

PHILADELPHIA

Jewish Exponent

MARCH 31, 2022 | 28 ADAR II 5782

CANDLELIGHTING 7:07 P.M.

MAZEL TOV!
PAGE 21

The Alliance Community Reboot's

William and Malya Levin

take the shmita year to heart at their nonprofit
farming community in South Jersey.

Page 32



Antique Persian & Fine Modern Rugs
Hand Wash, Repair and Restoration

Come Celebrate Our 46 Years!

Brynmawrorientalrugs.com

650 W. Lancaster Ave. 610.525.8700

Formerly Tehrani Brothers
Closed Shabbat

PHILADELPHIA Jewish Exponent

2100 Arch Street, 4th Floor, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

Vol. 134, No. 51 Published Weekly Since 1887

Publisher & Chief Executive Officer

Craig Burke

cburke@midatlanticmedia.com

Associate Publisher

Jeni Mann Tough

jmann@midatlanticmedia.com

EDITORIAL

Editor | **Andy Gotlieb**

215-832-0797

agotlieb@jewishexponent.com

Staff Writer | **Jarrad Saffren**

jsaffren@jewishexponent.com

Staff Writer | **Sasha Rogelberg**

srogelberg@jewishexponent.com

ADVERTISING

Account Executives

**Lisa Gaglia, Alan Gurwitz,
Pam Kuperschmidt, Jodi Lipson,
Taylor Orlin, David Pintzow, Sara Priebe,
Mary Ramsdale, Sharon Schmuckler,
Kim Coates Schofield, Shari Seitz,
Stacie Shapero, Sylvia Witaschek**

MARKETING

Audience Development Coordinator

Julia Olaguer

410-902-2308

jolaguer@midatlanticmedia.com

BUSINESS

Accounting Manager

Pattie-Ann Lamp

410-902-2311

plamp@midatlanticmedia.com

accounting@midatlanticmedia.com

Senior Accounts Receivable Specialist

Shelly Sparks

ssparks@midatlanticmedia.com

Accounts Receivable Specialist

Sarah Appelbaum

sappelbaum@midatlanticmedia.com

Legal Notices

legals@jewishexponent.com

Main Office: 215-832-0700

editor@jewishexponent.com

215-832-0797

circulation@jewishexponent.com

215-832-0700, ext. 1

sales@jewishexponent.com

215-832-0700, ext. 2

classified@jewishexponent.com

215-832-0749

Connect with us:



JEWISH EXPONENT, a Mid-Atlantic Media publication, is published weekly since 1887 with a special issue in September (ISSN 0021-6437) ©2022 Jewish Exponent (all rights reserved). Periodical postage paid in Philadelphia, PA, and additional offices. Postmaster: All address changes should be sent to Jewish Exponent Circulation Dept., 11459 Cronhill Drive, Suite A, Owings Mills, Maryland, 21117. A one-year subscription is \$50, 2 years, \$100. Foreign rates on request.

Jewish Exponent does not endorse kashrut claims. To verify the kashrut of goods or services advertised in Jewish Exponent, readers should consult rabbinic authorities. The Jewish Exponent reserves the right to revise, reject or edit any advertisement.



It Was Worth The Wait

 **THE
RESIDENCE**
at Bala Cynwyd

610-595-4647
residencebalacynwyd.com

Opening Soon...

Independent Living, Personal Care & Memory Care

Select apartments remaining. Ask about our exclusive *Opening Rates*

An LCB Senior Living Community: More Than 25 Years of Excellence

THIS WEEK

Local

- 6 Jewish Federation Leaders Visit Poland, Ukraine Border
- 8 COVID Changes Thinking on Genetic Testing
- 10 Resident Returns to Her Heritage to Help Ukrainians

Nation World

- 14 Conservative US Rabbinical School Slashes Tuition by Nearly 80%

Opinion

- 16 Editorials
- 17 Letters
- 17 Opinions

Cover Story

- 32 Jewish Farmers Try to Fit Shmita Practices into the Modern World

Community

- 43 Obituaries
- 44 Synagogue Spotlight
- 46 Calendar

In every issue

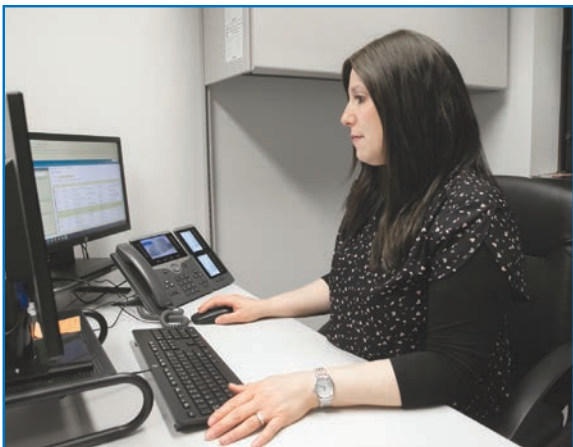
- 4 Seen
- 12 Jewish Federation
- 13 You Should Know
- 35 Food & Dining
- 41 Arts & Culture
- 45 D’var Torah
- 47 Around Town
- 48 Last Word
- 49 Classifieds

On the cover

The Alliance Community Reboot’s William and Malya Levin take the shmita year to heart




6 Jewish Federation leaders report on their visit to the Poland, Ukraine border.



8 Pandemic has increased interest in Jewish genetic testing.




13 You Should Know artist Zo Baker



THE LAURELS

AT WEST LAUREL HILL

For The Love Of Our Pets



YOU’RE THERE FOR THEM – WE’RE HERE FOR YOU

—

CREATED FOR PET LOVERS, BY PET LOVERS

– CONTACT US TODAY TO LEARN MORE –

610.668.9900 • 225 BELMONT AVENUE, BALA CYNWYD PA • WWW.WESTLAURELHILL.COM

MacKenzie Scott, Meghan Markle and Prince Harry Have All Donated to Support HIAS' Work in Ukraine

Billionaire philanthropist MacKenzie Scott has donated \$10 million to the Jewish humanitarian group HIAS for its work aiding refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine.

HIAS announced the gift last week as Scott, the ex-wife of Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos, revealed her latest multibillion-dollar round of charitable giving. She gave \$3.8 billion to 465 organizations in this round, bringing her total philanthropic funding to \$12 billion.

The HIAS grant will go toward humanitarian relief for refugees from Ukraine and help with resettlement in the countries of the European Union. Services provided to refugees by HIAS's local partners include housing, education, health, language training and mental health with an emphasis on reducing gender-based risks for those who have been displaced by the war.

Some of the money will also help Jews from countries bordering Ukraine relocate to Western Europe, according to HIAS.

The news of Scott's donation comes a few days after Prince Harry and Meghan Markle announced they have given an undisclosed sum to HIAS to help Ukrainian refugees. Far more money has flowed to HIAS in recent weeks than what the nonprofit sees over the course of a typical quarter, the Forward reported.

HIAS, formerly the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, traces its origin to the late 19th century when millions of Jews migrating out of Eastern Europe required aid. In recent years, with few Jews impacted by the world's new refugee crises, HIAS transformed into a humanitarian advocacy group for all displaced people.

After the fall of the Soviet Union, for example, HIAS built up a presence in Ukraine and established a local partner called Right to Protection, or R2P.

Now, HIAS says that its experience and infrastructure are proving to be critical.

"HIAS has been working in independent Ukraine for over 20 years, working with Ukrainians and launching a Ukrainian-led organization (Right to Protection – R2P) to protect and welcome asylum seekers from other countries as well as displaced Ukrainians themselves," HIAS president and CEO Mark Hetfield said in the statement that announced Scott's gift. "Today, we



MacKenzie Scott in Berlin, Germany, on April 24, 2018

are working with partners — many of whom are displaced persons themselves — to help refugees and the displaced be safe, welcome, and able to lead their lives until they can finally return home."

Scott, who is now married to Seattle science teacher Dan Jewett and whose net worth is estimated at \$55 billion, has contributed to HIAS in the past. Last year, she gave HIAS an undisclosed sum along with gifts to two other Jewish nonprofits as a part of a \$2.7 billion funding round for 286 organizations.

— Asaf Shalev

Ukrainian Refugee Wins Women's Race at Jerusalem Marathon

Valentyna Veretska, a Ukrainian athlete who fled with her daughter as Russia attacked her country, won the women's race in the Jerusalem marathon on March 25.

Veretska completed the grueling marathon in the hilly city in 2:45:54 seconds, draping herself in the Ukraine and Israel flags after crossing the finish line.

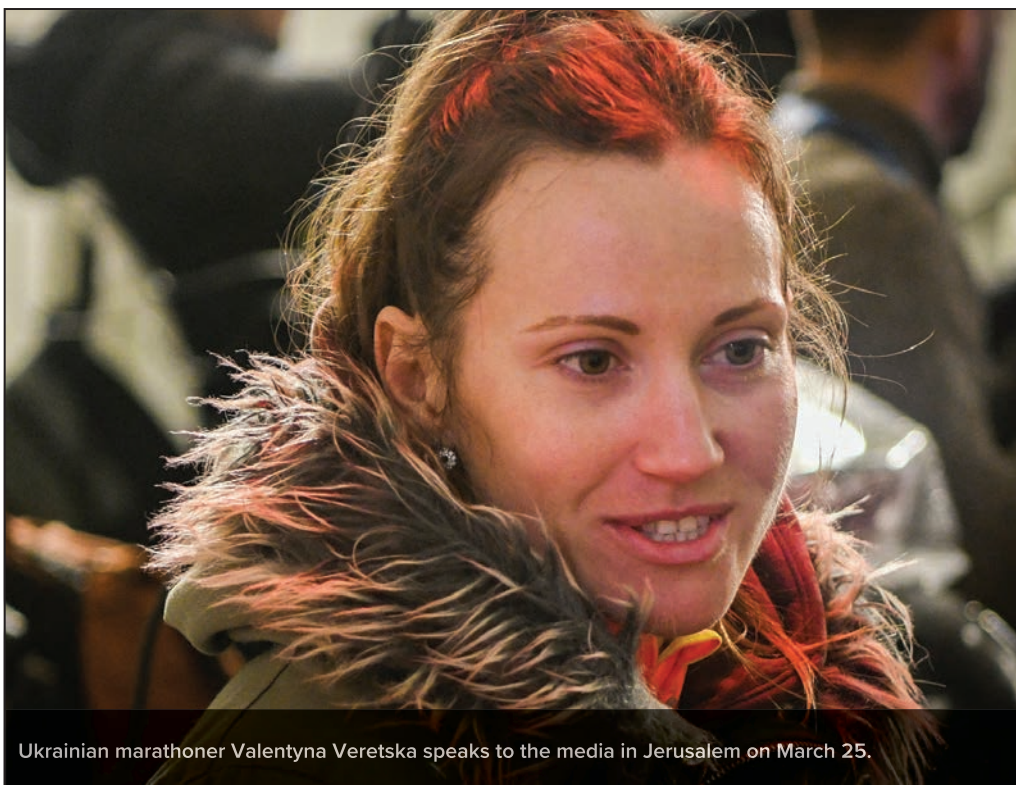
The 31-year-old had applied to run the marathon before the war; she had previously won the women's marathon in Tirana, Albania, in October.

The war Russia launched on Feb. 24 sent her and her daughter into Poland, while her husband has stayed in Ukraine to fight.

Israel has taken in close to 17,000 Ukrainian refugees since the conflict began, and Israel's sports ministry said on March 24 that it is ready to take in 100 athletes.

Israeli Olympian Ageze Guadie won the men's race at 2:37:17.

— Ron Kampeas



Ukrainian marathoner Valentyna Veretska speaks to the media in Jerusalem on March 25.

Scott: Jörg Carstensen/picture alliance via JTA; Veretska: Afife Leib Abrams/Flash90 via JTA

*From Our Family
to Your Family*

We Wish You "A Zissen Pesach!"

As the generations of your family gathers around the Seder table to celebrate Pesach and to ask the four questions, we have 4 other questions to ask you.

- Why leave important decisions to others when you are able to choose together?
- Why leave the financial burden to the next generation?
- Why not encourage the next generation to stay together?
- When will you make an appointment to visit Roosevelt or Shalom for a personal planning guide and a park tour?

**We at Roosevelt and Shalom Memorial Parks are honored
to care for your family from generation to generation.**

SAVE UP TO 18%* ON CEMETERY PRE-ARRANGEMENTS

Zero Interest for 60 months available now.

*Limited time discounts valid only for select cemetery property, expires April 30, 2022.
Discounts apply to new pre-need purchases only. Terms and conditions apply. See an associate for details.

Honoring your past while protecting your future TODAY!

FOREST HILLS/SHALOM

MEMORIAL PARK
HUNTINGDON VALLEY

215-673-5800

SAMUEL DOMSKY
GENERAL MANAGER

Dignity®
MEMORIAL

∞ LIFE WELL CELEBRATED® ∞

ROOSEVELT

MEMORIAL PARK
TREVOSE

215-673-7500

LEAH FELDMAN
GENERAL MANAGER

Jewish Federation Leaders Visit Poland, Ukraine Border

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

In the six duffle bags stuffed with the essentials — diapers, toothbrushes, toothpaste and clothing — one would not expect to find several new Barbie dolls.

But to Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia President and CEO Michael Balaban, the dolls were “something that, in such a traumatic time, a child could cling on to with a smile.”

The dolls, along with the rest of the donations packed into the six duffles, were distributed to Ukrainian refugees on the Medyka border between Poland and Ukraine as part of Balaban and Jewish Federation board of directors

Co-Chair Gail Norry’s trip to Poland with a small delegation of organizations led by the Jewish Federations of North America.

From March 21-23, the Jewish Federation leaders met with Joint Distribution Committee/Jewish Agency members at the border and traveled to Lublin to meet with Jewish refugees at the Chochmei Lublin Yeshiva Building.

“It was all happening in real time,” Norry said. “We weren’t just being shown the Jewish community impact that we have there; we were truly seeing it.”

In addition to distributing supplies, Balaban and Norry visited the Focus hotel, where they observed Jewish

Agency members processing Jewish refugees trying to make aliyah. Since the onset of the war, 3,000 people have made aliyah, Norry said.

JFNA has raised and dispersed \$30 million for its emergency fund for Ukraine. The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia raised more than \$1 million from more than 1,200 donors.

With those dollars, JFNA bought out hotel rooms of multiple hotels near Warsaw to house refugees temporarily. They’ve funded 300 buses and have set up a hotline for refugees to call loved ones, which has already generated more than 24,000 calls.

Upon arriving at the border, Balaban and Norry were struck by the presence

of the Israeli flag. The Israeli government set up a field hospital in Lviv in mid-March.

“There are throngs of Israeli volunteers, in addition to the Jewish Agency and the JDC, who have come on their own to help with the humanitarian effort,” Norry said.

All things considered, the scene at the border was more organized than Balaban and Norry expected, with forethought put into the needs of the incoming refugees.

“Right at the gate at the border, there was a lineup of strollers — identical strollers,” Balaban said. “It dawned on me that people grabbed their children and left and didn’t have room for the strollers. People had gone out and pur-



Jewish Federation President and CEO Michael Balaban and board of directors Co-Chair Gail Norry visited the Poland-Ukraine border on March 21-23 as part of a Jewish Federations of North America delegation.

Courtesy of Amy Swiatek



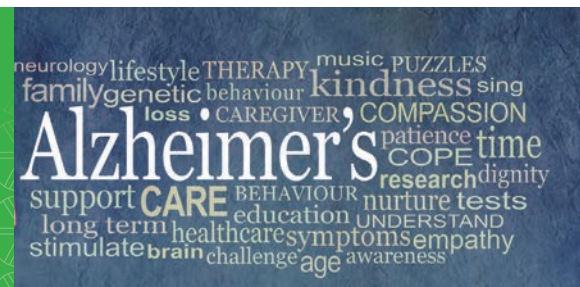


AT ARDEN COURTS WE OFFER:

100% DEDICATED
MEMORY CARE

SAFE, SECURE INDOOR/
OUTDOOR WALKING
PATHS

NURSING SERVICES
ON-SITE



Thursday, April 7, 2022

11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Register in advance for this Zoom webinar by visiting the LINK below:

<https://tinyurl.com/3scdhwh8>

Questions can be directed to VirtualSeminars@promedica.org

FREE DEMENTIA VIRTUAL SEMINAR

Conversations with Dr. Tam Cummings

A Monthly Education Series for the Dementia Caregiver

The ABCs of Dementias of the Alzheimer's Type

Is dementia just really Alzheimer's or is Alzheimer's actually a dementia? It is all so complicated, and this webinar will begin with what dementia means and how Alzheimer's fits into the picture. Dr. Tam Cummings will explain what the diagnosis means and what the next steps will be in navigating through the disease. Knowing the domains and variations of Alzheimer's dementias will help you identify your loved one's illness and better prepare you for the progression of the disease.



Tam Cummings, Ph.D., Gerontologist
Author, *Untangling Alzheimer's: The Guide for Families and Professionals*

ARDEN COURTS
PROMEDICA MEMORY CARE



© 2022 ProMedica Health System, Inc., or its affiliates

chased 20, 30 strollers so that when a person crossed the border, they had one."

At Chochmei Lublin Yeshiva, now a way station for refugees, the Jewish Federation delegates met with displaced women and children, some of whom had spent 36 hours crossing the border. Men aged 18-60 are forbidden to leave the country due to Ukraine's mandatory conscription and status under martial law.

Many of those arriving wore tattered clothing. Some brought their pet cats, holding onto a semblance of comfort.

The trip hit close to home to Norry, whose grandfather fled to the U.S. from the pogroms in Poland. At the border, she met with a couple who fled from western Poland. They had trouble trying to evacuate their 97-year-old mother from the shelter.

"She had escaped the Nazis, and now she had to run from the Russians," Norry said.

Norry traveled to Poland in 2001 with a Jewish Federation Women's Philanthropy group, but vowed never go to back after visiting Auschwitz and Birkenau and being put off by the violence of which Poland was capable.

"I just remember thinking, 'Maybe the Polish people still hate us,'" Norry said. "And I felt so uncomfortable the whole time I was there, and I swore I would never go back to Poland. But having gone again, for this experience, honestly made me feel different. Because the Polish people and the country — they have been unbelievable."

Balaban, who had Polish family members murdered in the Holocaust and has also gone on previous Jewish Federation mission trips to Poland, felt similarly, and like Norry, changed his mind following their most recent trip.

He recalled visiting a train station where his family was potentially deported to concentration camps. It's now a transit zone for refugees.

"It's incredibly difficult to wrap one's mind around that," Balaban said. "But it also sets a tone that the world can change for the better."

To donate to the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's Emergency Response Fund, visit jewishphilly.org/ways-to-give/donate-emergency-response-fund/. **JE**

srogelberg@midatlanticmedia.com

Local Community More in Tune with Genetic Testing Because of COVID

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Over the past two years, University of Pennsylvania students have grown accustomed to spitting in tubes.

Many line up weekly or twice-weekly for their routine COVID tests, swirling and spitting saliva without a second thought. In 2019, however, this sight would have been bizarre.

“At the time, it would have been like, what is this creature?” said Mallory Kovit, director of the Greater Philly Hillel Jewish Graduate Student Network.

2019 was the last time Greater Philly Hillel Network hosted a genetic screening pop-up in partnership with Penn






Dr. Chani Yondorf of Einstein Healthcare Network says that as COVID has waned, more people are approaching her about genetic testing. Courtesy of Judy Horwitz

Independent Senior Living Advisors

S³LIVING
REAL ESTATE



THINKING ABOUT –

-  Moving?
-  Moving to Independent Senior Living?
-  Selling your home?

THINK ABOUT – S³Living Strategic Senior Solutions

S³Living helps Active Adults find the perfect 55+ Community or Life Plan Community (CRRC).

S³Living represents **YOU**, not the communities. We will recommend the best solution to meet your individual needs.

Call the Delaware Valley's leading expert on Independent Senior Living

David Reibstein, President
215-259-5225 (o) 215-870-7362 (c)
Call today for a free consultation

S3Living.com

and national nonprofit JScreen, where undergraduates and graduate students could pick up tests to screen for Jewish genetic diseases. Many chose to take the kits home, opting to provide the saliva sample in private.

But as odd as providing a saliva sample for genetic testing was two years ago, Kovit believes that will no longer be the case for Penn's next genetic screening event, which she is hoping to plan for the near future.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has more or less brought people into a different kind of arena of public health,” she said. “Whether it’s a conversation about best practices for prevention of a disease, it’s all become a way more relevant conversation.”

While COVID has changed many health behaviors, making some more fearful of going to the grocery store or

getting vaccinated, health professionals have noticed it’s opened the minds of young people and prospective parents getting screened for Tay-Sachs, BRCA genes — which increase risk of breast and ovarian cancers — and hundreds of other diseases of which Ashkenazi Jews are at increased risk.

Organizations such as JScreen have provided ways to complete genetic testing from home, even before the pandemic. Hillary Regelman, director of national outreach for JScreen, said that “COVID-friendly” remote screenings remained high during the pandemic, but that educational efforts increased, especially as the pandemic saturated the news cycle.

JScreen debuted its “Give a Spit” ad in Times Square on New Year’s Eve in 2021, hoping to get people to think twice about testing.

“We try to be fun and proactive on social media and make it very cool and catchy,” Regelman said. “Obviously, it’s a very serious topic, but we do it in a very easy-to-digest way.”

In the 1970s, when the Ashkenazi Jewish community brought the concern of Tay-Sachs to the forefront, genetic screening — though much more limited to what is done today — became heavily encouraged, Regelman said. For the children and grandchildren of this generation, the severity of Tay-Sachs 50 years ago has been largely forgotten, mostly thanks to the extensive push for genetic testing, but it remains a relevant practice for to-be parents.

is indicative of people being “open and willing and interested” in their health.

However, for Center City residents Charles Schnur and Brenna Stein, going through extensive genetics screenings illuminated troubles in the process that the couple hopes young, to-be parents won’t have to deal with in the future.

Both Schnur and Stein are heavy proponents of speaking about their experience doing genetic testing and believe it was the right call for them but recognize that, especially in COVID times, going to the doctor was a hassle. Moreover, COVID has revealed how people think about their own risk. When they received the results of their testing, Schnur and Stein had a one in 3,000

“Now that we’re post-COVID, people are jumping at the opportunity to make sure that they’re in good health.”

DR. CHANI YONDORF

“We really try to get people where they are because everyone is just not going to hear about us at their synagogue,” Regelman said.

Though Regelman’s concerns about getting young people tested aren’t unfounded, it appears that her fears may not come to fruition.

Dr. Chani Yondorf, part of Einstein Healthcare Network’s Prevention of Jewish Genetic Diseases service, has noticed patients approach her about genetic testing now that COVID case numbers have leveled off.

“Now that we’re post-COVID, people are jumping at the opportunity to make sure that they’re in good health,” she said.

This phenomenon isn’t specific to genetic screening, Yondorf said, but it

chance of their child having Tay-Sachs.

“Think about the way that people are thinking about COVID right now,” Stein said. “The way people are making decisions is based on fear or emotions, not statistics.”

Though services such as JScreen and Einstein Healthcare encourage or require a genetic counselor to discuss test results with a couple, the lack of plain language and risk analysis that is sometimes associated with genetic testing remains a concern, the couple believes.

“Medical terms sound scary; all these things sound scary,” Stein said. “We need to work harder on making this stuff less scary.” **JE**

srogelberg@midatlanticmedia.com

LET PRESTIGE GIVE YOU THE CARE YOU DESERVE!

Prestige can find you the perfect caregiver or even train your friend / family to be your caregiver!



Provider of Independent Living Since 1995

Home, Personal Care Aide Services Include:

- Meal Prep
- Bathing and Dressing
- Medication Reminders
- Housekeeping
- Mobility Assistance
- Falls Prevention

Skilled Services Include:

- A nurse (RN) to assess and treat wounds, infections, disease, and acute conditions.
- Therapists (PT, OT, ST) for rehabilitative care for CVA, arthritis, post-surgical needs, etc.
- We accept every insurance and offer FREE in-home consultations.

REACH OUT TODAY!

☎ 888.827.7393 @ info@prestigehca.com
 🌐 www.prestigehca.com

HOME HEALTH CARE | PERSONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES | PEDIATRICS
 INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY | RESIDENTIAL HABILITATION

Planning for the Future

How do people pay for senior living?



From long term care insurance, to home equity, savings, and veteran benefits, there are many options for you to consider. We encourage families to start early and make a plan.

Call for a free cost comparison tool and guidance on your options.
215-706-8376



COMMONWEALTH
 SENIOR LIVING at WILLOW GROVE



Welcome Home

Personal Care & Memory Care

1120 York Road, Willow Grove, PA 19090

www.Commonwealthsl.com





Viktoriya Torchinsky-Field

Courtesy of Olya Vysotskaya

Center City Resident Returns to Her Heritage to Help Ukrainians

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

Viktoriya Torchinsky-Field grew up in Soviet-era Ukraine — the Ukraine of Jewish quotas at universities, the Ukraine where Jews couldn't practice in public, the Ukraine where her father felt compelled to hide their Jewish identity from his daughter until she told him about how she and her friends left a Jewish girl out of an activity.

So in 1989, the same year the Berlin Wall fell, she married a Ukrainian

guy who was on his way to the United States and left the Soviet Union forever.

More than three decades later, though, Torchinsky-Field is going back, in spirit, to her native country. As Russia attempts to reassert control over its neighbor in a war, Torchinsky-Field is doing her small part to help her former neighbors.

After Russia invaded Ukraine, the Center City resident got together with some local friends to start the Philadelphia-Ukraine Rapid Response. The organization works with nonprofits to raise money for Ukrainians who

want to stay in their homes.

As Torchinsky-Field explained, Ukraine is a nation of more than 44 million people, and while 4 million are now refugees, the rest remain in the country; while other organizations focus on helping the displaced, the Philadelphia resident figured she could do the most good by helping those trying to stay.

"We narrowed the mission," she said.

Torchinsky-Field understands well how to execute a narrow mission. During the Soviet Union's *glasnost*, or openness, and *perestroika*, or reconstruction, period in the late 1980s, the

Ukrainian teen developed a dream: get to the United States.

Under the communist regime, she didn't think she'd be able to go to a professional school. Torchinsky-Field was on an associate's track for a teacher's degree because she felt like she couldn't aim higher.

But as a single person, she said, she would be denied a visa. Instead, she married her first husband and then separated from him within six months of getting to the United States. Both sides understood the arrangement.

"For all intents and purposes, I did

go through the immigration process on my own,” Torchinsky-Field said.

When she got to the U.S., she started pursuing a law degree. Today, Torchinsky-Field is a corporate lawyer in a second marriage, one of love, not convenience. Her parents even joined her in the United States four years after her immigration.

While the Ukraine native got out, many of her friends stayed.

After Russia invaded, she wanted to book a plane ticket to Poland to aid refugees. But then she started talking to other former members of the Soviet Jewish diaspora in Facebook

small to target the aid.

One partner is the Ukrainian-American Coordinating Council, the only U.S. nonprofit to source military-grade protective gear like helmets and vests. Another is Global Surgical, which sends surgeons and medical personnel into war zones to provide care. And the last two partners, Nova Ukraine and World Central Kitchen, focus on providing food.

When Torchinsky-Field came to the U.S., it was HIAS, the Jewish nonprofit that helps refugees, that paid for her ticket and connected her with a Jewish community. All these years later,

***“We’re a connector.
The way for people
to understand what
their money is doing.”***

VIKTORIYA TORCHINSKY-FIELD

groups organized around humanitarian efforts. Her compatriots told her, frankly, it would be selfish to go back.

Another body in Poland is another body to shelter, another mouth to feed, they said. Torchinsky-Field realized they were right, so she took a step back to consider what else she could do.

One day, she took a walk with friends and figured it out. An organization that would help other American Jews, and Americans in general, dealing with the same conflict.

They want to do something, but they don’t want to be a burden, either. They also aren’t quite sure who to contact.

Torchinsky-Field’s organization could tell them who to contact.

“We’re a connector,” she said. “The way for people to understand what their money is doing.”

The Philadelphia-Ukraine Rapid Response is not partnering with a roster full of nonprofits; Torchinsky-Field wants to keep the number of partners

Torchinsky-Field is a board observer for HIAS PA, and she listened in on a call after this war broke out.

HIAS PA leaders said they wanted to help both Jewish and non-Jewish refugees, and Torchinsky-Field’s organization is taking the same approach to people still in Ukraine.

“There’s no state-sponsored discrimination anymore,” Torchinsky-Field said of Jews in Ukraine. “So we’re helping everyone who’s in trouble.”

On March 23, she held a webinar with 140 people to spread the word about her organization’s mission.

Karina Sutnik, a friend of Torchinsky-Field’s and a partner in this effort, said the corporate lawyer is very convincing.

“She’s remarkable at how she rallied people,” Sutnik said.

To figure out how you can help, visit UkraineResponse.org. **JE**

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com



PRESENTS

PHILADELPHIA SPEAKERS SERIES®

Seven Thought-Provoking Evenings of
Diverse Opinions and World Perspectives

2022–2023 Season
at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts



LORETTA LYNCH
Former U.S.
Attorney General
September 19, 2022



SCOTT KELLY
NASA
Astronaut
March 6, 2023



JOHN BRENNAN
CIA Director
2013–2017
October 24, 2022



TOM FRIEDMAN
New York Times
Columnist
March 27, 2023



MARIA RESSA
2021 Nobel Peace
Prize Winner
November 7, 2022



ANTHONY RAY HINTON
Death Row
Exoneree
April 10, 2023



ERIK LARSON
Award-winning
Author
January 30, 2023

SPONSORED BY



Seating is limited — **Order now!**
Series sold by subscription only.
Subscriptions available starting at \$355

Call (215) 893-1955
www.PhiladelphiaSpeakers.org



Scan code to order
tickets online!

2022–2023 SEASON
SUBSCRIBE TODAY!
IN PERSON OR LIVESTREAM

The Whole Megillah and then some!

Purim 2022 Recap

The costumes are packed and the hamantaschen have been consumed, but the memories of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's Kehillot Purim programs are still very much alive. The neighborhood groups joyfully reunited for carnivals, parades and volunteer opportunities after last year's physically distant celebrations.



The Kehillah of Buxmont brought Purim to the Horsham Center (formerly the Abramson Center) for Jewish Life as part of their Joy of Purim Project. Volunteers delivered *mishloach manot* (Purim gift bags) with goodies, including cards and crafts created by synagogue children, to the residents on Tuesday, March 15 and Wednesday, March 16.



Close to 1,000 people showed up at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel for Kehillah of Old York Road's Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 13. This Israeli-themed event featured fun for the whole family, from music to inflatables to a Magic Mirror Studio and more!



It was a packed, wonderful day for Lower Merion Kehillah's PurimFest as parents and children celebrated at the Kaiserman JCC on Sunday, March 13. The program featured games, bouncy houses and mask-decorating.



Northeast Jewish Life kept Purim alive throughout the weekend with a car and walking parade that began at Beth Ami and ended at Politz Hebrew Academy on Sunday, March 20. Attendees wore costumes, decorated their cars, and brought matanot l'evyonim (charitable gifts for those in need) for the Jewish Federation's Mitzvah Food Program as well as the Emergency Response Fund for the crisis in Ukraine.

The Kehillot are part of the Jewish Federation's neighborhood initiative to foster a vibrant Jewish community throughout the Greater Philadelphia region. To learn more about your Kehillah or community group, please contact Senior Director of Leadership Development and Community Engagement Addie Lewis Klein at alewis@jewishphilly.org.



Jewish Federation
of Greater Philadelphia

YOU SHOULD KNOW ...

Zo Baker

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Instead of finding a community at graduate school, Zo Baker, 29, found the experience to be rather isolating.

While pursuing a master of fine arts at the University of Pennsylvania, they were surrounded by like-minded artists, but lacked Jewish colleagues who could meaningfully engage with their pieces inspired by Jewish ritual and culture.

But the void of a community to engage with and provide constructive feedback on Baker's art distilled an important value to them: "This spirit of inquiry is embedded in Jewish culture. It's OK to ask questions and create space for our histories and traditions on our own terms."

Now a 2022 Tribe12 fellow, Baker, who grew up in Queens, New York, hopes to rectify the lack of Jewish-specific spaces in the art world by creating an artist-in-residency program, providing resources for Jewish artists to hone their craft and foster a purposeful community along the way.

The artist and educator will pilot the program this summer.

How does your art incorporate Jewish ideas?

I come from a sculpture background, and I do a lot of large-scale installation work. Most of my work involves some sort of storytelling component that, whether it feels explicitly Jewish or not, I think is inherently rooted in my own Jewish upbringing, and I think the way Jewish conversation styles and customs and the rituals I grew up with for many years now.

And usually my goal, like I said, whether it's inherently doing or not, is to really encourage the spirit of community-building and connection and create spaces where people are excited about asking questions, and of curiosity and play, so that's taken many forms.

Can you give an example of this?

One of which was an archive project about intergenerational relationships, specifically with your grandparents, and collecting archive

materials, doing an oral history project, where I was collecting stories from many people about their experiences with their grandparents and how that shaped their identity.

I built the physical installation using my own family archives because both of my grandmother's had passed away a few years prior, and I had inherited a lot of their clothing and objects. And [I was] just considering what it means to give these objects, especially these clothes, a new life with a new generation because I was just wearing, you know — I got all these coats, and I would wear them out and do often.

Have you found that your Jewish identity has changed since beginning your art on these topics?

Hugely. I grew up and went to Hebrew day school, pre-K through eighth grade, so I have that foundation. But then I went to a public arts high school in Manhattan, and I was exposed to a million different other people and wanted to have so many much more varied experiences.

Throughout high school and in college, I really went out of my way to avoid Jewish communal experiences, especially in college because my school did not have a Hillel. Really, the only Jewish organization on campus was Chabad, which doesn't resonate with me.

And then I came to my thesis project, which was called "Dining Dreams," where I was inviting people to Shabbat dinner. So I built out a Kabbalat Shabbat service, I wrote all my own prayers and poetry and started leading, basically a short Shabbat service along with this dinner series.

Every time we did it, we talked about what people wanted and what people needed, and every single time we did it, we revised the rituals. Through doing this, a lot of my friends who were just from art school, who I've never connected with Jewishly — suddenly we have this Judaism that we could all engage with on our own terms in our homes and not have to go somewhere and abide by somebody else's rules.



Would you say that you've tried to reclaim your Judaism?

I would say I am a work in progress. I am very much in the process of reclaiming my Judaism, and I think that that's something that I want to be ongoing in my life. It's an ongoing process that I'm very invested in, especially right now.

What do you mean "especially right now"?

My formal education is finally over. And the routines, the schedule, the calendar I've been adhering to my entire life doesn't exist anymore; it doesn't apply. But the Jewish calendar still does, and that's something that I can find grounding. I'm moving into the next stage of my life. And I think that as I move more towards what we would consider traditional Jewish life stages, it's important to really figure out what my values are and what I want to do so that I can feel greater agency over my Jewish life in my adult life.

A lot of your art is focused around food. Why is that?

There's just so much material in Jewish food. Let's say people who have used the "Maxwell House Haggadah" for the last 30-40 years — God knows how long the "Maxwell House Haggadah" has been around — they will still make a brisket. They don't know why, necessarily, but they're making these Jewish foods. Like, why are we so obsessed with bagels? People don't necessarily know the history of bagels and bialys, but it's part of their life.

Food is really an exciting and valuable entry point to exploring these topics. Because even if somebody says, 'Oh, I don't know anything about Judaism,' they know Jewish food. **JE**

Conservative US Rabbinical School Slashes Tuition by Nearly 80%

JACKIE HAJDENBERG | JTA.ORG

Mark Asher Goodman is beginning to imagine finishing paying off roughly \$85,000 in student debt he incurred while training to become a rabbi — nearly two decades after he was ordained.

So when his rabbinical school, the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, announced last week that it was slashing tuition by nearly 80%, he was briefly envious. Then he was filled with relief that future students at the Conservative seminary, part of Los Angeles' American Jewish University, won't have the experience he did.

"I was a day school teacher and rabbi for 12 years, and I made far less than pulpit rabbis," said Goodman, who now leads one synagogue in Erie and works at another in Pittsburgh. "To force graduates into irrational financial choices due to their loan situations, in any field, is unfair."

Ziegler's new tuition is \$7,000 a year, down from \$31,342 this year. The change makes the school just 20% the price of the Conservative movement's larger and older rabbinical school, the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City.

Slashing tuition could seem counterintuitive for a school that is in so much financial distress — since 2018 it has shuttered its undergraduate program, sought renters for its space and, last month, announced that it would sell its 35-acre campus.

But American Jewish University administrators are betting that Ziegler's new list price will draw more students, reversing a trend of declining enrollment that has contributed to the school's financial crisis. Just four students enrolled at Ziegler this year; the school ordained only two new rabbis in 2021.

They also say they want to be on the leading edge of a movement to make rabbinical school accessible to a larger and more diverse set of potential Jewish leaders. Training to become a rabbi typically requires five years of courses and fieldwork, such as synagogue internships, making the path burden-



An aerial view of American Jewish University's Sunny & Isadore Familian Campus in the Bel Air neighborhood of Los Angeles
Courtesy of Communications Department, AJU

some and in many cases impossible for people who do not have family wealth.

Reducing tuition, Ziegler's dean, Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson said, "opens up the rabbinate to a much broader pool."

Artson said donations — rather than, say, anticipated revenue from the campus sale — were making possible the new tuition, which applies to current students in addition to future ones. Additional funds will cover tuition completely while students study in Israel during their third year, according to the details of the new tuition plan.

He declined to name the people who had given to support the initiative, saying only that AJU possesses an "extraordinary circle of philanthropists and community leaders who understand that a literate, wise and compassionate rabbinate holds the key to energizing and strengthening the Jewish future."

It is unclear how much of a difference Ziegler's new price will make to individual students, considering that many were receiving substantial financial aid before.

But the flashy price tag may make it more appealing for aspiring rabbis in the Conservative movement. At JTS, the movement's flagship seminary, this year's tuition is over \$36,000 — although

few, if any, students there pay full price.

The price war comes in the context of declining overall interest in the rabbinate and in declining affiliation by American Jews with Conservative synagogues.

Competition between the two schools for students who want to become Conservative rabbis "produces constant incentives to improve and to compete," Artson said. He added, "The challenge is in the context of that healthy competition to realize we're not actually competing."

A JTS spokesperson said that school would continue to offer "substantial tuition assistance, stipends, fellowships and internship opportunities" to make rabbinical school affordable for students who enroll.

"We are delighted to hear about all initiatives that assist students in pursuing a career in the rabbinate," the spokesperson said.

There's evidence that tuition incentives could have the intended effect — but also that increasing enrollment may not be a panacea for the woes facing a rabbinical school or its movement. When Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati offered tuition incentives to make attendance there relatively inexpensive compared to the Reform movement's campuses in New York and

Los Angeles, students chose Cincinnati more often.

But when the incentives ended, the campus again became the last choice for Reform rabbinical students. Now, the school is seeking to stop training rabbinical students in Cincinnati entirely.

Ziegler and American Jewish University, too, face an uncertain future. The Bel Air campus where Ziegler has been housed since it opened in 1996 is up for sale, and while the university is retaining a different parcel of land, where it has housed a camp, it's not clear where future rabbinical students will go to class after next year, though administrators are emphasizing that learning will take place in person.

"There will be a physical space, and it will be holy," Artson said.

Three rabbinical students deferred enrollment last year to this fall, the school said, but how many additional students will enroll at Ziegler is unclear.

"Time will tell if that move will counteract the uncertainty that comes with the planned sale of the AJU's Familian Campus," Goodman said about the tuition reduction. "But in the long run, making rabbinic school more affordable is a net positive move for the Jewish people." **JE**

Netflix to produce a 'Jewish Matchmaking' series

Matchmaker, matchmaker — are you going on Netflix?

The streaming giant announced a new "Jewish Matchmaking" series on March 24, modeled after its hit "Indian Matchmaking," JTA reported.

Details are scant, and there is no premiere date, but Netflix companion site Tudum said it will feature "singles in the US and Israel as they turn their dating life over to a top Jewish matchmaker."

"Will using the traditional practice of shidduch help them find their soulmate in today's world?" the show asks.

"Indian Matchmaking" was nominated for an Emmy after premiering in July 2020, but it was also criticized by many who said it promoted stereotypes and classism. The show's production group, Industrial Media's The Intellectual Property Corp., will also produce "Jewish Matchmaking."

Netflix has sustained criticism for shows such as "Unorthodox" and "My Unorthodox Life," for their negative portrayals of Orthodox Jews.

Some of Michael Steinhardt's Looted Antiquities Being Returned to Israel Are Missing

Eight of the looted artifacts that billionaire philanthropist Michael Steinhardt must return to Israel as part of a deal with prosecutors in New York are still missing, JTA reported.

That's according to a press release on March 22 from the Manhattan District Attorney's office announcing that \$5 million in stolen antiquities previously belonging to Steinhardt are being repatriated to Israel, where Steinhardt is a prominent donor to cultural institutions.

Steinhardt, 81, is one of the founders of the Birthright program.

Three of the repatriated items were already on display at the Israel Museum, which years ago had borrowed them from Steinhardt. Israeli authorities on March 22 took possession of an additional 28 artifacts, including two 7,000-year-old gold masks valued at \$500,000 and three even older stone masks worth \$650,000.

Instagram Reverses Ban on Anti-Israel Group Without Explanation

"We're back": After a four-day ban from the social media platform, those words overlaid a picture of Within Our Lifetime (WOL) leader Nerdeen Kiswani in a March 13 Instagram post, JNS reported.

WOL's detractors, who applauded Instagram's decision to ban what they say is not only an anti-Zionist group but "an extremely anti-Semitic" one, said they were dismayed by what amounted to a wrist slap for WOL. Its account had been taken down after it posted a collage of terrorist women on March 8 in celebration of International Women's Day.

Liora Rez, executive director of StopAntisemitism.org, said, "I'm extremely disappointed. We have reached out to our contacts [at Instagram], and we have not yet received a reply as to why they were reinstated." Rez's group had been one of those petitioning to have WOL's Instagram, Facebook and Twitter accounts taken down.

Rez said that Instagram's failure to respond to requests for an explanation is "sadly, pretty standard. Social media companies are notoriously known for not being transparent."

Kotel Inspected Ahead of Passover

Israel's Western Wall was inspected for safety on March 22 in preparation for Passover, which begins April 15, The Jerusalem Post reported.

Western Wall stones are manually inspected twice a year — once before Passover and once before Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. The Western Wall Heritage Foundation examines the wall to avoid potential disaster during the year's busiest times.

Engineers use a crane to move from stone to stone, checking each one's durability.

Western Wall Rabbi Shmuel Rabinowitz supervises the inspections in collaboration with the Israel Antiquities Authority and the engineers.

A stone fell in July 2018, but nobody was hurt, even though it occurred the morning after the fast of Tisha B'av, which was a crowded day. **JE**

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

Elana

Exclusive Women's Apparel Boutique

Made in USA

Custom designs, color options and
free alterations available

Evening Gowns

Suits/Separates

Cocktail Dresses



61 Buck Road
Huntingdon Valley,
PA 19006
www.elanaboutique.com
(215)953-8820

Make an appointment
Monday-Friday, 10am-3pm
to consult with the designer.



ESTATE CLEAN UP PROS

a full service, insured clean out company

FREE ESTIMATES

PERSONALIZED SERVICE

SENIOR DOWNSIZING

DECLUTTER / HOARDING CLEAN OUTS

ALL ITEMS SOLD, DONATED, OR REPURPOSED

RESPECTFUL OF HOMES WITH
ACCUMULATIONS OF 30+ YEARS

JOLIE OMINSKY
OWNER

SERVING PA, DE, NJ
JOCSEARNICA@YAHOO.COM

610-551-3105

The Enemy of Our Nemesis

In our community's consciousness, Poland, the site of Auschwitz and the Warsaw Ghetto, is the graveyard of the Jews. Like so many other places in Eastern Europe, Jewish life flourished in Poland until it was crushed by antisemitism, unfiltered hate and violence.

When World War II broke out, there were 3.3 million Jews in Poland, the second-largest Jewish community in the world. Eighty-five percent were murdered in the Holocaust. The pallor of death and the stories of unimaginable evil haunted our postwar communal perception of the Polish people and their government.

At the end of the Cold War, Poland made a quick turn toward the West. But even with that move we saw a disturbing shift in Poland away from democratic ideals like protection of minorities, and a pronounced move toward populism and authoritarianism. So, it was disappointing but not surprising that Poland's ruling Law and Justice party eroded the free press, attacked independent courts, molested the LGBTQ community and turned increasingly anti-Europe. And in the process, Poland also poured cold water on its relations with Israel. Just last August, Poland passed an offensive anti-restitution law that would block

If any country knows what it's like to be sliced and diced and put out of business by its larger neighbors, it's Poland.

Jewish property claims from World War II and the communist era, defying strong opposition from Israel and the United States. We joined many in the West who worried where Poland was headed.

Then, in the weeks since Russia invaded Ukraine, Poland shifted again — taking on the mantle of “the West” and “Europe,” and rallying support for Ukraine. Some 2.5 million Ukrainians have escaped to Poland, more than any other of Ukraine's neighbors. And Poland has outpaced the United States and Western European countries in sending weapons to Ukraine, in advocating Ukraine's immediate admittance to the EU, in envisioning a permanent American base in

Poland of up to 40,000 troops and transferring MiG-29 fighter jets to the Ukrainian air force, something the United States has opposed. Then, last week, Poland's prime minister, along with the prime ministers of the Czech Republic and Slovenia, rode a train to Kyiv in a very public effort to bolster Ukraine's morale.

If any country knows what it's like to be sliced and diced and put out of business by its larger neighbors, it's Poland. So when Poland sees what Vladimir Putin is doing in Ukraine, it may have a genuine fear that it could be next. But no matter what is driving its actions, Poland now wears a white hat and has reached a new level of international involvement and attention.

Today's realities force our Jewish memory through a mind-bending shift in our perception of Poland — similar in many respects to our changing perception of Ukraine. But with Poland it's different, as we see Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki, himself an illiberal leader, calling for support against Putin, another illiberal leader. If not for the enormity of Putin's threat, we might ignore the plea. But we can't. For now, Poland and Morawiecki are our friends, and enemies of our nemesis. [JE](#)

Albright Leaves a Legacy

Madeleine Albright, who died last week of cancer at age 84, left a significant legacy.

She was the first woman to serve as secretary of state at a time when politics was very much a man's game, leaving the door open for Condoleezza Rice and Hillary Clinton, who both served in the role after her. She was a refugee and a defender of human rights and democracy. She also came from a Jewish family, a history she said she didn't know until later in life. It also appears that many of her family members died in the Holocaust.

Albright was born in Czechoslovakia. When she was a toddler, her family fled the Nazis. When she was 11, the family fled the country again, this time from the communists. They settled in Colorado.

Albright studied political science at Wellesley College, then got married and started a family. She earned a Ph.D. in public law and government at Columbia University, where she studied under Zbigniew Brzezinski. She later worked as a congressional liaison for Brzezinski, when he was a national security adviser in the Carter administration, and served as a foreign policy adviser for Rep. Geraldine Ferraro and Gov. Michael Dukakis. She was also a supporter of Bill Clinton when he was governor of Arkansas. When Clinton was

Regardless of her complicated Jewish identity, Albright was someone the Jewish community should be proud of.

elected president, he named Albright ambassador to the United Nations.

As a diplomat on the world stage — first as ambassador to the U.N., then as secretary of state — she wanted the United States to work with international allies to support human rights. She opposed Clinton's decision not to intervene in the Rwandan genocide. During the Serbian genocide of Bosnian Muslims, she called for airstrikes against Serbian targets, and was successful in getting the Clinton administration involved.

She also played a part in Middle East peace talks. In 1988, when Clinton was leading peace

talks with then-Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and then-Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Wye River, Maryland, Netanyahu ordered his team to place their suitcases in front of their cabins as a signal they were leaving. Albright interceded with Yitzhak Mordechai, the Israeli defense minister, and the Israeli team decided to stay. The peace talks led to the Wye River Memorandum to revive the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

When Albright was in her 50s, The Washington Post uncovered her Jewish past. Her parents, who had been Jewish, converted to Catholicism, probably to protect their family from persecution. Albright was raised Catholic and said she never knew of her Jewish heritage before the Post discovered it. Many in the Jewish community were skeptical of her claim and speculated she was hesitant to come forward about her history because it might jeopardize her political aspirations.

Regardless of her complicated Jewish identity, Albright was someone the Jewish community should be proud of. She broke a glass ceiling for women in politics, prioritized human rights on the world stage and changed the world for the better.

May her memory be a blessing. [JE](#)



Why My Synagogue Is Building a 55-unit Housing Development for the Homeless

BY BROOKE WIRSCHAFTER

When IKAR, the Jewish spiritual community where I serve as the director of community organizing, realized our long-held dream of buying land in Los Angeles so that we could build a home for ourselves, we invited the community to imagine what we'd like to see included as part of this new physical space. For many of us, and for our leadership, we know that what we build is a physical expression of our core Jewish values.

We knew we wanted our first-ever permanent home to be a hub with a prayer space that would inspire the spirit, classrooms that would facilitate learning, an early childhood center to instill joy, meeting space to foster civic engagement, performance space that will feature artists from around the world, and a cafe that will nurture through food and relationship-building.

But overwhelmingly our community also told us they wanted this: to manifest our values by building homes for some of the tens of thousands of our neighbors who do not have a roof over their heads. So we formed a partnership with a nonprofit housing developer, Community Corp. of Santa Monica, and started working together on a financial arrangement to share our land and allow them to build a 55-unit permanent supportive housing development for formerly unhoused seniors on our site.

In Los Angeles, the price of housing, both to rent and to own, has skyrocketed in recent years, and neither wages nor the pace of building have kept up. As a result, we face a housing crisis of immense proportions, one that is borne most heavily by the people in our cities with the least financial resources.

Our tradition calls on us to love the stranger, and over and over to remember that we were strangers in the Land of Egypt. We can think of no more important way to do that than to welcome those who have been cast out as "strangers" into homes of their own alongside our new communal home.

And yet, we've learned how difficult it is and why it is so expensive to build affordable housing in cities. While the two partners in our arrangement are eager to work together and solve problems, we've discovered the degree to which zoning regulations drive up costs and create uncertainties that can lead to delays and higher costs.

In California, local governments have the power to set all kinds of zoning regulations. That allows them to shape development in ways that may be intended to ensure safety or protect local residents, but which also have a long history of excluding people, especially poor people and people of color, from some neighborhoods, or even whole cities.

One of the rules that impacts us is the local city

parking requirement for houses of worship. The rules would require us to build much more parking than we would choose to accommodate our community. Underground parking, which is all we have space for, costs upward of \$60,000 per space and can cost twice that much for each additional deck below ground. We'd rather build less parking and keep the overall cost of the project manageable.

Last year, California passed a bill to make it easier for faith communities to build housing on existing parking lots. That law allows houses of worship to remove up to 50 percent of their parking spaces if they replaced them with affordable housing. Now, we are proud to sponsor a bill with Assembly Member Buffy Wicks to extend that flexibility to congregations that are building ground-up projects. Our bill would excuse faith communities from up to 50% of their locally zoned parking requirements if they build affordable housing onsite at the same time.

For us, this is a matter of justice and equity, and of building our values into the DNA and architecture of our community. We want to open our home to people without homes, and reduce our reliance on private cars as a mode of transportation. We hope this bill will make it easier for and even inspire other faith communities in the state to build housing.

Jewish and other faith communities can and should do more to address the systemic housing crisis that is driving hundreds of thousands of our neighbors onto the streets and millions more into financially precarious and unstable living situations. The scale of the problem and the obstacles confronting us, however, sometimes keep us from dreaming big. We have the motivation; IKAR's experience shows we also need to unleash the resources and the human capital to overcome the economic, policy and political hurdles in our own backyards.

Abraham was known for his concern for offering welcome to strangers. We can follow his example by using our land to offer welcome to our neighbors.

All faiths teach the importance of hospitality and valuing the dignity of each human life. Building more homes for people and fewer spaces for cars at our houses of worship is one way we can help realize that shared vision for a society that centers human dignity and moves toward cities that are easier to navigate without a car. I envision a future in which our community gathers for prayer in our new home, heartened by the connection to our new neighbors, who are enjoying some measure of peace and security in their new homes as well. **JE**

Brooke Wirschafter serves as the director of community organizing at IKAR, a Jewish community in Los Angeles, and as a commissioner on the City of Los Angeles Human Relations Commission.

Liberals Should Take SJP at its Word

The Tufts University, Amnesty International and Sierra Club articles in the March 24 Jewish Exponent dealing with strategic boycotts of Israel and the exclusion of Jews, including J Street, hopefully will awaken J Street and other so-called liberal pro-Israel Jews. The only solution that Students for Justice in Palestine want for Israel is a Final Solution. Take them at their word.

I hope and pray that J Street and the liberal pro-Israel Jewish groups understand that SJP, as did the Nazis, mean it when they say that their vision for Palestine is the elimination of our Jewish state, Israel.

Zachary Margolies | Philadelphia

US Asleep Regarding Ukraine

It has been said that the Ukrainian situation "does not rise to the level of direct U.S. involvement" ("Area Businessman Aids Extraction Efforts in Ukraine," March 24). What sort of devastation of a country, murder of its civilians and abject misery inflicted on innocent people would rise to the level that we should "risk the possibility of a global economic or shooting war with Russia?"

Vladimir Putin is clearly the aggressor and the war criminal. NATO needs to lay the ground rules for Russia in Ukraine. So far, we have let Russia dictate the rules for our engagement in Ukraine. This is backwards.

On the ground and in the air, Russia invaded a sovereign nation. Had our government not been asleep, it would have prepared, without broadcasting its intentions to the world, air and ground resistance sufficient for the Russians to understand that setting one foot on Ukrainian land or airspace would have been met with fierce resistance from all of NATO, as if Ukraine were a NATO ally. Then we might have avoided the current situation.

We should not have been making up excuses (Ukraine is not in NATO; we risk World War III) for our failure to take protective military actions beginning last fall, as we are now beginning to do throughout our NATO-allied countries. The risk of protecting Ukrainian airspace is serious, and a delicate line must be walked. However, I contend this risk is not as serious as the current carnage.

It is callous and cruel to say this war may continue for weeks; maybe months. I applaud the U.S., President Biden, and NATO for the aid it has given to the Ukrainian people thus far. But, throughout this war, Putin escalates, we send weapons, and yes, humanitarian aid. Clearly, this is not sufficient. Ukraine is burning. We are fiddling. We should all be embarrassed. **JE**

Frank L. Friedman | Delanco, New Jersey

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.



The Advice I Gave Madeleine Albright When She found Out She Was Jewish

BY STUART E. EIZENSTAT

“How long have you known me, Stu?” Madeleine Albright asked me that question with a sense of urgency I had not heard from her before.

It was mid-January 1996, and I was in my hotel room in Davos, Switzerland, at the World Economic Forum. She called me through a secure line from her office in the State Department during the transition following Bill Clinton’s 1996 reelection, before she was confirmed by the Senate as the first female secretary of state in American history. I was about to be nominated by the president to the position she offered me as her under secretary of state for economic, business and economic affairs.

“Well,” I replied, “20 years, since you and I worked together in the West Wing of the Carter White House, you as congressional liaison for the National Security Council under Zbig Brzezinski, and me as President Carter’s chief domestic policy adviser.”

The next question was even more odd: “What religion am I?”

“Madeleine, of course, you are a Czech Catholic. What’s this all about?”

She explained that a Washington Post reporter, Michael Dobbs, was doing an investigative article on her background as she awaited Senate confirmation, and shockingly determined that she was Jewish, not Catholic. She had known that her parents twice fled Czechoslovakia: first to London as Hitler and the Nazis were going to take over, and then again in 1948, this time to the United States, after her father, a Czech diplomat who returned after the war, was confronted by Stalin and the Communists. She did not know that both of her parents were born Jewish and converted to Catholicism during the war, raising her and her siblings as Catholics.

“What must I do?” she asked. She told me she feared the American Jewish community would oppose her nomination, believing that she was embarrassed by and covered up her Jewish past, and this might sink her confirmation. Moreover, she said, “What am I supposed to say to my three girls? Am I to tell them they should now convert to Judaism?”

My instant advice was to tell the truth, which was that she never knew about her parents’ conversion; to embrace her newly discovered Jewish past with pride; and that of course, neither she nor her three children should feel they needed to convert to Judaism. I also explained that given my work on Holocaust justice in the Clinton administration,



Then-U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright looks on as Stuart E. Eizenstat, then-under secretary of state for economic, business and agricultural affairs, speaks during the opening plenary session of the Washington Conference on Holocaust-Era Assets at the State Department in Washington, D.C., on Dec. 1, 1998.

and frequent interaction with Holocaust survivors, that the Jewish community understood that during World War II all sorts of methods were used to protect Jewish children, including placing them in Catholic convents or in Christian households where they were raised by righteous gentiles.

I told her that several of the Jewish friends I had made in Belgium when I was U.S. ambassador to the European Union had been saved in just that way. Tomas Kraus, the head of the Federation of Czech Jewish Communities, later confirmed that “[i]t is common for Jews from this part of the world to be ignorant of their Jewish roots.”

By being candid, I was certain there would be no blowback either from the Jewish community or the Senate. Besides, I reminded her, as U.N. ambassador during Clinton’s first four years in office, she had established herself as a strong, fervent supporter of Israel against Arab attacks.

She followed my advice and was confirmed with a remarkable 99-0 vote. On her first foreign trip as secretary of state, as I was in her office for a last-minute briefing, she looked at her suitcase and, with her characteristic wit, said, “Well, with my newly discovered Jewish background, I suppose I should say I am going to schlep my suitcase!” We all burst into laughter.

But Madeleine Albright went beyond my fondest hopes in identifying with her Jewish past. As Secretary of State, in her maiden trip to her

Prague birthplace in July 1997, she went straight to the Pinkas Synagogue to look for her grandparents’ names among the more than 77,000 Czech and Slovak Holocaust victims lovingly inscribed by Czech survivors on the wall of the synagogue. She found the names of her paternal grandparents, Arnost and Olga Korbel, who had perished in the Nazi death camps — Arnost in Theresienstadt in 1942 and her grandmother in Auschwitz in 1944. At the synagogue she said publicly, “Tonight ... their image will be forever seared into my heart.”

Later during her tour to welcome her native Czech Republic and two other former Soviet bloc countries into NATO — a burning issue today with the Russian invasion of Ukraine — she toured other Jewish sites in Prague, and movingly confronted her past: “The evil of the Holocaust” has taken on “even greater personal meaning” since she learned the fate of her grandparents. “To the many values and many facets that make up who I am, I now add the knowledge that my grandparents and members of my family perished in the worst catastrophe in human history. So I leave here tonight with the certainty that this new part of my identity adds something stronger, sadder and richer to my life.”

She went a step further and on a later trip went to the small villages where her fraternal and maternal grandparents had lived, to try to relive their history.

As her under secretary, I saw up-close how her background as a refugee from fascism shaped her foreign policy views and her greatest triumphs in the two Balkan Wars, in Bosnia and Kosovo. As U.N. ambassador, she joined with National Security Adviser Tony Lake to successfully urge President Clinton, over Pentagon and State Department opposition, to take aggressive U.S. leadership of NATO and direct military strikes against Bosnian Serbs following the brutality against Bosnian Muslims encouraged by Serbian strongman President Slobodan Milosević.

The July 1995 massacre of more than 7,000 Bosnian men and boys at Srebrenica, dumped into a mass grave, evoked for her the Holocaust her parents had escaped. She confronted Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman General Colin Powell, stating, “What’s the point of having this superb military that you’re always talking about if we can’t use it?” That military action paved the way for the Dayton Accords negotiated by Richard Holbrooke, the peace agreement that ended the war.

In January 1999, following another Serb massacre of Kosovo Albanians at the small Kosovo village of Racak, Secretary of State Albright brilliantly combined diplomacy with NATO military force, again over Defense Department opposition, to secure a

peace which lasts to this day.

She was a strong, constant supporter of my work on Holocaust justice in my negotiations with Swiss and French banks, German and Austrian slave labor companies and European insurance companies. She gave the keynote speech at the Washington Conference which led to the Washington Principles on Nazi-Confiscated Art, where she weaved her own Holocaust background into the contemporary challenge of returning looted art. And she asked me to lead the U.S. delegation to the Kyoto conference on Climate Change, giving me strong backing for the Kyoto Protocols.

She decided to name the State Department headquarters after President Harry S. Truman, to symbolize the leadership he had taken to build a new, peaceful, post-war world, with U.S. leadership. We shared a laugh when we found out his middle initial “S” was not an abbreviation for any name, but was just a letter his mother added to his name.

We went through tragedies as well. I accompanied her to Dover Air Force Base, where we met the flag-draped coffins of American diplomats killed in terrorist attacks at the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, and she gave an uplifting speech on the sacrifices American diplomats take to try to create a better world.

Madeleine Albright, tiny in stature but huge in impact, had a charisma, a sparkle, a brilliance and a fluency in Czech, French, Polish and Russian. She connected the foreign policy she forged with President Clinton to the lives of everyday people around the world. All of these qualities made her larger than life. One of her trademarks was wearing a variety of brooches on the lapel of her clothing to underline her political and diplomatic messages. When I asked why, since she had not done this in our early years together, she recalled when Iraq’s dictator Saddam Hussein, following his invasion of Kuwait, compared her to an “unparalleled serpent.” She wore a snake pin in response, and a tradition was born.

The United States has lost a great American public servant, a role model for women as the first female secretary of state, a professor at Georgetown University, an author, a lifelong proponent of democracy and human rights, a constant friend of Israel and someone who embraced her Jewish background. And I have lost a dear friend. **JE**

Stuart E. Eizenstat worked with Madeleine Albright when they were both in the Carter White House and during the Clinton administration in which she was the secretary of state and he was undersecretary of state for economic business and agriculture affairs and special representative of President Clinton and Secretary Albright on Holocaust-era issues.



BY FARLEY WEISS

The New Iran Deal Is a Disaster, and Everyone Knows it

The United States and Iran are reportedly on the cusp of a new nuclear agreement. One of the last remaining issues is said to be whether or not the Biden administration removes the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps from the Foreign Terrorist Organization list.

The administration is purportedly offering to do so on the condition that Iran makes some amorphous commitment to rein in its regional aggression and refrain from targeting Americans.

In other words, as far as the Biden administration is concerned, it’s OK if the Iranians attack Europeans, Saudis, Israelis or Emiratis.

Such an agreement brings to mind the deal West Germany reportedly made with Fatah shortly after the Palestinian terrorist group Black September hijacked Lufthansa flight 615 on Oct. 29, 1972. There is strong evidence suggesting that West Germany released the three surviving Palestinian Arab terrorists involved in the Munich massacre in exchange for a commitment that no terrorist attacks would be carried out in the country.

The Biden administration was supposed to be negotiating an agreement with Iran over its nuclear program. Instead, the revised agreement apparently includes many provisions regarding the lifting of terror-related sanctions on the IRGC and numerous individual Iranians, despite their ongoing involvement in terror activity.

Rep. Ritchie Torres (D-N.Y.) recently stated that while the agreement taking shape in Vienna will not prevent Iran from eventually obtaining a nuclear weapon, neither will the absence of a deal. However, this misses the point — with no deal in place over the past three years, it has been the actions taken by both Israel and the United States that have prevented Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

Furthermore, there is the example of North Korea.

The United States signed a deal with North Korea on Oct. 21, 1994, under which Pyongyang committed to freeze its nuclear program. In exchange for North Korea agreeing to shut down its main nuclear plant and abandon others under construction, the United States would provide two light-water reactors, along with oil for heating and energy production until the new reactors were completed. In addition, the United States agreed to lift economic sanctions and end its diplomatic freeze on North Korea.

Ultimately, however, North Korea never gave up its nuclear weapons program, and did develop

nuclear weapons, all while economically benefiting from the mistaken agreement. In other words, the United States would have been far better off maintaining the sanctions on North Korea.

The original nuclear agreement with Iran, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, signed in 2015, was supposed to change Iran’s behavior and rein in its nuclear weapons program, in exchange for over \$100 billion in sanctions relief. However, Iran clandestinely continued its nuclear weapons program, using the massive influx of money to increase its defense budget by 40%, as well as upping the budgets of Hamas and Hezbollah.

After the United States unilaterally pulled out of the JCPOA in 2018 under President Donald Trump, Iran’s defense budget plummeted, its foreign reserves dropped to just \$4 billion and Hamas and Hezbollah budgets were drastically cut. The United States and Israel were able to take military action to prevent Iran from obtaining a bomb; Germany, France and Britain stayed in the JCPOA, despite Iran openly and flagrantly violating its provisions.

The Biden administration has already loosened sanctions even before a new deal has been reached. Iran’s foreign reserves have already increased to well over \$30 billion, and are still rising.

Iran flagrantly violated the original JCPOA, and the Biden administration is now pursuing a second, weaker agreement, with less nuclear oversight and significant terrorism sanctions relief.

Not only that, but that sanctions relief will now benefit not only Iran but also Russia, which is persecuting a war in Ukraine.

It’s obvious that the Biden administration’s attempt to reach a new agreement with Iran is an unmitigated disaster. They aren’t even attempting to sell it as a good deal — instead they’re trying to blame the Trump administration’s pullout from the JCPOA for the bad deal they are about to sign.

In the end, providing massive sanctions relief to an evil regime that calls for the destruction of Israel and America, and which is the leading global state sponsor of terrorism, is a terrible idea — and one that has already been tried. If, as Albert Einstein famously said, insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result, then what is doing the same thing over and over despite expecting worse results?

Apparently, only the Biden administration can answer that question. **JE**

Farley Weiss, former president of the National Council of Young Israel, is an intellectual property attorney for the law firm of Weiss & Moy.

AIPAC's Defense of Extremist Candidates is Indefensible

BY JON GREENWALD

A few weeks ago, the new political action committee established by the influential lobbying group American Israel Political Action Committee announced its first 130 endorsements for members of Congress. The list was divided almost evenly between Democrats and Republicans – not a surprise since AIPAC calls itself bipartisan.

But the inclusion of 37 Republicans who refused to vote to certify Joe Biden as president was a shock.

The vote in question, of course, came on Jan. 6, 2021, a few hours after a violent mob supporting then-President Trump's lies about a stolen election had broken into the Capitol, threatening the lives of senators and members of Congress. The horrors of that day were witnessed across the country but experienced even more personally by residents of Washington, D.C. and its Virginia and Maryland suburbs. And of course, the stolen election lie remains a virulent element in today's fevered political environment.

How can an organization that purports to ground its support for pro-Israel policies in the U.S. on the existence of shared national values put its seal of approval on politicians like Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio, Rep. Ronny Jackson of Texas, and Rep. Scott Perry of Pennsylvania, who remain proud of their contribution to the fundamentally undemocratic activities of January 6 and to the poisonous half-life of that shameful day?

Last week, in a letter to its members, AIPAC defended its endorsement of the 37 by arguing that "this is no moment for the pro-Israel movement to become selective about its friends." But surely that argument is deeply flawed.

The U.S.-Israel relationship is indeed grounded on mutual respect for justice, equality and democracy. To say that one supports that relationship while simultaneously undermining its shared values, however, involves a dangerous contradiction.

AIPAC regularly describes Israel



Rep. Jim Jordan (R-Ohio)



Rep. Ronny Jackson (R-Texas)



Rep. Scott Perry (R-Pa.)

How can an organization that purports to ground its support for pro-Israel policies in the United States on the existence of shared national values put its seal of approval on politicians ... who remain proud of their contribution to the fundamentally undemocratic activities of Jan. 6 and to the poisonous half-life of that shameful day?

as the Middle East's sole democracy and the U.S. as the essential strategic partner for securing that distinction. But can politicians who blatantly undermine democracy at home be relied on to uphold it abroad? Those who undermine American democracy are not true friends of Israel, and no amount of pro-Israel posturing can excuse endorsing them.

Many genuine friends of Israel have said as much.

Washington Post columnist Jennifer Rubin, for example, wrote: "First you must be a defender of democracy After all, democracy is at the root of the Israel-U.S. relationship."

Likewise, Council on Foreign Relations President Richard Haas noted that what ties Israel and the U.S. together is "a commitment to democracy. An undemocratic America could easily distance itself from the Jewish state."

And Abe Foxman, the former head

of the Anti-Defamation League, said AIPAC's decision was a "sad mistake," and "those who undermine America's democracy undermine America, and a weak America will not be able to stand and support its ally Israel."

AIPAC's letter stated that the organization "would base decisions about political contributions on only one thing: whether a political candidate supports the US-Israel relationship." Endorsement of the 37 deniers of a free and fair election, however, is the latest indication that AIPAC is increasingly out of touch with the views and values of most Americans as well as most Jews.

For years, it has defended the Israeli government's actions under nearly all circumstances, even as those actions have eroded democracy in Israel and led further away from the peaceful two-state solution that AIPAC says it supports. Now, the organization seems to extend its lack of care for

democracy to include our own domestic politics.

Americans who fear for the future of democracy at home, in Israel and around the world need to make clear that AIPAC's ideology and actions do not speak for us. We must show Congress and the world that most pro-Israel Americans fiercely oppose the kind of extremism AIPAC is now fundraising for, and that true support for Israel means defending democracy rather than sacrificing it for the sake of blind defense of Israel.

Simply put – AIPAC's defense of extremism is indefensible. **JE**

Jon Greenwald is a former U.S. foreign service officer who worked on issues including the Middle East, counterterrorism and international law. He is also a former vice president at the Washington, D.C.-based International Crisis Group.

[Photographer Name]/Collection Name/Getty Images

**Mazel
Tov!**

Jewish Baby Names Becoming Classic, Modern

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

A May 2021 Pew Research Center study revealed that younger Jews in the United States were more likely than older generations to migrate to the religion's extremes; compared to their

elders, more American Jews in the 18-49 demographic identified as either Orthodox or of "no particular branch."

These are also the Jewish generations bringing new Jews into the world and, in naming their babies, they are exhibiting similar trends.

Philadelphia-area rabbis and cantors who officiate at baby-naming ceremonies

are seeing parents both rediscover classic names and bring new ones into fashion.

Cantor Mark Kushner is a full-time, certified mohel, as he describes himself. A 2019 Jewish Exponent article on baby naming said Kushner had "multiple decades of experience performing brit milahs and simchat bats," and estimated that he'd been "involved in the naming of thousands of children."

Kushner is still active in the area, and he rattled off some of the names he's been seeing in the past few years.

"Many people are using names like Rebel, Skye and Crew," he said of the more modern names.

"There's also, on the opposite, a preponderance of Jacob, Max, Leo," Kushner added of the more classic names.

A December Kveller article backed up at least half of Kushner's claim, listing several older, more traditional names among the top selections of 2021. Monikers included Asher, Ezra and Gideon for boys and Abigail, Ava and Eliana for girls.

Babynames.com, which ranks the most popular baby names in the U.S., listed some classic boy names, like Oliver and Theodore, near the top as well, while the girls' list showed more-modern selections like Luna and Hazel.

Kushner explained that these trends probably come from two emotional places in the minds of parents; they want their kids to stand out and they want a name to offer insight into a child's, and eventually into an adult's, personality.

Skye, for example, is a peaceful insight; parents who choose this name hope for their baby to have the quality of a blue sky: relaxed. Kushner has conducted several ceremonies for new babies named Shir, which means song in Hebrew. Those parents probably desire their child to live a life of rhythm, music and happiness.

This kind of symbolism is also an excellent reason not to name your kid Rebel, according to the cantor.



Cantor Mark Kushner

Cantor Kushner Archives

"If you call your child Rebel, be careful what you wish for," he said.

Rabbi Jonathan Kremer, who leads the Shirat Hayam Congregation in Ventnor, New Jersey, believes that the classic and modern naming approaches are positive. Not only do they show respect for tradition and a desire to be unique, but they also reveal a generation of adults that's less enamored with popular culture.

Kremer used to see more kids with trendy names, perhaps inspired by celebrities. He mentioned Britney, for Britney Spears, and Lindsay, for Lindsay Lohan, as two examples that he remembered from 10 or more years ago.

But in the past decade, the rabbi has seen everything from Brooklyn for a girl to Erez, meaning cedar tree, for a boy, to biblical options like Rachel and David.

"You can't escape popular culture if you're online," Kremer said. "But my impression is parents are pushing away from that and letting their hearts be their guide."

Rabbi Aaron Krauss, who guides Beth El Synagogue in Margate, New Jersey, agrees with Kremer that these developments are for the better.

In particular, Krauss is happy to see traditional and even biblical names making a comeback.

Parents who use Jewish-sounding names are confident in their Jewishness, according to the rabbi. They are also a



We love it.

**Beautiful weddings and receptions at
Tiferet Bet Israel**

**Chapel, Sanctuary, Rabbi's Study
Multiple Event Rooms
Complete Catering Facilities
Magnificent Outdoor Spaces**

**1920 Skippack Pike
Blue Bell, PA 19422
610-275-8797
www.tbibluebell.org**

Mazel Tov!

stark contrast to their ancestors who, in an understandable effort to assimilate, chose names that didn't sound as Jewish.

Today, in a society with more intermarriage than it used to have, even "the non-Jewish partner seems to be comfortable with a Jewish name," said Krauss.

"It's a step in the direction of people feeling more comfortable with their Jewishness," he added.

No matter what the modern trends are, though, Jewish naming practices continue to take on timeless qualities, according to local rabbis.

First and foremost, there's a divine inspiration, they say.

A couple of months ago, Rabbi Moshe Brennan of the Chabad of Penn Wynne and his wife did not know what to name their newborn son. So before leaving the hospital, Brennan wrote Nehenya, meaning comfort, on his son's form.

Ten days later, Brennan's cousin, who was doing some research on their great-grandmother, sent him a picture of their great-grandmother's grandfather's grave. It said Mordecai, son of Nehenya.

"It was a name in the family," the rabbi said. "No one else in the family for five generations."

"You're going to pick a name and you feel and think you're making the choice," he added. "But it's simply being revealed to you."

There's also a more conscious element, according to Rabbi Abe Friedman of Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel in Philadelphia.

Often, parents will tell Friedman before a naming ceremony that they picked a moniker to honor a relative. The rabbi will respond by asking them to think about why they wanted to honor that relative, and then to explain those reasons to the child in a letter they read aloud during the ceremony.

By the time they stand up to speak, they understand what stories, qualities and lessons they want to pass down from the elder to the child.

"I think parents are very aware of what they're choosing," he said. "This name is a container of meaning." **JE**

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com



Cantor Mark Kushner with a couple and a new baby at a naming ceremony.

Mazel Tov!

CELEBRATE IN STYLE! BAR/BAT MITZVAH - WEDDINGS - CELEBRATIONS
CONTACT EVENTSPHILADELPHIA@CITYWINERY.COM FOR MORE INFO



CITY WINERY
 PHILADELPHIA

990 FILBERT STREET, PHILADELPHIA PA 19107
267.479.7373 | CITYWINERY.COM/PHILADELPHIA

Today's B'nai Mitzvah Tunes Take TikTok's Cues

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

When Justin Kodroff had his bar mitzvah party in 2006, Lil Jon's "Snap Yo Fingers" and Yung Joc's "It's Goin' Down" were as big of hits on the dance floor as they were on MTV and VH1, which then still favored music videos over reality television.

His party at LuLu Country Club in Glenside was defined by the break-dancing lessons the party starters and DJs conducted for the pubescent guests — a fleet of seventh graders trying their best to "walk it out" and two-step with gawky limbs and ill-fitted dress pants.

Either today's teens are cooler than those from yesteryear or it's easy to romanticize the past, but the b'nai mitzvahs of today have certainly changed to align with today's popular culture, although some tracks and trends are timeless.

A DJ for Horsham-based HotHotHot Entertainment since 2015, Kodroff has since leveled up to spend b'nai mitzvahs on the other side of the proverbial turntables.

Maybe the most obvious change to the b'nai mitzvah music of today? How it's played.

Gone are the days of DJs lugging records, tapes, CDs and turntables to a venue. Instead, they bring a laptop loaded with thousands of songs, with thousands more available online, making spontaneous song requests for deep cuts available at the click of a trackpad.

With a minimalist setup, DJs are nimble, sometimes cycling through 400-500 songs for one event, Kodroff said, opting out of playing an entire three- or four-minute song.

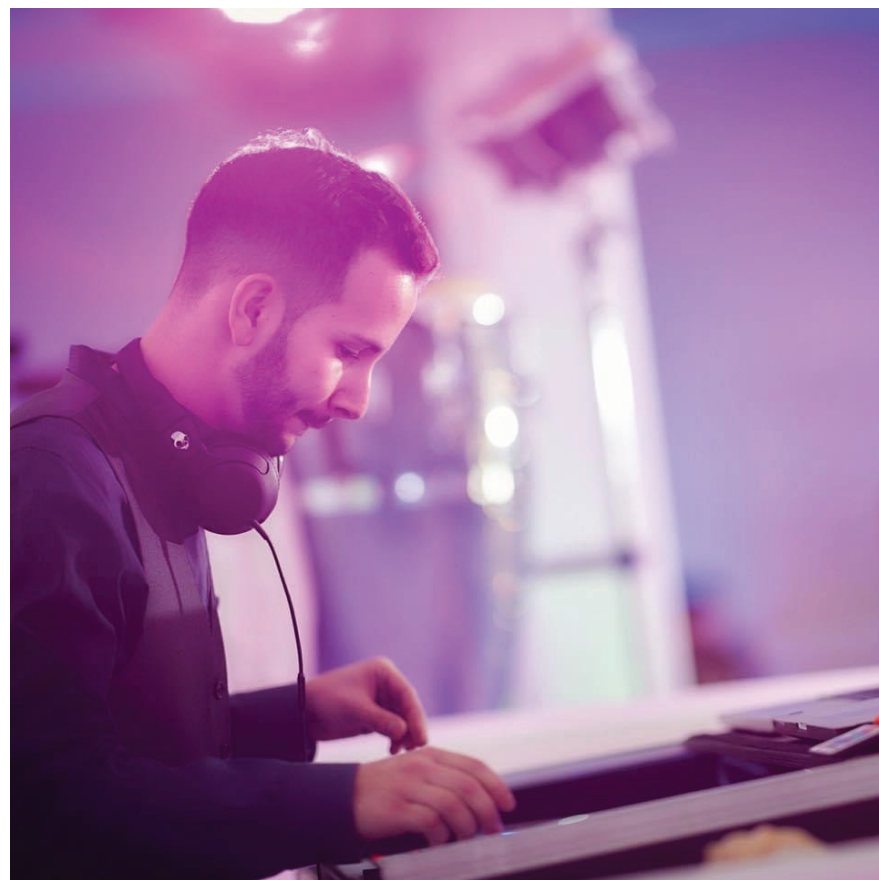
Technology has accounted for the change in more ways than one. With kids compulsively scrolling on their phones, their attention spans have deteriorated, argued Michael Langsner

of the Englishtown, New Jersey-based Xplosive Entertainment. Minute-long TikToks and Instagram Reels have captured the catchiest minute of a song, and that's the minute kids want to hear.

"It's not uncommon to be playing a minute-and-a-half or two minutes of each song before you switch to the next, because if you don't, you'll lose your dance floor now," Langsner said.

Kodroff calls this new styling of DJ-ing "rapid mixing," and it's gaining popularity among younger audiences. For younger DJs like Kodroff, the shift is understandable.

"Being a millennial, I get it. We want things instantaneously, to have that



Justin Kodroff is a DJ for the Horsham-based HotHotHot Entertainment.

Courtesy of Justin Kodroff



Xplosive Entertainment DJ Michael Langsner has noticed TikTok making its mark on the songs tweens are dancing to these days.

Courtesy of Xplosive Entertainment



The Cynwyd Club

**CYNWYD
1913**

“The best kept secret on the Mainline”

Event venue for Bar & Bat Mitzvahs
and other special events!

332 Trevor Lane Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

610-667-4524 ex. 3240

banquets@cynwydclub.com

www.cynwydclub.com



Mazel Tov!

gratification,” he said.

But for Langsner, who’s been in the business for more than two decades, the impact of TikTok has presented additional surprises, namely that the songs he played at b’nai mitzvahs and weddings 20 years ago are getting requested at today’s parties.

“I have a 7-year-old daughter, and one of her favorite movies is ‘Sing 2,’ So much of that music was all the music that came back,” Langsner said.

Elton John’s “Goodbye Yellow Brick Road” and Aretha Franklin’s “I Say A Little Prayer” have dominant basslines and beats laid over them in the animated

film integrated in a soundtrack that blends classics and contemporary songs.

Madonna’s “Material Girl” and Rod Stewart’s “Da Ya Think I’m Sexy” are the latest throwbacks to make an appearance on Spotify’s “Viral Hits” playlist, indicating their popularity on TikTok.

Recently, Langsner even has received requests for Rick Astley’s “Never Gonna Give You Up,” as even 35 years after the song’s release, he still can’t avoid getting rick-rolled.

“I always get a kick out of how certain songs stand the test of time and others don’t,” said Todd Frederick, DJ at Silver Sound DJ Entertainment in Malvern.



GIVE GIFTS OF ISRAEL BONDS FOR ALL CELEBRATORY OCCASIONS

**MAZEL TOV
BONDS***
Starting at \$100

**eMAZEL TOV
BONDS****
Starting at \$36

INVEST IN ISRAEL BONDS • ISRAELBONDS.COM



Development Corporation for Israel
Ari Sirner, Executive Director
Sharon Richman, Registered Representative
1511 Walnut St, Suite 301 • Philadelphia, PA 19102
215.545.8380 • philadelphia@israelbonds.com

YOUR BOND WITH A NATION
OF LIMITLESS POTENTIAL
israelbonds.com

*Not Available online. **Available only online. This is not an offering, which can be made only by prospectus. Read the prospectus carefully before investing to fully evaluate the risks associated with investing in Israel bonds. Issues subject to availability. Member FINRA. Photos: iStock, AdobeStock

“And it’s not necessarily a quality thing.”

Not all songs from yesteryear have been accepted by today’s teens. Line dances like “Electric Slide” are a sure way to have guests promptly leave the dance floor. But the “Cha-Cha Slide” and even “Cotton-Eyed Joe” are still played, due to their ability to appease both the younger crowds and their parents, who, after all, are either paying the party bill or generously carpooling kids there and back, Frederick said.

Langsner calls these songs, and others that are guaranteed crowd-pleasers “crutches,” though he prefers not to play them.

Frederick finds a great deal of merit in keeping line dances on his playlists, however, because they level the playing field of not just children and adults, but of those who have fancy feet and those with two left feet.

“It’s something that everybody can do

if they know it, and if you don’t know, you can get out there and learn it without feeling like you’re the only one out there,” Frederick said. “It also enables people that are maybe not necessarily good dancers to get out and do their thing.”

While DJs have noticed kids appear interested in doing TikTok dances in small groups, scattered around the dance floor, line dances are still here to stay.

Though TikTok has clearly made its mark on the b’nai mitzvahs of 2022, the lasting power of the app is still in question, Frederick believes. With 60-second song clips going in and out of popularity depending on the day or week, it’s hard for DJs to tell what will be the popular tracks of tomorrow.

“Those things are a lot more short-lived,” Frederick said. “They come and they go, and then so on to the next thing.” **JE**

srogelberg@midatlanticmedia.com

BEHIND *the* SCENES

True Stories of Senior Living

“My husband and I often spoke about it. If we had known the lifestyle we could have had, we would’ve moved in I think 10 years before. I made the decision, and I knew it was a good move.”

– Dee L., Watermark resident for eight years



“The social activity is sort of secondary to me. The place is secure, it’s safe. I think Watermark did an outstanding job considering that nobody’s been through this [pandemic] before. They were way ahead of the curve.” – Jack, Dee’s son

Call 215-902-9553 for a virtual or in-person private consultation today.
Learn more about our community and hear from Dee and her family:
Hover phone camera over the QR code or visit **[wrcline.com/logansquare](https://www.wrcline.com/logansquare)**.



2 Franklin Town Boulevard • Philadelphia, PA 19103 • logansquare.watermarkcommunities.com

INDEPENDENT LIVING • PERSONAL CARE
MEMORY CARE • REHABILITATION & SKILLED NURSING

22-WLS-0861

Mazel Tov!

Big Jewish Weddings Are Back in 2022

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

The New York Times reported in February a prediction from the trade group Wedding Report that about 2.5 million weddings would “take place” this year, a “bump not seen since 1984.”

Locally, rabbis and event managers are corroborating the forecast. Weddings are back in 2022, they say.

But aside from the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, the lockdown period, weddings never really went away, according to rabbis and event managers. They just changed shape.

Philadelphia-area Jews held smaller celebrations, sometimes even micro affairs with 10 or 12 people. They also hosted parties in different locations than traditional venues, like backyards and public parks. Some gatherings still crossed the 100-guest threshold but, in general, these major life events were scaled down due to pandemic concerns.

In 2022, though, the standard big party is back, and it's back in full.

Samantha Foxwell, a coordinator at the Artesano Gallery in Philadelphia, said, “We’re seeing 200-, 250-person weddings.”

Michelle Durinzi, the marketing director for Robert Ryan Catering, which services three area venues, estimated that the average 2022 wedding crowd is between 125 and 175 guests.

Both ranges are larger than the planners saw in 2020 and '21.

“People are ready to party again,” Durinzi said.

And it's not just crowd sizes that are standing out — it's the sheer amount of bookings that venues and caterers are seeing.

According to Foxwell, Artesano Gallery already has 43 events on its 2022 schedule. She mentioned that, “we’ve seen a ton of inquiries for 2023 and 2024.”

Nancy Schwoebel, who runs catering sales for Catering by Design, a company that serves event spaces in Bucks County, on the Main Line and in Philadelphia, said, “people are booking much more short-term than they were.” Between



Formerly of Fleets

TAILORED CLOTHING
SPORTSWEAR
ACCESSORIES
FOOTWEAR

FORMAL ATTIRE...

SALES & RENTALS
FOR MEN & BOYS!

Sizes 2-50+
Regulars
Slims - Huskies
Portlys - X-Longs

From Generation to Generation A Family Tradition For All Occasions



courtesy of Hy Paul Studios

HOURS: M. T. TH. F. SAT. 10-5 • WED. 10-8

WARMINSTER SHOPPING CENTER • 320 York Road • Warminster, PA 18974

215-914-2060 • WWW.THEMENSANDBOYSSTORE.COM





the short-term bookings and rollover reservations from 2021, when many couples postponed weddings, Catering by Design has far more dates in 2022 than a year ago.

"People are very much eager to get married," Foxwell said.

And in the Jewish tradition, the ceremony is merely part one. The ensuing party with the whole village is close to a necessity in its own right.

Rabbi Aaron Gaber of Congregation Brothers of Israel in Newtown said "people are planning the follow-on affair," meaning they got married last year and "now they're going to celebrate."

"People are still getting married, and people are still having fun," he added.

Rabbi Nathan Weiner of Congregation Beth Tikvah in Marlton, New Jersey, is noticing the same trend in the COVID era — receptions detached from ceremonies, and receptions that are starting to happen now for those ceremonies.

Such celebrations fulfill the desire to party in full that the rabbi is seeing in general right now. He is set to officiate at two weddings this spring; both will include "cocktail hours, schmoozing, drinking, singing and dancing with over 100 people," he said.

Jewish spiritual leaders, quite natu-

rally, view this as a beautiful thing.

"You want to perform the mitzvah of rejoicing with a wedding couple," Weiner said.

"People need joy and a source of resilience," added Rabbi Ari Lev Fornari of Kol Tzedek in Philadelphia.

"Any couple getting married is a great celebration and represents a new beginning," Gaber said. "Now that we're coming into the endemic, people are looking for ways to celebrate together."

But even as we enter what appears to be the endemic, local Jews are still taking a cautious approach to their weddings.

At the Artesano Gallery, couples still ask event coordinators to "make sure there's space" for guests to maneuver without getting too close to one another. There are also still "tons of couples who want smaller weddings," Foxwell said.

Durinzi mentioned similar trends among Robert Ryan clients; over the winter, couples mostly kept their guest lists between 70 and 100 people because their friends and family members were concerned about the virus; and there are still "a fair share" of people who ask for weddings with between 12 and 40 loved ones in attendance, though Robert Ryan doesn't usually

Making Women Look and Feel Beautiful!!

\$40 off* COUPON

Mon-Wed 10-6, Thurs-Fri 10-7, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-6
JUSTA FARM SHOPPING CENTER
 1966 County Line Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006
 215-969-9626 • HOT-FOOT-BOUTIQUE.SHOPTIQUES.COM

* Shoes Only. Minimum Purchase \$200
 Excludes prior purchases, layaway & other discounts, certain merchandise excluded

By Invitation Only

Personal service & extraordinary invitations
 at discounted prices

- 30% Discount
- Computerized Calligraphy
- Incredible Selection
- Convenient Appointments

Melissa Berk
 215.654.1601
Melissa@Byinvitationonly.us

Changing Addresses?

**DON'T MISS
 A SINGLE ISSUE OF THE**

PHILADELPHIA Jewish Exponent

Call **215.832.0700** or
 email subscriptions@jewishexponent.com
 with your new address.

Mazel Tov!



A wedding at the Artesano Gallery in Philadelphia

Photo by Natalia Wajde



Goldstein's Men's & Boys' Apparel

We're here to celebrate all your Simchas



Photo by
BWK Photography



Photo by
Tallia Orange



Photo by
Calvin Klein

Family owned and operated for 120 years

Since 1902
Goldstein's
Men's and Boys' Clothing
Now carrying shoes

Wedding Party Group Discounts:
Same price as rentals, and you get to keep the outfit!

Visit us at:
2537 S Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19148
215-468-0564

Major
Credit Cards

M, TU, TH, FR 10am–5pm, WED 10am–7pm, SAT 10am–4pm, SUN closed
Please call for an appointment • ALTERATIONS AVAILABLE

www.goldsteinsclothing.com

book those.

Schwoebel says Catering by Design's schedule is a healthy mix of bigger, 2019-style weddings and smaller, more intimate COVID-era affairs. The sales coordinator believes this is not an accident, either, as the smaller, more intimate affairs have benefits beyond safety.

They are more intimate, as well as less expensive and less stressful for the bride and groom.

"They saw it was a good thing," Schwobel said. "Let's have a smaller wedding. We don't need hundreds of people."

Sometimes, less can be more, according to the sales coordinator. At a smaller affair, the guests of honor can just enjoy their guests. They don't have to make sure that they see and talk to everyone.

Schwoebel compared the smaller wedding to a dinner party which, for a more introverted couple, may be better than an epic blowout.

"They don't want to be the center of attention, and they just want to have a little dinner party," she said.

Plus, after two years of smaller, more intimate celebrations, there's a whole online history of them for people to reference.

"Now brides can look at that information," Schwobel said.

Rabbis say those weddings are as beautiful as the ones involving the whole village.

Rabbi Benjamin David of Adath Emanu-El in Mount Laurel, New Jersey, officiated at several micro-celebrations during the pandemic and called them "a joy."

"They spoke to love and family and community in this really honest way," he said. "They stripped away big bands and big flowers, big caterer. It stripped all of that away to the essentials of the bride, the groom, the fact that love will not be denied." **JE**

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com



Wish Your Friends & Family A HAPPY PASSOVER in the Jewish Exponent

Be a part of our April 14th holiday edition.
DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6TH

DESIGN
A
\$95

Best Wishes

to all for a

Happy Passover



YOUR NAME

DESIGN
B
\$75



YOUR NAME

DESIGN
D
\$45



HAPPY
PASSOVER

YOUR NAME

DESIGN
C
\$45

Warm Passover
Greetings From

YOUR NAME



– Personal Greetings Only –

PLEASE RUN MY GREETING IN YOUR HOLIDAY ISSUE.

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

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Street Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

The name(s) on the message should read: _____

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

OR email your information and credit card number to: classified@jewishexponent.com.

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

If you have any questions, contact the Jewish Exponent at 215.832.0749 or classified@jewishexponent.com.

A photograph of a farm field with a rainbow in the sky. The field is brown and tilled, with a line of green trees in the background. A vibrant rainbow arches across the blue sky with some clouds. The title text is overlaid on the image.

Jewish Farmers Try to Fit Shmita Practices into the Modern World

A portion of William and Malya Levin's farm in South Jersey

Photo by Nathan Kleinman

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

In our modern capitalist society, Jewish farmers can't really observe the shmita year — the once every seven years tradition of letting the land lie fallow so farmers can rest and refresh themselves. There are too many economic forces at play.

But Jewish farmers can at least follow the spirit of the tradition, they say.

They can let pieces of the land lie fallow for the year, or they can use parts of it for more communal purposes like education. Following the spirit of the tradition still allows farmers, both locally and outside the Philadelphia area, to get some of the benefits of a traditional shmita year, like time for reflection and then a gradual re-centering and reorientation to the grind of cultivating the land.

As rabbinic authorities explained, shmita is like an extended Shabbat and, in a modern context, it can be like the current-day observation of the Sabbath: Jews finding a way to recharge, even if they're not strictly following the letter of the Jewish law.

"How can you have more practices that nourish you?" said Rabbi Lauren Grabelle Herrmann, the founder of Kol Tzedek in Philadelphia and a spiritual leader at SAJ in New York City.

"A wide view of what it can mean to your life," she added.

“If I can experience the Shabbos, I can understand
what the earth is experiencing.
Why it needs to rest and heal and regenerate.”

YITZHAK GLASMAN



William and Malya Levin run the Alliance Community Reboot in Salem County, New Jersey.

Photo by Ahron Moeller

It's also perfectly OK for farmers to not take shmita literally, as they aren't actually required to by law. Halachic custom states that shmita only applies to Jews in Israel.

“As Jewish farmers in North America, we have zero obligation,” said Shani Mink, the executive director of the Jewish Farmer Network, which helps Jewish farmers across the United States.

So then, according to Mink, the question becomes, what can we learn from shmita by observing it in spirit?

William and Malya Levin, who run the Alliance Community Reboot, a nonprofit farming community in Salem County, New Jersey, took over their land after years of conventional farmers using pesticides and herbicides on it. But the Levins wanted to go organic, so they needed to detoxify the fields.

To get an organic certification from the United States Department of Agriculture, the husband-and-wife team had to uphold a requirement of abstinence from synthetic substances for 36 months. It was essentially three years of shmita, they said.

“It was recuperating,” Malya Levin added.

Three years into its organic farming life, the Alliance Community Reboot, or ACRE, is using the actual shmita year to cultivate another shmita-inspired effort. The Levins are turning a grant from Salem County into a model farm on a portion of their South Jersey property. They plan to use the model farm for educational tours.

“Launching during the shmita year is appropriate,” Malya Levin said. “Taking a breath from commercial enterprise, showing why we do what we do.”

Yitzhak Glasman, who operates the Shalem Farm in Doylestown, is taking on a similar effort.

Glasman described his Bucks County land as “destroyed” when he took it over a year ago. So now, he's in the process of “regenerating” it for farming use.

The farmer explained that shmita doesn't apply to him because he doesn't live in Israel. But he still believes in using its concepts to “manage and heal the land.”

Glasman also said that, “If I can experience the Shabbos, I can understand

what the earth is experiencing.”

“Why it needs to rest and heal and regenerate,” he added.

Plus, even if organic farms like ACRE and Shalem aren’t literally observing shmita, they are pursuing the same goal that the Jewish tradition implies: sustainability.

The purpose of resting and recharging is to ultimately return and last longer, according to Glasman.

“Durable, long-term, long vision,” he said. “It’s a simple concept but it’s so useful in this capitalist society where everyone wants to produce, produce, produce.”

Useful, but still for the most part impractical, according to Perri Dejarnette, the assistant director of stewardship at the Pearlstone Center, a Maryland retreat center with an eight-acre organic farm. Dejarnette does not think of herself as a capitalist; yet she can’t escape its all-encompassing nature, she said.

At the same time, she agrees with Glasman: It’s valuable, both inherently and communally, to try and carve out spaces where you can.

Maybe you make like the Levins and Glasman and detox the land to purify it; or perhaps you follow the Levins’ lead in using land to build a more community-minded education space; or maybe you do what Pearlstone does and donate more produce to emergency recovery efforts

and offer employees extra days off.

“It’s just another time for us to really go ahead and donate more produce, and also just being more open to the idea of radical rest,” Dejarnette said.

But even while Pearlstone does these things, they feel a little hollow, according to the assistant director. She said there’s a disconnection between following the spirit of shmita and observing shmita itself.

Shmita is community-oriented, according to Dejarnette. If you want to live like that, you need the people around you to do it, too. Communities have to plan in seven-year cycles to make sure they have enough food for the year of rest. Community members also must uphold the standard of letting the commons lie fallow.

Capitalism is at odds with those goals.

“We can only work within our current economic system,” Dejarnette said. “I’m stuck in this world, so I have to play the game.”

Jews outside Israel may not have to practice shmita, but Dejarnette believes it might benefit American Jews to live according to it anyway.

“If we thought of everything as commons, maybe we’d take better care of it,” she concluded. “Maybe we’d have more empathy.” **JE**

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com

“Launching during the shmita year is appropriate.
Taking a breath from commercial enterprise,
showing why we do what we do.”

MALYA LEVIN



William and Malya Levin's South Jersey property

From video footage by Greg Ulan



PASSOVER

TRADITIONS

(Where Available, While Supplies Last)



Matzo Specials for Passover



One (1)
5-lb. Box Imported Matzos
• Yehuda • Osem
• ShopRite • Aviv
Excluding Whole Wheat
(Where Available, While Supplies Last)
Limit 1



One (1)
5-lb. Box Domestic Matzos
• Streit's
• Horowitz
• Manischewitz
(Where Available, While Supplies Last)



MATZO DIGITAL SAVINGS WITH PRICE PLUS® CARD & ADDITIONAL PURCHASE OF \$75.00 OR MORE (EXCLUDING FUEL & ITEMS PROHIBITED BY LAW). LIMIT ONE PER FAMILY.



\$5.99

Manischewitz Gefilte Fish
24-oz. jar (Excluding Gold Label and White & Pike) Assorted Varieties



\$2.99

Gefen Pasta
9-oz. bag, Assorted Varieties



\$1.99

Gold's Horseradish
6-oz. jar, Any Variety



\$1.49

Liber Spices
1 to 3-oz. jar, Ginger, Oregano, Thyme, Turmeric, Ground Cinnamon or 1.6 to 2.6-oz. Ground All Spice, Minced Onion or Onion Powder



2 \$5
FOR

Breakstone's Whipped Butter
(Dairy) 8-oz. cont., Any Variety (Excluding Organic)



\$1.49

ShopRite Solid White Tuna
5-oz. can, In Oil or Water



\$4.99

Bartenura Balsamic Vinegar
16.9-oz. btl.



\$1.99

Gefen Pasta Sauce
26-oz. jar, Assorted Varieties



2 \$4
FOR

Tabatchnick Soups
14.5 to 15-oz. pkg., Cream of Spinach, Cabbage Soup, Old Fashioned Potato, Cream of Mushroom, Tomato with Basil (Excluding Organic)
Less or additional items **MUST BUY 2** will scan at \$2.19 each.



2 \$4
FOR

ShopRite Kosher Chicken Broth
32-oz. carton



SAVE 80¢
LIMIT 4 PER VARIETY **\$1.49**

Manischewitz Matzo Ball & Soup Mix
4.5 to 5-oz. box, Any Variety



SAVE \$1.00
LIMIT 4 **\$4.99**

Osem Chicken Consommé
14.1-oz. container



SAVE 50¢
LIMIT 4 PER VARIETY **\$3.99**

Ba-Tampte Half Sour Pickles
32-fl. oz. jar, Sauerkraut or



\$6.99

Bowl & Basket Specialty Almond or Cashew Butter
16-oz. jar, Creamy



2 \$6
FOR

Kedem Grape Juice
64-oz. btl., Any Variety
Less or additional items **MUST BUY 2** will scan at \$3.99 each.



2 \$5
FOR

Manischewitz Matzo Meal
16-oz. canister (Excluding Whole Grain) Cake or Matzo



\$2.99

Temptee Cream Cheese
(Dairy) 8-oz. cont., Whipped



\$2.49

Manischewitz Tam Tams Snack Crackers
8-oz. box, Any Variety



\$3.99

Philadelphia Cream Cheese
16-oz. pkg., 2-Pack



SAVE 50¢
LIMIT 4 PER VARIETY **\$4.79**

Spring Valley Blintzes
13-oz. pkg., Any Variety



\$3.79

Gefen Crispy-O's Cereal
5.5 to 6.6-oz. box, Assorted Varieties



\$2.79

Galil Preserves
13-oz. jar, Any Variety



\$3.79

Holiday Candies Dark Chocolate Coated Matzoh
7-oz. pkg., Milk or Dark Chocolate Coated Egg Matzoh or Dark Chocolate Coated Matzoh



\$3.49

Manischewitz Macaroons
10-oz. canister, Any Variety, Kosher



\$2.99

Holiday Candies Milk Chocolate Lollipops
3-oz. box



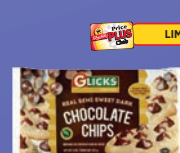
SAVE 50¢
LIMIT 4 PER VARIETY **\$3.99**

Manischewitz Cake Mix
11.5 to 14-oz. box (Excluding Gluten Free & Blueberry Bran Muffin) Any Variety, Muffin or Cake



\$2.49

Holiday Candies Fruit Flavored Slices
6-oz. pkg.



SAVE 50¢
LIMIT 4 **\$1.99**

Glicks Chocolate Chips
9-oz. bag



\$4.49

Joyva Chocolate Covered Ring Jells
9-oz. box, Any Variety, Marshmallow Twists or Ring Jells



\$2.49

Granny's Marshmallows
10-oz. bag (Excluding Toasted) Regular or Mini



3 \$1
FOR

Yahrzeit Memorial Lamp Candle
2.6-oz., Star
Less or additional items **MUST BUY 3** will scan at 47¢ each.

Prices, programs and promotions effective Sun., March 27 thru Sat., April 2, 2022 in ShopRite® Stores in PA and in New Jersey, Trenton and South (excluding E. Windsor and Montgomery Twp., NJ). Sunday sales subject to local blue laws. No sales made to other retailers or wholesalers. We reserve the right to limit purchases of any sale item to four (4) purchases, per item, per household, per day, except where otherwise noted. Minimum or additional purchase requirements noted for any advertised item exclude the purchase of prescription medications, gift cards, postage stamps, money orders, money transfers, lottery tickets, bus tickets, fuel and Metro passes, as well as milk, cigarettes, tobacco products, alcoholic beverages or any other items prohibited by law. Only one manufacturer coupon may be used per item and we reserve the right to limit manufacturer coupon redemptions to four (4) identical coupons per household per day, unless otherwise noted or further restricted by manufacturer. Sales tax is applied to the net retail of any discounted item or any ShopRite® coupon item. We are required by law to charge sales tax on the full price of any item or any portion of an item that is discounted with the use of a manufacturer coupon or a manufacturer sponsored (or funded) Price Plus® club card discount. Not responsible for typographical errors. Artwork does not necessarily represent items on sale; it is for display purposes only. Copyright© Wakefern Food Corp., 2022. All rights reserved. Digital Coupon savings can be loaded to your Price Plus® club card IN STORE at the service desk, kiosk or contact 1-800-ShopRite.

Dinner's Ready: Simple, Delicious, Flavorful!

KERI WHITE | SPECIAL TO THE EXPONENT

You may recall my New Year's resolution to try different foods and combinations. This dinner, the chicken in particular, complies with that aim.

I saw a version of the dish while scrolling Instagram, and the combination struck me as strange but intriguing, so I gave it a whirl. I did an all-day marinade, but if you are pressed for time, you can slice the chicken thinly and give it a 30-minute soak before cooking.

The salad optimizes the root vegetables that are still available in some farmers markets and local purveyors. I am realistic enough to face the fact that Philadelphia doesn't reap a bountiful harvest in February, but some growers offer stored root vegetables or operate greenhouses for year-round produce.

And the dessert was a revelation. I often struggle to find delicious pareve desserts to chase meat meals, but the coconut milk in this rice pudding did the trick.

Soy-Rosemary Chicken

Serves 4

I used boneless breasts for this, but thighs are fine. And you can use a bone-in version if that is your preference; just be sure to cook it longer, on low heat, to ensure that it is done.

I used fresh rosemary because I had some in the crisper drawer, but dried rosemary would be fine; just reduce the amount to 2 teaspoons.

- 1½ pounds boneless chicken breasts, each cut in half
- ¼ cup soy sauce
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 tablespoon fresh rosemary, chopped
- 1 tablespoon rice wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons canola or vegetable oil, plus more for sautéing
- ½ cup chicken broth, vegetable broth or water

- 2 tablespoons Wondra flour (If you do not have Wondra, you can substitute 1 tablespoon of cornstarch or 2 tablespoons of all-purpose flour mixed with 2 tablespoons of water.)

In a bowl, mix the soy sauce, garlic, honey, rosemary, oil and vinegar. Add the chicken and mix to coat it. Refrigerate it and let it marinate for several hours (up to 24).

In a large skillet with a cover, heat the oil, and sear the chicken breasts on both sides. Do not discard the marinade.

Lower the heat, cover the skillet and cook the chicken for about 30 minutes until done.

In a small saucepan, pour the mar-

inade with the broth or water, and bring it to a boil. Add the Wondra flour and whisk it until smooth and thickened.

When the chicken is done, remove it to a serving dish and pour the sauce over it. Garnish it with a rosemary sprig, if desired.

Winter Salad with Pickled Onions

Serves 4

Pickled onions do double duty here as a salad ingredient plus a base for the dressing. You can make them a few minutes before dinner or a few days in advance. They last in the refrigerator for several days and add a tasty zip to pretty much any savory dish.

For the pickled onions:

- 1 yellow onion, coarsely chopped
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 3 tablespoons white vinegar
- Water to cover

For the salad:

- 6 cups baby greens
- 1 carrot
- 1 raw beet
- Pinch salt
- Generous sprinkles of garlic powder and fresh cracked pepper
- 1-2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1-2 teaspoons onion vinegar brine

Make the onions: Place the onions in a small, sealable container, and sprinkle them with salt. Cover and shake. Add the vinegar, then add



Soy-rosemary chicken

Photos by Keri White

enough water to just cover it. Cover and shake it again. Set it aside for a few minutes, a few hours or a few days (if hours or days, store in the fridge).

Make the salad: Place the lettuce in a salad bowl. Grate the carrot over the lettuce. Peel the beet, and grate or slice it with a vegetable peeler. Sprinkle the salad with salt, pepper and garlic powder. Add the vinegar and oil. Start with 1 teaspoon of vinegar brine and 1 tablespoon of oil; toss.

If the salad seems dry, add the remaining vinegar and oil.

Pareve Rice Pudding

Serves 2 generously or 4 sparingly

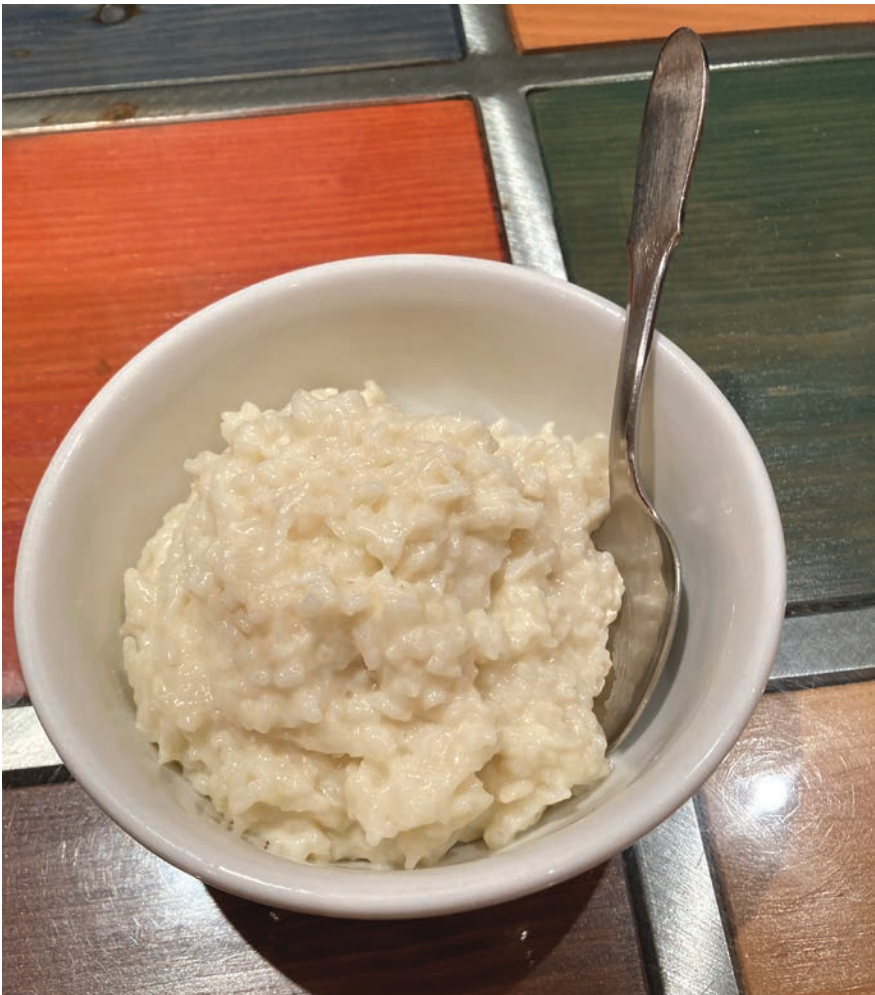
If you wish to make this vegan, you can skip the egg, which will make a slightly lighter pudding. If you seek a vegan dish but still want the richness, add a generous spoonful of virgin coconut oil in place of the egg.

- 1½ cups cooked rice (I used basmati, but any type will work.)
- 1 15-ounce can full-fat coconut milk
- 2 tablespoons water
- ⅔ cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

In a medium saucepan, mix the coconut milk and rice. Using the water, rinse the coconut milk can and pour the residue into the pan. Add the water and stir.

Cook over low at a simmer for about 15 minutes until thick and creamy. Beat the egg with a fork in a small cup, and pour into the pudding. Mix well.

Keri White is a Jewish Exponent food columnist. JE



Coconut rice pudding

EST. 1983

CARLINO'S

MAKERS & PURVEYORS OF ARTISAN FOOD

Wishing You a

Joyous Passover

Passover Menu

Available In-Store

& Online At:

www.carlinosmarket.com

610.649.4046

2616 E. County Line Rd. Ardmore, PA 19003

128 W. Market St. West Chester, PA 19382



These Passover Pancake Noodles Are Better Than Matzah Balls

LIZ SUSMAN KARP AND
NATALIE GORLIN | JTA.ORG

Last April, as the pandemic raged in my area, I opened my front door to my dear friend Natalie, who literally threw at me from a distance a plastic sandwich bag containing her family's cherished Passover tradition: flädla.

Less commonly known than the universally beloved matzah ball, these Passover egg noodles are made from a thin crepe that's coiled and cut into strips, over which steaming broth is poured. Natalie's family recipe was handed down from her mother's tante Ilse, who emigrated from Germany in 1939 post-Kristallnacht.

Ask around about flädla and, like the history of any good noodle, you'll dis-

cover the topic covers a lot of ground. Flädla, also spelled flädle, didn't start off as a Passover food, but evolved into a dish that reflects the ingenuity and frugality of Jewish Eastern European cooks, who repurposed leftover dough or pancakes into noodles.

Noodles were a significant part of the Ashkenazi diet. In medieval times, Europeans began boiling dough in water rather than baking or frying it. In the "Encyclopedia of Jewish Food," Gil Marks writes that noodles were predominantly used in soup and that some cooks cut up matzah meal blintzes into the liquid. No name was ascribed to that noodle or dish.

Recipes for Passover noodles are included in numerous Jewish cookbooks, notably June Feiss Hersh's compilation of recipes from Holocaust survivors titled, "Recipes Remembered: A Celebration

of Survival," illustrating how deeply ingrained the dish was in people's memories. Sometimes called lokshen, the Yiddish word for noodle, the recipes use matzah meal or potato starch, and always the same method of frying a thin crepe and cutting it into strips.

Pinpointing when, where, or who first adapted these noodle ribbons for the holiday is a challenge. "What is most fascinating to me," says Gaby Rossmer, coauthor with her daughter, Sonya Gropman, of "The German-Jewish Cookbook," "is how these food traditions travel. They do follow routes. You can see it, but you can't tell exactly which one came first, which came second."

Many Jews, like Natalie's ancestors and Rossmer, lived in southern Germany; in the Swabian region, pancakes are known as flädle. The recipe has been handed down over gener-

ations; tradition dictates the crepes be thin and crispy. Flädlesuppe was a popular dish, but "never for Passover," says Rossmer. She was a year old when she came to America from Bavaria, but fondly remembers frequently frying flour crepes with her father; the goal was always to have enough left over to make flädlesuppe.

The noodles are a key component of a comparable, popular Austrian soup called frittatensuppe, or pancake soup, which is always made with beef broth, says Nino Shaye Weiss, a blogger at JewishVienneseFood.com and Jewish food guide in Vienna. There, the crepes are called palatschinken; cut up they're referred to as frittaten. "Jews do seemingly love them as they cannot live the eight days of Passover without them," he comments, adding that frittaten for Passover are simply

SALE PRICES EFFECTIVE FRIDAY, APRIL 1 THRU FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Visit the **THE KOSHER MARKETPLACE™** AT ACME
829 MONTGOMERY AVE., NARBERTH!

Celebrate the festival of **Passover**
FREE 5 lb. pkg. MATZO
MANISCHEWITZ, YEHUDA OR STREIT'S

with your purchase of \$25 in groceries in a single transaction
LIMIT 1 OFFER (FREE VALUE \$4.99) WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
Cannot be combined with any other coupon offer

| | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---|
| <p>2.99</p> | <p>2\$3 for</p> | <p>2\$3 for</p> | <p>DIGITAL ONLY</p> <p>for U</p> <p>Yehuda Candles Memorial Tumbler 1 ct.</p> <p>3\$1 for</p> |
| <p>2\$5 for</p> | <p>79¢</p> | <p>2\$6 for</p> | <p>2.99</p> |
| <p>1.49</p> | <p>3.99</p> | <p>6.99</p> | <p>2.99</p> |
| <p>8.99 ea.</p> | <p>3.99 lb.</p> | <p>2.99 ea.</p> | <p>2\$5 for</p> |
| <p>2.99 lb.</p> | <p>1.99 ea.</p> | | |

SAVE \$1 when you buy 1 Manischewitz® Passover Broth

redeemable at: **ACME** \$4.99/1

RETAILER: We will reimburse you for the face value of this coupon plus 8¢ handling, provided you and the consumer have complied with the offer terms. Coupons not properly redeemed will be void and held. Reproduction of this coupon is expressly prohibited. ANY OTHER USE CONSTITUTES FRAUD. Mail to: The Manischewitz Company CMS Dept. #73490, 1 Fawcett Drive, Del Rio, TX 78840. Cash value .001¢. Void where taxed or restricted. LIMIT ONE COUPON PER PRODUCT PURCHASED. ©2022 The Manischewitz Company.

SAVE \$3 when you buy any 3 Tuscanini Products

redeemable at: **ACME** \$3.99/3

Limit one coupon per purchase. Not to be combined with any other coupons. Void if reproduced, sold or transferred or where prohibited or restricted by law. Misuse constitutes fraud. Consumer pays GWT and sales tax. Retailer: We will reimburse the face value plus 8¢ handling if submitted in accordance with our coupon redemption policy (available upon request). Mail coupons to: Inmar Dept. #73490, Kenner Marketing/DBA Kenco, 1 Fawcett Drive, Del Rio, TX 78840. Cash value 1/100¢.

SAVE \$1 when you buy 2 Yehuda Farfel, Matzo or Cake Meal (valid on regular only, not gluten-free)

redeemable at: **ACME** \$4.99/2

Limit one coupon per purchase. Not to be combined with any other coupons. Void if reproduced, sold or transferred or where prohibited or restricted by law. Misuse constitutes fraud. Consumer pays GWT and sales tax. Retailer: We will reimburse the face value plus 8¢ handling if submitted in accordance with our coupon redemption policy (available upon request). Mail coupons to: Inmar Dept. #73490, Kenner Marketing/DBA Kenco, 1 Fawcett Drive, Del Rio, TX 78840. Cash value 1/100¢.

Prices Effective Friday, April 1 thru Friday, April 15, 2022 Unless otherwise noted, offers in this ad are in effect at 6 a.m., Friday thru Friday midnight at your local ACME stores. LIMIT ONE COUPON PER ITEM PER DAY PER HOUSEHOLD. Prices and savings vary among store locations. Not all items or varieties available in all store locations. Quantities limited to inventory on hand and subject to availability. Sales in retail quantities only and we reserve the right to limit quantities sold to per customer. While supplies last. Unless otherwise noted, transactional limits may apply. On Buy One, Get One Free (BOGO) offers, customer must purchase the first item to receive the second item free. BOGO offers are not 1/2 price sales. If only a single item is purchased, the regular price applies. Manufacturers' coupons may only be used on purchased items, not on free items. All rebate offers are subject to applicable manufacturer's additional terms. Customer pays for applicable taxes, bottle/can deposit and bag fees, if any, on purchased and free items. We reserve the right to modify or cancel offers and/or correct typographical, pictorial and other ad or pricing errors. Prices for products ordered online generally are higher than in our physical store locations and may vary by fulfillment method chosen. Online promotions, discounts and offers may differ from those in our physical store locations. Offers are void or restricted where prohibited or limited by law and have no cash value. No cash back will be given.

GL00180719 ACM Philadelphia Jewish Exponent 4/1_9.25x5.5

known as Peisachdike lokshen (kosher for Passover noodles).

Legend has it that frittatensuppe may have originated in 19th century Austria to feed Austrian, French and Italian diplomats secretly meeting during the Congress of Vienna. One participant was Conte Romano de Frittata, whose coachman prepared the pancake. Frittata comes from the Italian word friggere, to fry; perhaps suggesting that the dish was named after the coachman's employer. However, the only similar Italian-Jewish recipe I could find was for Minestra di Sfoglietti Per Pesach, a soup containing noodles of baked dough, in *The Classic Cuisine of the Italian Jews* by Edda Servi Machlin. If the story is true, the dish did not make its way back to Italy.

Holocaust survivor Cecile Gruer, 86, is known as her family's chef. She movingly recalls eating flädla in 1946 at the first Passover she celebrated with her

family in an Austrian displaced persons camp after they were reunited. Then a teen, she watched her mother prepare the noodle as her mother had done in Hungary. Gruer makes flädla year-round, using potato starch, matzah meal or quinoa or almond flour for gluten-free relatives. Sometimes she'll just mix egg and water, essentially an omelette. Gruer suggests adding any herb, such as dill or cilantro, to heighten the soup's flavor. She continues these traditions because, she says, "You do not want to break the chain."

Gruer's and Natalie's families enjoy their flädla in chicken broth with matzah balls. The Lubavitch sect, who follow the custom of gebrochts and don't eat any dish where matzah can touch liquid, have just the noodle in their soup, says Leah Koenig, author of "The Jewish Cookbook." Gruer confides she doesn't like chicken soup. How does she eat her flädla? She laughs. "I would

have it on the plate!"

Ingredients

- 4 eggs, separated
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- ¼-½ cup (to taste) chopped chives
- 4 tablespoons potato starch
- ¼ cup of chicken broth
- oil

Separate the eggs and add the salt to the yolks.

Mix chives and potato starch in with the egg yolks. Add as much chicken broth as is necessary for the mixture to be the consistency of pancake batter.

Beat egg whites until stiff and add to yolk mixture (mix occasionally while cooking batches to avoid separation).

Heat a small amount of oil in a frying pan and add enough batter to

cover the bottom of the pan. Fry like a crepe, and remove from pan. Lay flädla on paper towels to absorb any excess oil.

Let cool, then roll each crepe and cut into thin strips. Flädla can be made a few days in advance and refrigerated.

Serve in hot soup and enjoy. **JE**

This article first appeared on The Nosh.



LEGAL DIRECTORY

ELDER LAW AND ESTATE PLANNING

Wills Trusts
Powers of Attorney
Living Wills
Probate Estates
Protect assets from nursing home

LARRY SCOTT AUERBACH, ESQ.
CERTIFIED ELDER LAW ATTORNEY
CPA-PFS, J.D., LL.M., MBA
1000 Easton Road
Abington, PA 19001

For consultation call
215-517-5566 or
1-877-987-8788 Toll Free
Website: www.Lsauerbach.com

BUSINESS DIRECTORY



Overwhelmed with the thought of moving?

THINKING OF A RETIREMENT COMMUNITY?

Can I afford it?
What if I need care?
What will I do with all of my stuff?

These and the rest of your questions will be answered by the senior living experts at S3Living.

Real Estate Brokerage for Seniors
Looking to Thrive

Point Your Phone's Camera below to learn more



Call David L. Reibstein
Broker of Record
215-259-5225 (o)
215-870-7362 (c)

Reverse Mortgage Reverse Purchase

Serving PA & FL

Michael Friedman
nmls# 131880

A Financial Planning Tool
A Safety Net For Seniors/Older Adults
215-901-6521 • 561-631-1701
info@reversingmtg.com
www.reversingmtg.com

JEFFREY HORROW

Personalized Tax Preparation
and Accounting For Individuals
and Businesses.

610-828-7060
SJHorrow.com
SJHorrow@gmail.com

BOOKEEPING SERVICES

Quickbooks Experience
610-715-3637

WWW.jewishexponent.com

Chai.



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

Every Thursday in the
Jewish Exponent
and all the time online at
jewishexponent.com.

For home delivery,
call **215.832.0700, ext. 1**

Passover Foods with Fiber — Is That Possible?

LINDA MOREL | SPECIAL TO THE EXPONENT

Most Jews look forward every Passover to their family's traditional foods: matzah balls, briskets, kugels and rich desserts.

They enjoy matzah with a myriad of delicious toppings for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

However, the religious prohibition against eating any leavened wheat, barley, rye, spelt or oats essentially eliminates much of the fiber from the typical American diet. Jews of Eastern European descent also avoid legumes, cutting out even more fiber. But this change in diet presents many people with a situation they rarely discuss — constipation.

To complicate matters, the foods many American Jews use to replace these grain-based staples aren't high-fiber fruits and vegetables but rather starchy, fiber-free packaged foods.

Matzah is made from fiber-free white flour and water. But the Bread of Affliction is also a digestive system blocker.

Constipation is a normal side effect of eating refined white-flour products with practically no fiber, explained Danielle Zolotnitsky, a dietitian in Philadelphia, in a Diet and Nutrition article.

She suggested the best thing to do to counteract matzah-induced constipation is to eat lots of fiber-rich vegetables and fruits. Drinking lots of water can also reverse the slowing effect of gluey carbs.

Here are some ways to increase fiber in your diet during Passover:

Eat whole wheat matzah, which has three grams of fiber per sheet. Include fruit in your breakfast, such as berries, melon and citrus.

Snack on raw vegetables. Add veggies and fruit to kugels. Serve side dishes brimming with produce. Eat fruit for dessert, or bake it into pastries. Dip strawberries or dried apricots in melted chocolate, and refrigerate it until serving.

Reaching for fruits and vegetables instead of packaged foods will encourage your digestive system to run smoothly during Passover and throughout the year.

Chicken Vegetable Soup | Meat Serves 8

- 1 small cabbage, 2-3 pounds

- 2 split chicken breasts, 4 pieces in all (with bones; and with or without skin)
- 6 carrots
- 6 celery stalks
- 1 large parsnip
- 1 large onion
- 2 tablespoon fresh dill, chopped
- 2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped
- 5 chicken bouillon cubes
- Kosher salt to taste

Cut the cabbage in half. Remove and discard the core. Slice the leaves into ribbons, and then chop them. Place the cabbage in a large pot. Peel and dice the carrots, celery, parsnip and onion. Add them to the pot, along with the remaining ingredients.

Pour in enough water to cover the ingredients by 2 inches. Place the lid on the pot, and bring it to a boil on a high flame. Then lower the flame to medium so that the soup simmers. If the water is boiling off too fast, lower the flame. Simmer for 90 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the chicken is cooked through.

With a slotted spoon utensil, remove the pieces of chicken. Cool them down to warm. Discard the skin. Pull the chicken off the bones and cut it into bite-sized pieces. Return the chicken to the pot and stir.

Serve immediately, or cover the pot and refrigerate until serving. This can be made 2 days in advance.

Kale and Strawberry Salad | Pareve Serves 8

- 1 bunch kale, any variety
- 2 (16-ounce) containers of strawberries
- 3 Granny Smith apples
- 1/3 cup raisins
- Kosher salt to taste
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice

Rinse the kale under cold water and drain it on paper towels or in a salad spinner. Remove the spines of each kale leaf. Chop the kale into bite-sized pieces. Move it to a large salad bowl.

Rinse the strawberries under cold water and drain them on paper tow-

els. Cut off the leaves. Slice the strawberries into bite-sized pieces, about 4-6 pieces per strawberry.

Peel and core the apples. Dice them into bite-sized pieces. Add the strawberries and apples to the salad bowl. The salad can be made to this point several hours ahead if covered with plastic wrap and refrigerated.

Sprinkle on the salt. Drizzle on the oil and lemon juice. Toss the ingredients together until well-combined. Serve immediately.

Thyme Roasted Zucchini and Yellow Squash | Pareve Serves 8

Equipment: 2 large skillets, an 11-inch-by-7-inch baking pan, such as Pyrex

- Nonstick vegetable spray
- 2 zucchini
- 2 yellow squash
- 2 extra-large onions
- 4 tablespoon olive oil, or more if needed to sauté, plus oil for drizzling
- Kosher salt to taste
- 1/2 teaspoon thyme

Coat the baking pan with nonstick spray. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

Slice the zucchini and yellow squash thinly. Place them on separate plates and reserve. Slice the onions thinly.

Coat each skillet with 2 tablespoons of olive oil. Place the skillets on medium-low flames until warm. Put 1 sliced onion into each skillet. Sprinkle the onions with salt. Sauté, turning every few minutes until caramelized. The onion slices will break into rings. Lower the flame if the onions brown too quickly. Add more oil, if needed. When caramelized, distribute the onions evenly across the bottom of the prepared pan.

Layer the zucchini slices over the onions. Drizzle a small amount of oil over the top. Sprinkle on the salt and 1/4 teaspoon of thyme. Repeat with the yellow squash. Cover the vegetables with parchment paper or loosely with aluminum foil.

Place them in the oven. Remove

the parchment or foil after 20 minutes and continue roasting for another 40 minutes, or until the zucchini and yellow squash are cooked through and the yellow squash is browned on top.

Baked Pears with Cinnamon and Chocolate | Dairy or Pareve Serves 8

- Nonstick vegetable spray
- 4 ripe Bosc pears
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons unsalted butter; or unsalted, dairy-free margarine
- 4 ounces semisweet chocolate (Glicks brand is kosher-for Passover and dairy-free)
- Optional accompaniment: vanilla ice cream or coconut sorbet

With a chef's knife, cut the pears in half lengthwise. Cut off a small slice from the rounded part of the pear halves, so they will rest evenly while baking. With a paring knife, remove the cores, seeds and any trace of the stems.

Sprinkle each half evenly with sugar and cinnamon. Dot each cavity with 1/4 teaspoon of butter or margarine. Bake for 1 hour, or until the centers are softened. Remove them from the oven and cool them to room temperature.

Set up a double boiler with an inch or so of water in the bottom part. Place the chocolate in the top part and cover it with the lid. (Or rig up a double boiler by placing a heatproof bowl over a pot of water and use aluminum foil as a lid.)

Bring the water to a rolling boil. Stir occasionally until the chocolate melts. Remove the top pot (or bowl) from the boiling water, and cool the chocolate briefly.

Using a dinner fork, stir the chocolate. Drizzle the chocolate a little at a time over the pear halves, creating haphazard but attractive lines of chocolate.

Serve immediately, or refrigerate them until the chocolate hardens. Cover the pears loosely with aluminum foil.

Bring the pears to room temperature before serving. They can be served with vanilla ice cream or coconut sorbet. **JE**

New Play Explores Israel-Palestine Conflict

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

Philadelphia's InterAct Theatre Co. produces plays that "provoke conversation" about sensitive topics, according to a recent press release.

Beginning on April 1, it will take on perhaps the most difficult conversation in Jewish life: the Israel-Palestine conflict.

"Settlements," written by Seth Rozin, a Jewish playwright and InterAct's producing artistic director, is about "a resident theater at a Jewish Community Center which finds itself pulled in conflicting directions when it commissions a new play about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict," according to a press release detailing the show.

Rozin wrote the play over several years after reading a 2014 Washington Post story about a similar incident, in which a Washington, D.C., theater director was dismissed from his JCC home after commissioning a play about Israeli soldiers killing Palestinians. Rozin said he feels it's important to explore not who's right and who's wrong in the conflict, but why it's so difficult to discuss.

He summed up "Settlements" as a meditation on society losing its political center of gravity.

"If we can't have civil, constructive conversation about the insoluble problem, how do we ever hope to get anywhere?" he asked.

It's a question Rozin asks in his personal life, too.

During Donald Trump's first presidential run in 2016 and his presidency over the ensuing four years, Rozin grew apart from his oldest friend. The friend was a Trump supporter, while the playwright was not.

The two became friends in second grade, and it wasn't until college that Rozin learned of his buddy's conserva-

tive political leanings. But at the time, he found their ideological differences stimulating. He described his friend as "a Liz Cheney conservative" and "a principled conservative."

"We could disagree," Rozin said. "But I respected there were principles."

But after Trump rode down the golden escalator at Trump Tower in 2015 and announced his candidacy, the playwright's friend jumped on the bandwagon. Then, throughout Trump's presidency, they started fighting via text.

They disagreed on everything from

Seth Rozin

Courtesy of Seth Rozin



JFCS HONORS | Two women, one shared mission



ANNA ZURITSKY BONI



JANE GOLDEN

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022

Join JFCS for this major donor event celebrating two phenomenal women who make Philadelphia a more vibrant city.

Learn more at jfcsphilly.org





A play presented by the InterAct Theatre Co.

Courtesy of Metcalfe Architecture & Design, LLC



ROTHKOFF LAW GROUP

Elder Care Law

LIFE CARE PLANNING | ESTATE PLANNING | MEDICAID
LONG-TERM CARE ADVOCACY | ASSET PROTECTION
VIRTUAL SUPPORT VIA PHONE & VIDEO CONFERENCE

(856) 616-2923 • NEW JERSEY
(215) 546-5800 • PENNSYLVANIA

f in t y | ROTHKOFFLAW.COM



REQUEST OUR ELDER CARE RESOURCE BOX

Solving Elder Care Law Issues with Respect and Compassion

the 45th president's stance on representative democracy to the meaning of Western identity. Their last heated text exchange was a little over two years ago before the pandemic even broke out in the United States, according to Rozin.

The men are still friends today, but they only really discuss two topics.

"We can't have a conversation other than, 'how are your kids and happy birthday,'" the playwright said.

There was never one "big, searing fight," Rozin added. Just a series of heated, frustrating and ultimately unproductive exchanges.

"We know it's not going to be productive. It's not rational and healthy for us," Rozin said. "I just find it deeply sad."

The playwright still views his friend's beliefs as "irrational," so he didn't base a character on his friend. He said he wanted the characters in "Settlements" to be emotional, at times, but never irrational.

"It's something that's thoughtful and provocative without being a grenade. I'm not trying to be provocative to be provocative," Rozin added. "I'm trying to be provocative in a way that's stimulating discourse."

"Settlements" will run from April 1-24 on Wednesday and Thursday at 7 p.m.,

Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Most performances at the 121-seat Proscenium Theatre at the Drake at 302 S. Hicks St., which is playing at 75% capacity due to COVID restrictions, will be followed by a conversation between Rozin and the audience.

The playwright said that's the part he's most looking forward to.

"We're going to have some really good, lively conversations after the show," he added.

David Winitzky, the show's director, believes it will work because theater is an art form well-suited to asking difficult questions.

"Theater is a thick medium," he said. "You're going to sit, you're going to be in it for a chunk of time, and that's the only way to get into these conversations."

Becca Khalil, an actor in the play, thinks that calling people out, out of love, can be an attempt to bridge a gap, and the play does call people out, out of love.

"I love calling people out, I love getting called out and I love engaging in difficult conversations," she explained. "It's the only thing that brings us together as people." **JE**

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com

GERALD “JERRY”

March 21, 2022, of Wynnewood, PA; beloved husband of Ann (nee Axelrod); loving father of Buddy Altus (Helaine) and Francy Altus; devoted brother of Miriam Robin (James); cherished grandfather of Zoe Robin Altus. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Gerald's memory may be made to the Bright Horizons Fund, c/o tbhbe.org.

WWW.LEVINEFUNERAL.COM
LEVINE FUNERAL HOME

LEO MAYNARD BERNSTEIN

March 14, 1929 – July 1, 2020

Leo Bernstein was born in Elgin, Illinois and was raised in Chicago, Illinois. Leo attended the University of Chicago from 1947 – 1949. In the summer of 1950, he became a communication specialist in the U.S. Air Force. With the help of

the GI Bill, he graduated in 1959 from The New School for Social Research with a B.A. in Economics. After graduating, he moved to Washington, D.C. and worked for the Office of Business Economics, U.S. Department Commerce (now the Bureau of Economic Analysis). He retired from the Department of Commerce in the early 1990's. He was a movie enthusiast, and he loved animals, baseball and the opera. His ashes will be interred at Riverside National Cemetery, in Riverside, California.

COHEN

Israel Howard Cohen, 96, passed peacefully away in the early morning hours of March 17, 2022. Izzy was married to the love of his life, the late Mildred “Molly” Wine, for 66 years and was the cherished father of Jamie Roberts and Brad Cohen (Lori) and the beloved grandpa of Melanie Roberts, Kent Roberts (Tori), Troy Cohen and Rebecca Cohen. He also leaves behind his brother, Mark Cohen (Marlyn). Although a poet and an artist at heart, Izzy was a pharmacist for 50 years, most notably at Feasterville Pharmacy and Campus Chemists. He was put to rest of the first full day of spring, March 21,2022. Donations in Izzy's name can be made to hias.org.

JAMIE ROBERTS
267-226-7923

COHEN

SIDNEY M. COHEN of Spring Hill, FL, age 89, passed away on March 17, 2022. Husband of the late Bernice. Loving father of Brian (Lois) Cohen and the late Faithe Renee Spena. Adoring brother of Claire Rimerman. Special friend of Catherine Leonardo. Caring grandfather of Julie (Brandon) Cole. Adoring great grandfather of Dylan. Proud uncle of Scriabin, Douglas, Ivy and Ian. Proud great uncle of Lauren, Andrew, Axel, Matthew, Alex and Jacob. Stepfather of Mitchell Gordon and Cindy (Jim) Burrows. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S
RAPHAEL-SACKS
WWW.GOLDSTEINSFUNERAL.COM

In Loving Memory Of
My Dear Grandmother

FANNIE GLASSMAN

March 29, 1983
15 Nissan

Always In My Heart
Loved And Remembered
On Her 39rd Yahrzeit And Everyday
LARRY D. GLASSMAN

GODFREY

CAROL H. GODFREY (nee Hauptman), died peacefully in her sleep on Sunday morning, March 20, 2022. Mother of Scott (Sharon), Robin, Jami (Jessica) and Dean Godfrey. Sister of Dr. Stephen Hauptman. Grandmother of Jason, Alyssa, Jillian, Mason, Carter, Harrison and Eddison. All that knew Carol were struck by her large personality in such a tiny frame. Carol was devoted to her children, and was the driving force supporting each of her children to follow their unique individual paths, whether it be medical school, law school, or skateboarding. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 399 Market St., Suite 250, Phila., PA 19106, www.alz.org/delval.

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS
www.goldsteinsfuneral.com

GRADESS

Michael Gradess, III on March 20, 2022. Husband of the late Elaine; father of Beverly (Rick) Auslander, Lisa (Robert) Weinstein and Steven (Svetlana) Gradess; grandfather of Melissa, Adam and Amy and the late Alexander and Matthew. Contributions in his memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS
www.goldsteinsfuneral.com

KLEVAN

FLORA LEE KLEVAN

December 16,1933-March 31, 1982
40th Yahrzeit

Although nothing can replace the gaping hole your death has left in my life, I want to thank you for all the ways in which you blessed my life. Because mixed together with all of my sadness, there is a great joy knowing you were my mom. I will remember your smile, your touch, your laughter, your kindness, your love. Thank you for the time we shared, for the love you gave, for the wisdom you spread. I will always treasure the lessons you taught me. I will carry them with me for the rest of my life. I am so proud to be your child. I love you.

Your loving daughter
LISA (KLEVAN) SOFFER
Always remembered by Lisa,
Howard, Nolan and Ilana Soffer

LEWENSON

Lewenson Helen (nee Trachtman) March 16, 2022, of East Norriton, PA; beloved wife of the late Dr. Fred S. Lewenson; loving mother of Stephen Lewenson (Marci) and Peter Lewenson (Victoria); cherished grandmother of Jared, Ethan, Aaron, Eric and Channa. Relatives and friends are invited to Graveside Services, Sunday, March 20, 2022, 11:00 A.M., at Roosevelt Memorial Park, Trevoise, PA. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Helen's memory may be made to the Jewish Federation of Greater Phila. (jewishphilly.org), or to the P.S.P.C.A. (pspca.org).

LEVINE FUNERAL HOME
WWW.LEVINEFUNERAL.COM

LONG

DEBORAH ANN on March 16, 2022. Beloved wife of Mitchell Baxt; Loving sister of Janet Long Weger (and the late Gerald). Also survived by many cousins. Contributions in her memory may be to the ASPCA, www.aspca.org.

www.GOLDSTEINSFUNERAL.COM
GOLDSTEINS' Rosenberg's Raphael-Sacks

MALTZMAN

MALTZMAN AMY (nee GOLDMAN) On March 16, 2022, of Lafayette Hill, PA. Wife of the late Rabbi Marshall Maltzman and the late Ellis Greenspan; Mother of Mitchell (Anita) Greenspan and Linda August; also survived by 5 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Services are Private. The family respectfully requested contributions in her memory be made to Temple Beth Torah (https://www.bethtorah.org/).

LEVINE FUNERAL HOME
WWW.LEVINEFUNERAL.COM

MARMELSTEIN

Randie Marmelstein (nee Richman) March 17, 2022 of Havertown, PA; beloved wife of Jeffrey Marmelstein; doting mother of Jason (Jennifer) Epstein, Jordan (Abigail) Marmelstein, and Alex (Briana) Marmelstein; cherished grandmother of Caitlyn, Joshua, Theodore, Preston and Derek; devoted sister to Warren (Susan) Richman. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Randie's memory can be made to the Sarcoma Foundation of America (https://www.curesarcoma.org/donate/).

LEVINE FUNERAL HOME
WWW.LEVINEFUNERAL.COM

RUBIN

Gisela Ruth (nee Bludau) on March 4, 2022. Beloved wife of William; Loving mother of Caryn Rogin (Paul), Eric Rubin, and Linda

Quinby (Adam); Devoted grandmother of Joshua (Ciar), Benjamin, Zachary, and

Samuel. Contributions in her memory may be made to Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, 100 N. 20th St., Ste. 405, Phila., PA 19103

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS
www.goldsteinsfuneral.com

SILBERMAN

Michael Steven Silberman

March 20, 2022, of Penn Valley, PA and Longport, NJ, beloved husband of Ellen (nee Goldman); loving father of Tracy (Joshua) Kardon, Scott (Carrie) Silberman and Leigh (John) Calarco; and devoted grandfather of Jackson and Liv Kardon, Skylar, Elle and Jones Calarco and Zachary Silberman. Michael was a prominent trans-actional commercial real estate, bankruptcy and banking attorney in practice for 46 years, and the founder of Silberman & Difilippo, P.C. Contributions in his memory may be made to Hematology-Oncology Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine or Penn Hospice Rittenhouse.

WWW.LEVINEFUNERAL.COM
JOSEPH LEVINE & SONS

SILL

Sill, Betsy Kanter of Ventnor passed away on March 20th, daughter of the late Martin and Ethel Kanter, husband of William J. Sill, mother of Rachel (Dr. Ryan Graham) Sill and Dr. Jordan (Claudia Cieslak-Sill) Sill, sister of Bonnie Kanter, and grandmother of Eliada Sill. Betsy was devoted to her husband and children, her extended family, her loyal basset hounds, mahjong, and canasta. Services are private at the request of the family. In lieu of flowers the family asks that contributions in her memory may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

J.S. GOLDSTEIN FUNERAL HOME & MONUMENTS INC.
WWW.JSGFUNERALS.COM

Jewish
Careers.com

FOR THOSE WHO
VALUE COMMUNITY

The preferred career resource for the
Jewish community
info.jewishcareers.com
410-902-2300



What's happening at ... Congregation Beth Israel

Beth Israel Focuses on Anti-racism

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

Congregation Beth Israel, a Reconstructionist synagogue in Media, has focused on social justice in its community activity for years.

But in 2020 after the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, the temple clarified its mission to emphasize anti-racism.

Beth Israel hosted an anti-racism summit in January; this spring, summer and fall, it's holding a book study on an Ibram X. Kendi title; throughout this year, synagogue leaders are starting an adult education class on anti-racism. And big picture, they are examining their policies and researching which organizations in the community they can support.

"We've been working hard on anti-racism," said Emma Lefkowitz, the president of Beth Israel's board of directors.

Lefkowitz and Rabbi Linda Potemken have an activist-oriented congregant base of about 160 families; and the leaders want to motivate members to target their activism toward anti-racist efforts.

They say it's in line with the Jewish value of tikkun olam, or healing the world.

"What is the Jewish mission?" Potemken said. "To walk in the world in the image of God."

At the small synagogue, members are faithful, but they are not strict about attending Shabbat services. Potemken said 15 people on Zoom is a decent turnout.

But there's no shortage of Beth Israel congregants who want to help with social justice, according to the rabbi. And this latest development is just a continuation of Beth Israel's existing mission. In the past, members have focused their activism on food banks, soup kitchens and on helping new moms get supplies for their children.

Almost two decades ago, Potemken started a program to partner with com-



Rabbi Nathan Martin and Rabbi Linda Potemken

Courtesy of Congregation Beth Israel



An event at Congregation Beth Israel

Photo by John Greenstine

munities down the road, like Chester and Marcus Hook, on social action efforts, a program that continues to this day.

"Beth Israel members tend to be passionate and they tend to be fighters," Lefkowitz said. "Everybody has something they care deeply about, and they want to make change."

Potemken is in her 25th year as rabbi at Beth Israel. She joined the temple after leading a service and teaching a class there during rabbinical school. She was drawn to the institution's "warm, down-to-Earth family feel," she said.

The rabbi said she had the good fortune to become the spiritual leader at Beth Israel right after it bought a new building. At that point, she started building the community's schedule and congregation.

Since Beth Israel members only met on Friday nights, Potemken added a Saturday service and Torah study. She also opened a Shabbat dinner on Friday nights and a Sabbath

lunch on Saturdays.

"She saw it as her task to expand the programming," Lefkowitz said. "It was a change that was quite welcome."

Larry Hamermesh joined Beth Israel with his wife 15 years ago. He said they left their old synagogue in Wilmington, Delaware, where they still live, because of Potemken. They got to know her through mutual friends and liked her.

"She's very approachable, enthusiastic and supportive of congregational participation," Hamermesh said.

After Potemken came on, Beth Israel grew for about 10 years before leveling off, and then declining a little. But while its membership is small, it is also steady, according to synagogue leaders.

To help Potemken lead it, the temple hired Rabbi Nathan Martin six years ago. Potemken wanted to reduce her role so she could have more time to breathe. The decision was uncomfortable at first, Potemken said, but after Martin arrived, she grew to love having a rabbinic partner.

"To have a thought partner was amazing," she said. "Communities resist change. We've benefited from it. Two rabbinic voices, styles and energies."

After the pandemic broke out, Martin led the pivot to virtual services. The new rabbi also motivated synagogue leaders to start the process of adding solar panels to the building in the coming years.

Potemken made it clear that she sees Martin as her successor when she eventually retires.

"When I retire, it won't be the shock that most communities get," she said.

Lefkowitz thinks the synagogue can be as sustainable as Martin's solar panels. A new member joined just last week, she said. Plus, at hybrid services, people are joining from as far as Vermont, Oregon and Florida.

"When you come into the building, you feel like you're coming into a community you've been in your whole life," she said. **JE**

jsaffren@jewishexponent.com



Torah Applies to Modern-day Circumstances

BY RABBI PETER RIGLER

Parshat Tazriah

I never imagined it! They used to come into my office when I handed the b'nai mitzvah students the Torah portion of Tazriah, and I could see disappointment.

"Really?" one student said, "Some kids get Noah, and I get this stuff about skin disease?"

In Leviticus 13, we read, "And the LORD spoke unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying: When a man shall have in the skin of his flesh a rising, or a scab, or a bright spot, and it becomes in the skin of his flesh the plague of *tzaraat*, then he shall be brought unto Aaron the priest, or unto one of his sons the priests."

A beloved colleague tells the story that the only time someone was happy when they saw Tazriah was when it turned out the parents were dermatologists.

Our perspectives can shift and the meaning of our text adjusts with it! This portion will never be read the same way again! What student would want to embrace a portion about disease?

This portion grapples not only with the disease known as *tzaraat*, often mistranslated as leprosy, but also with the societal behaviors in response. An acknowledgment that disease can be scary not just for the person who is ill but for those who live with and near them who don't understand what is happening. The symptoms are described in detail — really graphic detail!

What's described is leprosy, skin afflictions, anything from eczema or psoriasis to deep infections. It was actually the priest who would diagnose and determine if the person had to be quarantined, was actually clean enough to stay in the community and how/when they could return.

I could never have imagined the moment that happened for an upcoming b'nai mitzvah student who said, "Rabbi, I got the most important portion!" They explained that the portion Tazriah felt relevant in the wake of

Our Torah portion considers, in a cutting edge way for the time it was written, how not to cast people aside when they are sick.

the pandemic.

What my student realized was that the Torah was struggling with the same things we are today.

Think about the central questions we are experiencing: How are our leaders protecting exposure? Is there a connection between materialism over matters of health? Does the individual or needs of the community come first? How are the needs of those who live on the margins of our society being addressed? How do we look at those who are in the center of the storm including health workers, teachers, deliverers and leaders?

Our Torah portion considers, in a cutting edge way for the time it was written, how not to cast people aside when they are sick, how to create safety and care for the larger community and how to lead through such a crisis.

Take just one example about the communal need to care for others.

The Talmud reminds us when considering these verses, one calls out their infected status not only to warn others of the contagion but also to elicit compassion and prayers on one's behalf (BT Moed Katan 5a). It is the responsibility of the affected person to isolate, ask for help, social-distance, and it is the responsibility of the community to offer the support, prayer and ultimately whatever assistance was possible. No one should be isolated more than necessary for as much as the individual suffers, so does the community.

Whatever the cause of the separation from community, it was the priest who would tend to the individual and help determine when they could return.

It is precisely because we come back to Torah text so often that in it we con-

stantly find wisdom. This is even more true as our world and lives change like this reading of Tazriah. A disciple of Rabbi Hillel's known as Ben Bag-Bag said the following: "Turn it, and turn it, for everything is in it. Reflect on it and grow old and gray with it. Don't turn from it, for nothing is better than it (Mishnah Pirkei Avot 5:22).

Our tradition is built on this model.

We return to the text activating prior knowledge and holding new experiences so that we can gain new understandings. We are not alone as life brings new challenges — we have the wisdom of Torah to hold and guide us! JE

Rabbi Peter Rigler is the rabbi at Temple Sholom in Broomall. 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.



BOARD OF RABBIS
of Greater Philadelphia

WWDB-AM
TALK 860

FRIDAYS
AT 3P

GARY HENDLER
CLEAN & SOBER
PROMOTING A LIFETIME
FREE OF ALCOHOL & DRUGS

APRIL 1–APRIL 7

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

VIRTUAL CLASSES

Golden Slipper Gems is a great place to connect with friends and meet new people. Our diverse speakers will stimulate your passion for learning, and you'll keep returning to sample all that we have to offer. **Click on our website and learn more about our most recent classes at goldenslippergems.org.**

SHABBATUNE!

Temple Har Zion welcomes visiting scholar Rabbi Geela Raphael, who will lead a Renewal Shabbat service at 8 p.m. On Saturday, services/Torah study will be led by Rabbi Emeritus Richard Simon at 10 a.m., followed by an oneg. At 1 p.m., Raphael will lead an interactive sing-along workshop. **To register for access to the virtual event, visit TempleHarZion.org/events1.**

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

BARGAIN SALE

Refresh your home for the spring with the Better Home & Garden Bargain Sale at Main Line Reform Temple from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on April 3 and 4. You won't find better deals on home goods, decor, tools, linens, crafts and more anywhere. **410 Montgomery Ave., Wynnewood.**

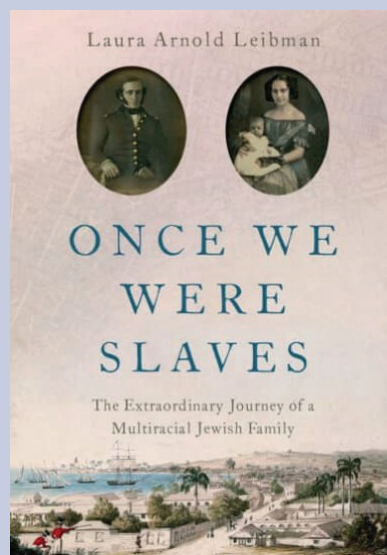
BOOK TALK

Har Zion Temple Sisterhood and Department of Lifelong Learning present the "Open A Book ... Open Your Mind" event series via Zoom. Each event will cost \$18. At 7 p.m., author Ira Rosen will discuss "Tick-ing Clock." **For information and to register, email openabook@harziontemple.org.**

MONDAY, APRIL 4

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, APRIL 5
AUTHOR LECTURE

Gratz College welcomes Laura Arnold Leibman, professor of English and humanities at Reed College and the author of "Once We Were Slaves," which tells a story of the largely forgotten people of mixed African and Jewish ancestry. Free event, but registration is required to receive Zoom link. **For more information: mcohen@gratz.edu or 215-635-7300, ext. 155.**

BOOK TALK

Har Zion Temple Sisterhood and Department of Lifelong Learning present the "Open A Book ... Open Your Mind" event series via Zoom. Each event will cost \$18. At 11:30 a.m., author Annabelle Gurwich will discuss "You're Leaving When?" **For information and to register, email openabook@harziontemple.org.**

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

BOOK TALK

Har Zion Temple Sisterhood and Department of Lifelong Learning present the "Open A Book ... Open Your Mind" event series via Zoom. Each event will cost \$18. At 11:30 a.m., author Linda Kaufman will discuss "Mishugas." **For information and to register, email openabook@harziontemple.org.**

BINGO WITH BARRY

Join Barry at Tabas Kleinlife for an afternoon of bingo from 12:30-3:30 p.m. on April 4 and 5. Free parking and free to play with snacks available on April 5. **For more**

information, call 215-745-3127. 2101 Strahle St., Philadelphia.

SISTERHOOD MEETING

The Sisterhood of Congregations of Shaare Shamayim will be hosting a general meeting at 7:30 p.m. Our program features Cathryn Miller-Wilson, HIAS Pennsylvania executive director. **Contact the synagogue office at 215-677-1600 for further details. 9768 Verree Road, Philadelphia.**

MOVING TRADITIONS MEETING

What does the gender language of the preteens and teens in your life mean? Why does gender language matter so much to teens of all genders? Join Moving Traditions at 8 p.m. for a webinar on how to let your teens take the lead in teaching you what gender expansiveness means. **movingtraditions.org/demystifying-teen-language-around-gender/.**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

Robert Siegel (former senior host of

NPR's "All Things Considered") interviews Ambassador Ivo Daalder, Robin Wright, Kimberly Marten and Donald Jensen as part of Global Connections: Navigating the New Normal. **4 p.m. Free registration: rb.gy/ix9llk.**

BOOK TALK

Har Zion Temple Sisterhood and Department of Lifelong Learning present the "Open A Book ... Open Your Mind" event series via Zoom. Each event will cost \$18. At 7 p.m., author Jean Hanff Korelitz will discuss "The Plot." **For information and to register, email openabook@harziontemple.org.**

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

GRATZ LECTURE

This Gratz College Continuing Legal Education program will examine the relationship between the Federal Arbitration Act, the U.S. Constitution and arbitration in rabbinical courts in the U.S. Registrants can participate in-person or on Zoom. **For more information contact, mcohen@gratz.edu.**

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Jewish Family and Children's Service is offering this eight-session online support group for individuals who have suffered the loss of a loved one. Sessions will be held from 10:30 a.m.-noon until April 21 on Zoom, and the cost is \$144 total. **Contact Rivka Goldman at 267-256-2250 or rgoldman@jfcshilly.org for more information.**

TREE OF LIFE EVENT

Jewish National Fund-USA will host a Tree of Life event honoring AmeriSourceBergen Corp. Chairman, President and CEO Steven Collis at 6 p.m. **Visit jnf.org/epatol for more information. 4200 City Ave., Philadelphia.**

BOOK TALK

Har Zion Temple Sisterhood and Department of Lifelong Learning present the "Open A Book ... Open Your Mind" event series via Zoom. Each event will cost \$18. At 7 p.m., author Tracy Walder will discuss "The Unexpected Spy." **For information and to register, email openabook@harziontemple.org. JE**

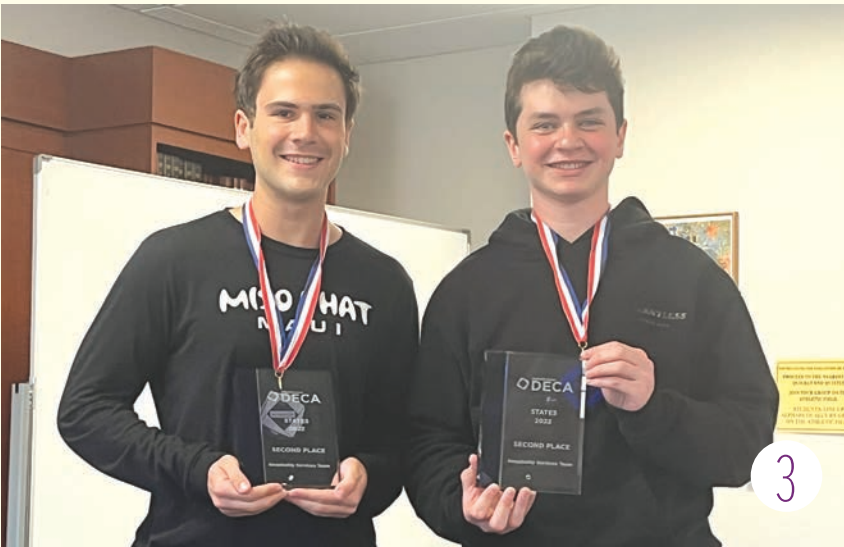
Out & About



Courtesy of Abrams Hebrew Academy



Courtesy of Lower Merion Area Hebrew High School



Courtesy of Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy



Courtesy of Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy



Courtesy of Kohelet Yeshiva High School

① Abrams Hebrew Academy students celebrated Purim by reading the Megillah, dressing in costumes and enjoying a carnival. ② Lower Merion Area Hebrew High School students made hamantaschen for themselves and others. ③ Eight Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy seniors received awards for their top performances at the DECA state conference for emerging business leaders. ④ To fulfill the mitzvah of Matanot L'Evyonim (gifts for those in need) on Purim, Barrack students made more than 400 bags of essential items for Project Home, an organization that fights to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty in Philadelphia. ⑤ Kohelet Yeshiva High School, an Orthodox Jewish day school in Lower Merion, held a “Day of Learning Related to the Ongoing War in Ukraine” on March 22.

CREATING A PROTAGONIST WITH Joel Burcat

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Joel Burcat claims he didn't base his protagonist Mike Jacobs on himself, but the similarities are undoubtedly there.

Both are environmental lawyers, Jewish and attended the Pennsylvania State University and studied geography. But the comparison ends there, Burcat insisted.

"I often say that he has the DNA from a lot of different people," Burcat said.

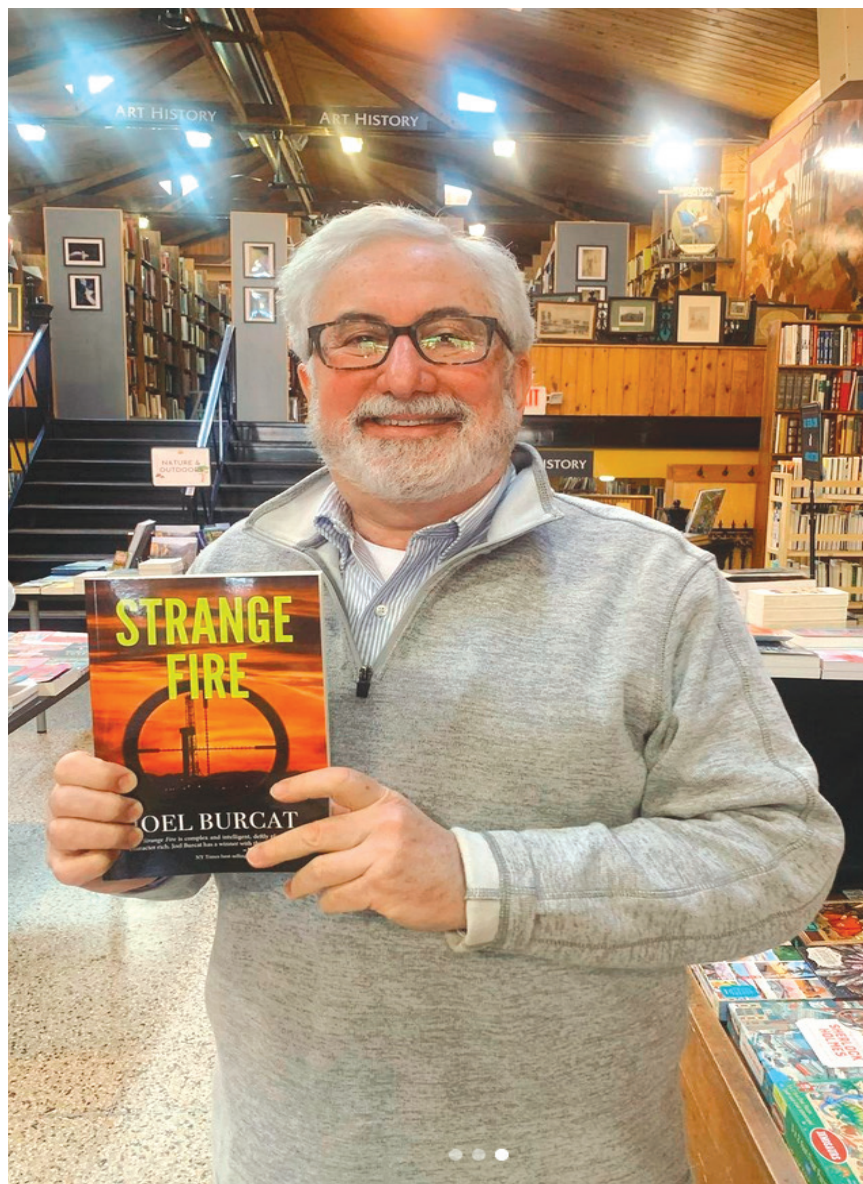
The Wynnefield native, who now lives in Harrisburg, is the author of three environmental legal thriller novels and dozens more short stories. He has spent the last 15 years pursuing writing as a passion project, drawing inspiration from his 38-year law career and from the everyday.

His most recent novel "Strange Fire," published by Headline Books, came out on Feb 2. The novel, a standalone piece in the series of three Mike Jacobs novels, follows Mike as he investigates a Bradford County water source contaminated by fracking. Along the way, the 29-year-old protagonist falls in love and grapples with his Jewish identity.

Growing up, Burcat did not necessarily think of himself an author, but he definitely didn't intend to become a lawyer. In fact, he didn't even think about law until the Penn State registrar's office sent him a "nasty letter" asking him to pick a major.

While a geography degree lends itself to a career in cartography or city planning, Burcat was most drawn to law. A job as assistant attorney general with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources in 1980 set his career in motion.

Since he began in environmental law 42 years ago, global warming has taken a stronger hold on the politics and culture of the world, Burcat said. Environmental cases used to be local, but now focus on the greater global implications of climate change.



Burcat found a love for his unexpected career path and found that it melded effortlessly with his Jewish values. Burcat, who grew up attending Har Zion Temple in Penn Valley, has always had a deep sense of his Jewish values, which he believes bolstered his work as an environmental lawyer.

"The Torah says, 'The earth is mine. You are but strangers and sojourners to me,'" Burcat said.

His decision to make Mike Jacobs Jewish was a no-brainer.

"I didn't know of too many other Jewish legal thriller heroes, and I felt that this would be something ... that

hadn't really been done that much before," Burcat said.

But the protagonist isn't just symbolically Jewish; he's a practicing Jew with an odd year of rabbinical school under his belt. Mike is a "mensch" trying to figure out how to live out his Jewish values as a 20-something in the real world, deciding whether or not to date Jewish women and, at some points in the novels, stop practicing Judaism altogether.

Burcat is far from a stranger to existential crossroads himself. In 2018, he was diagnosed with nonarteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy, which

gave him blood clots in the back of his eyes, rendering him legally blind and precipitating a leave of absence-turned-early retirement from his law practice.

Though he had written fiction for more than 10 years at that point, it was in the early days of the disease in 2019 that he wrote "Strange Fire," which took only seven weeks to write.

Beyond environmental legal thrillers, Burcat has written a short story about beer, a speculative fiction piece about a small-town police department going to war with the FBI and a young adult post-apocalyptic thriller about what would happen if adults died off in a pandemic, leaving only teens to survive.

Fiction writing gave Burcat the "awesome" feeling of being creative and the gratification of creating something educational and accessible to non-lawyers, he said. Burcat's extensive law career helped him craft a realistic narrative, but his understanding of how to get inside his characters' heads is what makes him a good storyteller.

"When people read fiction they're looking to be transported; they're looking to understand something that they couldn't otherwise understand," Burcat said. "When you're writing a legal thriller, you are transporting people — not just into a courtroom, because anybody can go to any courtroom in the United States and sit there and watch. You're transporting the reader into the head of the lawyer. You're learning what it is that a lawyer is thinking about, what his strategy is, what his tactics are."

Burcat is working on a fourth book in the Mike Jacobs series inspired by the Flint, Michigan, water crisis, in which thousands of children were exposed to water contaminated with lead. He intends to continue the habit of fiction writing beyond that.

"The words just — it comes from deep inside you," Burcat said. "And I love that feeling." **JE**

srogelberg@midatlanticmedia.com

JEWISH EXPONENT CLASSIFIEDS

To advertise, call 215-832-0749

CEMETERY LOTS FOR SALE

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

Montefiore Cemetery
2 plots, block 2, lot 386.
Graves 3 & 4 \$3500 for both
Call Garry 954-326-1623

ELDER CARE

**Caring & Reliable
Experienced & Trained
BONDED & LICENSED
Available 24/7
20 Years Experience
Very Affordable
215-477-1050**

**EXPERIENCED
CAREGIVER
NURSING ASSISTANT,
COMPANION, SEEKING
IN-HOME POSITION**
10 years experience pro-
viding non-medical in home
care including: Helping
seniors with daily
living activities, Bathing,
dressing, cooking, & laundry,
running errands, light house-
keeping, transportation &
more
**Contact Abraham
484-844-0151**

FOR RENT

Ventnor Rental
St. Leonard's Tract. One
block to the beach, one
block to ice cream. 6 bdrm,
3.5 bath home, available Jul
30 to Sep 24.
www.vrbo.com/832274

WWW.
jewishexponent
.com

HOUSEHOLD GOODS WANTED

**DOWNSIZING
OR CLEANING
OUT?**
1 man's trash/another
man's treasure
**Call Joel 215-947-
2817**
CASH IN YOUR
CLOSET INC.
Licensed and
Bonded
ESTATE SALES

MISCELLANEOUS

Miscellaneous:
Become a Published Author.
We want to Read Your Book!
Dorrance Publishing-Trusted
by Authors Since 1920 Book
manuscript submissions
currently being reviewed.
Comprehensive Services:
Consultation, Production,
Promotion and Distribution.
Call for Your Free Author's
Guide 1-877-670-0236 or
visit dorranceinfo.com/pasn

Miscellaneous:
DIRECTV for \$79.99/mo for
12 months with CHOICE
Package. Watch your favor-
ite live sports, news & en-
tertainment anywhere. First
3 months of HBO Max, Cin-
emax, Showtime, Starz and
Epix included! Directv is #1
in Customer Satisfaction (JD
Power & Assoc.) Some re-
strictions apply. Call 1-855-
806-2315

Miscellaneous:
DISH Network. \$59.99 for
190 Channels! Blazing Fast
Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where
available.) Switch & Get a
FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card.
FREE Voice Remote. FREE
HD DVR. FREE Streaming
on ALL Devices. Call today!
1-855-335-6094

Miscellaneous:
Prepare for power outag-
es today with a GENERAC
home standby generator. \$0
Money Down + Low Monthly
Payment Options

Request a FREE Quote –
Call now before the next
power outage:
1-888-605-4028

Miscellaneous:
Wesley Financial Group,
LLC
Timeshare Cancellation
Experts
Over \$50,000,000 in time-
share debt and fees can-
celled in 2019. Get free infor-
mational package and learn
how to get rid of your time-
share! Free consultations.
Over 450 positive reviews.
Call 855-402-5341

PET SERVICES

Dogs, Pets, Livestock:
Use Happy Jack® Skin
Balm® on cats & dogs to
treat hot spots, flea allergies
without steroids! At Tractor
Supply®
(www.fleabeacon.com)

TUTORING

EDUCATION PLUS
Private tutoring, all subjects,
elemen.-college,
SAT/ACT prep.
7 days/week.
Expd. & motivated
instructors.
(215)576-1096
www.educationplusinc.com

Legals

ESTATE OF BERNICE
ARMSTRONG a/k/a BERNICE
HOBBS ARMSTRONG,
DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County, PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY
on the above Estate have been
granted to the undersigned, who
request all persons having claims or
demands against the estate of the
decendent to make known the same
and all persons indebted to the
decendent to make payment without
delay to FRANCES WEBSTER
BROWN, EXECUTRIX, c/o Jay
E. Kivitz, Esq., 7901 Ogontz Ave.,
Philadelphia, PA 19150;
Or to her Attorney:
JAY E. KIVITZ
KIVITZ & KIVITZ, P.C.
7901 Ogontz Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19150

**CHANGE OF NAME
IN THE COURT OF COMMON
PLEAS
CIVIL DIVISION OF
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY**Court

of Common Pleas for the County
of Philadelphia, March Term, 2022,
No. 001133. Notice is hereby given
that on March 22nd, 2022 the peti-
tion was filed, praying for a decree
to change his name from Adam
Izanoutene to Ouelhadj Izanoutene.
The Court has fixed April 28th, 2022
at 10:00 A.M. in Courtroom 691,
City Hall, Philadelphia, PA for the
hearing. All persons interested may
appear and show cause if any they
have, why the prayer of the said
petition should not be granted.

Ejaz A. Sabir, Esq.
Sabir Law Group
6454 Market Street
Second Floor
Upper Darby, PA 19082
Solicitor

**CHANGE OF NAME
IN THE COURT OF COMMON
PLEAS
CIVIL DIVISION OF
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY**
Court of Common Pleas for the
County of Philadelphia, March
Term, 2022, No. 001133. Notice
is hereby given that on March
22nd, 2022 the petition was filed,
praying for a decree to change his
name from **Adam Izanoutene** to
Ouelhadj Izanoutene. The Court
has fixed April 28th, 2022 at 10:00
A.M. in Courtroom 691, City Hall,
Philadelphia, PA for the hearing.
All persons interested may appear
and show cause if any they have,
why the prayer of the said petition
should not be granted.
Ejaz A. Sabir, Esq.
Sabir Law Group
6454 Market Street
Second Floor
Upper Darby, PA 19082
Solicitor

ESTATE OF ANNA MAE
PAONESSA, 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
decendent to make known the same
and all persons indebted to the
decendent to make payment without
delay to PAULINE PAONESSA,
EXECUTRIX, 191 Willow Ct., 2nd
Fl., Bensalem, PA 19020,
Or to her Attorney:
MARYBETH O. LAURIA
LAURIA LAW LLC
3031 Walton Rd., Ste. A320
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

ESTATE OF BARBARA ANN RYAN
a/k/a BARBARA RYAN, BARBARA
A. RYAN, 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 decedent
to make payment without delay
to DAWN MARIE THOMPSON,
ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Stephen T.
Loester, Esq., 100 W. 6th St., Ste.
204, Media, PA 19063,
Or to her Attorney:
STEPHEN T. LOESTER
GIBSON & PERKINS, P.C.
100 W. 6th St., Ste. 204
Media, PA 19063

ESTATE OF BRUCE S. ALLEN,
DECEASED.
Late of Upper Merion Township,
Montgomery 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
DIANE ALLEN, EXECUTRIX, 205
Valley Forge Lookout Place, Radnor,
PA 19087,
Or to her Attorney:
WARREN VOGEL
ECKERT SEAMANS CHERIN &
MELLOTT, LLC
Two Liberty Place
50 S. 16th St., 22nd Fl.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE OF CHARLOTTE
MIDDLEMAN, 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
MARK MIDDLEMAN, EXECUTOR,
c/o Bradley Newman, Esq., 123 S.
Broad St., Ste. 1030, Philadelphia,
PA 19109,
Or to his Attorney:
BRADLEY NEWMAN
ESTATE & ELDER LAW OFFICE
OF BRADLEY NEWMAN
123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030
Philadelphia, PA 19109

ESTATE OF CLAUDIA WOLF,
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
DAVID S. WOLF, EXECUTOR,
c/o Andrew Gavrin, Esq., 306
Clairemont Rd., Villanova, PA
19085,
Or to his Attorney:
ANDREW GAVRIN
306 Clairemont Rd.
Villanova, PA 19085

ESTATE OF CONSTANCE
WILF, DECEASED.

Late of Lower Merion Town-
ship, Montgomery County,
PA
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY
on the above Estate have
been granted to the under-
signed, who request all per-
sons 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 KAREN WILF, EXECU-
TRIX, c/o Rebecca Rosen-
berger Smolen, Esq., 1 Bala
Plaza, Ste. 623, Bala Cyn-
wyd, PA 19004,
Or to her Attorney:
REBECCA ROSENBERG-
ER SMOLEN
BALA LAW GROUP, LLC
1 Bala Plaza, Ste. 623
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

ESTATE OF DANIEL J.
PETERSEN, 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
DEBRA BRITT, 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 DUANE AUGUSTUS
WILLIE, 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
decendent to make known the same
and all persons indebted to the
decendent to make payment without
delay to ALAN S. FORMAN, ESQ.
and PETER KLENK, ESQ., 2202
Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA
19103,
Or to their Attorney:
DANIELLA A. HORN
KLENK LAW
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF ELIZABETH
STEVENSON, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the
above Estate have been granted to
the undersigned, who request all

HOME SERVICES

GOLDEN HARMONY HOME CARE

Independence while at the same time improving their quality of life by helping them remain in the comfort of their own homes.

Non-medical Home Care • Dememtia/Aizheimer's Care • 24-hour care/ hourly/Live-in Medication Reminders • Meal preparation/ light housekeeping
Transportation/ Doctor's visit/ Mobility Assistance • Companionship • Shopping and errands



License/insured/bonded
Call 267-969-8312 for more information
www.golden-harmony.com

PET SERVICES

WE SCOOP
DOG POOP
215-DOG-POOP
www.poopiescoopersr-us.com

JEWISH EXPONENT
CLASSIFIEDS

To advertise, call 215-832-0749

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 Arthur W. Stevenson, Executor, c/o Harry Metka, Esq., 4802 Neshaminy Blvd, Ste. 9, Bensalem, PA 19020, Or to his Attorney: HARRY METKA 4802 Neshaminy Blvd, Ste. 9 Bensalem, PA 19020

ESTATE OF ELVAYANN LEIGH WEAVER, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who bequest 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 Savilla Jiles, Executrix, c/o Samuel Ben-Samuel, Esquire 273 Montgomery Ave., Ste., 201, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 or to his attorney: Samuel Ben-Samuel 273 Montgomery Ave. Ste. 201 Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

ESTATE OF EMMA ROSARIO a/k/a EMMA LUCY ROSARIO, 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 MIGUEL ANGEL MIRANDA, JR., ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Kenneth R. Pugh, Esq., 5401 Wissahickon Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19144, OR to his Attorney: KENNETH R. PUGH JERNER LAW GROUP, P.C. 5401 Wissahickon Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19144

ESTATE OF ERIC ROEBUCK, 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 EVANS ROEBUCK, ADMINISTRATOR, 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 ESSER LUE DAVIS, 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 PAULINE COLEMAN, EXECUTRIX, c/o Nathan Snyder, Esq., 3070 Bristol Pike, Bldg. 2, Ste. 204, Bensalem, PA 19020, Or to her Attorney: NATHAN SNYDER LAW OFFICE OF NATHAN SNYDER 3070 Bristol Pike, Bldg. 2, Ste. 204 Bensalem, PA 19020

Estate of EVA MAE DANIELS, deceased.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who bequest 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 Nathan Daniels, Administrator, c/o Samuel Ben-Samuel, Esquire 273 Montgomery Ave., Ste., 201, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 or to his attorney: Samuel Ben-Samuel 273 Montgomery Ave. Ste. 201 Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

ESTATE OF FITZGERALD ANDERSON, 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 CHARMAIN ANDERSON-COVER, EXECUTRIX, c/o Angela D. Giampolo, Esq., 1221 Locust St., Ste. 202, Philadelphia, PA 19107, Or to her Attorney: ANGELA D. GIAMPOLO GIAMPOLO LAW GROUP, LLC 1221 Locust St., Ste. 202 Philadelphia, PA 19107

ESTATE OF GLADYCE F. RUBIN, DECEASED.
Late of Upper Moreland Township, Montgomery 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 ARLENE B. RUBIN and JEFFRY F. RUBIN, EXECUTORS,

c/o Lawrence S. Chane, Esq., One Logan Square, 130 N. 18th St., Philadelphia, PA 19103-6998, Or to their Attorney: LAWRENCE S. CHANE BLANK ROME LLP One Logan Square 130 N. 18th St. Philadelphia, PA 19103-6998

ESTATE OF HELEN D. DELMOOR BROWN a/k/a HELEN D. BROWN, 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 AYANNA E. DELMOOR, ADMINISTRATRIX CTA, c/o Jay E. Kivitz, Esq., 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150, Or to her Attorney: JAY E. KIVITZ KIVITZ & KIVITZ, P.C. 7901 Ogontz Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19150

ESTATE OF HENRIETTA SLAP, DECEASED
Late of Philadelphia, PA.
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make payment without delay, to Eve Slap and Alison Tress, Executrices, c/o Gary A. Zlotnick, Esq., Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaer & Toddy, PC, One Commerce Sq., 2005 Market St., 16th Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103 or to their attorneys, Gary A. Zlotnick, Esq. Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaer & Toddy, PC One Commerce Sq. 2005 Market St., 16th Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF HENRY M. WILKOWSKI a/k/a HENRY WILKOWSKI, 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 ROBERT STEPHEN WILKOWSKI, EXECUTOR, c/o John M. Pelet, III, Esq., 200 S. Broad St., Ste. 600, Philadelphia, PA 19102, Or to his Attorney: John M. Pelet, III Astor Weiss Kaplan & Mandel, LLP 200 S. Broad St., Ste. 600 Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE OF JEANETTE L. SANTUCCI, (a/k/a JEANETTE SANTUCCI, 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 NIKKI JOHNSON, EXECUTRIX, c/o Carolyn M. Marchesani, Esq., 800 E. High St., Pottstown, PA 19464, Or to her Attorney: CAROLYN M. MARCHESANI WOLF, BALDWIN & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 800 E. High St. Pottstown, PA 19464

ESTATE OF JEANNIE ADAMS, 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 RALPH NICHOLS, JR., EXECUTOR, Adam S. Bernick, Esq., 2047 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to his Attorney: ADAM S. BERNICK LAW OFFICE OF ADAM S. BERNICK 2047 Locust St. Philadelphia, PA 19103

Estate of LOUIS I. PIATETSKY, Deceased.
Late of Pennsylvania
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who bequest 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 Debra G. Speyer, Esq., Administrator c/o his attorney Debra G. Speyer, Two Bala Plaza, Suite 300, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004.

Estate of LUKASZ PAWLOWSKI, deceased. Late of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA.
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who bequest 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 Radoslaw Pawlowski, Administrator, c/o Gary Stewart Seflin, Esquire, 30 West Third Street, Media, PA 19063 or to his attorney: Gary Stewart Seflin 30 West Third Street Media, PA 19063

ESTATE OF MARC ZOLL Deceased
Late of Philadelphia, PA.
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to, Melissa Caplan, 6 Shamrock Court, Newtown, PA 18940 Administratrix. Jeffrey S. Michels, Esq. 1234 Bridgetown Pike Suite 110 Feasterville, PA 19053

ESTATE OF PEARL SAMSON, 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 David Samson, Executor, c/o Harry Metka, Esq., 4802 Neshaminy Blvd, Ste. 9, Bensalem, PA 19020, Or to his Attorney: HARRY METKA 4802 Neshaminy Blvd, Ste. 9 Bensalem, PA 19020

ESTATE OF SALLY ANN HAMILTON, 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 KARYN L. COATES, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Donna J. Wengiel, Esq., P.O. Box 70, Newtown, PA 18940, Or to her Attorney: DONNA J. WENGIEL STUCKERT AND YATES P.O. Box 70 Newtown, PA 18940

ESTATE OF SHIRLEY SCHMUCKLER a/k/a SHIRLEY HYMAN SCHMUCKLER, DECEASED.
Late of Lower Merion Township, Montgomery 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 LOUIS A. SCHMUCKLER, EXECUTOR, c/o Katherine F. Thackray, Esq., 1880 JFK Blvd., Ste. 1740, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to his Attorney:

KATHERINE F. THACKRAY ALEXANDER & PELLI, LLC 1880 JFK Blvd., Ste. 1740 Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF STANLEY JULES RIPKIN a/k/a STANLEY RIPKIN, STANLEY J. RIPKIN, 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 SETH J. RIPKIN, Executor, c/o Harry Metka, Esq., 4802 Neshaminy Blvd, Ste. 9, Bensalem, PA 19020, Or to his Attorney: HARRY METKA 4802 Neshaminy Blvd, Ste. 9 Bensalem, PA 19020

ESTATE OF STEPHEN PATRICK CONLON, SR., DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to CAITLIN CONLON, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Amy F. Steerman, Esq., 1900 Spruce St., Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to her Attorney: AMY F. STEERMAN AMY F. STEERMAN LLC 1900 Spruce St. Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF THOMAS RISPO, 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 VINCENT RISPO, ADMINISTRATOR, 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

Notice is hereby given that Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on 3/14/22, with respect to a proposed nonprofit corporation, **The Hermitage Philadelphia**, which has been incorporated under the Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.



*From our home to yours
We are wishing the
Community a
Happy
Passover*

Life and Legacy is a program of the Howard Grinspoon Foundation. This community collaboration secures legacy gifts to insure that the important work of the organizations involved continue for generations to come.

We sincerely thank all of those who have committed to a legacy gift that will enable us to continue the mission of Seashore Gardens Living Center. We would love to have a conversation with you about what you would like your legacy to be.

www.seashoregardens.org

Join Us!

*For our 12th Annual
5K Run & Walk
April 10th, 2022
9AM*

FREE PARKING!

scan to sign up



*Stockton University
Atlantic City
on the Boardwalk*