

GO FOR THE GOLD

BOYS OF  
SUMMER

COVID-19 curtailed recreational activities last year, but summer softball is back in 2021.



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JULY 29, 2021 / 20 AV 5781

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# JEWISH EXPONENT

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#### Agencies Make Plans to Reopen

Jewish organizations return to in-person services.

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Volume 134  
Number 16

Published Weekly Since 1887



## New Kaiserman JCC CEO Ponders Business Model

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

IN THE ERA OF a gym in every shopping center, where does that leave Jewish Community Centers?

The Kaiserman JCC's board of directors hired Alan Scher to answer that question.

But the CEO doesn't have an answer just yet.

Three-plus weeks into his new role, Scher said he needs to meet with the board in person and talk to more community members before he comes up with a plan.

Scher's Wynnewood facility is the last JCC in Southeastern Pennsylvania, a region with one of the largest Jewish populations in the country. His mission is to figure out how to build the three-part business model that is supposed to sustain a JCC.

See JCC, Page 8



▲ Dov (left) and Steven Reidenberg at the Philadelphia Masonic Temple's Egyptian Hall, where Dov Reidenberg received his 25th Year Pin on March 18, 2019. Courtesy of Dov Reidenberg

## Jewish Masons Adapt to Keep Fraternity Alive

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

BORN OUT OF the English and Scottish guild systems of the 13th century, the fraternal organization of Masons was designed to help stonemasons regulate the qualifications of guildsmen and find lodging when traveling town-to-town, constructing cathedrals and city walls.

Yet 800 years later, long after the Protestant Revolution, which halted the building of Catholic cathedrals in a newly-Protestant England, and the invention of the cannon, which rendered stone city walls a less useful defense, the Masonic insignia of a square and compass can still be found today: on rings, polo shirts, car decals and license plates.

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# JEWISH EXPONENT

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We've got you covered!

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Miriam's Advice Well

HOW DO YOU ANSWER A DREADED QUESTION?

A reader writes Miriam with a pet peeve. She has a difficult to explain career and finds it "extremely tedious to bother with the explanations. Can I just tell people I don't want to talk about work and move on, or is that extremely rude?" Among other suggestions, Miriam notes that she could do just that — without being apologetic or defensive. For the fine points, read Miriam's Advice Well. From dating to parenting, Miriam welcomes all questions. Email yours to [news@jewishexponent.com](mailto:news@jewishexponent.com) and put "Advice Well Question" in the subject line. [jewishexponent.com/2021/07/26/dear-miriam-how-do-you-answer-a-dreaded-question/](https://jewishexponent.com/2021/07/26/dear-miriam-how-do-you-answer-a-dreaded-question/)



Philcatessen

BROCCOLI SAUSAGE PASTA

If you can get your hands on some bulk turkey sausage, broccoli (or any of its variants) and pasta, you can whip up a tasty meal fairly easily. So says food columnist Keri White, who notes that this meal also won't heat up your kitchen during these steamy summer days. Read her online blog, Philcatessen, for details. And check Philcatessen regularly for content not normally found in the printed edition, such as other recipes, restaurant reviews and food news from around the Delaware Valley. [jewishexponent.com/2021/07/26/broccoli-sausage-pasta/](https://jewishexponent.com/2021/07/26/broccoli-sausage-pasta/)

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# Israel To Have First Modern Paper Mill In Middle East

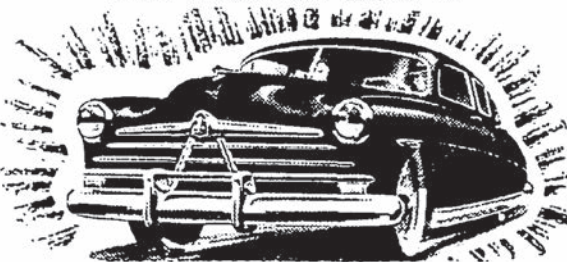
Israeli's industrialization program was given new impetus last week with signature of a contract initiating construction there of a \$3,500,000 paper mill which will be the first in the Middle East to produce printing and writing paper as well as Kraft multi-wall bag paper.

Start of the project to launch a paper industry in Israel as a means of helping to offset the current world-wide shortage of paper products was announced by its two major sponsors, the Palestine Economic Corporation

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# David L. Cohen Nominated Ambassador to Canada

## LOCAL

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

**PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN** announced plans on July 21 to nominate David L. Cohen, former vice chairman of the board of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia and a Comcast executive, to serve as the United States ambassador to Canada.

Jewish Federation President and CEO Michael Balaban expressed his support for Cohen.

"We are proud that David L. Cohen, one of Jewish Philadelphia's most prominent leaders, has been nominated to serve as ambassador to Canada," Balaban said. "In his various roles within our community throughout the years, David L. Cohen has demonstrated time and again his ability to navigate tricky waters; he is the consummate negotiator. He has been a wonderful partner to our Jewish Federation, and we know he will continue to make us all proud."

Though now the senior adviser to the CEO at Comcast, Cohen has long been involved in Philadelphia and national politics, serving as chief of staff to former Philadelphia Mayor Edward Rendell, as well



▲ David and Rhonda Cohen served as co-chairs for the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's fundraising campaign in 2017.  
Courtesy of The Jewish Exponent

as host of Biden's first official fundraiser for his presidential campaign in April 2019 in his Philadelphia home. Cohen also was a partner at and chairman of Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP, one of the country's 100 largest law firms.

In addition to serving as Comcast's senior executive vice president, Cohen's time at the Philadelphia-based company was shaped by his desire to champion diversity and equality in his communities as Comcast's chief diversity officer.

In that role, Cohen helped build a partnership with the National Urban League, an organization providing

professional development, counseling, and youth empowerment programming to Black Americans.

He also was an avid supporter of "Comcast Cares Day," a company-wide day of volunteerism, which he called his "favorite day of the year." According to Comcast, the annual event is an opportunity for the 100,000 Comcast employees to volunteer at more than 1,000 organizations, including UnidosUS, Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America.

Cohen believes that Judaism has instilled in him the values of encouraging diversity and acceptance.

"One of my great passions is to bring people of diverse backgrounds and cultures together," Cohen said in an interview with the Jewish Exponent in 2013. "This is the way I try to live my life."

His work to promote equality at Comcast extended further to the Jewish Federation, where he and his wife, Rhonda Cohen, were co-chairs for the Jewish Federation's 2017 annual campaign.

During his time as vice chairman, Cohen wanted to extend the Jewish Federation's reach beyond support for

Israel, pushing to educate the community on local issues, such as poverty, that were impacting the community.

"Twenty years ago, you say, 'Federation' and people are thinking support for Israel," Cohen said to the Exponent in 2017. "And there is this sense among too many in the Jewish community that there aren't a lot of poor Jews living in Philadelphia, that there aren't hunger issues and social service issues and education issues within this community."

In 1993, the Anti-Defamation League awarded Cohen the Americanism Award, which honors community leaders advocating for human rights and equity.

"My friend David is a world-class guy. He's smart, savvy, astute, politically adroit, well-liked, discrete, a problem solver and a multi-dimensional thinker," said Stephen Cozen, founder of Philadelphia-based law firm Cozen O'Connor and vice chairman of the board of the Jewish Federation alongside Cohen. "The president likes and trusts him. He will be a great ambassador for an important post. Besides all of that, he is philanthropic and a real mensch."

If confirmed, Cohen will have

to navigate COVID-19 restrictions and economic recovery following the pandemic.

On July 21, the Biden administration extended travel restrictions to Canada until Aug. 21, due to concerns about the more contagious delta variant. The U.S. and Canada are working together to fund Gavi, the global vaccine alliance, and COVAX, with the goal of increasing global access to COVID-19 vaccines.

"I look forward to working with our neighbors in Canada, and continuing to develop and grow what is a very strong and important relationship as we continue to fight the pandemic and build our economies back stronger," Cohen said in a statement.

Having grown up in Highland Park, New Jersey, Cohen attended Swarthmore College in 1977, earning bachelor's degrees in political science, history and economics. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1981. Cohen served as chair of Penn's board of trustees until July 1, 2021.

Biden nominated University of Pennsylvania President Amy Gutmann as U.S. ambassador to Germany earlier this month. ●

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## Two Prominent Rabbis Retiring Next Year

## LOCAL

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

**NEXT SUMMER**, the Philadelphia region will lose two of its longest-tenured rabbis.

After 21 years, Lance Sussman is stepping down as senior rabbi at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park. And after 27 years, Aaron Krupnick is doing the same at Congregation Beth El in Voorhees, New Jersey.

Both men are leaving behind

significant legacies, according to congregants.

KI and Beth El maintain congregations of about 800 and 825 families, respectively. And during their respective rabbinates, Sussman and Krupnick oversaw the build-up of preschool operations that sustained their synagogues for another generation.

But since Sussman is 67 and Krupnick is 60, both men feel they are entering new stages in their lives.

Between October 2020 and

June 2021, Sussman experienced a hospitalization after a double bypass operation, the death of his mother and a move to Philadelphia. He said the nine-month stretch made him realize he wanted to spend more time with his wife, Liz Sussman, and their five children and two grandchildren.

"You get to see life from the other side," Sussman said of his hospitalization.

Krupnick said he always thought about retiring in his 60s.

And in recent years, he thought about it more and more.

He knew he couldn't see the future of Judaism like he could in his 30s, when he pushed for the creation of Beth El's preschool: The Early Childhood Center. Krupnick also said he wants to see what God has in store for him while he's still physically fit.

"Jewish life needs to evolve," Krupnick said.

Sussman came to KI in 2001 after 11 years at Temple Concord in Binghamton, New York.

At first, the KI search committee didn't want to hire him, according to its chair at the time, Karen Sirota. Sussman was leading a temple with about 250 congregants. KI's membership, on the other hand, consisted of 1,200 families.

At the same time, Sirota and the committee liked Sussman's resume, so they decided to visit Binghamton and observe him. After the Friday night Shabbat service, they couldn't get a minute with the rabbi. He was busy talking to congregant



► Rabbi Aaron Krupnick with students from Congregation Beth El's Early Childhood Center

Courtesy of Congregation Beth El



after congregant.

The committee was sold.

Sirota said Sussman brought the same warmth and connection to KI. But she also said that, with Sussman, that wasn't just about the culture he established. The senior rabbi increased KI's educational programming to give members more opportunities to connect.

"People became more relational to each other because of the programs he helped to create," Sirota said.

Both Sussmans, Lance and Liz, also helped families build relationships over the course of their life cycles. Liz Sussman ran the Richard E. Rudolf Jr. Preschool & Infant Center and helped increase enrollment by more than a third, according to Lance Sussman.

A decade ago, Sussman also started livestreaming services to help people connect even when they couldn't be together in person.

But his proudest accomplishment may be the second-floor space that reminds members why it's important to connect: The Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center. Sussman dedicated the museum to his grandparents, who escaped Nazi Germany. Their picture hangs near the entryway.

"I've done what I set out to do," Sussman said.

Krupnick was born and raised in Philadelphia, but his first big rabbi post was at Agudath Israel in Montgomery, Alabama, where he served for six years. By 1994, though, Krupnick's father had terminal cancer, so the rabbi started seeking a position

closer to home.

But he only found one opening: At Beth El, which at the time was in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. So, Krupnick took it. Then, in 1995 at a Jewish conference, another rabbi told Krupnick that preschools were the future of synagogues.

"That's how you'll get young families," the colleague told Krupnick.

The rabbi returned to South Jersey, proposed the idea to his board of trustees and started building. In 1998, the school opened. Two years later, Beth El completed a new school building in Voorhees with 21 classrooms. By 2010, the temple was opening a sanctuary at the same location and moving its operation there.

Now, the Early Childhood Center welcomes about 140 kids a year, and the synagogue maintains one of the largest congregations in the region.

Krupnick said Beth El was one of the first synagogues to open a preschool. It was not a common model before the '90s.

"That was a need I understood as a young parent," he said.

The senior rabbi believes digital operations will be the next wave of the future. Beth El is on social media and started offering online services during the pandemic last year. But Krupnick delegates many of the digital responsibilities to younger congregants.

"We're going to need younger people to lead that," he said. •

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# Area Athlete Represents US in Olympic Discus

## LOCAL

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

AT 27, Sam Mattis is an Olympian for the first time.

The East Brunswick High School (New Jersey) and University of Pennsylvania graduate, whose mother is Jewish, is in Tokyo with the U.S. Olympic Men's Track & Field Team for the Summer Olympics.

On July 30, he will compete in the qualifying round for the discus event. If he hits the qualifying distance and/or finishes in the top 12, Mattis will advance to the final one night later.

Mattis won the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association Meet of Champions in his last three years at East Brunswick. He also won the 2015 NCAA Men's Discus Championship as a junior at Penn. But for about a decade, Mattis' ultimate goal was to reach the sport's biggest stage.

Now, he's there.

Unfortunately, though, he won't get a typical Olympic experience. Pandemic restrictions in the village will force him to stay in his room

unless he's eating or training. Mattis also must wear a mask whenever he leaves the room.

"It's not ideal, but my goal was to make the Olympics," he said. "Anything that happens at the Olympics is a nice little plus."

Mattis competed in the 2016 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials, too. Then 22, he expected to finish in the top three, make the team and head to Rio de Janeiro for the games.

But instead, Mattis placed ninth. The NCAA champion was crushed.

"I should have made the team," he said.

That same year, the New Jersey native graduated from Penn. And even after missing the Olympic team, he decided to remain a professional track and field athlete.

He lifted 4-5 days a week and threw six times a week. He participated in the decentralized U.S. circuit, run by independent bodies hosting events at colleges. He made between \$25,000 and \$35,000 a year from stipends, grants and prize money, taking odd jobs on the side, like tutoring and laundry delivery, to supplement his income.

But by 2019, the work paid off. That September, Mattis

won the discus event at the Outdoor USA Track and Field Championships. He launched the discus 66 meters and 69 centimeters, well above his usual distance of between 63.50 and 65.50.

"He's special, man," said Mattis' coach, Dane Miller.

Going into 2020, the discus champion looked ready to redeem himself in the Olympic trials. All he needed was a top three finish, and he was the U.S. champion.

But after the pandemic broke out in March, the summer games were postponed. Later that year, Mattis started to feel stiffness in his back, and it didn't go away. The champ reduced his training schedule and sometimes went weeks without throwing a discus.

In 2021, with the Olympics back on, USA Track & Field formalized and ran a "Journey to Gold" circuit leading up to the summer trials. Since he was the 2019 national champion, Mattis didn't need to qualify for the penultimate event.

He did, however, need to throw in some "Journey to Gold" events to get back into midseason form. Before 2020, midseason form was a state of

existence for the track pro.

But during the pandemic year and into 2021, Mattis didn't train for most of August and September and chunks of October, December, January and April. In the spring, he also missed the first "Journey to Gold" meet.

Finally, in May, Mattis dialed up his training regimen and started launching in meets again. Except he wasn't truly launching.

At one early "Journey to Gold" event in California, Mattis placed eighth out of 10. In his next competition at the University of Arizona, he finished fourth but only threw the discus 62 meters and 77 centimeters, well below his pre-injury average.

Trials were looming in late June at the mecca of U.S. track & field: Hayward Field in Eugene, Oregon. And Mattis was struggling through the worst season of his career.

But since he was training and competing again, Mattis found his confidence before the meet.

"I knew I could make the team if I stayed focused, and didn't worry about what other people were doing," he said.

The day arrived and, before



▲ Sam Mattis, left, with his coach, Dane Miller

Courtesy of Garage Strength Sports Performance

stepping into the circle, Mattis cleared his head and visualized the throw. He took a deep breath and launched the discus far enough to place third.

"It wasn't great," Mattis said. "But I ended up placing third, so you can't be too upset."

Miller was proud of his pupil's grit. He also said that Mattis has a thrower's chance in the Olympics.

"I believe he is capable of achieving the final," Miller said. "From there he will really need to let it loose." •

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# Lone Soldier's Legacy Persists 15 Years After Death

## LOCAL

SASHA ROGELBERG | JE STAFF

MICHAEL LEVIN, a Philadelphia native, wanted to join the Israel Defense Forces since the age of 9. He even broke into an Israeli army base through a bathroom window to enlist.

The grandson of two Holocaust survivors on his mother's side, Levin was imbued with the value of protecting a Jewish homeland since childhood. In 2002, Levin made aliyah, enlisting in the IDF as a lone soldier,

joining the Israeli military with no family in Israel or local support systems.

Michael Levin died in combat 15 years ago in 2006, but his parents, Mark and Harriet Levin, ensured his legacy would last into futurity.

On July 16, the Lone Soldier Center in Memory of Michael Levin, along with Knesset member Michael Biton of the Defense Ministry, hosted its inaugural conference in Jerusalem's Knesset in honor of Michael Levin's 15-year yahrzeit.

The Lone Soldier Center,

which provides counseling, meals, financial assistance and emergency support for 2,000 lone soldiers annually in Israel, co-organized the event with Biton to raise awareness of lone soldiers. Michael Levin's parents, Knesset members and lone soldiers of past and present attended the conference.

"We were proud to see over 15 Knesset members from different parties come and demonstrate their respect for lone soldiers, their appreciation for the work that we do, and to



▲ Michal Berman (left), Harriet Levin, Michael Biton and Mark Levin at the Knesset's inaugural conference advocating for lone soldiers

Courtesy of The Lone Soldier Center in Memory of Michael Levin

See Lone, Page 17



## Jewish Agencies Making Plans to Reopen

### LOCAL

LEAH SNYDERMAN |  
JE CONTRIBUTING WRITER

**JEWISH AGENCIES** and organizations went virtual with the rest of the world when the pandemic hit, but with vaccination rates slowly rising and government mandates easing, those organizations are now planning their returns.

Here's a look at the status of a few larger organizations:

### Golden Slipper Gems

Golden Slipper Gems, which offers learning programs and services for older adults, was forced to move to an entirely virtual platform, but it didn't stop the organization from holding its classes and

other programs.

"It's been incredibly more successful than we thought it would be," Executive Director Marcia Garrell said.

Golden Slipper Gems is using the summer to test out and prepare for a new hybrid model.

The organization expects to be back in-person in October with a plan to Zoom professors live, so people who aren't comfortable with or able to come can still participate.

"We hope most of our people will come back in person because the socialization aspect of what Golden Slipper Gems does is very important," Garrell said.

In September, Golden Gems will host a tour of Budapest, where someone who lives in the city will take participants on

a walking tour via Zoom. The organization is especially excited to bring back its movie courses, which were a favorite of many.

### JEVS Human Services

JEVS Human Services maintained a mix of virtual and in-person programming during the pandemic.

Several programs remained open and in-person the entire time, including services in community homes for adults with developmental disabilities, treatment clinics and home health services. Career programs and services and youth programs went online.

Now, programs that were virtual are gradually returning to in-person. JEVS expects to hold many of these programs right after Labor Day.

JEVS is especially looking forward to bringing back its in-person mental health programs.

"Although we're really proud of what we've been able to do virtually, being able to serve clients safely in-person is really going to help people get to the next step of their goals," said Kristen Rantanen, senior vice president of communications and public affairs. "Connection is what's going to help folks that have been really hurt by the pandemic move forward."

### Jewish Relief Agency

JRA continued its programs for families struggling with food insecurity throughout the pandemic.

"We are proud to say that with the help of our

dedicated volunteers, staff, donors, community partners and the Jewish Federation, not one box of food went undelivered over the course of the pandemic," said Elvera Gurevich, program and communications manager.

The volunteer program recently returned to its full, pre-pandemic schedule, and the cap on volunteers was lifted.

In addition, JRA Juniors is being reinitiated for families with children under the age of 12, and it was made safe for unvaccinated kids. It was previously called Tiny Tots and was for families with kids under 6, but JRA expanded it and upped the age so families could participate together.

JRA is ecstatic to welcome back volunteers.

See Open, Page 17



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## JCC

Continued from Page 1

He thinks that Kaiserman already has two solid business entities upon which to build.

In 2021, Camp Kef, the JCC's day camp, has more kids than ever with between 450 and 465. And going into the fall, Kaiserman's Robert J. Wilf Preschool is at capacity with 140 students.

There is just one empty space in the JCC's business model, and at the Haverford Road facility itself: the room where the gym used to be. After the pandemic broke out in March 2020, Kaiserman officials removed the workout equipment from the room, and they still haven't put it back.

Scher said the organization is using the room for camp activities this summer. But he stopped short of calling that a permanent use.

"It could be a fitness center," Scher added.

Or it could be something else.

Board Chair Cindy Smukler said she would like to try programming in the form of an annual book festival, speakers and other Jewish events. The JCC already hosts an annual Purim carnival that draws hundreds of people.

Scher likes Smukler's idea. But the veteran of five JCCs across the country said that arts and culture are not always the best revenue drivers.

The CEO has worked at two JCCs in New York City, the 14th Street Y and the YM & YWHA of Washington Heights and Inwood. The 14th Street Y is a famous arts and cultural center, while the Washington Heights Y is more of a social service institution.

It's a matter of figuring out what's right for a given JCC facility, according to Scher. To find that answer in Wynnewood, Scher is in the process of speaking with more than 100 Kaiserman members.

When he worked at the Jewish Community Center of



▲ New Kaiserman JCC CEO Alan Scher needs to decide if the facility's fitness center will remain a fitness center.

Photos by Janine Nelson

► Camp Kef is in session at the Kaiserman JCC in Wynnewood.

San Francisco, Scher came up with a series of youth programs that started after the facility hosted the JCC Maccabi Games. To make their \$1.5 million fundraising effort and investment in the center worthwhile, community members needed to know it would go further than the seven-day event.

Scher spent weeks talking to Maccabi athletes and other San Francisco teenagers about what they might like. Then he implemented two programs — one that trained post-Maccabi athletes as youth coaches and another that helped high school students earn community service hours.

"It's exactly what I did in San Francisco," Scher said of his process in Wynnewood. "I'm meeting with as many people as I can."

Dialogue won't mean anything, though, if the JCC doesn't have enough money. Smukler said Kaiserman has enough to operate its two businesses. But she also said it could always use more money.

Scher has not raised any



money yet. But he did meet with long-term investors and some people who may be interested in investing.

Smukler is confident.

"There are a lot of people in the community that believe in a Jewish Community Center," she said. "Right now, the world is upside down, and this is a place to find community."

Wynnewood resident and Kaiserman member Rebecca Bar agrees with Smukler. Bar and her husband, Matt, send their two sons, Micah, 6, and Jonah, 4, to Camp Kef.

The Bar parents love the camp because it offers a wide variety of activities, from art to sports, and a strong Jewish foundation, with Shabbat services and blessings every Friday. Micah also attended

preschool at Robert J. Wilf, which Jonah is going to attend for the next two years.

Micah loved Jewish preschool so much that, after attending the public Penn Wynne Elementary School this past year for kindergarten, he asked his parents why he wasn't learning about Jewish holidays anymore. For 2021-22, they are enrolling him in a Jewish day school.

Before the pandemic, though, the Bars would often use the gym, especially the track and the pool. Yet despite the gym's closure, the Bars plan on remaining members for a long time.

"It's been such a nice gathering place for people," Rebecca Bar said. ●

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## Masons

Continued from Page 1

Though gone are the days of stonemasonry as a popular profession, the fraternal organization of the Masons persists and, for a community of Jews around the world, it's a touchstone of connection.

When the pandemic hit, Shlomo Bar-Ayal, an Orthodox Jew and former master at the James W. Husted-Fiat Lux Lodge in Manhattan, and Sean Rothberg, a Mason from the Richardson Masonic Lodge #1214 in Dallas created respective Facebook groups for Jewish Masons.

When they found out about the other's groups, they joined forces to create a larger group of Jewish Masons, from New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Texas, even Australia, that now meets online weekly: a Zoom minyan of Masons.

The group, an ensemble of men of varying ages, many bespectacled or sipping a beer in front of Zoom greenscreen backgrounds, are truly, in a somewhat stereotypical sense, a brotherhood.

They kibbitz, frequently ganging up on Bar-Ayal, one of the group's more seasoned members, cracking jokes about his age. Members frequently speak over each other, and conversation gets garbled in the video chat forum.

But the group also discusses Torah portions and connections between Masonry and Jewry and hosts lecturers on Jewish topics, such as the Holocaust.

This group of Jewish Masons, along with most every other Mason presently, are not guildsmen. Rather, the organization serves as a place for men to not only connect with a diverse community, but self-actualize — despite the wisecracking — and practice etiquette and respect for those different from them.

"We make good men better," Bar-Ayal said.





▲ Shlomo Bar-Ayal is installed as master of the James W. Husted-Fiat Lux Lodge on May 11, 2019. Courtesy of Shlomo Bar Ayal

In addition to opening many Masonic hospitals in the 19th century, Masons are now known for giving charity to various organizations, such as these hospitals.

According to Dov Reidenberg, a fourth-generation Mason from Philadelphia, Masonic activities are tzedakah. Reidenberg's lodge periodically spends time cleaning up and picking up trash at Har Nebo Cemetery and Monuments in Philadelphia.

To some outside of the Masonic community, however, the connection between Jewry and Masonry is more sinister. Among a cadre of conspiracy theories that the secrecy of Masonry has excited is the theory that Masons started the Holocaust. In reality, Adolf Hitler suspected Masons of working under Jews and conspiring against the Nazi regime.

In the true good-spirited nature of these Masons, the group was quick to dismiss this theory, along with others

— that Masons are devil-worshippers and are taking over the government.

"If Masons control the government and Jews control the economy, then why did I go to a community college and not straight to Harvard or Yale for free?" Rothberg said.

Judaism and Masonry are intertwined more deeply than just the number of Jews who happen to be Masons. According to Bar-Ayal, Jews have been a part of Masonry for about as long as Masonry has been around in the United States, since the 18th century.

Though the fraternity is seen to outsiders as enigmatic and exclusive, there are few rules to becoming a Mason: One must be a man, believe in a deity and join the brotherhood by his own free will. Therefore, Masonry did not preclude Jewish men from becoming Masons.

Reidenberg adds another requirement to becoming a

Mason: "To be one, ask one." To begin the initiation process, one must simply ask a Mason about joining the fraternity.

This simple directive is largely responsible for what Bar-Ayal calls "Jewish lodges," meetings of Masons that are largely Jewish, yet a bit of a paradox, as lodge meetings bar any discussion of religion or politics in the space.

Growing membership through word of mouth, Jewish Masons tap synagogue acquaintances to join the Masonry and, in areas with large Jewish populations, Jewish membership of lodges such as Bar-Ayal's and Reidenberg's lodges snowballs.

Masonry's domino-effect recruitment strategy still does not account for the dwindling number of Masons in the U.S. In the 1960s during the counterculture movement, Masonry was seen as "square," according to Mark Stought, a Jewish Mason in Cleveland; it was an organization for parents or veterans looking for the comradery they once had with other soldiers during wartime.

Now that many of these veterans are gone, Mason numbers are diminishing, and lodges are merging to keep membership numbers up.

Reidenberg, 50, said young people just aren't as interested in joining the brotherhood.

"It's not a TikTok thing; it's not an Instagram thing; it's not a Facebook thing," Reidenberg said. "Some of the youth today ... it doesn't appeal to them."

Reidenberg has been married to his second wife for three years and said that his time as a Mason has helped him become a better husband. But Reidenberg doesn't have any children, and he said that his family line of Masons will end with him.

Reidenberg became a Mason almost 30 years ago, largely to spend more time with his father, who has been a Mason for almost half a century.

"It's a legacy that we want to pass down from one generation to the next," Steven Reidenberg, Dov Reidenberg's father, said.

When Dov Reidenberg joined his father's lodge in 1994, which at that point was about 85-90% Jewish, he remembered doing something that made his grandfather laugh, a memory he still holds onto almost 30 years later.

"When he passed back in 1995, it was one of the things that I remembered about him, that I made him laugh in a lodge meeting," Dov Reidenberg said.

Dov Reidenberg is hopeful that Masonry will continue to endure, even though he's uncertain there will be a fifth generation of Reidenberg Masons.

Masonry doesn't need to be trendy, as long as it continues to attract those who share the values of the centuries of men who came before them: "To

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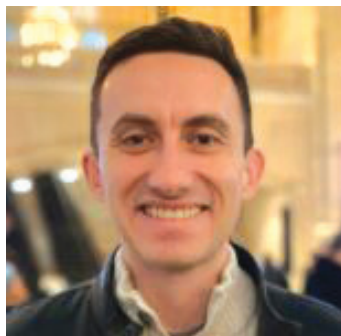
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# The Holocaust is Exaggerated in Pop Culture. That Makes it Hard for Educators Like Me to Teach the Truth



BY LUKE BERRYMAN

**“HEY, I DID HAVE** one question ...” That was the tentative opening to an email I recently received from a high school teacher. The Ninth Candle, the Holocaust education organization I founded, had led some educational programs for her students, and the teacher and I had been trading emails for a few weeks.

Even teachers at schools with established Holocaust programs can be reluctant to get too close to the big questions about it. I sense a widespread but unspoken fear of being called insensitive or offensive — or worse, antisemitic. She only asked me her “one question” after a relationship had begun to form and she had my repeated reassurance that nothing was off the table.

And the question?

She wanted to know if the Nazis had used human fat, rendered from Jewish prisoners, to make bars of soap. The class materials she’d been given said they had. She doubted the claim but was too afraid to challenge it.

The answer is no, they didn’t. Despite the teacher’s apprehension, it was perfectly reasonable to ask.

This teacher shared more of her class materials with me as our exchange went on. Along with the “soap myth,” which academics are still untangling, there was a mess of small

but significant factual errors: chronology, place names, victim numbers. We soon realized that Holocaust education at her school, like at many schools across the country, needed to be overhauled. A recent study revealed that our knowledge of the Holocaust is declining. Most millennials and Gen Z members surveyed don’t know that 6 million Jews were murdered during the genocide, and half

preparation of corpses made a soapy byproduct used to clean the institute during the final months of the war. The corpses weren’t Jewish, and no bars of soap were ever made. But Allied and Soviet propaganda, and pop culture works like Zofia Nałkowska’s 1946 book, “Medallions,” inflated the institute’s disrespect for the dead into something even worse.

There are many other

treatment of the Holocaust makes it difficult to think about it critically, or to feel empathy for its victims, or to connect it with the present — especially if that’s where one’s Holocaust education begins and ends. (More than 30 U.S. states still have no mandate that the Holocaust be taught at all.) Folding more cases of resistance into Holocaust curriculums is one way to address this. I’ve seen students’

argue in favor of the “Final Solution.” Wiemer illuminates historical facts about the Holocaust with contemporary ideas about what it means to be an ally to marginalized groups. The story is a timely response to real-life “assignments.”

As a Holocaust educator, the most common question children ask me is: “How come the Jews didn’t fight back?” This is a product of their exposure to the myth that Jews went to their deaths “like lambs,” and it shows the inadequacy of contemporary Holocaust education. It also helps explain why many young people are prone to taking the Holocaust lightly. Such ignorance can breed indifference, and as the historian Ian Kershaw said, it was indifference that paved the road to Auschwitz. Hitler wrote in “Mein Kampf” that the Nazis would never recruit members from “the unthinking herd” of the public. He knew that widespread indifference would help his pursuit of antisemitism more than widespread fanaticism.

We learned many lessons from the war, but the threat of indifference enabling hatred to run riot is as pressing today as it was in Germany in the 1930s and 1940s. The Holocaust is the most radical demonstration of what can happen when the suffering of others goes unchecked. This is why improving the way we teach it must be a priority for schools everywhere. ●

Luke Berryman is the founder of The Ninth Candle, a Chicago-based nonprofit trying to end antisemitism by sharing knowledge.

We learned many lessons from the war, but the threat of indifference enabling hatred to run riot is as pressing today as it was in Germany in the 1930s and 1940s. The Holocaust is the most radical demonstration of what can happen when the suffering of others goes unchecked. This is why improving the way we teach it must be a priority for schools everywhere.

of those surveyed can’t name a single concentration camp or ghetto. Meanwhile, antisemitic incidents are surging.

One of the first things we can do to improve the situation is to uproot myths from our curriculums. This will involve discussing all those difficult questions. We also need to keep class materials updated because our knowledge of the Holocaust is still evolving. (The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum is a good source for teachers who want to make sure their lessons are up to date.)

Take the soap myth. Rumors that the Nazis made soap from Jewish prisoners emerged before World War II was over, and evidence to support them was presented at the Nuremberg Trials. In the 1980s, historians discovered that the issue was more complex than first realized, and their investigations continued into the 21st century.

We now know that the Danzig Anatomical Institute’s

examples of our knowledge of the Holocaust improving over time. But such changes don’t always make it into curriculums and schools.

This is partly due to Holocaust education’s dependence on pop culture, with its liberal use of works that deliberately blur fact and fiction. Schools commonly choose to include books and movies like “Schindler’s List,” “The Boy in the Striped Pajamas” and “The Tattooist of Auschwitz.” But these works aren’t useful teaching tools. They treat the Holocaust as a game of cat-and-mouse, Jews as an interchangeable mass who went to their deaths unthinkingly and survival as a matter of attitude. In addition, there are so many advocacy groups putting free, one-size-fits-all Holocaust lesson plans on the internet now that some schools and teachers barely know where to begin.

For students, pop culture’s repetitive, two-dimensional

relationships with the subject change when light is cast on the uprisings in Auschwitz, Sobibor and Treblinka, or on resisters like Alexander Pechersky and Zivia Lubetkin.

Another way is to study the Holocaust alongside Nazi Germany’s “forgotten victims,” as the historian Richard J. Evans calls them: the Roma and Sinti peoples, gay people, people with mental and physical disabilities and Slavs, among others. Students often connect with books that reach imaginatively beyond the settings of camps and ghettos. Liza Wiemer’s novel “The Assignment” is about two students challenging their school over a classroom activity that requires some of them to

## STATEMENT FROM THE PUBLISHER

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# My Orthodox Life: A Response to ‘My Unorthodox Life’



BY RABBI JOEL E. HOFFMAN

**THE REALITY SERIES** “My Unorthodox Life” is the talk of the Jewish world since its airing on Netflix on July 14. The show’s star Julia Haart, who left her Ultra-Orthodox community in 2013 at age 42, quickly advanced in the fashion industry and is CEO of the modeling agency Elite World Group. In the show, Haart constantly bashes Orthodox Judaism with misrepresentations while trying to showcase that living a secular life is way better.

I am not writing to cast judgment on Haart for her life choices. Judaism forbids me from judging anyone but myself. Rather, what follows is a counter perspective to Haart’s propaganda against Judaism in general, and Orthodox Judaism in particular.

My Orthodox Life consists of...

(1) Immediately upon waking up in the morning my first words are “*Modeh Ani Lifanecha ...*” which thank God for giving me another day. Also, three times per day I engage in formal prayer, and throughout the day I say a blessing before and after eating or drinking. The first series of prayers in

deep-thinking on concepts in Jewish philosophy. When I pray I speak to God, but when I study God “speaks” to me — which means I obtain answers to ultimate questions, and every day I encounter a teaching that is apropos for something current in my life.

(3) By eating only kosher food I concretize the value of all life. This is because the

not speaking “Lashon Hara” — which is not to say something about a person that I would not say if that person was present. Trying to live by these ideals is the ultimate in personal development.

(5) No essay about Judaism would be complete without discussing Shabbat. Every Friday night I enjoy akin to a Thanksgiving dinner with

kindergarten?!) If God ever said we no longer had to keep Shabbat, probably 99.99% of Jews who traditionally keep Shabbat would continue to do so.

Haart has rejected all the above and says she gets meaning from being “free,” which for her manifests in wearing sexy outfits and eating oysters; and she also purposely uses the biased word “Fundamentalism” to badger Orthodox Judaism.

Interestingly, Haart’s show co-stars her three adult children, of which two have remained Orthodox and they concurrently demonstrate that one can be an observant Jew even while working in the fashion industry. (Haart also has a teenage son who is Orthodox, lives with his dad and appears on the show.)

There are aspects of the show which I like and I intend to watch future seasons, but my focus here is on My Orthodox Life. As one can hopefully see from this essay, the more Jewish practices in which a Jew engages, the more meaning he or she will add to their life. •

Joel E. Hoffman is ordained as a rabbi but works as a math and special education teacher.

I am not writing to cast judgment on [Julia] Haart for her life choices. Judaism forbids me from judging anyone but myself. Rather, what follows is a counter perspective to Haart’s propaganda against Judaism in general, and Orthodox Judaism in particular.

the morning reminds me of dozens of gifts from God such as a properly working digestive system, eye sight, clothes and freedom. Praying and saying blessings helps me foster a sense of appreciation, which is a key component for living a happy/joyous life.

(2) A staple of everyday Jewish life includes studying Jewish texts. My daily study regime entails studying Tanach (Hebrew Bible), which is full of moral and ethical teachings, analyzing fine points of Jewish law and engaging in

kosher slaughtering process is the most ethical way to end an animal’s life since it assures the quickest death with the least amount of pain. Keeping kosher is Judaism’s compromise with vegetarianism.

(4) Throughout my day I try to live according to the Jewish maxim: “Think Good and It’ll Be Good,” as well as the teachings: See the good in every person; see the positive in every situation; and view every challenge as an opportunity. Perhaps the hardest commandment to observe is

my family, and for 25 hours I am free from all appointments and refrain from using technology — so no using a cellphone, computer or car. Plus, all the food I intend to eat on Saturday is cooked before Shabbat. Shabbat aligns a person to spend one day per week focusing on only the important things in life: family, camaraderie with other Jews, praying and learning, while getting mental and physical rest. A Shabbat afternoon nap is amazing! (Why did afternoon naps stop after

# My Four Days in Israel with JFNA: Standing in Solidarity with Israel



BY SHERRIE SAVETT

**IT IS NOT OFTEN** that one gets to experience a

transformative life experience. This July, I had the privilege of traveling to Israel with 35 other leaders from cities across North America on a four-day national solidarity mission. I knew the trip would be an emotional one, but getting the opportunity to support the country that I love in the aftermath of the recent Gaza conflict was an important journey for me to take.

We focused on three big issues on this trip: the 2021 Gaza conflict, Israel’s new

government and its challenges, and internal social issues. Israel is ever-changing and evolving, and always seeking effective and creative solutions. While the strength and effectiveness of the new coalition government remains to be proven, many are hopeful and see its diversity as an asset. The new government has members from left- and right-wing parties, as well as, for the first time in history, an Arab party.

Israel faces many complex internal issues and external

threats. Most recently, more than 4,300 rockets targeted Israel during an 11-day period. The civilian population all over the country experienced these attacks and the constant sirens warning them to run to safe rooms and bomb shelters. Residents of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem had never experienced missile attacks before and were stunned by the experience. Trauma among Israelis, and especially children, is widespread.

We were fortunate to meet

many people during our trip, inspiring people, trying to overcome the incredibly challenging problems and working to heal themselves, others, and their country. Taly Levanon, director of the Israel Trauma Coalition, introduced us to talented and brave therapists who risked their lives amid rocket fire to comfort families.

Like all mission trips, our days were packed. Each person

See Savett, Page 19

### Jewish Basketball Star Serves as Team USA Flagbearer at Tokyo Olympics

**JEWISH BASKETBALL STAR** Sue Bird was one of Team USA's two flag bearers at the Tokyo Olympics' opening ceremony on July 23, JTA reported.

Bird is competing in her fifth Olympic games this summer, and the 12-time WNBA All-Star won gold medals her previous four trips with the U.S. Women's Basketball Team.

"That's the best part, to be honest, to have your peers be the one to see your career and pick you to be the one to lead us in," Bird told the Today Show before the Olympics.

Bird also holds Israeli citizenship. Her paternal grandparents immigrated to the U.S. from what is now Ukraine in the early 1900s, changing their surname from "Boorda" to "Bird."

Bird shared flagbearer honors with Eddy Alvarez, a former speed skating medalist who now plays baseball in the Miami Marlins' organization.

### White House Intends to Name Antisemitism Monitor Soon

The White House will nominate an antisemitism monitor in the coming weeks, according to a White House official speaking at a Jewish Federations of North America conference on antisemitism, JTA reported.

Melissa Rogers, the executive director of the White

House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, told the news to JFNA's Young Leadership Cabinet on July 20.

Jewish organizations have pressured the Biden administration to name someone to the job since he took office.

Insiders say the frontrunner is noted Emory University Holocaust historian Deborah Lipstadt.

Also at the conference, JFNA CEO Eric Fingerhut announced that \$115 million of the federal government's nonprofit security grants this year would go to Jewish institutions. Jewish groups have lobbied for the grant program for many years.

### Canada Announces Plan to Spend \$5M to Strengthen Security at Jewish Institutions

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced July 21 at a virtual national summit on antisemitism that the government would spend more than \$5 million to increase the security of the nation's Jewish community institutions, JTA reported.

The spending is part of his government's Security Infrastructure Program to bolster the safety of at-risk minorities.

"The rise in hate-motivated crimes against the Jewish community in the past few months is not only alarming, it's completely unacceptable," Trudeau said. "As Jewish Canadians, too many of you have told

me you're feeling isolated and vulnerable."

B'nai Brith Canada said more than 2,600 antisemitic incidents took place in Canada in 2020 — a fifth-consecutive record-setting year. About 44% of the incidents appeared to be related to the pandemic, the group said.

### Tokyo Olympics Creative Director Fired for 1990s Skit Mocking the Holocaust

The creative director of the Tokyo Olympics opening ceremony was fired after a Holocaust joke he made during a 1990s comedy skit came to light, JTA reported.

Comedian and actor Kentaro Kobayashi joked during a television appearance in the 1990s, "Let's play the genocide of the Jews," according to a video that began circulating on July 21.

Yaffa Ben-Ari, Israel's ambassador to Japan, tweeted that she was grateful for Kobayashi's removal — which came less than 48 hours before the opening ceremony.

Kobayashi is the second Tokyo Olympics creative director fired for offensive comments. A predecessor was fired for mocking a female comedian's weight. And an opening ceremony composer stepped down after revelations emerged that he bragged about abusing a child with disabilities. •

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

## ISRAELBRIEFS

### Israel to Host Miss Universe Pageant for First Time

**ISRAEL WILL HOST** the Miss Universe pageant for the first time, JTA reported.

Eilat, a remote resort city in the country's southern region, will host the beauty competition's 70th annual event in December.

Actor and comedian Steve Harvey returns as host for the three-hour pageant. It will be broadcast live on the Fox network in the United States and 180 countries. Reigning Miss Universe, Andrea Meza of Mexico, will crown her successor.

The pageant was postponed last year because of the pandemic.

Rina Messinger is the only Israeli to win the pageant. She won in 1976.

The hosting announcement came amid a renewed focus on the movement to boycott Israel after Ben & Jerry's said it would stop selling ice cream in Israel's West Bank settlements.

### First Israeli in NBA Retires from Pro Basketball

Omri Casspi, the first Israeli to play in the NBA, announced July 18 that he has retired from professional basketball, JTA reported.

Casspi, 33, began his career with the Israeli Maccabi Tel Aviv team, then was selected in the NBA draft by the Sacramento Kings. The forward played in Cleveland, Houston, Memphis, New Orleans, Minnesota and for the Golden State Warriors during his career. He wore the number 18 to signify life.

Casspi, who won a championship with the Warriors in 2018, left the NBA the following year to play again with Maccabi Tel Aviv.

"Basketball has given me a lot over the years. I reached the peaks of European and world basketball that I never dreamed of," he said.

### Former Consul General to New York Named As the Next Yad Vashem Chair

Former Consul General to New York Dani Dayan — who also is a past leader of Israel's West Bank settlements — will be the next chair of Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust museum, JTA reported.

Dayan will replace Avner Shalev, who is retiring after 27 years in the position.

In 2020, then-Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reportedly wanted to appoint Effi Eitam, a former general and far-right politician, but Holocaust survivors, politicians and Jewish organizations protested

because Eitam had called in 2006 to "remove Israeli Arabs from the political system."

Dayan's impending appointment by Education Minister Yifat Shasha-Biton drew praise from some of those who opposed Eitam.

### Israel to be Compensated for Mediterranean Sea Oil Spill That Occurred in February

The Environmental Protection Ministry announced July 22 that the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds will pay Israel for the Mediterranean Sea oil spill that washed up on its shores in February.

Israel said it sustained a loss of about \$15.3 million because of the spill, and the foundation's executive committee — and all member states — approved the request for compensation.

About 70 tons of tar washed up on Israel's shores and the ministry previously said more than 1,200 tons of tar were still in the ocean.

The ministry and an international shipping journal called Lloyd's List said the spill came from the Iranian-owned tanker The Emerald, which was carrying 90,000 tons of crude oil from Iran to Syria. •

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb





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**Jewish Federation**  
of Greater Philadelphia

# San Francisco Treats

## FOOD

KERI WHITE | JE FOOD COLUMNIST

**I TOOK A RECENT TRIP** to San Francisco and was eager to experience its world-class Chinese food. It did not disappoint.

We dined at two places in Chinatown: China Live [chinalivesf.com/](http://chinalivesf.com/) and Mr. Jiu's [misterjius.com/](http://misterjius.com/).

The former is a large space with several different elements — the ground floor houses a casually elegant open kitchen restaurant-cum-market where you can buy sauces, seasonings, kitchen gadgets and both useful and decorative items. The upper floor offers a formal prix fixe, multi-course dinner. We opted for the downstairs dinner, and the food was truly outstanding.

We certainly enjoy good-quality Chinese food in Philadelphia — those who fondly recall Susanna Foo or Yangming will know what I mean — but even more casual places like Mustard Greens or Lee How Fook deliver high-quality cuisine.

These two places in SF were a cut above. The food delivered

complexity and sophistication, not to mention beautiful presentation.

China Live's dumplings were delicate and flavorful. The fried scallion bread was miraculously light. The Peking duck rolls were melt-in-your-mouth duck breast infused with robustly sweet and spicy kumquat sauce and wrapped in crispy sesame pockets. I don't even like duck much, and I was enthralled.

Mr. Jiu's is a Michelin-star restaurant, also in Chinatown. We struggled for a month to get a table and in the end managed to snag 5 p.m. walk-in seats at the bar, where they serve the full menu.

Everything we had was delicious — silken mapo tofu topped with spiced ground beef was our bartender's recommendation with a warning that it was spicy. We gave it a whirl, despite my lack of enthusiasm for tofu, and it was delicious. We also enjoyed the beef chow fun, rabbit with purple peppers and shishito, and chicken dirty rice.

But the thing that stood out to me, surprisingly, was the Sichuan fermented cabbage. It was sliced into thin ribbons and



▲ Stir-fried chicken with carrots and snap peas

Photos by Keri White

brought a symphony of flavors — spicy, tangy, funky. I couldn't stop eating it. I was determined to attempt a recreation at home.

Now I'm no canner, and the idea of sterilizing jars and avoiding botulism is scary to me. Ditto having something fermenting in my kitchen for

weeks on end.

But I was determined to make a simpler, user-friendly version of this dish, and I did — soaking cabbage in a spicy vinegar for a few days in the fridge did the trick. It didn't bring the fermented funk or the tenderness of Mr. Jiu's, but it delivered

a spicy kimchi-esque dish that I have eaten solo, as a side with stir fry, tossed with tuna and heaped on sandwiches. I also saved the surplus vinegar brine — mixed with jarred barbecue sauce — as a delicious chicken marinade and used it to flavor the stir fry below.

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## STIR-FRIED CHICKEN WITH CARROTS AND SNAP PEAS ALA CHINA MOON

Serves 4

Speaking of San Francisco, I have a cookbook given to me by a former colleague that was written by the late Barbara Tropp, chef of the acclaimed San Francisco restaurant China Moon Bistro, a pioneer in the local food movement. The recipe below uses Tropp's technique, which involves "velveting" the chicken, prepping the aromatics and sauce ahead of time, and blanching the veggies so they quickly cook in the wok. It is a lot of prep ahead of time, I'll admit, but it makes the assembly of the dinner quite efficient.

You can use any vegetables you have on hand — string beans, broccoli, zucchini, etc. Just be sure to adjust the blanching/cooking time; carrots take some extra time, while zucchini cooks very quickly and becomes mush if overdone.

### For the chicken and marinade:

- 1½ pounds boneless chicken cut in bite-size pieces
- 1 egg white
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1 tablespoon rice vinegar
- 1 teaspoon salt

### For the aromatics:

- 2 tablespoons grated fresh ginger
- 5 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 medium onion, minced
- ½ teaspoon red pepper flakes

### For the sauce:

- 1 cup chicken broth
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 2 tablespoons vinegar brine from Chinese pickled cabbage (see recipe below) or rice vinegar, or white vinegar

### For the vegetables:

- 4 carrots, cut in coins

- 1 pint snap peas, stems removed
- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- Chopped cilantro for garnish, if desired.

Prep the chicken: Mix all the marinade ingredients in a sealable container, and add the chicken pieces; stir to coat and let it sit for 3-24 hours in the fridge.

Place the aromatics in a sealable container and set aside. Mix the sauce ingredients in a sealable container and set aside. If longer than an hour, refrigerate both of these mixtures.

Blanch the carrots and snow peas in boiling water for 30 seconds, and then drain. Toss with ice cubes to stop cooking, and set it aside.

When ready to cook, heat a medium-sized pot of water to boil, remove the chicken from the marinade (save the marinade, as it will be added to thicken the sauce later) and submerge the chicken pieces for about 90 seconds. Separate them so they have space to blanch, and then drain them. The chicken pieces will be white outside but raw in the middle.

In a large skillet or wok, heat the oil and, when it is hot



▲ Copycat cabbage

enough to sizzle a bit of onion, add the aromatics and stir until fragrant and the onions are wilting, about 4 minutes. Add the vegetables and stir to coat them with the aromatics, about 3 minutes.

Add the sauce ingredients, and bring them to a simmer; cover and cook 1 minute. Stir the cornstarch/egg marinade and add it to the sauce; continue stirring to thicken the sauce. Add the chicken, and toss it until it is cooked through, about 3-4 minutes.

Top with cilantro and serve over rice or noodles

### COPYCAT CABBAGE

Makes about 2 quarts

- 1 head cabbage, sliced
- ¾ cup rice vinegar
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons sesame oil
- 1 tablespoon red pepper flakes
- Water

In a small saucepan, heat

the vinegar, sugar, soy sauce, sesame oil, pepper flakes and ½ cup water. Bring it to a boil, and set it aside to cool.

Place the cut cabbage in a large, sealable container or jar. When the vinegar mixture cools to room temperature, pour it over the cabbage and add enough water to cover. Seal the container, and place it in the fridge.

It will have some flavor after one day, but it is best to let it sit for about three days for full infusion. It will keep in the fridge, sealed, for about two weeks. ●



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# Jewish Softball Leagues Back in Play in 2021

## SPORTS

JARRAD SAFFREN | JE STAFF

**MUCH LIKE** Major League Baseball, the two big Jewish softball leagues in the Philadelphia area struggled to play a 2020 season.

Due to the pandemic, the Main Line Synagogue Softball League finished a six-game regular season with no playoffs, according to Commissioner Scott Waterman. The Delaware Valley Synagogue League didn't even have a season, per Commissioner Ken Sherman.

But in 2021, much like MLB, the middle-aged man pastime is back in full.

The Main Line League has 11 teams, three more than last year, playing a nine-game season plus playoffs. The Delaware Valley League had 18-21 teams in a typical season before 2020. This year, 18 teams and more than 400 players agreed to come back for a 12-game regular season and playoff tournament.

Most of the players in both leagues are vaccinated, according to the commissioners. That's why they agreed to come back.

But that wasn't the only reason. For middle-aged men with careers, families and lives filled with responsibilities, playing softball on summer nights as the weather cools off might just be heaven.

Todd Leon, 47, is the captain of Del Val's Shir Ami team out of Newtown. The insurance lawyer can't even remember how long he's been playing in the league.

As he described the experience, he gets to keep playing the game he's been playing since he was 4. He gets to compete, high five, sweat and make fun of guys who make bad plays. Plus, since the Shir Ami team is 10-2 going into the playoffs, Leon gets to win, too.

"Then we go out to eat, have a couple drinks and we go home," he said. "Then we do it all again the next week."

The Main Line League has teams from Montgomery, Delaware and Philadelphia counties. The Del Val League stretches across similar territory, just with Bucks County replacing Delco.

Last year, both leagues faced the same issue into late-June: Suburban townships

wouldn't open their fields. As the lockdown ended, with no vaccine yet available, the men could either risk COVID and play with heavy restrictions, like masks and social distancing in the bench area, or just not play.

Enough Main Line players decided to play in a smaller eight-team league; while Del Val guys just scrapped the season.

"If we could have a season last year, we were going to have a season," Waterman said.

Sherman said that, even by mid-summer, he didn't have enough open fields to organize a full schedule.

On the Main Line, nobody got sick in 2020, according to Waterman. In the Delaware Valley, most of the players did get sick ... with boredom.

By the winter, Del Val players were blowing up Sherman's phone about the 2021 campaign.

"What are we going to do?" he recalled. "They were chomping at the bit."

"I was getting texts weekly," Leon added. "When are we going to start batting practice?"

Both leagues started between April and early May to allow more guys to get vaccinated, according to the commissioners. But once they opened the season, it felt like 2019 again.

They were just a bunch of middle-aged guys going out and playing ball. Township rules didn't even require them to wear masks or maintain physical distances anymore.

"The world changed quickly once the vaccinations happened," Sherman said. "The idea that we're able to provide this activity is a blessing."

With the playoffs coming up in both leagues, it feels like 2019 in the standings, too.

Leon's Shir Ami nucleus is in its sixth or seventh year together. Some of those guys use bats with their names engraved on them.



▲ Delaware Valley Synagogue League action

Photo by Eric Patent



▲ The Delaware Valley Synagogue League is back this summer after a COVID-induced hiatus in 2020.

Photo by Eric Patent

In other words, they are serious. And in their 10-2 regular season, the Newtown boys outscored opponents by more than 100 runs. They enter the eight-team playoff field as the favorite to win the title.

On the Main Line, Beth David Reform Congregation in Gladwyne is going for its 15th championship in 16 years. Led by ace pitcher Rob Pearlstein, the Beth David team is undefeated going into the postseason.

"His ball spins," Waterman said of Pearlstein.

More importantly, both leagues are on solid footing again. Waterman expects even more players and teams to sign

up for 2022.

This middle-aged man pastime dates back decades, and now it looks likely to go on for decades more.

Sherman, 61, a member at Congregation Beth Or in Ambler, went to the bar and bat mitzvah celebrations of his teammates' children back in the day. Now, Leon is doing the same thing with his Shir Ami teammates.

"Not only are the guys on my team some of my best friends, their wives have become some of my wife's closest friends, too," Leon said. ●

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# ‘Open Up Your Hearts ...’

BY RABBI CHUCK DIAMOND

## Parshat Eikev

**WE WAKE UP** each morning thanking God for putting the breath of life into us. We pray, appreciating the continual acts of God’s creation each and every day. Yet this is not enough. We must remember who we are and where we came from. We must, as Moses enjoins the people of Israel as they prepare to enter the

Promised Land, “revere the Lord your God to walk only in His paths, to love Him and to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and soul.”

In this parshat, we are told to “circumcise” our hearts: “Cut away therefore, the thickening about your hearts and stiffen your necks no more.” The Etz Chaim commentary teaches us this means the “foreskin” of our heart: “The foreskin is what blocks your heart and renders [it] inaccessible to God’s

teachings. It is a metaphor for the mental obstruction that has made Israel stubborn.”

We live in a world filled with the wonders of God. Yet there is so much that calls out for our attention, our caring, our action. We must be “God-like” in that we “show no favor and take no bribe, that we must uphold the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and befriend the stranger, providing him with food and clothing.”

We are a people who have suffered greatly throughout history. How can we turn our backs on those who are suffering? How do we ignore the atrocities both large and small of the world around us? We must open our hearts to the teachings of God and let those teachings guide us in helping to make this world a better place.

There is a lot that needs “fixing,” so many causes that could use a helping hand. If all

of us pitch in we can make a difference.

In the famous words of Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers): “If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, then what am I? And if not now then when?”

So “circumcise your hearts” and open yourself to the needs of the world around us.

Shabbat Shalom. Be safe! ●

Rabbi Chuck Diamond is rabbi of Kehillah La La in Pittsburgh.

## CANDLE LIGHTING

July 30  
Aug. 6

7:58 p.m.  
7:50 p.m.

## Lone

Continued from Page 6

honor Michael’s legacy with us, as we have been doing for the past 15 years since his fall,” said Michal Berman, CEO of the Lone Soldier Center.

Along with raising awareness of lone soldiers in Michael Levin’s name, Mark and Harriet Levin are hoping Knesset members will start a committee to lobby for a line in the Knesset’s budget for assistance to lone soldiers.

Mark and Harriet Levin have been espousing support for lone soldiers for several years, but started The Michael Levin Lone Soldier Foundation five years ago to be able to provide greater financial assistance for lone soldier organizations in Israel.

They currently help support a handful of Israeli organizations supporting lone soldiers, such as the Lone Soldier Center, to whom they provide 80% of the organization’s funding.

Lizzie Noach, who works in community relations at the organization, said the funds were instrumental in supporting the center last year during the pandemic, as the organization, which was deemed “essential,” worked to create weekly to-go Shabbat dinners for lone soldiers.

Though Michael Levin’s



▲ Michael Levin’s grave  
Courtesy of Mark and Harriet Levin

parents have supported lone soldiers since their son’s death, advocating for lone soldiers was Michael Levin’s dream since he enlisted in the IDF.

During Michael Levin’s service in the IDF, he slept on park benches for a couple nights, not having anywhere else to stay.

According to Mark Levin, no lone soldier centers or organizations existed when his son was a soldier.

Four years after Michael Levin’s death, Adam Klazmer, the incoming NextGen board chair at the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, also joined the IDF as a lone soldier. Klazmer went to the same summer camp as Michael Levin — Camp Ramah in the Poconos. He didn’t know Michael Levin but knew of him; everyone did, he said.

“Michael’s story was an ever-present reminder that what I was doing wasn’t a game, that I was fighting for something that I very much believed in,” Klazmer said.

Klazmer was part of NextGen, the Jewish Federation’s affinity group for young professionals, when it helped to create The Levin Society, a new donor level at the Jewish Federation for those giving \$2,500 annually.

“We wanted to name [the society] after a young, Jewish, local person who had name recognition and represented everything we want in a leader for the Jewish community,” said Matt Shipon, NextGen’s outgoing board chair who head-started The Levin Society’s creation and naming.

According to Klazmer, there were no other name candidates; it could only be Michael Levin.

In Israel and Philadelphia, Michael Levin’s legacy is interwoven in the missions of several organizations and individuals, even a decade and a half after his passing.

“His legacy is that all that has been established in the past 15 years, is all because of him, because of his vision, because of his dream,” Mark Levin said. ●

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## Open

Continued from Page 7

“We need all the help we can get packing boxes at our warehouse, where it’s easy to social distance and masks are required,” Gurevich said.

The next food distribution is Aug. 15 at 10 a.m. and will be the largest Rosh Hashanah distribution in the organization’s history.

## KleinLife

Like JRA, KleinLife never stopped its vital programs. Their Home Delivered Meals program continued, and the organization began virtual programming for seniors.

KleinLife began a soft opening to slowly start to switch back to its pre-pandemic schedule. The fitness center and swimming pool are open for members through a reservation system, summer day camp is in full operation and the weekly farmers market is reopened.

Marketing Director Stephanie Hampson said Kleinlife is constantly referring to Centers for Disease Control & Prevention guidelines and assessing programs on an ongoing basis. Things can change fast, so one of the biggest challenges is ensuring compliance with the most-recent guidelines and restrictions.

Overall, KleinLife is eager to bring back its programs.

“Knowing that we’re getting closer to bringing back that vibrancy to our organization makes us excited,” Hampson said.

## Jewish Family & Children’s Service of Southern New Jersey

After switching to a remote format during the pandemic, Jewish Family & Children’s Service of Southern New Jersey is making plans to reopen.

It’s now operating under a hybrid schedule with some programs in person, but the majority remain virtual. The staff is looking forward to reinstating its Project Rainbow groups for LGBTQ+ teenagers and Hope & Healing and Cafe Europa programs for Holocaust survivors.

“This vulnerable population, in particular, really needs in-person contact whenever possible,” Director of Marketing and Communications Rachael Ovitz said.

Under the hybrid model, staff is working in the office up to two days per week, with a full return by Oct. 4. ●

Leah Snyderman is an intern for Jewish Exponent.

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## BIRTH

### ▼ SADIE GRACE WEINSTEIN

Kate and Mark Weinstein announce the birth of Sadie Grace on May 1 in Philadelphia. Sharing in their joy are grandparents Lana and Robert Weinstein of Colmar and Denise and Earl Dodds of Leola.

Sadie was named after Mark's maternal grandmother, Rosalie Diamond.



Photo by Jessica Lauren Photography

## ENGAGEMENT

### ► RUBINSTEIN-DOLLIN

Joel Rubinstein (Lisa Levin) of Newtown, Beth Rubinstein of Santa Cruz, California, and Rabbi Bruce and Tamra Dollin of Denver announce the engagement of their children, Michelle Rubinstein and Akiva Dollin.

Michelle is a graduate of the Haas Business School at the University of California, Berkeley, where she earned her bachelor's degree in business administration with a minor in education. She works as a senior product manager for Visa.

Akiva is a graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Jewish history; Columbia University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in computer science; and The Grainger College of Engineering, where he earned a master's degree in computer science. He works as a program manager for Microsoft.

Michelle is the granddaughter of Mark and Joan Kay of Bala Cynwyd, and the late Arthur and Arlene Rubinstein (z"l) of Philadelphia. Akiva is the grandson of Rabbi Herbert (z"l) and Judy Morris of Walnut Creek, California, and Marvin (z"l) and Florence Dollin of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The couple lives in Denver and is planning a Denver-area wedding for the summer of 2022.



Photo by Akiva Dollin

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### FELS Names New Board Chair, Interim CEO

Federation Early Learning Services named Evan Segal as its new board chair, replacing Cathy Seiler, who has served as chair since 2018.

"While we continue to have challenges ahead, we are embarking on creating new alliances to identify new opportunities and pipelines," said Seiler, a partner at Brinker Simpson and Co. LLC.

Segal is the president and founder of Segal Financial, a commercial loan advisory firm, and has served on the FELS board for the past 14 years.

"I am proud and honored to be named board chair of FELS," Segal said. "I will work hard to maintain the standard of excellence in early childhood education that has been the hallmark of FELS for over 100 years."

FELS also appointed Taka Agawa as interim president and CEO. He has served on the board for the past three years.

FELS offers early childhood education and child

care services in Greater Philadelphia. It helps families access affordable child care while providing educational activities and working with parents to build community. FELS is more than 100 years old and has five centers located in Northeast Philadelphia, Delaware County and Montgomery County.

### PICC Says Goodbye to Israel Economic Minister

The Philadelphia-Israel Chamber of Commerce board of directors and members bid farewell on July 14 to Inon Elroy, the Israel Economic Minister to North America at the Israel Economic Mission in New York City, and welcomed his successor Anat Katz at the office of Avison Young.

"PICC thanks Inon for his relentless and dedicated service, and commitment to strengthening the commercial and friendship ties with Israel," PICC Executive Director Vered Nohi said.

Nohi said that in Elroy's tenure, Israel signed memorandums of understanding to strengthen the commercial and research and development ties with Pennsylvania and New Jersey; Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals signed an agreement with the Israel Innovation Authority to fund six Israeli technology pilot programs; and hosted numerous delegations and conferences. PICC also co-organized missions to Israel, including with Gov. Tom Wolf in 2020.

### KleinLife Offers Opera Series

"A Survey of Opera from Baroque to the Present" is the theme of a four-part classical music series offered to members and the public-at-large at the KleinLife: Montgomery County Gabriel and Alma Elias Center



▲ From left: Rabbi Gary Charlestein; Inon Elroy, Israel Economic Minister to North America; PICC Executive Director Vered Nohi; PICC President Matt Fingerman; David Baker; and Neil Cooper, immediate past president of PICC

Courtesy of the Philadelphia-Israel Chamber of Commerce

► Evan Segal  
Photo by Ellie Eaton



at 7763 Old York Road in Elkins Park.

Sessions are set for Aug. 4, 11, 18 and 25 from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

The series will be led by Gerald Tremblay, a psychotherapist and opera aficionado.

"We will view, discuss and analyze four operas ranging from the 17th to the 20th century," he said. "The emphasis will be focused on literary and musical values to trace the historical progression and persistence of the operatic tradition."

The cost is \$10 per session, and seating is limited.

For more information and to reserve a place for one or all four sessions, contact Gail Korostoff at 215-635-5244 or email gkorostoff@kleinlife.org. •



## DEATH NOTICES



### COMER

Deanne Comer (née Scherlis) on July 21, 2021. Beloved wife for forty years of the late Asher James Comer Loving sister of Marilyn Scherlis Tublin. Devoted mother of Victoria (Jeffrey) Dordick and Suzanne (Michael) Fanaroff. Outstanding Mom-Mom to Dr. Alexandra Lauren Myers, Daniel Max Fanaroff and Jamie Samantha Fanaroff. Cherished aunt and great-aunt. Dear friend to many. Contributions in her memory may be made to Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center - Phila. PA <https://hamec.org> or United States Hospital Memorial Museum - Washington D.C <https://www.usmmm.org/> GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS [www.goldsteinsfuneral.com](http://www.goldsteinsfuneral.com)

### FREEDMAN

Norton A. Freedman, Esq. of Atlantic City, NJ and formerly of Dresher, PA. Beloved husband of Gloria (nee Kuperstein) Freedman, and her children, Susan and Mark Maron of CA, Carolyn and Michael Reitz of FL, and Nancy Schultz of FL. Poppy of nine wonderful grandchildren. Brother of Ellen Hochman. He is also survived by many devoted nieces, nephews, cousins, and his friends from Central High School Class of 197. Contributions in his memory may be made to the American Macular Degeneration Foundation [www.macular.org](http://www.macular.org) ROTH GOLDSTEINS' MEMORIAL CHAPEL [www.rothgoldsteins.com](http://www.rothgoldsteins.com)



### KAHN

Louis Kahn, July 18, 2021 of Wynnewood, PA. Beloved husband of the late Vivian (nee Shapiro); loving father of Deborah H. Kahn and Jacalyn S. Kahn; devoted brother of the late Saul Kahn. Services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to JCHAI, 274 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010. JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS [www.levinefuneral.com](http://www.levinefuneral.com)

## A Community Remembers

Monthly archives of Jewish Exponent Death Notices are available online.

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

## DEATH NOTICES

### MARX

Janice (Korman) Marx, July 14, 2021. Beloved wife of the late Richard Marx, wonderful mother of Patricia, Sarah Jane, and Richard Jr., and devoted grandmother of Rachel and Dylan Marx. She was a guidance counselor at Philadelphia High School for Girls and later worked alongside her husband at Marx Stationery and Office Supplies. She was known for her warmth, wit, generosity, style, and bridge-playing prowess. Donations may be made to [www.jevshumanerservices.org/about](http://www.jevshumanerservices.org/about) or to a charity of the donor's choice.

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### NEMROFF

Burton (Burt) Nemroff, 81, passed away on July 14 in his Boca Raton home. Beloved husband of Barbara for 56 years, adored father of Alita (Glen) Friedman, Lauren Nemroff, Courtney Nemroff, and grandsons Stephen and Alec Friedman. He is also survived by brother Arthur Nemroff. He was predeceased by parents, Louis and Esther Nemroff and sister-in-law, Phyllis Nemroff. A graduate of Central High School and Penn State University ('61), Burt was a professional electrical engineer for more than four decades and a Life Member of the IEEE. A lifelong sportsman and nature lover, Burt enjoyed fishing, gardening, golf, bocce, poker and his favorite Philadelphia sports teams. Burt traveled the world with his family, but especially loved returning to his old South Philadelphia neighborhood where his parents once owned a grocery store. Burt will be lovingly remembered for his integrity, compassion and kindness. Contributions in Burt's memory may be made to the Barnegat Light Volunteer Fire Company, Barnegat Light, NJ.

### PRUSHAN

Rachel Gisele Prushan (nee Yedid). Passed away on July 16, 2021. Wife of Sheldon Prushan. Mother of Helene (Ron) Rosen, Alan (Carol) Prushan and Mimi Prushan. Sister of Diane Tuckman (the late Mort), Alain (Zippy) Yedid, Joyce Yedid (Peri Perinpanathan) and Danny (Suzy) Yedid. Grandmother of Daniel, Josh and Esther Rosen, and Joel and Simon Prushan. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Abe and Andi Morris Scholarship Fund or the James and Linda Wimmer Scholarship Fund at Camp Harlam, [www.campharlam.org](http://www.campharlam.org). GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS [www.goldsteinsfuneral.com](http://www.goldsteinsfuneral.com)

### SPEIER

Anni Speier of Philadelphia, July 16, 2021. Devoted sister of Betty April. Also survived by many loving nieces, friends, and family. Graveside services were held on July 20 at Carmel Hebrew Cemetery, Millville, NJ. Contributions may be made to the American Friends of Magen David Adom [afmda.org](http://afmda.org) JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS [www.levinefuneral.com](http://www.levinefuneral.com)

## Savett

Continued from Page 14

we spoke to and each story we heard were important testimonials to the unwavering strength of the Israeli people. We visited the parents of 5-year-old Ido Avigal, who was killed by a Hamas rocket in Sderot.

Despite having access to a modern safe room and being able to make it there in time, shrapnel pierced the metal and concrete of the room, killing Ido and wounding his mother. It was devastating to see the safe room frozen in time with children's posters on the walls and to meet his incredibly resilient parents who honor their wonderful son and find the means to look forward.

At the Kfar Aza kibbutz in the Jewish Federation's partnership region, just five kilometers east of Gaza, we met Chen Abrahams, a woman who lived all her life in this kibbutz founded by her grandparents. She showed us a disturbing array of rockets and weapons that had been targeted toward her community over the many years of bombings. Despite the constant threat of war and violence, there is a waiting list to live at this kibbutz, and the city of Sderot is growing

rapidly. We saw this love of country and sense of community everywhere we went — an unrelenting pride in Israel, and an unwillingness to give into the terror of Hamas.

Another major issue that emerged during the recent conflict was the rioting that occurred in some of the mixed cities where large populations of Jews and Arabs live together. In Lod, where the worst riots took place, we visited a community center and saw how staff are working with the Joint Distribution Committee to help people coexist. We learned of JDC programs aimed at closing the social and economic gap between Jews and Arabs. We spoke with Arab women who participated in a program that helped them to secure good jobs in the high-tech arena.

Jewish community members often don't understand where their money goes when it supports overseas work by organizations like JFNA, the JDC or the Jewish Agency's Israel Trauma Coalition. Every gift to the Federation's Jewish Community Fund goes in part to these critical efforts, which support life-saving and well-being programs that encourage positive changes to

the complex Israeli society. Our Jewish philanthropy contributes to a more vibrant Israel.

I walk away from this trip with a deepened connection to Israel, as well as a firm belief that as American Jews, it is our responsibility to serve as ambassadors for Israel. We must diffuse lies and correct misinformation being spread about Israel by its detractors and the media, and listen openly and speak calmly and factually about the struggles Israel faces.

When we met at the Knesset with MK Nachman Shai, minister of Diaspora Affairs, he emphasized how American Jewry is a security asset for Israel. We open doors, protect them in our Congress and encourage solidarity. He and the other three MKs we spoke to all emphasized that American Jewry is just as important to Israel as Israel is to American Jewry.

In the end, this trip was about solidarity and support to our brothers and sisters abroad and the feeling that we must stand together as one people united by our common heritage and Jewish values. *Am Yisroel Chai!* •

Sherrie Savett is the chair of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia Campaign.

# Chai.



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OUT OF AREA VACATION SALES/RENTALS	INFORMATION
SERVICES PROFESSIONAL/ PERSONAL	AUTOMOTIVE
HOUSEHOLD SERVICES	MERCHANDISE MARKETING
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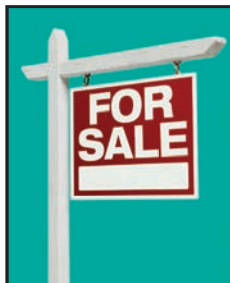
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## REAL ESTATE

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## MAIN LINE

### PENN VALLEY "OAK HILL"

Call directly for updates on sales and rentals.

★★★★★  
**SOUTH TERRACE**-Top floor. Immaculate, designer, rare, available 1 BD, 1.5 BA, custom closets, lots of storage. Main BD suite w/ dressing room area, W/D, wood floors, large sunny balcony, just steps to elevator. Available immediately \$187,900

**TOWER-3 NEW LISTINGS**  
**TOWER-New Listing** 6th floor, spacious corner, 1 BD, 1.5 BA, open eat-in kitchen with breakfast bar, modern wood floors, bedroom suite, lots of closets, new dishwasher, new refrigerator, full size washer/dryer, sunny balcony, available immediately! 24 hour doorman, basement storage, pool, laundry room, lots of parking, cable package only \$91 per month Available immediately just reduced \$169,900

**TOWER-New Listing, available immediately.** 7th floor, 1 BD, 1 BA plus den, large living room. Granite counters, newer kitchen appliances. Huge balcony overlooking pool. Heat/AC, 24 hour doorman, basement storage, pool, laundry room, lots of parking, cable package only \$91 per month! Just reduced \$149,900

**TOWER-NEW LISTING**-9th fl 1 BD, 1.5 BA, new washer/dryer, large kitchen, new wood floors, lots closets, custom lighting, mirrored wall, large balcony with tree view over looking the pool. \$159,000

**SOUTH TERRACE JUST RENOVATED** 2 BD, 2 BA, open granite kitchen, new appliances, wood floors, lots of closets, custom lighting, washer/dryer, heat/cooking, pool, parking. New renovation, just completed in hallways and lobby. Available immediately! \$229,900

**NORTH TERRACE-Coming soon, next week!** 1st floor, 2 BD, 2 BA, washer/dryer, new heat/AC, sunny patio. Great opportunity! \$209,900

★★★★★  
**TOWER-New Listing, available immediately.** 7th floor, 1 BD, 1 BA plus den, large living room. Granite counters, newer kitchen appliances. Huge balcony overlooking pool. Heat/AC, 24 hour doorman, basement storage, pool, laundry room, lots of parking, cable package only \$91 per month! \$1600 +electric

**TOWER-Special renovation.** Large 3 BD, 3.5 BA, open granite kitchen, wood floors, windows, new balcony, washer/dryer, 24 hr. doorman, storage. Available immediately! \$3100

**TERRACES-NEW LISTING**-All new renovation, 1 BD, 1 BA, open granite kitchen w/breakfast bar, custom kitchen cabinets, new appliances, custom new wood floors, washer/dryer, sunny balcony. Available immediately \$1650 heat included + electric. Free pool and gym.



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609-335-3904

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**ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL PARK**  
2 Plots, Lot 111, Graves 1 & 2  
Contact Steve 301-693-3379

**HAR JEHUDA CEMETERY**  
2 Plots, Graves 16 & 17, Sec. Garden of Memories, next to walkway and bench. Originally \$2950 per plot, asking \$3650 for both, including transfer fees.  
610-547-1837

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\$7800 obo  
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## INFORMATION

### ESTATE NOTICES

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

### PETITION NAME CHANGE

CHANGE OF NAME NOTICE  
Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, June Term, 2021 No. 002455. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on July 7, 2021 the petition of Zwei Xucci was filed, praying for a decree to change his name to Red Z. The Court has fixed August 19, 2021 at 10:00am, in Room No. 691, City Hall, Philadelphia, PA for hearing. All persons interested may appear and show cause, if they have any, why the prayer of the said petitioner should not be granted.

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Location, Location!! Direct Ocean Front 2 Bedroom, 2 Full Bathroom Condo with Spectacular Views! Enjoy this clean, cozy beachfront maintenance free living, which includes 2 parking spots, large pool, outdoor shower, elevator, laundry rooms on each floor and your own personal locker for beach chairs, etc. Building also features a separate bicycle storage room.



This unit is For Sale by Owner and is NOT interested in working with realtors. We proudly offer our home for \$399,000. Home will be available as of 9/15/2021. Serious buyers only, feel free to reach out at 267-249-0724

### EMPLOYMENT/HELP WANTED

In search for a self motivated sales person to cover the greater Philadelphia area selling automotive products for a 64 yr. old, family owned, Shomer Shabbos business. Will train. Please email resume to :  
barryn@nussbaumequipment.com

# To Place a Classified Ad



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## APARTMENT

**HOUSING APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE FOR ARTHUR & ESTELLE SIDEWATER HOUSE 780 BYBERRY ROAD PHILADELPHIA, PA 19116**

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Applications may be requested at:  
www.federationhousing.org/housing-application  
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**23 S VASSAR**



**VENTNOR \$699,000**  
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STRUCTION TOWNHOMES!  
3 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH  
WITH OPEN CONCEPT!

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**MARGATE \$329,000**  
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1 BATH PET-FRIENDLY UNIT  
IN FABULOUS LOCATION  
WITH NO CONDO FEES!

## NEW LISTING!



**VENTNOR \$999,000**  
ONE OFF THE BEACH! LOT  
FOR SALE THAT FEELS  
LIKE OCEANFRONT WITH  
UNOBSTRUCTED OCEAN VIEWS!

## NEW LISTING!



**VENTNOR \$879,000**  
REMARKABLE BAY VIEW  
HOME! 3-STORY 4 BR, 4  
BA BEAUTY SITUATED IN  
DESIRABLE QUIET AREA!

## NEW LISTING!



**VENTNOR \$699,000**  
FABULOUS 4 BR, 3 FULL  
BATH HOME WITH TONS OF  
UPGRADES THROUGHOUT!  
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## NEW LISTING!



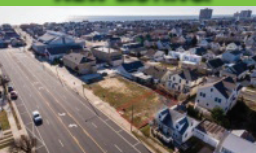
**MARGATE \$699,000**  
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DESIRABLE NEIGHBOR-  
HOODS! 4 BR, 2.5 BATH  
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BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED  
UNIT IN 9600 ATLANTIC! JU-  
NIOR 2 BEDROOM WITH 2  
FULL BATHS & BAY VIEWS!

## NEW LISTING!



**MARGATE \$599,000**  
FIRST BLOCK NORTH LAND  
FOR SALE!! BUILD YOUR  
DREAM HOME HERE JUST  
STEPS TO THE BEACH!

## NEW LISTING!



**VENTNOR \$519,000**  
RENOVATED DUPLEX! BOTH  
2 BEDROOM, 2 FULL BATH  
UNITS WITH BAY VIEWS!  
FABULOUS RENTAL HISTORY!

## NEW LISTING!



**VENTNOR \$449,000**  
3 BR, 2 BA SITUATED ON A  
DEEP 106 FOOT LOT! GREAT  
SPACE, FABULOUS FRONT  
PORCH & BACKYARD!

## NEW LISTING!



**VENTNOR \$299,000**  
RENOVATED 2ND FLOOR UNIT  
WITH 2 BR, 2 FULL BATHS! BAY  
VIEWS FROM DECK, FRESHLY  
PAINTED, AND NEW BATH!

## NEW LISTING!



**VENTNOR \$239,900**  
FIRST FLOOR 2 BR, 2 BA UNIT  
BEING RENOVATED! FRESHLY  
PAINTED, HARDWOOD FLOORS,  
AND NEW BATHS!

## WANTED TO BUY

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**\*Attn: Classified Department\***

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Check out <https://wwdbam.com/podcasts/jewish-singles/>  
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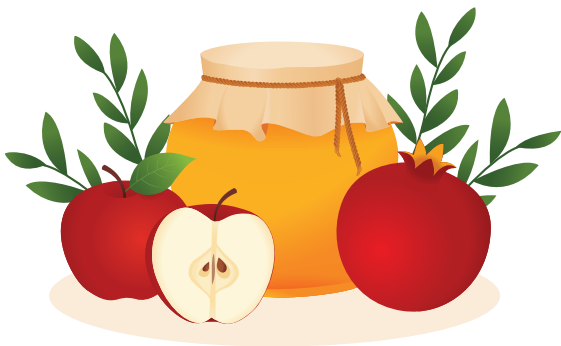
# Wish Your Friends & Family A HAPPY NEW YEAR in the Jewish Exponent

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

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

**A**  
\$95

## Shana Tova



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

YOUR NAME

**B**  
\$75

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

YOUR NAME

**D**  
\$45

## Shana Tova

Greetings  
and best  
wishes for  
a Happy  
New Year.

YOUR NAME

**C**  
\$45



## L'Shana Tova Tikatevu

YOUR NAME

**E1**  
\$30



May this be a  
year of peace  
for all.

YOUR NAME



— Personal Greetings Only —

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

YOUR NAME

**E2**  
\$30





COMMUNITYCALENDAR

▼ FRIDAY, JULY 30

Parsha for Life

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

Shabbat Under the Stars

**Beth Sholom Congregation** will host “Schnapps and Drash” with Rabbi David Glanzberg-Krainin, followed by Kabbalat Shabbat services and on-premises barbecue from Ben’s Deli. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. Visit [bethsholomcongregation.org](http://bethsholomcongregation.org) or call 215-887-1342 for more information.

BSC By the Sea

Rabbi David Glanzberg-Krainin and Cantor Jacob Agar of **Beth Sholom Congregation** will conduct Kabbalat Shabbat services at Huntington Beach in Margate, New Jersey, at 6 p.m. Visit [bethsholomcongregation.org](http://bethsholomcongregation.org) or call 215-887-1342 for details.

▼ SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

Synagogue Open House

Berwyn’s **Congregation Or Shalom** is opening its doors and backyard for an open house. The open house, featuring food, drink, games and tours, will be held at the synagogue at 835 Darby Paoli Road from noon to 2 p.m. For more information, contact the synagogue’s office at 610-644-9086 or email [office@orshalom.com](mailto:office@orshalom.com).

▼ MONDAY, AUGUST 2

Book Discussion

**The All But True** series presents two historical novels about Jewish musicians: Jennifer Steil’s *Exile Music* and Marjorie Sandor’s *The Secret Music at Tordesillas*. The authors will read from and discuss their works. The event begins at 7 p.m. For the Zoom link, register in advance at: [eventbrite.com/e/all-but-true-series-jennifer-steil-marjorie-sandor-online-tickets-162670685399](https://eventbrite.com/e/all-but-true-series-jennifer-steil-marjorie-sandor-online-tickets-162670685399).

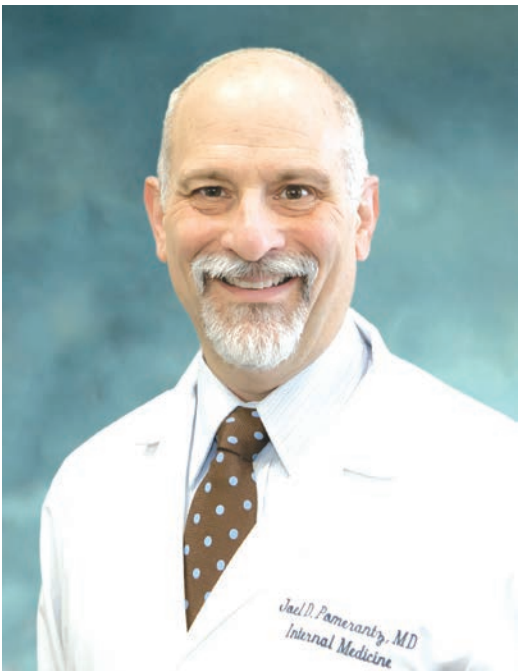
Virtual Bingo

The Sisterhood of **Congregations of Shaare Shamayim** in Philadelphia is hosting a virtual Bingo beginning at 7:30 p.m. We also will hold a 50/50 drawing; the cost is \$5 per chance. For further information, call the CSS office at 215-677-1600 and ask for Gerry or Nancy or email [office@shareshamayim.org](mailto:office@shareshamayim.org). ●

NEWSMAKERS

Dr. Joel D. Pomerantz was appointed chair of the Division of Geriatrics for Einstein Medical Center Philadelphia. He earned his medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University in New York and completed a residency in internal medicine at Temple University Hospital.

► Dr. Joel D. Pomerantz  
Courtesy of Einstein Healthcare Network



The All About MossRehab Through the Arts event on June 24 honored longtime advisory board members Marge and Ty Steinberg and celebrated the presentation of the inaugural Ty Steinberg Empowerment Award. Tony Award-winning actress Ali Stroker received the award.



◀ Multiple generations of the Steinberg family with actress Ali Stroker (seated)

► From left: Kenneth D. Levitan, president and CEO, Einstein Healthcare Network; MossRehab Chief Operating Officer Tom Smith; sponsors Nancy and Marc Shrier; Lawrence J. Reichlin, chairman, Einstein board of trustees; event chairpersons Rosa Esquenazi and MossRehab Chief Medical Officer Alberto Esquenazi with actress Ali Stroker (seated).

Courtesy of  
Einstein Healthcare Network



Chai.



News  
for people  
who know  
we don’t mean  
spiced tea.

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in the  
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EXPONENT**  
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TODAY!**

Issue Date:  
**9/14**

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**8/12**



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