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SUMMER
PAGE 17

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ALBERT

READIES FOR A RETURN
TO SUMMER CAMP

Page 40



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Cover: Camp Ramah's Debbie Albert readies for a return to summer camp.



6 Jewish schools enjoy (almost) normal year.



8 Summer breaks necessary as rabbis avoid burnout.



29 Jewish camps excited to return to normal.

Next Up for Adam Sandler's Production Company: A YA Bat Mitzvah Novel Adaptation

Last month, Adam Sandler threw his daughter a star-studded bat mitzvah party.

Now, it looks like his production company is making a bat mitzvah-themed film.

The casting site Backstage has posted a casting call for an in-the-works adaptation of "You Are So Not Invited to My Bat Mitzvah," a 2005 young adult novel by Fiona Rosenbloom.

Whether Sandler will have a role in the middle school-set story has not yet been revealed, but his Happy Madison Productions company is behind the film. Sammi Cohen, who has helmed other teen films such as "Crush," "Hollywood Darlings" and "Mr. Student Body President," is directing. At least part of the filming will take place between June 20 and Aug. 12 in Toronto, according to the casting call.

In the novel, teenager Stacy Friedman is determined to host the best bat mitzvah ever, in the face of middle school drama and competing love interests.

The Backstage post features a specific call for the role of Dante, a 12-to-14-year-old "foreign exchange student from Italy with a slight Italian accent" who is not Jewish but "is earnestly interested in the Jewish faith and helping out in the community."

The movie will likely end up on Netflix; Sandler signed a deal in the



RB/Bauer-Griffin/GC Images via JTA

Adam Sandler at "Jimmy Kimmel Live" in Los Angeles on June 1

beginning of 2020 to make four more films with the streaming giant. Since then, the production company has released two: "Hubie Halloween" and "Hustle."

Sandler threw his daughter Sunny a bat mitzvah with the likes of Jennifer Aniston, Charlie Puth and Sandler's good friend David Spade in Los Angeles last month. Two years ago, he held an equally celebrity-filled bash for his eldest daughter Sadie, which included a performance by Adam Levine.

— Caleb Guedes-Reed

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Jewish Schools Enjoy (Almost) Normal Year

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

Schools, much like the Biden administration, seem like they may never actually declare that COVID is over, and that we are back to normal.

But for all intents and purposes, Jewish schools in the Philadelphia area are ... wait for it ... back to normal! (Pretty much.)

School officials, though, are quite literally paid to be wet blankets, and if you have ever talked to even one of them, you know that they are great at playing the role. So naturally, while local principals are excited about how much each day is starting to resemble 2019, they are still using the phrase “close to normal” to describe the state of the pandemic as the 2021-’22 year ends.

“I would love to say we’re in the clear, but I’ve learned a lot over the past two years working in school with this,” said Rabbi Marshall Lesack, the head of school for the Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy in Bryn Mawr. “I’m not going to say I know what the future looks like, but I hope we can return to normalcy for students.”

But in 2021-’22, there were unmasked smiles, after-school sports and out-of-school trips; there was social gathering instead of distancing in classrooms and cafeterias; there was little fear of a single COVID case throwing the entire build-

ing off schedule.

Most area Jewish institutions implemented the five-and-five rule recommended by local health authorities and their medical teams. If a student got COVID, he or she left the building for five days and then returned with a mask for five more days. At that point, if the student remained asymptomatic, he or she ripped off the mask again and smiled like it was 2019.

Those smiles were nice to see. Even school administrators enjoyed them.

“It feels like a relief. Like everybody can take a breath of fresh air,” said Liora Knizhnik, the director of community engagement and admissions at Kohelet Yeshiva, an Orthodox institution in Merion Station.

What was interesting about 2021-’22, though, was that COVID cases were still very much present, especially during the winter omicron wave between December and February.

The Abrams Hebrew Academy in Yardley actually had more students get COVID in 2021-’22 than the previous year, according to Head of School Ira Budow. But Budow did not have to shut down any classes or, as he put it, “go Zooming.” He just had to enforce the five-and-five rule.

Other Jewish institutions, like Kohelet Yeshiva and the Kellman Brown Academy



The Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy, like many area schools, enjoyed a much more normal year in 2021-’22.

Photo by Jordan Cassway

in Voorhees, New Jersey, also reported cases during omicron. But as Knizhnik explained about Kohelet Yeshiva, the day-to-day was not interrupted.

Budow compared it to dealing with a cold or flu. The rules were clear, he said.

“It wasn’t like two years ago where, God forbid, you get the bug and you think you’re going to die the next month,” the rabbi added.

Jewish administrators agree that keeping students in person is a priority. Once they figured out how to do that last year, with classroom cohorts, social distancing and strict masking policies, they had something to build on, according to Rachel Zivic, the head of school at Kellman Brown, a pre-K-8 institution.

So, even as they reopened more and more, both at the beginning of this school year and after omicron, they were not rewriting a plan from scratch. They were merely updating their existing blueprints to handle the changing nature of the situation. They also had the confidence that, if another variant broke out, they could revert to the original strategy.

In other words, after two years of dealing with the crisis, they knew what they

were doing.

“It’s all been smooth sailing. We’re a microcosm of everywhere else,” Zivic said. “We certainly are impacted, but it certainly hasn’t impacted the learning or the morale.”

Judy Groner, the retiring head of school at the Perelman Jewish Day School, said that in 2021-’22 handling COVID became routine. When there was a case, Groner would get on the phone with her administrative team and decide if the student’s class needed to make any larger changes.

“It does work pretty much like clockwork at this point,” she added.

Administrators are not sure if another variant or virus will break out. But they know one thing as they look ahead to 2022-’23: They will not be caught off guard again.

Groner said she’s “beyond certain” that the Perelman administration will be able to handle a crisis in her absence.

“There’s definitely a feeling of lightness in the building,” she concluded. “People are healthy and safe.” JE

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Longtime Jewish Theater Director Deborah Baer Mozes Retiring

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

Years ago, Rabbi David Ackerman, then at Tiferet Bet Israel in Blue Bell, sat down with Deborah Baer Mozes to discuss how a theatrical presentation could represent Simchat Torah.

Ackerman wanted to teach the holiday

to his Hebrew school students, and Baer Mozes, as usual, had just the performative idea.

That Sunday morning, the 200 or so students would sit in the sanctuary while Baer Mozes’ actors from Theatre Ariel, her salon theater company that puts on Jewish shows, acted out the story of the holiday. As Ackerman recalled, they

unrolled the Torah around the outside of the room, and the theater troupe brought to life one story from each of the five books of the Torah.

The kids loved it; the community may have loved it more; and everybody “learned Torah together,” the rabbi said.

“Our continuity as a people is based on telling and retelling our stories,” he

added. “That’s what Deborah does.”

Now, though, she will no longer be doing it in the Philadelphia area.

Baer Mozes is retiring from her longtime position as founding artistic director of Theatre Ariel which, for 30-plus years has played to intimate, micro audiences, often of between 25 and 60 people, in synagogues and living rooms on the

Main Line. In press releases during its 2021-'22 season, Theatre Ariel described itself as "Pennsylvania's only professional theatre dedicated to illuminating the social, cultural and spiritual heritage of the Jewish people."

Since Baer Mozes founded it in 1990, it has lived up to that mission, putting on 90 "world premieres," according to a more recent press release about the director's retirement. But now, the woman who started and guided the theater on that mission is "going forth," as she titled the musical revue that marked her departure on June 13 at the Merion Tribute House.

The director is actually "going forth" to Israel, where she will try to live in Netanya near Tel Aviv. Baer Mozes' daughter lives in Tel Aviv after making aliyah 13 years ago. The longtime Philly area resident has wanted to make aliyah herself for years. And during the pandemic, as the theater went virtual, she had some time to step back and reflect on when the right moment might arise.

It turned out to be now.

"It's emotional," Baer Mozes said. "But I also know that for me it's the right time."

But she did not want to leave until she secured her legacy. As Ackerman said, telling Jewish stories is vital to the sur-



A Theatre Ariel performance

Photo by Jordan Cassway

vival of the people, and Theatre Ariel is the only theater organization in the area dedicated solely to doing so.

Its founder did not want that mission to die so, before she departed, she found a successor. Jesse Bernstein is moving up from associate artistic director to artistic director.

Bernstein, a veteran of the film, TV and theater industries, joined Theatre Ariel in 2018 to help it host an international Jewish theater conference, then never left. Baer Mozes called their initial partnership on the conference "a won-

derful collaboration."

Recently, Bernstein mentioned to her that he wanted to be an artistic director at some point. Baer Mozes had not told him that she was considering him as her replacement. But she realized that they were on the same page.

"The more we worked together, the more it seemed right for me that Jesse would take over," she said.

But Bernstein will have big shoes to fill. Baer Mozes brought this stage to life, and it became her singular devotion, according to several fans and colleagues.

"I've never seen anyone more dedicated and devoted to her craft," said Juliet Spitzer, a Bala Cynwyd resident and founding board member of Theatre Ariel. "When she wasn't sleeping or socializing, she was working."

"She's had a tremendous impact on the Jewish community but also the general community in the Philadelphia area," added Judy Guzman, a Bala Cynwyd resident and the theater's co-president.

Since Theatre Ariel is a salon theater, it strips away the bells and whistles of the stage and focuses on the elements that matter: the words, the stories and the characters. All shine through in such a focused and intimate environment.

That was why Ackerman saw the Theatre Ariel shows as a fundamental part of the Jewish religious tradition. They illuminated many different types of Jewish subjects, too, from a Jewish spy in the Civil War to the women of the Torah and the Talmud.

"What I liked, in particular, was that the theatrical pieces told and retold traditional stories in really relevant language," Ackerman said. "And in a way that enabled participants to really see themselves in those stories." **JE**

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Summer Breaks Necessary as Rabbis Dodge Burnout

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

This year, 5782, is a Jewish leap year, where a second month of Adar is added to the calendar, creating another roomy 30 days in the year.

For a kid, this is like adding an extra July to the calendar, a prospect of another full month of summer camp, time down the shore or numbing the brain in front of a television screen.

For rabbis, however, this summer period — though it is a buffer between the major holidays of Shavuot and Rosh Hashanah — is less spacious. Though many spiritual leaders take a break over the summer, finding time to mentally and emotionally recharge is a difficult task.

Breaks aren't out of the question: Clergy-led Shabbat services are in a lull over the summer at Mishkan Shalom in Philadelphia, with Rabbi Shawn Zevit

leading one Shabbat service a month; that allows him to take time to grab a break and take care of his grandchildren who stay with him and his wife for a week. The Reconstructionist synagogue is also moving services to Zoom for the season, allowing more people to attend at their leisure and taking pressure off of volunteer greeters.

But for other synagogues, work continues despite religious and preschools going dormant for the season. Marlton, New Jersey-based Congregation Beth Tikvah Rabbi Nathan Weiner is hard at work on next year's curriculums. He also does programming for the JCC Camps at Medford's first week at the end of June. When he's not onboarding the synagogue's new employee, he's planning simchas for Shabbat and outlining pamphlet content for the High Holidays.

Rabbi Abe Friedman of Philadelphia's Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel is planning for Rosh Hashanah, too, hoping



Rabbi Nathan Weiner at the JCC Camps at Medford, where he conducts programming for a week in June prior to his July vacation

Courtesy of Nathan Weiner

to have the bulk of the work done by the time he takes his vacation to his wife's family's house in the Berkshires in western Massachusetts.

For rabbis, these breaks are necessary. But because of the ongoing work during the summer, a trip away has to be intentional.

"You have to make Shabbos," Weiner said.

In Jerusalem, before the calm of Shabbat, it's calamity, Weiner said. To observe Shabbat, there's immense planning that has to take place. The same is true of a vacation.

Friedman doesn't check his email during his vacation. Until a couple of years ago, the family vacation home didn't even have internet. He takes the same attitude for his days off on

Tuesdays, choosing to set clear work boundaries.

"I am no more willing to compromise it than I would be to compromise the actual Shabbat," he said.

But creating boundaries, particularly in the age of technology, has proven difficult for some rabbis.

"It's very important and impossible" to set boundaries as a rabbi, Maple Glen-based Congregation Beth Or Rabbi Gregory Marx said.

"There's always somebody in need in a congregation," he said. "And I always feel that sense of, 'Oh, I really should be calling this person,' and so that sense of obligation and mitzvah is always hovering."

See Breaks, Page 33

Fairwold Academy Dedicates Building to Rabbi, Psychologist

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

The Fairwold Academy named and dedicated its building on June 10 to honor employee, longtime psychologist and Rabbi Gary Feldman.

Feldman worked as the school psychologist for seven years at the Fort Washington-based Fairworld Academy, an approved private school for students with disabilities and accessibility needs and part of the nonprofit Public Health Management Corp.

The dedication ceremony consisted of a faculty and family gathering in the building's auditorium, a video tribute to Feldman and the display of a painting titled "Hallelujah! Sing a New Song!" by Feldman's wife Ruth Feldman in honor of her husband.

June 10 marked the one-year *yahrzeit* of Feldman's death; he died at 73. On the same day as the dedication, many of his family members attended his unveiling ceremony in Israel; the coincidental timing of the two events was *besheret*, or destiny, according to Ruth Feldman.

"He was so dedicated to working with

students with disabilities, and felt in a very humble way that the knowledge and experience that he had needed to continue to be imparted on others, so that the students would be able to benefit," said Amy Grossman, director of admissions at PHMC and colleague of Feldman who coordinated the dedication efforts.

Grossman experienced firsthand Feldman's care for others. In 2011, Grossman lost a child and, despite not having a close friendship, Feldman wrote her a letter.

"His words were just so meaningful, and the fact that he took the time to do

that was one of the most special things that happened to me during my period of such intense grief," Grossman said. "I just will always love him, and he will always have a special place in my heart."

Before Fairwold, Feldman served as the coordinator of School Psychological Services at the School District of Philadelphia, where he helped provide resources for teachers with students with disabilities and accommodation needs.

"Gary was the type of person whose assessment skills were just top notch,"

See Fairwold, Page 33



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

Ethiopian Jews Make Aliyah as Part of Operation Zur Israel

Michael Balaban, president and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, with local philanthropists Lynne and Michael Markman, joined dozens of other community leaders from Jewish Federations of North America on a delegation to accompany 180 Ethiopian olim (immigrants) to Israel on June 1, following a special three-day mission in Ethiopia.

The following day, a second flight of 160 Ethiopian olim arrived in Ben Gurion airport.

"Excitement, wonder and, yes, a bit of fear. These are the emotions seen on the faces of our friends as they journey to begin their new lives in Israel," Balaban said. "All are leaving the only place they have ever known with excitement to be going to a place they have only seen in their prayers."

The two flights mark the resumption of Operation Zur Israel or Rock of Israel, an initiative approved by the Israeli government allowing 3,000 members of the Jewish community in Ethiopia to make aliyah and reunite with their family members in Israel. Some of the olim have waited over a decade to reunite with their loved ones and fulfill their dreams of aliyah.

"The Jewish people in Ethiopia are living in deplorable conditions without health care, basic plumbing or housing while they struggle to survive to achieve their dream of moving to Israel," said Michael Markman, a Jewish Federation board member, who along with his wife, Lynne, have made contributions over the years to programs that support Ethiopian immigrants.

During the mission, the leaders met with Ethiopian community members in Gondar and Addis Ababa, who were waiting to make aliyah to become Israeli citizens.

Other organizations present during the mission included officials from The Jewish Agency for Israel, Kayemeth LeIsrael-Jewish National Fund, the World Zionist Organization and the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews.

Outside of the organizational delegations, Minister of Aliyah and Integration Pnina Tamano-Shata, the first Ethiopian-born woman to enter the Knesset, accompanied the immigrants on their flight. Other notable leaders who participated in the journey included Yaakov Hagoel, chairman of the WZO and acting chairman of The Jewish Agency, and Jeffrey A. Schoenfeld, chair of the Israel and Overseas Committee of the Jewish Federations of North America.

In addition to more than \$100 million in core funding Jewish Federations raise every year for partner organizations such as the Jewish Agency, which allows them to both carry out their routine work and prepare for extraordinary moments such as these, Federations have launched a campaign of more than \$7 million for the continuation of aliyah from Ethiopia and for humanitarian assistance for the community still awaiting aliyah.

"The North American Jewish community is proud of the way our community is stepping up once again to support Ethiopian aliyah," Jewish Federations President and CEO Eric Fingerhut said. "These inspiring moments are a reminder of how important it is to invest in the infrastructure of Jewish support organizations, which Federations do year in and year out to ensure we are prepared to act when the need arises."

As the new immigrants settle in Israel, there are still those remaining in Ethiopia who are anxious to make aliyah and reunite with their families. When that time comes, Jewish Federations are ready to continue to help facilitate that journey, providing hope for Ethiopians long awaiting their homeland.

After his experience in Ethiopia, Markman is even more passionate about

investing in resources for the absorption of immigrants in Israeli society: "As a Jewish community, we need to band together to save and support these Jewish souls and work to move them to Israel."



Ethiopian Jews pray in the synagogue in Gondar, Ethiopia, before making aliyah as part of Operation Zur Israel.
Courtesy of Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia



Filled with hope and joy, 180 Ethiopian olim arrive safely in Israel on June 1.

Courtesy of Maxim Dinshtein for
The Jewish Agency for Israel



The Markmans meet the matriach of a family of four living in a 10-foot-by-10-foot room in Gondar, and learn that they will be making aliyah.

Courtesy of Jewish Federation
of Greater Philadelphia

YOU SHOULD KNOW ...

Noah Schoenberg



HEATHER M. ROSS | STAFF WRITER

Many people have used the past couple of years as a time for self-reflection and often dramatic career shifts. For Noah Schoenberg, that shift came when he took his first online writing course in January 2020.

Now, at 28, he's showcasing his first play, written two years earlier.

The Bala Cynwyd native became a bar mitzvah at Congregation Beth Am Israel, where he also attended Hebrew school. His family later attended Adath Israel on the Main Line in Merion Station.

Schoenberg had a very different idea of his future when he set out to college, completing his undergraduate studies at Macalester College

in applied math and neuroscience.

Schoenberg always had an interest in writing but, after some time at home watching classic films with his grandmother, he came to a realization.

"I just couldn't stop thinking about film and writing in general," he said.

He began his journey with a writing class called "Gotham," which led to several other online writing courses where Schoenberg's creativity flourished.

"Once I started writing, my interest and capacity were clear to me," Schoenberg said.

The play "Lev of Leningrad" is a comedy-drama inspired by the story of Lev and Marina Furman, Jewish refuseniks and Soviet-Jewish activists whose journey eventually led them to Philadelphia. The term refusenik typically refers to Soviet Jews denied permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union, typically to Israel.

Schoenberg was introduced to the Furmans' story by his longtime friend, Michal Furman, the younger daughter of Lev Furman and an Israeli-American officer in the Philadelphia Police Department. He was inspired to begin writing after a Shabbat dinner at the Furmans' home when Marina Furman asked Schoenberg if he would like to take a shot at telling their story.

Lev Furman, originally an engineer, is now a hospice rabbi in Philadelphia. Schoenberg has looked up to him for a long time.

"I consider him to be the greatest guy that I know," Schoenberg said. "They are inspiring for a lot of reasons and, in their own right, a sort of classic American immigrant story."

While Schoenberg appreciates both films and plays, he decided it was more practical to tell the Furmans' story as a play. He reasoned that building any sort of historical world, especially for film, is a costly endeavor.

The decision on whether to write the story for film or as a play was ultimately based on how well Schoenberg thought Lev Furman's story could best impact the audience. While film has the advantage of zooming in on an object or a letter, flashbacks, which are central to Schoenberg's storytelling, are better suited to the stage, he said.

"Lev as a character is so engaging and dynamic, I thought a live performance would really bring the audience in," Schoenberg said.

"Lev of Leningrad" follows the Furmans' story from Soviet Russia to Israel to Philadelphia, where Lev Furman is faced with a changing world full of diverse people and their stories.

The play will feature live music performed by Cantor Jacob Agar, who Schoenberg met at Beth Shalom Synagogue in Elkins Park. Agar is an opera singer and composer who has committed to doing the music for the play, according to Schoenberg.

The play debuted at the Fulton Theater in Lancaster during its inaugural Stories of Diversity festival in 2021. "Lev of Leningrad" was selected as one of three finalists and received a staged reading. Between the rehearsals that week and the performance, Schoenberg became convinced that his dramatic career change was the right decision.

"There's nothing like it. I've never had more fun than in those rehearsals," he said.

Schoenberg has advice for young people considering switching to a career in creativity.

"Living at home (with his family) allowed me to save up a nest egg of money. [You need to] live as cheaply and efficiently as you can for a year or two before you make the jump. You will have to sacrifice your time so you can write at your best — I'm a morning writer. Be ruthless in protecting that time; you need to be at your freshest and best to even have any chance at doing this. Put yourself in a position to succeed," Schoenberg said.

Schoenberg isn't done telling Jewish stories, though. An upcoming project will tell the story of his grandmother, who was raised in Bucharest, Romania.

A staged reading of "Lev of Leningrad" will take place on June 29 at 7 p.m. at InterAct Theatre in Philadelphia. Tickets are pay-what-you-wish. All proceeds will be donated to Sunflower of Peace, an organization dedicated to helping Ukrainians affected by the Russian military invasion. **JE**

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Courtesy of Noah Schoenberg

Brazilian Jewish School Takes in Hospital Patients Escaping a Fire

A Jewish school in Rio de Janeiro took in more than 150 patients escaping a hospital fire, many of them in sick beds, on June 7, JTA reported.

A fire broke out in the Hospital São Lucas' laundry room that produced thick smoke and required an evacuation.

Employees at the hospital in Copacabana, one of Rio's most Jewish neighborhoods, wheeled patients to the nearby TTH Barilan School and the ground floors of apartment buildings.

"Humanity is so complicated that, when you do the right thing, they say you're like Superman," TTH Barilan President Rafael Antaki said. "The hospital's emergency plan was successful, and so was ours, focused on *chesed* and love."

The unprecedented scene of hospital beds lined up in the school's courtyard made parents, teachers and employees emotional. Kindergarten classes were temporarily suspended, but elementary, junior high and high school classes were not interrupted.

One patient needed to be resuscitated in the courtyard, the O Dia newspaper reported.



Barilan, a Jewish school in Rio de Janeiro, provided shelter to more than 150 patients escaping a fire in a nearby hospital. TTH Barilan school via JTA.org

Pope Hosts Yad Vashem Director at Vatican, Doesn't Discuss Catholic Church's Holocaust Controversies

Amid controversies concerning the Vatican's Holocaust-era record, Pope Francis and the head of Yad Vashem met for a first-of-its-kind talk on June 9, JTA reported.

Yad Vashem Director Dani Dayan met with the pope at his office in the Vatican. During their 30-minute talk, they spoke about ways to "bolster collaborative activities" in areas of "Holocaust remembrance, education and documentation, and to discuss efforts to fight antisemitism and racism worldwide," Dayan's office wrote in a statement.

Dayan thanked the pope for his 2020 decision to open the Vatican's archives related to the wartime Pope Pius XII, whose critics say did too little to intervene on behalf of the 6 million Jews that the Nazis murdered.

But they did not discuss the Holocaust-related controversies, including the ongoing beatification of Pius XII, that have strained Jewish-Catholic relations for years, Dayan said. Instead, Dayan focused on areas of consensus and on strengthening ties with the Vatican, he said.

A First: Female Israeli Authors Outpaced Males in Publishing in 2021

For the first time, female authors in Israel published more books of prose and poetry than their male counterparts, the National Library of Israel said in its 2021 annual "Book Report," JTA reported.

Of the 7,344 books sent to the library in 2021, 25% are exclusively classified as prose and poetry. Just over half, 52%, were credited to female authors, giving them a majority for the first time since the library began collecting statistics.

Among the notable releases by women were "A Penguin Café at the Edge of the World," a children's story by author and poet Nurit Zarchi, recipient of the 2021 Israel Prize for literature, and "Strangers," a bestselling novel by author Lihi Lapid, advocate and wife of Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid.

Approximately 92% of books published in Israel in 2021 were in Hebrew, with 4.8% in English, 2.2% in Arabic and a handful in Russian.

More Than 170,000 March in Tel Aviv 2022 Pride Parade

Despite heat warnings, more than 170,000 people dressed in rainbows and glitter participated on June 10 in the Tel Aviv Pride Parade 2022, The Jerusalem Post reported.

The parade began near the Sporteqe on Rokach Boulevard, leading to a performance area in Ganei Yehoshua within Yarkon Park. The route was different than in past years.

"For the first time in 20 years, the Pride March route is running through here; there is nothing more exciting than that," Transportation Minister and Labor

head Merav Michaeli said. "But as happy as we are here today, it's important to remember those who are not here, because they are being silenced into fear. We will not allow them!"

The Post reported that drones flew above the crowd as a protective measure.

Polygamous Jerusalem Cult Leader Found Dead in Prison

Polygamous cult leader Daniel Ambash was found dead in his cell at Ayalon Prison in Ramle on June 10, The Times of Israel reported, citing the Israel Prisons Service.

Paramedics declared Ambash dead after resuscitation efforts failed. The prisons service said the circumstances of his death would be examined.


Ambash was sentenced to 26 years in prison on 18 charges. Those charges included sexual offenses, abuse of minors, incarceration and sadistic violence.

Ambash, who was a Bratslav ultra-Orthodox Jew, headed the so-called "Jerusalem cult." He had six wives and 14 children, who were kept by Ambash and his assistants in slavery conditions. **JE**

— Compiled by Andy Gottlieb

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Bad Timing

The current Israeli coalition government led by Prime Minister Naftali Bennett and Foreign Minister Yair Lapid has exceeded everyone's expectations. But it is now on the brink of collapse.

With just 60 seats in the Knesset and threats of resignation from members on both the right and left, the government appears to be the weakest it has ever been. It is likely just a matter of time before the government falls and new elections are held.

That is why it is so strange that the Biden administration chose this moment of government instability to promote Israeli-Palestinian peace talks. And it is even more curious that the suggestion was made since — at least until now — solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict did not appear to be a lead priority for the Biden administration. Add to that the fact that everyone understands that the eight-party Bennett-Lapid coalition would likely implode over peace issues.

And it is for that reason that no one seriously seeks to raise them. On top of all that, given the government's uncertain future, it is widely understood that any agreement reached by this government would immedi-

This suggestion came at the same time as the Biden administration is reportedly considering creating a new senior diplomatic position within the State Department for a special representative for Palestinian affairs.

Israel made clear that it is not interested in a feel-good photo op for a peace summit that has no likelihood of success. We agree.

ately be subject to review and reconsideration if a new governing group takes control.

Nonetheless, according to reports, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman recently suggested to Israeli National Security Adviser Eyal Hulata that Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Egypt and the U.S. convene a full-blown peace summit to address Israeli-Palestinian issues.

The administration's moves appear to be part of an attempt to appease PA President Mahmoud Abbas, who has voiced both frustration and anger with the lack of movement on a peace process, and who has threatened retaliatory actions if nothing is done. The Israeli government is reported to have rejected the U.S. suggestion for a multiparty summit. In light of current political

realities, that decision makes sense. But it doesn't explain why the Biden administration made the suggestion or why it felt that now was the right time to raise it.

Perhaps the administration is seeking to add substance and seriousness of purpose to President Joe Biden's planned trip to the Middle East next month. And maybe there was some hope that an Israeli-Palestinian summit would draw attention away from the politically uncomfortable rapprochement efforts Biden will be pursuing with Saudi Arabia.

Either way, the effort did not work. Instead, Israel made clear that it is not interested in a feel-good photo op for a peace summit that has no likelihood of success. We agree. While we remain supportive of a two-state solution for Israel and the Palestinians, that effort needs to be pursued at a time and with participants who not only support the effort but are also capable of achieving a lasting result. For a whole bunch of reasons, that is not today's reality. **JE**

A Tale of Two California Cities

Primary election season is underway in many parts of the country. As Democrats and Republicans vie for their party's endorsement for the general election, the primary results give observers and the parties insight into what voters think about the performance of their elected officials up to now, and what they want from them going forward.

We can learn a lot from California. In that state's primary election on June 7, voters sent a clear message to their elected officials — a message that the Democratic Party should take to heart if they want their candidates to compete effectively in November's midterms.

The most publicized race was in San Francisco, where residents voted on whether to recall District Attorney Chesa Boudin. Boudin was elected in November 2019 on a forceful, progressive criminal justice agenda. But with violent crimes and car theft soar-

ing in San Francisco, the voters in this most liberal city chose to fire their progressive prosecutor. Sixty percent of voters in San Francisco voted to recall Boudin.

During his time in office, Boudin enacted a number of criminal justice reforms, including the elimination of cash bail, a reduction of the number of San Franciscans, especially minors, in state prisons, and charged a police officer with committing manslaughter while on duty.

On paper, many of Boudin's reforms made sense and are part of a movement across the country that has been pursued by a number of progressive district attorneys. But at least based upon the recall vote, it appears that voters are rejecting those progressive programs in favor of a more traditional approach to law enforcement.

And then there was the Los Angeles nonpartisan primary for

mayor. In that race, Rick Caruso, a billionaire real estate developer and former Republican who only recently registered as a Democrat, faced off against Democratic Rep. Karen Bass, a progressive, who wants to be Los Angeles' first Black woman mayor. The race was close. Caruso won 40.5% of the vote and Bass won 38.8%. The two will head to a runoff election in November.

For many cities in America, such a tight race between a former Republican and a progressive might not be a big deal. But for Los Angeles, it is a major red flag, as Democratic voters reflect their frustration with progressive policy platforms and enactments — especially when they involve leniency toward rising crime and tolerance for an increase in homelessness. Both San Francisco and Los Angeles face a homelessness crisis with rampant drug use



and mental health emergencies overwhelming city streets.

The San Francisco and Los Angeles votes highlight the challenge of the increasing influence of progressive politics on the Democratic Party. While there are many elements of the progressive agenda that are appealing and worthwhile, many of their idealistic agenda items fail in the real world and are being rejected by voters. If the Democratic Party wants to remain competitive in November, it needs to get its arms around the progressive agenda and make appropriate course adjustments. **JE**

Israel and the US: Danger Just Around the Corner



BY SHUKI FRIEDMAN

A strong U.S. relationship with Israel depends on broad support for the Jewish state among American citizens. At first glance, a survey published a few days ago by the Pew Research Center shows that American support for Israel is adequate and has even increased slightly.

A closer look, however, reveals a far less rosy future. Support for Israel among the younger generation of Americans is declining, and support for the Palestinians is on the rise. To maintain the existentially necessary strategic backing of the United States, Israel must address the challenge of this eroding support among young Americans before they become tomorrow's leaders and turn their backs on the Jewish state.

The headline of the Pew survey — "Modest Warming in U.S. Views on Israel and Palestinians" — is gratifying, and the overall picture presented by the survey is indeed positive. The share of Americans who take a favorable view of Israel (67%) and of the Israeli government (48%) has climbed by several percentage points over the past two years. Among older Americans (65+), support for Israel is skyrocketing (78%). Another piece of good news is that, although Israelis often have the impression that the BDS movement is a great success in the United States, the survey shows that the overwhelming majority of Americans (84%) have heard nothing or very little about it. Only 5% support the movement.

There are dark clouds on the horizon, however. The statistics show a dramatic split in support for Israel based on party affiliation. While 44% of Republicans support Israel and take an unfavorable view of the Palestinians, only 12% of Democrats feel the same.

Moreover, support for Israel over the

Palestinians decreases dramatically as one moves down the age scale. While 37% of those aged 65 and older prefer Israel, that preference plunges to just 11% among those in the 18-29 age range, while 17% support the Palestinians and a significant number take an equally favorable view of both sides. The younger generation shows similarly low levels of support for the Israeli government. Alongside, one finds increasingly favorable views of the Palestinian government.

In other words, the younger generation prefers the Palestinians over Israel.

This disparity between generations also exists in the American Jewish community. A comprehensive Pew survey of Jewish Americans published a year ago revealed a disturbing picture. Regarding attachment to Israel, caring about Israel, a sense of partnership with Israel and more, there are striking disparities between the older and younger generations. Among young Jews unaffiliated with any Jewish denomination (40%), only a third see Israel as important. Other surveys published over the past year confirmed this: Young American Jews are more liberal and less emotionally attached to Israel than their older counterparts.

Some of the processes underway in American society, including in the Jewish community, are unrelated to Israel and its policies, but nevertheless, affect it. Still, Israeli policy is naturally an influential factor in shaping attitudes toward the state.

Israel cannot change America, but engaging with the younger generation there, and making every effort to foster an attachment to the Israeli story and the Jewish state, are critical to maintaining the special closeness between the United States and Israel, as well as American support for the Jewish state and its existence. **JE**

Shuki Friedman is vice president of the Jewish People Policy Institute and a lecturer in law at the Peres Academic Center.

In-person Beats Online

No doubt, online education is the direction of the future ("Gratz Refocuses, Ahead of the Curve with Online Classes," May 26), but call me old-fashioned. I am more attentive to in-person classes and find that personal interactions are a critical component to learning.

I attended Gratz Hebrew High School decades ago and still have strong memories of my teachers and classmates, in addition to the content of many of my courses. It's hard to imagine that children learn as much in Hebrew schools of today, with fewer hours and tests and more entertainment.

It will be interesting to measure the effectiveness of online Hebrew school education at Gratz since in-person Hebrew high school was eliminated years ago.

Ina Asher
Merion

Second Amendment Argument Rings Hollow

Jonathan Tobin's recent invitation to an "honest discussion" about guns and the Second Amendment ("The Only Honest Discussion About Guns Rests on the Second Amendment," June 2) feels rather hollow. In addition to declaring that no gun restrictions could possibly reduce gun violence, he also suggests that the liberal Jewish groups pushing gun control are largely bicoastal urbanites who are out of touch with real Americans and real American culture.

Rather than an honest labeling of those who demand unfettered access to guns as right-wing or conservative, Tobin repeatedly identifies gun advocates and their position simply as "American." Not surprisingly, liberal Jews are never described as equally American. This insinuation that liberal Jews and their political activity are in some way un-American is reminiscent of ugly accusations that have been made about Jews' place in America.

If there is to be an honest debate, then the assumption that guns are an integral part of "American culture" and "American political tradition" needs to be critically evaluated rather than blindly accepted. Respected historians of Colonial America have challenged the idea that guns were a major part of Colonial American culture. For example, it is estimated that perhaps only one in 10 people even owned a gun at that time, compared to nearly four in 10 today.

To suggest that a gun-saturated society is a necessary feature of American culture, or that any regulation of guns is an affront to all authentic Americans, represents a particular interpretation of the Second Amendment that only became popular in the last half-century. **JE**

Stuart Charme
Philadelphia

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



When Your Family Is the Victim of Antisemitism

BY BENJAMIN KERSTEIN

Recently, and at long last, the antisemite who has been vandalizing my family's business in a Jewish suburb of Boston for nearly a year was caught.

My family owns a small store that sells, among other things, Israeli products. A sign hung from the store's awning advertises this fact. Over the past year, this sign was repeatedly stolen, torn down and defaced by an unknown racist. Finally tired of replacing it, my family installed security cameras. The next time it happened, the criminal's face and license plate were captured as he committed the crime, and the police tracked him down.

The self-righteous fiend told the police that his crimes were justified because he found the sign "extremely offensive." The police were forced to inform him that this did not entitle him to break the law. The question now before us is what the next step will be.

The police want to settle things privately, with the criminal paying some kind of restitution. My father wants compensation paid, but also wants to meet with the criminal and require him to attend an educational course given by a group like the Anti-Defamation League. He feels that an overly punitive reaction may only intensify the criminal's antisemitism.

I, on the other hand, want the criminal prosecuted and punished to the fullest extent of the law. (In my darker moments, I also want to see his legs broken in multiple places with a baseball bat, preferably wielded by myself.)

For the most part, however, this entire ordeal has forced me to recognize a gaping divide between me and the rest of my family on the issue of antisemitism in general. A divide that, I believe, may be emblematic of a larger divide within the Jewish community itself.

I have lived in Israel for 20 years. I am a Zionist and make no apologies for it. I believe that when faced with racism and/or violence, the Jews should respond in the most punitive manner available in order to achieve justice and create deterrence. I do not believe antisemites can be educated, changed or cured. They won't stop unless they are stopped — until they are made to understand that the cost of hating the Jews is higher than its sadistic benefits.

Even more telling is the emotional divide



between me and the rest of my family. They appear to be inclined toward something like unanimity, while I am comfortable with the fact that I hate those who hate the Jews. I have never met the criminal himself, and I do not care to. But I hate this person. Hate him. My family, perhaps to their credit, does not.

My family are American Jews. For the most part, they have always lived in America. And I think that their attitude is emblematic of that of the vast majority of American Jews. They believe that antisemitism can be fought by nonpunitive means — education, reconciliation and dialogue. They believe that antisemitic incidents should be dealt with in a moderate and measured way.

When one of my father's friends compared the vandalism to Kristallnacht, my father felt he was going a bit far. The rest of my family has not said as much, but I sense that they would agree with this. They don't feel the sense of urgency that I do.

I am fully prepared to admit that they may be right. Perhaps it's better not to overreact. Perhaps my reaction is somewhat hysterical. Perhaps our long history of persecution has fostered a certain paranoia among the Jews, which causes us to exaggerate and overstate what may simply be the random acts of distasteful individuals. Perhaps America really is different, the Jews are relatively safe there and we must be aware of this in dealing with the small amount of American antisemitism that does exist. And perhaps education, reconciliation and dialogue are indeed better than stern justice.

Moreover, the police acted promptly and effectively to the vandalism, and are trying to arrange

some kind of relatively painless solution to the issue. The protection of the law, in this case, appears to have worked. Perhaps it is better to let it go.

Perhaps. But for myself, I can only see the gaping divide between us. And this divide, above all, frightens me. It frightens me because I am painfully aware of certain facts: A terrifying percentage of the progressive left and the Muslim-American community holds antisemitic attitudes and is prepared to act on them. And antisemitic violence, if not checked, always escalates, as it did last May, when Muslim-American and pro-Palestinian thugs attacked Jews across the United States. To me, this criminal and his vandalism were not an aberration — they are the new normal. And this normal has now struck frighteningly close to home.

I also know that, perhaps when Israel fights its next war, it will happen again. And this time, it will likely be much worse. There is a very good chance that it will end in a murder — perhaps many murders — and I fear that the attitude taken by most American Jews cannot stop such a terrible eventuality. I also know that, when this happens, my family will be vulnerable to such violence, and so will the entire American Jewish community.

This is because the police, however well-meaning they may be (and they are), cannot be everywhere and cannot act until the thing actually happens. And at the moment, most American Jews have no other options. With a few local exceptions, usually in Orthodox communities, they have no security or defense force of their own. When it happens, there will be no one there to protect them. And even if local law enforcement takes action to secure Jewish sites and businesses after the fact, this means the Jews will be forced to live their lives under continuing siege. All of this is unacceptable to me.

So, I am forced to look across the divide at my loved ones, hoping that despite my misgivings, they will turn out to be right. I wish very much that this divide could be bridged, and that the larger divide between Jews like me and most American Jews could be bridged as well.

At the moment, this appears unlikely. And so, I am forced to worry, and know that I will continue to worry for a very long time. [JE](#)

Benjamin Kerstein is a writer and editor living in Tel Aviv.

I'm Neither 'Ukrainian' Nor 'German.' But as a Jew in Germany Born in Ukraine, I Am Trying to Help



BY IRINA ROSENSAFT

FRANKFURT, Germany — I was born in Ukraine but have never considered myself Ukrainian. My parents had immigrated to Germany, seeking political and economic stability during the chaotic time of the Soviet Union's collapse, and I still live here, in Frankfurt.

Now, as a mother of two with a full-time job, I spend most of my spare time trying to help the country my family left when I was 12. Along the way, I am also finding ways to reconcile my complex Jewish identities.

Until Russia invaded Ukraine in February, I didn't think much about my native country.

Instead, I was focused on my family and my career. My professional background is in consulting and management; I am also a member of the World Jewish Congress's Jewish Diplomatic Corps, a network of people ages 30 to 45 whom WJC trains to influence Jewish interests through diplomacy and public policy. Even if I hadn't been a member of the JD Corps, as we call it, I would have followed the war closely and probably tried to help. As part of the network, however, I realized that I could do more.

Soon after the war started, I understood that despite my complicated relationship with Ukraine, I had absolutely no hesitation about doing everything within my power to help others. And even though WJC is a Jewish organization — it is obviously aware of Ukraine's history of antisemitism — the group's leadership as well as my peers in the JD Corps felt compelled to help everyone.

I plunged into an array of relief work, including helping people escape Ukraine and find safe havens that have the medical care and other support they need. With the help of WJC, I also focused on procuring medicine, an effort inspired in part by my mother, who has diabetes. If she doesn't have access to insulin, she will not survive. I do not have a medical background, and I started to use creative methods to secure medicine and get it into Ukraine. At first, it seemed like I might not succeed. It's almost impossible for an ordinary person to buy prescription medicine in bulk, let alone transport it.

A pharmaceutical executive told me how to buy in big quantities, and connected me to her con-



tacts, including sellers. A doctor friend made the actual purchase. My mother even collected extra insulin and other medicines from her friends and the pharmacies she patronizes.

Procuring the drug was only the first step, however. Insulin must be stored below a certain temperature. A biochemist who is also a pharmaceutical logistics professional advised me on the logistics of how to best ship it and connected me to her partner company, which donated a special box for the journey. WJC put me in touch with a Jewish communal professional, who helped me locate a driver to transport the medicine — insulin and other life-saving drugs that would last 80 people between two and three months — to Kyiv, where the Vaad of Ukraine, the Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities, distributes it to their affiliated organizations.

After that first shipment, we did a second one that was logistically quite different. We soon learned that finding a viable path one time didn't guarantee that it would be there the next. For the next shipment, we are working to assemble and transport about 1.5 tons of medicine including heart, asthma and thyroid drugs. We'd buy the medicine with the help of Pharmacists Without Borders and store it in Cologne at a facility owned by the Blue-Yellow Cross, a new organization that collects and transports donations for Ukraine.

All this talk of storage temperatures and pharmaceutical logistics might make this work sound very clinical, but for me, it isn't. It's centered in a web of feelings and memories and questions that connect my past and my future, and me to family, community and country.

Of course, I've been troubled by anxiety and guilt related to my children. I've been online and

on the phone constantly despite their need for attention. I have sent them to play, telling them I needed another three minutes when I knew that I would probably need a half-hour to finish a phone call, and that I would then need to make another one. I didn't attend our community's Purim celebration because I received a call from a refugee who had no food and no money. When our second shipment was en route to Ukraine, I stayed online on Shabbat in case there were any problems.

Yet during this time, I've also realized that I do have a connection to the country of my birth. I have remembered my hometown, Zhytomyr, the fields full of sunflowers, the black seacoast of Crimea. I love the Ukrainian songs of Sofia Rotaru, and I wore vyshyvanka (an embroidered shirt that's part of the national costume) to sing them as part of the school choir. I loved to visit Kyiv with my mom. It's true that there was antisemitism. I grew up knowing that Jews were not fully part of Ukraine or the Soviet Union before its collapse. We were Jews, something apart. Not Jewish — Jews. We left Ukraine with very mixed feelings.

As Jews, we tend to feel solidarity with people in need. By working through some of those feelings, I also found a way to identify with Ukraine, my native country. As I learned of cities in my former homeland being destroyed, my connection to Ukraine strengthened. I plan to learn more about the Jewish community in Ukraine. I've spoken to my parents to better understand why we left.

I still don't call myself "Ukrainian," but I also have the same problem calling myself "German." Of course, I share the democratic values of the German state, but I have a different culture and customs, have another mother tongue, a complex heritage and belong ethnically to another group (which can be very problematic to speak about in Germany after the Holocaust).

We all know that Jewish identity is complex. But for now, I'm happy to help other people, set a positive example for my children and future generations and better understand myself in the process. **JE**

Irina Rosensaft is the digital transformation lead at the Central Welfare Board of Jews in Germany. She is a board member of B'nai B'rith Frankfurt and a member of the World Jewish Congress Jewish Diplomatic Corps.



Fewer Guns = Fewer Deaths

BY BURT SIEGEL

After each incident in which someone takes the lives of numerous others — typically strangers — with military-style weapons, our nation embroils itself once again in the gun debate. This debate generates much heat, anger and finger pointing but rarely any long-term substantial change.

People on the right will claim that those of us who advocate for greater restrictions on guns contribute to the carnage of the young by refusing to arm classroom teachers. Somehow, the National Rifle Association has convinced nearly all Republican members of Congress that a fourth-grade teacher will be able to win a shootout with an enraged teenager carrying an AR-15 rifle.

The fact that in nearly all of these violent incidents armed security was soon present but hasn't prevented any of these has had little, if any, impact. As disturbing as it is, no facts have changed the minds of those who seem willing to lose children rather than lose their so-called gun rights. Does anyone who reads this doubt that armed elementary school teachers will be effective where trained law enforcement professionals have frequently failed?

There are slightly more than 3 million teachers in approximately 131,000 public, private and charter K-12 schools in the U.S. Even if only half of the teaching population was armed that would mean a very lucrative bonanza for the firearms industry. We can assume that many administrators would wish to be armed as well. Not that these companies would ever put profits ahead of public safety, of course.

There is an interesting phenomenon associated with the three-year-old pandemic. According to the collective tax filings of both gun and ammunition makers, their profits

have been the highest in history. No one is sure why this is so. Perhaps Smith and Wesson has been working on a gun that can kill the COVID virus?

Many of us assert that white racism is a major contributing factor in the upswing in multiple shootings. And unquestionably there has been a marked increase in the profound anger expressed by white men toward anyone they consider to be the "other," including Jews. Nearly all of the shooters have been white male adolescents, but the vast majority of the victims have also been white. And those responsible for these deaths have included a small number of African Americans and Latinos.

For some reason, the racial identity of the gunmen in Columbine, Newtown and recently Buffalo is often identified in the media but not so in the recent multiple deaths on South Street in Philadelphia and in Chattanooga, Tennessee. While mass shootings are much more common within the white population, racial minorities are more likely to be shot by members of their own cohort, although rarely in large-scale violence. It would seem obvious that the major contributing factor in these deaths is not only the hatred of the other but also the love of guns.

We should be proud of the Jewish public policy advocacy groups such as the Anti-Defamation League and the synagogue movements for their support of those measures that will make it harder for individuals to get guns designed for the sole purpose of killing others.

Some few critics within the Jewish community assert that those who believe that 18-year-olds should not be able to purchase military-style weapons and hundreds of rounds of ammunition are merely "virtue signaling" and posturing. These people claim that those who advocate for reducing access to such weapons

are naïve, but all evidence shows that where it is harder to get such weapons, fewer people are killed by them.

To argue otherwise is like arguing that speed limits don't reduce vehicular deaths and injuries. It will come as no surprise that a waiting period and limiting the number of bullets that can be purchased at once in some jurisdictions also contributes to fewer gun deaths.

It is worth keeping in mind that the language of the Second Amendment reads as follows: "A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

The NRA, extreme conservative jurists and too many gun owners claim that this amendment guarantees the right of Americans to own guns. They also insist that this "right" was not intended to be solely in the context of a "well-regulated militia."

We can and will continue to debate exactly what the authors of this amendment had in mind over two hundred years ago. However, members of the Supreme Court and lower federal courts have not been of one mind in holding that this amendment provides a right to all and every individual to own any firearm they so wish.

In fact, from 1994 until 2004 the individual possession of what is commonly referred to as an assault weapon was banned under federal law. Unfortunately, the legislation outlawing such private ownership expired in 2004. Not surprisingly mass murders then increased as well.

The Second Amendment was written in 1791, a time when fighting another war with England was certainly a possibility. And, war was again fought with Great Britain some 20 years later. It is, therefore, no surprise that the Founding Fathers felt that it was necessary for our nation to have the ability to defend itself.

But it is preposterous to believe that the drafters ever imagined weapons that could discharge 40 rounds per minute. Nor is it likely that they envisioned shootouts in classrooms between a third-grade teacher and an irate teenage boy. Gun advocates also seem to forget that in 1791 conditions in America, a significantly rural nation, people depended upon guns to provide food for their families, provide protection from unhappy native people who objected to foreigners taking their land and to create a relatively peaceful environment in an often hostile land.

Opponents of laws designed to reduce deaths from firearms accuse us of being naïve and that "bad guys" will always get guns and use them, and this is obviously so. But it is also so that fewer guns will lead to fewer deaths by guns.

We are taught in the Talmud that saving even one life is as though the whole world was saved. I'd like to suggest that lawmakers who think that saving even one life is pointless should look at the faces of the mothers and fathers who stood outside their children's classroom in Uvalde, Texas, listening to their children being shot and tell them that preventing Salvador Ramos from buying two semiautomatic weapons would have been pointless. Or perhaps go to a funeral with parents whose sons and daughters were so badly maimed that they needed DNA matches to prove that a small cadaver was their child's.

Until then, all we can do is elect men and women who understand that fewer guns, in the hands of fewer people, will mean fewer deaths. **JE**

Burt Siegel is the retired executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council. He served on the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations for 18 years, including serving as vice chair.

this Summer

PHILADELPHIA
Jewish Exponent

JUNE 16, 2022



JEWISH COUPLES REMEMBER

SUMMER CAMP MEET-CUTES

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

The song of the summer in 1988 was Richard Marx's "Hold Onto the Night," though Guns N' Roses' "Sweet Child O' Mine" was also an earworm, at least for Randi and Kenny Leese.

It was a memorable summer, the year the two of them met at Golden Slipper Camp in the Poconos. Now looking back at their summer camp memories after 27 years of marriage, the significance of the experience is clear: "I wasn't looking for a wife," Kenny Leese said. "I was looking for fun, which turned into a girlfriend, fiancée, then marriage. But it's really those connections. It's really just sitting there, bonding, every day."

The Leeses aren't the only couple who met at Jewish summer camp. The sleep-away camp experience is a cultural touchstone for so many Jews, and the genesis of quite a few relationships. With another year of camp on the horizon, couples reminisce about the good ol' days.



Kenny and Randi Leese at Golden Slipper Camp in the late 1980s

Courtesy of Randi Leese

Golden Slipper Camp

When Kenny Leese said he wasn't looking for a wife during his 1988 summer as a Golden Slipper camp counselor, he meant it.

He took interest in another girl at Golden Slipper, even after meeting young counselor Randi Leese briefly on move-in day.

"You hook up with people," Kenny Leese said. "It's what you do."

Randi Leese didn't take this personally; she also was interested in someone else. But when the two talked again at a basketball game he was reffing, their friendly relationship started to change.

"I remember every morning the whole camp would gather around the flagpole first and do roll calls before we would go into the dining hall," Randi Leese said. "And he would give me lollipops, Tootsie Roll pops. And I thought, 'Oh, that was very nice.'"

One night, when Kenny Leese planned on meeting up with another girl and Randi Leese planned to go home on an overnighter, the two ended up talking.

"I never went off with the other girl," Kenny Leese said. "Thirty-four years later, here we are."

"Two kids and a dog later," Randi Leese added.

The couple was engaged in 1993 and married two years later.

Likewise, Bonnie Chalfin wasn't expecting to meet her now-husband Rob Chalfin at Golden Slipper in 1989. He was dating another girl at the time and was hard to get to know.

The then-friends kept in touch over the summer, and Bonnie Chalfin found

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out about his break-up. Their relationship developed “organically,” and the two later married.

Rob Chalfin wasn’t the only one with whom Bonnie Chalfin stayed in contact. The couple made friends with several other couples, who still keep in touch. Their kids are now becoming good friends.

“It’s like a family bond,” Bonnie Chalfin said.

Camps Arthur and Reeta

Decades before the Leeses and Chalfins met, Elliot Rosen worked as a counselor at the Zieglersville-based Camp Arthur, the sibling camp to Camp Reeta, which were part of the Young Men’s-Young Women’s Hebrew Association, the precursors to the JCCs of today.

Rosen was a camp veteran, attending the camp as a camper at age 11 in 1952, and graduating to counselor in 1957 at 17. That same year, camp newbie Maxine Rosen, hailing from Salisbury, Maryland, came to Camp Reeta as a counselor-in-training.

Unlike the Golden Slipper couples, Elliot Rosen’s intentions were clear when he first met his to-be wife. He was a skinny kid at the time, and a friend of his interrupted a basketball game to introduce him to her friend.

“We stopped the basketball game, underneath the basket, so she could introduce me to her friend, Maxine Battlebaum,” Elliot Rosen said. “And I looked at Maxine, and I knew I was going to marry her.”

It was, of course, not that simple. Maxine Rosen was less impressed than Elliot Rosen was with their respective appearances, but their overlapping schedules meant the two remained friendly over their seven or eight interactions that summer, despite living on opposite sides of the ground’s lake.

Maxine Rosen didn’t return to camp the next year, but did the year after. The couple’s relationship bloomed but then faltered due to distance, college and jobs.

In 1962, Elliot Rosen’s last year of summer camp, he received a “Dear John” letter from Maxine Rosen, saying she was seeing other people in college.

“I was very melancholy at the end of summer of ‘62, knowing that, I guess, my youth was ending,” Elliot Rosen said.

His fortune took a turn the next year, when he learned of Maxine Rosen’s breakup when he was on a nine-week trip across Europe. He sent her a post card but didn’t hear back.

By 1965, the two at last reunited in Alexandria, Virginia, just for the afternoon.

“I saw Elliot, and he was a completely transformed person,” Maxine Rosen said. “He had filled out; his teeth were kind of straighter; his face was fuller. He was very handsome.”

By June of that year, the couple was engaged.

“Around three in the morning, I woke my mother up and told her that I asked Maxine if she would accept a ring from me,” Elliot Rosen said. “My mother told me, until her dying day, from that minute on, she never came down from the ceiling, that she was in the clouds.”



Bonnie and Rob Chalfin at their wedding
Courtesy of Bonnie Chalfin



Elliot and Maxine Rosen at their wedding

Courtesy of Elliot Rosen

Why Summer Camp?

Though every couple’s story is different, the summer camp setting as a hotbed for meet-cutes begs the question: Why do so many young couples meet at summer camp?

No one really thinks it’s a coincidence, but for Bonnie Chalfin, it’s difficult to put into words.

“It’s just a different kind of connection than, even a day camp or sports team or neighborhood friend group,” she said. “It’s all those similar stories, all the songs and the teams ... It’s just an intangible thing.”

After 56 years of marriage, Elliot and Maxine Rosen have seemed to figure out what brought them together in an unlikely way.

“You see people for who they are. If they’re gonna cheat, it’s something you would see; if they’re not nice to somebody, you would see it; if they’re genuine, you see it,” Maxine Rosen said. “You just see qualities. You’re not hiding behind anything.” **JE**

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Movies and Shows to Watch This Summer

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER



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The flow of movie and TV-watching has changed over the past decade or so. No longer do we know exactly when and where to find something new and potentially interesting.

We used to follow the title release schedule, then hit the theater or flip to the appropriate channel at a specific time. Now, when the watching mood hits us, we ask if there's anything interesting on one of the perhaps four or five streaming services to which we subscribe. Occasionally, with that being the key word, there is something worth seeing in the theater as well.

But as a viewer, you shouldn't have to spend so much time just trying to figure what's out and where. That is why, for the summer of 2022, the Jewish Exponent is here to make this easier for you.

These are the movies and shows that you should find this summer. Many of them have at least a tenuous Jewish connection.

MOVIES

Firestarter (May 13, theaters)

You can't make a list of movies with tenuous Jewish connections without including one that features noted Jewish everyman Zac Efron. In "Firestarter," Efron maintains his attainable status for us Jewish boys by playing a dad.

The movie has not gotten good reviews, but it is a Stephen King adaptation, so the story is probably good.

The Bob's Burgers Movie (May 27, theaters)

The guy who voices Bob in this critically-acclaimed animated comedy series-turned movie, H. Jon Benjamin, is Jewish. You probably also need a good laugh these days.

Hustle (June 8, Netflix)

Adam Sandler plays a basketball scout for the Philadelphia 76ers. I don't believe this is a satire

of former General Manager Sam Hinkie's drafting record, though it sounds like one.

Cha Cha Real Smooth (June 17, Apple TV+)

The main character in this movie, played by Cooper Raiff, works as "a bar mitzvah party host." The film, which also stars Dakota Johnson, is getting rave early reviews as well.

Elvis (June 24, theaters)

Director Baz Luhrmann brings his flashy, hit-or-miss directorial style to a story about the "King of Rock and Roll." The Luhrmann treatment works well with a glitzy subject matter, like the 2013 smash hit movie version of "The Great Gatsby." The story of Elvis Presley could be another example.

Nope (July 22, Theaters)

This summer is being hyped from Hollywood to Wall Street as the possible return of the movie theater. If the "Top Gun" sequel on Memorial Day weekend started that narrative, the latest Jordan Peele production may culminate it. Anticipation for "Nope" started all the way back in February with a chilling Super Bowl commercial.

Peele is in a class with Quentin Tarantino as one of the only directors left who can still create a theater event with each release.

The Musical (August 12, Netflix)

This adaptation of an actual musical — about a boy struggling with his parents' divorce and a move to a new town — appears to build up to a



Cooper Raiff in "Cha Cha Real Smooth" on Apple TV+

COURTESY OF APPLE TV+

climactic bar mitzvah. Now what's a better metaphor for the Jewish coming-of-age than that?

TV SHOWS

The Staircase (May 5, HBO Max)

I am not normally a true crime person. My wife actually just threw this limited series on while I happened to be sitting on the couch. But then a funny thing happened: I got hooked.

Colin Firth offers up an Emmy-worthy portrayal of Michael Peterson, the North Carolina novelist convicted of killing his wife in the early 2000s. Jewish actor Michael Stuhlbarg, best known for always playing Jewish roles, including gangster Arnold Rothstein in “Boardwalk Empire,” turns in another stellar, and very Jewish, performance of his own as Peterson’s defense attorney David Rudolf.

Did Peterson throw his wife, Kathleen Peterson, played by Toni Collette, down “The Staircase”? That turns out to be a very loaded question.

The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem (May 20, Netflix)

This Israeli series explores some very deep themes in Jewish life, from our relationship with God to our responsibility to honor our elders to the presence of fate in our lives. It also stars Michael Aloni of “Shtisel” fame.

God’s Favorite Idiot (June 15, Netflix)

A regular, insignificant man, played by Ben Falcone, falls in love, finds God and then realizes that it’s his duty to fight Satan and save the world. I am not sure if this comedy series is a metaphor for surviving your 20s. But I am now interested enough to watch and find out.

A League of Their Own (Amazon Prime)

It is hard to see how a show based on the classic 1992 movie starring Tom Hanks and Geena Davis could possibly measure up. But while the movie only focused on one season in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, a show could draw out the story of the league’s very real existence from 1943-1954. Either way, there should still be no crying in baseball. JE

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JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

If you are reading this, welcome to your chance to join an exclusive club — the club of people who choose not to go down the shore on summer weekends and, instead, go on day trips to cool towns.

Down the shore on a June, July or August weekend, you will encounter hordes of bodies and minds all doing the same activities at the same times. You will be charged for any and all actions that you take in public. And if you happen to power through all this chaos and

make it to the beach, you will bake in the midday sun and writhe in sunburn for the remainder of the month.

But in a cool downtown on a June, July or August weekend, you will be able to park without turning in your savings account. You will be able to maneuver up and down the sidewalk without weaving through people like a running back in search of a first down. And you will be able to stay cool, literally as well as figuratively, by ducking into restaurants, bars and shops as you please.

Choosing cool towns over the shore on summer weekends is not merely a figuratively cool thing to

do. It's also a decision to summer it up while retaining your sanity and respect for other people.

God imbues all humans with dignity according to the Torah and our nation's founding alike. But a summer weekend at the shore makes it easy to forget that principle.

Don't forget it. Choose the day trip. Here are some local towns you can visit.

Doylestown

The county seat of Bucks County also has its most beautiful and active downtown. There are countless places to eat, drink and eat dessert. Pick an outdoor option so you can eat and take in the scenery at the same time.

Newtown

Once just a typical suburban town with not much to do, this Lower Bucks County locality has transformed its downtown area into an upscale dining and shopping scene in recent years.

Media

The Delaware County version of Newtown.

Ardmore

The ever-changing Suburban Square is a destination unto itself, and the stores along Lancaster Avenue are a mix of upscale and quirky.

Phoenixville

Phoenixville combines so many of the amenities that make a main street great: eateries, places to drink, history and beautiful scenery.



Merchantville, New Jersey's downtown heartbeat area

PHOTOS BY JARRAD SAFFREN

West Chester

Known largely as a college town, there’s much more than meets the eye, with plenty of dining options and picturesque streets for walking.

Narberth

After a brief absence, Narberth’s iconic Independence Day fireworks are back. Although upscale condos are going up seemingly everywhere, Narberth remains a quintessential smalltown USA kind of place, with a main drag featuring three pubs, as well as a park with basketball courts where Wilt Chamberlain and Kobe Bryant once played.

Ambler

Just ask anyone who lives near Ambler: It’s back, and you should visit.

Maple Shade, New Jersey

Maple Shade’s main street is small but exciting. You can eat pizza at Tacconelli’s, grab a beer at Dr. Brewlittle’s Beer Co. and go thrifting, if you’re into that sort of thing.

Burlington City, New Jersey

A micro city on the Delaware River that Benjamin Franklin used to frequent offers a lot of history for local buffs. It also has a burgeoning scene of eateries, bars and shops. Be sure to stop and stare out at the Delaware for a few minutes halfway through the loop.



Burlington City, New Jersey

Bordentown City, New Jersey

An Italian restaurant, a candy shop and a brewery are among the amenities at this other South Jersey micro city. And like Burlington, its history is alive as you walk through it and see the old buildings.

Bordentown also displays signs that explain

that history. One fun fact is that it was once the home of Thomas Paine, the man whose pamphlet “Common Sense” helped inspire the American Revolution.

Lambertville, New Jersey

New Hope across the Delaware River is the



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obvious day trip choice for many Philadelphia-area residents. But while New Hope once catered to members of the bourgeoisie looking to get their hippie on for an afternoon, it now just caters to the bourgeoisie, which is why it's as crowded as the shore on summer Saturdays.

Lambertville, just over the bridge, is now the better and more peaceful spot, and with about as many places to eat, drink and shop.

Stockton, New Jersey

This little borough in Hunterdon County is just pretty to walk through. But it also has a farm market and some nice restaurants.

Merchantville, New Jersey

This little borough in Camden County is trying to revitalize its downtown area. So far, it only really has a heartbeat stretch that includes a brewery, coffee shop and tavern. But all three are high-quality and, taken together, make the town worth the trip.

Collingswood, New Jersey

Collingswood and Haddonfield are technically separate towns, but together

they form a single Camden County stretch with a lot of activity. Pro tip: Do not pick a place to eat until you get there and start walking around. There are too many options. Other pro tip: If you want to watch a game that day, too, end your walk at P.J. Whelihan's at the edge of North Haddon Avenue in Haddonfield.

Rancocas Woods, New Jersey

Crafters and antique dealers line this little commercial stretch at the edge of a Mount Laurel neighborhood. Not quite a downtown and not quite a yard sale, Rancocas Woods is something unique in the region. It also has places to eat along the path.

Medford, New Jersey

Many downtowns today have one brewery. Medford has three. It also offers antique shops, ice cream and a great barbecue place called the Whole Hog Café. That's a rarity in South Jersey.

Walk the loop and choose your brewery along the way. You can't miss at any of the spots. **JE**

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Living (Zero) Proof

Restaurants Pivot Toward Alcohol-Free Drinks

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Gone are the days of ordering a virgin Jack and Coke or mimosa at a summer pool party or brunch for those who don't imbibe alcohol, leaving them with a simple soda or glass of orange juice in a sea of fancy cocktails.

Slowly but surely, the tides are turning for sober bar and restaurant goers, with more and more restaurants offering zero-proof counterparts to their extensive menu of spirit-heavy drinks.

Jewish-owned and kosher restaurants in Philadelphia are no exception, and chefs, restaurant owners and bartenders note the emergence of these drinks as a sign of changing times for restaurants.

"There's a lot of different social reasons why this is becoming a little bit more popular," said Steven McAllister, beverage director of CookNSolo, Steve Cook and Michael Solomonov's restaurant group.

McAllister guesses that personal health is the primary reason many are turning to nonalcoholic drinks.

"A lot of people realize that alcohol doesn't necessarily agree with them," he said.

For others who are traveling or jet-lagged, mocktails can provide a distinguished restaurant experience that doesn't take as much of a physical toll.

In the past five to seven years, monthly challenges like Dry January and NAvember (non-alcohol November) have created low-risk, easy entry points for those dipping their toe into an alcohol-free lifestyle.

From a consumer perspective, no-alcohol or low-alcohol-by-volume drinks allow simply for more drinking.

"It's really important to offer lower ABV cocktails for people who want to enjoy more drinks and flavors without the hangover or getting smashed or whatever," kosher restaurant Charlie was a sinner. owner Nicole Marquis said.

Thoughtful zero-proof drinks also help to maintain the atmosphere restaurants work hard to create.

"I love going to a really nice bar or really nice lounge and just enjoying that experience, but I don't want to drink when I'm there, necessarily," Marquis said. "So I want people who don't drink as well to feel like they can still enjoy a really sexy vibe."

But the emergence of mocktails serves just as much a

purpose for the back of house, for both the restaurant and chefs behind the scenes.

Many chefs have come forward with their experiences struggling with substance abuse, said Ginevra Rieff, the Jewish bartender at Rich Landau and Kate Jacoby's Vedge in Center City.

"A lot of restaurant industry people have always had battles with it," she said. "This young generation, treating the industry differently, really values different things."

Following a generation of chefs whose experience in the kitchen was defined by verbal abuse, long hours and unhealthy lifestyles, younger chefs are looking to maintain a better balance between their work and family and look after their bodies, tired after a 12-hour shift.

"The hospitality industry is hitting its stride in becoming a lot more professional," McAllister said. "We can get benefits; you can make a livable wage, whether you're in front of



Courtesy of Charlie was a sinner.

Charlie was a sinner's spicy pineapple zero-proof cocktail



CookNSolo restaurant Laser Wolf's cocktail lineup Photo by Michael Persico

house or back house; and there's a lot of these forward-thinking restaurateurs that are putting these concepts into place."

Solomonov has been outspoken about being sober on social media, and zero-proof drinks have become a way for McAllister to give back to the chef.

"I put a lot of effort into creating cocktails. And I get to taste the food that Michael makes and that the restaurants make, and it's like, almost like something I wasn't able to give back to him," McAllister said. "So it made me want to put more effort — just as much, if not even more — into these zero-proof drinks, so that I could give something for him to enjoy, something for him to be excited about and showcase my talent."

But unlike bars that offer cranberry juice or ginger ale as their only nonalcoholic offerings, restaurants are putting just as much, if not more effort into their booze-free beverages.

"It just aligned with our food menu, that has seasonal vegetables and very vegetable-forward dishes, so I thought that was important for the concept," Marquis said.

Charlie was a sinner. has had mocktails on its menu since its 2014 opening, and Marquis developed a zero-proof gin for the restaurant, using glycerin to mimic the rich mouthfeel of drinking alcohol and botanicals such as juniper to recreate the spirit's herbal quality.

At Vedge, the bar team considers what

makes a good drink without booze as its base.

"As you're creating drinks, you're also considering how they could be used without the alcohol as its structure," Rieff said.

Rieff recently developed a carrot-ginger shrub to be used in both a cocktail and mocktail for the restaurant. The shrub has a vinegar base infused with fresh produce. It's one of several ingredients that goes into one drink.

Vedge also has a drink with a pineapple syrup containing more than 15 components, which takes hours to make. But it's the effort that sets these drinks apart.

"It's not that you can't do it at home. It's that you also need an open grill, and you also need high heat, and you also need access to all the spices and to know that those need to be toasted," Rieff said. "And so a lot of times people are like, 'Wow, these drinks are amazing,' and it's because of the time and effort that's put into them."

For both a restaurant's efficiency and philosophy around quality ingredients, bar programs aren't cutting corners to create mocktails. While cocktails are still the most popular drink items on the menu, mocktails have become far from an afterthought.

"I look at zero-proof and my cocktails through the same lens," McAllister said. "I'm putting in the same amount of effort." **JE**

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Steven McAllister is the beverage director for CookNSolo.

Photos by Colby Kingston



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Jewish Camps

Excited to Return to Normal



Masks were still abundant at camps last summer, including during this activity at Pinemere Camp.

Courtesy of Pinemere Camp

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

In the next couple of weeks, Jewish camps will open around the region and, upon arrival, campers will take COVID tests to make sure they're healthy enough to walk to their cabins.

If they pass, they may not have to worry about the virus again for the rest of the summer.

Unlike in 2021, when restrictions abounded due to the ongoing pandemic, local camp directors are allowing kids and counselors to relax a little this year. Gone are the bubble approaches that required everyone to stay on the grounds, the masks that prevented people from smiling at each other and the cohorts that restricted interaction between bunks.

None of this is to say that both overnight and day camp operations are ignoring the threat. If a camper gets COVID, he or she will have to quarantine for five

days. Some camps still require vaccinations.

But no longer is the pesky virus going to define the summer, as it did when it canceled the 2020 season at many camps and restricted the 2021 season.

"We're on our way to normalcy — or as much as normal might be these days," said David Weiss, the executive director of Camp Galil in Ottsville. "We're really looking forward to a very exciting summer, campers and staff coming together again."

Last summer, Galil, an overnight operation with just under 150 campers, canceled out-of-camp trips and required kids to wear masks when they were with other bunks and/or indoors. This year, though, the trips are back, and the masks are gone.

Weiss feels confident because, unlike in 2021, kids under 12 can receive the COVID vaccine. Galil is mandating inoculation shots for campers and staff members in 2022. Weiss, who took over as director in 2014, compared COVID vaccines to other, more

normal vaccines, which he said the camp always required.

"Camps are no strangers to being strong stewards of public health," he said. "It's how we weathered Swine Flu (in 2009 and '10), made the hard decisions in 2020 and came back strong in 2021."

Justin Guida, the director of the Golden Slipper Camp in Stroudsburg, is using rapid testing as his primary mitigation tool. The overnight camp will stagger arrivals on the first day to make sure that every camper completes a test and gets a result. If the results are clean, campers can keep walking in.

That's enough for Guida and his team.

"We think the testing is a great mitigation tool," he said.

That approach is different from the one Golden Slipper implemented in 2021. A year ago, the overnight camp tested kids again on the fifth day and required masks for out-of-cohort activities.



A Camp Galil activity in 2021

Courtesy of Camp Galil Photographers



Golden Slipper campers still got to enjoy their summers last year, despite certain COVID restrictions.

Photo by Matvey Lozinsky

There were not too many of those activities, either. Campers ate only with their bunks, swam only in small groups and enjoyed electives with just one other bunk. In 2022, though, campers will eat meals together in the dining hall again; boys and girls will come together for free swim; and kids from all bunks can choose electives based on their preferences.

Guida said the approach will bring Golden Slipper “pretty much back to normal.” At the same time, he said the lack of restrictions makes him a little nervous.

But much like a school administrator, he learned

how to deal with the virus last year. So now, if an outbreak happens, he knows he can just revert to 2021 limitations. Golden Slipper had zero cases during its reopening summer a year ago.

“I feel good that we have the plans,” Guida said.

Golden Slipper has 230 campers signed up for its first 3½-week session. It’s a higher number than last year’s 75% capacity but not as high as the camp’s pre-COVID average. Guida acknowledged that the Stroudsburg operation is still trying to “rebuild.”

Other camps in the area, like Pinemere Camp in Stroudsburg, the JCC Camps at Medford in South

Jersey and Southampton Summer Day Camp in Bucks County, face a different challenge: They are all back to normal, pre-COVID numbers for 2022.

For the JCC Camps, that’s 1,500 kids, up from 200 in 2020 and 1,400 in 2021; for Southampton, it’s 500 instead of the 350 of a year ago; and for Pinemere, the numbers are at record levels for a camp that is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year: 330 campers in the first session, 275 in the second.

At all three camps, directors said they are ready for the increase.

Eytan Graubart, the executive director of Pinemere, is requiring two negative tests per person upon arrival and vaccinations for campers and staff members. He is also not allowing overnight off days for counselors, out-of-camp trips to big amusement parks and inter-camp games.

“We don’t need to expose 300 kids to another 300 kids that they haven’t been around,” Graubart said.

But outside of those limitations, camp activities will resemble 2019 as much as camper numbers. As Graubart put it, kids can come to Pinemere and interact with everyone, even those outside of their bunks. And counselors will be allowed to take off days during the day, while out-of-camp trips will be back.

“Last year, parents wanted to know everything about it. This year, parents are saying we’ve seen our kids go through school, Little League,” the director said. “They are saying, ‘We trust you.’”

Graubart takes that responsibility seriously. If necessary, Pinemere can quarantine campers at camp or send them home to their families. It can also implement backup schedules if bunks have outbreaks.

“A little bit of it depends on the scenario,” Graubart said.

Day camps don’t have the same level of responsibility since campers go home at night. But they take it seriously, too.

The JCC Camps at Medford are continuing outdoor dining, just like last year, according to Director Sara Sideman. They are also keeping most of their programming outside.

Cohorts, though, are gone, while electives are back in full. Perhaps most importantly, masks are gone.

“It’s going to be special to see our kids step off the bus and smile that first day,” Sideman said.

Southampton leaders are walking a similar tightrope. Like last summer, they are mandating daily health screenings for all campers and staff members before they arrive. They are also going to continue making use of shaded areas for outdoor activities as well as adding an extra outdoor tent for the camp infirmary.

Despite those lingering COVID policies, others are going away. Campers can return to some popular indoor activities like cooking and the arcade. Director Lindsay Blum Schlesinger, who is taking over day-to-day management from her parents, said that some big Southampton events will return in 2022.

“Kids have never needed camp more; we can’t wait to see all those smiling faces on the first day,” she added. “This will be our 49th summer, and our top priority has always been the health and safety of our campers and staff, and this year will be no different.” **JE**

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‘Hustle’ Director Jeremiah Zagar Tells Local Love Story

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

In “Hustle,” the summer feel-good sports film now streaming on Netflix, a luckless basketball scout Stanley Sugarman, played by Adam Sandler, meanders down the streets of South Philadelphia’s Italian Market with his wife Teresa Sugarman (Queen Latifah). The neon animal silhouettes in the window of Cannuli’s Quality Meats and Poultry gently light their faces.

As Stanley refines his scrappy Spanish protege Bo Cruz (Juancho Hernangomez) after bringing back the amateur sportsman from Mallorca, they play pick-up games at the court in the Capitulo Playground, with Pat’s and Geno’s cheesesteak shops providing an apt backdrop.

The film — loaded with Philadelphia grit and blink-and-you-miss-it cameos — is the latest project of locally-born Jewish director Jeremiah Zagar.

For Sandler and writers Taylor Materne and Will Fetters, the film is a love letter to basketball; for Zagar, it’s a love letter to his home and his childhood.

Zagar’s name carries the weight of a dynasty. His parents were artists who shaped the landscape of South Street. His father, Isaiah Zagar, is the mosaicist behind Philadelphia’s Magic Gardens.

Raised on John’s Water Ice and his parents’ hippie values, Zagar developed his parents’ same loyalties.

“My father writes all over his walls: ‘Philadelphia is the center of the art world, and art is the center of the real world,’” Zagar said. “So ... this idea that Philly was the center of the world was sort of my parents’ ethos, and I subscribed.”

Zagar frequented the Landmark’s Ritz 5 at the Bourse and the Theatre of the Living Arts, where he “found refuge” from the noise of being a teenager.

He also inherited a love of Philadelphia sports. Sixers player Allen Iverson was Zagar’s hero; he still remembers the out-fit Iverson’s mother wore to a finals game against the Los Angeles Lakers in 2001.

“That’s how much I loved Allen Iverson; I thought about what his mother was wearing,” Zagar said. “I also loved him because he loved his mother so much, and I love my mother so much.”



Juancho Hernangomez and Adam Sandler, donning a Federal Donuts sweatshirt, in “Hustle”

Courtesy of Scott Yamano/Netflix

Inevitably, Zagar devoured sports films — “Blue Crush,” “Remember the Titans,” “Hoosiers” — finding that sports stories and filmmaking had a lot in common.

“It seems like an insurmountable thing, making a film; it seems like an impossible dream to achieve a career in sports, but you try anyway,” Zagar said. “I love that process of willing yourself to achieve something impossible. That that’s what sports films are about, and that’s what they instill in the audience.”

Zagar has his Jewish upbringing to thank in part for the start of his film career. He met producer Jeremy Yaches in the seventh grade at what is now Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy. The two were in the lower levels of Hebrew classes (Zagar was self-admittedly a “poor” Hebrew speaker) and began making films together, eventually starting Public Record, a Brooklyn production company.

The duo’s 2008 documentary “In a Dream” about Isaiah Zagar and his art was Emmy-nominated. In 2018, Zagar wrote and directed “We the Animals,” a coming-of-age story. Sandler found and viewed the film, even with the film’s small-audience, indie status.

Sandler approached Zagar about directing “Hustle,” but Zagar, despite his love for the script, initially turned the project down, feeling like it didn’t fit into where his film career was heading.

“Then I couldn’t get the script out of my mind, and so I called him back,” Zagar said.

Zagar figured he could pair Sandler’s vision of dropping real-life NBA players into a Philadelphia film set with his

documentary-style direction. The film’s clean and snappy cuts during intense scrimmage scenes are evidence of this.

Zagar’s influence has a lighter touch in the film, too. Inspired by his relationship with his wife, who is Black, Zagar filled the Sugarman household with a mingling of Judaica and African American history. Looking closely, audience members can find a framed photo of Martin Luther King Jr. and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel.

It’s a detail that encompasses what Zagar wanted to do with “Hustle” and what he believes a director has the power to do with a film: make it one’s own.

“You have to be able to give yourself over the project, and the project has to be able to give to you,” Zagar said. “And so you use what’s familiar and comfortable and true.” **JE**

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Vegan Dishes from Quebec

KERI WHITE | SPECIAL TO THE JE

I had a great trip to Quebec recently. I highly recommend this jaunt as a relatively easy place to reach while having an authentic feeling of being in a foreign country. The city is beautiful, clean, friendly and accessible.

Although there is a thriving food scene, some excellent museums and lots of culture, there is not a significant Jewish community in Quebec. According to my guide, commerce historically moved up the river. As many Jews were merchants and business owners, they followed the economic opportunity to other cities, such as Montreal and Toronto, where there are

larger Jewish communities today.

I had several excellent meals during my trip, one at a trendy restaurant called Don Vegan (donresto.com) — a trendy, hipster place where I was one of the very few guests over 30. But I did not hold that against them; the cocktails were excellent, and I very much enjoyed my “beet tartare.”

I also had a fantastic meal at Chez Boulay, (chezboulay.com) a farm-to-fork (the French Canadian jargon for farm-to-table) place that focuses on hyperlocal ingredients prepared with a French flair. There I enjoyed some spectacular carrots. The chef roasted them “in their soil,” which, full disclosure, generated an eye roll from this food writer, then cleaned them, shaved

off a few bits which became crispy carrot chips, and pureed the green carrot tops with mustard to create a delicious sauce.

My version is far simpler — I skip the soil and use parsley for the sauce, although when the farmers market offers carrots with their greens, I will likely give the Chez Boulay version a whirl.

Beet Tartare

Serves 2

This version, created in my kitchen, is not vegan. It uses Worcestershire sauce, which contains small amounts of anchovies. If a vegan dish is required, there are vegan versions of the sauce available at some markets or from online vendors. Failing that, you can use soy sauce, balsamic vinegar or miso paste mixed with water (1:1 ratio).

I prefer to boil the beets whole for about 20 minutes, until soft, then peel and cube them. Some more patient cooks roast the beets, wrapped in foil at 350 degrees F for about 45 minutes, and that’s fine, too.

This dish is best served chilled, so make it a few hours before you plan to serve it. I like it on a bed of lightly dressed arugula with some toast points or Melba rounds. Don Vegan served it garnished with a giant caper, which was aesthetically pleasing but not necessary if your home kitchen does not have a spare jar lying around.

- 2 beets, cooked, peeled and diced into small cubes
- 2 tablespoons finely minced scallion, white and green parts
- 2 tablespoons finely minced parsley

- 1½ teaspoons capers
- 1 tablespoon Dijon-style mustard
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

Mix all the ingredients in a medium-sized bowl. Chill until ready to serve. Taste for seasoning, and add salt and pepper if needed.

Quebecois Roasted Carrots with Mustard Sauce

Serves 4

- 1 pound carrots, whole and unpeeled
- 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- Sprinkle of salt and pepper
- ½ cup fresh parsley
- ¼ cup grainy mustard
- Additional fresh parsley or garnish

Heat your oven to 400 degrees F.

Line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment and place the carrots in a single layer on it. Toss the carrots with 1 tablespoon of the oil to coat them lightly, and sprinkle generously with salt and pepper.

Roast the carrots in the oven for 30-40 minutes until they are cooked through and beginning to turn golden in places.

While the carrots roast, puree the parsley with the mustard and the remaining tablespoon of oil. Taste and, if needed, add salt and pepper.

When the carrots are done, place them in a shallow bowl, and drizzle them with mustard sauce.

Serve garnished with a few sprigs of fresh parsley, hot or at room temperature. **JE**



Photo by Keri White

social announcements /

GRADUATION

SKYLER SCHORK

Skyler Schork of Villanova graduated from the United States Naval Academy on May 27 with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering. Schork is commissioned as a pilot in the Navy.

Prior to reporting to Pensacola, Florida, for flight training, Schork will attend Stanford University to pursue a master of science in mechanical engineering.

A Trident Scholar, Schork is ranked in the top 5% of the USNA Class of 2022.

At USNA, Schork received academic commendations including Commandant’s List (2022 and 2021), Superintendent’s List (2020, 2019 and 2018), Golden Key National Honor Society and was recognized for earning the highest grade point average among the Jewish Midshipmen Club.

On the athletic front, Schork competed on the Women’s Varsity Rowing Team and was named to the Patriot League All-Academic Team (2022), CRCA National Scholar-Athlete (2021 and 2020) and Patriot League Academic Roll (2021, 2020 and 2019).



Courtesy of D. Winter

Breaks

Continued from Page 8

Per his wife's suggestion, Marx tries to only check his emails for 30 minutes in the mornings and evenings. He tries to respectfully turn down requests for Zoom meetings.

Increased access to technology and remote communication has coincided with the pandemic, which has brought another challenge to rabbis. The past two years have been an intense time of emotional turmoil, where people are increasingly turning to spiritual leaders for guidance, Rabbi Kami Knapp Schechter of Congregation Or Shalom in Berwyn argued.

There's an "immense amount of pressure that's on the rabbis right now of constantly having to reinvent things and constantly having to be the cheerleader and holding the community together," Knapp Schechter said. "On top of also stepping in for first-line responders who are also overwhelmed — so like, therapists and doctors and chaplains, all these people who are spread super-thin — we're having to step up and kind of fill some of those holes."

Even before the pandemic, rabbis had trouble taking breaks, Knapp Schechter argued. The nature of the job requires immense emotional fortitude and patience.

"I don't think we really know how to refill our cups," she said. "We're trying to force ourselves to take breaks. We're trying to give ourselves permission to take breaks. But it's really hard, especially when you feel like your community really needs you."

As rabbis work to flex their boundaries and make the most of their vacations, they're also putting feelers out, sharing their needs with their leadership team, trying to subtly share their experiences with their community without placing their baggage on congregants.

"It's a hard thing to figure out because you, as a rabbi, you want to put on the best face for your community. And you want to give them hope and give them inspiration," Knapp Schechter said. "So there's a fine line between trying to do that but also being a human being and being authentic about what your experiences are." **JE**

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Fairwold

Continued from Page 8

said School District of Philadelphia Chief of Special Education Linda Williams, who attended the dedication. "He knew how to assess, and he knew how to help teachers help children."

"His name should be on this building because he epitomizes what a true educator is," she added.

Though not a pulpit rabbi, Feldman became ordained in 2006 after completing the online Yeshiva Pirchei Shoshanim program. He was heavily involved in Lower Merion Synagogue and volunteered there for 18 years. Feldman brought his spirituality to his job, and his job experience gave him a unique perspective on Jewish texts, according to his son Uri Feldman.

"He really brought to the Jewish text that he was studying a perspective from a very well-trained and seasoned practitioner," he said.

Feldman was born in Queens, New York, and got his bachelor's from Queens College. He moved to Philadelphia in the



1970s to pursue his doctorate from Temple University and raised his family of three children with his wife in Lower Merion.

According to Uri Feldman, his father's legacy was in his ability to connect the pieces of his life with a strong set of values.

"It was a combination of living a life of family and community and profession, all intertwined into one," he said. **JE**

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OB-GYN, Veteran Howard Isaacson Dies at 99

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Longtime obstetrician and gynecologist Dr. Howard Isaacson of Wynnewood, who served in the Air Force after World War II, died May 15 of cancer at Waverly Heights retirement community. He was 99.

During his 60-plus-year career as an OB-GYN, Isaacson delivered more than 10,000 children, including his three grandchildren. He practiced at Philadelphia General, Haverford, Pennsylvania, Presbyterian, Lankenau and Thomas Jefferson University hospitals. He was only the second Jewish doctor to practice at Pennsylvania Hospital, according to granddaughter Zoë Slutzky.

"He was really just somebody that everybody could trust," son Bill Isaacson said.

A member of Adath Israel in Merion Station, Isaacson was a supporter of a

myriad of Jewish organizations, including the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, B'nai Brith and the Philadelphia Holocaust Remembrance Foundation.

"He attended synagogue all his life, and he kept kosher, for example, and those values were important to him. [He] raised his family according to them," daughter Joan Ockman said.

Family members described Isaacson as kind to a fault, which was reflected in his dedication to his job.

Ockman remembers her father taking calls during dinner or in the middle of the night. After late-night or early-morning deliveries, he'd come home at dawn and promptly leave again for work for his daily office hours.

In the winter, Isaacson would roll down the driveway, jack the car up and tie chains on the tires to drive in the

snow.

Born in the Bronx and the grandson of Jewish immigrants in 1922, Isaacson grew up in Freehold, New Jersey. His father eventually owned a clothing and fabrics store that Isaacson would clock hours at, teaching himself customer service and learning admiration for his parents.

"He respected their work ethic, their hard work," Slutzky said. "That infused the way he approached his career."

Isaacson planned to become a general surgeon and graduated from Rutgers University in 1943.

Despite Jefferson Medical College's quota on Jewish students, Isaacson was accepted there and graduated in 1946. The war, which sent many young men overseas, increased university demand for students, giving Jews, women and other under-enrolled populations the opportunity to attend.

But Isaacson held his own, Ockman said: "The story he told was he was interviewed and was offered admission on the spot. He was very bright and impressed them with his intelligence, aptitude."

He interned at the Philadelphia General Hospital in 1947, the same year he married chemist June Golove.

Isaacson joined the Air Force and was assigned to the Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama, where, instead of performing general surgery, he was asked to deliver babies in the growing baby boomer era.



Dr. Howard Isaacson and granddaughter Zoë Slutzky
Courtesy of Zoë Slutzky

He also befriended a Palestinian man and his family while living in Montgomery. They were lifelong friends, keeping in touch and exchanging gifts for years.

After his service, Isaacson returned to Philadelphia, where he completed residencies at Jefferson and Philadelphia General hospitals. He was a practicing OB-GYN until his retirement in 2003 and continued to advise patients years after.

After the death of his wife in 1993, Isaacson became partners with Reta Eisenberg, who died in 2018. The two loved to travel.

With a deep love for the theater, Isaacson shared his passion for Shakespeare with his family.

Throughout his life, Isaacson took an interest in the hobbies of his loved ones. He talked about sports and medicine with his son, who is also a doctor, and poetry with his daughter. He kept a garden with Slutzky until his mid-90s.

"He was really a gentleman," Bill Isaacson said. "A great, great role model."

Isaacson is survived by his two children, Bill Isaacson and Joan Ockman; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. **JE**

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BASS

Beverley (nee Feingold)-May 26, 2022, Moorestown, NJ. formerly of Dresher, PA. Wife of Bernard Bass z"l. Mother of Beth Bass Gersten and Bradford (Bryna) Bass. Grandmother of Brittany (Josh), Jack (Suzanne), Maxwell and Andrew. Great-Grandmother of Sarah, Jonathan, William, Elizabeth, and Johnny. Sister of Irene Hyman z"l, Seymour Feingold z"l, and Jeffrey Feingold.

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CRESKOFF

Howard J. Creskoff peacefully passed away surrounded by loved ones in his daughter's home in Gladwyne, Pennsylvania on June 7, 2022 at the age of 81. He was the beloved son of Edith (née Milgram) and Leonard Cre-

www.jewishexponent.com

skoff and was born in Philadelphia on March 26, 1941. Howard was exceptionally close to his siblings and is survived by his older brother, David (Joyce Belchic) and younger sister Susan Creskoff Hirsch (Larry). Howard attended Olney High School, from which he graduated in 1959. He received his B.A. degree four years later from Penn State and was a brother of ZBT. While there, he met his wife-to-be Betty Jane Sauer (BJ). Post college, Howard worked in California after driving cross-country there with his best friend Robert Wechsler and then returned to Philadelphia to attend Temple University Law School, graduating in 1966 with a J.D. degree. Howard served his country in the United States Army Reserves, where he met life-long friends. Howard's professional legal career began as an associate attorney in the firm of Freedman, Borowsky, and Lorry in Philadelphia. He became a partner and successfully practiced there under the mentorship of Bill Lorry. He and a few partners later left and formed the firm of Adler, Barish, Daniels, Levin and Creskoff. In 1982, Howard founded his own firm in partnership with Michael J. Rotko. In 1993 he became business partners with Gary Baker, joining Windsor Distribution, Inc. as co-owner. Howard's legal acumen was recognized by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, which appointed him as a judge of its disciplinary Board where he served for nine years. He was an officer and director of the Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association for four years. Among his many honors, he received The Outstanding Volunteer Award from the Legal Aid Society of Philadelphia for pro-bono work. Howard's charitable work included serving for many years on various boards including Willowcrest-Bamberger, Albert Einstein Medical Center, and the Jewish National Fund. Growing up, Howard, along with his parents and siblings, spent blissful summers in Longport on the Jersey shore. He helped build their family home on Sunset Avenue in Longport in the early 1960's. All of Howard's siblings, nieces, nephews as well as his wife and children spent many summers together there. Howard ultimately built his own family home in Longport in the mid-70's, which his children and grandchildren enjoy to this day. It would take volumes to write just how wonderful, revered, and kind Howard was and how much help and joy he gave to so many people. He was a caring and loving father to daughters Lauren Kline (Chris) and Rebecca Creskoff (Michael Glassner) and a devoted grandfather to Josh, Jenna, and Maggie Kline and Sadie, Isla, and Goldie Glassner and his step-grandchildren Max (Liz Giampa), Ilana (Greg Milstein), David, and Mackenzie Glassner. Howard is also survived by his nieces and nephews; Hope, Nancy, Danny, Stacey, Daria and Brad as well as his faithful and loyal friend, Lucy,

his 13-year-old springer spaniel. We mourn the loss of this sweet-natured, smart, genial, devoted father, grandfather, attorney, brother, and friend who loved and appreciated the simplest joys in life: a beach, a good book, and family. We are grateful for the compassionate care Howard received from Dr. Michael Mastrangelo at Jefferson and Dr. Lynn Schuchter at Penn. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Howard's memory to the Tara Miller Melanoma Center at the Abramson Cancer Center, 3535 Market St., Suite 750, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

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DONIGER

Irene G. (nee Shapiro)-June 6, 2022 of King of Prussia, PA. Beloved fiancée of the late William Cooper; mother of Robin Gallagher and Shawn Doniger; adoring grandmother of Bailey, Kenny, and Kyle Gallagher; treasured sister of Larry (Karen), Ira (Joanie), Matthew (Lisa), and Douglas (Carmen). Irene was an avid learner and devoted her life to health and spirituality. She began her career as a registered nurse, earned a bachelor's in nursing, and a master's in psychology. She was also a Certified Laughter Trainer. Irene was a builder and founder of Temple Brith Achim in King of Prussia, an active part of P'Nai Or of Philadelphia, and became ordained as a Magid. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice which focuses on feeding the hungry or housing the homeless, or to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (alzfdn.org).

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ESCOVITZ

Dr. Gerald "Gerry" H. May 29, 2022, of Ardmore. Husband of Francyn Sacks (nee Elion). Father of Karen Escovitz (Elizabeth Reilly) and Lisa Kerness (Jay); step father of Rand Sacks (Melissa) and Matthew Sacks (Stephanie); brother of Joseph Escovitz (Flavia); grandfather of Ben, Jack, Eli, Justin and Desmond. Contributions in his memory may be made to Dr. Gerald Escovitz Memorial Fund at Freire Charter School, Freire Foundation, PO Box 59028, Phila., PA 19102

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FELDSCHER

Helen Gordon Feldscher died peacefully in her sleep, Monday June 6th after a 5-year battle with cancer. Born in 1932, to Al Gordon and Jean Cohen, she grew up in the Kensington section of Philadelphia. Helen attended Olney High and Temple University. She taught in the Philadelphia School District, and then years later, went back

to Temple for a Masters in Psychology. She worked as a school psychologist for the Philadelphia School District for most of her career, even part-time into her 80s. Helen valued people and they valued her. She saw the good in everyone. She met the love of her life on the beach in Atlantic City. Married to Jerome Herbert Feldscher in 1955, she raised a family in the Mount Airy section of Philadelphia and then in Plymouth Meeting. Jerry passed away in 2015 after 60 wonderful years of marriage. Helen and Jerry spent most summers at the shore, recapturing the magic. They both loved the shore and looked forward to their time there. Helen was very active with her synagogue, Tiferet Bet Israel, right up to her last days. For years prior to Covid you could find her there every day. She always made an effort to stay connected with her friends and family, and was beloved and appreciated for it. Thoughtful and caring, she let people know how she felt about them, and how important they were to her. She was blessed in return by an enormous community of friends and family that felt privileged to have her in their lives. Helen is survived by her daughter and son-in-law Karen Feldscher and Dan Winograd, her son and daughter-in-law, Lee Feldscher and Lisa Mintz, and her grandchildren, Adam, Ben, Rebecca, Talia and Hayden. Contributions can be made in her honor to Tiferet Bet Israel, Hadassah, the American Cancer Society, University of Penn Abramson Cancer Center, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center or a charity of your choice.

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www.levinefuneral.com

GUBER

Selma Guber (nee Greitzer) on June 7, 2022. Wife of the late Erwin M.; Mother of Stuart (Judy) Guber, Esq. and Wayne Guber. Sister of Cissy Goldstein. Grandmother of Harrison Guber and Paige (Alan) Nochenson. Great grandmother of Raquel, Ayton and Dov.

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IVINS

Dr. Richard George, June 8, 2022, of Boothwyn, PA. Father of David Ivins, Jenifer Kronbar (George), Allyson Groff (Steven) and Emily Ivins; Brother of Jesse Elin Upchurch and Carole Ann Ivins; Grandfather of Brady, Annabelle, Dylan, Owen, Madelyn, Lucas and Rhys; former spouse of Betsey Wallace Ivins. The family respectfully requests contributions in lieu of flowers, be made to the Wounded Warriors Project (https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org) or Vietnam Veterans of America (https://vva.org).

JOSEPH LEVINE AND SONS
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JAFFE-MYER

Nancy (nee Schwartz)-June 1, 2022 of Elkins Park, PA. Beloved wife of the late Eli Jaffe and the late Bill Myer; loving mother of Lee Jaffe (Molly Jaffe), Henry Jaffe (Kathleen Winter), and Steven Jaffe (Debbie Finer); adoring grandmother of JJ Weinberger (Dylan), and Kaitlin Vannatten (Ryan). Services for Nancy were held privately. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to Hadassah Greater Philadelphia (hadassah.org/philadelphia), the American Cancer Society (cancer.org), or Huntington's Disease Society of America (hdsa.org).

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KAUFMAN

Suzi (Nee Golluber)-On June 2, 2022, of Dresher, PA, loving wife of the late Bernard Kaufman, loving mother of David Kaufman (Li Ping Zhong), Stephen Kaufman (Rosely) and Dr. Rachel Kaufman (Nathan Novemsky) sister of Ellen Weiner. She was also cherished by her 5 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. She was a Philadelphia public school art teacher and librarian. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to Hadassah or a charity of the donors choice.

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RUDNICK

Jeannette (nee Chesin)-June 2, 2022 of Philadelphia, PA. Beloved wife of the late Jesse Rudnick; loving mother of Suzanne Payne (Michael), David Rudnick (Claire), and Barbara Rudnick (Jerry Zeeman); adoring grandmother of Alexandra, Helen, Martha, Max, and Sam. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be directed to the Support Student Scholars department of Temple University (giving.temple.edu).

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SELTZER

Geraldine K. "Gerry" (nee Kramer) on June 9, 2022. Beloved wife of the late Louis E.; Loving father of David Seltzer (Shari), Robert Seltzer (Susan) and Deborah Seltzer Cohen; Dear sister of Eleanor Shaffer; Devoted Grandmother of Matthew (Stacy) Seltzer, Jeremy

(Liora) Seltzer, Sara (Jason) Kreisman, Rabbi Joel (Eliana) Seltzer, Rachel (Dr. Scott) Goldstein, Jessie Fast, Jacob (Sarah Waxman) Cohen, Rachel Cohen, and Dr. Jonah Cohen; Adoring great-grandmother of Gabrielle, Avi, and Jordana Seltzer, Leo and Maya Seltzer, Samuel, Isaac, Asher and Nili Kreisman, Ayelet, Talia and Noa Seltzer, Zoe and Tessa Goldstein, and Elan and Aliza Cohen. Mrs. Seltzer was an Elementary school teacher at Solis Cohen Elementary where she oversaw Spotlight on People, a desegregation program for the school district of Phila. She received an award from the city due to this program. After retiring from teaching, she became an artist and painted a series of 24 paintings using the Holocaust as a theme. These paintings were showcased at Gratz College. She was also an amateur musician, a former long-time member of Temple Sinai and Cong. Adath Jeshurun. Contributions in her memory may be made to Alzheimer's Assoc., 225 N. Michigan Ave, Fl 17, Chicago, IL 60601, www.alz.org or Bancroft School Development Office, 1255 Caldwell Rd., Cherry Hill, NJ 08034 or to a charity of the donor's choice.

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SWIMMER

Alan N., June 2, 2022. Husband of the late Evelyn Swimmer (nee Feldman). Father of Todd Swimmer and Susan (James) Brennan. Brother of Harry (the late Marilyn) Swimmer. Grandfather of Amelia and Simone Brennan. Services and interment private. Contributions in his memory may be made to Congregation Ohev Shalom, 2 Chester Rd., Wallingford, PA 19086, www.ohv.net or to the Community Arts Center, 414 Plush Mill Rd., Wallingford, PA 19086, www.communityartscenter.org.

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S
RAPHAEL-SACKS
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WEINBAUM

Miriam J Weinbaum(née Brown), died on June 6, 2022, in Rye, NY; Beloved wife of the late Alexander S Weinbaum, III; Loving mother of Ann Sacher (Bill), and Steven(Janet); Devoted bubbly to Emily and Alexandra Sacher and Seth, Elliot, and Adina Weinbaum. Sister of Bea Matchen and the late Jacob Brown. Miriam was born on November 19, 1934 in south Philadelphia and proudly resided in Philadelphia for most of her life. After graduating from South Philadelphia High School for Girls and Temple University, she taught kindergarten for several years at the Francis Reed school. She was a long time member of Congregations of Shaare Shamayim. Donations can be made to Congregations of Shaare Shamayim or the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.

What's happening at ... Ohev Shalom Synagogue

Ohev Shalom Continues to Survive and Grow

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

Ohev Shalom of Bucks County opened in 1976 — just as Jews were moving to the area — and, in that time, it has reflected the evolution of the area's Jewish community.

From the mid-1970s through the '90s, the Conservative synagogue grew from 25 founding families to more than 700 members, as baby boomers sought a place to attend High Holiday services and for their children to attend preschool and religious school. But since the late '90s, Ohev's membership has declined to about 425 families.

Yet in many ways for this Richboro community, less is more. Today's congregants are not, on average, joining for their kids to have a place to grow up Jewish, as Ohev only holds 15-20 bar and bat mitzvahs a year, compared to three or four on a given weekend a few decades ago.

Instead, they are joining so they can have a place to practice Judaism and come together in community.

Executive Director Barbara Glickman recently started a walking club in a local park. It's the first life-style-type club in the 46-year history of the temple, according to Rabbi Elliott Perlstein, who has been with the synagogue since the beginning.

And more of those types of activities may follow. Glickman wants to open a yoga club. Perlstein may ask congregants if they are interested in doing Torah study in the park.

"We've become a boutique synagogue," the rabbi said.

Perlstein and other Ohev leaders saw the change coming as far back as 2016 when they decided to change their financial model. For decades, like many other Conservative and Reform shuls in the Philadelphia area, Ohev operated on a hierarchical system for paying dues.

Essentially, if you paid X amount, you became a member. But the financial transaction came first and foremost.



Rabbi Elliott Perlstein of Ohev Shalom of Bucks County

Courtesy of Rabbi Elliott Perlstein

In 2016, though, Perlstein and his team decided to let families join without paying anything. They could put their children through religious school from ages 4-7 and still not pay a dime. At that point, if they wanted to join, they could start paying dues.

"Would families want to be members when the time came?" Perlstein asked.

The answer was pretty much "yes." Perlstein said the retention rate for such members is more than 90%. Once they joined and became part of the community, they wanted to stay.

Ohev's membership was stagnant before it changed its payment plan, according to Perlstein. Since then, the synagogue has attracted new members who may not have joined otherwise.

The rabbi disputes the notion that millennials are not interested in joining things. He said synagogues just need to meet them where they are.

"They hear that there's a synagogue interested in reaching out to people, and it's not all about the bottom line," the rabbi said.

To be clear, Ohev's bottom line is still pretty strong.



A Passover activity at Ohev Shalom of Bucks County

Photo by Barbara Glickman

Perlstein described a membership of more than 400 families as "relatively large." Ohev also has more than 100 students in its religious school, though it no longer offers a preschool. And while the bar and bat mitzvah schedule is not as busy as it once was, there is still more than one a month.

As it approaches its 50th anniversary, Ohev remains a functional and well-adapted institution. Perlstein, Glickman and Cantor Annelise Ocanto-Romo believe the temple's values are to thank for its ability to survive.

No matter what may be going on outside its doors, the Richboro congregation takes the same approach to growing with the times. Perlstein describes it as tradition plus creativity.

A continued emphasis on Conservative elements of Judaism like Kashrut and the Conservative prayer book combines with a consistent willingness to embrace change, such as allowing girls to have bat mitzvahs on Shabbat morning, which Ohev started as soon as it opened, unlike other Conservative synagogues of the day.

"We started off with full equality," Perlstein said.

Glickman joined Ohev in 1999 because she was looking for a preschool for her children. Ocanto-Romo took on her role in 2015 after serving at a synagogue in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Both spoke of the same feeling when they first walked in and started engaging in temple activities.

"Everybody was super welcoming and very friendly," Glickman said.

"I just felt the warmth," Ocanto-Romo added.

So did her husband, a Jew by choice.

"Ohev was inviting him to come," the cantor said.

Ocanto-Romo runs the bar and bat mitzvah tutoring program at the synagogue and, in her role, led another important change for the Conservative community — allowing non-Jewish parents to stand on the bimah next to their Jewish spouses during their children's bar and bat mitzvahs.

"The cantor is right," Perlstein said. "It's a very major change." **JE**

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com



Acting in Our Higher Selves

BY RABBI VALERIE JOSEPH

Parshat Beha'alotcha

A lot happens in this week's Parshat Beha'alotcha.

- G-d tells Moses to assign his brother Aaron to "lift up" and light the golden menorah;
- The Levites purify themselves as they begin their service in the Tabernacle;
- Pesach Sheni, a second Passover, is created for those who couldn't partake in the first Passover offering;
- A cloud cover covers the Israelite camp and lifts when they are to continue on their journey;
- Silver trumpets are made to call the people to assembly;
- The Israelites complain about the taste of manna and wish for meat;
- Miriam and Aaron are stricken by *Tzaraat* (skin disease) after Miriam speaks *lashon hara*.

The last event — Miriam's sudden illness — brings forward a remarkable response by Moses as he recites one of the shortest prayers in the Torah:

"And Moshe cried unto the Lord, saying, 'Please God, heal her (Miriam), I beseech you' (Numbers 12:13).

In "El Na Refah Na Lah," we learn greatness from this simple and humble act by Moses. Just a few sentences earlier his sister (and Aaron his brother) had spoken against him; the siblings accuse their brother of making a poor choice in marriage. It was an act that could have started a rebellion among the grumbling masses and angered G-d so much that he called a family meeting and struck Miriam with *Tzaraat* as punishment.

Many of us would have reacted as G-d did, with anger. But Moses, the self-effacing leader, had forgiven Miriam already, and his behavior provided enlightenment and a model of behavior. Moses then responds to G-d's punishment with forgiveness and prayer for her well-being, her *refuah shleimah* (complete healing). Perhaps he remembered with gratitude that as a young girl:

- Miriam in her greatness saved his infant life, an event that was instrumental in Moses growing up in the home of Pharaoh's daughter and initiating the Exodus;
- Sparked the enthusiasm and appreciation of the Israelites by leading the dancing with timbrels after walking through the Red Sea;
- Created the well that bears her name, which provided fresh water in the desert for the Israelites.

The custom of praying for the sick comes from this parshah.

Among the many actions that we can admire in Moses, one of the most significant — and one which we can emulate to this day — is holding the sick in our thoughts and prayers by reciting a *mi sheberach* (prayer for healing).

"So Miriam was shut out of camp seven days; and the people did not march on until Miriam was readmitted" (Numbers 12:15).

Equally important, for seven days the Israelites stopped in their tracks. Arguments, complaints and disagreements were set aside. The delay must have seemed interminable. The Israelites did not journey on, despite their constant impatience and complaints in other matters during 40 years in the desert.

In turn, Miriam was given veneration due to her, and the community's supportive willingness to stay brought honor in the eyes of G-d not only to an ill sister but also to her family member, Moses.

In reading the text, we see and understand what the Torah considers most important in life. When the community — including Moses — cries out for healing, the power of their love and connection to each other comes to the forefront. While it's not possible to know if prayer works or G-d exists, "Ninety percent (range 84-90%) of medical schools have courses or content on spirituality and health (S&H)" (G. Lucchetti, 2012).

We know that Moses lived a long life of 120 years, and Miriam lived a long life also. There may be many reasons for this, but one common explanation is that their lives were extended by virtue of humbleness in the face of interpersonal conflicts.

In the Talmud, there is a discussion on

why certain rabbis lived long lives.

"Rabbi Nehunya ben Hakana was asked by his disciples: Why were you blessed with longevity? He said to them: 'In my days, I never attained veneration at my fellow's degradation. Nor did my fellow's curse go up with me upon my bed. And I was openhanded with my money'" (Talmud Megillah 28).

Another sage, Rabbi Zeira, cites similar virtues for growing quite old:

"Rabbi Zeira was asked by his disciples: Why were you blessed with longevity? He said to them, 'In my days, I was never angry inside my house. Nor did I ever walk ahead of someone who was greater than me.'"

Quite a few more rabbis cite that their meriting a long life is not only due to

Torah study, but also being generous, charitable, respectful, forgiving, not holding on to anger, and kind to others.

May we all be reminded of what is dear to us and treasure those moments. **JE**

Rabbi Valerie Joseph is a National Association of Veterans Affairs Chaplains and Neshama: Association of Jewish Chaplains certified retired Veteran's Hospital chaplain. The Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia is proud to provide diverse perspectives on Torah commentary for the Jewish Exponent. The opinions expressed in this column are the author's own and do not reflect the view of the Board of Rabbis.



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JUNE 17–JUNE 23

FRIDAY, JUNE 17
CRAFT BEER AND BLUES


Join Cantor Jacob Agar and the band at Beth Sholom Congregation for a Craft Beer and Blues Shabbat. Snacks at 5:45 p.m. with extended oneg and craft beer following the service. **Visit bethsholomcongregation.org for more information. 8231 Old York Road, Elkins Park.**

FRIDAY, JUNE 17
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 to receive the Zoom link and password.**

BLUEGRASS SHABBAT

There will be a very different Shabbat service at Temple Brith Achim tonight. As part of the synagogue's year-long 50th anniversary celebration, the Boston-based Jewish bluegrass band Kol Kahol will lead the regular Friday night service at 7:30 p.m. **For more information, contact Temple Brith Achim at 610-337-2222.**

MONDAY, JUNE 20
MAHJONG GAME

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 21
'EAT - PRAY - LOVE'

Why do Jews eat a triangle-shaped dough on Purim? What is the importance of dates in Islam? These questions and more will be the focus of this virtual course. Each week in June, Golden Slipper on the Main Line will explore a different religious tradition and the food that is accompanied by it. 11 a.m. **Contact msimonhazani@goldenslipper.org or 610-359-8632 for more information.**

BINGO WITH BARRY

Join Barry at Tabas Kleinlife for an afternoon of bingo from 12:30-3:30 p.m. on June 21, 22 and 23. Free parking and free to play with snacks available on June 22. **For more information, call 215-745-3127. 2101 Strahle St., Philadelphia.**

'MY WAY OR THE HIGHWAY'

The Institute for Jewish Ethics presents a discussion on disagreeing with dignity with Rabbi Anthony Manning at noon. Who should we tolerate, and who should we oppose? Can there be multiple truths? How do we express ourselves in ways that honor our own beliefs without putting others down? ijeseminars.com/products/my-way-or-the-highway.

HOARDING SUPPORT

Join Jewish Family and Children's Service and participants who have completed a prior hoarding support group program from 4-5 p.m., in a supportive community where you will learn tools to address compulsive acquiring and saving while deepening your understanding of clutter and how you got here. **To register or for more information on sliding-scale options, contact Rivka Goldman**

at 267-256-2250 or rgoldman@jfcspshilly.org.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22
BIBLICAL THEMES IN MUSIC

Join Golden Slipper on the Main Line at 10 a.m. as we explore how historical biblical leaders (and villains) inspired composers' music for the stage and the concert hall in a virtual lecture. **Contact msimonhazani@goldenslipper.org or 610-359-8632 for more information.**

'NEW HOLLYWOOD' SERIES

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, a new breed of young filmmakers infiltrated Hollywood. This four-week virtual course by Golden Slipper on the Main Line looks at the revolution that occurred in the movie business during that period when a young Steven Spielberg became the most successful filmmaker in history. 11:15 a.m. **Contact msimonhazani@goldenslipper.org or 610-359-8632 for more information.**

HOARDING SUPPORT

Join Jewish Family and Children's Service and like-minded individuals from April 13-July 27 from 5:30-7:30 p.m., in a supportive community where you will learn tools to address compulsive acquiring and saving while deepening your understanding of clutter and how you got here. **To register or for more information on sliding-scale options, contact Rivka Goldman at 267-256-2250 or rgoldman@jfcspshilly.org.**

THURSDAY, JUNE 23
LINDY SUMMERFEST

Philadelphia Jewish Film and Media is partnering with the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History for Lindy SummerFest 2022, a summer film series. The last of three premieres on Thursday nights will be at the newly reopened Dell Theater, located in the concourse level of the museum. **Visit phillyjfm.org/tribe-events/category/lindy-summerfest-2022 for more information. 101 S. Independence Mall E., Philadelphia. [JE](#)**

Out & About

Courtesy of the Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties

Photo by Jay Gorodtzer Photography

Courtesy of the Abrams Hebrew Academy

Courtesy of AJC Philadelphia/Southern NJ

Courtesy of LookPR

Photo by Missy Dietz



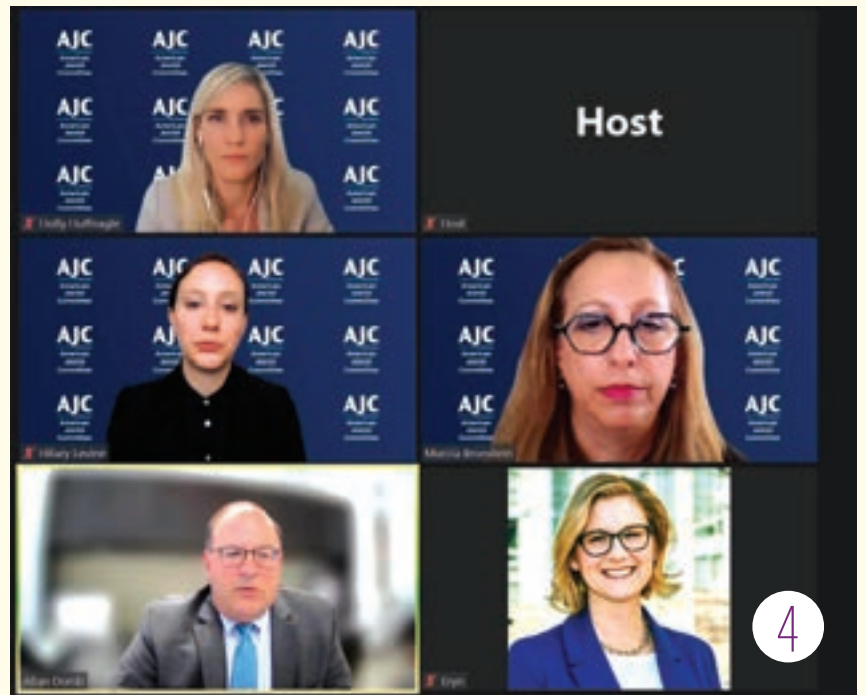
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1 The Casino Reinvestment Development Authority provided the Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties with a \$685,000 multiyear grant to support outpatient counseling services. 2 The Philly Friendship Circle raised \$350,000 at its annual gala. 3 The Abrams Hebrew Academy had a fun-filled field day celebrating the end of the school year. 4 The American Jewish Committee Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey hosted training for Philadelphia officials on dealing with antisemitism on June 3. 5 Dr. Jason Bresler, clinical director of Special Olympics PA Healthy Athletes, and Temple University dental students provided oral health and dental screenings, oral hygiene instructions and nutritional counseling to athletes at the Special Olympics PA Summer Games at Penn State University over the June 4-5 weekend. 6 The 15th Cis Golder "Quality of Life" Luncheon and Fashion Show at Boyds Philadelphia raised more than \$50,000 for women in financial need due to breast cancer.

Debbie Albert

READIES FOR A RETURN TO SUMMER CAMP

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Debbie Albert was often gawked at by her public school classmates in the cafeteria during Passover, her kosher meals drawing unwanted attention.

That is how it was for most of the year: Albert was one of the few kids in her town who kept kosher and built a sukkah on Sukkot — one of the few religious Jews.

But over the summers, things were different. For eight weeks out of the year for eight years, Albert, along with a gaggle of Jewish teens, would spend each morning singing “Hatikvah,” each Friday night celebrating Shabbat at Camp Ramah in the Poconos. The feelings of isolation and otherness Albert had for the other 44 weeks of the year melted away.

“When you’re at camp, you don’t have to explain your Judaism,” Albert said. “It’s just part of your being.”

It’s that feeling that kept her coming back to Ramah, not only as a camper but as a member of Camp Ramah in the Poconos’ board of directors. As president of the board since October 2019 — and a board member for another seven years — Albert, 61, has steered the camp and its three prongs (the sleepaway camp, day camp and Tikvah program for disabled campers) during two pandemic summers.

After a camp-less summer in 2020, 2021 brought a unique challenge. Kids were thrilled to return to camp, but a year of pandemic living left its mark on campers’ mental health.

“The kids had one of the best summers of their lives; the staff had maybe one of the hardest of their lives,” Albert said.

Ramah staff paid extra emotional care to campers, helping them adjust to being back around a large group of kids or being away from parents after a year cooped up in their homes.

As 2022 and a new normal approaches, it provides another opportunity to take



stock of the almost 50 years Albert has been involved in Ramah. It will also be her first time returning to camp since becoming board president.

“Everything and nothing” has changed since Albert was a camper, she said.

A new generation of campers raised on technology are arriving at camp, but they are happy to relinquish their

phones for the summer. Many even say that’s the best part of the eight-week experience, Albert said.

Without kids tethered to their phones, Ramah has maintained the founding spirit of the camp.

“The thing that hasn’t changed is the way we celebrate Shabbat and the way we talk about Israel,” Albert said. “The values of Judaism have remained intact,

of course, and that’s been the same since the ’50s, when camp started, to today.”

Albert sent her kids to Camp Ramah in the Poconos and continued to donate money to the organization but didn’t take on a leadership role there for decades after her time as a camper.

After getting a bachelor’s degree in journalism from George Washington University, Albert, a Dresher resident, returned to Philadelphia to work as an assignment editor for channels 3 and 6 news.

Her time in journalism was short-lived, however, due to burnout from the job. She coincidentally got in touch with her 12th-grade teacher around the same time, who helped Albert pivot toward public relations. Albert worked for the Spectrum area and various trade organizations before joining Aramark for 15 years.

In 2010, Albert left Aramark to build her own PR company but later rejoined Aramark under the new title of senior vice president of Corporate Communications.

Camp Ramah was never far from Albert’s thoughts. A member of both Adath Israel in Merion Station and Temple Sinai in Dresher, Albert has always been involved in the Jewish community. She’s still in touch with her *edah*, her cohort of campers, many of whom she met in 1973.

“I talk to them all the time,” Albert said. “When you live with people ... it creates a bond that lasts a long time. Forever, I would have to say.”

The longevity of their friendship exists outside of the campgrounds, but it is also unique to the experience of Camp Ramah.

“You’re surrounded by teachers and rabbis and the culture and Zionism in a way that you can’t be in our secular world,” Albert said. “When you go there, you’re having the time of your life, and you’re being Jewish, and it’s seamless.” JE

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Courtesy of Debbie Albert



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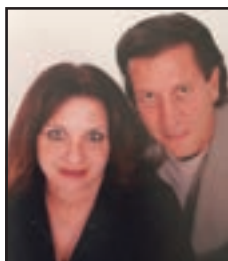
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LEGALS

GRAND SWAP CORP. has been
incorporated under the provisions
of the Pennsylvania Business
Corporation Law of 1988.

Moonjelly Foundation has been
incorporated under the provisions
of the PA Nonprofit Corporation Law
of 1988.
Cheshire Law Group
Clarkson-Watson House
5275 Germantown Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Notice is hereby given that an
Application for Registration of
Fictitious Name was filed in
the Department of State of the
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on
June 02, 2022 for **Spring House
Nursing and Rehabilitation
Center** at 905 Penllyn Pike, Lower
Gwynedd Township, PA 19002. The

entity interested in such business is
Silver Stream Nursing and Rehab
Facility LLC, whose Commercial
Registered Office provider's address
is 905 Penllyn Pike, Lower Gwynedd
Township, PA 19002. in Montgomery
County. This was filed in accordance
with 54 PaC.S. 311.

Notice is hereby given that Articles
of Incorporation for a Domestic
Non-Profit Corporation were filed
in the Department of State of the
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for
Mural Miles, Inc. This Corporation
is Incorporated under the provi-
sions of the Pennsylvania Non-
Profit Corporation Law of 1988, as
amended.

Notice is hereby given that Articles
of Incorporation were filed for **HM
Express Distribution Inc.** with the
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The
corporation's registered office is 3235
Sunset Lane, Hatboro PA 19040 in
Montgomery County. This corporation
is incorporated under the provisions
of the Business Corporation Law of
1988, as amended.

Notice is hereby given that Articles
of Incorporation were filed in the
Department of State of The
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
June 06, 2022 for **BRIGHT SHINE
LICENSED BEHAVIOR ANALYST
P.C.** under the provisions of the
Pennsylvania Business Corporation
Law of 1988, as amended.

**QUEVIZ HOME IMPROVEMENT,
INC** has been incorporated under
the provisions of the Pennsylvania
Business Corporation Law of 1988.

VBraccia Construction Inc. has
been incorporated under the provi-
sions of the Pennsylvania Business
Corporation Law of 1988.
Eastburn & Gray, P.C.
60 East Court Street
PO Box 1389
Doylestown, PA 189017719

ENTERPRISES INC. has been
incorporated under the provisions
of the Pennsylvania Business
Corporation Law of 1988.
McCreesh, McCreesh, McCreesh &
Cannon
7053 Terminal Square
Upper Darby, PA 19082

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a federally funded non-profit food
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Request for RFP should be emailed to
blake@cbsfoodprogram.com
by July 7, 2022 with Reference
#CBSKK22-25. Awarded entity will
be notified in writing by July 21,
2022.

ESTATE OF KENNETH M.
CLARK a/k/a KENNETH CLARK,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION
on the above Estate have been
granted to the undersigned, who
request all persons having claims or
demands against the estate of the
decendent to make known the same
and all persons indebted to the
decendent to make payment without
delay to KATHLEEN J. SCANNELL,
ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Harry
Metka, Esq., 4802 Neshaminy Blvd.,
Ste. 9, Bensalem, PA 19020,
Or to her Attorney:
HARRY METKA
4802 Neshaminy Blvd., Ste. 9
Bensalem, PA 19020

ESTATE OF BARRY J. MAGARICK
Magarick, Barry J. late of

Philadelphia, PA. Rochelle Magarick,
1810 S. Rittenhouse Sq., Apt. 1703,
Philadelphia, PA 19103, Executrix.
Edward J. Campanella, Esq.,
477 West Valley Rd.
Wayne, PA 19087

ESTATE OF Dennis S Barr,
DECEASED
LETTERS on the above Estate
have been granted to the under-
signed, who request all persons
having claims or demands against
the Estate of the decedent to make
known the same, and all persons
indebted to the decedents to make
payment without delay, to
Siana Ritzinger Administratrix CTA
Or to Attorney
Vincent Carosella, Jr., Esq.
Carosella & Associates, P.C.
882 South Matlack Street, Suite 101
West Chester, PA 19382-4505
610-431-3300
diana@carosella.com

ESTATE OF DOROTHY R. JONES
a/k/a DOROTHY RICE JONES,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on
the above Estate have been grant-
ed to the undersigned, who re-
quest all persons having claims
or demands against the estate of
the decedent to make known the
same and all persons indebted to
the decedent to make payment
without delay to CHERYL JONES-
DIX, EXECUTRIX, c/o Roy Yaffe,
Esq., One Commerce Square, 2005
Market St., 16th Fl., Philadelphia, PA
19103-7042,
Or to her Attorney:
ROY YAFFE
GOULD YAFFE AND GOLDEN
One Commerce Square
2005 Market St., 16th Fl.
Philadelphia, PA 19103-7042

ESTATE OF EDWARD W.
WASSER, JR., DECEASED.
Late of Warminster Township, Bucks
County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted to
the undersigned, who request all
persons having claims or demands
against the estate of the decedent
to make known the same and all
persons indebted to the decedent
to make payment without delay to
ELIZABETH DOYLE, EXECUTRIX,
c/o Wendy Fein Cooper, Esq., 50 S.
16th St., Ste. 3530, Philadelphia, PA
19102,
Or to her Attorney:
WENDY FEIN COOPER
DOLCHIN, SLOTKIN & TODD, P.C.
50 S. 16th St., Ste. 3530
Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE OF FRANCIS J. LEE,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted to
the undersigned, who request all
persons having claims or demands
against the estate of the decedent
to make known the same and all
persons indebted to the decedent
to make payment without delay to
KEW LEE, EXECUTOR, 321 Box
Run Circle, Egg Harbor Township,
NJ 08234

ESTATE OF HILDA GRACE
MITCHELL a/k/a HILDA G.
MITCHELL, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted
to the undersigned, who request
all persons having claims or demands
against the estate of the decedent
to make known the same and all
persons indebted to the decedent
to make payment without delay to
LATISHA DENISE BRANCH, EXECUTRIX,
355 Kevin Court, Philadelphia, PA 19116,
Or to her Attorney:
MARK J. DAVIS
CONNOR ELDER LAW
644 Germantown Pike, 2-C

Lafayette Hill, PA 19444
ESTATE OF JAMES SCHWOERER
a/k/a JAMES E. SCHWOERER,
JAMES EDWARD SCHWOERER,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted to
the undersigned, who request all
persons having claims or demands
against the estate of the decedent
to make known the same and all
persons indebted to the decedent
to make payment without delay to
VANESSA A. SCHWOERER,
EXECUTRIX, c/o Harry Metka,
Esq., 4802 Neshaminy Blvd., Ste. 9,
Bensalem, PA 19020,
Or to her Attorney:
HARRY METKA
4802 Neshaminy Blvd., Ste. 9
Bensalem, PA 19020

ESTATE OF JEANNE MATTHEWS
Anderson,
DECEASED
LETTERS on the above Estate
have been granted to the under-
signed, who request all persons
having claims or demands against
the Estate of the decedent to make
known the same, and all persons
indebted to the decedents to make
payment without delay, to
Kenneth M. Anderson, Jr., Executor
Or to Attorney
Vincent Carosella, Jr., Esq.
Carosella & Associates, P.C.
882 South Matlack Street, Suite 101
West Chester, PA 19382-4505
610-431-3300
diana@carosella.com

ESTATE OF JOANNE T. PFEIFER,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted to
the undersigned, who request
all persons having claims or de-
mands against the estate of the
decedent to make known the same
and all persons indebted to the
decedent to make payment without
delay to ANNE-MARIE GIBBONS,
EXECUTRIX, 1607 E. Eyre St.,
Philadelphia, PA 19125

ESTATE OF JOHN MICHAEL
BORUCH a/k/a JOHN BORUCH,
JOHN M. BORUCH, SR.,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted to
the undersigned, who request all
persons having claims or demands
against the estate of the decedent
to make known the same and all
persons indebted to the decedent
to make payment without delay to
JOHN MICHAEL BORUCH,
EXECUTOR, 10 Trout Trail,
Delanco, NJ 08075,
Or to his Attorney:
BETH B. MCGOVERN
Trevose Corporate Center
4624 Street Rd.
Trevose, PA 19053

ESTATE OF JOHN THOMAS
GALLAGHER aka John T.
Gallagher
Gallagher, John Thomas aka
Gallagher, John T. late of Philadelphia,
PA. John Michael Gallagher, c/o David
W. Crosson, Esq., Crosson Richetti &
Daigle, LLC, 609 W. Hamilton St., Suite
210, Allentown, PA 18101, Executor.
Crosson Richetti & Daigle, LLC
609 W. Hamilton St.
Suite 210
Allentown, PA 18101

ESTATE OF JOSEPH ALFRED
DANIELS a/k/a JOSEPH DANIELS,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted
to the undersigned, who re-
quest all persons having claims
or demands against the estate
of the decedent to make known
the same and all persons indebt-

ed to the decedent to make pay-
ment without delay to DANIELLE
WILSON and CHANTELL L.
POOLE, EXECUTRICES, c/o Arnold
Machles, Esq., Two Bala Plaza, Ste.
300, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004,
Or to their Attorney:
ARNOLD MACHLES
Two Bala Plaza, Ste. 300
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

ESTATE OF JOSEPH CHARLES
GRAHAM a/k/a JOSEPH C.
GRAHAM, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted to
the undersigned, who request all
persons having claims or demands
against the estate of the decedent
to make known the same and all
persons indebted to the decedent
to make payment without delay to
MARY DUPLINSKY, EXECUTRIX,
c/o Justin M. Pilchman, Esq., P.O.
Box 70, Newtown, PA 18940,
Or to her Attorney:
JUSTIN M. PILCHMAN
STUCKERT AND YATES
P.O. Box 70
Newtown, PA 18940

ESTATE OF JOSEPH LOMAZOFF
Lomazoff, Joseph late of
Philadelphia, PA. Gene Lomazoff,
c/o Jeffrey R. Solar, Esquire, 349
Bustleton Pike, Front Office Bldg.,
Feasterville, PA 19053, Executor.
Jeffrey R. Solar, Esquire
349 Bustleton Pike
Front Office Bldg.
Feasterville, PA 19053

ESTATE OF JOSEPH T. HASSEY
/k/a JOSEPH THOMAS HASSEY,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted to
the undersigned, who request all
persons having claims or demands
against the estate of the decedent
to make known the same and all
persons indebted to the decedent
to make payment without delay to
PAULETTE HASSEY, EXECUTRIX,
301 Hartel Ave., Philadelphia, PA
19111

ESTATE OF KATHLEEN MARTINO
Martino, Kathleen late of Philadelphia,
PA. Richard Martino and David
Martino, 1715 S. 11th St., Philadelphia,
PA 19148, Co-Administrators.
George V. Troilo, Esq.
Law Offices of Gregory J. Pagano,
PC
1315 Walnut St., 12th Fl.
Philadelphia, PA 19107

ESTATE OF LORRAINE M. MACH
Mach, Lorraine M. late of
Philadelphia, PA. Lorraine K. Higman,
4489 E. Allen St., Philadelphia, PA
19137 and Edward S. Mach, 2822
Lefevere St., Philadelphia, PA 19137,
Executors.
Andrew I. Roseman, Esquire
1528 Walnut St.
Suite 1412
Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE OF MARSHA DUBIN,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION
on the above Estate have been
granted to the undersigned, who
request all persons having claims or
demands against the estate of the
decedent to make known the same
and all persons indebted to the
decedent to make payment without
delay to HOWARD M. SOLOMON,
ADMINISTRATOR, 1760 Market St.,
Ste. 404, Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to his Attorney:
HOWARD M. SOLOMON
1760 Market St., Ste. 404
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF MILDRED GRALNICK,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION
CTA on the above Estate have been
granted to the undersigned, who
request all persons having claims
or demands against the estate of
the decedent to make known the
same and all persons indebted to
the decedent to make payment
without delay to FRANCIS WAYNE
HOLTON, ADMINISTRATOR CTA,
c/o Martin J. Pezzner, Esq., 100 W.
Sixth St., Ste. 204, Media, PA 19063,
Or to his Attorney:
MARTIN J. PEZZNER
GIBSON & PERKINS, PC
100 W. Sixth St., Ste. 204
Media, PA 19063

ESTATE OF PAUL ZAFFO a/k/a
PAUL ZAFFO, JR., DECEASED.
Late of Lower Merion Township
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted to
the undersigned, who request all
persons having claims or demands
against the estate of the decedent
to make known the same and all
persons indebted to the decedent
to make payment without delay to
Barbara Zaffo, Administratrix, c/o
Amy W. Sosnov 540 Swede St.,
Norristown, PA 19401

ESTATE OF QUYNH BUI,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION
on the above Estate have been
granted to the undersigned, who
request all persons having claims
or demands against the estate of
the decedent to make known the
same and all persons indebted to
the decedent to make payment
without delay to HELEN BUI VO,
ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Daniella A.
Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place,
Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to her Attorney:
DANIELLA A. HORN
Klenk Law, LLC
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF SAMUEL F. BROWN,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted
to the undersigned, who request
all persons having claims or de-
mands against the estate of the
decedent to make known the same
and all persons indebted to the
decedent to make payment without
delay to BARBARA ANN BROWN,
EXECUTRIX, c/o Adam S. Bernick,
Esq., 2047 Locust St., Philadelphia,
PA 19103,
Or to her Attorney:
ADAM S. BERNICK
LAW OFFICE OF ADAM S.
BERNICK
2047 Locust St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF SAUL MAURICE
SCHWARTZ a/k/a SAUL M.
SCHWARTZ, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted to
the undersigned, who request all
persons having claims or demands
against the estate of the decedent
to make known the same and all
persons indebted to the decedent
to make payment without delay to
FREDERICK SCHMALHEISER,
EXECUTOR, 4161 Harlem Rd.,
Amhurst, NY 14226,
Or to his Attorney:
MARK S. HARRIS
KRAUT HARRIS, P.C.
5 Valley Square, Ste. 120
Blue Bell, PA 19422

ESTATE OF STEPHEN JOSEPH
SENDZIK a/k/a STEPHEN
SENDZIK, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted to
the undersigned, who request all
persons having claims or demands

against the estate of the decedent
to make known the same and all
persons indebted to the decedent
to make payment without delay to
EUGENE MALADY, EXECUTOR,
c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202
Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA
19103,
Or to his Attorney:
DANIELLA A. HORN
KLENK LAW, LLC
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF THEODORE MUSE, SR.
Muse, Sr., Theodore late of
Philadelphia, PA. Theodore Muse,
Jr., c/o David W. Crosson, Esq.,
Crosson Richetti & Daigle, LLC,
609 W. Hamilton St., Suite 210,
Allentown, PA 18101, Administrator.
Crosson Richetti & Daigle, LLC
609 W. Hamilton St.
Suite 210
Allentown, PA 18101

ESTATE OF VENTURA ALAMO,
DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION
on the above Estate have been
granted to the undersigned, who
request all persons having claims
or demands against the estate of
the decedent to make known the
same and all persons indebted to
the decedent to make payment with-
out delay to MARITZA ESTEVES,
ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Amy H.
Besser, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place,
Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to her Attorney:
AMY H. BESSER
KLENK LAW, LLC
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF WALTER WILLIAM
WALLACE, JR., DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION
on the above Estate have been
granted to the undersigned, who
request all persons having claims
or demands against the estate of
the decedent to make known the

same and all persons indebted to
the decedent to make payment
without delay to DAVID BOGDAN,
ADMINISTRATOR, 2725 West
Chester Pike, Broomall, PA 19008,
Or to his Attorney:
DAVID V. BOGDAN
2725 West Chester Pike
Broomall, PA 19008

ESTATE OF WILLIE GREGORY,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION
on the above Estate have been
granted to the undersigned, who
request all persons having claims
or demands against the estate of
the decedent to make known the
same and all persons indebted to
the decedent to make payment with-
out delay to DAVID V. BOGDAN,
ADMINISTRATOR, 2725 West
Chester Pike, Broomall, PA 19008,
Or to his Attorney:
DAVID V. BOGDAN
2725 West Chester Pike
Broomall, PA 19008

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Adam,
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we wish you
the best!



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Jacob Guzman

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Family Wealth Director
Senior Portfolio Manager
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jacob.guzman@morganstanley.com

Robert Biggs

Senior Vice President
Corporate Equity Solutions Director
Alternative Investments Director
Senior Portfolio Manager
Financial Advisor
215-963-3827
robert.biggs@morganstanley.com

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Source: Forbes.com (September, 2021). SHOOK considered advisors born in 1981 or later with a minimum 4 years as an advisor. Advisors have: built their own practices and lead their teams; joined teams and are viewed as future leadership; or a combination of both. Ranking algorithm is based on qualitative measures: telephone and in-person interviews, client retention, industry experience, credentials, review of compliance records, firm nominations; and quantitative criteria, such as: assets under management and revenue generated for their firms. Investment performance is not a criterion because client objectives and risk tolerances vary, and advisors rarely have audited performance reports. Rankings are based on the opinions of SHOOK Research, LLC, and are not indicative of future performance or representative of any one client's experience. Neither Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC nor its Financial Advisors or Private Wealth Advisors pay a fee to Forbes or SHOOK Research in exchange for the ranking. For more information, see www.SHOOKresearch.com.

Source: Forbes.com (April, 2022) Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Advisors ranking was developed by SHOOK Research and is based on in-person and telephone due diligence meetings to evaluate each advisor qualitatively, a major component of a ranking algorithm that includes: client retention, industry experience, review of compliance records, firm nominations; and quantitative criteria, including: assets under management and revenue generated for their firms. Investment performance is not a criterion. Rankings are based on the opinions of SHOOK Research, LLC and not indicative of future performance or representative of any one client's experience. Neither Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC nor its Financial Advisors or Private Wealth Advisors pay a fee to Forbes or SHOOK Research in exchange for the ranking. For more information: www.SHOOKresearch.com.

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