PHILADELPHIA JULY 28, 2022 J 29 TAMUZ 5782 DULY 28, 2022 J 29 TAMUZ 5782 DULY 28, 2022 J 29 TAMUZ 5782

Main Line Reform Temple

# Rahi Gerry Levinge Assumes a senior role

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Publisher & Chief Executive Officer **Craig Burke** 

cburke@midatlanticmedia.com

Associate Publisher Jeni Mann Tough jmann@midatlanticmedia.com

# **EDITORIAL**

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

Staff Writers Jesse Berman, Jillian Diamond, Sasha Rogelberg, Heather Ross, Jarrad Saffren



# **ADVERTISING**

Account Executives Alan Gurwitz, Pam Kuperschmidt, Jodi Lipson, Taylor Orlin, David Pintzow, Sara Priebe, Mary Ramsdale, Sharon Schmuckler, Kim Coates Schofield, Shari Seitz, Sylvia Witaschek

# MARKETING

Audience Development Coordinator Julia Olaquer 410-902-2308 jolaguer@midatlanticmedia.com

# CREATIVE

Art Director | Steve Burke

Graphic Designers | Ebony Brown, Rachel Levitan, Jay Sevidal, Frank Wagner, Carl Weigel

Digital Media Coordinator James Meskunas

# BUSINESS

Accounting Manager Pattie-Ann Lamp 410-902-2311 plamp@midatlanticmedia.com accounting@midatlanticmedia.com

Senior Accounts Receivable Specialist **Shelly Sparks** 

ssparks@midatlanticmedia.com

Accounts Receivable Specialist Sarah Appelbaum sappelbaum@midatlanticmedia.com

Legal Notices legals@jewishexponent.com

## Main Office: 215-832-0700

editor@jewishexponent.com

215-832-0797 circulation@jewishexponent.com 215-832-0700, ext. 1

sales@jewishexponent.com 215-832-0700, ext. 2

classified@jewishexponent.com 215-832-0749

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JCC Maccabi Games return, offer a chance for a "reset."



6 When is it appropriate to say "never forget"?



18 Golden Slipper campers slip back into a once-familiar bubble.

# Weekly Kibbitz

# Joc Pederson to Play for Team Israel in the 2023 World Baseball Classic

The San Francisco Giants All-Star outfielder Joc Pederson will officially rejoin Team Israel for the 2023 World Baseball Classic.

Team Israel's new manager, former major league All-Star Ian Kinsler, confirmed the news.

At a press conference in Israel, Kinsler added that Pederson will help with player recruitment.

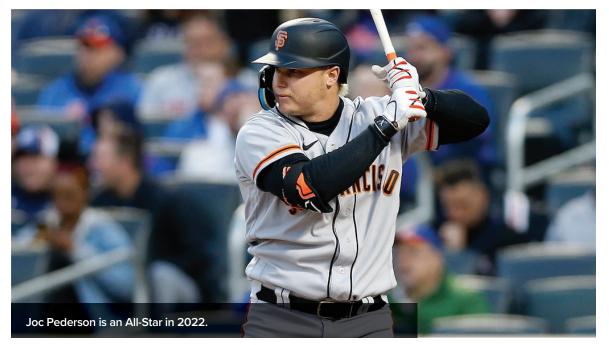
"We have been in contact with all of the available players, and Joc is going to talk to them as well," Kinsler said, according to The Jerusalem Post.

Any player who is eligible for Israeli citizenship is allowed to participate. In past years, the team has been composed mostly of American Jewish ballplayers and a handful of Israelis.

That means players such as Atlanta Braves ace Max Fried, Baltimore Orioles Israeli-American pitcher Dean Kremer (who played for Israel in the 2017 WBC) and other Jewish MLB players are eligible. New York Yankees draftee Eric Reyzelman has also expressed interest in playing for Team Israel.

Pederson, who has a Jewish mother, played for the Israeli squad during the qualifiers for the 2013 WBC. The team lost a winner-take-all game in extra innings and failed to enter the main tournament.

A decade later, Pederson will return, no longer the youngest player on the team, but rather one of the sport's most established Jewish players. Now with the San Francisco Giants, Pederson has



clubbed 17 home runs and tallied 43 runs batted in over the first half of this season, earning the twotime World Series champion a starting spot for the National League in Tuesday's All-Star game.

Team Israel enjoyed a Cinderella run in the 2017 WBC, defeating several highly-ranked teams and putting the country's baseball program on the map. The squad came up empty in the 2020

Olympics, but it is automatically qualified for the 2023 WBC.

Israel will be part of Pool D, which plays in Miami from March 11-15 and includes Puerto Rico, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic and a to-be-determined team that advances from this fall's qualifiers.

- Jacob Gurvis

# **76**ers Star Joel Embiid Goes Viral for Dancing the Hora at a Jewish Friend's Wedding

**N**BA star Joel Embiid is an enormous man — around 7 feet tall and 280 pounds, to give an idea. But that didn't stop him from joining in a hora and getting lifted in a chair at a Jewish friend's recent wedding.

Embiid went viral as videos of the Philadelphia 76ers center joining in the Jewish nuptial fun — with a huge smile, to boot — circulated around social media.

The wedding took place in Napa, California, for Michael Ratner — a filmmaker who made a documentary about Embiid's life, from his native Cameroon to the University of Kansas — and Lauren Rothberg, the head of brand for Rhode, Hailey Bieber's new skin care line.

Both Ratner and Rothberg shared videos of Embiid in the action on their Instagram accounts, the New York Post reported. In one, he is seen joining in the hora circle; in others, he is shown holding a woman on a chair at the center of the circle. (Both parts of the folk dance are common tradition at Jewish weddings.)

Embiid, a five-time All-Star by the age of 28 known for his sense of humor, is also close with Sixers owner, Josh Harris, who is Jewish.

— Gabe Friedman



# **Return of JCC Maccabi Games a** 'Reset' for Coaches, Athletes

# **SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER**

uly 31 marks the beginning of the JCC Maccabi Games, an annual summer event where more than 1,500 Jewish teens aged 12-16 will travel to San Diego to participate in the weeklong Olympic-style event.

For many of the athletes, even the older ones, this summer will be the first time participating in the event which, since 2020, was canceled due to the pandemic. The San Diego JCC Maccabi Games will be the first in three years, and though things have changed, athletes and coaches hope it will be a fresh start and an opportunity to reprioritize what they believe the games are all about.

In addition to the games' 12 events and the added JCC Maccabi Access Games for athletes with disabilities, the Maccabi Games has grown from a sporting spectacle to a week of cultural immersion, with many athletes staying with local host families, participating in weekly tikkun olam projects and visiting local tourist attractions.

But in the years before COVID, the Maccabi Games began to expand too much, a couple of area coaches believe. The 2019 event's opening and closing ceremonies in Atlanta took place in the Mercedes-Benz Stadium and hosted an AJR concert.

"The purpose of the games is to get all these kids in one place, who can start to build a bigger community rather than just what they know locally," Philadelphia girls' soccer coach Michael Keitz said. "So along with that came events, came sponsorships, came dollars, quite frankly."

Though Keitz said that the games keep to its core goal of building Jewish community, its messaging has become less potent. This year, the games have shrunk, with delegations bringing fewer athletes than in years past. Keitz hopes this will show that bigger isn't always better.

"Maybe this will prove, so-to-speak, that you don't need the monstrosities, you don't need the, 'All right, this is the biggest event ever held," he said.



Courtesy of Michael Keitz Girls' soccer coach Michael Keitz (top, center) with his team at the 2016 JCC Maccabi Games

Philadelphia's delegation will feel its diminished size this year. The city is well represented in the Maccabi Games, as it has one of the oldest delegations, having sent teams for 33 years. This year, 60 athletes will compete across nine events. All of the delegation's spots were filled, with 30 teams attending tryouts for boys' soccer and ice hockey, making the process fairly competitive.

"We have coaches who've been in the program for years supporting our teams, as well as many of them who played in the games," said Team Philadelphia Delegation Head Barrie Mittica. "We really understand the importance of what Maccabi can do for Jewish teens — giving them an outlet that's different than a youth movement - who may have not found a spot somewhere else in Jewish teen life."

As the athletes gear up for the games, the desire to stick to the spirit of the event is front-and-center.

"Everyone practices Judaism in a different way, but we all have this great thing connecting us, which is an amazing feeling, to look around and see all of these Jewish athletes and think to yourself, 'We have this major thing that holds us together," said Rachel Kohler, dance coach and assistant delegation head.

Kohler's parents started the Philadelphia delegation in 1984, and she grew up attending the games as a child, competing in her first games at 13, 20 years ago.

"That is my first real memory of being an athlete," she said.

Daniel Weiss, the boys' soccer coach, is another seasoned coach, having been a Maccabi athlete as a teen before becoming a coach ten years ago. He's also the co-founder of the Kaiserman JCC's Philly JCC Maccabi Sports Hall of Fame.

Weiss agreed with Keitz that this year's Maccabi Games is an opportunity to refocus after a three-year break.

"I completely agree with the notion of a reset and focusing on what's really important," he said.

Building a cohesive team with a strong bond is the key to both winning medals and getting the most out of the experience.

"I always want to make sure that they go in with the right mindset of: The second you step on the field, we're there to win," Weiss said. "The second you step off the field, it's Maccabi experience time."

The previous games in 2019 were disappointing to the team, goalie Zachary Brunell said. In 2019, the team didn't medal, leaving Brunell, 16, feeling like he has "unfinished business" for the 2022 games.

But the part of the experience Brunell is most looking forward to is not playing on the pitch. He's excited to meet his host family and spend time with more Jews. Brunell sometimes feels awkward about keeping kosher and having to tell his friends why he can't eat certain things. He's looking forward to being around people who just get it.

"There's just certain things that don't have to be explained," he said. "It's like you feel more accepted." JE

srogelberg@midatlanticmedia.com



# When Is it Appropriate to Say 'Never Forget'?

### JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

<u>local /</u>

n 1973, Lucy the Elephant in Margate, New Jersey, was almost torn down. Only a Saturday morning court injunction stopped the wrecking ball, according to Richard Helfant, Lucy's executive director for the past 22 years.

As he tries to raise the final \$800,000 for the landmark's present-day renovation, Helfant wants shore locals to remember that history. So, in a summer fundraising mailer, he sent a picture of Lucy from that year alongside the phrase, "Never forget, never again."

The mailer helped raise \$70,000, but

it also angered summer Margate residents Susan and Matthew Klyman for its obvious connection to Holocaust remembrance language. The Jewish couple asked for a public apology from Helfant, who is also Jewish, and received one in recent days.

To the Klymans, the phrase is not exclusive to the Holocaust, but it should be reserved for Holocaust-type events.

"If you're going to talk about it in a universal sense, it's also to prevent other genocides," Susan Klyman said. "To use it in a more cavalier way demeans the meaning of those words."

"We can't ever forget that she was that close to the wrecking ball, and we can't let it happen again," Helfant said of Lucy in the days before his apology. But in his apology, first reported by The Philadelphia Inquirer, he said that the Lucy did not measure up to the phrase.

Matt Klyman mentioned that the phrase could also help people remember the Armenian genocide and the Rwandan genocide, as well as a tragedy like 9/11 in the United States. While historical memory is important in any context, some events are more important to remember than others, and those words hold a lot of weight.

Susan Klyman believes that "unfathomable loss of life," and in particular human life, should be the focus of them. About 6 million Jews died in the Holocaust. Almost 3,000 Americans died in 9/11.

Lucy, on the other hand, is "an inanimate object," Matt Klyman said. The couple does care about Lucy and donate money to the cause of preserving the attraction.

"But it does not have the meaning of a loss of life and genocide," Susan Klyman said.

Edna Friedberg, a historian at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., said people could use a few words any way they wanted. But before doing so, they should ask themselves why a particular term has resonance.

In the United States, the phrase "Never forget, never again" has become

"You have to look at it on a case-bycase basis, and people have to ask themselves if they are just using the language or exploiting the emotional reactions people have to the phrase."

## JONATHAN SARNA

associated with Holocaust remembrance. We look at the Holocaust and see failures to act, according to Friedberg. So, in our pluralistic society, it's supposed to imply that never again shall we fail like this for any group, not just Jews.

Therefore, it's important to be careful when using the language.

"You have to look at it on a caseby-case basis, and people have to ask themselves if they are just using the language or exploiting the emotional reactions people have to the phrase," the historian said.

Jonathan Sarna, the resident historian at the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia, agrees with Friedburg that it's important to look at and understand the motivation of the person using the phrase.

The Brandeis University professor jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com

used "all lives matter" as an example. Few people would disagree with that statement on its face. Yet in a post-George Floyd, post-Black Lives Matter and post-2020 context in the United States, it can be a dismissive response to a call for equality for Black Americans.

"That's why you have to look at the particulars of the case," he said.

After considering the particulars of the Lucy case, Sarna thought many Jews would say that the use of the language was "perhaps unintentionally insensitive." He believed it was probably a good idea to come up with wording a little more appropriate to the situation.

"Once you cheapen a phrase, it's hard to restore it to the sanctity that it once had," he said. JE



The Save Lucy Committee is raising money to preserve the Margate attraction. Courtesy of the Save Lucy Committee, Inc

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# local /

# Mastriano Called Out for Link to Extremist Social Media Site

## JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

S o, these are the facts: Pennsylvania Republican gubernatorial candidate Doug Mastriano paid \$5,000 to Gab, a social media site, for "campaign consulting," per a campaign finance disclosure. Gab is known as a haven for antisemites like the Tree of Life building alleged shooter, who posted there before he went into the Pittsburgh synagogue. Mastriano's payment got him automatic follows from people who joined the site, growing his following from a little over 2,000 accounts to more than 38,000.

The state senator, who represents several counties in the central part of Pennsylvania, also has made 73 posts on Gab since joining in February. None



Doug Mastriano

Paul Weaver/SOPA Images/LightRocket via Getty Images via JTA.org

<section-header>

of his posts were antisemitic, though several criticized his Jewish opponent in the gubernatorial race — Attorney General Josh Shapiro, a Montgomery County resident. And many of the comments on Mastriano's posts about Shapiro were very much antisemitic; scroll down for a second on one of them, and you can find a swastika in the poster's handle.

Does all of that make Mastriano an antisemite?

Pretty much, according to Shapiro, the Pennsylvania Democratic Party, Pittsburgh-based lawmakers and even the Republican Jewish Coalition, a political advocacy group that tries to connect the Jewish community to Republican politicians, per its website.

Every one of those people and groups condemned Mastriano for his association with the site in recent days after Media Matters reported the "consulting" payment from the candidate's campaign finance disclosure.

Shapiro, whose campaign paid for a television ad labeling Mastriano as "one of Donald Trump's strongest supporters," implying that Republicans should vote for him, criticizes him on the trail as a danger to Pennsylvanians across the commonwealth. After this story broke, Shapiro took to Facebook to promote a press conference by Pittsburgh lawmakers condemning Mastriano.

The Democratic gubernatorial candidate did not attend the press conference, but in his post he wrote the following:

"A haven for white supremacists, extremists and antisemites — Gab empowered the Tree of Life Synagogue shooter to spread his hate online before murdering 11 Jewish people in Pittsburgh.

As we speak, anyone that creates a Gab account will automatically follow Doug Mastriano — because he paid the site thousands of dollars to do it. Join Pittsburghers in calling out this hatred."

Later, a Shapiro spokesman denounced Mastriano to the Jewish Exponent.

"This is who Doug Mastriano is — he paid thousands of dollars for antisemitic, racist, alt-right extremists to be part of his campaign for governor and he believes those individuals make



Josh Shapiro speaks at his campaign kickoff rally at Penn State-Abington in October 2021. Photo by Jarrad Saffren

during the 2016 election.

"He believes the hatred on those message boards will translate into an election victory for him on Nov. 8," Frankel said of Mastriano. "But I believe he is wrong about Pennsylvania."

Even the Republican Jewish Coalition seems to agree with this last statement. Matt Brooks, the organization's executive director, said that Mastriano should be trying to win over Jewish Republicans by calling out antisemitism and focusing more on Shapiro's "big government agenda."

"Doug Mastriano's campaign unfortunately seems intent on sending a message of exclusion," Brooks said. "We strongly urge Doug Mastriano to end his association with Gab, a social network rightly seen by Jewish Americans as a cesspool of bigotry and antisemitism."

Mastriano's campaign did not make the candidate available for an interview or offer a response to questions. JE

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com. David Rullo of the Pittsburgh Jewish Chronicle, an affiliated paper, contributed to this report.



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Simons said.

Marisa Nahem, a communications adviser for the Pennsylvania Democratic Party, also chimed in on July 22 on behalf of the party.

"Mastriano's association with Gab - a 'haven' for white supremacists, violent extremists and antisemites that was 'key' in the deadliest attack on Jewish people in U.S. history — is the latest example of why Mastriano is the most dangerous gubernatorial candidate in Pennsylvania history," she said.

The Pittsburgh press conference organized by the Shapiro campaign on July 21, which also aired on Facebook Live, featured several elected officials from the city, including state Senate Democratic Leader Jay Costa, State Rep. Dan Frankel, who represents the district that includes Tree of Life, and Councilman Rev. Ricky Burgess. All echoed similar themes.

Costa said Mastriano did this "purposefully," to reach people with "hate in their heart." Frankel called Gab "a festering cesspool of intolerance" that sees Black and brown people, LGBTQ+ people and Muslims as threats to the "white nationalist vision that unifies Gab users."

Burgess concluded that Mastriano's Gab account showed his allegiance to former President Donald Trump, who has endorsed Mastriano, and to the "basket of deplorables" on the site.

up the core of his campaign," Will With that last line, Burgess was quoting the description of many Trump supporters offered by Hillary Clinton

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# Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

# COMMUNITY NEWS

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.

# Looking to Do a Summer Mitzvah? These Organizations Can Use Your Help

The ideal summer is filled with camp, travel, days by the pool and being out in the sun. Given these packed schedules, it is not a surprise that many direct service organizations experience a summer lull in volunteer engagement.

With a lower number of volunteers, many essential organizations struggle to provide vital resources to the community. While volunteering may not be topof-mind during summer months, it is the time that hands-on involvement can make the greatest impact.

See below for organizations supported by the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia that are in need of volunteers this summer. Visit jewishphilly.org/summer to learn more about the volunteer opportunities and how to register.

# **Jewish Relief Agency (JRA)**

JRA helps nourish more than 6,000 diverse low-income individuals across Greater Philadelphia. Opportunities for all ages include packing kosher food boxes at JRA's food distribution warehouse and delivering those boxes to clients.

# KleinLife

KleinLife's Home Delivered Meals program fills an essential need for 700 homebound seniors. Volunteers coordinate a weekly time to deliver precooked meals. In addition to home delivery, KleinLife has volunteer community service opportunities including administrative support, education and facilitation programming, and more.

# **Mitzvah Food Program**

Mitzvah Food Program serves 6,500 individuals per year, distributing choice-based, nutritious food to all who are in need, regardless of race, income, gender, age or religion. Donate, pack and/or help deliver kosher food packages from one of four pantry sites in Greater Philadelphia.

# Save the Date!

Fall Cemetery Cleanup at Har Nebo Cemetery (Sept. 17 from 1-3 p.m.)

Honor those at rest by cleaning up Har Nebo, one of our region's largest and most historic Jewish cemeteries. Volunteer tasks will include raking, picking up trash and clipping overgrown vines. The cleanup will end with a memorial service to honor all of those buried.

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Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia <section-header>

# YOU SHOULD KNOW ... Ben Yaroslavsky



### SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Ben Yaroslavsky was born in Be'er Sheva, Israel, to parents who fled their west central Ukrainian home in Vinnytsia after the collapse of the Soviet Union. The family later settled in Hershey.

Though every immigrant story is unique, Yaroslavsky's story shares common threads with many Russian and Ukrainian immigrants of his generation. As the senior-most member of Philadelphia's Russian Speaking Jewish Moishe House, Yaroslavsky, 28, has the opportunity to show and grow those connecting threads.

Part of the international Moishe House nonprofit to connect Jews in their 20s, RSJ Moishe House hosts Shabbat dinners weekly, bringing together 15-20 community members, some Russianspeaking, some not. Yaroslavsky, a program manager for an aerospace and defense firm, shares the three-bedroom University City Moishe House with up to two other residents who also are Russian-speaking.

"It's very important to us to have the physical space to create events and foster a community and have it feel intimate like you're at someone's home and where everyone feels invited and welcome," Yaroslavsky said.

Last week, Yaroslavsky and Moishe House resident Sofiya Zilberberg hosted a "Beer Olympics" Shabbat complete with outdoor mini-games. Next week, they'll host an ice cream social. In the past, the house has hosted a "Free Britney Shabbat," holding a dinner conversation about the end to Britney Spears' conservatorship, disability rights and the #FreeBritney movement.

But what separates the RSJ Moishe House from other Moishe Houses is the connection of the residents that goes beyond living in the same city, being of the same generation and being Jewish. In addition to the scheduled monthly "Us Time," where residents take breakdancing classes together or go out for a meal, the hallmark of the RSJ Moishe House is the shared Eastern European heritage of the residents.

"Philadelphia has a vibrant, wonderful community. There's so many great events in Philly," Yaroslavsky said. "But few are tailored to the Russianspeaking community. For many Russian-speaking Jews, the language of the culture they grew up with is really what unites us."

For first-generation Jewish immigrants and children of those who fled the Soviet Union, Jewish traditions and practices were sparse in their upbringings due to the antisemitism they or their families experienced.

"Many of the Russian-speaking Jews feel that they have this multi-layered Jewish identity, and that causes them to interact with Judaism in a different way than the larger population in Philly or the larger Jewish population in general," Yaroslavsky said.

Quirky-themed Shabbat aside, Yaroslavsky and Zilberberg try to tailor the house's programming to be culturally specific. They hold tea-drinking ceremonies similar to the ones common in Russia, and though they share a disdain for gefilte fish, they enjoy cooking the food of their mother countries together.

Yaroslavsky recalls eating and learning to make food from other countries in the Soviet bloc, such as Georgian khachapuri and RSJ Moishe House founder Jonathan Yakubov's Uzbek bachash.

The Moishe House, created in February 2020, weathered the pandemic together. Yaroslavsky, who joined shortly after the house's founding, was largely responsible for its consistent programming. Two years after the house was created despite inopportune timing, the residents overcame another personal challenge.

"It's been pretty somber, with what's happening in that corner of the world: the war in Ukraine," Yaroslavsky said.

He has distant family still living there, with relatives not willing to abandon their businesses and loved ones and leave the country. Yaroslavsky said that living in the RSJ Moishe House was unique during this time, as residents supported each other and looked to support the greater community.

"The feeling turned from desperation to hopeful pretty quick once we realized, we can actually mobilize people to support these other Russian-speaking Jews in their efforts to fundraise and provide aid in Ukraine," he said.

In addition to sharing resources on how to attend the Stand with Ukraine rally, donate to UNICEF and provide direct donations to Ukrainian families in need, Yaroslavsky and the Moishe House residents began holding fundraisers and volunteering monthly with the Jewish Relief Agency, which has a large clientele of older Soviet Jews.

Yaroslavsky said that the opportunities to provide aid to Ukraine allowed the RSJ Moishe House to turn "tragedy to service and service to hope."

"Being able to take this opportunity to use our platform and resources to support our community has been the most meaningful experience to me," he added. JE

srogelberg@midatlanticmedia.com

editorials,

# Support the 'Respect for Marriage Act'

ast month, when the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade and reversed 50 years of abortion rights jurisprudence, the dissent predicted that the court's reasoning could be used to challenge other cases involving individual freedoms, including the right to use contraception and the right to marry a same-sex partner.

The dissent's warning was clear: "Either the mass of the majority's opinion is hypocrisy, or additional constitutional rights are under threat. It is one or the other." And while the majority opinion promised that was not the case, Justice Clarence Thomas said otherwise - and suggested the conservative majority of the court might not be done with decisions that are "demonstrably erroneous" and which the court has a duty to "correct."

Considering that large majorities of Americans support the right to an abortion, contraception, gay marriage and interracial marriage — all rights that were considered well settled until this year - there have been concerted efforts to address

effort to establish a national standard.

Last week, House Democrats, joined by 47 Republicans, passed the Respect for Marriage Act by a vote of 267-157.

The act's chief purpose is to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act, which makes same-sex marriage illegal. That law was overturned by the court in its 2015 Obergefell v. Hodges decision. Under the new law, same-sex marriage would be permitted under federal law and would prohibit states from discrimination against marriage decisions of two people "on the basis of sex, race, ethnicity or national origin."

The Respect for Marriage Act is not about holy wedlock. It is about civil rights. And since a resounding 70% of U.S. adults say that same-sex unions should be recognized by law - a majority that includes 83% of Democrats and 55% of Republicans — it is time for the Senate to act.

A bill similar to the House bill, sponsored by Sen.

those issues through federal legislation, in an Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.) and co-sponsored by Republican Sens. Susan Collins of Maine and Rob Portman of Ohio, needs eight more Republican senators to pass the filibuster threshold. But those Republican votes may be difficult to find.

> While Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska is leaning toward support, others like Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida call the House bill a "stupid waste of time," and Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah was joined by others in seeking to deflect consideration when he said, "I don't think we need to lose sleep over it unless there were a development that suggested the law was going to be changed."

> Romney's approach is wrong. As we learned from the Dobbs decision on the right to an abortion, it is always too early until it's too late. And the disturbing yet honest warning from Justice Thomas is precisely the kind of "development" that should cause the Senate to act, and to enshrine in law the right to marriage that most of this country considers self-evident. JE

# **Ukraine's First Lady**

krainian first lady Olena Zelenska was in Washington, D.C., last week, where she worked to reawaken awareness about Ukraine's plight in its ongoing efforts to defend against an unprovoked, brutal Russian attack.

She asked Congress for additional defense systems to block Russian missiles and spoke with first lady Jill Biden, Secretary of State Antony Blinken and U.S. Agency for International Development head Samantha Power, among others.

During her congressional visit, Zelenska displayed highly emotional evidence of the toll Russian

airstrikes are taking on her nation, and particularly its children. Her heart-wrenching photo presentation included pictures of a 4-year-old girl killed in an air strike that badly wounded her mother, a girl in a pink headband shot by Russian soldiers, a 3-year-old boy learning how to use a prosthetic limb and one showing three generations of a family — grandmother, mother and baby daughter killed in an air strike.

The carnage in Ukraine from the punishing attacks by Russian forces is undeniable. But, unfortunately, we have reached the point in the ongoing war where the daily devastation has become just another news story for most



Americans, Coverage has slipped from front-page headlines to less-prominent news stories buried among many others. Perhaps it's the summer malaise, or maybe we have become numb to the violence. And maybe it's just hard to remain focused on a war taking place halfway around the world.

Which begs the guestion of whether Zelenska is the right person to help recapture the world's attention and support for war-weary Ukraine?

Zelenska was a scriptwriter for her husband, Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who was an actor and comedian before winning the presidency in 2019. They have been married since 2003. During her husband's rise to political prominence, she has kept mostly out of the spotlight, describing herself as "a non-public person." But the war forced Zelenska into a more prominent role, and she seems to have embraced it.

Zelenska has earned good reviews for her advocacy. She received a standing ovation from Congress for statements such as, "Our family represents the whole world for us, and we do everything to preserve it. We cry when we cannot save it. And we remain completely broken when our world is destroyed by war."

There is precedent for a first spouse to play an important role

in history. Eleanor Roosevelt comes to mind, as she was once called "The First Lady of the World" by President Harry S Truman in recognition of her human rights advocacy and achievements. Eva Peron is another example, as her 1947 "Rainbow Tour" of Europe helped Argentina improve its global relations.

Whether history remembers Zelenska in the same vein remains to be seen. But regardless of how she is portrayed, we cannot ignore the fact that her tragic message of continuing death and devastation in Ukraine needs to remain front and center in our international consciousness. Her visit was an urgent summer wake-up call. JE



# Jewish Americans Are Increasingly Concerned About Left-Wing Antisemitism

## **BY IRWIN J. MANDORF**

The events surrounding the taking of hostages at a synagogue in Colleyville, Texas, on Jan. 15 by Malik Faisal Akram, a 44-year-old British Pakistani armed with a pistol, received considerable attention and live coverage in the United States.

Following the escape of the hostages and the subsequent storming of the synagogue by law enforcement—which resulted in the death of Akram — dialogue and discussion ensued regarding issues of antisemitism in the United States, synagogue security and the Jewish community's general sense of safety.

We undertook two simultaneously administered surveys of Jewish and non-Jewish Americans between Feb. 1-6, close enough to the Colleyville events for them to remain "fresh" in people's memory and far enough away to allow for reflection and internalization of the ramifications of the experience.

Our data, on the whole, suggest the following: **1.** While Jewish Americans, as well as Americans in general, still see right-wing ideology as primarily responsible for the hate-related activity of white supremacist groups, there appears to be increased concern over Islamic extremist activity as well as a trend of increased attribution of anti-Jewish and other hate-based activity to what can be identified as progressive or "woke" sources.

2. Jewish Americans differ from "general" Americans in attributing greater responsibility for hate-based incidents against Jews to left-wing ideology and in perceiving a greater threat from white supremacists and Islamic extremists. They also showed higher levels of feeling that the Democratic Party tolerates Islamic extremist activity.

**3.** Antisemitism is seen as primarily based on verbal or offensive language or threats and very little on physical violence against Jews. Moreover, the subjective intensity of antisemitism in the daily lives of Jewish Americans may be less than it appears to be based on media reports and not very different from the hatebased activity against other groups.

**4.** Both Americans in general and Jewish Americans in our survey essentially offer support for Israel, but feel that Jewish Americans should maintain political and ideological independence and distance themselves from

policies and behavior they disagree with. **5.** Both our "general" American and Jewish American samples are overwhelmingly

unaware of any specific efforts to "combat" antisemitism by any Jewish organization.6. The threat to Jews from hate-based or extremist activity is perceived to be similar,

extremist activity is perceived to be similar, but generally midway between the perceived threat to Christian (less threatened) and Muslim (more threatened) communities.

**7.** Both the Jewish American and "general" American samples hold Donald Trump's administration and supporters as responsible for increased antisemitism, but both, especially our Jewish American sample, attribute substantial responsibility to progressive "woke" ideology.

8. Some consideration should be given to the data — especially among a significant minority in the Jewish American sample — showing a cognitive differentiation between "anti-Jewish" and "anti-Israel" behavior, as well as the notion that such differentiation and the rejection of a distinct Jewish national identity may enable antisemitic activity masked as "anti-Zionism."

The underlying trend in our data appears to show, in contrast to conventional wisdom and our previous research, an increased recognition that the ideology of left-leaning sources — specifically "woke" ideology, and especially in the Jewish American sample — bears some responsibility for antisemitism in the United States. What makes these data more convincing is that this behavior is not a "shift" away from blaming right-wing ideology and especially Trump-associated sources, but rather an expression of additional responsibility.

This would be consistent with a recent study we conducted on U.S. campuses: Israeli campus professionals assessed that liberal and progressive groups represent the most significant source of antisemitic and anti-Israel sentiment on campuses, rather than more conservative groups, who are viewed as generally supportive.

The relationship between Israel and the Jewish American community remains somewhat vague. While expressing general "support for Israel," Jewish Americans still wish to exercise choice in distancing themselves when they disagree with Israeli policy or behavior. That letters

# Abortion Not a Right in the Constitution

Eleanor Levie's op-ed ("The Fight Isn't Over," June 30), while expressing anger about what she calls the end of the constitutional right to abortion, goes on to bemoan the damage she sees in forcing women to exercise their "reproductive choices."

The fact is the Constitution does not provide for a right to abortion, something the activist Warren court simply ignored in 1973 by finding such a right in the Constitution's shadows. The founders believed moral issues, like abortion, should be settled by each state's legislature, which will face the voter's judgment through elections.

Now each state will decide how it will handle the aborting of a developing child. Some will permit it right up to birth and possibly beyond, others will place time limits on it and others will ban it based on the moral wishes of its citizens. The democratic process, not the whims of nine unelected judges, will be the arbiter.

Steve Heitner, Middle Island, New York

## **Explore Your Heritage**

We enjoyed the article "Philadelphia Family Connects with Long-Lost Cousins Who Survived the Holocaust," (July 21). My wife has a very similar story that has led us on a genealogy search of family members.

We started with a photo in a museum of a young boy age 12 who was deported to Auschwitz. Using the internet, we were able to discover family in Paris that were originally from Warsaw. This has led us to discover and meet new members of the Felenbok family now in Paris, Israel, Argentina and Florida via Cuba.

Because of this, we even put two families together in Paris who did not know of the other.

We would encourage others to look at exploring their roots and heritage.  $\ensuremath{\text{JE}}$ 

## Sheldon and Penny Bernick, Philadelphia

Letters should be related to articles that have run in the print or online editions of the JE, and may be edited for space and clarity prior to publication. Please include your first and last name, as well your town/neighborhood of residence. Send letters to letters@jewishexponent.com.

## Clarification

The recipe for soy-glazed ginger fish in the July 21 Jewish Exponent inadvertently omitted the amount of soy sauce needed. The recipe calls for <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup of soy sauce.

See Mandorf, Page 16

opinion /



# Judaism Can Show the Way on Abortion

# **BY DONNA ROBINSON DIVINE**

On the issue of abortion, the war over words is more lethal than the conflict over deeds. Even the terms used to describe the opposing sides are antithetical to each other.

A self-named "culture of life" is arrayed against so-called warriors for "choice" and a woman's right to decide whether or when to end a pregnancy. Each side hurls accusations of absolute immorality at the other, in what is deemed an existential conflict with dark implications for future disruption, uncertainty and tragedy.

Surveys indicate, however, that most Americans think about abortion in ways that are not typified by heated discourse or morally irreconcilable positions. They are not engaged in the kind of debate that pushes politicians to choose one uncompromising side or another. Ordinary men and women reject the idea that terminating a pregnancy is murder, but also believe abortion should not occur during the third trimester unless there is a danger to the mother's life.

Roe v. Wade placed strict limits on abortion restrictions, and thus it is often held responsible for stirring up rhetorical hostilities. With sovereignty over abortion law returned to the people through state elections and legislation, politicians will now have to campaign in a new age without a Constitutional right at stake.

Candidates still blinded by a discourse that rewards the ideological extremes may face a reckoning with voters who see common ground and want regulations that reflect it. A political discourse that ignores what the majority of the people want may be more than out of touch — it is likely to become bizarrely anachronistic.

That men and women are less interested in legal reasoning than in access to the services they need should be obvious. As a result, abortion may prove to be an issue that is worked out in practice long before it is worked out in political theory. Indeed, a consensus that may defy logic or even sacred principles has, in effect, already evolved, and it could result in support for regulations that align with the views of most people. For that reason, such rules would be far easier to implement than those proposed in divisive and bitter political debates.

Consider what might happen if abortion was declared illegal regardless of circumstance. A total ban on abortion in states red or blue would have to depend on, if not outright create,



enforcement mechanisms to oversee travel, mail orders and internet searches. It would have to expand government power to monitor words and deeds and set boundaries on behavior that most Americans are likely to resent and perhaps resist. While Prohibition may not serve as a legal precedent for the abortion issue, it may prove a historical paradigm.

It would be an understatement to say that it is extremely difficult to turn a diverse assembly of views on abortion into laws across 50 very different states. This is particularly the case because the debate is often defined by ricocheting hashtags and media horror stories. There is one tradition, however, that offers both hope and guidance.

Jewish teaching recognizes abortion as an intimate practice with profound public consequences. The tradition that brought the words l'chaim ("to life" or, more properly, "for the sake of life") into public discourse can hardly be accused of insensitivity to a culture that embraces life and promotes fertility.

Yet Judaism also displays sensitivity to the ethical dilemmas surrounding decisions to end pregnancies. Because there is no absolute agreement on abortion in Jewish religious law, those who deem abortion impermissible generally refrain from applying their own jurisprudential principles to particular cases. Rather, women confronted with an unwanted pregnancy are advised to work their way to a decision by talking to their own clerics.

Judaism not only recognizes the complicated stakes involved in ending a pregnancy, it also acknowledges that people should not be used as foils to advance a religious ruling, no matter how principled. Even in a context where population growth was pivotal to Jewish political interests — Mandatory Palestine — where Zionist leaders could not avoid thinking seriously about Jewish birthrates, abortion was available and practiced, despite being outlawed by Great Britain's colonial laws.

The apparent consensus among men and women on abortion calls into question the conceit of a discourse in thrall to the language of rights; a discourse applied as frequently to the unborn as to women moments before they are able to deliver a healthy child. Just as a culture of life can allow for abortion, so can a right to choose be replaced by access to services accompanied by some restrictions.

Most people recognize that giving birth involves two lives, and that it is critical for those faced with an unwanted pregnancy to be able to make their own decision regarding whether both lives can be sustained. A culture of life is not only about a heartbeat. JE

Donna Robinson Divine is Morningstar Family Professor of Jewish Studies and professor of government, emerita at Smith College.



**BY DAVID M. LITMAN** 

**E**arlier this year, the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression published a piece explaining its opposition to the legislative adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition of antisemitism.

Unfortunately, FIRE's position appears to be based on an understanding of the IHRA definition that is directly contradicted by what the definition actually says.

Writing in the context of the American Association of University Professors' statement opposing the adoption of the definition by the state of Florida, FIRE states, "While the AAUP consistently opposes legislation restricting how race and sex can be taught on college campuses, its opposition to legislation that defines anti-Semitism to include any criticism of Israel is a new and welcome development" (emphasis original).

The claim that any criticism of Israel is considered antisemitic under the IHRA definition is false. The definition itself makes this very clear. In part, it reads, "Manifestations might include the targeting of the State of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as anti-Semitic" (emphasis added). The Florida law adopting the definition includes virtually identical language.

As the IHRA further explains, the "overall context" of a statement about Israel must be taken into consideration when assessing whether it crosses into the realm of antisemitism.

This is simple common sense. For example, a 2006 Supreme Court case, Ash v. Tyson Foods, Inc., involved the question of whether a decisionmaker's reference to two Black employees as "boy" was evidence of discriminatory intent. The Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit wrote, "While the use of 'boy' when modified by a racial classification like 'black' or 'white' is evidence of discriminatory intent, the use of 'boy' alone is not evidence of discrimination."

The Supreme Court reversed the Eleventh Circuit, holding, "Although it is true the disputed word will not always be evidence of racial animus, it does not follow that the term, standing alone, is always benign. The speaker's meaning may depend on various factors, including context, inflection, tone of voice, local custom and historical usage. Insofar as the Court of Appeals held that modifiers or qualifications are necessary in all



FIRE has played an important and admirable role in American society, standing up for one of our most important democratic values. It's perplexing that the group's position on the IHRA definition rests on an obvious factual error.

instances to render the disputed term probative of bias, the court's decision is erroneous."

Similarly, under the IHRA definition, references to Israel are not always evidence of antisemitism, but it does not follow that references to Israel will always be benign. This is what the definition recognizes and addresses.

For example, when "criticism" of Israel takes the form of typical antisemitic tropes, like depicting Israeli soldiers drinking the blood of non-Jews or harvesting their organs, that is not legitimate criticism. It's simply repackaging the blood libel and applying it to the Jewish collective that is Israel.

When "criticism" of Israel holds that a Jewish state shouldn't exist, but no objection is made to the existence of any other nation-state in the world, that is not legitimate criticism. It's applying a double standard on the basis of Israel's Jewish character.

The IHRA definition recognizes that antisemitism has evolved over many centuries. As the late Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks once said, "In the Middle Ages, Jews were hated because of their religion. In the 19th and early 20th century they were hated because of their race. Today they are hated because of their nation-state, the State of Israel. It takes different forms, but it remains the same thing: The view that Jews have no right to exist as free and equal human beings."

FIRE has played an important and admirable role in American society, standing up for one of our most important democratic values. It's perplexing that the group's position on the IHRA definition rests on an obvious factual error.

Hopefully, the organization will issue a correction. Efforts to protect our freedom of speech and expression should be based on an honest discussion of what is and isn't at stake. JE

David M. Litman is a media and education research analyst at the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting and Analysis, or CAMERA.

# The Emerging Unholy Alliance Between Russia, Turkey and Iran



# **BY AMIR AVIVI**

opinion

Less than a week after U.S. President Joe Biden left the Middle East following a visit that focused on the informal Israeli-Sunni Arab alliance in the region, Russian President Vladimir Putin boarded a plane

to Iran, the leader of the opposing Shi'ite axis. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan of Turkey joined the summit in Tehran.

The three regimes represented in Tehran are not friends of the West.

Russia is engaged in a brutal war against Ukraine and dishes out threats to European countries on a weekly basis. Iran funds terrorist proxies across the Middle East, has a robust nuclear weapons project and has stated many times that it seeks the complete annihilation of the United States and Israel. Finally, Turkey has proven itself an unreliable partner of the West on core issues such as sanctions on Russia, use of Russian defense systems, support for malign Iranian activities and more.

Putin's summit has worrying implications for the Middle East. It appears that an anti-American alliance is forming at the behest of Russia and

# Mandorf

Continued from Page 13

alone may seem reasonable, but when combined with our data showing that most also see support for Israel as a reason for antisemitism, and a sizable minority (20%) do not equate anti-Israel behavior with antisemitic behavior — a claim made by many anti-Israel organizations and individuals — what "support" actually means is unclear.

This finding is consistent with the conflict some see between support for Jewish nationalism in Israel, namely Zionism, and aversion to the concept of seeing Jews as a whole as a national identity, or as noted by James Loeffler, "the obvious presence of Jewish nationalism in America coupled with the putative absence of a Jewish nation."

Gol Kalev touches on how anti-Jewish behavior is expressed today in his conceptualization of "Judaism 3.0," where he posits the transformation of Judaism from a more religious element to a more national one (as in Zionism). As societies have evolved, so has the expression of anti-Jewish behavior. As Judaism has moved more into the national realm with the establishment of Israel, so has anti-Jewish behavior. Our data show that a sizable portion of China, and it includes Iran and its terrorist proxies. As a result, Iran could soon find itself comfortably exporting oil and weapons and attracting foreign investments, despite Western sanctions. It might well become self-sufficient within its bloc of allies, leaving the West unable to pressure Iran on its nuclear program and other malfeasances.

U.S. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan revealed last week that Iran already feels emboldened enough to send sophisticated weapons systems to Russia. Putin said last week in Tehran that Russia-Iran relations "are developing at a good pace," adding that the countries can "boast of record figures in terms of trade growth, including the strengthening of cooperation on international security issues."

Such statements are made by leaders who are completely undeterred by the West.

When asked about the possibility of advanced Iranian weapons being sold to Russia, U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said this week, "We would advise Iran to not do that." He added: "We think that's a really, really bad idea."

This is not enough. When Iran is emboldened enough to transfer sophisticated UAVs to Russia and attempt to bring Turkey into its orbit, the West must see Iran for what it is and what it is attempting to do: conquer the region in the name

China, and it includes Iran and its terrorist proxies. of the Islamic revolution. Iranian leaders say this As a result, Iran could soon find itself comfortably on a daily basis. We need only listen.

Iran must be made to understand that it cannot continue to expand its influence and aggression in the region, detach Turkey from the Western orbit or find new ways to evade Western sanctions. Right now, it seems that, even if these messages are being sent by the West, Tehran doesn't particularly care.

The best way to make Iran care is by creating a strong and concrete alliance against the axis Iran is attempting to build. The U.S. is already the leader of the bloc opposing Iran, and it must do all it can, in cooperation with its many allies, to stop Iran's aggression in the region, as well as its nuclear program.

Finally, just like Eastern European countries faced with Russian aggression in their region, Israel cannot be expected to remain passive in the face of Iranian aggression in the Middle East. Israel must be prepared to use all means at its disposal to stop this aggression and ensure its own security. JE

Brig. Gen. (Res.) Amir Avivi is the founder and CEO of the Israel Defense and Security Forum, which promotes research, education and policy focused on Israel's security as a cornerstone of its existence.

people, including Jews, see a separation between anti-Jewish and anti-Israel behavior, even though a much lower amount calls for an unconditional separation from actual support for Israel.

So, it is possible to claim no apparent or stated objection to the Jewish "religion" while expressing anti-Jewish attitudes through objection to the Jewish national entity, namely Israel. By denying a Jewish connection to nationhood, one can declare immunity from charges of antisemitism. Both secular and religious Jewish and non-Jewish "anti-Zionists" have made and debated that claim. By institutionalizing the separation between religious and national definitions of Judaism, "national"-based anti-Jewish behavior is given a free pass and can claim not to be antisemitic, as we see in statements made by the BDS movement.

All this only amplifies the striking finding in our data regarding the widespread lack of awareness among Americans, including Jewish Americans, of any specific programs or efforts targeting antisemitism. This is despite the stated concern regarding antisemitism from Jewish organizations. While many Jewish and Israeli advocacy organizations claim to undertake these efforts, the impact on public consciousness remains low. We cannot offer a definitive explanation for why this is so, but one possibility that needs to be considered is that if such programs exist, they are not effectively applied in practice or carried out as efficiently as they should be.

As noted earlier, the interpretation of data is variable, but the data themselves are not. Our respondents were anonymous, which may account for the open expression of sentiment that is not always acceptable in some social circles — for example, among those who may self-identify as "liberal."

Anonymity can sometimes create the opposite problem in survey research; for example, if group sentiment is present to intentionally mislead, as claimed in the case of Israeli elections. Our samples had no such motivation, and the consistency of their responses would lead one to conclude that they are, in fact, both valid and reliable. As such, this research is agnostic towards the data and ultimately apolitical, representing neither a "rightwing" nor "left-wing" orientation or analysis. JE

Irwin J. (Yitzchak) Mansdorf is a clinical psychologist and a fellow at the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs specializing in political psychology. This is an edited version of an article published by the center.



# Dozens of Jewish Graves Damaged in 600-year-old Turkish Cemetery

Dozens of Jewish graves were damaged or destroyed in the 600-year old cemetery of Istanbul's Hasköy neighborhood last week, the Turkish Jewish community announced via Twitter, JTA reported.

"Our Hasköy Cemetery was entered at midnight, and 36 of our tombstones were destroyed," the community's official Twitter account said on July 14. The Turkish Jewish weekly Salom Gazetesi later put the number at 81. "The matter has been conveyed to the relevant authorities with all the pictures and night recordings, and we expect the perpetrators of this vandalism to be caught as soon as possible."

The incident garnered a quick response at the highest level. Ibraham Kalin, the spokesman for Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, strongly condemned the vandalism in a tweet, calling it a "heinous attack."

Shortly after, Turkey's interior minister, Suleyman Soylu, tweeted that two suspects had been caught and detained by Istanbul's police department. Turkish media reported that they were children.

## Israeli Reporter Sneaks into Mecca, Triggering Outcry, Apologies

It was billed as a historic news scoop: the first Jewish Israeli reporter to document the annual Muslim pilgrimage of Hajj on an unprecedented visit to the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia, JTA reported.

But when the footage of Channel 13 correspondent Gil Tamary in Mecca aired on July 18, the public's reception in Israel and in the Muslim world was sharply critical.

As Tamary states on air, entry to Islam's holiest site is forbidden to members of other religions and illegal under Saudi law. Tamary, who was in the country on a special invitation by the Saudi government on the occasion of President Joe Biden's diplomatic visit to the region, entered Mecca without permission in search of an exclusive story for his news outlet.

By the next morning, social media was ablaze with outrage over Tamary's act and the outlet's decision to air the footage. Both the reporter and Channel 13 issued apologies, saying they didn't mean to offend, but defending the segment as "an important journalistic accomplishment" and "great journalism."

# Israel Says US Sex Offender Won't Get Citizenship

Israel's top immigration official says the country will not award citizenship to Baruch Lanner, a rabbi and convicted sex offender from the United States, JTA reported.

Interior Minister Ayelet Shaked's July 19 announcement came a day after nearly 200 American rabbis and Jewish scholars sent a letter to Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid urging him to reject Lanner's citizenship application.

Lanner, an American rabbi and former official of the Orthodox Union's NCSY youth group, served a three-year prison sentence for sexually assaulting students at a Jewish high school in Jersey in the 1990s. He is staying in Israel on a temporary residency visa pending a decision on his citizenship application by Israel's Interior Ministry. He is seeking to take advantage of Israel's Law of Return, under which Jews from anywhere in the world can be granted Israeli citizenship.

News of Lanner's status in Israel broke earlier in July and triggered an outcry among advocates of victims of sexual abuse in Israel and the United States. Online petitions calling on the government to reject Lanner's application have cropped up.

## Surf Lifesaving Competitions Debut at Maccabiah Games

Surf lifesaving competitions are being held for the first time at the Maccabiah Games in Israel this summer, jns.org reported.

Surf lifesaving combines swimming, lifesaving techniques and general fitness. The competitions involve running and then swimming or board-paddling to rescue someone at sea in the shortest amount of time. There are both individual and team events.

The exhibition events, held July 20 and 21 on the Netanya beach, are an initiative of the Israel Life Saving Federation, a nonprofit organization that seeks to prevent drownings through education and practical courses.

Paul Hakim, an Australian native, and his brother, Danny, started the ILSF in 2020. Their organization runs year-round water safety and surf-rescue courses training children and adults to be volunteer first responders in the water. JE

- Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

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feature **story** /

Kids at the Golden Slipper Camp in the Poconos are enjoying a mask-free summer in 2022

# A POST-COVID DAY AT GOLDEN SLIPPER (AMP IN THE POCONOS

### JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

riving through the Poconos to get to Golden Slipper Camp, you won't see a business or residential area for miles. Just winding roads and trees, and then more winding roads and trees, until you roll up to a security booth with an officer in it and a sign up ahead that tells you that, yes, you are now at camp.

Like at so many other Jewish sleepaway camps, the bubble feeling is real here. Summer is a place to escape into mountains, nature and a self-contained world of spirit and connection.

And this summer, after two years in which a realworld problem, COVID-19, pierced that bubble, the feeling is finally back.

Golden Slipper's 80 or so campers, boys and girls between the ages of seven and 15, can walk around without masks, social distancing requirements and fear. They do not have to think twice about interacting with others.

COVID is still present in the form of the negative tests that are required for walking up and around this Stroudsburg hill. But once you are in, you can forget about the pandemic and everything else happening in the outside world. It's just like camp used to be before 2020 — and throughout the first 70-plus years of Golden Slipper's existence.

"I say at the beginning, at orientation, and I'm sure I stole it from someone over the years, that camp is just trees and land and some buildings. But that energy, that vibe, that's us, that's the staff, that's people returning year after year," said Matt Freedman, Golden Slipper's special events coordinator.

Freedman attended the Jewish camp as a camper and counselor from 1990-2002. Last year, though, the schoolteacher returned to take over the role of special events coordinator, primarily organizing evening activities.

During his first summer back in 2021, Freedman saw the trees, the land and the buildings. This year, though, he sees camp.

"It was physically back (last year). It's emotionally back this year," he explained.

Monday, July 25 was a rainy morning at Golden Slipper. The outdoor fields were soggy, and the walking path was marked by puddles.

There was not a camper or counselor to be found

around the grounds ... until you walked up to the hybrid basketball court/evening activity hall that you will find at almost any sleepaway camp. The facility with a roof but no walls, to let the fresh air in, was ideal for a morning activity on a rainy day.

And so everyone, all 80 or so campers, their counselors, the head staff members, Freedman and camp Director Justin Guida were gathered there for an a.m. version of "night at the races," an evening activity in which bunks compete in games like relay races while riding pool tubes.

Freedman bounded around the stage, blasted upbeat music and made campy jokes about how much he was enjoying his power. On the court below, kids raced up and down, cheered each other on and went wild when their bunks won. Guida watched from the side and smiled.

A girls' cabin called themselves Team Ireland and kept repeating a chant about the European country. An older male camper informed the Jewish Exponent that his nickname was "the alpha Jew." All of this went on for almost two hours.

"We can actually feel everyone's spirit and joy

again, hear everyone's voice again and be in this environment where it feels like it is electricity through everyone's body," said Jordyn Citron, a counselor of Team Ireland who is in her 15th summer at Golden Slipper.

Citron's campers added that, without restrictions, they felt like they didn't have to be fake. They could be their true selves, interact with other kids around camp and make new friends.

"This is my first summer with no masks," camper Arianna Lodge said. "I came last year and we had masks, and I didn't get to meet like anyone."

After the morning at the races, the campers rested in their cabins for a while before heading to the dining hall for lunch. Everyone ate at the same time, and campers talked, laughed and even broke out in some cheers.

Guida, Freedman and other head staff members continued improvising their way through the rainy day that was upending their normal, mostly outdoor schedule. The grass fields were still too wet to use, but the rain was stopping and the sun was starting to peek through the clouds.

Near the end of lunch, Freedman picked up the microphone and announced the schedule for the afternoon. Rest hour first, of course, as everyone needed to digest. But then back-to-back periods of co-ed swim and preparation for "TikTok Night" later that week, when each cabin would perform a comedic skit. Half of the bunks would do one or the other, and then they would switch.

In the pool, boys swam on one side and girls on the other, with ropes in between, though there was a middle section for them to swim together if they wanted. Some boys and girls outside of the pool walked out of their respective areas to meet and talk.

Counselors not on lifeguard duty jumped into the water to splash campers, toss them around and carry



them on their backs. One male counselor walked around singing the Ed Sheeran hit "Bad Habits" and told a camper that he loved the song.

"You get to see smiles. That was missed last year," said Aaron Ransom, a second-year counselor who was at the pool. "It just feels more alive. It feels like camp."

But perhaps nothing felt campier than the preparations for "TikTok Night."

One girls' cabin was focusing on a "Dora the Explorer" theme and, in particular, the main character's famous "Backpack" song. The tallest girl in



the bunk played Dora while the smallest played the backpack, contorting her body into a ball shape so her bunkmate could lock arms with her and hold her up on her back.

As they practiced this routine before Guida, who was driving around to observe some practice sessions, their bunkmates cracked up from the porch. The director did, too.

Over on the tennis courts, the waiters and waitresses, or the oldest campers who help with meals, practiced their own skit that portrayed drop-off day at the start of the summer. "Parents" hugged their precious "kids" and refused to let go, while the "kids" tried to break away. There was a single parent, a mom and a dad and two moms.

"We're progressive here," a counselor said to Guida. After the "campers" had broken away onto their buses, the director himself walked up to the "parents" to shake their hands. Only it wasn't Guida, of course; it was a waiter playing him. He walked down the line, nodded his head and shook every hand.

The real director and everyone else on the court cracked up together.

"It's kind of fun," said Hugo Simonetti, the kid who played Guida.

As the clock ticked past 4 p.m., the director returned to his office. Sitting on his desk was a thick binder for the American Camp Association, which would visit the next day to inspect and hopefully certify Golden Slipper.

Guida said the binder contained "everything about camp," and that he was confident the inspection would go just fine. It was probably his biggest concern of the day along with the rain.

"We have to deal with, 'It's raining; what are we going to do? It's too hot; what are we doing to do?"" he added. "Those are the real issues that aren't real issues, but they are camp issues. We have to deal with them before we think about anything else." JE

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com

# **Summer Best Bites**

KERI WHITE | SPECIAL TO THE JE

ast week, Becca Hyman visited me. She happens to be a friend of my daughter's and is also the doyenne of "Becca's Best Bites," a series of cooking videos on Instagram that features primarily vegetarian and vegan cooking.

I was happy to hand over the kitchen to her during her visit and enjoyed several delicious dishes courtesy of her deft culinary hand.

When asked how she got into cooking and posting, Hyman answered with exuberant good humor.

"My hobby is eating! But really, I give a huge thanks to my mom and dad for their amazing cooking skills. Because of them, I have loved cooking my whole life. For me, cooking provides a way to de-stress and have fun."

Hyman came to enjoy vegetarian and vegan dishes recently: "I started cooking more vegetarian and vegan recipes during COVID, a time when we all found some new hobbies. I loved the challenge of thinking of some of my favorite dishes and making them without meat."

When she moved out on her own following her graduation from Brandeis University, Hyman further embraced vegetarian eating.

"I decided to continue to try to eat less meat because it not only made me feel good, but it also was surprisingly cheap," she said. "As I continued on this journey, my friends, somewhat relentlessly, would encourage me to post about my process. Finally, I decided to create @beccas.bestbites, and I am so happy I did.

"I love sharing my recipes and passion for cooking with the world. Seeing people comment and react that I inspired them to cook something new or just start cooking in the first place is so exciting for me.

We enjoyed these Vietnamese-style summer rolls for lunch, courtesy of Hyman, who is clearly invited back any time. The rolls are supremely adaptable - use whatever fresh veggies you have on hand, as well as any leftover cold

meat or fish. The recipe below suggests fried tofu, but we had them with leftover roasted chicken, and they were great.

## **Vietnamese-Style Summer Rolls**

Makes 6 rolls, which serve 2-3 as a main dish or 4-6 as a side

- 6 rice paper wrappers
- 2 cups assorted fresh vegetables, cut into thin strips. We used cucumbers, bell peppers, carrots and red cabbage.
- 6 large sprigs fresh cilantro, chopped
- 6 large fresh mint leaves, chopped
- 1 cup protein of choice, if desired, such as fried or grilled tofu, cooked chicken, beef or fish.

# **Peanut Dipping Sauce**

This makes about <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cup; the leftover is great on beef or chicken satay or tossed in cold noodles.

- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 3 tablespoons rice vinegar
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon chili garlic sauce
- (such as Sriracha)
- 2 cloves garlic minced
- 1 teaspoon grated ginger Splash of sesame oil
- 1/4 cup water (or more depending
- upon how thick you want the sauce)
- 1 tablespoon maple syrup

Whisk together all of the peanut dipping sauce ingredients, and set them aside.

Chop the veggies and protein (if using) into thin pieces about 2 inches lona.

Fill a large, shallow bowl with warm water - it must be large enough to submerge a wrapper without having it fold over. Make the summer rolls one at a time: Place one wrapper in the water for about 15 seconds until it softens to the texture of a wet noodle. Remove it from the water, gently shake off the excess, dab it on a kitchen towel and place it on a plate or cutting board.

veggies and protein. Fold it together, were a great addition. like a burrito, tucking the ends in. Set it aside on a serving plate, and repeat until all the wrappers and fillings are used.

Note: It will be harder to fold if you overstuff it, but if the rolls come apart, it's not the end of the world. It will just be more of a knife-and-fork dish than finger food.

# **Vegan Potato Salad with Mustard and Herbs**

Serves 8

Hyman also made this potato salad for a traditional hamburger and hot dog barbecue one night. Although our menu was by no means vegan, this potato salad is.

One comment: I consider myself an open-minded cook and eater, but full disclosure, the sun-dried tomatoes did not really work for me in this dish. The mustardy/herby/ oniony vibe was heading in one direction, but the tomatoes were a bit of a left turn. I was, however, in the minority, and the other assem-Fill the wrapper as desired with bled guests thought the sun-drieds

- 2 pounds potatoes cut into bitesized pieces (we did not peel them)
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon grainy mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 3/4 cup chopped celery
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup chopped parsley
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup chopped scallions
- 3 tablespoons finely chopped
- oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes
- 2 tablespoons chopped dill

Cook the potatoes in salted boiling water, covered, until tender, about 15 minutes. Cool the potatoes completely - refrigerate to accelerate this process, if desired.

Whisk the oil, vinegar, mustard, salt and pepper in a bowl, and pour it over the potatoes. Toss to coat.

Add the remaining ingredients, and toss them to combine. Let it sit for a few hours if possible to allow the flavors to blend.

Serve at room temperature or chilled. JE

# Temple Judea Museum to Show Climate Crisis Exhibit at MCCC

# SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

emple Judea Museum's "Out of the Whirlwind: Fire, Air, Water, Earth; Reflections and Forecasts on Global Warming and Climate Change" was dreamed up long before COVID began. For TJM director and curator Rita Poley, there's never been a more apt time to put on the exhibit.

The art exhibit, opening Aug. 26 at Montgomery County Community College, is a study on the impacts of global warming, inspired by Jewish texts replete with commentary on the subject. A recent heat wave across Philadelphia, other parts of the U.S. and Europe only made the exhibit's theme more appropriate.

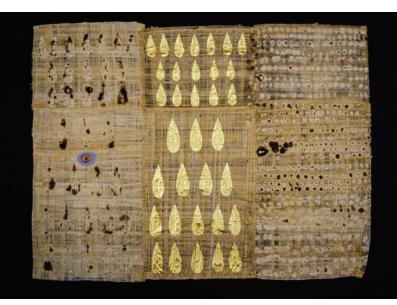
"From the Zohar to the Talmud to the Bible, it was just this whole unfolding of beautiful references and thought about nature as a force," Poley said. "And that was how we gravitated to seeing this theme of the elements and global warming as a threat to nature as a man-made problem."

The exhibit from TJM, part of Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park, will feature the works of 17 artists from the TJM Artists' Collaborative, a group of professional artists and KI members, and 14 Jewish guest artists from the community. MCCC Gallery Director Patrick Rodgers will help Poley curate the pieces.

Even a month before the exhibit opens, Poley and Rodgers are putting in the hours to organize the show. Though the weeks leading up to the exhibit's Aug. 22 installation are "the calm before the storm," "Whirlwind" has lived up to its name; it's a show three years in the making.

In late 2019, Marlene Adler, chair of the Artists' Collaborative, approached Rodgers, a longtime collaborator, about a show on climate change. Even at the onset of the pandemic, the commitment to bringing the exhibit to fruition was unwavering.

"It's a signal of how important a topic climate change is," Rodgers said. "On top of all that, we've just kept at it all these years."



Diane Pieri's "Fire Danger High" about the California wild fires she encountered while living there in the 1990s Courtesy of Rita Poley

At this point, artists have submitted all pieces for the exhibit and are finalizing the descriptions that will accompany the pieces. Though Poley and Rodgers selected each piece specifically for the show, they will not be able to organize and curate the pieces in the space until four days before the exhibit opening.

Despite the crunched timeline, there's little Rodgers can do to prepare for the layout of the exhibit beyond painting walls and pedestals.

"You never know how everything is going to play until it's all in front of you," he said. "And that process is just sort of magical and fun in its own way."

Though the pieces range from paintings to sculptures, Poley believes they are all cohesive in their relevance to the show's theme.

"It was pretty obvious that the artists who got it really got it," Poley said. "That they were moved by the subject, moved by what's going on in our environment today."

The pieces — beyond showing one of the fire, air, water and earth elements also have a layer of commentary, often somber, about climate change.

"Some artists were submitting artwork that was like pretty trees," Poley said. "I had to say to them, 'This isn't about pretty trees." Diane Pieri, a guest artist for the exhibit, is showing her series "Fire Danger High" about forest fires in California, where she lived in the 1990s. She completed the pieces in 1997, but according to Poley, they fit with the theme even 25 years later.

"Fire Danger High" was created on large sheets of papyrus that Pieri set on fire, creating splotches of scorch marks. Gold leaf and flowers adorn the destroyed papyrus.

"Flowers, to me, represented a kind of beauty, and the fire wasn't. It was a destroying factor," Pieri said.

The purpose of the pieces is to draw in the viewer to the gold and floral patterns, but as the viewer pays more attention to the piece, they realize its deeper meaning.

Leon Chudzinski, a newer member of TJM's Artists' Collaborative, also uses gold in his piece "Legacy," a sculpture made out of found materials from Chudzinski's garden and backyard shed, including chicken wire, stakes and a hose reel.

The sculpture, which was created specifically for the exhibit, is shaped like an hourglass and spins, showing off a moving tornado at the top of the hourglass feeding into the bottom chamber filled with gold "sand." In addition to showing the increase in natural disasters climate change will cause, the piece also



Leon Chudzinksi's "Legacy" about the inherited burden of the younger generation addressing climate change

illustrates that the younger generation is running out of time to fix the climate crisis. The gold represents the wealth the older generation extracted by using natural resources at the expense of the environment, Chudzinski said.

"As part of our [Jewish] teachings, obviously we all should be stewards of the Earth," he said. "We all should care; we all should give back."

"Out of the Whirlwind: Fire, Air, Water, Earth" will be exhibited at MONTCO's Blue Bell campus from Aug. 26 to Sept. 30. For more information, visit kenesethisrael.org/out-of-the-whirlwind. JE

srogelberg@midatlanticmedia.com

# Real Estate Leader Frank G. **Binswanger Jr. Dies at 94**

### BY HEATHER M. ROSS | STAFF WRITER

rank G. Binswanger Jr., the former owner of an international commercial real estate agency founded in Philadelphia, died on July 6 at his beach house in Margate, New Jersey. He was 94.

Binswanger, who was a member of Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel and later Congregation Rodeph Shalom, grew up in Elkins Park. He attended high school at Deerfield Academy in Massachusetts and got his bachelor's degree in English at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, according to his daughter, Jody Binswanger Snider.

He was best known for his lively personality, strong work ethic and working with other large, international

devotion to his family - a work ethic that he tried to teach to his children, she said.

After serving in the Army for 31/2 years, Binswanger returned home and joined The Binswanger Cos. co-founded by his father in 1931. He stayed with the company for the rest of his career.

According to nephew David Binswanger, Binswanger recognized, "that corporations were making location decisions based on strategic parameters rather than specific addresses. He opened offices across the country employing a centralized structure to make sure Binswanger viewed the world as corporations did. Eventually, that led to international expansion in over 25 countries."

Soon, Binswanger found himself



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Frank G. Binswanger Jr.

corporations, including Motorola, Intel, Amgen, Kohler, Caterpillar and IBM.

"He took a relatively local Pennsylvania real estate firm and turned it into an international real estate mega-company with offices around the world," Binswanger Snider said.

However, his business acumen wasn't his most notable feature, she said. It was his devotion to family and friends that set Binswanger apart.

"Family was the most important aspect of his life, and he was so proud of his children and grandchildren," David Binswanger said in the

Courtesy of Jody Binswanger Snider

eulogy he wrote.

In Philadelphia, Binswanger was known as a strong supporter of the Philadelphia community, serving on the board of the Fox Chase Cancer Center and as the Philadelphia Chapter chair of the Young President's Organization.

Binswanger met his wife, Suzanne, in Philadelphia, and they married in 1950. She was with him when he died.

Binswanger Snider remembered her parents' relationship fondly.

"They really did have a fairy tale relationship to the very end," she said. "I don't remember them fighting."

Binswanger strived to keep family traditions alive, including holiday cards and grand gatherings around Thanksgiving.

"He went to all my brothers' sports games ... We went skiing every year. We went from Philly to Stratton Mountain, which is a 5- to 6-hour car ride," Binswanger Snider said.

Binswanger Snider recounted one of her fondest memories of her father from her childhood. One summer when she and her sister were at camp, her father decided he would visit — by renting a helicopter. He threw Mars chocolate bars down at the flagpole area of the camp for Snider and her friends from above.

"He was definitely the life of the party," Snider said.

Binswanger loved dressing up, entertaining at parties and listening to as well as playing jazz music. He enjoyed the music of Lou Rawls, Grover Washington, Jr. and Frank Sinatra. His favorite costumes were his admiral outfit and an ape costume, which occasionally made appearances at family weddings. He could also, according to Binswanger Snider, dance well with a glass on his head.

Binswanger was remembered by friends as a passionate man who lived life to the fullest.

"He was tenacious as anybody I ever met. When he believed in something, he would go to the net with it," said Bud Newman, former board chair of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia. Binswanger and Newman were friends for more than 55 years after meeting through a neighbor.

"[We had] a genuine love for each other that inspired me to do all I can," Newman said. Time with his family showed the importance of things like education, travel and understanding different cultures, Binswanger Snider said.

"He demonstrated the best of Jewish values, the Jewish values of truthfulness, philanthropy and showing kindness," she said.

Binswanger is survived by his wife of 72 years, Suzanne Hirsch Binswanger; his brother, John Binswanger (Gay); his children, Eve Wildrick, Jody Snider (Andy) and Jeff Binswanger (Shauna); six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. JE

# BERGELSON

ROBERT J. on July 17, 2022. Loving brother of Jeffrey Bergelson (Linda Finkelstein); Devoted uncle of Louis (Maggie) and Sophie; Adoring great uncle of Lyra and Ronan.

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# EISS

SYLVIA (nee Sandler)-On July 14, 2022. Beloved wife of the late Bernard Eiss. Loving mother of Michael D. Eiss. Esg (Adrienne). Cheryl Gross (Steven), Karla Goldstein (Edward), and the late Roxanne Werl (George). Dear Grandmother of Matthew Werl, Rebecca Kozak (Chris), Victoria Glass (Adam), Brian Gross (Lauren), Rachel Tedeschi (Drew), Alex Goldstein, and Tyler Goldstein. Loving great grandmother of Conner, Charlotte, Logan, Ari, Eli, Kaiya, and Miles. Sister of Beatrice Friedman. Contributions in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society.

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### GINSBURG

HELEN (nee Alper)-July 18, 2022, of Ambler, PA, formerly of Phila.; beloved wife of the late Sigmund; loving mother of Phyllis Slutsky (Donald), Barry Ginsburg (Rona) and Meryl Uranga; devoted sister of Stanley Alper; also cherished by 10 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held on Wed., July 20, 2022, at Joseph Levine & Sons, Trevose, PA. Interment followed at King David Memorial Park. Contributions in Helen's name may be made to the Bow Foundation (gna01.org).

JOSEPH LEVINE & SONS www.levinefuneral.com

# GREMMINGER

STACY (nee Siegel) of Holland, PA. Beloved wife of Eric "Rick" Gremminger; loving mother of Frank (Latanya) Young, Jonathan (Sarah) Gremminger, and Lyssa (James) Murphy; adoring grandmother of Morgan and Sloane; devoted sister of Susan (the late Kenneth) Etkin and Nancy (Anthony Pino) Siegel; treasured aunt of many nieces and nephews. Services were held July 22 with interment at Roosevelt Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to Penn Medicine directed to the Penn Home Cares Fund (pennmedicine.org).

JOSEPH LEVINE & SONS www.levinefuneral.com

## **KAPUSTIN**

DENNIS EDWARD, 83, on July 15, 2022. Beloved husband of Brenda; Loving father of Susan Bruce (Gary), Wendy Wright (Jon), and Marcia Kerrigan (Tim); Adoring grandfather of Sam, Jordan, Miranda, and Gabriella. A Philadelphia attorney specializing in estate planning and tax law. Dennis graduated from Central High School, The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, obtained his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania, and his LLM in graduate tax from New York University. Dennis was president of his local B'nai Brith Chapter. He was an avid sports fan and took joy in coaching his daughters' sports teams. Dennis and his wife of 60 years traveled the world together exploring different lands, culture, and foods. Dennis loved trivia and history and enjoyed speaking with his family and friends about current events. In lieu of flowers, charitable donations in Dennis' honor may be made to The Dementia Society of America - https://www.dementiasociety.org/

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## KURLAND

EDWARD NATHAN, 83, of Philadelphia, passed away peacefully at home after a lengthy illness on Wednesday, July 20, 2022. Survived by his wife, Patrice M. Meyers, and son, Shawn P. Kurland. Predeceased by his parents Samuel and Frances (Edelstein) Kurland and sister, Bonnie Sue Price. Ed will be fondly remembered by extended family and friends as a loving husband and father, distinguished attorney, real estate developer, avid enthusiast for fast cars and motorcycles, fishing, travel, and as a proud patriot and US Air Force veteran. Memorial donations may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research or a charity of your choice.

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# LAYTON

MILDRED (nee Abrams)-On July 17. 2022. Beloved wife of the late Irving Layton. Devoted mother of Steven Layton and Ruth Holzman Dear sister of Arthur (Rich). Abrams. Loving Gammy of Marisa Schulz (Chris), Dana Sypolt (Dan), and Jessica Holzman. Great grandmother of Avery, Norah, and Duke. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations in her memory be made to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, PO Box 781352, Philadelphia, PA 19178-1352. Please remember to write in memory of Mildred Layton on the memo line of the check. Gifts may also be made online at http://www. chop.edu/give GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S

RAPHAEL-SACKS www.goldsteinsfuneral.com

### LEVIN

HENRY on July 17, 2022. Loving son of the late Tema (nee Greenwald) and Albert; Dear brother of James Levin (Lisa Tucker) and Raymond Levin (Lori); Devoted uncle of Danielle (Jonathan) and Michael. Contributions in his memory may be made to Jewish Family and Children's Service, 2100 Arch St., 5th FL, Phila., PA 19103, www. jfcsphilly.org.

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## LEVINE

JAY H., of Ventnor, NJ, formerly of Cherry Hill, NJ died July 6, 2022 in Atlantic City, NJ. He was the husband of Marsha Levine (nee Wattenmaker), father of llene (Steven) Berman and Ellen Northrup, grandfather of Lee (Karly), Holly (Ben), Nina, Kyle and Karli, and great grandfather of Ryder, Van, Ashton, Ryan and Lexi. Services and burial took place at Roosevelt Memorial Park in Trevose, PA. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in memory of Jay to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Checks made out to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Foundation can be mailed to P.O. Box 781352, Philadelphia, PA 19178-1352 Please remember to write in memory of Jay Levine on the memo line of the check. Gifts may also be made online at http://www.chop. edu/aive.

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# NEWMAN

Sandra Newman (nee Levowitz),

passed away on July 20, 2022. Wife of the late Herbert Newman. Mother of Rod (Robin) Schwartz and Michele (Benjamin) Mittelman. Grandmother of Evan and Taylor Schwartz. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org/ delval.

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# SAILOR

DONNA SAILOR (nee Weinstein) on July 16, 2022. Wife of the late Irwin. Mother of Todd (Debra) Sailor, Mark (Kathleen) Sailor and Mindy (Jules) Shamberg. Grandmother of Ryan Sailor, Jessica (Ryan) McLean, Erica (Eugene) Slason, Stephen Shamberg and Jonathan Shamberg (Lily Kull). Great grandmother of Maximilian, Lucy and Cora.

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## YAMPOLSKY

RENEE JOAN-It is with great sadness that the family of Renee Joan Yampolsky (nee Zeben) announces her passing on Thursday, July 21, 2022, at the age of 85, peacefully in her home with family by her side. Survived by her daughters Marci Yampolsky Bare (David) and Faith Yampolsky, grandson Bryan Yampolsky (Marisa), and sister Fern Shankin. She was predeceased by her husband of 47 years, Frederick Robert and her parents Zelda (nee Berkowitz) and Jack Zeben. Born to Jack and Zelda in Philadelphia in 1937, Renee graduated from West Philadelphia High School in 1955. She met her husband, Fred, on a blind date and they married in 1956. The couple lived in Philadelphia where they raised their two daughters. Contributions in her memory may be made to any animal "no kill" shelter.

synagogue **spotlight** /

What's happening at ... Main Line Reform Temple

# Main Line Reform Temple Welcomes New, Familiar Rabbi

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

ain Line Reform Temple-Beth Elohim opened in 1952 with 55 founding families and meetings in the Ardmore Women's Club. Later that year, the first Reform synagogue on the Main Line brought on its first spiritual leader in Rabbi Theodore H. Gordon.

Of the four senior rabbis to serve the congregation in its 70-year history, three, Gordon (1953-1972), Rabbi Max Hausen (1972-1996) and Rabbi David Straus (1998-2022), served long enough to mark eras at the Wynnewood institution, which today gathers at its own building on Montgomery Avenue.

This is the legacy that Rabbi Geri Newburge, Main Line Reform Temple's new senior rabbi as of July 1, is inheriting, and no one is more ready to take on the responsibility, according to synagogue members.

Newburge, 48, has already been with the temple for almost a decade, arriving in 2013 to serve as associate rabbi. She acted as senior rabbi starting on July 1, 2021, as Straus spent his final year on sabbatical. And Newburge is "a real person who you can have real conversations with," said Amy Krulik, the synagogue's executive director.

"She is a natural leader and really does thrive on feedback," added Lori Robbins, the vice president of the synagogue's board of trustees.

Newburge, for her part, is excited to become a senior rabbi for the first time. She was ordained at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati in 2003. Then she spent 10 years as an associate rabbi to Jerome P. David at Temple Emanuel in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. After that, she served another nine years on Straus' team.

But it's not just the promotion and chance to lead that excite Newburge. It's that she gets to do it at Main Line Reform Temple. She may have reached the point in her rabbinical journey where she has a long-term home; she also feels comfortable in that home.



Rabbi Geri Newburge

"Even though I've essentially been doing a lot of it for the past year, the reality of it is sinking in," she said. "It's just a wonderful and exciting new chapter."

Newburge is taking over an institution that does not quite face the same survival questions that many other synagogues battle today.

MLRT still has about 850 member families. Its building underwent a \$10 million renovation under Straus that added new worship spaces and wheelchair accessibility. And it navigated the turbulent waters of the pandemic with another \$800,000 capital campaign to keep the lights on.

The synagogue is also in good shape in its education wing. MLRT's Early Childhood Education center is full for the coming year with 155 students. Its K-12 religious school has more than 300 students enrolled for 2022-'23.

This fall, Newburge and Main Line Reform Temple will open the doors for congregants to attend High Holiday services in person. They have not done so since before the pandemic in 2019.

"To be able to look into people's eyes and be in community with them brings a tremendous amount of relationship-building, and that's really why I became a rabbi," Newburge said. "It's harder to do that virtually than it is in person."

Newburge's vision for the community is of people getting together in the physical reality. When people think of MLRT, she wants them to think of peace, joy and love, she explained.

"And I think, from there, good things flow," she added. "Education, ritual observances, life cycle events."

Newburge knows that the synagogue does not need any major additions or renovations at the moment, so she is focusing on smaller but still important initiatives. Over the next year, she hopes to restore the temple's Torahs and rework the post-b'nai mitzvah program to add a jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com

Yael Pachino Photography

trip to Israel for ninth and 10th graders.

"One of the things I love about Main Line Reform Temple is there's a culture of excellence, and that is something I feel is a part of who I am," Newburge said. "We're constantly striving to be the best that we can be."

In many ways, though, their best just means a continuation of what they are already doing.

Newburge is "in tune with congregants and what our needs are," member Jennie Nemroff said. The rabbi hosts a well-attended movie night at the synagogue, hikes with members on Saturday mornings in a local park and attends beer club events with them at area restaurants. At the same time, she officiates their weddings and funerals, always with a personal touch.

"We see her in all kinds of lights," Nemroff said. "She's human." JE



# **Being Part of the Solution**

# **BY RABBI DAVID LEVIN**

## **Parshat Matot-Masei**

atot offers a climax to one of the troubling stories in the formation of our people. On the verge of entering the Promised Land, the children of Israel must fight the Midianite people first. Although Moses instructs his warriors, according to God's directive, to slay all the Midianites, Moses is angered when the army spares the women and children and reiterates the command to kill. (the flood, Sodom and the Korach Rebellion, to name three).

When individuals assume that responsibility and act on behalf of God, it is dangerous. A humane approach offers compassion instead of annihilation and a path toward peace. This alternative does not dismiss the history but does not make us slaves to the past, repeating and perpetuating tribalistic hate. Our tradition repeatedly admonishes us to act with benevolence and, in the words of Pirkei Avot, "Even in a place where there are no menschen, strive to be a mensch."

Against this backdrop, we might

deprive ourselves of the very humanity our tradition teaches.

We Jews are duty-bound to see and respond to the Ukrainian people's human suffering and the Poles' heroic efforts. We know that the support by the Poles is something no one offered us as the Shoah unfolded. And knowing this, we can nonetheless be instruments in alleviating anguish and perhaps elevating ourselves in the process.

We can serve as *Or l'goyim*, a light to the nations, deeply rooted in our belief that we can be agents of change; partners in the ongoing act of creation; that we hear of the suffering and do

We can serve as Or l'goyim, a light to the nations, deeply rooted in our belief that we can be agents of change; partners in the ongoing act of creation; that we hear of the suffering and do not stand idly by as another's blood is shed.

Were the Israelite people freed so they would unquestioningly carry out God's dirty work? Or was this a test to see if we were worthy of freedom and the responsibilities such freedom carries? Were we ready to serve God as a righteous light to the nations? The army commanders understood the implications of this barbaric act and refused to follow the order. Moses overruled them, demanding harsh vengeance.

This kind of retaliation is appalling by our standards, and it was unacceptable for the Israelites, too. The phrase "Just following orders" sends shudders down the spine. But, even where legitimate grievance exists, morality trumps brutal vengeance. Matot is a warning for us and our interaction in an often inhospitable, antisemitic world.

However, the past cannot be the only lens we use to see the future. There was legitimate grievance against the Midianites. They attempted to undermine the nascent Israelite nation, and war appeared to be the way forward. But following orders is insufficient reason to commit atrocities. God's vengeance is best left for God to transact look again at the lessons of this part of the parsha and see how we can apply them in many current world affairs and, in particular, to the situation with the Russian war's effects on Ukrainians and Poles. We cannot be indifferent to human suffering; it goes against everything our tradition demands.

Jewish history in Ukraine and Poland is fraught. Persecution and antisemitism characterize much of the Jewish experience. Periods of welcome, such as King Casimir III inviting Jews to Poland as other countries expelled them, are countered by the infamous Khmelnytskyi and pogroms, which accounted for the slaughter and terror of the Jewish population of the region. It is little wonder that approximately 2 million-plus Jews emigrated to America at the turn of the 20th century when the opportunity to leave that place presented itself.

Furthermore, we understand that deeply rooted antisemitism enabled the Holocaust. These are substantial reasons for the Jewish psyche to be wary. But if we are limited to only that, practicing hatred in response to hate, we not stand idly by as another's blood is shed. Our values compel us to be part of the solution to the problem rather than remain mired in a history where we were seen as the problem needing to be solved.

Of course, we do not deny the past or naively presume the days of Jew-hatred are over. But we can take steps to help the world become a better place. This is a lesson I learned from Parsha Matot.

Shabbat Shalom. **JE** 

Rabbi David Levin manages Jewish Relationships Initiative, a 501(c)(3) helping seekers of meaning through Jewish wisdom, focusing on relationships and end-of-life challenges. The Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia is proud to provide diverse perspectives on Torah commentary for the Jewish Exponent. The opinions expressed in this column are the author's own and do not reflect the view of the Board of Rabbis.





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# BIRTH

### NOAH BENJAMIN GREENE

Rachel Eisenberg and Stuart Greene of Maple Glen announce the birth of their son Noah Benjamin on May 29.

Sharing in their joy are brother Aaron and grandparents Betty Gross Eisenberg of Maple Glen; Floyd Eisenberg of Washington, D.C.; and Joanne and Richard Greene of Dresher.

Also celebrating Noah's arrival are great-grandmothers Dorothy Greene and Nancy Smith, as well as aunts, uncles and cousins Sana, Josh, Danny, Benny, Reesa, Dave, Ali, Ed, Gabby, Sophie and Michelle.

Noah Benjamin is named in loving memory of his maternal great-grandmother Helen Gross, paternal great-grandfather Robert (Bob) Greene and maternal grandfather Barry Bressler.



# ENGAGEMENT

### PAIKOFF-SIEGEL

Debra and Richard Paikoff of Holland and Margate City, New Jersey, and Minna and Jerry Siegel of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, announce the engagement of their children, Rachel Emma Paikoff and Nathaniel Louis Siegel.

Rachel is a graduate of the University of Alabama honors college with a degree in public health and Columbia University with mas-

ter's and doctoral degrees in public health education and research. She is a research manager at the Columbia University School of Nursing.

Nathaniel is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a degree in sports management. He works in enterprise business development at CLEAR.

Rachel is the granddaughter of Aaron and Joan Levin of Willow Grove and the late Myron and Joan Paikoff. Nathaniel is the grandson of the late Herman and Claire Siegel and the late Leonard and Bernice Olinsky.

Sharing in the couple's happiness are siblings Elisabeth Siegel and Brandon Paikoff and his fiancée, Ilana Josephson. The couple lives in New York City. An October 2023 wedding is planned in Philadelphia.

Photo by Taylor Nicolle Photo



# MARRIAGE

# FISHER-BATOFF

Dawn and Ted Fisher of Richboro announce the marriage of their daughter, Stephanie Ariel, to Daryl Andrew Batoff, son of Pamela Batoff and the late Steven Batoff of Northeast Philadelphia on Oct. 17, 2020.

After postponing their original wedding plans due

to the pandemic, the couple exchanged vows on their original date in the bride's childhood backyard. Rabbi Anna Boswell-Levy of Congregation Kol Emet in Yardley officiated at the intimate ceremony in front of the couple's parents, grandparents, siblings and wedding party.

On their first anniversary, the couple renewed their vows and celebrated with family and friends at Spring Mill Manor in Ivyland. Rabbi Judy Abrahamson officiated.

The bride is a special education teacher in the Pennsbury School District. The groom is a special education compliance monitor in the School District of Philadelphia. They reside in Langhorne.

ponent

Photo by TLP Studios

# Traditions & Memories

Rosh Hashanah: September 26 & 27 • Yom Kippur: October 5

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# JULY 29-AUGUST 4

# TUESDAY, AUGUST 2 WOMEN AND MONEY MEET-UP

Are you a woman looking to improve your financial skills? Join Jewish Family and Children's Service and a supportive group of women the first Tuesday of every month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. to learn about a range of financial topics, share tips and ideas and alleviate your stress and anxiety around money. **Contact** Laura Flowers at 267-256-2274 or Iflowers@jfcsphilly.org for more information.



# FRIDAY, JULY 29

# 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-torahportion.html to receive the Zoom link and password.** 

# MONDAY, AUG. 1

MAHJONG GAME Melrose B'nai Israel Emanu-El

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

# TUESDAY, AUG. 2 BINGO WITH BARRY

Join Barry at Tabas Kleinlife for an afternoon of bingo from 12:30-3:30 p.m. on Aug. 2, 3 and 4. Free parking and free to play with snacks available on Aug. 3. For more information, call 215-745-3127. 2101 Strahle St., Philadelphia.

# SISTERHOOD BINGO

The Sisterhood of Congregations of Shaare Shamayim is hosting a summer virtual bingo. On two consecutive Tuesdays, Aug. 2 and 9, starting at 7:30 p.m., join us for two evenings of fun. The cost is \$36 per person and includes two cards for eight games of bingo each night. We are also holding a \$5 50/50 each night. For more information, call the CSS office at 215-677-1600.

# THURSDAY, AUG. 4 MOVIE AND BAGEL BRUNCH

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# around town /

# Out & About

Courtesy of Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties



KleinLife in Northeast Philadelphia held its active adult birthday celebration on July 20.
Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties staff members Mary Jean Arreola, Begum Malali and Sharon Simon participated in the JFS Community Wellness Event on July 19 in Margate, New Jersey.
Seventy-two local women went on a trip to Israel through the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.
Lee Slobotkin, who played leading roles in "The Book of Mormon" on Broadway and in the national tour of "Wicked," performed a benefit concert at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel on July 17 in Elkins Park.
The West Laurel Hill Cemetery & Funeral Home opened a new Jewish cemetery.

last **word** 

# Selina Kanowitz BECOMES FIRST WOMAN COMMANDER OF NJ JWV

### SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

pon touching down in Texas and boarding the bus that would take her to Air Force basic training in 1977, Selina Kanowitz was struck by the seriousness of her soon-to-be companions-in-arms: "I stepped up on the bus and said, 'How come everyone's so sad? Doesn't anybody smile on this?""

Kanowitz, 70, grew up never expecting to join the military, let alone become a master sergeant, but her initial fish-out-of-water mentality helped her bring levity to the job and lead with creative solutions in mind.

After leaving the Air Force in 1998, Kanowitz joined Jewish War Veterans Post 215 in Philadelphia, then Post 126 in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, where she was post commander of the year on the state and national level. She was appointed vice junior commander, senior vice commander and, last month, department commander for the Jewish War Veterans, Department of New Jersey Department. She is the first woman to serve in the role.

"It's a big honor, it's a huge responsibility and it's a challenge," Kanowitz said.

Climbing the military ranks when few other women did, the Cherry Hill resident and Chabad of Cherry Hill member hopes to bring more women, as well as families and young people, into the JWV. Kanowitz also will help fellow Jewish veterans connect with resources to help with benefits or provide funeral services and oversee the JWV posts across the state.

All the while, she is balancing a full-time job as the senior staff nuclear medicine technologist at Temple University Hospital.

Kanowitz achieved her veteran status after she was activated, or deployed, in 1991 to be a noncommissioned officer in charge of radiology for Operation Desert Storm. Most of her unit went to Oman, but Kanowitz, a higher-ranking officer, did not go overseas and



provided assistance at home.

The veteran's passion for medicine was the reason she originally joined the military. Raised in an Orthodox home in Philadelphia, Kanowitz wanted to become a pediatrician. She enjoyed working with children as a teacher before joining the Air Force.

To receive financial assistance to attend medical school, Kanowitz joined the military but was told she had to apply to civilian schools on her own dime — something her family couldn't afford. The Air Force trained her in radiology, but a "bored" Kanowitz

later enrolled in Washington Memorial School of Nuclear Medicine, now the Jefferson Washington Township Hospital. She graduated in 1979, two years after enlisting.

Kanowitz was the only Jewish person at basic training at the Texas military base, and women were first being accepted in 1977. Later in her service, colleagues called Kanowitz "Private Benjamin," referring to the 1980 Goldie Hawn film about a Jewish woman joining the Women's Army Corps after her husband died.

Her differences were a point of srogelberg@midatlanticmedia.com

pride for Kanowitz.

Kanowitz kept kosher as best she could and frequently met with the Jewish military chaplain and rabbi who visited the base's chapel for Shabbat. Later in her training, friends would join her for the makeshift services.

"I really didn't feel alienated," Kanowitz said. "I felt special, actually."

Still, Kanowitz believes she did experience some added difficulties as a minority in the Air Force. She had a commander who held her back twice from going before the review board to be a commissioned officer. Her college degree should have granted Kanowitz the ability to become a lieutenant, major or captain, she believed. She attributed the instance to antisemitism because her commanding officer was not Jewish.

"It was subtle, but it was there," Kanowitz said.

But most of the time, Kanowitz was focused on her job. Appointed dorm chief during basic training, Kanowitz was put in charge of dozens of other women at the base. One day, a drill instructor approached her and told her to hold a GI party. Kanowitz thought this was an actual party until two women approached her and told her the term referred to a thorough cleaning of the dorm.

"So we got a sheet, and they gave us a watered-down bucket of wax, and we turned on a radio in the giant room, and we danced on the sheet," Kanowitz said. "We shined these floors like you could see forever. We did a great job, and we had fun doing it."

It was Kanowitz's same knack for building community that brought her to the JWV, a place where, after decades of being a minority, Kanowitz found camaraderie in so many people like her. Joining the organization, she learned "leadership," "camaraderie" and the confidence to speak in front of groups.

"It's like a second family," Kanowitz said. JE

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#### CHANGE OF NAME NOTICE IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

CIVIL DIVISION OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, June Term, 2022, No. 2418, Notice is hereby given that on June 27, 2022 the petition of **Angela Kathleen Callaway** was filed, praying for a decree to change her name to Angela Kathleen McFadden. The Court has fixed August 11th, 2022 at 10:00 am in Room 691. City Hall Philadelphia, PA for the hearing. All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have. why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted Larry H. Lefkowitz, Es 4802 Neshaminy Blvd. Suite 5 Bensalem, PA 19020 Solicitor

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### Solicitor

ESTATE OF ANTHONY L. MAHER, DECEASED.

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ELEANOR J. DEAL Deal, Eleanor aka Deal, Eleanor J. late of Philadelphia, PA. Clayton Deal, c/o Hope Bosniak, Esq., Dessen, Moses & Rossitto, 600 Easton Rd., Willow Grove, PA 19090, Administrator. Dessen, Moses & Rossitto 600 Easton Rd. Willow Grove, PA 19090

ESTATE OF FREDDIE BALDWIN a/k/a FREDDIE MAE BALDWIN, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to RAYMOND DUBOIS, EXECUTOR, c/o Michael S. Bloom, Esq., 712 W. MacDade Blvd., Milmont Park, PA 19033.

Or to his Attorney: MICHAEL S. BLOOM PRESSMAN & DOYLE, LLC 712 W. MacDade Blvd. Milmont Park, PA 19033

ESTATE OF GEORGE A. PLAUFCAN, SR.,

DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to CHARLES A. J. HALPIN, III, ADMINISTRATOR, The Land Title Bldg., 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1830, Philadelphia, PA 19110, Or to his Attorney: CHARLES A. J. HALPIN, III The Land Title Bldg.

The Land Title Bldg. 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1830 Philadelphia, PA 19110

ESTATE OF GEORGE WHEELER FRISON a/k/a GEORGE FRISON and GEORGE W. FRISON, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County, PA. LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to ROZELLA FRISON, EXECUTRIX, 617 Baily Rd., Yeadon, PA 19050

#### ESTATE OF HAZEL PALMER NURSE a/k/a HAZEL P. NURSE, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to KENNETH J. NURSE, EXECUTOR, c/o Bruce M. Dolfman, Esq., 901 N. Penn St. F-2102, Philadelphia, PA 19123.

Or to his Attorney: Bruce M. Dolfman 901 N. Penn St. F-2102 Philadelphia, PA 19123

### ESTATE OF INEZ SHORT,

DECEASED Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who requests all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to TAMMY SHORT, ADMINISTRATRIX c/o DENNIS A. POMO, ESQUIRE 121 S. Broad St., Ste. 1200 Philadelphia, PA 19107 215-665-1900

ESTATE OF JOSEPH FRANCIS DAVIS, SR a/k/a JOSEPH F. DAVIS DECEASED. Late of Lower Merion Township/

Montgomery County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to MARY J. DAVIS, EXECUTIVE c/o AMY W. SOSNOV, ESQ SOSNOV AND SOSNOV 540 SWEDE STREET NORRISTOWN, PA 19401

#### ESTATE OF JOSEPH MERCEDE, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County, PA.

Lettern of Animated States of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to LAURIE MERCEDE, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Corto her Attorney: DANIELLAA. HORN KLENK LAW, LLC 2202 Delancey Place Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF JUSTIN ROY WILEY, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to CHARLES A. HALPIN, ADMINISTRATOR, The Land Title Bldg., 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1830, Philadelphia, PA 19110, Or to his Attornev: CHARLES A. J. HALPIN, III THE LAND TITLE BLDG. 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1830 Philadelphia, PA 19110

### ESTATE OF LORRAINE D. PACK, DECEASED Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been

or the decedent to the undersigned, who requests all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to LEON PACK, EXECUTOR or DENNIS A. POMO, ESQUIRE 121 S. Broad St., Ste. 1200 Philadelphia. PA 19107

ESTATE OF MARTHA LEE , DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

215-665-1900

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to CALVIN JONES, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Adam S. Bernick, Esq., 2047 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19103, O'to his Attorney: ADAM S. BERNICK LAW OFFICE OF FAYE RIVA COHEN, PC 2047 Locust St. Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF MERCEDES AYALA RESTO, DECEASED Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who requests all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to EDITH LOPEZ, Executrix c/o DENNIS A. POMO, ESQUIRE 121 S. Broad St., Ste. 1200 Philadelphia, PA 19107 215-665-1900

#### ESTATE OF RAYMOND W. GASKIN, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to KEEYA J. GASKIN, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Ronald G. McNeil, Esq., 1333 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19107-1585, Or to her Attorney: RONALD G. McNEIL 1333 Race St.

ESTATE OF RHONDA JOHNSON-KIEMTORE a/k/a RHONDA A. JOHNSON-KIEMTORE, DECEASED Late of Philadelphia LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to RISA ANN REAVES, EXECUTRIX, c/o Jay E. Kivitz, Esq., 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150, Or to her Attorney JAY E. KIVITZ KIVITZ & KIVITZ, P.C. 7901 Ogontz Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19150

ESTATE OF STANLEY M. JOHNSON a/k/a STANLEY JOHNSON, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION CTA on the above Estate have been aranted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to ROSALYN M. JOHNSON, ADMINISTRATRIX CTA, c/o Jav E. Kivitz, Esa., 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150. Or to her Attorney: JAY E. KIVITZ KIVITZ & KIVITZ, P.C 7901 Ogontz Ave Philadelphia, PA 19150

ESTATE OF THOMAS M. FISHER, JR. a/k/a THOMAS FISCHER, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION DBN on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DEVARIO SIMPSON, ADMINISTRATOR DBN, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to his Attorney: DANIELLA A. HORN KLENK LAW, LLC

2202 Delancey Place Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF WILLIAM KLOTSAS a/k/a WILLIAM H. KLOTSAS, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to LAURIE MYERS BOBLEY, EXECUTRIX, c/o Laura M. Tobey, Esq., 229 W. Wayne Ave., Wayne, PA 19087,

Or to her Attorney: LAURA M. TOBEY

REIDENBACH & ASSOCIATES,

229 W. Wayne Ave. Wayne, PA 19087

ESTATE OF WINDSOR EUGENE CARLTON a/k/a WINDSOR CARLTON, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to GREGORY G. CARLTON, SR., ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Jay E. Kivitz, Esq., 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150, Or to his Attorney: JAY E. KIVITZ KIVITZ & KIVITZ, P.C 7901 Ogontz Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19150

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**INSTALLATION\*** 

# NOMINATIONS HAVE STARTED



From your favorite restaurant to the best bagel, day camp to your favorite doctor, Family-friendly Shabbat service to best non-profit organization, nominate your favorite people, places and things in Jewish Philly!

The winners are chosen by popular vote, so nominate your favorites. As a business, share with your audience to help you win the title of "Best" in your category!







# Nominations close August 12th.

Voting for the winners starts August 25th. Winners will be contacted in October and the results will be in the October 27th issue of the Philadelphia Jewish Exponent.

Go to www.jewishexponent.com/readerschoice2022 and nominate your favorites!





Contact Jeni Mann Tough for more information jmann@midatlanticmedia.com