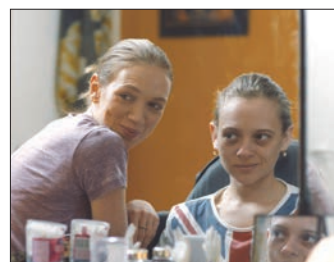


HAPPY JULY 4TH!

ALONE  
TOGETHER

"Asia" considers the bonds lacking — and created — between a mother and daughter.

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JULY 1, 2021 / 21 TAMUZ 5781

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# JEWISH EXPONENT

— WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA —

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## OF NOTE

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#### Jewish Federation Announces \$15M in Funding

Money aimed at providing greater sustainability.

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#### Rabbi Henry Cohen Dies at 93

Beth David Reform rabbi considered a social justice pioneer.

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### LOCAL

#### Anniversary of Entebbe to be Recognized

Rescue happened 45 years ago.

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Volume 134  
Number 12

Published Weekly Since 1887



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## Israeli Food Truck Disinvitation Prompts Complaints

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

ON JUNE 19, nonprofit organizations Eat Up the Borders and Sunflower Philly disinvited Moshava, an Israeli-owned food truck, from participating in the monthly "Taste of Home" food festival.

Taste of Home, described by its organizers as an "event celebrating diversity through food, art, entertainment, community," and scheduled for June 20, was later canceled, "to prevent any type of discriminatory activity in our space," Sunflower Philly wrote.

Word of the cancellation came only a day after Eat Up the Border wrote on social media that Moshava would not be participating.

According to Nir Sheynfeld, owner of the Moshava food truck, event organizers reached out and dissuaded Moshava from attending, fearing a potential boycott and "that the protesters would get aggressive and threaten their event."

Other events at Sunflower Philly,

See Truck, Page 10



▲ A 2019 event with Orthodox Jewish community members and local, state and federal elected officials to promote dialogue between groups

Courtesy of David Kushner

## At Least in Philly, Jews Eager to Get Vaccinated

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

AS OF JUNE 28, 46.3% of the United States population is fully vaccinated against COVID-19, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

But with vaccination rates slowing to an average of about 735,000 jabs daily, it appears as though the U.S. will fall short

of President Joe Biden's goal of 70% of the population receiving at least one shot by July 4, with that total currently at 54.1%.

Still, the task of reaching herd immunity at this stage of the pandemic does not equally rest on everyone's shoulders, as 70% of Philadelphians have already received their first dose of the vaccine by mid-June, Billy Penn reported.

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# JEWISH EXPONENT

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

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JEWISHEXPONENT.COM

Miriam's Advice Well

WITH KIDS AT CAMP, SHOULD I DECLUTTER?

A reader wonders whether it's time to get rid of a lot of her kids' stuff now that they're at camp — outgrown clothing and school papers, to name two main categories. But what should stay and what should go? Miriam has some definite opinions about what can be safely tossed and what items require the kids' input. Read Miriam's Advice Well for her full answer. From dating to parenting, Miriam welcomes all questions. Email yours to [news@jewishexponent.com](mailto:news@jewishexponent.com) and put "Advice Well Question" in the subject line. [jewishexponent.com/2021/06/28/dear-miriam-with-kids-at-camp-should-i-declutter/](http://jewishexponent.com/2021/06/28/dear-miriam-with-kids-at-camp-should-i-declutter/)



Philacatessen

SUPER HEALTHY, SUPER TASTY KALE SALAD

Kale's enjoyed its day in the sun in recent years, but it seems as if we're just scratching the surface of its potential. Food columnist Keri White visited a friend who was taking an online nutrition course and was served a summer kale salad that hit the spot. And it's as tasty as it is healthy. Read Philacatessen, her online blog, for the recipe. Check Philacatessen regularly for food content not normally found in the printed edition, such as other recipes, restaurant reviews and food news from around the Delaware Valley. [jewishexponent.com/2021/06/28/super-healthy-super-tasty-kale-salad/](http://jewishexponent.com/2021/06/28/super-healthy-super-tasty-kale-salad/)

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## SNAPSHOT: JULY 4, 1947

### Off for 2 Weeks of Fun And Frolic at Camp

The hub-hub in the station, the chugging of the engine, and the last long pull of the train into the wide green spaces will long be remembered by 230 boys and girls who left last Wednesday from the Reading Terminal for two weeks at camp—100 girls for Camp Council in Phoenixville, and 130 boys for the S.G.F. Vacation Camp in Collegeville.

These children were part of the 2,000 Jewish boys and girls who this summer will enjoy hearty and healthful vacations, thanks to the camps offering these opportunities to the Country Week Association, to the Community Health Centre, and to the Vacation Bureau of the Association for Jewish Children.

overnight camps conducted by the Y.M.H.A.—Camp Reeta for Girls and Camp Arthur for Boys—both situated in Zieglerstown, Pa.

**Overnight Camps**

The S.G.F. Vacation Camp will accommodate four groups of boys during the summer, each group including 130 children who

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



# Jewish Federation Announces \$15 Million in Community Investment

## LOCAL

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

**THE LEADERSHIP OF LATET** - Israeli Humanitarian Aid, said they are grateful that they will be able to continue to fund the redistribution of food to impoverished Israel residents, many of whom are elderly or Holocaust survivors, and provide emergency aid, thanks to the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.

Latet provides monetary and food assistance to more than 1,000 Holocaust survivors and 60,000 families. They see the Jewish Federation's grant program as more than just an opportunity to gain resources, but also an opportunity to maintain and advance their goals.

"There's a strong message built on trust and understanding, understanding that we are together to fight against poverty and food insecurity," Latet CEO Eran Weintraub said. Latet, which means "to give" in Hebrew, has worked with the Jewish Federation for 15 years.

The Jewish Federation announced on June 24 that it will make a \$15 million investment in the Jewish community of Philadelphia, Israel and beyond, representing \$9.1 million in grant allocations and fund distributions — including the grant awarded to Latet — to be distributed among 91 programs within 66 organizations.

The Jewish Federation will also invest \$5.2 million to community programs, such as the Mitzvah Food Program, Jewish camp scholarships and trips to Israel, as well as \$1.2 million dollars in real estate subsidies to allow agencies to rent on the Jewish Federation's campus for free or reduced rates.

This investment comes in addition to the Jewish Federation raising and

distributing \$4.8 million in emergency COVID relief in the Philadelphia area and Israel, and \$870,000 in emergency funding to Israel, following the military action by Hamas and other militant groups in May.

"Our job is to help to create sustainability, both for individuals who are in need during this time, as well as for institutions that are serving the community in a time with tremendous financial uncertainty," Jewish Federation CEO and President Michael Balaban said.

Balaban began his tenure as CEO on June 1, and he has already worked to engage with the Jewish Federation's partners on a meaningful level: "Less than two weeks in, I've learned God gives us two ears and one mouth; we should spend more time listening than we do talking. It's really important at this early stage of my being in the community to hear from our stakeholders and our partners about what the opportunities are, what the needs are and what the interests are."

The Jewish Federation will prioritize grant allocations to three areas: serving vulnerable populations, shaping the Jewish future and supporting Israel and world Jewry.

Among the organizations working to serve vulnerable populations is the Hebrew Free Loan Society in Philadelphia. The Jewish Federation will help fund "The Way Forward: Towards Financial Security with Dignity and Respect" program, designed to provide interest-free, no-fee loans to borrowers who may not have a cosigner with good credit or a cosigner who does not live in the area.

The 37-year-old agency awards loans of up to \$7,500 to community members looking to pay medical bills, home and auto repairs and for housing.



▲ Each year, the Jewish Federation provides grants to agencies locally and in Israel, such as Leket Israel, that provide free or low cost meals or food packages to adults and families unable to access enough food on their own. Courtesy of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

There's a strong message built on trust and understanding, understanding that we are together to fight against poverty and food insecurity."

ERAN WEINTRAUB

Though the organization was able to provide emergency grants during the COVID-19 pandemic, non-COVID-related loans are in high demand.

"As we see people going back to work and feeling more confident in the economy, people are more willing now to take out loans for things that they might have had to put on the back burner last year," said Cheryl Barish Erlick, the loan society's executive director.

OneTable Philadelphia, which is a part of the Jewish Federation's focus of "shaping Jewish futures," is another organization looking to aid Philadelphians. Through The Shabbat Project, Inc., OneTable subsidizes Shabbat dinners and events for 20- and 30-something Jews who

are hoping to connect with Shabbat rituals in personal and meaningful ways. OneTable has staff in Pittsburgh, but not Philadelphia, which has limited its ability to establish a local audience.

"[Philadelphia] has been a growing community. And there's been a lot of demand for quite a while," Vice President of Development and Expansion Julia Malkin Reger said.

The Jewish Federation's grant will allow OneTable to hire a field manager in Philadelphia to liaise with the young Jewish community in the city, broadening the audience, as well as building connections with local businesses to provide food and drinks for Shabbat dinners.

Also looking to expand is

Makom Community, which is located in Center City. Created eight years ago by Beverly Socher-Lerner, Makom Community provides "Jewish enrichment in an after-school context," by "inviting children to engage with Jewish wisdom." The allocation will allow it to open a second location in South Philadelphia (sharing a space with the South Philadelphia Shtiebel), and launch new programs for parents and families.

Ultimately, the goal of these grants is the same as any year, according to Balaban: "to care for the needs of the Jewish people and work to build a more vibrant Jewish future." •

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# Social Justice Pioneer Rabbi Henry Cohen Dies at 93

## OBITUARY

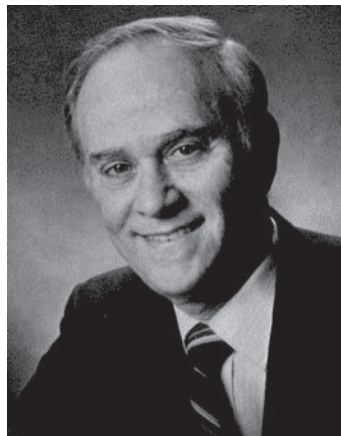
ANDY GOTLIEB | JE MANAGING EDITOR

**RABBI HENRY COHEN**, who served at Beth David Reform Congregation for nearly 30 years and was a longtime social justice activist, died June 18. He was 93.

Rabbi Beth Kalisch, the current rabbi at Beth David, said Cohen was among a vanguard of rabbis pushing for social justice issues at a time when that wasn't common.

"A primary expression of Judaism today is standing up for others," she said. "We owe a big debt of gratitude to Rabbi Cohen."

"I believe the main function of a rabbi is to teach Judaism. The question is, 'How do you teach?'," he said in a 1993 Jewish Exponent article about his pending retirement. "To me, teaching Judaism is bringing values of Judaism into people's lives. How do you do that? Not by telling little Chasidic tales" but "by creating a community where those values are lived."



▲ Rabbi Henry Cohen in 1993  
Jewish Exponent archives

Army chaplain, he served as an assistant rabbi in Great Neck, New York, and met his late wife Edna.

Cohen next moved to Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, receiving a master's degree in the philosophy of education and serving a congregation there.

But Cohen sought more diversity and moved to Philadelphia in 1964 to lead Beth David — then one of only three Reform congregation in the area, according to the 1993

described him as a person of deep integrity who really walked the walk."

Over the next couple of decades, Henry Cohen demonstrated his interest in social justice, Lisa Cohen said. Accomplishments included creating a Black-Jewish nursery school; chairing the Jewish Coalition for Peace; being part of an interfaith clergy group

that visited Israel, Lebanon and Jordan in 1974; and visiting refuseniks in the Soviet Union in 1986, then successfully campaigning for the release of Beth David's then-Cantor Lilia Kazansky's parents.

Lisa Cohen said her father was always thinking about his place in the world and making things better.

"Every night, we would

watch the news while we were eating dinner, and there was always discussion," she said, noting that those lessons helped propel her to a career in social work. "He would ask, 'What do you think?' He wanted us to think and look at the world."

In the 1970s, Beth David sponsored several Laotian "boat people," and Cohen was in the forefront in helping them get

See Cohen, **Page 17**

■ A primary expression of Judaism today is standing up for others. We owe a big debt of gratitude to Rabbi Cohen."

RABBI BETH KALISCH

The Houston native was born into a family of reform rabbis who set the tone for Cohen's activism. Cohen's grandfather, also named Henry, was the only rabbi on a 1930 list The New York Times published, by prominent Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, of "the ten foremost religious leaders in this country."

Cohen graduated from the University of Texas, then was ordained at Hebrew Union College. After a stint as an

Exponent article — which was then located in Philadelphia's racially mixed Wynnefield neighborhood, daughter Lisa Cohen said. It was something his grandfather might do.

"He was most proud of being his grandfather's legacy," she said.

"That history gave him the strength of conviction to know that people wouldn't always agree with him ... but he knew that what he had to do was right," Kalisch said. "Everyone

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— younger brother of Entebbe Hero Yoni Netanyahu

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**Gil Hoffman, Seminar MC**  
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This endeavor has been ongoing for the past 30 years, celebrated every five years by Young Jewish Leadership Concepts (YJLC) and Rabbi Albert Gabbai of Congregation Mikveh Israel. In 2016 with the lead role of Steven L. Friedman, Esq., who now serves as the national Chair for American Foundation Creating Leadership for Israel (AFCLI), this truly became a national commemoration.

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AMERICAN FOUNDATION  
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FOR ISRAEL (AFCLI)



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Polish Children Knock Over Jewish Headstones to Build a Fortress

SEVERAL POLISH CHILDREN told police they toppled 63 Jewish grave headstones because they wanted to build a fortress with them, JTA reported.

Five 12-year-olds worked on the project for several days at the disused graveyard in Wrocław in western Poland when police stopped them on June 23 after hearing hammering noises.

Some of the headstones were smashed, while others were partially damaged and knocked down.

Meantime, in eastern Poland, a Jewish headstone used decades earlier as construction material in Kraśnik was extracted from a sidewalk, then placed at the local Jewish cemetery. The headstone was discovered three years ago after the pavement over it cracked.

And in southern Poland, the city of Bielsko-Biała is planning a commemorative space that features Jewish headstones to recognize the destruction of a Jewish cemetery there in the 1960s.

### Jewish Philanthropist, Former Hedge Fund Executive Sentenced to Seven Months

Hedge fund founder Murray Huberfeld, a major donor to Orthodox Jewish causes, was sentenced to seven months in prison for involvement in a scheme to bribe the New York City prison guard union leader, JTA reported.

Huberfeld, 60, was sentenced June 22 after pleading guilty to wire fraud conspiracy related to a \$60,000 payment to Norman Seabrook, the former head of the Correction Officers' Benevolent Association, who also was convicted. The payment was a kickback to Seabrook for steering \$20 million in the union members' retirement money to Platinum Partners, Huberfeld's hedge fund.

Huberfeld told the court that he repaid \$5.5 million in union money lost on bad investments and planned to return an additional \$1.5 million.

Huberfeld was known for giving away millions of dollars philanthropically, especially to synagogues linked to the Chabad-Lubavitch movement and to haredi Orthodox institutions in Brooklyn.

### Polish Bill to Limit Holocaust Restitution Advances in Parliament

Polish lawmakers passed a bill through the lower house of its parliament that would limit the ability of claimants to seek restitution for property they owned during the Holocaust, JTA reported.

Under the bill, courts may only consider appeals about administrative decisions if they were made in the past 30 years — precluding appropriations by the communist governments that confiscated and distributed the property. About 3.3 million Jews lived in Poland before the Holocaust.

No date was set for a Senate vote, but in the Sejm, 309 of 460 lawmakers supported it.

Diplomats representing the United States and Israel condemned the bill. Bix Aliu, the chargé d'Affaires, at the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw, wrote Sejm Speaker Elżbieta Witek, noting "deep concern about the law, which, if adopted, will cause irreparable damage to Holocaust survivors and their families."

### US, Germany Join Holocaust Education Push

The Biden administration and German Chancellor Angela Merkel's government signed a letter of intent on June 24 to share information and strategies for advancing Holocaust education, JTA reported.

The letter was signed by Secretary of State Antony Blinken and German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas at the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe in Berlin. Holocaust survivors attended the signing.

The main Holocaust study institution in each country — the Berlin memorial in Germany and the United Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. — would be involved in developing and sharing materials.

Cherrie Daniels, the State Department's special envoy for Holocaust issues, said the cooperation would likely begin with the training of government workers.

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

## ISRAELBRIEFS

### New Human Species Found in Israel

ISRAELI SCIENTISTS ANNOUNCED June 24 the discovery in Israel of a new type of early human, The Jerusalem Post reported.

Researchers believe the Neanderthal ancestor of the new "Homo" species intermarried with Homo sapiens. The findings were published in the academic journal Science.

A dig site near the modern-day city of Nesher Ramla revealed animal bones, stone tools for making fire and butchering, and human bones, including skulls, Tel Aviv University anthropology professor Israel Hershkovitz said.

"We know that modern humans — or Homo sapiens — arrived in this area some 200,000 years ago," he said. "When we started excavating and examining the different archaeological layers, we found that they dated back between 140,000 and 120,000 years ago, so we expected to find remains of Homo sapiens. We did not realize that another form of human was living alongside them."

### COVID-19 Uptick Delays Entry of Vaccinated Tourists, Mask Mandates Reinstated

An uptick in coronavirus cases prompted Prime

Minister Naftali Bennett's government to delay vaccinated foreign tourists from entering the country before Aug. 1, The Jerusalem Post reported.

Vaccinated tourists were originally going to be allowed into Israel on July 1, but the Delta variant has hit hard in recent days. On June 24, there were 554 active cases in Israel — a climb from less than 200 in recent weeks.

"Our goal at the moment, first and foremost, is to protect the citizens of Israel from the Delta variant which is raging in the world," Bennett said. "At the same time, we want to reduce as much as possible the disruption to daily life in the country. Therefore, we decided to act as early as possible — right now — so as not to pay a heavier price later on, by taking responsible and quick actions."

In addition, an indoor mask mandate was reinstated on June 25, as Israel registered 227 new cases the day before, which has the highest figure in more than two months.

### Police Prevent Terrorist Attacks at Tel Aviv Pride Parade on June 25

Police said they prevented multiple terrorist threats and attempts to disrupt the Tel Aviv Pride parade on

June 25, The Jerusalem Post reported.

Police said two Palestinian Authority residents, who were in Israel illegally, were arrested for carrying a knife. A Tel Aviv resident was detained after he was found heading to the parade carrying multiple weapons.

In addition, a couple who protested the parade and tried to force their way into it was arrested, as were three other people for illegally operating a motorized paraglider near a parade gathering point.

### West Nile Fever Virus Found in Northern Israel Mosquitoes

Mosquitoes discovered in northern Israel are infected with the West Nile Fever virus, Maariv reported.

The Environmental Protection Ministry called on the Lower Galilee Regional Council to monitor the situation in Nahal Yavniel and conduct pest control measures as needed.

West Nile Fever isn't contagious and transmission occurs only when a person is bitten by an infected mosquito. The virus can be fatal, although most people exposed don't develop symptoms. •

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb



# Entebbe Event to Remember Mission ‘Impossible’

## LOCAL

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

**RABBI ALBERT GABBAI** remembers exactly where he was on July 4, 1976: in Manhattan, watching a parade of boats floating down the Hudson River, American flag in hand, celebrating the bicentennial of the nation's independence.

But he said the celebration was interrupted by an announcement that 102 hostages, mostly Jewish and Israeli, in Entebbe, Uganda, had been rescued by Israel Defense Forces commandos.

On July 5, Gabbai will host Miracle at Entebbe, the 45th anniversary commemoration of the military operation at his synagogue, Congregation

Mikveh Israel.

Operation Entebbe was lauded by the United States and other western nations as a necessary and “impossible” mission.

Following the hijacking of an Air France flight on June 27 by members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Red Army Faction (a radical West German group), the hijackers kept 106 Israeli and French passengers as hostages, demanding the release of 53 Palestinian and pro-Palestinian hostages, many of whom were prisoners in Israel, and a \$5 million ransom.

Led by Lt. Col. Yonatan “Yoni” Netanyahu, the older brother of former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a 29-man assault unit — part of a larger group of 100 commandos — entered the Entebbe

International Airport terminal and rescued the hostages.

The operation lasted only 53 minutes, and Yonatan Netanyahu was the only casualty among the commandos.

“It’s an amazing story of creativity, of chutzpah,” said Lou Balcher, the event’s organizer and national director at American Foundation Creating Leadership for Israel.

From Entebbe, Gabbai believes an important lesson can be learned.

“Our rabbis tell us that Jewish people are like a body. When anything in the body hurts, the whole body hurts,” Gabbai said. “Therefore, we are in solidarity together. We’ll go to the end of the world to save our brothers and sisters.”

For Balcher and Gabbai, the connections between Philadelphia and Operation Entebbe are serendipitous, adding to the significance of the event.

Yoni Netanyahu graduated from Cheltenham High School, and his father, Benzion Netanyahu, was a Hebrew language professor at Dropsie College.

For the past 30 years, Congregation Mikveh Israel, nicknamed “the Synagogue of the American Revolution,” has hosted the Miracle at Entebbe event every five years. The synagogue’s fifth location at 44 N. Fourth Street opened on July 4, 1976 — the same date as Operation Entebbe.

Operation Entebbe’s legacy is also widely honored by the U.S. military.

“The raid made all countries aware that special operations forces could be in small groups, could be successful, in daring missions,” said U.S. Army Col. Ken Brier, who will speak at the event.

However, for some Jewish people, Operation Entebbe is more than just a military victory.

“We all feel that remembering our Jewish history, and our Jewish past is vital to our continuation and contributes to our understanding of our values,”

Brier said. “Commemorating significant events from our past helps assure our future.”

Major Rami Sherman, one of the special force operatives on the mission, feels similarly.

A second-generation Holocaust survivor, Sherman remembers walking with rescued hostages, in the dark night in Entebbe, one of his most emotional moments during the operation. To Sherman, Operation Entebbe serves as a reminder of the Jewish fight for existence that has been ongoing for thousands of years. This fighting spirit, he said, is what drove him to carry out Operation Entebbe.

The mission, Sherman said, not only highlights the importance of Israel’s existence, but also the mutual responsibility Jewish people have, no matter how far from one another.

“We are together: the Jews in Philadelphia and the Jews in Los Angeles,” Sherman said. “We don’t know each other, but there is something in common, something connected.”

Sherman, having given more than 500 lectures on Entebbe, will share his story on July 5.

Miracle at Entebbe will be an in-person event, but the program also will be shown live over Zoom.

The event begins at 11 a.m. at Congregation Mikveh Israel with a seminar with Ambassador and Consul General of Israel to the New York Consulate Ido Aharoni. It also will feature a video address by Benjamin Netanyahu. The outdoor ceremony begins at 2 p.m. •

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▲ Major Rami Sherman (center) in the back seat of a Mercedes — the lead vehicle used to confuse Ugandan troops. Courtesy of Lou Balcher

▲ Lou Balcher (left) and former Israeli President and Prime Minister Shimon Peres at the 25th anniversary of Entebbe commemoration. Courtesy of Lou Balcher

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JULY 1, 2021 7



# RRC Names First Jew of Color to Lead College

## LOCAL

ELEANOR LINAFLT | JE STAFF

**AMANDA BECKENSTEIN** Mbuvi, who was recently appointed vice president of academic affairs for the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, is the first Jew of color to lead a major rabbinical college.

And Mbuvi plans to bring her breadth of experience as a Hebrew Bible professor and nonprofit manager to build community, support students and foster diversity. She hopes to encourage students to embrace the wide range of Jewish experiences.

“One of the things I’m most excited to do is to continue to promote inclusivity,” she said. “We want to make sure that rabbis are ready to deal with the full diversity of the Jewish community.”

Rabbi Deborah Waxman, the president and CEO of Reconstructing Judaism, the central organization of the Reconstructionist movement — of which the RRC is a part — was drawn to Mbuvi’s vision.

“She’s incredibly committed

to building lasting relationships with people on their own terms, across differences, in the service of building community,” Waxman said. “That’s going to serve us incredibly well.”

Most recently, Mbuvi was an assistant professor of religion at High Point University, where she helped establish their first minor in Jewish studies. Her academic work focuses on race, community and diversity.

“As a Bible professor, she cares deeply about the texts and the stories and the wisdom of the past, and she’s also intensely interested in how they can inform us in the community-building, relationship-building and justice work that we’re doing in the world,” Waxman said.

After training as an academic and before returning to teaching, Mbuvi managed a nonprofit literacy program.

“She was very interested in the practical implications of her academic training and she wanted to make a difference for people in the world,” Waxman said. “I’m interested both in the practical administrative skills that she gained in that work and also that translation from the theoretical into the living reality where the



▲ Amanda Beckenstein Mbuvi

Courtesy of Reconstructing Judaism

“One of the things I’m most excited to do is to continue to promote inclusivity. We want to make sure that rabbis are ready to deal with the full diversity of the Jewish community.”

AMANDA BECKENSTEIN MBUVI

stakes are high for people.”

Waxman noted how Mbuvi’s values complement those of the RRC and Reconstructing Judaism.

“Our tagline is ‘Deeply rooted, boldly relevant,’ and that is how she moves through the world — with reverence and with keen awareness of relevance,” she said.

Mbuvi’s first formative experience of Jewish communal life was in a Conservative synagogue with a Reconstructionist rabbi.

“In that sense, certain elements of the Reconstructionist approach are baked into how I approach Judaism,” she said.

She said that she also developed similar “cultural affinities” with the Reconstructionist movement primarily through her teaching.

“I put a strong emphasis on co-creation,” she said. “I think about what happens in

the classroom as a communal endeavor.”

As vice president of academic affairs, Mbuvi will oversee all aspects of the rabbinical program, which includes supervising faculty, advising students and implementing the RRC’s new curriculum. She also will collaborate with Reconstructing Judaism’s other programs.

Waxman is confident about Mbuvi’s ability to manage the RRC’s new curriculum, which centers rabbinic training in the field, emphasizes community building and offers more opportunities for remote work.

“[Mbuvi] will help us ensure that we remain interconnected and ensure that relationships are still at the center of the kind of community that we’re building, even if it looks different than it used to,” Waxman said.

Mbuvi is particularly excited about the way that the curriculum

challenges students to think about tradition in a new way.

“Students aren’t just studying tradition and assuming its implications are more or less obvious, but rather studying the context in which we encounter those traditions,” she said. “That enables students to be really effective in engaging people where they are and helping them to discover the relevance of tradition in their context.”

After a year filled with collective upheaval, Mbuvi also thinks that learning to adjust to the change in curriculum will be a positive learning experience for the RRC’s students.

“This process of adapting into a shifting curriculum is really helpful for thinking about how to live with change and learning how to lead with change,” she said. “That’s something the students will all face, wherever their paths take them.” ●



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# Philly Faces: Faryn Borella

PHILLY FACES

ERIC SCHUCHT | JE FEATURE

FARYN BORELLA, 29, of Philadelphia is looking to effect change on a systemic level.

The rabbinical student grew up in Londonderry, Vermont, and studies at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Wyncote. In August, she'll start work as the eco-Judaism rabbinic intern at Oseh Shalom Synagogue, a Reconstructionist congregation in Laurel, Maryland.

In this new role, over the next 10 months Borella will assist with Shabbat services, lead the children's Sukkot and Tu B'Shevat activities and organize a congregational camping trip. The goal is to offer more outdoor programming and opportunities for ecological Jewish education at the synagogue.

So why did you want to do this internship?

Rabbi Daria [Jacobs-Velde] and Rabbi Josh [Jacobs-Velde] had a vision that came out of their previous involvement in Wilderness Torah in the Bay Area in California. I was involved in different Jewish farms and Jewish outdoor education programs and came from a similar world and just really value both reclaiming more ancient Jewish practices that are rooted in natural cycles of time and in paying attention to the outdoors.

And I also just generally find the outdoors to be a place where I get my spiritual resource and want to share that resource with other people as well.

What are you looking to accomplish in this internship?

I've done work in synagogues, and I've done work doing Jewish outdoor education, but that's never been the



▲ Faryn Borella  
Courtesy of Faryn Borella

same work. And when I was interviewing, what everyone on the committee and I felt really excited about was, what does it look like to bring the outdoors into the synagogue?

This is something where you're introducing outdoor Jewish programming to an existing community that might not be asking for it or looking for it. And what does it look like to bring that with a humility and a reverence, to what the community has already built together?

What was it like growing up Jewish in rural Vermont?

There was a synagogue, fortunately, that was about 20 minutes away from the town I grew up in. It served a pretty wide geographical area, and it just really felt like home to me. We were just integrated into this really small Jewish community and it was so central to our lives, but I didn't really know that there was more to Judaism than that, like I didn't know about Jewish summer camps or Jewish Federation or these larger Jewish networks.

Judaism is this beautiful small community that I get to be a part of. And I'm grateful for that. I'm grateful for being really empowered, but also

held close in my Jewish upbringing.

So why do you want to become a rabbi?

I started tossing around the idea in my early 20s when I was getting really involved in activism from a Jewish perspective. And I was in the process of discerning and ultimately decided no, but simultaneously became a Jewish educator, and started leading a lot of Jewish rituals, both in movements, and also in synagogues, and also outside of institutions. And I was falling into a lot of spiritual care type of roles.

And I was just noticing all the work that I'm already starting to do, community organizing, emotional support and spiritual care, ritual leadership — those are all roles I could hold as a rabbi. And to be a rabbi is to be trained to hold that and so much more.

How do you see yourself as a Jewish person, and how do you express that?

I feel like I've been getting a lot of reflections lately, that I feel like a bit of a paradox, because there's a lot of parts of me that are very interested in stringency and obligation and that notion of being really bound. But then I also am very politically progressive and really also embrace cultic practices of ancient Israel that might not fit within the stringency of Judaism as we see it today. But I love praying the full liturgy but doing it lying down or dancing and really pulling what's traditional with what's really innovative and new.

And so I feel like I embody this, this paradox of being in love with what's old, but also wanting to bring my whole self and my whole body to it and all of its complexity. ●

Eric Schucht is a staff writer at the Washington Jewish Week.

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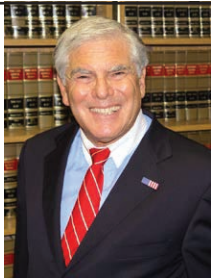
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## Truck

Continued from Page 1

including LGBT-oriented events, have resulted in similar community backlash, according to 6ABC.

Moshava's attendance had provoked criticism, as some accused Moshava of being culturally appropriative of Palestinian cuisine, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported. Eat Up the Borders' original post on June 19 stated that, "In order to best serve our guests, we decided to remove one of our food vendors for Sunday's event so that we could deliver an optimal experience to all. This decision came from listening to the community we wish to serve and love."

Sheynfeld responded on Instagram: "We really do hope that in the future you don't succumb to such antisemitic and dividing rhetoric and keep true to your words of a safe environment for all religions and nationalities — not just all of them except Israeli and Jewish ones."

Meantime, Eat Up the Borders received more than 4,200 critical comments about the removal of Moshava from the event's lineup. After receiving complaints, Sunflower Philly's Executive Director Melvin Powell explained to NBC10 that, moving forward, both an Israeli and Palestinian vendor had to be present, in order for one or the other to attend. However, due to timing issues, the Palestinian vendor, unnamed by Powell, would have been unable to attend June's Taste of Home event.

Sunflower Philly subsequently announced on Facebook the morning of June 20 that the Taste of Home event was canceled, citing an "ongoing issue with one of our event partners."

"The fact that we couldn't accurately represent both of them is the reason why we canceled the event today," Powell said.

That same day, Moshava's



▲ The Moshava Food Truck, which made its public debut this May

Courtesy of Moshava

Instagram account publicized that they were planning on meeting with Eat Up the Borders and Sunflower Philly representatives "to try and educate and grow together in a safe space for everyone."

"Although we were disappointed with how the situation was greatly mishandled," Sheynfeld wrote, "we do not believe the organizers' intention came from an anti-Semitic place, but the threats they were receiving to their event were."

Eat Up the Borders, which temporarily deactivated its Instagram account the morning of June 20, issued an apology online on June 23, saying, "We want to be very clear that we do not support antisemitism or allow antisemitism in our spaces.

Our actions were ignorant and inexcusable."

On June 24, the Philadelphia City Council passed a resolution to allow the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development to investigate Moshava's exclusion from the Taste of Home event, discuss recent antisemitism and consider precedents for future similar cultural events.

Among other organizations issuing statements, the American Jewish Committee Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey applauded the passing of the resolution.

"AJC will continue to work with elected officials, faith leaders, and partner organizations to safeguard the rights, freedoms and safety of all Philadelphians," AJC Director

Marcia Bronstein said. "We also look forward to the Philadelphia Human Relations Commission and Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission investigations to ensure that discriminatory and hateful incidents and threats of violence and the failure of anyone to report those threats never take place in our city or state again."

Representatives from the AJC, Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, Jewish Community Relations Council, Anti-Defamation League, Jews in ALL Hues and the Board of Rabbis of Philadelphia will meet with the Taste of Home organizers on July 13 "to understand the threats of violence, provide education and urge further action to

ensure their events are truly inclusive," according to the Jewish Federation's Twitter account.

Iterations of Taste of Home were held in April and May, with Moshava attending the May event, the food truck's public debut.

Moshava has garnered positive attention and support from the community in the week following the Taste of Home cancellation, Sheynfeld said.

"I feel even more empowered that when this stuff happens, you have to speak up and say something and know that there is a community that, you know, will be there to support you," he said. ●

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## Vaccinated

Continued from Page 1

And, anecdotally, several Jewish communities in Philadelphia were more than willing to get vaccinated when the opportunity arose.

Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, Kehillah of Old York Road and Wellness Pharmacy Services, held two vaccine clinics in March and April with 1,600 and 1,000 attendees, respectively, Executive Director of Keneseth Israel Brian Rissinger said.

Yet vaccine interest spanned across synagogue denominations.

Rabbi Yehoshua Yeamans of B'nai Israel Ohev Zedek, an Orthodox shul, said that 90% of his congregants received the vaccine "at the first possible chance."

The Philadelphia Department of Public Health does not disaggregate vaccine data based on religion or ethnicity, so it is unclear what percentage of the Jewish population, or of any other religious group, is vaccinated.

However, enthusiasm for, or at least uptake of, the COVID-19 vaccine seems high across the board for Philadelphia Jews, begging the question of why, and what has driven the local Jewish community to pursue the vaccine.

"Our health and our well-being and to save lives is first and foremost within Jewish law," said David Kushner, director of government relations and special projects for Amudim Community Resources, Inc., who has worked for years as a liaison between the Jewish community and local elected officials.

The concept of saving a life as a priority, known as *pikuach nefesh*, dictates that the saving of a life supersedes virtually all other *halachot*.

According to Mark Leuchter, professor and director of Jewish

studies at Temple University, "It is *pikuach nefesh* to put on a mask, or do social distancing, or work from home or, in this case, to get a vaccine."

But beyond the swathes of ways to interpret *pikuach nefesh* and its applications to the COVID-19 vaccine, Yeamans believes the case for vaccination can be made because listening to the medical establishment is endorsed by Jewish law.

Yeamans felt it was his duty to send emails to congregants, stating that because it was a medical recommendation to receive the vaccine, it was also the Jewish thing to do.

His congregation didn't dissent: "Nobody was upset that we spoke about it openly."

But that's not to say community members weren't skeptical.

He was sympathetic to those few congregants who chose not to get the vaccine, who were unconvinced of it, because of its expeditiousness, or due to an exceptional and negative vaccination outcome drawn out by the media.

"It's a personal decision," Yeamans said.

Conversations around vaccine willingness in the community took place at the tail end of a divisive national election cycle, where, according to Leuchter, the Trump administration bred an era of opposition to secularism. Leuchter defines secularism as "a society that is not governed by a religious tradition, but that enables people to have freedom to practice that tradition or not practice that tradition."

But for some, whose religious values guide them to make decisions — including medical decisions — secularism may be seen more of a threat than a freedom.

"From within those deeply religious and conservative communities, secularism is a temptation away from something sacred and something holy, and therefore something safe," Leuchter said.

Conversely, interest or

trust in the vaccine does not appear magically. Kushner attributed Philadelphia's high vaccine rates, both in, presumably, the Jewish community and beyond, to the efforts of the city to educate and make resources accessible.

In October, Kushner worked with the city's Department of Public Health to host a testing site at the Politz Hebrew Academy. More than 600 people were tested.

Kushner credits "the eagerness on the part of public health officials, as well as the medical community, to do outreach and education to the general public, and to specific subsets of the community that have unique cultural needs, such as the Jewish community."

He has since helped to organize conversations between Orthodox community members and elected officials

to enhance "open dialogue and a positive working relationship between the community and local officials/agencies."

While some in the community needed educational opportunities in order to make the decision to get vaccinated, others just needed time or to see that others in the community had also gotten the shot, Kushner said.

Morals or dogmas aside, for some Jews in the community, the decision to become vaccinated was a practical one: They wanted a return to normalcy, to their shuls, to community connection.

Even if individuals were skeptical about the vaccine, according to Yeamans, they still understood that vaccination was required for the synagogue to resume in-person activity.

"They realized that if we work together, everybody

does, it's going to help remove the masks, remove the social distancing, which it has," Yeamans said.

When Yeamans' shul hit the 90% vaccination mark, it was a "no-brainer" to resume in-person activities.

As much as Yeamans and Kushner have advocated to their community about the COVID-19 vaccine, neither would take the credit for their communities' behaviors.

According to Kushner, "We owe a debt of gratitude to our community leaders, to our public health officials and to the medical professionals."

And as these leaders and officials guided the community, Yeamans said he was grateful that the community was there to listen. •

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# UNPLUG

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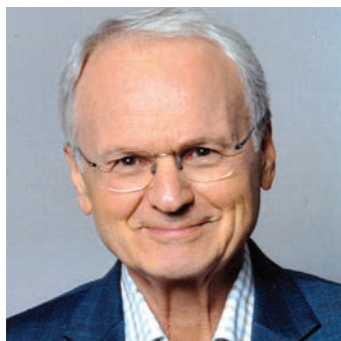
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## JEWISH EXPONENT

# Temple Must Rescind Appointment of Jason Wingard as University President



BY MORTON KLEIN

AS A TWO-DEGREE alumnus of Temple University in Philadelphia, and as president of the Zionist Organization of America, I cannot remain silent regarding the recent appointment of Jason Wingard — the chair of the anti-Israel, antisemitic Tides Foundation — to be Temple University's next president.

The Tides Foundation has been funding and elevating organizations and individuals who demonize Israel, support terrorists, lead anti-Israel boycott campaigns, lead lawfare attacks on Israel and Jews and oppose the Jewish state's very existence. Temple must rescind this appointment so that Wingard can't

bring Tides' hateful ideology to Temple's 37,000 students, potentially via appointing anti-Israel, Jew-hating deans and faculty and programming. Wingard is still listed as a Tides Center board member.

Under Wingard's chairmanship, Tides has been funding the following hateful groups:

**The Arab Resource & Organizing Center:** AROC is a vicious anti-Israel boycott, divestment and sanctions organization. AROC's ongoing BDS campaigns include violently and unlawfully blocking numerous U.S. ports, and harassing and attacking American dockworkers to prevent cargo ships operated by an Israel-based company (ZIM) from unloading medical supplies and other items.

**Adalah Justice Project USA:** AJP is another leading anti-Israel demonization and BDS organization that defends terrorists. Adalah USA also lobbies for sanctions against Israel; falsely claims that Israel is mistreating Palestinian "children" when Israel arrests 17-year-old Arabs who murder innocent Israelis; falsely likens

Israelis to police who murder Black Americans; and falsely accuses Israel of "indiscriminate war crimes" and similar demonization. Adalah and Tides collaborator, Dream Defenders, co-authored the Movement for Black Lives (M4BL, the parent of Black Lives Matter BLM) platform, which falsely states Israel is a genocidal, apartheid state and promotes anti-Israel BDS. BLM leaders publicly state that their goal is Israel's destruction.

**Palestine Legal:** Palestine Legal promotes "mockeviction" campaigns to terrorize Jewish students on college campuses; mounts numerous anti-Israel "lawfare" campaigns; defends hate groups such as Students for Justice in Palestine; advocates against anti-BDS laws; and participates in anti-Israel "days of rage" in U.S. cities.

**Dream Defenders:** Tides also boasts that it has a "radical collaboration" with and works closely with DD, which is intertwined with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a U.S.-designated foreign terrorist organization. DD promotes the PFLP

in educational materials, and sponsors anti-Israel trips to "Palestine" to demonstrate and work with PFLP operatives.

Tides' website moreover prominently features articles entitled, "Meet These Extraordinary Palestinian Leaders." Here, Tides promotes anti-Israel leaders such as AROC Executive Director Lisa Kiswani and AJP Executive Director Sandra Tamari.

Kiswani's documented long list of ugly activities include demonizing Israel and America; promoting BDS; co-founding hate group SJP, and stating at a BDS conference, displayed on YouTube, that "bringing down Israel really will benefit everyone in the world, everyone in society."

Tamari likewise has a long, documented record of antisemitic activity, including glorifying PFLP terrorist Rasmea Odeh (convicted for murdering two Jewish students); agitating against Israel; leading BDS activities, including co-chairing the steering committee of the leading U.S. BDS group, and more.

It is virtually impossible that Wingard was unaware of,

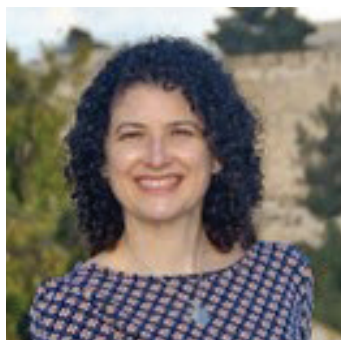
and did not approve of Tides' support for these antisemitic, anti-Israel hate groups and leaders.

I understand that the Temple board never questioned Wingard about his leadership of Tides before offering him Temple's presidency — a shocking lack of due diligence for a major university. The ongoing controversy over Temple's continuing refusal to fire Professor Marc Lamont Hill — who calls for ending Israel's existence and has attempted to justify murdering Jews — should have made the university especially sensitive and careful to avoid giving Temple's presidency to someone likely to magnify the harm Hill has done to the university's students and reputation.

This situation can only be rectified by the leadership of Temple University immediately rescinding the offer to Jason Wingard. •

Morton Klein is president of the Zionist Organization of America, the oldest pro-Israel group in the U.S. Klein, a resident in the Philadelphia area.

## Opening Our Gates



BY RABBI STACY RIGLER

"HERE WE ARE, we've come so far. Look up and down, breathe in, breathe out. Now

we know this place is holy, and now we see that we are holy ... Mah Norah Hamakom Hazeh. How Awesome is this Place."

With these words, Foundation for Jewish Camp's Cornerstone Fellowship 2021 theme song kicked off the summer season, reminding us of what the past 22 months have proven. As Philadelphia songwriter and cornerstone educator Chana Rothman described, there is a profound holiness found within the Jewish summer camp community. This *kedusha* (holiness)

streamed out over Zoom reunions, virtual fundraisers, Instagram stories and news feeds for 22 months. Now here we are, T-shirts printed, clothing labeled, staff trained and the sounds of summer surround us. While there may be masks, hand sanitizer and rapid tests, once again our community is fostering friendships, inspiring creativity, pushing boundaries and cultivating kindness. Though adjustments have been made, and safety scenarios planned out, the core of camp remains.

Our *chanachim* (campers) are bringing in Shabbat, singing *zmirot* (Jewish songs), dancing to Israeli music and cultivating a *sukkat shalom*, a Jewish sheltering presence.

Last year, the FJC Cornerstone song, written by Rabbi Noam Katz was called "Belong." The first chorus states, "You are here, you are whole, you belong." This has always been our mantra — at camp we want to embrace your whole self. Since that song was written, we have learned that we can all do more to foster a

culture of belonging. We know the campers who walk through our gates aren't the same as when they leave us. We know we, as camp professionals, can do more to help our camp staff see beyond the masks they are wearing to nurture their souls. In the past 18 months, our camp community has doubled down on prioritizing the work of learning more about our individual campers in order to serve them better.

FJC has seen increased

See Rigler, Page 22



# For Democrats, it's OK to Agree to Disagree on Israel



BY KAREN ADLER AND ADA HORWICH

**THE TWO OF US** have spent most of our lives working for two causes: Israel and the Democratic Party. For a long time we experienced very little dissonance or disagreement. If you were pro-Israel, you were most likely a Democrat. If you were a Democrat, you were most likely pro-Israel.

While the Democratic Party's 2020 platform is unambiguously pro-Israel, as it has been in years past, there are Democrats who are critical of Israel and want the U.S. government to influence Israel to change its policies. Some of that criticism, such as recent comments by U.S. Rep. Ilhan Omar of Minnesota and other members of "the Squad," has created challenges for the Democratic leadership, who are tasked with keeping the party unified.

There are plenty of reasons for these changing attitudes among Democrats, but there is no doubt about the Democrats' fundamental position on Israel. As U.S. Rep. Jerry Nadler of New York, the dean of Jewish congressional Democrats, wrote recently, "On Israel, there exists a broad, mainstream consensus around a number of core principles."

Republicans see an opportunity to capitalize on controversies about Israel among Democrats. If they can delegitimize criticism of Israel, their thinking goes, they can

skew political giving their way, damage intraparty relationships among Democrats and undermine the broad-based multiracial coalition needed to achieve Democrats' goals — like fighting climate change, addressing income inequality, healing social and racial divides, and restoring America's integrity internationally.

In pursuit of their objectives, some Republicans employ accusations of antisemitism as a political weapon. They paint all Democrats with the same broad brush — from progressives like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez to moderates like Elaine Luria. All the while, they continue to enable true antisemites like those who assaulted Congress waving QAnon flags and wearing sweatshirts glorifying the Holocaust.

The favorite tactic of these Republicans is to manipulate anti-Israel sentiment and conflate criticism of Israeli policies with antisemitism. The challenge for Democrats is to deconflate them and disentangle issues related to Israel from issues related to antisemitism.

To meet this challenge, we must learn to avoid labels. The "pro-Israel" community extends from the left to the right. Harsh criticism of Israel may be difficult to hear; we may not like some of the language used to describe Israeli policies. But that doesn't automatically make it antisemitic. Yitzhak Rabin once said: "I don't think it's possible to contain over the long term — if we don't want to get to apartheid — a million and a half [more] Arabs inside a Jewish state." Would we have called him an antisemite?

We must also learn not to automatically label anti-Zionists as antisemites. Anti-Zionism is not necessarily antisemitic, any more than opposition to a Palestinian state

necessarily derives from hatred of Palestinians. We are Zionists, and we believe in the Jewish people's right to a homeland. At the same time, there are those who oppose Zionism because they hold it writ large responsible for the occupation of and systemic discrimination against Palestinians.

While anti-Zionist views are not *prima facie* antisemitic, they do cross the line if they rely on antisemitic tropes or deny the right to self-determination for Jews alone. And when they cross the line, we must call them out.

We have no patience with antisemitism on the left any more than we do with antisemitism on the right.

We also insist on consistency from both the left and the right. In progressive policy circles, there is a growing focus on equality and human rights in the Israeli-Palestinian arena. This is a good thing, so long as the principle of equality is applied on all levels — from personal rights to national rights. Just as Israelis and Palestinians must have equal human rights, civil rights and civil liberties, so, too, must both Israelis and Palestinians have the right to self-determination.

The two of us continue to devote ourselves to Israel and to the Democratic Party. We do not see the differing and even conflicting views on Israel as liabilities. Indeed, we see them as assets. They afford us opportunities to build relationships across the Democratic political spectrum. And this enhances our ability to help Israel and combat antisemitism. •

Karen Adler is a philanthropist and Democratic activist in New York. Ada Horwich lives in Los Angeles and is on the executive committee of the Jewish Democratic Council of America.

## KVETCH 'N' KVELL

### Book Review Perpetuates Left-Wing Smears

**BOTH THE NOVEL** and its reviewer ("Bibi Netanyahu as Fiction," June 17) perpetuate the leftist smears that former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is two-faced when addressing domestic/foreign audiences, that he is Manichean and that he disdains the galut.

It was former Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat whose *modus operandi* was to lie in English as he fomented an intifada in Arabic; it was Netanyahu who forged a productive relationship with Putin despite his alignment with the Ayatollah, and it was Netanyahu who burnished ties with American Jewry despite persistent sabotage from groups such as the ADL.

As a fellow graduate of Cheltenham High School, I find it reprehensible that omitted from both the book of fiction and its fictionalized review, was any citation of how his political/moral character was impacted both by his father's scholarship at Dropsie College and his brother's death at Entebbe.

Robert B. Sklaroff | Rydal

### Criticism of Israeli Government Not Anti-Israel

Greater Philadelphia ZOA Executive Director Steve Feldman's op-ed ("Don't Wait for War to Defend Israel," June 17) asking us to defend Israel is a perfect example of what Jews and Israel do not need. It is full of innuendo, accusations, generalizations and false statements, while at the same time professing to tell the "abundantly clear" truth and decrying the spread of much disinformation. So, let us not spread more disinformation.

We certainly need to be vigilant and active. Balanced education initiatives concerning Middle East history are needed across the country. This is a long-term process. But, know this: The folks I know can find Israel on the map and fully support its right to exit in peace. Yet they disapprove of what the Israeli and U.S. governments have been doing. Being critical of the actions of your own or other governments does not *a priori* make one anti-anything other than these governments.

As we have learned in the U.S., people are easily driven to hate, mistrust and a belief in falsehoods, to say nothing of violence and brazen damage of person and property. To advocate for Jews to "press" leaders at all government levels for resolutions that blindly support Israel without acknowledging both sides of the historical equation does everyone a disservice. We do not need more of this rhetoric.

But, we do need to acknowledge the need for peace in the Middle East, and the role of Middle East leaders on both sides in making the peace possible. For many decades, now, neither side has been helpful in this mission. •

Frank L. Friedman | Philadelphia

#### STATEMENT FROM THE PUBLISHER

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

## Bridging Community: Danielle Weiss Prepares for Role as JCRC Chair

**DANIELLE WEISS IS NO STRANGER** to leadership positions at the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia. In September, Weiss will begin a new role as chair of the Jewish Federation's Jewish Council Relations Committee, bringing along her wealth of knowledge and experience as a member of the Board of Trustees, board member of Women's Philanthropy, board chair emeritus of NextGen and member of the campaign team.

Weiss hopes to create opportunities and inspire others, particularly those of the next generation, to become leaders.

As for Weiss' own inspiration, the attorney and partner at Haines & Associates looks toward the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg as a role model for her constant pursuit of justice through Jewish values.

"Justice Ginsburg once said, 'Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you,'" reflected Weiss, who is completing her term as the philanthropy co-chair of the Jewish Federations of North America's National Young Leadership Cabinet. "I can think of no words more appropriate to inscribe on my heart as I step into this role, pledging to do just that."

We spoke with Weiss to learn more about her and her vision for JCRC.



▲ Incoming JCRC Chair Danielle Weiss envisions bringing the community together and creating inclusive Jewish spaces.

Courtesy of Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

all Jews, regardless of race, gender identity, sexual orientation or denomination feel welcomed and valued in our Jewish communal spaces.

### How have your many past leadership roles within the Jewish Federation prepared you for your new position with JCRC?

In each of my past leadership positions, I've worked as collaboratively as possible with the extraordinary people who sit on each committee and board. There is so much passion and experience around the table, whether at NextGen, Women's Philanthropy, the Board of Trustees, the campaign team and now at JCRC. I've learned the most simply by watching and listening. But I am unafraid to push for change when I see that innovation is needed to modernize our organization to better achieve our goals.

At the same time, I come to any leadership position, this one included, with the deepest respect for those who came before me. My greatest champions have been my predecessors and my Jewish Federation professional partners. I'm thrilled to work with Laura Frank, Robin Schatz and Jason Holtzman, JCRC's professional team, to advance our shared goals for JCRC during my term.

### As the new chair of JCRC, what do you envision for its future?

It's truly an honor to be stepping into the role of JCRC chair. Now is the time to reinforce our commitment to the core Jewish values of repairing the world, loving the strange and seeking peace.

The JCRC does incredible work to build strong alliances for the Jewish community through our social justice initiatives, public policy advocacy work and engagement with our local, state and federal elected officials. JCRC works tirelessly to bring awareness to those issues that most deeply affect the Jewish community, such as creating access to Holocaust education, Israel advocacy and combating the concerning rise of antisemitism.

Right now, it feels especially important to not only bring awareness to these priorities, but also to serve as a conduit through which our non-Jewish neighbors can deliver information about key initiatives where the Jewish community can be an ally. We are a stronger and safer Jewish community when we both look out for ourselves, as well as support and advance the goals of the broader community.

### What key issues are you most looking forward to working on with the JCRC?

I am most looking forward to working together with organizations outside of the Jewish community to explore ways that we, as Jews, can be better allies. When there is hate or discrimination against anyone in our community, we are all negatively affected. We cannot hope to have the support of our non-Jewish neighbors if we do not open ourselves up to the concerns facing outsiders to the Jewish community. Finding common ground is the first step to battling bigotry in all of its forms, including antisemitism.

I also look forward to working on initiatives that will advance inclusion within the Jewish community. We can, and must, do more to make sure that

### What is the most impactful advice that the current JCRC Chair, Arlene Fickler, shared with you?

Arlene Fickler has been a tremendous resource to me as I transition into this role. She reminds me that JCRC, like the Jewish Federation, is part of a national network and to look critically at the priority areas announced each year as a guide for the issues most important to Jews in North America, but not to be afraid to make sure that our local agenda meets our local needs. She has also stressed the benefits of standing together with other communities, particularly the JCRCs across Pennsylvania, to ensure our legislators understand the power of our collective Jewish community voice.

### Why do you give to the Jewish Federation?

I give to the Jewish Federation because I trust that my philanthropic dollars will be put to the best use to support a thriving Jewish community locally and around the world. Whether supporting Jewish institutions like synagogues and schools, providing security, addressing food insecurity, ensuring access to affordable housing for struggling families or caring for our seniors, the Jewish Federation makes sure every dollar is spent with purpose and intention. It's not only my responsibility, but also my honor to do my part to give back to the community that has given me so much.

### Have you picked up any new skills during the pandemic?

Like many people, I became somewhat of an amateur set designer/movie director while living my life on Zoom! I tried to find the best ways to get good angles and light, while hiding the laundry drying on the rack or the clutter on my desk.

For more information about JCRC and to get involved, email JCRC Director Laura Frank at [lfrank@jewishphilly.org](mailto:lfrank@jewishphilly.org).



# Teach a Sister-in-Law to (Cook) Fish ...

FOOD

KERI WHITE | JE FOOD COLUMN

**MY SISTER-IN-LAW** Esther, she of the halibut with asparagus and green olives recipe previously featured in this column, talks fish with me.

When we visited last month, I shared with her my “insulating” technique, in which you sauté some veggies or aromatics, then coat the fish with the mixture and bake it at 275 degrees F for about 25 minutes. She has taken this approach to new levels and has generously shared her creations with me. In turn, I’ll share them with you.

Ever-vigilant about her health, Esther makes an effort to integrate a variety of healthy ingredients into these recipes, which is reflected in the vegetable mixtures she uses to coat the fish.

She also rounds out the meals with healthy whole grains. These sides may include quinoa, barley and brown rice. To add some interest and depth to these otherwise fairly plain-Jane grains, simmer them in vegetable broth, and garnish them with a handful of chopped fresh herbs. Mint, parsley, basil or dill all add a wonderful burst of summer-y freshness to these grains, and the effort from the cook to accomplish this is next to nothing.

Bonus points if you’ve grown the herbs in your own garden or in a pot on your windowsill.

**ESTHER’S INSULATED COD**  
Serves 4

The jarred sun-dried tomato pesto called for here adds a wonderful depth of flavor, but you can substitute as indicated below if you don’t have any on hand. And if you don’t have any of the substitutes suggested, just use another small plum tomato in the vegetable saute step.

- 4 cod filets, about 1½ pounds
- ½ lemon
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 zucchini, sliced
- ½ cup sliced mushrooms
- 1 plum tomato, diced
- 1 cup canned chickpeas, drained
- 2 tablespoons sun-dried tomato pesto, chopped
- sun-dried tomatoes with oil or tomato paste
- Salt and pepper

Spritz the fish with lemon juice and sprinkle it with salt and pepper; set it aside.

Heat your oven to 275 degrees F.

In a large, ovenproof skillet, heat the oil over medium, add some salt and pepper, and sauté the zucchini, mushrooms and tomatoes until softened, about 5 minutes. Add the pesto or tomato paste and chickpeas; stir to distribute evenly. Remove them from the heat.

Scrape the vegetable mixture to the perimeter of the pan, and place the cod filets in the center. Spoon the vegetable mixture over the fish to coat it and bake it in the oven for 25 minutes, or until the fish is opaque throughout. Serve immediately.

**ESTHER’S INSULATED SALMON**  
Serves 4

As with all of these recipes, any fish can be used; ditto the veggies. Esther used “zoodles” (zucchini noodles), but you can use a grater or simply chop up the squash. Yellow summer squash also would be nice in this dish. The yellow peppers add a nice visual complement to the green zucchini, but green or red can be substituted here.

- 4 salmon filets, about 1½ pounds



▲ Insulated cod

- Juice of ½ lemon
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 cup zucchini ribbons
- 1 yellow pepper, sliced into ribbons
- Salt and pepper to taste

Heat your oven to 275 degrees F.

Spritz the salmon with lemon juice and sprinkle it with salt and pepper. Set it aside.

Heat the oil over medium in an ovenproof skillet and sauté the onion until fragrant, about 2 minutes. Add the zucchini and peppers and continue cooking until all the vegetables are softened, about 6 minutes more. Add the salt and pepper to taste. Remove it from the heat.

Spread the vegetable mixture to the perimeter of



▲ Salmon and peppers

Photos by Keri White

the pan and place the fish, skin side down, in the center of the pan. Spoon the vegetable mixture over the fish and bake it in the oven for about 25 minutes until done, when the fish is opaque throughout. Serve immediately. •



# ‘Asia’: A Study in Loneliness, Understanding

## FILM

ANDY GOTLIEB | JE MANAGING EDITOR

**THE MAIN CHARACTERS** in “Asia” share a couple things — loneliness, feeling out of place — without sharing anything at all.

That’s a small premise, but in the well-acted award-winning Israeli film written and directed by Ruthy Pribar, it more than carries this brief window into the lives of the title character (Alena Yiv) and Vika (Shira Haas, coming off her breakthrough performance in “Unorthodox,” and of “Shtisel” fame).

And while a film that explores a dysfunctional mother-daughter relationship, terminal disease and sexual frustration isn’t exactly light and cheery, the gradual bond and understanding they forge is ultimately uplifting. This is no tearjerker, although the final scene may leave your eyes a bit wet.

Asia is a 35-year-old Russian expat single mother working long hours as a nurse, while 17-year-old Vika does what many teens with too much free time and too little supervision do. In her case, she hangs out with a skater crowd, succumbing to peer pressure, smoking pot, drinking and thinking about or fighting off the advances of teen boys.

That doesn’t sit well with Asia, but she’s not avoiding temptation either, as she has an affair with one of the doctors at the hospital and visits bars — when she claims to be working

— to find one-night stands.

Neither’s happy, and money’s tight. Their relationship is a tense one, although not atypical for many parents and teens.

But Vika also is dealing with a never-named degenerative disease that seems to be progressing rapidly. When she mixes her medication with alcohol, she winds up in the emergency room.

While Vika is tired of hearing her mother’s admonishments, she soon realizes that she’s going to become dependent on her mother for help and lets her mother in a bit. In turn, Asia loosens up as well.

For example, there’s a scene where Vika, now using a wheelchair, asks her mother for a cigarette. After initial consternation, Asia relents and they bond over a smoke. Not exactly “ABC Afterschool Special” material, but effective nonetheless.

Vika, who is shown earlier devastated by the cruel words of a fellow teen she rejected, confides that she doesn’t want to die a virgin. They have a heart-to-heart about men, with Asia saying Vika was the only thing she ever got from a man that was worthwhile.

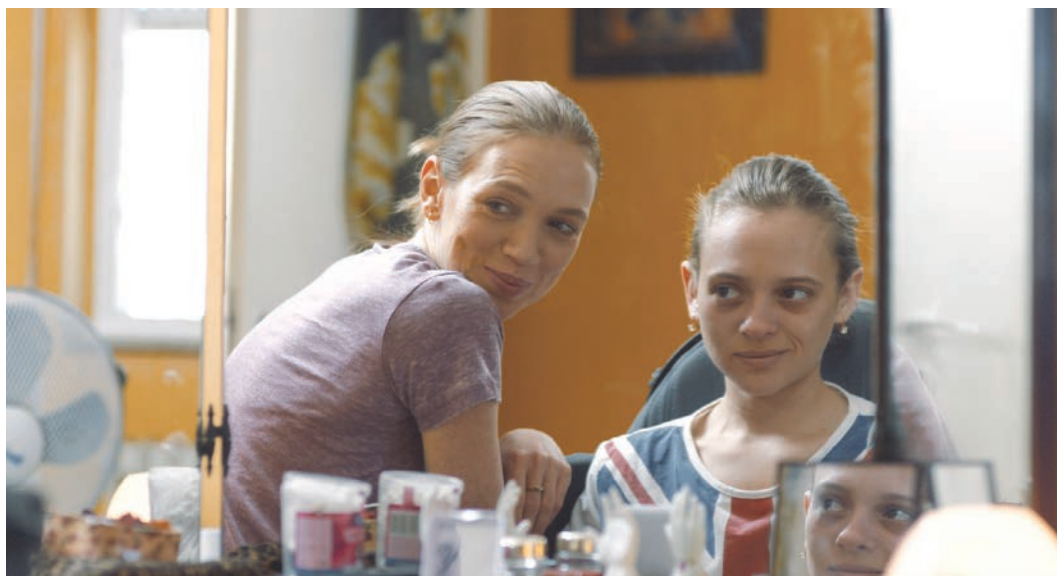
Asia hints to Gabi (Tamir Mula), a male nurse trainee who’s assisting with Vika’s care, about her daughter’s wishes. That morally compromises Gabi, who has bonded with Vika.

And even as the bonds develop, they remain tenuous. Vika consents to have her mother apply makeup, but after



▲ From left: Asia (Alena Yiv) and Vika (Shira Haas) share a small space, but little else.

Courtesy of Menemsha Films



▲ From left: Asia and Vika enjoy a brief moment at the makeup table.

initial acceptance, demands that Asia remove it.

At just 85 minutes, “Asia” moves its story along rapidly, wasting little time on subplots or extraneous material, and culminating with a heart-breaking final act.

Shot in muted colors with a spare piano background, “Asia,” which won nine Ophir Awards in Israel (including Best Film, Actress and Supporting Actress), as well as three awards at the 2020 Tribeca Film Festival, deserves its honors. In

an era of bloated storytelling that features an overreliance on flashbacks, flash-forwards, dream sequences, CGI and other devices, “Asia” focuses on character development.

Granted, it doesn’t hurt that Yiv shines as Asia — her world-weary demeanor comes across as perfect.

And Haas may be even better, never taking her character in a schmaltzy direction. She captures the spirit of a disenfranchised teen, while adding the complexity of dealing with

a debilitating illness; that said, after such dour roles in “Asia” and “Unorthodox,” it would be nice to see her in a lighter part.

Yiv and Haas, who really look like they could be mother and daughter, play off each other well. They never feel like they’re acting — reason enough to make “Asia” worth your while.

“Asia” is playing at the Philadelphia Film Society Bourse Theater in Center City. •

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# The Sum of Us, Not Just Some of Us

CANDLE LIGHTING

July 2  
July 9

8:15 p.m.  
8:13 p.m.

BY RABBI RON SYMONS

## Parshat Pinchas

**PERHAPS YOU** remember the 2020 census. I know, it seems like it was so long ago.

The arguments about citizenship questions and deadlines, enumerators and computer forms, congressional districts and federal funding — it seems like a lifetime ago because of COVID, and yet the results will guide us for the next 10 years ... until we get to census 2030 as mandated by the Constitution.

In this week's Torah portion, Pinchas, we again turn our attention to a census of ancient Israel. This is the fifth of 10 censuses the people of Israel have and will take in the ancient world:

On 10 occasions were Israel counted:

- Once when they went down to Egypt [Genesis 46:27].
- A second time when they came out [Exodus 12:37].
- A third time after the incident of the Golden Calf [Exodus 30:12].
- Twice in the Book of Numbers:

- o Once in connection with the formation of the camps [Numbers 1].

- o and once in connection with the division of the land [Numbers 26].

- Twice in the days of Saul [1Samuel 11:8, 15:4].
- The eighth time in the days of David [2Samuel 24:9].
- The ninth time in the days of Ezra [Ezra 2:64; Nehemiah 7:66].
- The tenth time will be in the future era of the Messiah, when, [as Jeremiah said:] The sheep shall pass again under the hands of one who counts them [said the Eternal]. [Jeremiah 33:13].

We know that there are practical reasons for all this counting. Knowing how many people live in our community both today and in the ancient world affords us the data we need to feed and care for the most vulnerable, to assure the rights and responsibilities of community, and to prepare for a future of abundance for the sum of us rather than just for some of us.

According to Rabbi Lord

Jonathan Sacks, z'l, all of this is important from a human perspective. While we need to know all of that, there is another reason, he argues in "What Counts," why counting must happen from a spiritual perspective:

*A Divine census is utterly different [than a human census]. It has nothing to do with strength-in-numbers. It has to do, instead, with conveying to every member of the nation that he or she counts; that every person, family, household is held precious by God; that distinctions between great and small, ruler and ruled, leader and led, are irrelevant; that we are each God's image and the object of His love. A Divine census is, as Rashi says, a gesture of endearment. That is why it cannot be described by the usual verbs of counting — limnot, lifkod, lispor, lachshov. Only the phrase naso/se'u et rosh, "lift the head," does justice to this kind of enumeration, in which those entrusted with the task are commanded to "lift the head" of those they count, making every individual stand tall in the knowledge that*

*they are loved, cherished, held special by God, and not merely a number, a cipher, among the thousands and millions.*

The work of the Divine census must continue long after census 2020 and long before census 2030. We, not God, must continue the work with the same intentionality we applied to census 2020.

In her most recent book, "The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together," Heather McGhee proves chapter after chapter how the impact of racism costs all of us, not just those who are the object of racism.

While she proposes the "solidarity dividend," I suggested to her that we can nuance the phrase to be the "solidarity redemption." You see, when the Hebrew slaves left Egypt some 3,000 years ago, we did not leave by ourselves. Without checking off a box on a form to see what race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual identity, country of origin they were, a mixed multitude of people were a part of our "we."

All of us, the sum of us made it through the plagues, got to the water's edge, were confronted by Pharaoh, marched through the mud, helped each other as we fell and rose together, and finally the sum of us, all of us, danced on the other shore of the sea as we continued our journeys through all the challenges of living together in community.

We will state it because it will be true as a result of our shared efforts to help "... every individual stand tall in the knowledge that they are loved, cherished, held special by God, and not merely a number, a cipher, among the thousands and millions."

It will be true because even though humans count humans, we will lift up every head so that we see our neighbors as "neighbors qua moral concept" and not just numbers. It is all about the sum of us, not just some of us. •

Rabbi Ron Symons is the senior director of Jewish life at the JCC of Greater Pittsburgh, where he is the founding director of the Center for Loving Kindness.

## Cohen

Continued from Page 5

settled in the United States.

"That opened my eyes up to the wider world," Lisa Cohen said.

Kalisch noted that Cohen was an activist in speaking out against the Vietnam War and was open to both interfaith and LGBTQ inclusion ahead of his time, as well as civil rights. As a rabbinical student in the 1950s, he organized protests of a Woolworth's lunch counter in Cincinnati, Kalisch said.

Cohen's interest in civil rights made Beth David's decision to relocate to

Gladwyne in the mid-1980s troubling for him, Kalisch said. She said he likely was the last congregant still living in Wynnefield.

Cohen also was prolific as an author. His works included a biography of his grandfather and "Charley Braunstein and Jewish Tradition," a take-off on Charles Schulz's "Peanuts" characters.

While serious about social justice and Judaism, Cohen displayed a softer side to the congregation with his "Charley Braunstein" stories and silly

songs tied to holidays and Jewish tradition, and to his family with lesser-known passions, Lisa Cohen said.

"My dad was an avid sports fan," she said, adding that they used to play baseball in the backyard, and his attempt to ride a skateboard resulted in a broken ankle. "He prayed for the Phillies."

When it came time for his developmentally disabled daughter, Shelley, to have her bat mitzvah, Cohen wasn't deterred.

"He said, 'We're going to do something that works for her,'"

Lisa Cohen said, also remembering the time he performed a funeral service for a neighbor girl's hamster.

After retiring in 1993, Cohen was active in various groups and a strong supporter of Ben-Gurion University, but an early diagnosis of dementia eventually limited him, Lisa Cohen said.

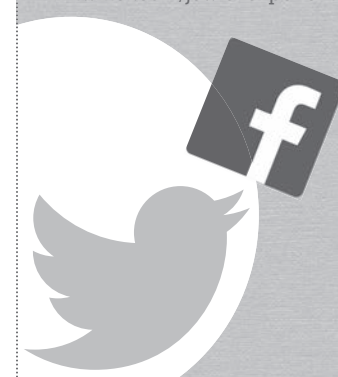
Cohen is survived by his daughters, Shelley and Lisa, and a granddaughter. •

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## ANNIVERSARY

### ▼ SANDLER

Murray and Violet (née Nemez) Sandler of Wynnewood joined a select club on July 1 as they celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. According to U.S. Census Bureau statistics, less than 0.1% of married couples reach their 70th anniversary.

The Sandler were married on July 1, 1951 in Philadelphia. They marked the occasion with a celebratory family dinner at the Capital Grille in Center City. Sharing their joy are their children Rob and Pat, Ken, Jon and Stacey, and grandsons Jeffrey and Lee.

Photo by Rob Sandler



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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Stockton U. to Discuss SJ Chicken Farms

**STOCKTON UNIVERSITY FACULTY** and staff will discuss the history of South Jersey chicken farms started by Holocaust survivors as part of its educational summer lecture series hosted by the Shirat Hayam synagogue, 700 N. Swarthmore Ave. in Ventnor, New Jersey.

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will be held at 7 p.m. on July 9, prior to Shabbat services. Question-and-answer sessions will follow.

Gail Rosenthal, executive director of the Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Center at Stockton, will speak about the research and upcoming fall exhibit on the history of Jewish survivors of the Holocaust after World War II who lived in Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties. The exhibition will highlight six families who settled on chicken farms.

On July 16, the series will discuss the history of Stockton, while the Aug. 13 installment will feature Stockton Professor Beverly Vaughn and Stockton Oratorio Society members, who will share the historical impact of Black music on gospel and popular music.

Members of the public interested in participating through Zoom can contact Cantor Jacqueline Menaker at [Cantor.Jacki@shirathayamnj.org](mailto:Cantor.Jacki@shirathayamnj.org) for the link.

### Jewish Organizations Call on Pennsylvania Legislators to Increase Security Funding

Jewish schools, synagogues, camps and community institutions spent recent days urging Pennsylvania lawmakers to protect at-risk populations. The campaign, conducted while state budget negotiations were underway, was coordinated by Teach PA, a



▲ Arielle Frankston-Morris

Courtesy of Teach PA

project of the Orthodox Union.

The two security grant programs they advocated for increased funding toward are the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Safe Schools Targeted Grant Program and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency's Nonprofit Security Grant Fund.

Teach PA aimed to increase the Safe Schools Targeted Grant Program to \$5 million for nonpublic schools, and the Nonprofit Security Grant Fund to \$10 million.

"When our community becomes our own activists and advocates, our legislators can't avoid listening to us and, in this case, investing in our safety and that of our children," Teach PA Executive Director Arielle Frankston-Morris said. "We thank Gov. [Tom] Wolf and our legislators for creating these programs, but with the increase in hate crimes we are seeing across the country, specifically attacks against Jews, we are urging them to increase the security funding in a meaningful way so that more institutions will have access to these critical funds."

### Former Mossad Agent to Speak About Adolf Eichmann's Capture, Trial

Lt. Col. Avner Avraham will discuss the capture and trial of Nazi leader Adolf Eichmann at 6:30 p.m. on July 6 at Congregation Mikveh Israel, 44 N. Fourth St. in Philadelphia.

Eichmann facilitated and managed the logistics involved in the mass deportation of Jews to ghettos and concentration camps during World War II. He was captured by the Mossad in Argentina in 1960, found guilty of war crimes and executed by hanging in Jerusalem in 1962.

Avraham is a film producer and curator, as well as the senior adviser on the film "Operation Finale."

Admission is free and open to the public, although a donation of \$10 is sought.

For further information or to RSVP, call the synagogue office at 215-922-5446 or email [info@mikvehisrael.org](mailto:info@mikvehisrael.org).

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb



DEATH NOTICES

BERLIN

Jeffrey B. Berlin PhD, passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, June 24, 2021 surrounded by his family. He will always be known as a beloved husband, father, and Opa, as well as an internationally-acclaimed scholar and educator, whose courage and persistence in the face of an ongoing debilitating disease made him an inspiration to all who knew him. The writer and editor of hundreds of journal articles and 10 scholarly books translated into multiple languages, Dr. Berlin was a sought-after authority on Exile literature whose access and insight into the correspondence of German-Jewish authors of the time portrayed, among other important themes, the struggles and determination of those living under, escaping from, and daring to speak out against the Nazi regime. His piercing intellectual curiosity, combined with a delightful, if somewhat off-beat sense of humor, made him engaging company to family, friends, and colleagues from many nations. He was greatly loved and will be dearly missed by Anne, his wife of 48 years, his children Sam (Tara) Berlin and Rachel (Michael) Moir, grandchildren Fiona and Reilly Berlin, brother Michael, granddog Luna, and a host of loving family members and friends around the world. Contributions in his memory can be made to the ADL at [www.adl.org](http://www.adl.org)

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RAPHAEL-SACKS  
[www.goldsteinsfuneral.com](http://www.goldsteinsfuneral.com)

COHEN

Rabbi Henry Cohen, Rabbi Emeritus at Beth David Reform Congregation, passed away on June 18, 2021. Beloved husband of the late Edna (nee Goldzweig). Loving father of Shelley and Lisa Cohen. Adoring grandfather of Tali Phillips. Rabbi Cohen served Beth David from 1964, where he remained until becoming Rabbi Emeritus in 1993. Rabbi Cohen was born in Houston, Texas, into a family of Reform rabbis. He was ordained at the Hebrew Union College in 1953 and later served as an army chaplain. He was chairman of the Jewish Coalition for Peace, campaigned for the release of Soviet Jewry and helped form the Interfaith Hospitality of the Main Line. He authored several books, including *Why Judaism?*, *What's Special About Judaism?* and a biography of his grandfather, *Kindler of Souls: Rabbi Henry Cohen of Texas*. Rabbi Cohen was a leader whose dedication to social justice and progressive values, commitment to community engagement and passion for learning inspired many. Contributions in his memory may be made to Beth David Reform Cong., [www.bdavid.org](http://www.bdavid.org), or to Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line, [www.ihncares.org](http://www.ihncares.org).

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EVANS

Carole S. Evans, June 14, 2021, of Upper Gwynedd, PA; beloved mother of Eric Evans (Faigel Evans) & Sarah Gilbert (David Gilbert); cherished by 6 grandchildren. Contributions in Carole's memory may be made to Chabad of Abington ([www.JewishAbington.com](http://www.JewishAbington.com)), Chabad Lubavitch Jewish Center, 515 Meetinghouse Rd, Rydal PA 19046.

**A Community Remembers**

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DEATH NOTICES

FISHBEIN

Bennett Fishbein, 84, of Audubon, Pennsylvania, died June 22, just one week after celebrating his 62nd anniversary with his beloved wife, Sylvia (nee Levinson). Family was everything to Bennett. He raised two children, Naomi Fishbein Reses (Stephen Reses) and Joel Fishbein (Rachel Ezekiel-Fishbein). His six grandchildren were his greatest pride: Dana, Matt and Andrew Reses, and Danny, Adam and Emma Fishbein. He was the son of David and Dorothy Fishbein, and the brother of Shifra Davidoff (Sydney), all of blessed memory. Bennett and Sylvia traveled extensively around the world, collecting stories and new friends. He was well known to all of his grandchildren's friends and teammates, as he never missed one of their sporting events, performances or honors. He was happiest when the entire family was together for shabbat dinner or a meal out. A butcher by trade, Bennett owned two bars during his life and was known as a fair and kind employer. Bennett was a long-time member of Beth Tikvah B'nai Jeshurun, which honored him with its BTBJ 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award for his life time of dedication to the synagogue. Bennett was born in Northern Liberties, raised his children in Mt. Airy and Oreland, and resided in Plymouth Meeting, before moving to Shannondell in Audubon two years ago. Donations in Bennett's memory may be made to Beth Tikvah B'nai Jeshurun or Pennsylvania Tourette Syndrome Alliance.

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GLASSBERG

Eve Glassberg, age 102, of Elkins Park, PA, died peacefully at home on June 20, 2021, widow of Albert L. Glassberg; mother of Harriet Weiss (Larry), Barbara Glassberg, dec'd and Joy Weissman (Dick, dec'd); grandmother of Mark Weiss, Fern Bianchi (Marc), and Lauren Chesnick (David) and 5 great-grandchildren: Phillip (Lauren), Ben, Kimberly, Ali, and Sarah. Family was everything to her. Contributions in her memory may be made to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, University of the Arts or a charity of your choice.

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KAUFMAN

Bernard L. Kaufman, June 18, 2021, of Dresher, PA; beloved husband of Suzi (nee Golluber); loving father of David Kaufman (Li Ping Zhong), Stephen Kaufman (Rosely) and Dr. Rachel Kaufman (Nathan Novemsky); he was also cherished by his 5 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Bernie served his country as an Army photographer and was a Phila. Public School Guidance Counselor. Contributions in Bernie's memory may be made to Hadassah or a charity of the donor's choice.

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KOSMAN

Aryeh Kosman, June 17, 2021 of Haverford, PA. Beloved husband of Deborah Roberts; loving father of Joshua Kosman (Nan Wiener), Isaac Kosman (Catherine Poisson), Jacob Kosman (Julie Urvater), and Hannah Kosman; adoring grandfather of Naomi, Natania, Noah, and Celia; devoted both of Sanford Kosman (Karen Danielson) and Michael Kosman (Tomoko Sano); also survived by his former wife Tracy Kosman. Services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to Bryn Mawr Hospital Foundation, New Israel Fund, or the American Civil Liberties Union.

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DEATH NOTICES

OSTROFF

Marilyn Rose Ostroff on June 8, 2021. Sister of Paul (Joan) Ostroff. Aunt of Andrew (Stephanie) Ostroff. Contributions in her memory may be made to JCHAI, 274 S Bryn Mawr Ave, Bryn Mawr PA 19010, [www.jchai.org](http://www.jchai.org)

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SCHWARTZ

Jane C. Schwartz (nee Cohen) of Media and formerly of Jenkintown, passed away on June 18, 2021 at the age of 97. She was predeceased by her husband Howard I. Schwartz and is survived by her children Chuck (Susan) Schwartz and Carey (Robert) Roseman; 5 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Donations in her memory can be made to Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel Sharing is Caring Fund, 8339 Old York Rd., Elkins Park, PA 19027 or The Migraire Research Foundation, 300 E. 75th St., #3K, New York, NY 10021.

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STEYER

Herbert M. Steyer on June 20, 2021 at the age of 94. Husband of the late Maxine (nee Burns). Father of Linda Steyer, Susan Lewis and Charles (Ossie) Steyer; Grandfather of Ben (Sarit), Matan (Aaron) and Lior; Great-grandfather to Itai and Omer. He will be missed by all who knew him. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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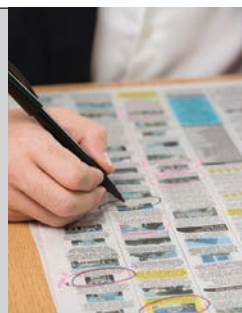
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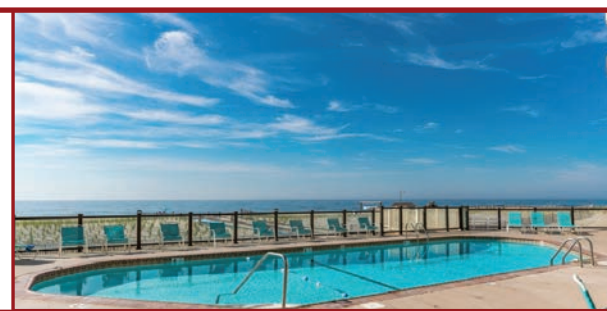
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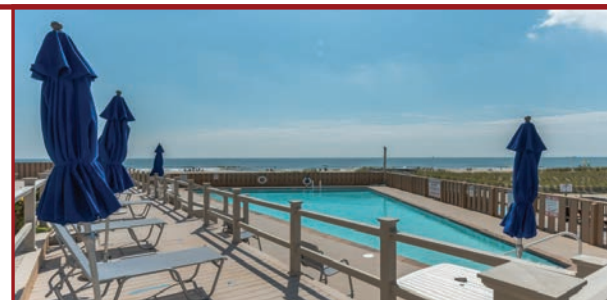
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## OPINION

### Rigler

Continued from Page 12

interest in our Yashar Initiative and counselor internship to support campers with disabilities, recruitment efforts around our Russian-speaking Jewish community and recently a partnership with Keshet to help camps create LGBTQ+ affirming spaces. In the past year camping movements — like URJ, Ramah and the Association of Independent Jewish Camps — have all provided racial equity trainings for their camp leadership teams, and FJC has funded two camp innovation projects on racial equity, expanded the New York-area DEI Coaching Project for Day Camps and committed to more research about the experience of Jews of color in our field. Amid the COVID-19 protocols, the arrival procedures and the cleaning supplies, camp leadership has continued to prioritize the people that we serve first, treating their physical and emotional safety with equal importance and listening more to the intersectionality in our community.

As camps open, there is much to celebrate — both as a broader Jewish community and with the unique identities that our campers bring. We are not only celebrating campers arriving at camp, we are celebrating who they are and how they are showing up. This month, as camps open their gates, some may feature Pride celebrations. Raising the Pride flag is now a ritualized part of opening camp in June. Our camps are amplifying LGBTQ+ voices and sharing in Pride Shabbat. Pride month reminds us that being allies and leaders means more than community education and policy change; it means standing together in celebration. As Noam wrote in his song, “Ain’t no one like you or me, but for us the world was created and we, we belong.”

The past 18 months also gave us time to reflect on who our communities are, and to recreate rituals, to ensure our camp community celebrations are inclusive of multiple ethnic and cultural identities. The opportunity to celebrate the fact that our Jewish community is not a monolith, to see and honor our diversity and resilience, to share

stories and build relationships was a focus of planning for summer 2021. As Juneteenth was declared a national holiday, we heard stories of Juneteenth Shabbat, personal stories shared in camp communities and new traditions formed. We honor those individuals who are creating culture change.

Last year at this time, we lifted up the heroes of Jewish day camps that opened and kept the heartbeat of our Jewish community flowing. We mourned the inability to gather and create community in the ways we had known for summers before. Though we were not together, our Cornerstone song reminded us that “near or far, camp was the place where we all could be strong and belong.”

Now, I write this reflection from the grounds of URJ Camp Harlam in Kunkletown, where hundreds of campers were welcomed home this week. As a member of the FJC team, I know the challenges that the larger camp community faced this past year were immense. I also know that despite those challenges, camp leadership continued to be laser-focused on the campers they served, and the staff they employ. They asked hard questions about how they could strive to make changes to open their gates as wide as possible.

Looking around the *chader ochel* (dining hall), it’s almost unbelievable to think about the preparations made to ensure that every child is celebrated for being their most authentic and best self. These are the stories never told, the work that makes the magic possible. I can’t help but sing the closing words to the Cornerstone 2021 song: “This time, this place, hard things, we face. This home, we’ve known, these seeds we’ve sown. ... “Mah Norah HaMakom Hazeh — How Awesome is this place. I’ll meet you there.” •

Rabbi Stacy Rigler is the senior program manager of Jewish Education at Foundation for Jewish Camp and Jewish life adviser and camp council member of URJ Camp Harlam. She previously served as a rabbi educator at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park.



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COMMUNITYCALENDAR

▼ FRIDAY, JULY 2

Parsha for Life

Join Rabbi Alexander Coleman, Jewish educator and psychotherapist at the **Institute for Jewish Ethics**, at 9 a.m. for a weekly journey through the Torah portion of the week with eternal lessons on personal growth and spirituality. Go to [ijethics.org/weekly-torah-portion.html](http://ijethics.org/weekly-torah-portion.html) to receive the Zoom link and password.

▼ SATURDAY, JULY 3

In-person Services

**Congregations of Shaare Shamayim**, 9768 Verree Road in Philadelphia, is returning to its building for regular Shabbat services beginning July 3. Our traditional service begins at 9 a.m. and our egalitarian service starts at 9:30 a.m. The egalitarian service will also continue to be broadcast on Zoom and LiveStream. Reservations must be made in advance and masks must be worn while in the building. To make a reservation, or for further information on membership or services, call the office at 215-677-1600

▼ MONDAY, JULY 5

Entebbe Celebration

Join **Congregation Mikveh Israel**, 44 N. Fourth St. in Philadelphia in celebration of the 45th anniversary of the Miracle at Entebbe and the heroism of Lt. Col. Yoni Netanyahu.

The seminar, beginning at 11 a.m., will feature a video address by Yoni's brother, former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu; a seminar including Ambassador Ido Aharoni, Consul General of Israel to the New York Consulate; and performer Neshama Carlebach. Outdoor ceremony begins at 2 p.m. Call 215-922-5446 or [info@mikvehisrael.org](mailto:info@mikvehisrael.org) for details.

▼ TUESDAY, JULY 6

Trial of Eichmann

**Congregation Mikveh Israel**, 44 N. Fourth St. in Philadelphia welcomes Lt. Col. Avner Avraham, former Mossad agent, at 6:30 p.m. for a live program entitled "Operation Finale: the Capture and Trial of Eichmann." It will include lecture and visual aids followed by questions from the audience. Donation of \$10 requested. For further information or to RSVP, call the synagogue office at 215-922-5446 or email [info@mikvehisrael.org](mailto:info@mikvehisrael.org).

▼ THURSDAY, JULY 8

Bend the Arc

Join **Bend the Arc** for an evening of focused movement-building in South Jersey. Learn more about the Moral Minyan, ideas for action and start thinking about your role in the movement. Meetings are the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m.; register by the Tuesday before. Sign up for email alerts at [bendthearc.us/southjersey\\_signup](http://bendthearc.us/southjersey_signup). ●

NEWSMAKERS

Service club Avoda awarded \$100,000 in total to six Jewish high school graduating seniors from Atlantic and Cape May counties on June 16. The club was founded in 1928 and has made contributions to graduating seniors every year since except for 1943.



▲ From left: Eliana Dente of Linwood from Mainland Regional High School (\$35,000), who will attend American University; David Lilienfeld of Margate from Atlantic County Institute of Technology (\$5,000), Cornell University; Samuel Epstein of Northfield from Mainland Regional (\$20,000), Rutgers University; Avoda President Shy Kramer; Abigail Epstein of Northfield from Mainland Regional (\$20,000), University of Florida; Rachel Lischin of Northfield from Mainland Regional (\$10,000), Lehigh University; and Madeline Kent of Linwood from Mainland Regional (\$10,000), James Madison University  
Photo by Janet Kramer

Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties announced that Chief Operating Officer Richard Gitlen will reduce his work to a part-time basis and become the senior director of administration, while Ann Thoresen will assume the COO position. She most recently served as senior director of community support services and safety.



▲ Ann Thoresen



▲ Richard Gitlin  
Courtesy of Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties

### WHAT'S GOING ON in Jewish Philadelphia?

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

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

**JEWISH EXPONENT**

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



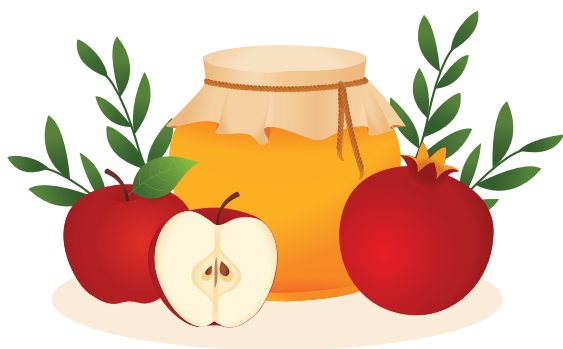
# Wish Your Friends & Family A HAPPY NEW YEAR in the Jewish Exponent

Be a part of our September 9<sup>th</sup> holiday edition.

DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>

**A**  
\$95

## Shana Tova



**MAY THE NEW YEAR  
BE EVER JOYOUS  
FOR YOU AND  
YOUR FAMILY**

YOUR NAME

**B**  
\$75

*May you be inscribed  
in the Book of Life  
for a happy and  
healthy year.*

YOUR NAME

**D**  
\$45

## Shana Tova

Greetings  
and best  
wishes for  
a Happy  
New Year.

YOUR NAME

**C**  
\$45



## L'Shana Tova Tikatevu

YOUR NAME

**E1**  
\$30



May this be a  
year of peace  
for all.

YOUR NAME

**E2**  
\$30

We wish everyone  
in the Jewish  
community a very  
Happy & Healthy  
New Year.

YOUR NAME



– Personal Greetings Only –

**PLEASE RUN MY GREETING IN YOUR HOLIDAY ISSUE.**

I WOULD LIKE AD (circle one here) **A, B, C, D, E1, E2.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

The name(s) on the message should read: \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (All greetings must be paid for in advance.)

OR email your information and credit card number to: [classified@jewishexponent.com](mailto:classified@jewishexponent.com).

MAIL TO: **JEWISH EXPONENT CLASSIFIED DEPT., 2100 ARCH ST., 4TH FLOOR, PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19103**

If you have any questions, contact the Jewish Exponent at 215.832.0749 or [classified@jewishexponent.com](mailto:classified@jewishexponent.com).