ELECTION HANGOVER



PAGE 22

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JEWISH EXPONEN

- WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA -

OF NOTE

LOCAL

Anatomy of a **Protest March** Area clergy rely on each other for rapid response. Page 4

LOCAL

Ambassador to Share Father's **Heroic Story**

Lt. John Withers befriended Dachau survivors. Page 8

LOCAL

Susan G. Komen Closes Local Office

Organization to operate remotely. Page 12

Volume 133 Number 30 Published Weekly Since 1887



Jewish Men Confronted by Black Hebrew **Israelites** at **Protest**

JESSE BERNSTEIN, LIZ SPIKOL AND BEN SALES/JTA

"ORTHODOX JEWS VIOLENTLY attacked by mob @ BLM protest last night in Philly," Yaacov Behrman, a community activist, tweeted on the morning of Oct. 28. "They told protesters they were there to show solidarity. Mob shouted anti Semitic & racist hate as they assaulted victims. Spoke to victim, says he feared for his life. This needs to be condemned by all!"

The video attached to Behrman's tweet, which seems to have been originally posted on an Instagram account called HOI Philly, shows three Jewish men being berated during protests on 52nd Street in West Philadelphia. Behrman's tweet of the video has been viewed more than 341,000 times as of Nov. 3.

The video Behrman shared shows three men, two of them wearing kippot, being addressed by men at the protests decrying the killing of Walter Wallace

See Protest, Page 16



▲ Voters queue outside The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts the morning of Election Day. noto by Sophie Panzer

Election Day Mixes Both New and Familiar

AND LIZ SPIKOL | JE STAFF

IN SOME WAYS, Election Day unrolled like it always does.

outside polling places. Commiteepeople people brought chairs). The procedures trying to sway voters - though was were different at many precincts, such as anyone still undecided on Nov. 3? "I electronic ballots replaced by paper ones

JESSE BERNSTEIN, ANDY GOTLIEB, SOPHIE PANZER Voted" stickers. Cold, but clear weather. Politicians making the rounds.

But in other ways, it was rather different - and not just because of the masks.

Those lines seemed longer because Early queues of voters. Campaign signs people were social distancing (a few smart





THIS WEEK

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CANDLE LIGHTING				
Nov. 6	4:34 p.m.			
Nov. 13	4:28 p.m.			



Personal protective equipment industry grows in wake of pandemic.



Vegetarian Indian recipes prove spice is nice.



Podcast founder OK with taking risks.

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Miriam's Advice Well WHAT TO DO WITH LEFTOVER CANDY?

If the number of kids coming to your door for trick-or-treating the other night was less than usual — leaving you with extra candy — what can you do? Miriam comes to the rescue with 20 suggestions for dealing with the leftovers. One of the suggestions (eating it) is an obvious answer, but there are 19 other options as well. For further information, read Miriam's Advice Well online. From dating to parenting, Miriam welcomes all questions. Email yours to news@jewishexponent.com and put "Advice Well Question" in the subject line.

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jewishexponent.com/2020/11/02/dear-miriam-what-to-do-withleftover-candy/

Philacatessen TUNA SALAD WITH CHICKPEAS

Chickpeas are commonly consumed as either hummus or falafel, but there are other uses, too. Food columnist Keri White was scrounging about for lunch ideas and made a tuna salad with chickpeas that turned out to be a hit. Because they're a bit starchy, the chickpeas made her miss her usual lunchtime bread a little less. Read Philacatessen, her online blog, for the recipe. And check Philacatessen regularly for content not normally found in the printed edition, including other recipes, gift ideas, restaurant reviews and food news from around the Delaware Valley. jewishexponent.com/2020/11/02/tuna-salad-with-chickpeas/

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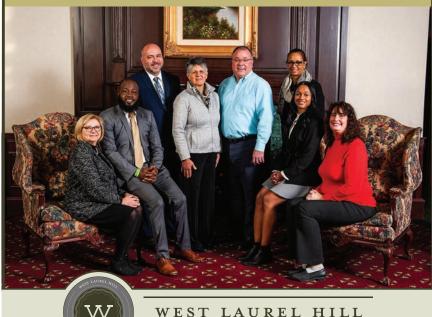
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SNAPSHOT: NOV 7, 1980

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Special to the JEWISH EXPONENT WASHINGTON — Ronald Reagan's landslide victory over Jimmy Carter on Tuesday was reflected in the fact that the President received less than 50 percent of the tra-ditionally Democratic lewish vote — the poorest perform-ance among Jews by a Democratic nominee since before Franklin Roosevelt. A nationswide poll conducted by CBS News and the New York Times had Carter carrying only 45 percent of the Jewish vote. Reagan with 35 percent, and independent candidate John Anderson with an impressive 20 percent.

ABC NEWS SAID THAT THE RACE was even closer in the Jewish community, with 41 percent going to Carter, 39 percent going to Reagan, and 21 percent for

Anderson. In some districts around the country Reagan did surpris-ingly well among Jews. For example, an NBC News/Associated Press poll said that 70 percent of the

Jews in Cantornia — Reagan's noise state — went for the Republican candidate. Some districts in Brooklyn, N.Y., with heavily Ortho-dox Jewish concentrations went for Reagan by an almost unprecedented 60 percent margin. New York State, with its 41 electoral votes, was captured by Reagan — as were nearly all the other states with large Jewish populations such as Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Illinois, Florida and California.

JEWISH ACTIVISTS IN THE Republican campaign id that they were "extremely pleased" that Carter was said that they were "extremely pleased" that kept to under 50 percent of the Jewish vote.

kept to under 50 percent of the Jewish vote. "I am satisfied that the Jewish community has demon-strated its support for Gov. Reagan," said Al Spiegel, of Los Angeles, chairman of the Reagan/Bush Coalition of American Jews. "I think we now have a right to say to the new administration that we were a factor in the election." In 1968, Democratic candidate Hubert Humphrery re-ceived nearly 90 percent of the Jewish vote against Repub-

lican Richard Nixon. Democratic Sen. George McGovern received 60 percent in [972] against Nixon. Four years ago, Carter received 70 percent against Republican incum-bent Gerald Ford.

"GOV. REAGAN SHOULD BE pleased," said Spiegel, who, together with Ted Cummings of Los Angeles and Max Rabb of New York, is among Reagan's closest Jewish friends and advisers.

closest Jewish friends and advisers. The Reagan victory is expected to have little immediate impact on U.S. policy toward Israel and the Middle East. The former California governor will be sworn in as Ameri-ca's 40th President only on Jan. 20. Both he and Carter have pledged to have a smooth transition between now and then.

have pledged to have a smooth transition between now and then. Jewish activists on Capitol Hill were encouraged that Reagan has asked Democratic Sen. Henry Jackson of Washington State and Richard Stone of Florida to serve as advisers on his transition team. Jackson and Stone are among Israel's best friends in Congress.

CLEARLY, REAGAN'S SELECTION of his Secre

'Deep Trust': Clergy Describe Planning of March

LOCAL

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

JEWISH CHRISTIAN, and Muslim clergy from the Philadelphia area marched from 61st and Locust streets to the Philadelphia Police Department precinct at 55th and Pine streets on Oct. 27.

The day before, officers had shot and killed Walter Wallace Jr., a resident of Cobbs Creek, and, in protest, the clergy members, led by the Black Clergy of Philadelphia and Vicinity, chanted Wallace's name and offered prayers, calling for justice in their similarly Abrahamic phrases.

To those unfamiliar with the inner workings of interfaith clergy action, the promptness collaboration, borne out of passionate emotion.

But that's not quite the case. Though emotion certainly plays a role, different clergy groups in Philadelphia have spent years building trust between them, with a steady accumulation of shared experience ranging from conference calls to protest actions ending in arrest.

Philadelphia as interfaith clergy is that we have developed deep trust from working himself can't reach so easily. together," said Rev. Mark Kelly board member of POWER

together might have appeared to throw up a protest, or march to be a spur-of-the-moment together across religious lines, sometimes with people that you don't even know."

Citing the role of rabbis like Eli Freedman, Julie Greenberg, Shawn Zevit and Jill Maderer, Tyler said that relationships are built with community leaders during times of calm, not just crisis. Then, when the crises the mundanity of weeknight do come — like the Pittsburgh shooting in 2018, the AME shooting in South Carolina "A part of the reason that in 2015 or the Christchurch we have become so close in massacre of 2019 — the call for rapid action can reach rabbis and imams in circles that Tyler

"[Those rabbis] can say to Tyler, senior pastor at Mother Jewish colleagues, 'Hey, Rev. Bethel AME Church and a Mark Tyler, that's my guy, he's going to be reaching out to Philadelphia. "When you have you, I can't make it. He has the with which the march came that kind of trust, then it's easy details, but you can trust him,"



A Rev. Dr. Kimberlee A. Johnson, Rabbi Annie Lewis, Rabbi Abe Friedman and Rev. Linda Noonan at the Oct. 27 march Photo by Rev. Chris Kimmenez



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it opens me up to a world that I would not have access to."

Rabbi Annie Lewis, co-president of the Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia, got the call for the Oct. 27 march. She times of crisis - he was in has been a part of marches Ferguson, Missouri, during and protest actions led by Black Clergy of Philadelphia, 2014 and knows that to face POWER and other clergy organizations for years, and she's seen the way the person to standing next to you. different clergy shows up for each other. As an example, she Frazier said. "And we have mentioned the op-ed Tyler and Imam Abdul-Halim Hassan wrote for the Philadelphia Inquirer this summer after former Philadelphia NAACP leader Rodney Muhammad shared anti-Semitic content on social media. That act, Lewis said, was an expression of a bedrock principle for clergy committed to interfaith work in Philadelphia.

"Our destinies are bound up with each other," she said. "Our liberation depends on each other's liberation."

Koach Baruch Frazier, who jbernstein@jewishexponent.com; spoke at the Oct. 27 march, 215-832-0740

Tyler said. "And all of a sudden, said such interdependence takes time. A student at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, he's seen first-hand what an accumulation of solid, stable relationships can do in the Michael Brown protests in down tear gas or the threat of arrest, you have to trust the

> "And that takes a long time," to be intentional about it. It's not something that happens overnight."

That's the only way that Bishop Dwavne Rovster, the interim executive director of POWER who attended the Oct. 27 march, can explain the mindset that allows him to, say, get himself arrested on behalf of striking airport workers, as he did a few years back.

"Every time we're out there together, it's because of relationships," Royster said. •



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Bold leadership requires the courage to evolve.

After evaluating all other options, we came to the difficult decision to sell our treasured Horsham campus, the Abramson Center for Jewish Life. While we share in our community's many emotions about this sale, it was necessary for sustaining our vital work. Abramson Senior Care remains strong and ready to take our mission to new heights.

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And so, while we remain committed to seniors who still need long term care, we are focusing our growth on the expansion of community and home-based models. Public policy is aligning with this trend. Increasingly, Medicaid is directing seniors to these forms of care in lieu of nursing homes.

This policy shift has profoundly affected our ongoing mission to serve frail Jewish seniors in need. We owed it to them to find another way.

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The vulnerability of our seniors has never been more painfully apparent. We are now called to ask: how can we serve them better? Our evolution began years before the pandemic, but the many lessons learned this year inform our path forward.

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ISRAELBRIEFS

AJC Study Shows Lack of Awareness of **Anti-Semitism**

NEARLY HALF OF non-Jewish Americans surveyed either had never heard of anti-Semitism or were unsure of what it meant, according to the American Jewish Committee.

In the AJC's first "State of Antisemitism in America Report," 21% said they had never heard the word and 25% said that while they had heard it, they were unsure what it meant.

Familiarity with the term is linked to education level, with 79% of college graduates knowing what it means, compared to just 27% of those with a high school diploma or less.

"What American Jews and the general public are saying in these surveys, for us, is a clarion call for a stepped-up, multipronged response to rising anti-Semitism in the United States," AJC CEO David Harris said. "That nearly half of the American population does not even seem to know what anti-Semitism is can only increase American Jews' concern about their own security and well-being."

In other data, 88% of American Jews believe anti-Semitism in the U.S. today is a very serious (37%) or somewhat serious (51%) issue, while only 63% of the general population says likewise.

avoided publicly wearing, carrying or displaying items that may identify them as Jews since the Tree of Life shooting; 37% report being the target of an anti-Semitic incident; and 43% of Jews between 18-29 say they have experienced anti-Semitism on a college campus or know someone who has.

Muslim Council Adopts IHRA Definition of Anti-Semitism

The Global Imams Council announced Oct. 29 that it has adopted a definition of anti-Semitism that includes some forms of vitriol against Israel, JTA reported.

The council, which was created in 2017 to help heal sectarian divisions in Iraq, cited recent "peace efforts" between Israel and several Muslim countries, in its decision to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of anti-Semitism. That definition includes the demonization of Israel alongside more traditional forms of anti-Semitism.

Palestinian and Muslim groups had rejected the IHRA definition for years, saying it limits free speech.

"Today, we add our council's name alongside 34 countries that have adopted this working definition," the council said. "We live in a time of rising anti-Semitism and terrorist attacks, which makes Other data of note: 24% of Jews said they have our responsibility as faith leaders greater, and even

greater as Imams."

This definition will be in effect for current and future members and affiliate institutions, the council said.

Dutch Chief Rabbi Says Churches Don't Need to Apologize for Holocaust Inaction

Six Dutch churches issued an apology for failing to save Jews or protest their murder during the Holocaust, but Dutch Chief Rabbi Binyomin Jacobs said the gesture was unnecessary, JTA reported.

"Children needn't profess their parents' guilt or take responsibility for it," Jacobs said, noting that he appreciated the gesture.

The Protestant Church of the Netherlands, which is the nation's largest church, issued a statement on Oct. 28 and five other Protestant churches issued a separate statement.

"We failed in speaking out and in keeping silent, in deeds and inaction, in attitude and thoughts," the Protestant Church of the Netherlands statement said, adding that the church wishes to "acknowledge unequivocally that the church prepared the soil where the seed of anti-Semitism could grow."

About 75% of Dutch Jewry died in the Holocaust, the highest death rate in occupied Western Europe. • *— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb*



JEWISHEXPONENT.COM

Ambassador to Share Father's Survivor Story

LOCAL

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

LT. JOHN WITHERS didn't have many interactions with Jewish people before two young Dachau survivors approached his African American military unit stationed in Germany and pleaded for help.

Years later, his son would search for the full story of that fateful encounter and the remarkable friendship it forged.

On Nov. 8, Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia and the Jewish Community Relations Council will host "Kristallnacht and Veterans Day: A Story from the War with Ambassador John L. Withers II" on Zoom. Withers' son, who is the former

a presentation about his book "Balm in Gilead: A Story from the War," which he wrote about his father and the survivors.

In addition, the winners of this year's Mordechai Anielewicz Creative Arts Competition, which encourages students in grades 7-12 throughout the Greater Philadelphia area to respond to the Holocaust through creative expression, will present their winning poems.

Bart Hertzbach, chair of the JCRC Holocaust and Education Committee, said "Balm in Gilead" created a natural connection between the lessons of Kristallnacht and the themes of Veterans Day, since it addresses the Holocaust and features members of the armed forces.

"We tied it in with Veterans ambassador to Albania and had Dav because, obviously, the honor all veterans who served diplomatic postings in Nigeria, U.S. Army freed Germany. But Russia and Ireland, will give it was, beyond that, a way to



Ambassador John Withers II

in wartime or peacetime, alive or dead, who guaranteed freedom for many," he said.

The younger Withers said that before serving in the Army, his father endured the oppression of Jim Crow segregation laws in Greensboro, North Carolina.

"It was a comprehensive due to malnourishment. system that affected Black Americans in almost every sphere of their life and of their endeavor. It was a system that subjected them to economic hardship, impoverishment, lack of opportunities," he said. "They could not turn to the legal system, they could not turn to their congressman, they could not turn to the newspapers or anything. They had no recourse."

The elder Withers was academically gifted enough to attend college and earn his master's degree at the University of Wisconsin. He dreamed of establishing a life in the non-segregated North, but was drafted into the Army near the end of World War II. He rose through the ranks to become the company's acting commander.

When his unit was ordered to bring medical supplies to a

small German town, they found themselves face to face with the horrors of Dachau concentration camp. Two emaciated young survivors came to their unit and begged for shelter and work. Mieczyslaw Wajgenszperg was 16, and Shlomo Joskowicz was 18 but looked much younger

Housing non-military personnel was strictly forbidden, and the company could have faced dishonorable discharge if found to be sheltering the teenagers. This would have disqualified Withers from the educational and economic benefits of the GI Bill, upon which he had staked his hopes for a better life in the United States. His employment prospects would have been greatly reduced, and he would have faced social disgrace upon returning home.

He took them in nonetheless. "He seemed to assume that anyone in his position or his men's position would have acted the same," his son said.

Black The soldiers nicknamed Joskowicz Salomon and Wajgenszperg Pee Wee. Despite the language barrier and cultural differences, the soldiers coaxed them out of their 215-832-0729



Lt. John Withers Courtesy of Ambassador John Withers I

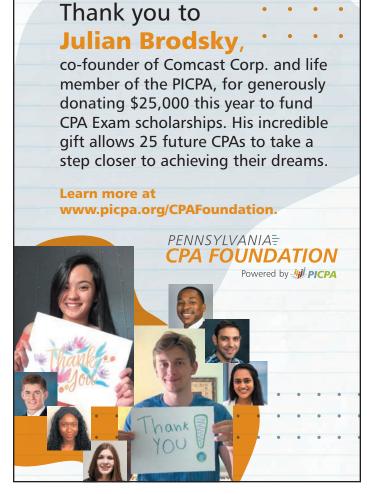
shells and taught them how to drive and play baseball (they preferred soccer.) They worked as cooks and grew close to the elder Withers, plying him with questions about the U.S.

The book, which is available at johnlwithersii.com, was a project 20 years in the making. The younger Withers had only a postcard from Wajgenszperg and an old photo album the boys had presented to his father to use as clues during his intensive research. Eventually, he was able to orchestrate a reunion for his father and Wajgenszperg.

The elder Withers, who died in 2007, was greatly influenced by his friendship with the two survivors. During a 2001 speech, he lauded their courage and endurance. He also marveled at their ability to be kind and gentle after the atrocities they endured.

"How could that be? That was the true wonder. All the hostility, hatred, and evil they encountered without letting it deform them or deflect them from becoming the kind of people they wanted to be," he said.

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Jewish Businesses Meet Demand for Sanitizers, PPE

LOCAL

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

ALLAN GOLDSHTEYN'S business has expanded 240% since spring, but he's not exactly happy about it.

Goldshteyn is president of AG Laboratories, a cleaning and sanitizing company that initially specialized in disinfectant products. Now, it offers the GermBuster Service, a pathogen-killing regimen for businesses, housing units and community spaces.

"Unfortunately, my market has expanded," he said. "And at the end of the day, our goal is to help businesses reopen and for the customers to feel safe."

While the pandemic has caused an economic recession and strained businesses like bars and restaurants, health-related companies are seeing increased demand.

Jewish business owners like Goldshteyn have responded to the new normal by offering products and services that individuals and organizations need to operate safely. Some have built on their existing companies, while others have manufactured by two compastarted entirely new ventures.

Goldshteyn said the disinfectant product he uses, PRO-Techs, is a positively charged nitrogen that kills microorganisms, which are all negatively charged, by electrocuting them. Unlike other disinfectants, which can evaporate after a few hours, PRO-Techs is designed to keep surfaces free of viruses and bacteria for up to 90 days.

This isn't an ordinary disinfectant that can be applied with an average spray bottle or wipe, he said. Goldshteyn and his team use an electric static dispenser to charge the particles as they're sprayed. Surfaces



to treatment.

The product, which is only nies, is not a miracle cure, but Goldshteyn said that it is originated at the beginning coronavirus, with an EPA registration to prove it. It is also water-based and non-toxic, making it safe for use around food, children and pets.

create certificates for businesses and organizations that have Parks wanted to find a way completed the program, which can be displayed to give masks quickly and easily, and customers and guests more vending machines seemed like peace of mind. They have a natural solution. treated local businesses, health care providers, housing units, synagogues and churches as part of reopening plans.

Philly PPE Vending, a thermometers,

with another disinfectant prior company, is making individually packaged items like masks and thermometers available in vending machines.

The idea for the company a strong defense against the of the crisis, when personal protective equipment was in short supply and desperately needed by health care workers, businesses looking to reopen and anyone venturing Goldshtevn and his team out in public. Co-owners Ben Waxman and Nathaniel to distribute equipment like

The vending machines can be customized with different combinations of products. In addition to non-contact must be thoroughly cleaned new coronavirus-inspired wipes and KN-95 masks, Philly two young daughters, because 215-832-0729



PPE Vending supplies snacks, lip balm, over-the-counter pain relief medication, condoms and USB chargers.

Waxman, who is president and CEO of the public affairs consulting firm A. Waxman & Co., said he and Parks are offering the vending machines for free to any location that wants them. People who install them can keep 10% of the sales revenue.

The company has 10 machines ready to be deployed, and one is available for public use in Parks' retail outlet, Philly PPE Store, on East Passyunk Avenue. The latter was used as a test run, since the various shapes of the equipment sold are different from the average bag of chips or water bottle in a initials for those who want a normal vending machine.

"The last thing we wanted to do was put out machines that were constantly not able to vend masks," Waxman said.

RapidMask2Go, a New York-based company, also has installed PPE vending machines in SEPTA'S Suburban Station.

Personal protective equipment has even made its way into the fashion world.

Shani Klein added masks to her online tie-dye store Shemesh Shop, which started as a creative outlet during quarantine.

"Initially, I just did it as a sanitizing fun project for myself and my spanzer@jewishexponent.com;

we were spending so much time together and they weren't in preschool," she said.

Her neighbors noticed the projects they were making in their vard and began to request shirts, hats, beach blankets and other items. Klein, a speech-language pathologist, launched the store on Instagram soon after.

She added personalized masks to her inventory when she noticed her children were having a hard time keeping their face coverings on due to poor fit or forgetfulness.

She came up with designs that fit snugly and had brightly colored patterns to appeal to kids. They can be customized with names and personalized touch and for parents who want to avoid mixing up their children's masks for hygiene's sake.

The masks, along with the shop's other items, come in color schemes named after inspirational women. There's the Rosie, a mix of pink and orange named after civil rights activist Rosa Parks, and the Goldie, a rainbow pattern named after Israeli prime minister Golda Meir, among others. Klein said that it was important to her as a mother and business owner to pay homage to female leaders. •

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Komen Philadelphia Closes Office As National Regroups

LOCAL

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

After 30 years of operation, Susan G. Komen Philadelphia closed its offices for good on Oct. 30.

The national breast cancer awareness and research nonprofit Susan G. Komen shut its regional affiliates, including Komen Philadelphia, as the organization transitions to a centralized model with a completely remote workforce. The organization announced plans to reorganize in April.

"To be clear: Susan G. Komen is not going anywhere. We are not leaving communities. We are transitioning from a federated business model of independent affiliates to a single, united entity in order to increase our operational efficiency and impact," said Paula Schneider, president and CEO of Komen, in a statement.

Komen Public Relations Director Sean Tuffnell said the organization's evolution was accelerated by the coronavirus pandemic, and that the new structure will help ensure Komen's long-term survival.

"The affiliate model itself is very fragile insomuch as local markets are heavily reliant on race walks. And when you are in a situation where you can't meet on a Saturday morning with 30,000 of your closest friends, it is tough to sustain those local markets," he said.





▲ Crowds cheer at a Komen Philadelphia parade in 2019. Photo by Dan Z. Johnsor

We contributed \$63.7 million in community grants, and that means grants to hospitals to see underserved patients or patients without insurance."

FLAINE GROBMAN

Komen Philadelphia, said she cancer screenings to uninsured was proud of the work her organization has done for the past 30 years.

"We contributed \$63.7 million in community grants, and that means grants to hospitals to see underserved patients or patients without insurance for mammograms, diagnostic and treatment and support. We've given \$28 million of breast cancer research to national, which they've distributed. And we were able to give 184,550 free mammograms to the community," she said.

Ari Brooks, director of Elaine Grobman, CEO of the Integrated Breast Center at Pennsylvania Hospital, has received 18 grants from Komen Philadelphia in the past 19 years and knows firsthand how they have impacted the community.

His hospital runs the Penn Medicine Breast Health Initiative, which provides breast zations, including Hillels at

women. Many of the patients the program serves are undocumented or otherwise ineligible for programs provided with funding from the state of Pennsylvania and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Komen Philadelphia provided the funds to get the project off the ground. It has secured funding for the program through April 2021, but beyond that point it will have to rely on other forms of philanthropy as well as funds provided by the national organization.

Brooks, who is Jewish, said Komen Philadelphia would be sorely missed.

"I can't stress enough how indebted I am and our screening program is to Komen [Philadelphia] for getting us started," he said.

Komen Philadelphia worked with Jewish organi-

JEWISH EXPONENT

HEADLINES

Philly Faces: Sharon Geller

PHILLY FACES

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFE

TWO JEWS ARE standing on a street corner in Berlin in 1940

One says, "I know for a fact that, every morning at 10:30, Hitler walks down this cobblestone street, goes right over to that corner cafe and has a cup of coffee. I've got a gun. Tomorrow morning, I'm going to assassinate him."

The other lew thinks it's a great idea, and the two make a plan to kill Hitler the next morning.

The day comes, and 10:30 passes. 10:45, 11 — no Hitler. Finally, at 11:15, one Jew turns to the other and says, "Gee, I hope nothing happened to him!"

If you liked that joke, you'll love comedian Sharon Geller, who shared that joke as an example of the Borscht Belt humor she loves and has embraced in her career, most notably in the show "Old Jews Telling Jokes." In addition to comedy, she has been acting, writing and directing in Philadelphia for more than 20 years. The West Oak Lane native has appeared on "Saturday Night Live," sold products on QVC and trod the boards of just about every stage in Philadelphia. You can an overarching project as a find Geller on your computer now, too; she's teaching improv through Zoom.

comedy in quarantine?

Everything's happening on Zoom these days, so I'm continuing to teach my comedy improv classes on Zoom. I've taught for over 25 years at the to be a member of the cast, but Walnut Street Theatre. I teach I'll take the four appearances my own advanced comedy improv class on Zoom. And for years, I've taught that through the Drexel Law School, a class I created called "Improv for Lawyers." I teach that on



Sharon Geller Photo by Christopher Kadish Photography

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Arbitration." And University of Pennsylvania has hired me to do an improv class for neuroscientists.

I don't even know if I heard of Zoom before March. And if you had said to me, "Can you teach comedy improvisation on Zoom?" I would have said to you, "Well, that's a little like asking someone to learn how to play basketball by reading a book. It's just impossible." But somehow I've done it doing what you do in improv: You think outside of the box, and you try to find another way to do things.

You've said that humor is a way to pierce the pretensions of the powerful. Do you have comedian besides, you know, being funny?

I love making people laugh. I'm not a stand-up comedian. What's it been like doing But my goal was always to be on "Saturday Night Live" because I do a lot of different comedic characters. And I'm happy to say I've been on four times. It would have been nice that I got.

But I have to say, one of the most satisfying things that I do is being a cast member of "Old Jews Telling Jokes." I've been touring the country with Zoom. And I do a CLE called that for the last eight years,

and I love being onstage and singing funny songs. And it's an homage to my history, which is the Borscht Belt.

What have you been laughing

at in the last couple months? I love watching really well-done sitcoms. And even though there are a lot of great

"Everybody Loves Raymond." That sitcom was as well cast and as well written as "The Dick Van Dvke Show."

I will never be the kind of person who comes home and turns on an hour-long crime drama, no matter how well it's done, because I feel like there's so many depressing ones, my old fallback is always things lately in the news. The 215-832-0740

last thing I want to do is spend an hour watching a crime drama! I always prefer to watch something that makes me laugh or lightens my load. I love watching comedians on TV everyone from Bill Maher to Sebastian Maniscalco. •

jbernstein@jewishexponent.com;

BUSINESS DIRECTORY



Children of Kristallnacht Survivors Share Their Parents' Still-Chilling Stories

LOCAL

SOPHIE PANZER LUE STAFE

STEVEN BARUCH'S father was arrested by the Gestapo on Nov. 10, 1938, but that's not what upset him the most about the Nazis' rise to power.

"At the time, my father was more hurt probably by the fact that people he had known his whole life no longer talked to him. Really, that's what hurt him the most," Baruch said during a Facebook Live panel commemorating the 82nd anniversary of Kristallnacht.

The Philadelphia Holocaust Remembrance Foundation partnered with the Nathan and Esther Pelz Holocaust Education Resource Center in Milwaukee and the Wassmuth Center for Human Rights in Boise, Idaho. to create "The Spiral of Injustice - Kristallnacht, 'The Night of Broken Glass.""

The week of programming featured film screenings, webinars and panel discussions about the German pogrom that destroyed hundreds of Jewish businesses and synagogues, culminated in a mass roundup of Jews and is widely considered to be a turning point that marked Germany's transition from anti-Semitic rhetoric and policy to acts of violence and destruction.

For the Oct. 28 event "Were There Signs?" Sam Goldberg, director of education at HERC, moderated a discussion with Baruch and Betsv Maier Reilly, another secondgeneration survivor, about what their parents experienced Gestapo came to her parents' that fateful night.

Both speakers emphasized how normal their parents' lives were before the Nazis came to power. Baruch's father was from a small town in Germany, where his family owned a dry goods store.

"My father was a very assimilated German, in many ways. He really felt he was a German at heart, and knew he was Jewish, and didn't deny that. But his life, basically, was a normal German Jewish person's life," he said.

Maier Reilly displayed pictures of her parents spending time with friends at parties, playing soccer and relaxing on vacation, images that, with a little color, wouldn't look out of place on an average Facebook timeline today.

Even so, their parents acknowledged the signs were there. Throughout the 1930s, fascist brownshirts attacked Iews and political dissidents in the streets. Laws prohibited Jews from education and professions. Signs calling for boycotts of Jewish businesses proliferated. Baruch's father's friends and neighbors stopped going to his family store, and people coming and going.

Maier Reilly's parents were married in 1933, the year Hitler became chancellor. Her mother saw him in person twice during stays at hotels. The first time, nobody paid him attention. The second time, a crowd saluted him.

"He was sitting there in full United States. uniform, surrounded by all his men, also in full uniform. I looked at him and he looked at me with big piercing eyes. I got scared, especially being there as a Jew, and not raising my arm to salute him," Maier Reilly read from her mother's diary.

On Kristallnacht, the apartment and searched it for illegal materials. Finding none, they took her father to their headquarters and sent him to Dachau. When he did not return, her mother joined a thought? The Jews had been group of other Jewish women in Germany for centuries and searching for their husbands, were embedded and never warning against complacency 215-832-0729



Sam Goldberg (top left) discusses Kristallnacht with Steven Baruch (top right) and Betsy Maier Reilly. Courtesy of the Nathan and Esther Pelz Holocaust Education Resource Center

but the police would not tell had an inkling that this was them where they had been sent.

the Gestapo took notes on months in Dachau, and her so many of them somehow mother was eventually able to read those signs and decided get him out with help from a to leave the country. And it's sponsor, a Jewish doctor who brilliant," he said. left the country in 1933 when he was no longer allowed to practice medicine. The couple escaped to Cuba while they waited for the visa that would allow them to move to the ical instability and division in

> Baruch said his father was arrested along with men from the country their parents fled his neighbor's family. He was imprisoned in Dachau for two months before his family bribed him out. He escaped to England before immigrating to Chicago.

Baruch marveled at the foresight of German Jews who managed to read the signs even though they had lived as proud, assimilated Germans their entire lives.

"Who would

going to happen to the scale Her father spent two that it eventually did. And yet,

> He said some secondgeneration survivors in the United States are taking a page out of their parents' books as they observe increasing polittheir home country.

Some are even looking to for a potential exit route.

"My cousin is applying for German citizenship," Maier Reilly said. "We are eligible as second generations to become German citizens, and she's actually applying, just in case. So that's a whole turnaround."

Although she and Baruch are eligible and acknowledged the appeal of a second passport, neither of them have decided have to apply.

Baruch hopes that his family's story serves as a PASSport - ALL Jews hAD RED Letter" J"



A passport stamped with a "J" to denote a Jewish owner

Courtesy of the Nathan and Esther Pelz Holocaust Education Resource Center

in the face of discrimination.

"The key is that, unless everyone is really taken care of in an equitable, fair way, we're all vulnerable," he said.

spanzer@jewishexponent.com;

Headlines

ISRAELBRIEFS

Israeli Billionaires Take a Hit

ISRAEL'S 10 BILLIONAIRES lost an average of \$2.7 billion through June because of the pandemic, Globes reported, citing research from Swiss bank Credit Suisse.

Forbes said those billionaires are Eyal Ofer, Stef Wertheimer, Teddy Sagi, Yuri Milner, Shaul Shani, Idan Ofer, Shari Arison, Arnon Milchan, Yitzhak Tshuva and Gil Shwed.

Less impacted were the nation's millionaires, with their total number only declining slightly — from 157,440 at the start of 2020 to 157,290; Israel ranks 30th overall worldwide in total number of millionaires. The average Israel millionaire holds net assets of \$3.33 million.

The average assets of all Israelis was \$220,996 through the end of June. The nation ranks 20th worldwide in average wealth per adult.

Widespread Power Outages Occur in Israel

Power outages occurred across Israel the morning of Oct. 30, although the Israel Electric Corp. said a cyberattack was not the cause, The Jerusalem Post reported.

The IEC said the power loss was caused by problems in the conduction system that stopped a power station in southern Israel from working, setting off a chain reaction.

Among the major cities impacted were Jerusalem, Haifa, Beersheba and Netany. Although IEC said power would be restored within 15 minutes, residents in numerous cities, including Jerusalem, said the outages lasted for much longer.

Pilot Study Set to Predict COVID-19 Outbreaks Through Sewage Monitoring

Israel's Health Ministry and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev announced an agreement to monitor sewage samples from 14 communities round the country to detect traces of COVID-19, ynetnews reported.

"We can give a warning of at least two weeks before an outbreak if virus levels among the population are low," principal investigator Ariel Kushmaro, a professor in the university's Department of Biotechnology Engineering, said. "We can observe virus levels increasing in wastewater about two weeks before an outbreak."

A similar program took place in Ashkelon in May — and predicted an outbreak several weeks in advance.

The 14 communities to be monitored are Be'er Sheva, Beit Shemesh, Binyamina, Elad, Jerusalem, Kfar Saba, Lehavim, Ness Ziona, Netanya, Pardesiya, Rahat, Ramat Hasharon, Ramat Yishai and Tira.

Two Israeli tech companies will collaborate with the project. NUFiltration's device detects concentrations of coronavirus in wastewater, while sensors Kando installs in sewage manhole networks locate COVID-19 hotspots.

Tel Aviv U. Program to Focus on Ethiopian Jewish Scripture Tel Aviv University said it will launch what it calls the world's first academic program that focuses on the holy scriptures of Ethiopian Jews.

The program, which is aimed at graduate students, is titled "Orit Apprehenders," referring to the central pieces of scripture in the Ethiopian Jewish community.

Dalit Rom-Shiloni, the TAU professor leading the program, called it a "rescue operation" to preserve understanding about

See Israel Briefs, Page 27



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JEWISHEXPONENT.COM

Protest

Continued from Page 1

Jr. by two Philadelphia Police Department officers the day before.

"Y'all know we the real Jews, right?" one man yells at the small group.

"This ain't y'all's fight, y'all gotta go," another man says, as one of the two men in kippot says that he and the other men he's with are "just showing solidarity."

One of the Jewish men gets shoved, and there are shouts of "Amalek," "get 'em out of here" and "Revelation 2:9, synagogue of Satan," an anti-Semitic invocation commonly cited by Black Hebrew Israelites, according to the Anti-Defamation League. One person in the crowd tried to defend the men.

But one of the Jewish men in the video, a West Philadelphia resident who asked not to be named, said he was not there to "show solidarity," a claim repeated in news outlets like the Daily Mail and New York Jewish men, who did not know each other prior to that night, attended out of simple curiosity.

you know, Philly's burning, so it's like, 'OK, let's go watch.""

observer, he said, though he added, "You can see me at other rallies, where I have the biggest mouth. But that was not the case here."

Though the West Philadelphia resident's Twitter account shows he is not sympathetic to Black Lives Matter - he retweeted QAnon-affiliated Georgia House candidate Marjorie Taylor Greene calling BLM a terrorist organization - he pointed out that none of his political views were known to the onlookers who said anti-Semitic things to him.

"I didn't bring my Twitter feed there to show off to everybody," he said. He was, however, wearing a shirt bearing an OK hand gesture, a frequent white supremacist symbol, as well as dogs making Nazi salutes. (The shirt was created by a far-right activist who first gained notoriety after he was prosecuted for teaching his girlfriend's dog to make a Nazi salute.)

Post. Rather, he said, the three to the Exponent, the man were staying, decided to "show also spoke with the Jewish our respect" to the protesters concerning part," the yeshiva Telegraphic Agency, initially telling them that he had come They had not been following the to the protests just to observe. news closely, the man said. "They, like me, just went to But he later acknowledged that see what was going on," the man he had prior opinions about it around, insults from people



said. "They heard the news that, and wanted to see if he would experience anti-Semitism.

"I did have a preconceived In this case, he was just an opinion," he said. "I came there because I wanted to get my own first-person perspective and see, what's this all about? Are they actually going to say anti-Semitic things to me? It's hard to believe until it actually happens to you. I didn't think they were actually going to and I was shocked out of my mind when they did."

> The confrontation took place after about four hours of walking alongside protesters, the man said, and the mention of solidarity was simply intended to de-escalate the situation.

But one of the other men with him, who also asked that his name be withheld, said he and his friend, the third Iewish man in the video, were sincere in their expressions of sympathy with the cause, even though they didn't know much about it. The two yeshiva students from New Jersey were in Philadelphia for personal reasons, but, alerted to In addition to speaking activity in the area where they and to the late Walter Wallace Jr.

> As the students walked they identified as Black Hebrew Israelites started to pile up.

> "Those little comments, we just brushed aside," the man said. "We thought, 'Obviously, there's a lot of tension, there's a lot of justifiable rage.' So, you know, we didn't think it was our place to shift the narrative to us."

but to pay attention, as the comments went from calling them "fake Jews" - another common BHI epithet — to outright questioning the men's right to be at the protest.

"They like pointed at us and they said, 'This is not your Holocaust, this is not Holocaust Remembrance Day, you people have no business police officers before targeting Jersey City, where four people



▲ A screenshot of the video Yaacov Behrman posted on Twitter that depicts three Jewish men being berated on Oct. 27 on 52nd Street in West Philadelphia during a protest of the death of WIlliam Wallace Jr. Screenshot

being here," the man recalled.

It was around this time that the confrontation seen on the video Behrman shared occurred. Though one unidentified man tried to support the Jewish men safety with nearby police as they were being accosted, he was alone in his action.

"That, to me, was the most student said. "Nobody was intervening. Nobody. Nobody was saying anything. Nobody was saying that it's wrong. And these were protesters who saw us there earlier and recognized that we were there for the cause, or alongside with them."

He'll think twice before joining another protest, he said, and would caution other visibly Jewish people to "steer clear of these type of events."

The Philadelphia ADL has But soon, they had no choice been investigating the incident:

"The ADL has reviewed a longer video, which appears to be posted by members of the Black Hebrew Israelite movement," wrote Executive Director Shira Goodman, via email, to the Exponent. "The video shows the person filming, along with at least one other individual, harassing

a group of visibly Jewish bystanders. The clearly anti-Semitic attacks were unprovoked and at least one victim was shoved before seeking officers. Anti-Semitism is unacceptable, and we will continue to be in contact with law enforcement on this issue."

The Black Hebrew Israelites movement has a history of street harassment of Jews, women and white people. According to the ADL, the movement's "core principles" include "the beliefs that white people are agents of Satan, Jews are liars and false worshipers of God, and Blacks are the true 'chosen people."" Though some Black Hebrew Israelites are not overtly racist or anti-Semitic, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, there is "a rising extremist sector within the movement."

The stabbing of five Orthodox Jews in Monsev last Chanukah, which resulted in the death of one victim, was perpetrated by a man believed to be linked to Black Hebrew Israelism. And the perpetrators of the December 2019 attacks at a kosher market in

See Protest, Page 21

Election

Continued from Page 1

that were scanned. The crowds, at least early on, were subdued.

And it's hard to put it into words, but it just felt a bit different.

Those who arrived promptly at 7 a.m. to vote at the Narberth Municipal Building waited 50 minutes to do so, fortified, if they so chose, by granola bars handed out by a Democratic committeewoman. By the time those early arrivals voted and were ready to leave, the lines were largely gone.

Over at Penn Wynne Elementary School in Wynnewood, the Republican and Democratic committeepeople assumed their traditional spots on opposite sides of the entrance — with one change: They were asked to stay outside light in the morning in Mt. instead of setting up in the school's lobby like usual.

"Everybody's in a good mood," said Republican committeeman Mike Adler, who noted that he enjoys Election Day to catch up with neighbors. "This is usually a friendly polling place."

volunteer Elaine Roseman said she's noticed some changes.

"People are anxious. They have PTSD from 2016," she said. "And the mail-in ballots like Action Karate off of tricked a family member into have really changed things. There's less conversation. People are in and out."

A few blocks away at Penn Wynne Library, a lengthy line remained two hours after polls opened.

Nicola Hill of Wynnewood said she waited in line 90 minutes to vote.

"One thing different for me this year was seeing voter protection," she said, referring to poll watchers stationed Rabbinical College, was Torah, across Rhawn Street, outside the building.

Hill said the election husband Eric Weinberg, whose father, Martin, normally served as a poll worker, but declined





▲ Voters wait their turn in a line outside the Narberth Municipal Building on Election Day, Photo by Andy Gotlieb

Rabbi Alan LaPayover works the polls in Mt. Airy as part of the Philadelphia City Commissioners' Rover Program. Photo by Bradley Maule

the pandemic. Eric Weinberg judges of elections might have. underwent the training and replaced his father at a Bryn move smoothly," he said. Mawr polling location.

Voting traffic was fairly

answers, he said, "Come on in," and they went inside to vote. bundled up against the chill.

Nearby polling places, Germantown Avenue, had a believing it was Bernie. clutch of voters waiting outside in their folding chairs. There were plenty of signs about sanitizer was everywhere in evidence.

Rabbi Alan LaPayover, director the trees. of the Goldyne Savad Library Center at Reconstructionist from Congregation Ahavas working the polls.

energized her family, including City Commissioners' Rover ready to take part in a more Program, LaPayover was contemporary duty, even if the there, he said, to help move the line was at least four times lines, answer voter questions to do so this year because of and address any problems the

"It's just to help the elections

When asked if his Iudaism informed his Election Day work, he said, "Absolutely, Airy, a neighborhood where absolutely. It's a responsimany residents had voted early. bility to participate in society At Germantown Jewish and voting is one of the best Centre, a couple of women ways we can do that. It's very stood outside and asked a important to make sure that poll worker some clarifying everyone votes and we make questions. Once they got the sure the elections go smoothly and safely."

It would be a long day for Across the way, Democratic There was no line, only a single LaPayover, who had already been campaign-hired poll observer mistaken for Bernie Sanders who sat against a tree outside, more than once; with his mask on, there was a distinct resemblance. A fellow poll worker even

At 7:30 a.m., the line outside along with the poll observers of Tacony Academy Charter School in Fox Chase snaked through the parking lot, the COVID precautions, and hand tip of the tail regenerated every few minutes by a steady stream of cars pulling in. A persistent At the Commodore John wind kept the lot cold even as Barry Arts and Cultural Center, the sun started to peek over

Bruce Blady came over where he'd just been at a Part of the Philadelphia bris. Now, Blady said, he was

See Election, Page 21



▲ The Election Day scene at Germantown Jewish Centre

Photo by Bradley Maule



Est.1988



What I Learned When I Sat Down With a Repentant White Supremacist



RABBI AVRAM MLOTEK

BEFORE I MET HIM, I saw Benjamin McDowell's name in the news. Inspired by Dylan Roof, the notorious shooter responsible for the Charleston church massacre, he planned an attack on a synagogue that was thwarted by FBI agents.

No lives were lost. No lasting physical harm was done, though the synagogue members certainly felt threatnews item online and, though I didn't yet know the word, doomscrolled onward.

I probably wouldn't have thought much about McDowell again had I not seen a video of him in my Facebook feed three years later. Rabba Karpov, the rabbi of Jewish Center of Indian Country, Oklahoma, had posted a YouTube video uploaded by McDowell in his past behavior. (The video has since been removed, though I don't know why or by whom.)

genuinely moved. Something tially profoundly impactful.

had happened to Benji while in prison. Here he was, talking about a phone call, I invited Benji the power of love and light to transcend differences, political and religious, and how we were all part of one larger human family. How many of us have undergone such a profound, public transformation from deadly darkness to hope? How many ex-white supremacists are out there seeking to amend their past ways?

A few nights before I had watched the film "Burden," which tells the true story of how a Black minister, Rev. Kennedy, welcomed a former KKK member, Mike Burden, into his home and changed his life forever. Inspired by this radical act of loving kindness on the reverend's part, I felt compelled to act on the video of McDowell. I reached out to him directly on Facebook.

Even though I have invited ened and terrified. I read the anti-Semites into my home before, I generally believe it is not the Jewish people's responsibility to combat anti-Semitism - in the same way that it is not Black people's responsibility to dismantle systemic racism. Racism, sexism, anti-Semitism are destroying society. But he and xenophobia are prejudices said that even when he was that plague society, and we as a writing hateful messages about nation bear a communal responsibility toward eradicating them.

But a communal responwhich he expressed remorse for sibility is fulfilled through countless individual acts. And people from such a polar opposite I watched the video and was outlook can be sacred and poten-

After some texting and onto my show, "A Rabbi and a — Walk Into a Zoom." I've hosted priests, Holocaust survivors, doctors, musicians, actors even President Barack Obama's speechwriter — but never before a repentant white supremacist. And so, we had our event's name: "A Rabbi and a Former White Supremacist Walk Into a Zoom."

He described meeting with an undercover FBI agent who was ready to sell him weapons to use against the Jewish community. The FBI had tracked his hateful rhetoric online and sought to see just how close this one blogger was to bringing his online musings into fruition.

What struck me most during our conversation which took place on Sept. 14, was the dissonance McDowell and real-life experiences. Online, he was being inculcated with and reflecting back an ideology centered on the idea that Black people and Jews Black people online, he always treated them fairly when he encountered them in real life.

"And Jews?" I asked.

He had never met a lew I knew that encounters with before. Our conversation, he tered Benji through Facebook, said, was the first time he had knowingly spoken to a Jew.

of teshuvah, a genuine return to the self, heartfelt repentance. They wrote that *teshuvah* has the power to transform intentional sins into meritorious deeds. A preposterous sentiment, I used to think. However, when speaking with Benji, I saw how teshuvah indeed could be seen this way.

His intentional hateful acts had brought him to this meritorious place of seeking out reconciliation.

Though our country is engulfed in national turmoil, and we are each convinced of our own political righteousness, McDowell said he was undergoing a personal transformation. (He told me he doesn't follow the news much because its toxic nature isn't the most conducive to his emotional recovery, as he puts it.)

How many of us have given up described between his online on Fox News viewers, or MSNBC viewers, because they are dead set in their ways? How many of us refuse to engage with someone who says "All Lives Matter" or "Black Lives Matter" because we are so disgusted by the sentiments we think are motivating them? If Benji has taught me anything, it is to never believe the lie that we are conditioned to believe: that people cannot change. People can.

It is ironic that I encouna social media giant that is often under criticism for The rabbis of the Talmud fueling misinformation and

wrote of the spiritual potency polarization. I myself experienced Facebook's mishandling of hate speech when its moderators removed a post I wrote about being assaulted by Farrakhan supporters on a subway car.

> Yet the platform, for all of its flaws, permitted Benji and me to connect. But as Benji himself puts it, it was also the echo chamber of the online groups he found that fueled his toxic thinking. If Facebook chose to actively combat misinformation and hate speech, who knows how many Benjis would be steered away from falsehoods? Facebook's new policy banning Holocaust denial on its platform is a welcome change that comes several years too late.

> In the age of COVID-19, we are online more than ever. For me, Benji's story serves as a cautionary tale about the pitfalls of echo chambers, a reminder to Facebook of the heavy burden they now carry as a connector of people.

> But may we also remember that there are people behind the profiles. Real human beings with emotional range and capacity. Let us never lose sight of each other's humanity, no matter how deeply we doomscroll.

Rabbi Avram Mlotek is a founder of Base Hillel, a home focused rabbinic ministry in 10 cities worldwide. He is the author of "Why Jews Do That or 30 Questions Your Rabbi Never Answered." This piece originally appeared in JTA.org.

A Day in the Life of a COVID-19 Front-Line Worker



BY ESTHER LAPIN

the depths of the pandemic, I have been extremely quiet about my role as a COVID-19 frontline respiratory therapist. I was proud of my work with virus concerned that people would be uncomfortable around me the virus itself. I reclaim my given my close proximity to the dignity as I respond, "Yes, I

THE LAST FEW months, in might ask while cautiously retreating backwards tightening their masks.

I am caught between feeling patients and feeling like I am

these patients." I don't get to are my patients and I am a very vital part in keeping them alive. Why shouldn't I be proud of that?

Although respiratory thera-

plague. "Do you work directly am a respiratory therapist, and pists have their busy, intense with COVID patients?" they it is my job to be there for and overwhelming season during winters when respichoose which patients I take ratory illnesses are at their care of - COVID or not, they highest, even those paled in comparison to the emotional and mental strain I experienced while working during this pandemic.

What follows is a description

of a typical day during COVID.

Walking into work, I take a few big deep breaths. I know it's going to be an emotionally draining and hectic day. I pick up my assignment. I'm in the COVID-19 unit again for the third day in a row. I rush to pick up all my personal protective equipment — a pair of specific COVID-unit scrubs, full face mask and head and shoe coverings. I'm ready.

I march to the wards. Although I have been working here for a time, everything looks unfamiliar. The rooms are veiled with ominous signs and hazard warnings. "Enhanced Precautions," the signs read. Intravenous line poles running between the patient and a point outside their door are held up so as to not touch the floor. Continuous oxygen saturation an incredible fight you just respiratory responsibilities monitors are outside every doorway.

might appear like a movie set did I imagine that I would from the frontlines in World be thrown into the frontlines War II, but for me it is real, dangerous, urgent and critical. At any other time I would fear to cross this barrier, but today it is my job — I have no choice but to rush to the patients like a soldier running into battle. Taking a deep breath, I start my rounds.

To limit exposure for safety reasons, only one RT is allowed in a room at any given time. If there is a code, an emergency intubation or a procedure typically requiring at least two RTs, it must now be performed by one. There is limited support, backup or aids, which compounds the stress and strain of the COVID environment enormously. I feel alone behind enemy lines.

I don't get a chance to sit or let my face breathe without adjust in rapid response to a mask. I run between my patients' rooms trying to keep their oxygen saturations above normal. I help them breathe. I put them on any respiratory device I can think of. I prepare the patients and tools for intubation. I make them comfortable on the vent.

head of the bed right before they fall asleep, as I reassure them that they are being cared for, their family has been notified and everything will be OK.

My job does not stop there. Respiratory I am alone on the difficult journey with them. I manage their ventilator, take charge of their airway and sometimes am the one to turn it off as I whisper in their ear, "What fought."

To an oblivious visitor it field to help people, but never sive, invisible and deadly said, "No man is an island." when I chose this profession, about and experienced But I am also grateful, fortua better person and a better professional for it.

> emotional and physical exhaustion, bleeding from constant hand scrubbing, dried skin from extended mask wearing, and fear of bringing the virus home, it is a small price to Esther Lapin is a registered pay for the personal life lessons and growth that the experience afforded me.

We are a diverse community. The views expressed in the signed opinion columns and letters to the

editor published in the Jewish Exponent are those of the authors. They do not necessarily reflect the

views of the officers and boards of the Jewish Publishing Group, the Jewish Federation of Greater

Philadelphia or the Jewish Exponent. Send letters to letters@jewishexponent.com or fax to

I learned how to adapt and fast-changing situations and events. Being at the frontlines during the pandemic and experiencing the exigency of my role as a respiratory therapist, I learned that the profession I chose is the sine qua non of who I am.

My respiratory team and I I am the one they see at the learned resourcefulness when there were no resources. We devised new and creative ways to minimize contact and proximity to COVID patients by arranging for all patients' monitoring systems to display in hallways outside the rooms.

And collaboration was key. The nursing department rallied tirelessly to help with breathing treatments, airway suctioning and attending to ventilator alarms when other became too overwhelming I entered the health care for us to manage. There was a sense of unity flowing through the patient care units.

The 17th-century English of battle against an aggres- author John Donne famously enemy. Had I known about That was once just a quaint the pandemic and its impact platitude to me. As I learned would my decision have been supreme team reliance and the same? I am ambivalent. co-worker trust, those words became deeply embedded in nate, honored and proud. I am my new philosophy. We are not a collection of isolated islands, rather we are a mighty conti-Although there is sustained nent, and I hope to encourage and inspire young men and women to choose the noble and rewarding profession of respiratory therapy.

> respiratory therapist at Honor Health Osborn Medical Center. She lives in Scottsdale, Arizona..

KVETCH 'N' KVELL

Emulate Oma

I MUST COMMEND EMILY BARASCH, who wrote an extraordinarily uplifting account of "Quarantining With My Holocaust Survivor Grandmother" (Oct. 29). Barasch gives us a life-affirming list of all of the things that her grandmother did during her visit, albeit an extended one from mid-March to July.

I would surmise that "Oma" had seen hard times before. Being a Holocaust survivor puts quite a different slant on the term "hard times." Compared to her hard times, these hard times of being quarantined with a loving family, having plenty of food, TV to watch — French TV series and international movies — plus tablets which could provide able bridge players, are a walk in the park, speaking of which Oma enjoys regularly, during quarantine.

Upon being released from the camps in 1945, the first thing Jews thought about was educating their children. In the most dreadful of times, Jews looked to action, not feeling sorry for themselves.

Oma realized what was important during the pandemic. She was comfortable, she made wonderful meals for her family, she could still enjoy the arts and long walks taking in scenery of lovely parks. In a word, her cup was half-full, not half-empty.

In the meantime, we must go on with our lives, cherish what we have, and show courage in the face of difficulty. If there ever was a time in our lives to emulate the Omas in our lives, this is it. Ann Krauss | Havertown

Both Parties Face Questions Over Israel

Both Democrats and Republicans face serious challenges in their ranks over Israel, but none are quite as threatening as either party makes them out to be. These issues emerged in Oct. 29 commentaries composed by William Wanger ("Donald Trump: Promises Made, Promises Kept") and Jill Zipin ("Joe Biden: For Decency, For Democracy, For America").

Concerns were raised about some antagonistic representatives in the House of Representatives who crudely bash Israel and Trump's impractical plan to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Wanger writes that Biden's "party embraces the warped anti-America, anti-Israel and anti-Semitic remarks of the Rep. Ilhan Omar, Rep. Rashida Tlaib, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio Cortez and Ayanna Pressley squad."

Zipin notes that Biden "has not hesitated to take on those on the left whose modern form of anti-Semitism takes the form of rejecting Israel's legitimacy."

The truth lies somewhere in between: First, to correct the record, Pressley has said she will take pro-Israel positions since many of her Boston-based constituents are Jewish.

I'm not clear on what Biden has done, but Democrats in the House should have censured Omar and Tlaib each time they opened their mouths about Israel. Democrats never "embraced" them as they tolerated their conduct so they would hold onto their supporters. Most House Democrats are as pro-Israel as their Republican counterparts. The chief worry is whether people like Tlaib and Omar ever rise to control the majority of Democrats in the House.

Wanger also writes, "Trump released a bold vision for peace between Israel and the Palestinians."

Trump's plan for the Middle East would offer the Palestinians less territory than Ehud Barak proposed to Yasser Arafat 20 years ago; Arafat rejected it. Why would the Palestinians accept anything less now? •

Bruce Ticker | Philadelphia

STATEMENT FROM THE PUBLISHER

brevity. Unsigned letters will not be published.

Vegetarian Indian, Two Ways

FOOD

KERI WHITE | IF FOOD COLUMNIST

WE RECENTLY HOSTED a backyard dinner for neighborhood friends. One half of the couple has gone vegan for health reasons and, in an effort to accommodate her regimen, I created a recipe for vegan "koftas," or meatballs.

Having overprovisioned, I had a lot of surplus ingredients, so I ended up making chana masala, a chickpea vegetarian curry, later in the week.

The flavor profile for both dishes is similar — classic Indian — but the textures and the curry allows for addition of whatever vegeta-

I had some past-their-prime string beans, but you can be creative: Add fresh greens like spinach or kale, or frozen peas, sweet potatoes, parsnips or cauliflower.

I served brown basmati rice with both of these meals, as well as warm naan, and sliced cucumbers sprinkled with lime juice, salt, pepper and chopped cilantro. Healthy, simple and delicious!

VEGAN KOFTAS

Makes about 12 koftas, which serves 4-6 people

and presentation are different. These are not difficult to make, but there are several steps significant variety with the involved - not your average "throw it in the pot and bles you choose to include. simmer" Indian dish, but well

worth the effort. They are sort of like an Indian falafel in a spicy tomato sauce.

A word on the curry powder: I used a packaged masala spice blend that was intended for chicken biryani but it worked beautifully here (brand name: Shan). Any version that you like or have on hand works, such as garam masala, red or yellow curry powder, etc.

> 1/2 onion, coarsely chopped 1-inch piece ginger, sliced in a few pieces

- 4 cloves garlic
- 1/2 of a jalapeño pepper
- (more or less, to taste)
- 3 tablespoons canola oil 2 tablespoons curry or
- masala powder ¹/₂ teaspoon salt
- 2 14-ounce cans chickpeas, drained well
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup bread crumbs
- 3 tablespoons tomato paste

2¹/₂ cups water

Fresh cilantro and/or scallions for garnish

Puree the onion, garlic, jalapeño and oil in a blender or food processor. Remove half of this paste and put it in a skillet. Add the chickpeas and bread crumbs to a blender and puree until well mixed. Place this mixture in a bowl and refrigerate for 20 minutes to solidify.

While the chickpea mixture chills, sauté the onion mixture in the skillet until fragrant. Add the curry powder and salt, then add the tomato paste and stir until it begins to separate. Add water, stir well, scraping the bottom of the pan, and bring it to a simmer. Cook until slightly thickened, remove it from the heat and set aside.

Heat your oven to 350 F, and line a cooking tray with parchment. Remove the chickpea mixture from the refrigerator. With wet hands, form the mixture into golf ball-sized rounds and place them on a cooking tray. Bake for 30



Vegan koftas

minutes until crusty on the outside.

Place the cooked koftas in the tomato gravy and stir to coat. Return the dish to the oven to keep the dish warm, or serve immediately, garnished with fresh cilantro and/or scallions.

CHANA MASALA Serves 6

"Chana" is the word for chickblend of spices used in Indian cooking. This dish is an Indianstyle curry or stew of vegetables and chickpeas swimming in an aromatic, flavorful tomato gravy.

You can vary it with whatever vegetables you wish to use, or need to get rid of.

- 1 onion, chopped
- 1-inch piece ginger, grated
- 4 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1/2 of a jalapeño pepper, finely chopped (more or less. to taste)
- 3 tablespoons canola oil
- 2 tablespoons curry powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 4 carrots, sliced

Photo by Keri White

- 1 large or 2 medium-sized potatoes, cut in bite-sized chunks
- 28-ounce can crushed 1 tomatoes
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup water, more if needed
- 2 14-ounce cans chickpeas, drained well
- 2 cups string beans, cut in 1-inch pieces
- Cilantro and scallions for garnish

Heat the oil in a large pot peas and "masala" refers to a and add the onion, garlic, ginger, jalapeño, curry powder and salt. Sauté until fragrant, about 5 minutes. Add the carrots and potatoes, and sauté to coat. Add the crushed tomatoes and water, bring it to a simmer and lower the heat.

> Add the chickpeas and simmer for 30-60 minutes. Check periodically to make sure the liquid has not cooked down too much; it should be soupy — add water in half-cup increments to keep the consistency, if needed. Add the string beans for the last 15 minutes of cooking (they will get soggy if overcooked). Serve the curry over rice, topped with chopped fresh cilantro and scallions.



Protest

Continued from Page 16

were killed, were also linked to the Black Hebrew Israelite movement.

The man who appears to have shot the extended video and uploaded it to Instagram has the handle @hoi_philly. HOI, or the House of Israel, is a subgroup of Black Hebrew Israelites that also took part in a widely publicized altercation at the March for Life in 2019.

The owner of the Instagram account has posted other content disparaging Jews. This week, he posted a meme juxtaposing a photo of an Orthodox man wearing a yarmulke with a photo of a Black man. The caption reads "Iew-ish" below the Orthodox man and "Iew" below the Black man.

The ADL's fact sheet on lspikol@jewishexponent.com; the group notes: "It should be 215-832-0747

and anti-Semitic sects of Black Hebrew Israelites are unrelated to the thousands of black Jews and other Jews of color in the U.S., who are genuine members of the Jewish faith. Furthermore, they should not be confused with Ethiopian Jews who mostly live in Israel today."

emphasized that the extremist

Graie Hagans, a Jew of color who lives in West Philadelphia and participated in last week's racial justice protests, said he is "deeply heartbroken" because of Wallace's death and police abuse he's seen, and he is concerned that the video will reinforce the mistaken idea, among some Jews, that crowds of Black people are inherently dangerous.

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Election

Continued from Page 17

as long as it usually was on Election Day.

Sam Maron came from the bris as well. Fearful that mail-in voting would not be secure, Maron had decided to vote in person. As the full length of the line came into view, Maron shook his head.

"I hope they're voting for Trump," he said.

Yaakov Yermish, a fellow past president of Ahavas Torah, joined the back of the line with his son; both were wearing MAGA apparel. The latter was excited to push the button in the voting booth, whereas the former was more excited about who the button was being the area were shorter. pushed for.

"It's an important year," Yermish said.

Andrew Goldman brought his daughter to vote with him, Title Building on Broad each many people here," she said.

everyone else, he was astounded at the length of the line, and was thankful that he had arrived early. Lifting his kippah for a moment, he said, "I'm voting for the same guy that 90% of people who wear this are."

Meanwhile, in Center City, the line to vote at the The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts already stretched down Spruce Street, along Broad and onto Pine before 8 a.m. Several news crews set up cameras outside and representatives from the Biden campaign offered voters free selfies with a cardboard cutout of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris (no donations allowed).

The lines for other polls in

The William Way LGBT Community Center on Spruce Street and the Philadelphia Senior Center and the Land

just as he had in 2016. Like had a dozen or fewer voters waiting outside this morning. A few older voters brought chairs to sit on.

And in Fishtown around 8:30 a.m., voters lined up by district outside the Fishtown Recreation Center, and in a shorter line at the Alexander Adaire School playground.

Ronnie Kessler, a Jewish parent at the school, was staffing a bake sale fundraiser for the nonprofit Friends of Adaire and had already cast her ballot by mail.

She couldn't say anything political due to her volunteering position, but she was happy to see everyone complying with rules about masks. She noted that there was strong turnout, though there seemed to be fewer children accompanying their parents than she had seen in previous years.

"It's really exciting to see so



Film Festival Moves Online for 40th Anniversary

FILM

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

IT CAN BE HARD to feel festive these days. But the Gershman Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival, beginning Nov. is inviting movie lovers everywhere to celebrate a raft of celebrates its 40th anniversary.

traditional sense — there won't be the typical sprinkling of live screenings at venues across the city — this year's GPJFF still provides viewers with the chance to see new Jewish documentaries, short films and features.

Additionally, virtual attendees will have the chance to see a performance and dance workshop by Ariel Rivka Dance, take a class on writing for television with "BoJack Horseman" creator Raphael Bob-Waksberg and sit in on a Jewish visual artist showcase and panel on the intersection of art and activism. Interviews with actors and subjects that may have taken place before or after a screening have been prerecorded, along with directors' introductions to their films.

said. "We are doing every- Melamed and Polly Draper festival-goers and sponsors still character), a wild confluence

feel connected and engaged."

One way they'll do that is with 40th birthday boxes filled with festival swag and seasonal goodies as a thank-you to all sponsors.

Though this year is no one's idea of a normal festival, there 7 and running until Nov. 21, are some changes for the day that in-person screenings could be held again; the festival's new exciting new Jewish cinema as it virtual platform, at watch.pjff. org, may become an annual Though not a festival in the occurrence to go along with the live screenings. And forgive Antsis for repeating herself, as she does each year. She really thinks this lineup could be one of the best ones yet.

> Here are reviews of three movies set to be screened at this year's festival:

"Shiva Baby," directed by Emma Seligman. Nov. 19, 8 p.m.

Emma Seligman's "Shiva Baby," titled after a loud and and entertaining. disruptive infant who is inexplicably brought to a somber and muted ritual, was adapted Tayla Lavie. Nov. 14, 8 p.m. from her 2018 short film. The story has expanded from the to try and make a contemoriginal, but Seligman wisely chose to retain the actress at the center of the movie: Rachel Sennott, a young comedian populated by movies that and the GPJFF "Rising Star."

In a comedy that frequently colleagues and me that the well-timed dead-eyed stare, festival retains as much of Sennott does so with great its character and charm as skill. Though the characvirtual," GPJFF Executive too broadly to be much more Artistic Director Olivia Antsis than Jewish "types" (Fred thing we can to make sure that are the parents to Sennott's by either option. The director of

of romantic circumstances and most critically lauded Israeli Seligman's eye for the ridiculous keep the movie bouncy

"Honeymood," directed by

Filmmakers who dare porary romantic comedy are in a particularly difficult spot. The genre is increasingly seek to create ironic distance from the original strictures of "It is important to my calls for the deployment of a the romantic comedy, to the degree that romantic comedies that poke fun at conventions of romantic comedy have possible — even as it goes ters at the shiva play it a little themselves become conventional. But what're you going to do — play it straight?

> Lavie refuses to be boxed in "Zero Motivation," one of the





Avigail Harari and Ran Danker in "Honeymood," a standout offering at this year's Gershman Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival WestEnd Films

movies of the last decade, has written a keenly observed, comedy that's funny in any language, though we would advise reading the subtitles.

A newly married couple experiences about two minutes of domestic bliss before the bride discovers that her groom's ex-girlfriend has gifted him with a mysterious ring on their wedding night! Her determination to return the ring that very night sets them off on a madcap rush around Ierusalem.

Right at the point where you think you know what Lavie is doing, she takes another left turn. Don't miss this one.

by Beth Elise Hawk. Nov. 21, 8 p.m.

It's hard to say if the food in "Breaking Bread" looks especially delicious, or if the sight of people happily enjoying the inside of a restaurant feels like watching an especially extravagant fantasy. Either way, Beth Elise Hawk's documentary about the Israeli Jews, Israeli Arabs and Palestinians who 215-832-0740

seek to bridge cultural divides with food is a delight.

The movie follows the wonderfully acted romantic chefs who will take part in the Haifa-based A-sham Arab Food Festival, which will require pairings of Jewish and Arab chefs to collaborate on traditional dishes. The characters of this world are uniformly intriguing, and so distinctly Israeli; there is something unmistakably of the Promised Land about a shot of a cramped hummus restaurant, owned by a Jewish wife and Arab husband, menu items scrawled onto a simple board, walls sagging with hamsas and Jewish paintings, the top of one diner's buttocks in full view.

The movie begins with a "Breaking Bread," directed quote from Anthony Bourdain, and it's very much from the Bourdain school of culinary entertainment. It dispenses with the idea that we're "all the same," but believes fervently in the power of a table full of good food to be the place where our commonalities are most easily summoned.

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LIFESTYLES/CULTURE

New Podcast to Feature 'Radical Candor'

ARTS

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

IF YOU KNEW Debbie Epstein Henry, it would come as no surprise that she'd want to get into the world of podcasting. After all, the types of stories that Henry tells on the first season of her new podcast, "Inspiration Loves Company," are the types of stories she's lived to tell – and lived, full stop.

Henry, who lives on the Main Line, is a lawyer, consultant and entrepreneur. Though she was once a litigator, her talent for creating, networking and public speaking led her to start a consulting firm, DEH Consulting, Speaking, Writing.

podcast, Her which launched on Oct. 22 and will conclude its first season on Dec. 16, features frank conversations with other experienced professionals, mostly women, who cover topics like race, office gender roles and "radical candor," among other planned episodes. For the woman who once fought alongside her Torah from the bimah on a Law School, a night out with know unless we do surgery." Saturday morning at her bat mitzvah, the chance to speak directly to the challenges faced by her peers was a natural step.

"I felt this was such an opportunity to revisit things we care about, and ask ourselves, 'What's the best way to understand and embrace these issues now?"" Henry said of this surgeon," Henry recalled, "Inspiration Loves Company."



▲ Debbie Epstein Henry's new podcast is called "Inspiration Loves Company." Photo by Kristen Jensen

podcast is a risk — one conver- know, the way this lesion is sational misstep can have dire located, it's very unusual for a professional consequences. But brain tumor — it looks like a risk is what she's preached for very rare parasite. But you're vears.

her husband at her favorite city diner was cut short when she under the knife. started to feel "out of sorts." in the emergency room, Henry was quickly diagnosed with a brain tumor.

Henry knows that the the brain scan and said, 'You fine.

not the demographic, which When Henry was 26 and a is typically found in Latin mother for the right to read third-year student at Brooklyn American countries. We won't

Five days later, she went

What her parents and Racing back to the apartment, husband recall, on her behalf, is she had a grand mal seizure; the sight of the surgeon jogging down the hall, bellowing, "It's a parasite!" That's not typically a sentence that brings relief, "And I ended up finding but for Henry, it meant that the surgery was the end of her "and the surgeon looked at troubles: She was going to be



"It just rocked my world," she said of the experience. "And what it made me do was commit to myself that I'm going to take smart risks in my life and I'm not going to wait for anything to live the life I want."

So when she felt it was time to leave litigation to try something on her own, she didn't hesitate.

DEH Consulting, Speaking, Writing began after Henry sent out a casual networking email to a few Philadelphia attorneys and found a sprawling network of lawyers interested in work-life issues. They were also interested in live events where Henry would interview authors, thinkers and TED talk alums speaking to work-life issues. DEH went national, and thousands of 215-832-0740

professionals attended the events over the years — even as Henry was busy running Bliss Lawyers, a full-service legal placement firm.

Heidi Freedman, a lawyer in Cleveland, has known Henry for 15 years. She admired Henry's mission to make the legal and professional worlds more welcoming to women, and found the DEH events endlessly fascinating. Listening to the podcast now, sponsored in part by her law firm, Thompson Hine, she's inspired in the same way that she is by Henry's in-person speaking.

"I always tell her," Freedman said, "everything she touches turns to gold." •

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We Can Make That Change

BY RABBI JEREMY SCHNEIDER

Parshah Vayera

IN THE YEAR 1054, there was a huge supernova explosion, an explosion that eventually became the Crab Nebula. Astronomers in places as far flung as China, Japan, Arabia and even the Americas recorded the event. Yet strangely, there is no record of this gigantic event anywhere in Europe. How could that be? Is it possible that Europeans did not see it?

One probable explanation is that such an event went against the mindset of Europeans, under the influence of Aristotle and the Catholic Church. To these Europeans, the heavens were rotating spheres that were unchangeable. Heavenly bodies did not explode; they simply him down under a bush, so circled the earth for eternity. he will be hidden from her opened Abraham's eyes to see the mind to shape our percep-Such an explosion would go view, and removes herself a that there was only one God tions can free us from being

and due to this belief system, cries of young Ishmael, and Europeans did not "see" it.

What we believe affects how we see the world. We learn this same lesson from the story of Hagar and Ishmael in this week's Torah portion. Depending on how we translate the text, Sarah fears that Ishmael either will be a bad Hagar not see the well of water influence on Isaac or actually hurt him. At Sarah's urging, Abraham expels the child and his mother from his tent.

Hagar and Ishmael wander in the harsh wilderness. They quickly run out of water, and Hagar despairs. She is convinced that there is no water in the wilderness and that the two of them will die of thirst. Ishmael is crying, and she cannot bear the thought of watching him die. She sets is there.

against their very belief system good distance. God hears the God opens Hagar's eyes. She now sees that right before her is a well of water. It was there all along, but Hagar did not see it. The boy is saved and will grow up to be a leader of a great nation of his own.

The question is, why did that was right in front of her? Why did God have to open her eyes? Perhaps she was so convinced that everything was lost, that her son would die, that her mind would not allow her to see the water.

The Talmud says "a man is shown only what is suggested by his own thoughts" (Berakhot 55b). Too often we do not see what is really there, but rather we see what our mind suggests

In the same way God

opened our ancestors' eyes through the Exodus experience to see the meaning of freedom and of covenant.

When our eyes opened, when we can recognize that what we are seeing is in our mind and is not or does not need to be reality, we experience a paradigm shift. From that moment, we never see the world the same again.

The founding of this country was such a moment, when we came to realize that freedom requires a government that is, in Lincoln's words, "of the people, by the people and for the people."

So, if it is true - as the Torah teaches through Hagar - that we see only what our mind sees, how does this impact our daily lives?

First, knowing the power of

who is the creator of all. God trapped by the past and make us receptive to new and higher truths. Never assume that the world is as you see it.

4:34 p.m.

4:28 p.m.

CANDLE LIGHTING

Nov. 6

Nov. 13

Second, having been set free from the shackles of our preconceptions, we can allow our minds to imagine worlds different from what we see. We can lift ourselves up above our current reality and choose to see the world differently. When we make that choice, we become empowered to change the world to match our new vision.

May we learn to be open to seeing the world in new and unexpected ways. May we strive to see the world as it should be and to do our part to make it so. That's doing Jewish.

Rabbi Jeremy Schneider is the spiritual leader of Temple Kol Ami in Scottsdale, Arizona, and a past president of the Board of Rabbis of Greater Phoenix.

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Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Two Years Since Tree of Life Shooting, Anti-Semitism Persists in Politics

BY STEVE ROSENBERG

IT HAS BEEN TWO YEARS since the Jewish community in my hometown of Pittsburgh was the target of violent anti-Semitism. A deranged gunman, radicalized by online hate groups and outraged by Jewish values of equality and acceptance, killed 11 innocent people. It's a day we will always remember, and one that the next generation of Jews will know as the day everything changed.

While anti-Semitism had been on the rise for the past few years, the Tree of Life tragedy was in some ways a catalyst for the hate and terror still to come, such as the violent acts in Poway and Jersey City. Now, in the COVID-19 era, dozens of Jewish synagogues, schools, and community centers have been targeted by vandalism and Zoom bombers. In 2019, the Philadelphia chapter of the Anti-Defamation League counted 109 anti-Semitic incidents in Pennsylvania, a 22% increase from the year before. The loss of life in Pittsburgh, and our nation's response, didn't repress anti-Semitism — it added more fuel to an increasingly hot fire.

The 2020 election cycle, thankfully now concluded, offered yet another vehicle for hatred of Jews to thrive. Jewish candidates for public office were targeted with threats and other anti-Semitic messages, including

having their nose enlarged in ads or leaving anti-Semitic threats at their own front door, as happened to Pennsylvania state Rep. Aaron Kaufer (R-Luzerne County).

While Jews in both parties continue to be targets of hate, our votes are highly courted. While we are only 2% of the U.S. population, we are reliable voters, with an estimated 85% turning out on a given election, much higher than the national participation average. To attract us, the two major parties tend to claim the high ground, telling us we should vote as they do because the other party is unwelcoming and inhospitable for our people.

The truth is that both the Democratic and Republican parties are home to anti-Semitism. The extremist views of the far-left and the far-right are no longer on the fringe: A QAnon candidate, who has espoused a plethora of dangerous Jewish tropes, won a congressional Republican primary in Georgia. Candidates who support the anti-Semitic boycott, divestment and sanctions movement are gaining ground in Democratic circles. The U.S. House of Representatives will be home to members with anti-Jewish views next year, a fact that's alarming to Jews of all political persuasions.

Our leaders' failure across the board to address this problem is wildly disappointing. Elected officials and party leadership frequently refuse to address anti-Semitism, as well as racism and other forms of bigotry that pop up within



Photo by Sabrina Rubin Erdely

their own caucus. More often than not, they act to distract, by pointing to anti-Semitism on the other side. By not acknowledging this problem, or attempting to dismiss it, our political leaders are allowing the hate to flourish, and placing Jews in the, sadly familiar, role of the outcast.

The only way forward is for our political leaders to acknowledge, accept and make a plan to eradicate the anti-Semitism that exists within their own ranks. As the election winds down, and the votes are tallied, there will be a new or altered governing body that will be tasked with uniting a divided country and combating the pervasive bigotry within our midst. Anti-Semitism is thousands of years old; it will take a worldwide effort to eradicate it entirely. But if America's political parties can critically examine their own role in incubating and spreading anti-Semitism, the rest of the world might just follow suit.

As we gather to commemorate and mourn the lives lost two years ago in Squirrel Hill, let's hold the thoughts and prayers. It's time for leaders in the Democratic and Republican parties to show their support to their Jewish communities by confronting and eliminating the anti-Semitism in their own backyard.

Steve Rosenberg is the chief operating officer of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia. This op-ed first appeared in The Philadelphia Inquirer.

DEATH NOTICES



Marillyn "Dolly" Beechman Schnall (nee Lush) was born April 9, 1924 in Philadelphia and succumbed on October 29, 2020 to longterm complications from stroke. A four-decade resident of Wyndmoor, PA, since 2013 she had resided at Sunrise in Abington, PA. Dolly earned a B. A. from University of Pennsylvania in 1944 as a Spanish major and an M.F.A. in theater from Temple University School of Theater and Communications in 1970. Her first paid work in theater was at age 16 as a summer stock apprentice at the Cape Theater in Cape May, New Jersey. Eventually she appeared in on-stage roles there and many other local stages, including the Philadelphia Theater Company, the Lasalle Music Theater, Temple University, the Keswick Theater, and the Burgundy Room Theater. She was a member of both the Screen Actor's Guild and Actor's Equity. She worked not only as an actor, but also directed numerous local productions. She worked independently as an acting coach, and taught theater at Rutgers Camden, Camden County Community College, and Penn State Abington. She was also a playwright, working with Enchantment Theater Company, writing and directing commercial efforts such as the Strawbridge Christmas show, and in collaboration with the late Patricia Sternberg writing Philadelphia Parade of Progress for the bicentennial celebration, The Treaty Never Broken (about William Penn), and Sojourner (a biographical play about Sojourner Truth). Her last work, funded by a Pennsylvania Council on the Arts grant, is Without the Sainted Father, a play about Abe Lincoln's family in the years after his assassination. She served on the boards of The Walnut Street Theater, the Wilma Theater, Act II Playhouse, Enchantment Theater, and 1812 Productions. Dolly married Dr. Nathan Schnall in 1984, and together they helped provide financial support to the non-profit theater community in Philadelphia. In 2008, Dolly Beechman Schnall was honored as "Woman of the Year" by 1812, and received the Barrymore Award for Lifetime Achievement for Excellence in Theatre from the Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia. Dolly maintained a lifelong interest in expanding her knowledge of Romance languages, and after retiring from teaching, took courses in Latin at Chestnut Hill College. In addition to serving on boards, she also travelled with her husband Dr. Nathan Schnall, widely and fre-quently throughout Europe. Dolly and Nate were also devoted to the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake, in Canada, making many annual trips. Dolly is survived by her husband, Dr. Nathan Schnall, and her daughters Claudia Cohen (Barry), Jane Segal (Steven), and grandchildren Beryl Cohen, Re-id Cohen, Julian Segal (Lauren), Evan Segal (Gabrielle), Brett Segal, Beatrice Dolly Segal, and nephew Bruce Maggin. She was pre-de-ceased by her first husband Eugene Beechman, daughter Laurie Beechman, her brother Jay Lush, her sister Berniece Maggin, and niece Beth Yoser. For the sake of pandemic safety, graveside services were private. The family will plan for a memorial gathering at a safer time. Anyone wishing to honor Dolly should contribute to the Laurie Beechman Scholarship Fund at University of the Arts or any Philadelphia area non-profit theater.

JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS www.levinefuneral.com

BERGMAN Joanne Bergman (nee Berg). October 24 2020 of Boynton Beach, FL. formerly of Philadelphia, Pa. Wife of the late Joseph. Mother of Bruce M. Bergman and Brian D. Bergman. Also survived by many other loving family and friends. The family requests that contributions in her memory be made to a Charity of the donor's choice. JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS

DEATH NOTICES

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BLUDMAN

Peter D. Bludman on October 28, 2020. Hus-band of Helene (nee Cohen), father of Evan (Bonnie) Schiff, Emily (Rand) Stearns and Laurie Bludman, brother Joel (Mary Ann) Wittenberg and Lee Bludman, the son of Sidney Bludman and the late Doris Wittenberg Bludman, grandfather of Sofia Stearns. Services and interment were private. Contribu-tions in his memory may be made to Beth David Reform Congregation or a charity of the donor's choice. JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS

www.levinefuneral.com

CHATZKEL

Doris Chatzkel (nee Presser), on October 21, 2020. Beloved wife of the late Benjamin Chatzkel. Devoted mother of Dr. Sherrie Chatzkel and the late Larry Chatzkel. Loving grandmother of Jonathan and Sara. Contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S

RAPHAEL-SACKS www.goldsteinsfuneral.com

CLYMAN

Marcia Clyman (nee Herman), On October 20, 2020, age 86 years, of Wynnewood, PA. A loving Daughter, Wife, Mother, Mom-Mom and best friend. She was the beloved wife of the late Allen S. Clyman, mother of Ellen (Mi-chael) Dine and Scott (Diane) Clyman, mommom of Emma Dine, Chelsea and Justin Clyman, and daughter of the late William and Sylvia (Marks) Herman. Marcia will be remembered for her love of reading, good food and wine, going to Bingo with her friends. She loved to spend quality time with her family and loved ones. Marcia was an amazing Businesswoman as well as a cook. Contributions in her memory may be made to Dia-mond Dogs Rescue. www.diamonddogsrescueinc/donate.html JOSEPH LEVINE and SONS

www.levinefuneral.com

JACOBS

Sara (Kenig) Jacobs, age 96, on October 19, 2020. Sara was preceded in death by her husband Milton (Mickey) on May 19, 2019. Sara was a homemaker who was born in Strawberry Mansion and lived in Northeast Philadelphia and Elkins Park She courageously lived with challenging physical disabilities at the end of her life, spending almost a decade in Rydal Park. After starting together in Independent Living, Mickey and Sara eventually became next door neighbors in the Medical Center. Known for her strength, wit and great beauty, Sara's life force was palpable through the end of her life. Sara is survived by children Dr. Ken Jacobs (Dr. Evelyn Wiener, deceased), Renee Langmuir (Robert), and grandchildren Caroline Coral (Lucas), Larry Russock, Molly Jacobs and Alexander Jacobs (Terri Ann Guingab).

Honor the memory of your loved one ...

Call 215.832.0749 to place your memorial. DEATH NOTICES



Morton J Monsky of Bala Cynwyd, age 82. Morty is survived by his beloved wife Ruth (nee Agard), sons Lionel and Evan, daugh-ters in law Ada and Katie, grandson Adlai, grandpets Whidbey, Frank and Grace, and caring friend David Blumenthal. Predeceased by his parents Philip and Charlotte, and brothers Don and Sheldon. The oldest of three boys, Mort was an Eagle Scout—and went on to become a loving father, financial planner, mortgage man, radio host, basketball coach, t-shirt maker, nap taker, orange juice squeezer, festival-goer and overall lover of life. Funeral will be private. Donations can be made to the World Wildlife Fund,

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

PARKIN

Joan Parkin, October 11, 2020, of Dresher, PA. Wife of Robert Parkin. Mother of Mitchell Parkin (Candace), Lee Parkin (Johanna) and Hope Parkin. Grandmother of Jeremy (Samantha) and Brynn; sister of the late Marty El-lick (Joy). The family respectfully request that contributions in her memory be made to Temple Sinai of Dresher https://www.tsinai.com/giving-back. JOSEPH LEVINE and ŠONS www.levinefuneral.com

SACK Burton Sack (BURNY) on October 27, 2020. Beloved husband of Renee (nee Fleisher); Loving father of Eric (Sandra Steiker) and Paul; Dear brother of Nora Ginsberg; De-voted grandfather of Alicia (Sam), Rachel, Sam and Ivana; Adoring great-grandfather of Cooper. Services and Interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to Hadassah, 1518 Walnut St. Ste. 402, Phila., PA 19102, www.hadassah.org GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S

RAPHAEL-SACKS www.goldsteinsfuneral.com

SANDLER

Dr. Stanley R. Sandler, Ph.D. (Organic Chemistry), October 24, 2020. Husband of the late Shelda Sandler (nee Bachin), Father of Bradford J. Sandler (Lisa) and Shimon Sandler (Miriam). Grandfather of Devon, Aiden, Yosef-Aaron, Devorah, and Malka. Funeral services were held on October 25, 2020. Contributions in his memory may be made to the American Chemical Society, 1155 Six-teenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036,

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

A Community Remembers

Monthly archives of Jewish Exponent Death Notices are available online. www.JewishExponent.com

TO PLACE A MEMORIAL AD CALL 215.832.0749

DEATH NOTICES SUPLEE

llene H. Suplee (nee Baronstein), passed away on October 28, 2020. Beloved wife of sixty years to Donald F. Suplee.Loving mother of Mark (Barbara) Suplee, Amy (Evan) Eis-enberg and Douglas (Sharon) Suplee.Sister of Rosalie (Harvey) Goldberg.Bubby of Amber, Julia, Cara, Jake and Graham. Her love for her family was boundless. She was warm, funny and a fantastic cook. She was loved by all who knew her, and will forever be missed. As she loved all animals, dogs especially, contributions in her memory may be made to The Humane Society, www.hu-

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

DEATH NOTICES WEISS

Evelyn Weiss (nee Cohen) on October 13, 2020. Wife of the late Arnold. Mother of Barry (Hilarie) Weiss and the late Shelly Weiss Grandmother of Scott (Liz) Weiss and Matt (Liz) Weiss. Great-grandmother of Nola, Èmme and Brandon. Graveside services were private. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Shelly Weiss Memorial Fund c/o Franklin & Marshall University, PO Box 3003 Lancaster PA 17604 or Hadassah, 1518 Wal-nut St, Suite 402, Philadelphia PA 19102. GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL SACKS

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COMMUNITY REMEMBERS

MONTHLY ARCHIVES OF JEWISH EXPONENT **DEATH NOTICES ARE AVAILABLE** ONLINE.

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Komen

Continued from Page 12

Temple University, University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University and Franklin and Marshall College, to offer educational programs about breast cancer screenings and family history to thousands of Jewish students.

Ashkenazi Jewish women have an increased risk of breast a national patient navigation cancer due to the high prevalence of BRCA, or breast cancer gene, in Jewish populations of Eastern European descent.

The regional affiliate also conducted outreach events for the Asian American, African American and Hispanic communities, with information translated into a variety of languages for immigrants who did not speak English.

This year, Komen Philadelphia's More Than Pink Walk fundraiser had to transition to a virtual format due to held my mother's hand and the pandemic. Grobman said it she's recovered,' 'you gave us still raised \$500,000.

Tuffnell emphasized that Komen will still offer support in the Philadelphia area. The Komen Treatment Assistance Program, which provides financial aid to those struggling to pay copays, transportation and child care costs, will continue.

"We find in particular during 215-832-0729

this global pandemic where people are losing their jobs, losing their insurance, that the Treatment Assistance Program is incredibly important and valuable, and so we're doubling down on what those needs are," Tuffnell said.

He said Komen is launching program to ensure patients have access to health care professionals who can help them navigate their screening and treatment options.

The closing of the Philadelphia affiliate marks the end of Grobman's time with Komen, but she intends to continue her activism.

"When the announcement went out, I received over 100 emails from people who told me, 'You came to my house with a basket of food,' 'you the passion and the understanding and the courage to move forward.' And there are hundreds of emails like that. So I am feeling very proud that my staff and I have touched so many lives," she said. •

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foldsteins[,] Rosenberg's Raphael Sack

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Israel Briefs

Continued from Page 15

the Orit.

"These cultural treasures are facing extinction," Rom-Shiloni said.

The Orit is the Ethiopian variant of the Hebrew Bible, she said, noting that prior to the compilation of the text known today as the Hebrew Bible, Jewish communities offered similar "but certainly not identical" versions.

When Ethiopian Jews began immigrating the Israel in the 1980s, they brought the Orit with them. The Orit is written in a Semitic language called Ge'ez, which was used by Ethiopian clergy.

An unwritten liturgy evolved around the Orit over the centuries that includes songs, rabbinical interpretations and stories in Amharic and Tigrinya.

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

EXPONENT AND NEVER MISS A STORY

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HOUSEHOLD SERVICES	MERCHANDISE MARKETING	drenched 2 BD, 2 BA, modern, granite, open galley kitchen w/ granite counters, tiled back	CRYSTAL CHANDELIER SERVICE Rewiring, refin, cleaning. Looks brand new when we're thru.	JANICE B. LEIS, A	3R (0). 561-981-9400	(H)
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215-832-0753		drenched, 1 BD, 1 BA, full kit- chen w/ new cabinets, wood parquet floors, ceiling fan, new carpets, foyer closet, modern	NORTHEAST MOVING Best rates around 1 pc to entire home moved anywhere. Lic. Ins.	7:30pm daily, in Elkins Park, drive my car. Call 215-884-1276	5275 Germantown Ave. First Floor Philadelphia, PA 19144	Schaer & Toddy, PC One Commerce Square 2005 Market St., 16th Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19103
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Management, Lessing and Complete Provide Management, Lessing and Properties and Commercial Properties YOUR AD HERE	REAL ESTATE HOMES FOR SALE	TERRACES-2nd floor. Designer roomy 1 BD, 1 BA. Chainer of plotter tooking woods. TERRACES-Top floor, 2 BD, 2 BA, new granite kitchen, new re- frigerator, new washer/dryer, new heating and a/c, new elec- tric, custom lighting, custom closets. Sumy balcony. Near el-	ARTS & ANTIQUES	Experienced & Trained BONDED & LICENSED Available 24/7 20 Years Experience Very Affordable 215-477-1050	Nonprofit Corp., with its registered address at 1239 Spring Garden St., Phila., PA 19123, that the Corp. and its Board of Directors is now engaged in winding up and settling the affairs of the corp. so that its corp. existence shall be ended by the issuance of a Articles of Dissol- ution by the Dept. of State of the Commonwealth of PA, under the provisions of PA Business Non-	Clarkson-Watson House 5275 Germantown Ave. First Floor Philadelphia, PA 19144 ESTATE NOTICES ESTATE of BARBARA JONES-DAVIS Deceased Late of Pennsylvania
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То	The DeSouzas are Back on Bustleton!	TOWER-3rd floor, Roomy 2 BD 2 BA, Sunny front balcony, modern kitchen, custom closets, washer/dryer, custom lighting, mirrored closets, ww carpets, coat closet, large bal- cony, Available immediately.		inside/outside of your home. Will help you understand your bills, do paperwork.and also m a ke telephone calls.for you. Support	FRIEDA COMMUNITY has been in- corporated under the provisions of the PA Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988. Cheshire Law Group Clarkson-Watson House 5275 Germantown Ave.	c/o their attorney Debra G. Speyer, Two Bala Plaza, Suite 300, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004.
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Classified Ad	Call Andi or Rick DeSouza for an appointment & we will deliver: Results, Not Promises! RE/MAX Eastern, Inc.	v2150 TERRACES-All new renovation. 2 BD, 2 BA. Open granite kit- chen, washer/dryer. \$2150 TOWER-NEW LISTING Expans- ive, renovated 3 BD, 3.5 BA "home", Extra space with one floor living. All new expanded, open granite kit., with breakfast	LAUREL HILL WEST 2 grave lot- Washington sec- tion, lot #343, graves 6 & 7. It can accommodate the inter- ment of 4 caskets (2 in each grave) and 2 cremation buri- als (2 in each grave). I paid \$5,000 each they now sell for \$6,000 each. I would like to sell them for \$4,000 each or a total of \$8,000. Call 215-779-	work etc. Live-in or hourly. Exc Refs. Neg Salary Theresa 267- 591-9382	TION FOR A PAWNBROKER LI- CENSE Notice is given that Kensington Gold and Silver did on November 5, 2020 submit to the Common- wealth of Pennsylvania, Depart- ment of Banking, an application for renewal licensure of a pawnbroker office at this location, which is as follows: 1802 E. Allegheny Ave. Philadelphia PA 19134. All inter-	and all persons indebted to the de- cedent to make payment without delay to CRAIG LICHTMAN, AD- MINISTRATOR, 1601 Gerson Dr., Penn Valley, PA 19072, Or to his Attorney: THOMAS E. WIENER One Belmont Ave., Ste. 315 Bala Cynwyd, PA, 19004
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ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF WILBERT THIRKIEL HAYES a/k/a WILBERT HAYES, DE-CEASED. Late of Philadelphia LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been gran-ted to the undersigned, who re-quest all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the de-cedent to make payment without cedent to make payment without delay to CYNTHIA K. HAYES, AD-MINISTRATRIX, 484 Browning Ln., MINIS IRA IRIX, 484 Browning Ln., Cherry Hill, NJ 08003, Or to her Attorney: JORDAN R. SHAPIRO SHUBERT GALLAGHER TYLER MULCAHEY 121 S. Broad St., 20th Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19107

ESTATE OF WILLIAM G. De-LORENZO, JR., DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

Laco TrimadophilisTRATION on the above Estate have been gran-ted to the undersigned, who re-quest all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make hown the same and all persons indebted to the de-cedent to make payment without delay to KATHLEEN DELORENZO, ADMINISTRATRIX, 7202 Mallard Place, Philadelphia, PA 19153, Or to her Attorney: MARYBETH O. LAURIA THE LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL S. CONNOR, LLC 644 Germantown Pike, Ste. 2-C LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on 644 Germantown Pike, Ste. 2-C Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

CORPORATE NOTICES

Citywide North PC has been incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 29 of the Business Corpor-ation law of 1988 as a Professional Corporation

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2100 Arch Street 4th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103 **DEADLINE** -

TO PLACE YOUR SENIOR TO SENIOR AD Friday by 10 am for the following Thursday's issue Call 215-832-0749

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ENGAGEMENT



KAHAN-HACOHEN

Ruth (z"l) and Stephen H. Saks of Lansdale announce the engagement of Happy 65th wedding anniversary to their granddaughter Eliana Kahan to Azariah Hacohen. The parents are Amy (z"l) and Jeremy Kahan of Skokie, Illinois, and Sandi and Yisrael Hacohen of Queens, New York.

Eliana received a bachelor's degree from Barnard College of Columbia University and is pursuing a master's degree in Talmud at Tel Aviv University.

Azariah is a summa cum laude graduate of Queens College in political science, honors business, animation/illustration and design graphics. He has an LLB from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Azariah is an attorney specializing in international arbitration and Israeli litigation. He is also the CEO and lead designer of Creative Visuals. Eliana is a Nachshon Project graduate fellow and is teaching Talmud at Hevruta at the Hartman Institute in Jerusalem.

A wedding in Israel is planned for early 2021.

Photo by Teya Bardakah

ANNIVERSARY

► COHAN



Courtesy of Michael Cohan

BIRTH

► KAYLA SADIE LEIBOVITZ

Ronda and Howard Moses and Beth Leibovitz announce the birth of their granddaughter, Kayla Sadie Leibovitz, on Oct. 10. The parents are Kim and Richie Leibovitz.

Joan and Burton Cohan of Rydal Park,

more years of health and happiness.

Mazel tov from children Michael, Mindy and Lauren — wishing many

who were married Oct. 30, 1955.

Kavla is named in loving memory of her paternal grandfather Ken Leibovitz and her maternal great-grandmothers Shirley Wolfe and Sadie Moses.



Photo by Kim Leibovitz



FISHMAN-BUCKMAN

Sandra Fishman and Robert Fishman, of Manhattan, New York, and Amy and Terry Buckman of Bala Cynwyd, and Ventnor, New Jersey, announce the engagement of their children, Alexandra Rachel Fishman and Jason Samuel Buckman. An August 2021 wedding in Jersey City, New Jersey, is planned.

Allie is a graduate of the Goizueta School of Business at Emory University. Jason is a graduate of the Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon

University. They are both managers in the EY consulting practice specializing in product and marketing.

Sharing in the couple's happiness are Jason's brothers and sister-in-law, Micah Buckman, William Buckman and Emily DuPont, along with his grandmother, Elaine Buckman of Spring Valley, Illinois. Photo courtesy of ein photography and design inc.

COMMUNITYBRIEFS

NMAJH Announces Changes to Event Space

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM of American Jewish partnership, as well as a renaming and expansion of its ballroom.

The museum will partner with Neuman's Kitchen, a New York and Philadelphia caterer founded in 1981. Jewish genealogical organizations worldwide. Neuman's Kitchen also will manage the museum's rental sales operation.

Neuman's Kitchen will be able to provide kosherstyle catering and will work with kosher caterer Leslie Rosen Catering for events requiring elevated kashrut.

In addition, the ballroom — which will be called 5th on 5th — will expand by more than 40% to more than 7,000 square feet by combining the temporary exhibition space on the fifth floor with the existing others," Shapiro Mendelsohn said. event space.

Philadelphia to Host 2021 Jewish Genealogy International Conference

The International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies announced that its 41st annual International Conference on Jewish Genealogy would take place in Philadelphia from Aug. 2-5, 2021.

Fred Blum of Huntingdon Valley, a past president of the Jewish Genealogical and Archival Society of Greater Philadelphia — which is co-hosting the event

— will co-chair the conference.

Nearly 1,000 participants from around the world History announced on Oct. 27 a new catering are expected to attend the conference, which will feature more than 100 speakers and 250 sessions covering various aspects of Jewish genealogy.

IAJGS is an umbrella organization of more than 93

Student Raises Money Via Homemade Cookies

Caleb Shapiro Mendelsohn, a junior at the Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy, has started Caleb's Cookies for a Cause, selling homemade chocolate chip cookies to make a little extra cash and to raise over \$1,000 for organizations like Philadelphia Youth Basketball and a local diaper bank.

Selling packs of 12 cookies for \$10 each, Shapiro Mendelsohn uses a recipe that brings together what he believes are the best elements of several different chocolate chip cookie recipes. He delivers them by bike or by car, driven by his parents.

The project began when Shapiro Mendelsohn was staying at his mother's shore house in Ocean Grove, New Jersey, where posts from Mindy Shapiro in an Ocean Grove Facebook group helped spread the word.

Since school started, Shapiro Mendelsohn

continues to bake when he can, delivering from his home in Mt. Airy.

Shapiro, who described herself as doing the marketing for her son, has only sampled a gluten-free batch made by her son by special request. She reports that the cookies taste "incredible."

Community Leader Jules Einhorn Dies at 73

Jules Einhorn, who was active in the Jewish community for many years, died Oct. 31. He was 73.

Einhorn was the founding partner of Coordinated Planning Concepts insurance agency. He served as president of Temple Sinai in Dresher from 1991-'94, the Bux-Mont Jewish Appeal from 1989-'91 and Camp Ramah in the Poconos from 1994-2000, as "I wanted a way to support myself and support well as vice president of the Delaware Valley region of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism from 1995-'97.

> Einhorn was a recipient of the Golden Yarmulke Award from the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, the Youth Campaign Award from Camp Ramah and was a board member of the Jewish Business Network.

> He is survived by his wife Carol (Feldman), sons Joshua (Melissa Nemer) and Aaron (Lindsey), daughter Rachel Saks (Rabbi Ari), and six grandchildren.

- Compiled by Andy Gotlieb and Jesse Bernstein

November is Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month





JEWISH EXPONENT