr. Gorchow joined Univac, before he was promoted to Vice President of Product Strategy and Requirements at Sperry Univac World Headquarters in Bluebell, PA, in 1965 and moved with Roslyn and their four children to Abington, PA. He is listed in Who's Who publications. Mr Gorchow served on the board of Nippon Univac, Tokyo, and spoke at industry conferences on the need for computer software to become user friendly and have cross sector applications. Working with Grace Hopper, he was a champion for women in the computer industry. He was a member of the United States' Emergency Management Agency from 1971 to 1986. Joining Beth Shalom Congregation, Elkins Park, PA, in 1965, Neil served as Chair of various committees and as congregation Vice President and co-Treasurer of Solomon Schechter Day School. He was congregation President from 1978-1981 and remained an active member of the Executive Board. Mr. Gorchow was a founding member of the Hebrew Free Loan Society at Beth Shalom, along with the late Rabbi Aaron Landes. He also served on the Advisory Board of Temple University's Graduate School of Business. The couple retired to Sarasota, FL. They celebrated their 65th Anniversary in October of this year. An avid golfer, he continued playing until February 2020. Mr. Gorchow is survived by his four children: Julie (Bob) Levine, Bruce Gorchow (Jodi Rosen), Jonathan (Elana) Gorchow, and Sheryl Gorchow-Stuart (Marc Stuart), and by 14 grandchildren. He is predeceased by sister Millicent Polsky and parents Joe and Doris Gorchow. Funeral Services were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Hebrew Free Loan Society of Greater Philadelphia, PO Box 298, Wynnewood PA 19096 or Beth Shalom Congregation, 8231 Old York Rd, Elkins Park PA 19027 or a charity of the donor's choice.

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GROSSBERG

Van Grossberg, lovingly known as Volfie, passed away on December 19, 2020, just shy of his 100th birthday. Beloved husband of the late Bernice (nee Krel); Loving father of Carl Grossberg, Edward (Helena) Grossberg and Francine (David) Orkin; Devoted Zayda of Shelly (Jordan), Jonah, Samantha Allison, Alex and Anita. Born in Dubno, Poland he was the youngest of 7 children. He lost his parents and three siblings during the Holocaust, spent 10 years in forced labor camp but somehow managed to stay positive, loving and kind to all the people he met, especially his grandchildren. He was an active member in the Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors where he spent time socializing with his many friends. Services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to US Holocaust Memorial Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW, Washington DC 20024, www.donate.ushmm.org or Yad Vashem, PO Box 3477, Jerusalem 9103401, Israel, webmaster@yadvashem.org

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JECK

Sheila Ann Jeck (nee Caplan) on December 23, 2020. Beloved wife of Dr. Saul Jeck; Loving mother of Daniel (Dara) Jeck and the late Dr. Charles Jeck; Devoted grandmother of Evan, Nicole (Josiah), Ethan and Dylan. Services and interment are Private. Contributions in her memory may be made to Autism Speaks—Penn State 5K, <http://act.autismspeaks.org/site/TR/TeamUp/TeamUp?teamid=113158&pg=team&frid=5570> or National Multiple Sclerosis Society, <http://www.nationalmssociety.org/Chapters/PAE/Donate>

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KAIMOWITZ

Susan R. Kaimowitz (nee: Perstein). Dec. 23, 2020. Wife of the late Stanley E Kaimowitz, mother of Karen (Chris) Moyer and Michelle (Jack) Guida. Also survived by 4 grandchildren; Josh and Maddie Moyer, Renee (Andrea) and Lexi Guida. Susan was an retired administrative assistant with the B'nai B'rith Philadelphia regional office. Condolences and more at BerschlerAndShenberg.com

BERSCHLER and SHENBERG

KAPLAN

Mila Kaplan (nee Post) on December 28, 2020. Beloved wife of the late David Kaplan; Loving mother of Rebecca Kaplan. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. Mrs. Kaplan was a Holocaust survivor, the only survivor of her very large family. She was also a retired, talented dressmaker. Services and interment were private. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Holocaust Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Pl., SW, Washington DC 20024 or to a charity of the donor's choice.

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KATZ

Celia Starr Katz, 88. Beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and devoted teacher passed away on December 17, 2020 in Indianapolis. Celia was born in Washington DC on October 7, 1932 to Michael and Bessie Starr. Celia attended the University of Maryland. She and her late husband, Richard raised their family in Philadelphia, where Celia worked as a teaching assistant for elementary and middle school students. Celia loved children and was passionate about their learning. Celia was a member of Congregation Rodeph Shalom in Philadelphia, and at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. She was a member of Compassionate Friends and a volunteer with the Lawrence School District in Indiana through her work with OASIS. Celia is survived by her sons, Mitchell (Karen) and Larry (Coleen) Katz and her daughter-in-law, Andrea Katz; 8 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Richard and son, Bradley. Private graveside services will be held in Philadelphia. Memorial contributions may be made to the Bradley S Katz fund at Riley Children's Foundation, 30 S. Meridian St Indianapolis Indiana 46204. www.RileyKids.Org.



KEVITCH

Janice Kevitch, Age 85, passed away at her home in Plymouth Meeting, PA on December 18, 2020. She was the loving wife of the late Benjamin Kevitch for almost 68 years. She will be missed by her children Robert (Carla) Kevitch, Andrew (Lisa) Kevitch, Michael (Stacy) Kevitch, Todd (Sandra) Kevitch, and the late Stephen Kevitch and by her adoring grandchildren Samantha (Quincy) Moore, Danielle, Austin, Lindsey, Tristan, Sydney, Drew, Dylan, Lola, Izzy, and Jeremy Kevitch. Janice was born in Brooklyn, NY, and raised her family in Elkins Park spending many fun-loving and happy summers down the shore in Margate. Janice was the proud matriarch of the Kevitch family and kept many close friends for decades. She will be greatly missed by those whose lives she touched. Services and interment private. Contributions in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society or to a charity of the donor's choice.

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LEVINSON

Gerald Levinson, on Dec. 24, 2020. Husband of the late Judith (nee) Laub, Father of Kara (Arthur Aaron) Levinson, Alissa Levinson, and Debra Baseman. Brother of Lewis (Vicki) Levinson and the late Edith Furst. Grandfather of Ella, Aaron, and Danyel. Services and interment private. Contributions in his memory may be made to the National Museum of American Jewish History nmajh.org.

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LISS

Gilbert Alvin Liss, M.D. born on October 13, 1929 widower of Hermine and father of five, died peacefully at home on December 18, 2020. Born in Philadelphia to Louis and Sadie Liss at Albert Einstein Hospital in the Olney section of Philadelphia, he was given a silver cup as the "fattest baby". He lived his early years above the Louis Liss bakery, the family business on Rockland Street in the Logan section of Philadelphia. At his parents' side in the bakery he learned the skills to become a talented cake decorator and baker, skills that he shared with his children, grandchildren, and community for the rest of his life. As a young boy and man he spent much of his summer time on the family farm in Vineland and in Atlantic City. After graduating from Olney High, he received a degree in accounting from Temple University. Recruited to Officer Candidate School, he entered the United States Navy and served as Lieutenant on the SS Huse, a destroyer escort, for two years during the Korean War. He was married in 1953 to the love of his life, Hermine Betty Eisenberg, a Bronx beauty, whom he met on a blind date while in the service. Following postings at naval bases in Key West, Florida and Newport, Rhode Island, Gil and Herm and their first child returned to live with Lou and Sadie in Philadelphia's East Oak Lane neighborhood. They would live with Lou and Sadie for the next 11 years. With initial plans to join his father in the bakery, a change in career path led him back to school to become a doctor. While he completed his medical training Gil and Herm added four more children to the house in E. Oak Lane. He received his M.D. from Temple University School of Medicine with honors in 1961, interned at Philadelphia General Hospital and served a residency in OB/GYN at Temple University Hospital. The whole troop moved to Phoenixville Pennsylvania in 1965 where he opened one of the first OB practices in the community, delivering over 8000 babies during his career. Gil loved the practice of medicine and took joy in helping others. He was a leader in the hospital and at his synagogue, B'nai Jacob, to which he remained dedicated until his death. He was full of life and love, with bear hugs for family and friends and was able to see the best of and take true pleasure in the people and world around him. He loved to hunt and fish and treasured 50 years of family time at the Lake Winnepesaukee Bear Island summer cottage. He loved gardening, always competing with nature to grow the earliest tomatoes and propagating beautiful flowers and plants in his greenhouse. Gil died at 91 years of age after a long struggle with Parkinson's and a one-week illness with COVID 19. Gil and Hermine were able to remain in their home because of the loving care and phenomenal devotion of their team of caregivers from Angel Companions. Words cannot express the family's gratitude for these people who loved Gil and Hermine, truly becoming part of our family. He and Hermine, who died last year, leave a rich legacy of values including family, love, honor, respect and loyalty. He is survived by his five children, Jon (Andi), Bob (CJ), Larry (Wendy), Fred (Diane) and Abbe (Aaron). He took enormous pride in his 14 grandchildren and their partners Naomi (Joe), Jacob (Boom), Toby (Lalo), Hannah (Kyle), Laura (Toby), Dana (KG), Louis, Zachary (Jaz), Kyle, Claire, Nathan, Ellie (Dan), Jeremy

(Helen), and Gabe (Kelly). Great-grandchildren brought it full circle – Jackson, Talya, Andrew and Isaac. Donations may be directed to two of his favorite charities, Congregation B'nai Jacob, 101 Manavon St, Phoenixville, PA 19460 and the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University Medical Alumni Fund online at giving.temple.edu/maascholarship or by mail at Temple Health Institutional Advancement, P.O. Box 827651, Philadelphia, PA, 19182-7651.

LITZ

Jack Litz, 92, passed away December 30, 2020 in Wilmington, DE, formerly of Cherry Hill, NJ and South Philadelphia, PA. A graduate of Temple University Law School, Jack was a proud Army Corporal in WWII, served as Commander of the Jewish War Veterans from 1987–1988, a proud Philadelphia Mummer and a published poet. Beloved husband of the late Phyllis Litz (nee Shaw), loving father of Dr. Ilene Goldman Litz, Michelle Faber (Fred), the late Stacy Litz, and the late Carol Kodak; also survived by 1 granddaughter, Alexis Profera. Private graveside services were held at Roosevelt Cemetery in Trevose, PA. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Association.

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MESSERMAN

Hon. Robert H. Messerman, beloved husband, father and grandfather, peacefully passed away on December 28, 2020 in Voorhees, NJ. Bob is survived by his wife and best friend of 58 years Judith Messerman, his children Linda Messerman, Deborah (Samuel) First, Michael (Sharon) Messerman, and his grandchildren Daniel and Eric First, and Justin, Ethan and Julia Messerman. A first-generation American, Bob was a modern day "renaissance man" born on December 1, 1938 in Atlantic City, NJ. With a personality that would light up any room he entered, Bob balanced an unmatched work ethic with a witty comedic-charm. He grew up in Atlantic City, NJ, working in his father's grocery store, which molded him into the hard-working man he would become. Bob graduated Atlantic City High School, earned a BS in Accounting from NYU, a JD from Temple Law School, and a PhD in Education from the University of Sarasota. As a working professional, Bob was an accountant, a lawyer admitted to practice in NJ, PA and FL, a licensed real estate broker, landlord-tenant officer for the City of Philadelphia, small business owner and a professor of business law at Penn, Rutgers Law School and Pierce Junior College. Bob also worked for Cherry Hill Township as its Chief Labor Negotiator and Municipal Court Prosecutor. In addition, Bob also served many years as a NJ Municipal Court Judge and was active for decades in local politics. Bob and Judy spent many winters in Boynton Beach, FL, but Absecon Island always remained close to Bob's heart. He and his beloved Judy spent every summer for over 40 years in Margate, and later Ventnor. Bob was an extraordinary man whose kindness, positivity, friendship and love impacted everyone he ever met. He will sorely be missed.

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ROBBINS

Saul Robbins, on December 22, 2020. Beloved husband of the late Sandra (nee Verbet); Loving father of Fred (Robin) Robbins, Sherri Robbins-Utain and Dayna Robbins; Devoted grandfather of Stephen, Matthew, Gillian (Andrew) and Seth. Services and interment are Private. Contributions in his memory may be made to American Heart Assoc., 1617 JFK Blvd., Ste 700, Phila., PA 19103, www.heart.org.

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POLLAN

Elaine Pollan (nee Kramer) age 83, of Warminster, PA passed away on December 25, 2020. Beloved wife of the late Sol Pollan. Cherished mother of Merle (Andy) DeLaFuente and Abby Alexander. Loving grandmother of Leigh DeLaFuente, Michael (Samantha) DeLaFuente and Brielle DeLaFuente, and great grandmother of Cooper DeLaFuente. She was the daughter of the late Jean & Cyrus Kramer and sister Of the late Alan Kramer. Born and raised in Wynnfield, Elaine was a graduate of Overbrook High School. She worked for over 30 years as a legal secretary at Duane, Morris & Heckscher. Contributions in her memory may be made to The American Cancer Society, 1818 Market St., Ste 2820, Phila. PA 19103 www.cancer.org

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ROBINS

My mother, Rhonda Robins passed away on April, 8th 2019 at St. Mary's Medical Center at the age of 66. My mother was born in Philadelphia on May, 17th 1952. She was survived by her mother, Bernice Goldstein, brother, Bruce Mitchell, sons, Travis and Justin Robins, Granddaughters, Gabriella and Avery Robins, Grandson, Carson Robins, Daughter-in-law, Misty Robins, and husband, Jay Robins. Her Hebrew name was Rivkah. My mother resided in Newtown, PA. She was a wonderful mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, wife, and a great & loyal friend to those that knew her. She was a beautiful woman inside and out as you can see in the photo. Unfortunately, she suffered from significant health issues from a young age, but always tried to make the best out of life, and was incredibly giving. My mother was a caring woman who would do numerous good deeds/mitzvahs daily for many people in her life. She was also a brilliant business person and extremely intelligent. She played the piano beautifully and could speak fluent Spanish. My mother could put a smile on anyone's face. It has been over a year since my mother passed away and I still think about her every day. My family and I are trying our best to move on with our lives the best way we can, along with my amazing grandmother. My mother is resting in peace now and no longer suffering. This incredibly difficult experience has provided further clarity to my life and assisted with enhanced compassion. A wise woman once told me it's important to go to bed at night and wake up each morning telling your spouse and family that you love them and hug them no matter what. Hugs are like matzoh ball soup. It's also important each day to do good deeds for those in need. Give to the food banks and the boys and girls clubs and make a difference. A wise Hasidic man once told me to start my day with 3 quarters in the left pocket and for each good deed/mitzvah you do during the day move to the right pocket. So before you hug and love your spouse and kids and say good night you should feel good about these good deeds too. In my mother's memory, I have created a butterfly garden in my backyard. She loved butterflies. I truly believe she will always watch over us fondly. May she R.I.P. To my family, and friends try to enjoy each and every day of your life.

Love,
Travis Robins

DEATH NOTICES



ROBINSON

Sidney J. Robinson, 96 of Huntingdon Valley PA, passed away peacefully on Dec. 21 2020. He was born Nov. 11, 1924 in South Philadelphia, the son of Phillip and Lotte (Herstein) Robinson. Sid graduated from South Philadelphia High School and when his country called, enlisted in the US Army Air Corp becoming a Radio Operator on a B17 Bomber. After proudly serving his country, Sid returned home and started his 70+ year career in the drapery and slipcover fabric industry at Croydon Fabrics on 4th St. where he met his true love, Annette Sumsky. He later went to work for Leedes Fabrics until its closing. In his 80's he started a new career in retail sales at Walmart and worked there for 10 years. Sid and Annette were married in 1952 and enjoyed 60 beautiful years together. They formerly lived in Levittown, and then moved to Northeast Philadelphia. Sid was a salesman and with that outgoing personality and kind spirit he made lasting friends wherever he went. Annette loved to travel, and she and Sid explored the world. Sid was a 70 year member of Richard Vaux Brotherhood Lodge #126 F&AM Phila. PA, as well as a longtime member of a VFW Post. Sid and Annette were longtime members of Congregations of Shaare Shamayim and had left their indelible mark in the Jewish Community. Sid was predeceased by his wife (Annette). Father of Michael Robinson (Dr. Marjorie Block Robinson) and Sharon Robinson-Taylor. Grandfather of Emily Robinson; Brother of the late Meyer Robinson; Brother-in law of Gilbert and Rita Sumsky and Herbert Sumsky. Also survived by his two devoted cousins Dorothy Loman and Joyce Herstein. Graveside services were private. Contributions in his memory can be made to Congregations of Shaare Shamayim, 9768 Verree Rd, Philadelphia PA 19115.

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ROSE

Louise Bers Rose, 104 years of age, December 20, 2020 of Meadowbrook, Pa. Devoted wife of the late Leon Morris Rose. Cherished mother of Bonnie (Peter Scheid) Rose George and Michael (Sara) Rose. Sister of the late Julian S. Bers and the late Solomon N. Bers. Also survived by five loving grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Services and interment were private. contributions in her memory may be made to a Women Golfers Give Back.

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SCHIMMEL

Vicki Schimmel (nee Wasserman), on December 22, 2020, of Lafayette Hill, PA. Beloved wife of the late Edward Schimmel. Loving mother of Sherry (Mark) Hedson, Marcie (Michael) Bratman and Susan (Adam Weiss) Abramowitz. Grandmother of Rachel (Ben) Cohen and Jessica Tiffany. A private graveside service was held at Shalom Memorial Park. Contributions in Vicki's memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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DEATH NOTICES

SCHNALL

Rona Schnall, December 28, 2020 in Austin, TX. Rona was born on December 26, 1962 in Philadelphia and grew up in Cheltenham, PA. She graduated from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. Rona was an accomplished journalist at a young age whose career was cut short when, because of a drunk driver, she suffered severe, life-altering injuries. Rona's tremendous desire, strength and fortitude motivated her. She moved to Texas, took advantage of the Austin scene, continued to write, and cheer on the Flyers and Phillies, living life to the fullest. Rona taught us that no matter how hard life can be, there is light. She was that light and now she lives on in all of us who loved her. She is survived by her mother Maxine Schnall Mitnick; her father Nathan Schnall; and her sister Ilene Schnall. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to AD-APT, to advocate for the rights of the differently abled; to the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia; or to the charity of your choice.

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SHAPIRO

Stanley H. Shapiro, M.D., December 19, 2020 of Phila., PA. Devoted husband of Esther "Bunny" Glick (nee Perkin) and the late Evelyn Shapiro. Beloved father of Joan Alexander, Anne and (Karl) Wenner, Irene and (Terry) Fisher, Ellen and (Rick) Freeman, Henry Shapiro and (Christy) Hobart. Cherished Step father of Ellen Glick, Stefanie Glick, Gordon and (Samantha) Glick and Robert Glick. Also survived by 12 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Dr. Shapiro was a prominent Philadelphia Psychoanalyst. He was a training and supervisory psychoanalyst at the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia and clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Hahemann Medical School. A virtual memorial service to celebrate his life will be held at a date and time TBD. Contributions in his memory may be made to the charity of your choice or Live Well Foundation.

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SIMONS

Deborah C. Simons (nee Eisenhofer) beloved wife of Cantor Jerome L. Simons, of blessed memory, mother, sister, grandmother, mother-in-law, and aunt, passed away on Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at her home in Philadelphia. She worked as a teacher in public and private schools in the Philadelphia area. She was later hired by the Jewish Community High School of Gratz College (JCHS) in Elkins Park, PA, where she taught Bible, Jewish History, and education courses for many years. Her students highly regarded her easy-going yet content-focused style of teaching. She was later promoted to become the Director of Student Services and, eventually, the Acting Director of JCHS. She was very active in educational and youth programming at Congregation Shaare Shamayim for many years, often in tandem with her husband, Cantor Simons. Deborah Simons is survived by her daughter, Esther Simons-Koppel (Barry); her daughter, Lois Made (Carlos); her son, Dov Simons, her sister, Zelda Oslon; and her granddaughter, Melissa Made. A graveside service was held on December 16. In lieu of flowers, donations in the merit of her memory can be made to Congregation B'nai Israel - Ohev Zedek, 8201 Castor Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19152.

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DEATH NOTICES

STEINBERG

Harry Steinberg, on December 23, 2020 of Crystal Lake, IL, formerly of Willow Grove, PA. Beloved husband of the late Marilyn (nee Goldstein), loving father of Paul Steinberg (Dorrie), Rhonda Barner (Walt), Sandra Duncan-Baney, Janet Duncan (Elliott) and Brian Steinberg (Suzanne); also survived by 16 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild. Services and Interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Association.

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STEINBERG

Harry Steinberg, on December 23, 2020, of Crystal Lake, IL, formerly of Willow Grove, PA. beloved husband of the late Marilyn (nee Goldstein), loving father of Paul Steinberg (Dorrie), Rhonda Barner (Walt), Sandra Duncan-Baney, Janet Duncan (Elliott) and Brian Steinberg (Suzanne); also survived by 16 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild. Services and Interment private. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Association.

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STEINIG

Mirele Weiner Steinig, wife of the late Melvin Steinig, died on December 24. Survived by children, Rabbi Sholom D Steinig (Judi) and Ann G Greenberg (Jay). Sister of the late Shirley (Shulamith) Toltzis and Berel T Weiner. Mirele was the daughter of the late Fannie Teller Weiner and Harry Weiner. She is survived by grandchildren, Esti Sarles (Maty), Binny Steinig (CJ), Michali Bazian (Elliott), Rabbi Ari Steinig (Rachel), Ethan Greenberg and Seth Greenberg (Rebecca). She is also survived by 8 great-grandchildren, loving nieces and nephews and cousins. Mirele was a graduate of Philadelphia High School for Girls, Temple University, Community College of Philadelphia and Gratz College. Mirele valued teaching, learning, love of family. She was a life-member of Hadassah and ORT. Former member of BZBI in Center City, and Adath Jeshurun/OCJC-BI. She was active in Sisterhood and Women's League for Conservative Judaism at each of these congregations. For many years, she was on the Board of Managers of Female Hebrew Benevolent Society. Mirele worked as a Sunday School teacher, a statistician, a reading teacher and then returned to school during the height of the Women's Liberation Movement. She studied what was then known as Medical Records Technology at Community College of Philadelphia. She joined the faculty there and enjoyed a long and successful career at the College. Services and interment were private. Contributions in Mirele's Memory can be made to Female Hebrew Benevolent Society, (FHBS), PO Box 36806, Philadelphia, PA, 19107, Hadassah, 1518 Walnut Street, #402, Philadelphia, PA 19102, or a charity of your choosing.

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S
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TRIPP

Alan R. Tripp, on December 24, 2020, of Bryn Mawr, PA. Husband of the late Madelyn "Maggie" (nee Beresin); Father of the late Barbara Tripp Berman and Jeffrey Tripp; Grandfather of Dr. Abigail Tripp Berman (Frank Talarico), Noel Tripp (Liza), and Lyle Tripp (Hazel). Also survived by 8 Great-grandchildren. Services were private. The family respectfully requests that contributions in his memory be made to The Abramson Cancer Center at Penn.

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DEATH NOTICES



VIZAK/FRANTZ

Cissie L. Vizak/Frantz passed away peacefully at the Horsham Center for Jewish Life on Dec.21.2020, at the age of 91. She was happily married to Les Vizak for 39 years until he passed away in 1988. Years later, she was blessed to find love again with Lenny Frantz, of Delray Beach, FL, whom she married in 1991. Cissie is the mother of three, Randi Rosenberg (Mark), Amy Vizak, and the late Jeffrey Vizak (Sheryl); and the grandmother of four, Matthew Rosenberg (Brittany), Jordan Rosenberg (Mahasidhdhi), Lesley Vizak and Melissa Vizak. Cissie is the daughter of Reba and Harry Levin, the founders of Levin's Furniture Store in Kensington. Cissie and her late brother Marvin Levin grew up in an apartment over the store on Kensington Ave. until the family moved to East Oak Lane. Cissie attended Girls High and then received her bachelor's degree in early elementary education from Temple University. Cissie was the epitome of beauty, charm, and self-confidence. She doted on her children and then her grandchildren, had marvelous lifelong friendships, and always enjoyed attending social events, entertaining at her home, and hosting parties for every occasion at restaurants throughout the city. She loved traveling the world and formed new friendships wherever she went. Like her parents, Cissie believed in the value of philanthropy and community service, and dedicated her life toward that end. She brought her volunteer and fundraising talents to many agencies, but it was at the Phila. Geriatric Center that she became most involved. She and Les donated the Pavilion at the Center as an expression of their dedication to the Jewish elderly. She also served as an Abramson Center Senior Care Board of Trustees member since 1989. Cissie was also active in Hadassah (Henrietta Szold chapter), Federation of Jewish Agencies, the Association of Developmental Disabilities, Adath Jeshurun Synagogue, and BoysTown of Jerusalem. Cissie had great appreciation for her good fortune in life, and found joy in "paying it forward" to those in need. She was a remarkable role model for her family, and delighted and inspired so many others fortunate enough to know her. Contributions in her memory can be made at: abramsonseniorcare.org/donate

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DEATH NOTICES



WEINSTEIN

Arnold (Arnie) Weinstein born April 15, 1928 in Wynnefield, PA died of a life well lived and of heart failure with his loving family by his side on November 25, 2020. Arnie led a life that was full and truly awesome. He was loved dearly by his beautiful wife of 72 years, June Weinstein (nee Gross), their three children, Eileen Donohue, Hal Weinstein and John Weinstein as well as their spouses, nine grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Arnie was an entrepreneur and the consummate salesperson having owned his own plumbing sales agency for many years as well as being on the board of directors of many organizations within the plumbing industry including being a founding member of the Philadelphia Manufacturers Representative Association. His sales acumen was uncanny, and he flourished in a time when personal relationships were as important as what we now call metrics. Arnie was an excellent athlete having been named "All Public" while playing football at Overbrook High School and being on the varsity track and boxing teams. Arnie's love of sports continued throughout his life as he took up playing tennis winning many championships while living down the "shore" at his beloved home in Loveladies, N.J. He was also an expert skier and introduced many of his friends to the sport as well as all of his children. While his love of athletics was truly inspirational, he also had a passion for the theatre where he acted in many roles over the years at Allen's Lane Art Theatre and Abington Theatre as well as being in a few TV productions. Whether playing Big Julie in Guys and Dolls, Chief Sitting Bull in Annie Get Your gun or Earthquake McGoon in Lil' Abner he did so with aplomb. With his best friend Irv Bloom they owned the Philadelphia Playhouse and hosted many notable plays and actors. Arnie's love of sports and theatre was only surpassed by his love of his family, especially his lifetime love, June. He was extremely proud of his family and their accomplishments and let everyone around his circle of friends know this. Arnie had an amazing memory and used this to muster up his prodigious catalogue of thousands of jokes that he could recite at will. Yes, he had a great sense of humor that continued throughout his life. Arnie outlived many of his best friends and frequently had dreams of them calling him to the slopes to go skiing. Irv, Norm and Bob now have their bestest skiing buddy to join them as they "schuss" down the biggest slopes with a dusting of new powder. We will always love you and miss you Arnie, dad, daddy, poppy, Poppy Arnie! Contributions in his memory may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Weinstein Family Team (<http://www2.jdrf.org/goto/Weinstein>).

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Goldstein

Continued from Page 14

For those in leadership at my organization, and I am sure at other nonprofits as well, our values of repairing the world and care for others have permeated all decisions. Reaching in and reaching out were our top priorities; our goal was to keep everyone who worked at JFCS employed and safe, while continuing to support those we serve in different and impactful ways.

To that end, we chose to close spaces rather than initiate layoffs. We partnered with other agencies to provide

support groups for staff. We held meetings in safe virtual spaces where we could come together as a group to share feelings, fears and concerns. We mobilized our services, bringing food directly to older and homebound individuals. We shifted from pop-up shops to emergency clothing delivery. We launched JFCS In Your Neighborhood, bringing essential services right to people in their own communities.

The essence of who we are as an organization centers around supporting our community through challenging times, and although this refers to the specific needs of an individual or family, it also means service

in times of more global crisis and challenge.

When life returns to some sense of normalcy, I believe the humanity in all of us and the way that we cared for one another will prevail as memories of how our organizations worked. We will reminisce about how we made decisions that enabled our industry to thrive. As the pandemic “passes away,” let us all reflect and focus on what held us together, and what inspired us and how we can harness it, learn from it and hold onto it in the future. ●

Paula Goldstein is the president of JFCS Greater Philadelphia.

Halpern

Continued from Page 15

is an area where even Orthodox women have been recording their teaching for decades now. But what this gentle, experimental commitment taught me was not just that it might be easier than I thought to find this kind of Torah on the parshah, but that I felt different when I sought it out.

Nothing I learned mitigates the structural concerns that Silverman and Soloman point out, and however far behind “women’s Torah” is, the Torah of trans and nonbinary people and of Jews of color and disabled Jews has been even more limited. This is, as Rosenberg notes in his article, not just bad for Jews but for the Torah. The Kranjec Test is insufficient to solve that problem.

But what I was not considering when I felt so much resistance to the Kranjec Test was what it might feel like to regularly learn and teach Torah from people who reminded me of myself in a deep way. I have always been blessed, in many spaces and for much of my life, to learn Torah — often from women and sometimes from queer teachers as well — in frameworks that taught me I was its inheritor and part of the vast conversation of the Jewish textual tradition. I felt close to the Torah, and like I had

every right to learn and teach it. I would have told you I was extremely well-adjusted when it comes to learning texts almost exclusively by men.

But when I started to regularly learn and teach written Torah from people who were not men, something in me almost imperceptibly began to feel different. It’s hard even a few months in to find the words to capture the different kind of settledness I feel in my chest when I give a dvar Torah that includes a Torah insight from someone like me. I thought that I was as close to the Torah as I could ever get, but I was wrong.

The Kranjec Test made me

realize that I am unsatisfied by accepting the absence of women’s voices in Jewish law and other subjects as a historical reality. Being alive to that absence instead of just pushing past it has made me more aware of who I am when I learn Torah, less willing to brush aside my own experiences and needs. I am less willing to accept the inevitability of who’s not there — making me more aware that I’m there myself. ●

Avigayil Halpern is studying for rabbinic ordination at the Hadar Institute in New York. This piece was first published by JTA.



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A RESOLUTION OF ABRAMSON SENIOR CARE

The Board of Trustees of Abramson Senior Care record with sorrow the passing of their esteemed colleague and friend

Ruth (Cissie) Vizak Frantz

Cissie joined Abramson Senior Care’s Board of Trustees in 1989, but her involvement began long before when her grandmother became a resident at the Philadelphia Geriatric Center (PGC) in 1968. At that time, Cissie and her family, including her parents Harry and Reba Levin z”l, became active volunteers and supporters, generously donating to campus improvement projects, including the Reba and Harry Levin Building and the Cissie and Les Vizak Pavilion. They also sponsored many special social, cultural, and entertainment activities to help enrich the lives of residents. In 1991, Cissie was awarded the first Family Award alongside her family for their dedication to improving the quality of life for the frail elderly.

Cissie’s generosity knew no bounds. She gave graciously to Abramson Senior Care’s Annual Fund, annual fundraising gala, and to the Capital Campaign. Additionally, she was a lifetime member of the Auxiliary.

Her contributions and tireless support have ensured that seniors throughout the Philadelphia region will continue to get the care and support they need. Abramson Senior Care and our entire Jewish community were truly fortunate to have been the beneficiary of her time, leadership and enduring tzedakah.

Cissie was also the wife of the late Les Vizak z”l, who served as board chair of PGC from 1977 – 1983, and mother to the late Jeffrey (Sheryl) Vizak z”l.

To her husband, Leonard; children Randi (Mark) Rosenberg, Amy Vizak; grandchildren Matt (Brittany) Rosenberg, Jordan (Mahasidhdi) Rosenberg, Lesley Vizak and Melissa Vizak; and all who mourn her passing, the Board of Trustees of Abramson Senior Care offer this expression of profound sympathy. May they find solace in the knowledge that her dedication, generosity and good works will serve as a living tribute to her and will benefit future generations.

Lorraine Drobny
Board Chair

Carol A. Irvine
President and CEO

Chai.



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

TERRACES-3rd Floor, sunny 1 BD, 1 BA. New carpets, modern kitchen and bath. Lots of closets. Available immediately! **\$1500**

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

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

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INFORMATION

LEGAL NOTICES

A&L ROMANO BUILDERS, INC. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

Beehive Bake Shop Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

D F FLOORING, INC. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

LEGAL NOTICES

ESTATE OF EDMONIA THOMAS, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County, PA
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to STEVEN THOMAS, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Daniel P. Muklewicz, Esq., 215 S. Broad St., 5th Fl., Phila., PA 19107, Or to his Attorney: DANIEL P. MUKLEWICZ, AVALLONE LAW ASSOCIATES 215 S. Broad St., 5th Fl. Phila., PA 19107

Notice is hereby given that Articles of Incorporation Nonprofit were filed for Fiddler's Green Canteen with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on December 7, 2020. The registered office address is located at c/o Neshaminy Abstract, LLC, 451 S. Bethlehem Pike, Suite 300, Ft. Washington PA 19034 in Montgomery county. This corporation is incorporated under the provisions of the Business Corporation Law of 1988, as amended.

Jasmine Liu MD PC has been incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 29 of the Business Corporation law of 1988 as a Professional Corporation.

Foreign Registration Statement
KING FLORENCE INC. filed a Foreign Registration Statement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The address of its principal office under the laws of its jurisdiction is 702 45th Street Apt.31 Brooklyn, NY 11220. The Commercial Registered Office in care of 400 Greenwood Ave. Wyncote, PA 19095 in the county of Montgomery. The Corporation is filed in compliance with the requirements of the applicable provision of 15 Pa. C.S. 412.

MF & S Construction, Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF ALFONSO J. PASSARO, SR. a/k/a ALFONSO PASSARO, 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 MICHAEL PASSARO, JR., ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Marc Vogin, Esq., 1700 Sansom St., 3rd Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to his Attorney: MARC VOGIN KLEIN, VOGIN & GOLD 1700 Sansom St., 3rd Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF ALFRED B. SMITH, DECEASED
Late of Lansdowne Borough, Delaware County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to Cynthia Walker, Executrix, c/o her attorney: David Neal Rubin, Esq., 2 Penn Center Suite 1030 1500 JFK Blvd. Philadelphia, PA 19102.

ESTATE of EDNA HOLLIMAN, Deceased
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the Estate of the above named Edna Hollimon, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned, all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the said decedent are requested to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the said decedent to make payment without delay to: Holly Hollimon-Baxter, Executrix c/o Lisa Comber Hall, Esquire HALL LAW OFFICES A Professional Corporation 27 S. Darlington Street West Chester, PA 19382

ESTATE NOTICES

Estate of Ava Mercedes; Mercedes, Ava, 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: Frank Mercede, c/o Paul J. Perpiglia, Esq., Perpiglia & Assocs., 1332 Jackson St., Philadelphia, PA 19148, Administrator.
Paul J. Perpiglia, Esq. Perpiglia & Assocs. 1332 Jackson St. Philadelphia, PA 19148

ESTATE OF DOLORES D. MARTIN, 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 RICHARD MARTIN, EXECUTOR, c/o Mark J. Davis, Esq., 644 Germantown Pike, Ste. 2-C, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444.
Or to his Attorney: MARK J. DAVIS LAW OFFICE MICHAEL S. CONNOR LLC 644 Germantown Pike, Ste. 2-C Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

ESTATE OF DORIS M. OUZTS, (a/k/a DORIS OUZTS, 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 JAY E. KIVITZ, ADMINISTRATOR, 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150.
Or to his Attorney: Jay E. Kivitz Law Offices Kivitz & Kivitz, P.C. 7901 Ogontz Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19150

Estate of Thomas R. Raymond; Raymond, Thomas R., Deceased
Late of Philadelphia, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay, to: Kathleen Pietrzak, 12534 Deerrun Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154, Executrix.
Paul H. Young, Esquire 3554 Hulmeville Rd. Suite 102, Bensalem, PA 19020

ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF EYLESHA MICHELLE ROBBINS, 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 DAVID V. BOGDAN, ADMINISTRATOR, 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1520, Philadelphia, PA 19110, Or to his Attorney: DAVID V. BOGDAN 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1520 Philadelphia, PA 19110

ESTATE OF MARK ANTHONY WASHINGTON a/k/a MARK WASHINGTON, 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 RODERICK L. FOXWORTH, JR., ADMINISTRATOR, 7715 Crittenden St., #382, Philadelphia, PA 19118, Or to his Attorney: RODERICK L. FOXWORTH, JR. 7715 Crittenden St., #382 Philadelphia, PA 19118

ESTATE OF ROBERT W. INGRAM, 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 MARY ELLEN INGRAM, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Danielle M. Yacono, Esq., 1701 Walnut St., 6th Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to her Attorney: DANIELLE M. YACONO THE LAW OFFICES OF PETER L. KLENK & ASSOCIATES 1701 Walnut St., 6th Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF RUTH D. MEADE a/k/a RUTH MEADE, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay SANDRA R. MacBRIDE, EXECUTRIX, c/o Brian L. Strauss, Esq., Rothenberg Center, 1420 Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19102, Or to her Attorney: BRIAN L. STRAUSS THE ROTHENBERG LAW FIRM LLP Rothenberg Center 1420 Walnut St. Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE NOTICES

Estate of Grace E. Moragne; Moragne, Grace E., Deceased
Late of Philadelphia, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay, to Carol Ashton Kennedy, c/o Jennifer L. Damelio, Esq., Friedman, Schuman, PC, 101 Greenwood Ave., Fifth Floor, Jenkintown, PA 19046, Executrix.
Friedman, Schuman, PC 101 Greenwood Ave. Fifth Floor Jenkintown, PA 19046

ESTATE OF JAMES CALHOUN HUMES a/k/a JAMES C. HUMES, 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 MARY QUILLLEN, EXECUTRIX, c/o Lisa M. Nentwig, Esq., 1500 Market St., Ste. 3500E, Philadelphia, PA 19102.
Or to her Attorney: Lisa M. Nentwig Dilworth Paxson LLP 1500 Market St., Ste. 3500E Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE OF JAMES R. DERBYSHIRE, SR., DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JAMES R. DERBYSHIRE, JR., ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Megan McCrea, Esq., 1 Summit St., Philadelphia, PA 19118, Or to his Attorney: MEGAN MCCREA ROSS & MCCREA, LLP 1 Summit St., Philadelphia, PA 19118

Estate of Victoria Halenda; Halenda, Victoria, 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: Steve Halenda, c/o Henry S. Warszawski, Esq., 413 Johnson St., (201), Archways Prof. Bldg., Jenkintown, PA 19046, Administrator-CTA.
Henry S. Warszawski, Esq. 413 Johnson St., (201) Archways Prof. Bldg. Jenkintown, PA 19046

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ENGAGEMENT

► SALZMAN-SITTIG

Janet Salzman and Gary Salzman of Huntingdon Valley and Southampton, and Honor and Ray Sittig of Newark, New York, announce the engagement of their children, Brandon Michael Salzman and Taylor Danielle Sittig.

Brandon is a graduate of Lehigh University and The Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. He is in the final year of his internal medicine residency with PCOM.

Taylor is a graduate of Villanova University, and earned her bachelor's degree in mathematics. She is an operations manager for Fairman Group Family Office.

Brandon is the grandson of Ruth Salzman and the late Abe Salzman, and the late Rochelle and Morris Shuster. Taylor is the granddaughter of the late John Hetherley, the late Beverly H. and Bruce Carter, and the late Calvin and Catherine Sittig.

The couple lives in Plymouth Meeting and plan a wedding in 2022.

Photo by Kimberly Pollock



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Two Area Companies Receive BIRD Funding TWO LOCAL ENERGY COMPANY PROJECTS

were among eight chosen by the federal Department of Energy and Israel's Ministry of Energy, along with the Israel Innovation Authority, to receive financial assistance through the Binational Industrial Research and Development, or BIRD, energy program, calcalistech.com reported.

W7energy LLC of Wilmington, Delaware, is teaming with POCeITech Ltd. of Caesarea, Israel, to make an affordable fuel cell system based on hydrogen exchange membranes.

And Hit Nano Inc. of Bordentown, New Jersey, is working with Tadiran Batteries Ltd. of Kiryat Ekron, Israel, to develop nickel-rich cathode, silicon anode and high-energy AA lithium-ion batteries to apply to the internet of things, or IoT.

In all, \$7.15 million was invested into the eight projects. BIRD is represented in Pennsylvania, Delaware and Southern New Jersey by the Philadelphia-Israel Chamber of Commerce.

Einstein Appoints Interim President and CEO

Einstein Healthcare Network announced on Jan. 4 the appointment of Ken Levitan as its interim president and CEO.

Levitan, who was born at Einstein, succeeds Barry R. Freedman, who served in those positions for 18 years before retiring Dec. 31.



▲ Ken Levitan

Courtesy of Einstein Healthcare Network

Levitan has worked for Einstein for more than 13 years, most recently as executive vice president and chief administrative officer, leading the organization's Incident Command Center during the pandemic. In those positions, he worked with senior leaders and the board of trustees to explore initiatives to help Einstein expand its geographic reach, improve accessibility of care and develop strategic partnerships and alliances.

Prior to serving as chief administrative officer, Levitan was chief information officer, leading the transformation of Einstein's use of information technology. That included developing and

implementing a network-wide electronic medical record system. He also saw the deployment of more than \$25 million of IT equipment and software to Einstein Medical Center Montgomery's opening in East Norriton.

Levitan's father, Mark, served as Einstein CEO in the 1980s.

James Beard Award Winner to Cook Virtually for Congregation Rodeph Shalom

Michael W. Twitty, a culinary historian and Jewish educator who has won a James Beard Award, will conduct a virtual cooking demonstration at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 10 as part of Congregation Rodeph Shalom's debut Cook & Connect event.

Twitty will explore the intersections of his identity as an African American and as an American Jew. His cookbook/memoir, "The Cooking Gene," explores race as it relates to Southern cuisine and food culture and traces his ancestry — both Black and white — through food, from Africa to the United States and slavery to freedom.

Future events in the series include Sababa Cooking with Adeena Sussman on Feb. 21 and Fireside Chat and Demonstration with Julia Turshen on March 7.

Register at bit.ly/rscookandconnect. For information, contact Dina Horowitz at dhorowitz@rodephshalom.org or 267-930-7289. •

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

▼ FRIDAY, JAN 8

Kabbalat Shabbat Services

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

▼ SUNDAY, JAN 10

'The Last Nazi Hunter'

Join **Chabad of Delaware County** at 10 a.m. for the Zoom lecture and live presentation "The Last Nazi Hunter" with Efraim Zuroff, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre office in Jerusalem. Zuroff will share his unique perspective and highlights from his 40 years as a world-famous Nazi hunter. Free, sponsorships available. RSVP for Zoom info at jewishdelco.org/hunter.

One and Together

Join **Jewish Family and Children's Service** at 1 p.m. for a virtual event, "One and Together: A One-Act Play Festival." Playwrights from JFCS' People Living with Disabilities program collaborated to create four short plays on various themes. RSVP at jfcsphilly.org/events/oneandtogether/ or with Rivka Goldman at 267-256-2250 or at rgoldman@jfcsphilly.org. Zoom link provided upon registration.

Some Kind of Heaven

Gershman Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival will host a virtual screening of "Some Kind of Heaven," produced by Darren Aronofsky and The New York Times, on Jan. 10-13 at 7 p.m. First-time feature director Lance

Oppenheim cracks the manicured facade of The Villages, America's largest retirement community — a massive a massive, self-contained utopia in Central Florida. Email info@pjff.org for more information.

▼ TUESDAY, JAN 12

Higher and Higher

Join Cantor Stephen Freedman of **Melrose B'nai Israel Emanu-El** for his continuing virtual prayer series, "These Are A Few Of My Favorite Prayers," at facebook.com/groups/mbiee.org at 1 p.m. Call 215-635-1505 for more information.

Cooking Classes

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

▼ WEDNESDAY, JAN 13

IT Support

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

▼ THURSDAY, JAN 14

WellnessMatters

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 or 267-637-0210. ●

NEWSMAKERS

Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties received a donation of nonperishable foods, basic essentials and cleaning supplies from Rymax, a loyalty marketing and rewards provider based in Pine Brook, New Jersey.

► Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties volunteer Donna Levin helps sort and stack some of the hundreds of pounds of food donated by Rymax.

Courtesy of Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties



Beth David Reform Congregation in Gladwyne celebrated Chanukah in 2020 with HanukCAR, a drive-through festival. Congregants who attended were treated to three fire and light-themed circus acts, a tiki torch menorah, Chanukah-themed windows, latkes and a dreidel light show. Rabbi Beth Kalisch and Cantor Lauren Goodlev hosted and sang songs of the season. Families were able to tune into 91.9 FM to hear everything through their car radios.

► Tony Artis, Beth David Reform Congregation facilities manager, accepted donations to an adopt-a-family program at Harry Elementary School and clothing for Neighbors Helping Neighbors on the Main Line.

Photos by JoAnne Fischer



◄ From left: Cantor Lauren Goodlev and Rabbi Beth Kalisch hosted HanukCAR.



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
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JEWISH EXPONENT

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Our Mission EXPANDS ITS REACH.

Since 1866, **Abramson Senior Care** has served as a safety net for the frail Jewish elderly. And while the senior care landscape has changed around us, we have remained passionately committed to this mission.

We are compelled to ask: how can we make the most meaningful impact on our community's neediest seniors? The answer to that question has changed over time. So has our strategy for implementing our mission.

From 2008 through 2019, we gradually expanded our reach through services such as Transitional Care, Home Care, Hospice, Care Advisors, Medical Adult Day, outpatient Memory Care, Primary Care and Palliative Care. This array of services now provides care to nearly 5,000 seniors throughout our community each year – wherever and however they need us.

Bold leadership requires the courage to evolve.

After evaluating all other options, we came to the difficult decision to sell our treasured Horsham campus, the Abramson Center for Jewish Life. While we share in our community's many emotions about this sale, it was necessary for sustaining our vital work. **Abramson Senior Care** remains strong and ready to take our mission to new heights.

Our spectrum of caring services empower seniors to remain safely independent at home for as long as possible, choosing a nursing home only when absolutely necessary – aging in place with dignity, purpose and choice.

And so, while we remain committed to seniors who still need long term care, we are focusing our growth on the expansion of community and home-based models. Public policy is aligning with this trend. Increasingly, Medicaid is directing seniors to these forms of care in lieu of nursing homes.

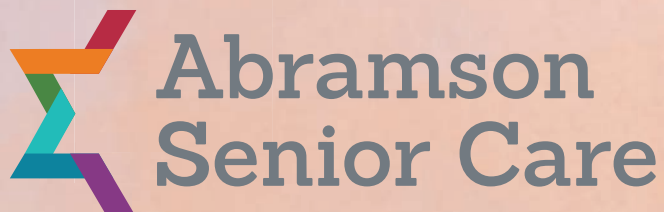
This policy shift has profoundly affected our ongoing mission to serve frail Jewish seniors in need. We owed it to them to find another way.


Today, our **Abramson Senior Care** brand means coordinated, highly personalized care that enables seniors to move seamlessly through our innovative services as their needs evolve. It means support not only for seniors, but for the families who love them.

The vulnerability of our seniors has never been more painfully apparent. We are now called to ask: how can we serve them better? Our evolution began years before the pandemic, but the many lessons learned this year inform our path forward.

We are humbled and privileged that the community has entrusted us with caring for our seniors for over a century and a half. We will be here for you and your family for generations to come as we navigate the aging journey together.

Follow *our* journey by visiting us at www.abramsonseniorcare.org.




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