

The background of the cover is a photograph of Paul Levy, a man with white hair, wearing a light blue shirt and a red and blue striped tie, standing in front of a fountain in a city park. The fountain has several water jets. In the background, there are modern city buildings and some trees.

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Jewish Creators, Fans Feel Snubbed by New York Comic Con

New York Comic Con is one of the biggest pop-culture events of the year, where fans come to celebrate their love of comic books, graphic novels, anime and video games — and the movies and television shows based on them.

Stars like Oscar Isaac and Drew Barrymore show up to reveal new projects, while fans tend to dress as their favorite characters.

The event, which ran from Oct. 6-9 at the Jacob K. Javits Center, is also an occasion for dozens of panels, ranging from star-studded reveals of new projects to serious examinations of trends in the industry. Some panels talked about diversity in the comic world; this year's lineup included separate discussions of Muslim, Asian and Latino representation in comic books.

There was not, however, any discussion of Jewish representation in the field. The New York Jewish Week learned that at least two panels with a focus on Jewish representation in comic books and the entertainment industry were rejected by New York Comic Con's parent company, ReedPop, despite the success of similar panels at previous conventions and in earlier years.

For the proponents of these panels and some Jewish fans, it was a notable oversight for an industry whose pioneers included a number of Jews, especially at a time when the pop-culture industry in general is focusing on diversity in its portrayals and among its creators.

Michal Schick, one of three Orthodox women who host the podcast "Nice Jewish Fangirls," said that her panel about discussing Jewish representation was rejected by New York Comic Con after holding successful panels at the event from 2017 to 2019, pre-pandemic.

"We filled the room," Schick said. "It was a 200-person room. I think we were the only Jewish thing on the schedule then, too."

After taking a break due to COVID, Schick said she was hoping to do another panel this year discussing how the entertainment industry can tell "respectful and exciting Jewish stories."

"I understand it's a very difficult thing to schedule panels at a convention," he stated. "I think this is more likely just a lack of care than an intentional exclusion."

Arnon Z. Shorr, an author and filmmaker who was



The general atmosphere on the convention floor during Comic Con 2019 at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City

featured in a panel called "The New Face of Jewish Comics" at the San Diego Comic Con in July, said that the same panel was rejected from this year's New York Comic Con.

"That panel went really well," Shorr said. "People seemed to respond very positively to it."

He made it a point to add that the panel did focus on Jewish representation in ways "that break past a lot of the tropes that we get in popular media."

"A lot of the people who came up to me after the panel said that this was really vital," Shorr said. "The sense that I got was that there was a hunger for exploring Jewish identity as it's expressed through comics in the way that we explore so many other identities these days." JE

— Jacob Henry/New York Jewish Week

Photo by Sam Aronov/Pacific Press/LightRocket via Getty Images



In Memory of Dr. Ernest "Ernie" M. Kahn z"l 1926 - 2022

The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia mourns the passing of Ernie Kahn. Ernie spent decades in numerous executive and leadership positions in academia and the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, as well as providing critical leadership input for a number of local and national Jewish organizations. Our hearts are full as we reflect on the impact he had within the Jewish community and the legacy he leaves behind. He was a great friend, mentor and colleague who will be missed by many.

May his memory be for a blessing and his family be comforted among the mourners of Zion.



Jewish Federation
of Greater Philadelphia

During PMA Strike, Jewish Union Members Helped Lead Charge

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

During the Philadelphia Museum of Art's press preview of its Matisse in the 1930s exhibit the week of Oct. 10, the chants of workers were clear, even amid the din of honking horns and the rhythmic beat of drums and tambourines: "No contract, no peace! No contract, no Matisse!"

For 19 days, striking workers holding picket signs marched outside the museum's two entrances. Though the union is composed of almost 200 members — of the museum's 350 staff members — Jewish members make up a vocal and passionate contingent.

Members of PMA's union, an affiliate of AFSCME DC47, had negotiated with museum management for two years, since the union's inception in 2020.

On Sept. 26, the union called for a strike after a one-day "warning" strike on Sept. 16. On Oct. 16, the museum union and management reached an agreement and ratified a contract to give workers a 14% increase in wages over three years, retroactively from July; an increased minimum wage from \$15 to \$16.75; "longevity pay" to reflect years of service to the museum; and cheaper health care options, according to the PMA union Twitter. The strike is suspended.

"We believe that this agreement and our investment in people across the organization is the right thing to do, works for everyone and establishes a way forward for the Philadelphia Museum of Art's future, the foundation of which is its staff," said PMA Director and CEO Sasha Suda in an Oct. 14 PMA press release.

For some Jewish PMA union members, their identity as organizers, workers and striking members is inextricable from their Jewish identities.

"I feel the most connected to my Judaism when I'm in my community, and I see the union at work as my community at work," member Elizabeth

Harlowe said.

Other Jewish union members connected their values of justice and tikkun olam with their strike participation.

"It always felt like a Jewish value to put your values into action, so unionizing is a way to do that," member Emma Perloff said.

Perloff sees similarities between labor organizing and the Jewish practice of "communal care."

"We have it literally built into our religion with things like shiva, that the community shows up for each other, and that's what unionizing feels like to me," she said.

Many of those involved in labor organizing in the Philadelphia Jewish community come from a lineage of labor organizing, which further entrenches union work in their Jewish identities.

"My great-grandmother was part of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, and, to me, connecting to my Judaism also happens when I connect to my ancestry," Perloff said. "Striking feels like a way to connect to my ancestors and, therefore, my Judaism."

Zoe Cohen, a higher education union organizer with United Academics of Philadelphia, who worked at the PMA for several years, believes that Jewish people were the backbone of many labor unionizing efforts in the last century.

"Part of why Jews were so much a part of the labor organizing landscape in the early 20th century was because the workplaces that needed representation and protections the most were the workplaces where Jews were working," Cohen said.

These industries included factories and mills. The ILGWU, which gained publicity following the 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire, was made up of mostly women and immigrant workers, such as Perloff's great-grandmother. Many Jewish members had familiarity with labor organizing because of their experiences with Bundist practices in Eastern Europe.

In 1934, Jewish members of the large

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PMA Union striking workers marched with picket signs outside of the museum's two entrances for 19 days.

New York unions formed the Jewish Labor Committee, which, during World War II, helped raise money for Eastern European partisan forces and convinced American Federation of Labor President William Green to arrange for temporary emergency visas for thousands of German people fighting Nazism, according to Philadelphia Jewish Labor Committee board member Sylvia Lieberman.

As industries evolved and some Jews gained wealth, Lieberman fears that Jewish union involvement has waned. But Cohen believes that, if this is true, that might not be such a bad thing.

"People of color are predominantly the

demographic in the city that need protection, that need better pay," Cohen said. "The vast majority of low-wage workers in the city are Black and brown people."

Though she believes that union leadership should reflect the majority of its membership, Jews, particularly white Jews, are still obligated to show up and show support, Cohen said.

"The strength of the unions that I have worked with and that I have been in solidarity with is that everyone is fighting for each other," she said. "That is the definition of solidarity." **JE**

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Life Lessons from Richard Kind ... the Annoying Cousin on 'Curb Your Enthusiasm'

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

On Oct. 13, just minutes after Richard Kind strolled onto the stage at Pennsbury High School's Orange Auditorium, he took a question from the student co-presidents of the school's Thespian Troupe 830.

But before launching into his answer, the "Curb Your Enthusiasm" actor (he plays Larry David's cousin, Andy) futilely tried to stop himself from sounding like a 65-year-old father of three.

"If my children were here, they would sue me, because everything is going to sound like advice, and they are tired of hearing advice," Kind said to the audience of between 50 and 100 students,

parents and staff members.

Over the next hour, as Kind took questions from interested students, everything sounded like advice. But unlike the actor's children, the Pennsbury kids were sitting on the edges of their seats, ready to hear every word.

Addison Blumberg, a senior and one of the troupe co-presidents who hosted the interview, got to greet Kind when he got out of his car before the event.

"He's such a genuine person," Blumberg said. "He was willing to laugh with us and talk to us."

Kind is, as he described himself, "a working actor." He has been in a Coen brothers' movie, "A Serious Man," that was nominated for Best Picture; he

was nominated for a Tony Award; he played supporting roles in two network sitcoms, "Mad About You" and "Spin City," that lasted several seasons; he was in several Pixar movies; he has played annoying but hilarious characters in both "Curb" and Nick Kroll's hit Netflix series "Big Mouth."

The Jewish actor graduated from Pennsbury in 1974. He was returning to Fairless Hills to be inducted into the school's new hall of fame alongside former Philadelphia Eagles cornerback Troy Vincent and others. He agreed to do a second appearance after Jason Kaplan, a theater troupe member, reached out to his social media director on Instagram.

His appearance raised enough money from ticket sales to help the troupe pay for its upcoming shows and send members to a national event for theater students. But for the students, it was also an hour of life lessons from a man who's made it.

"Doing the extracurricular activities is so important"

As a student, Kind got good grades and prominent roles in school plays. He ascribed both to his ability to suck up to teachers. But it's also similar to the role — smart actor who plays interesting parts — he ended up taking on in real life.

"Go and expand your life," he said.

"I wanted to be an actor"

Growing up in Bucks County, Kind would take the train from Trenton to New York City to see Broadway double-headers. But by his upperclassman years, he was supposed to go to law school.

One Sunday afternoon, though, his father's friend was over to watch football. The man told Kind to give acting a shot.

"He said, 'Defer for a year,'" Kind recalled. "'When you're 40, you'll kick yourself that you didn't try.'"

"You're only being sustained by your love of the work"

Kind spent four years in New York and then four more with the well-known Second City improvisational troupe in



Richard Kind interacts with the audience on Oct. 13 at Pennsbury High School.

Chicago. By the time he got his first television role, he was already in his 30s.

"I was very lucky," Kind said. "But I had sort of paid my dues already."

"The people behind the table who are hiring couldn't care less"

The working actor acknowledged during the conversation that he is not a star. So for his entire career, he has had to audition ... the acting version of interviewing for a job. And when he walks into those rooms, he knows that the people listening want one thing: "Seinfeld money," as Kind put it.

Therefore, it's on the actor, or the applicant, to sell himself.

"Go in there and say, 'You need somebody who can play this role; I can help you; I can make this role great,'" Kind said. "Watch this."

"Go up and do what you love to do"

During the talk, Kind told a story about an acting student who was not putting enough spirit into his role that day in class. The professor responded with a monologue that seemed straight out of a play.

"There may be nobody else for the rest of your life who's going to give you the opportunity to act!" Kind shouted. "And I'm saying get up there and do what God put you on the planet to do." **JE**

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JON MARKS | SPECIAL TO THE EXPONENT

It's going to be a big week for Dr. Jack Rychik of Merion Station.

On Oct. 23, he and his wife Susan will marry off the middle of their three daughters, Leora. Unfortunately, there won't be much time for him to celebrate the nachas.

That's because two days later he'll leave for the United Arab Emirates capital of Abu Dhabi, the site of the inaugural International Middle East Fetal-Neonatal Cardiovascular Symposium on Oct. 28-29.

"I'm a pediatric cardiologist, also a native Israeli who came to the U.S. as a child, and still have family there," said Rychik, director of the Fetal Heart Program and associate chief of cardiology at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. "There are centers around the world that do what we do. CHOP has a global health department. We go and offer lectures at various meetings around the world. The Abraham Accords opened my eyes to this possibility two years ago."

The Sept. 15, 2020 signing of the Abraham Accords normalized relationships between the U.S., Israel, the UAE and Bahrain, opening the doors for diplomatic channels. Not long afterward, Oman and Sudan joined the party.

From there, officials at CHOP, led by Rychik, as well as the Schneider Medical Center in Israel and Sheikh Khalifa Medical City in Abu Dhabi, began laying the groundwork for what they hope will become a regular occurrence.

"In my 30 years, the pediatric cardiology field has advanced more into prenatal care and developed a lot of new techniques," explained Rychik, the son of Polish Holocaust survivors and a member of Lower Merion Synagogue. "During pregnancy, it's an area in medicine that crosses both pediatrics and obstetrics."

"We can now perform an ultrasound and detect birth defect within 13 weeks, which is the standard for how the heart is formed. I started thinking this might be an opportunity for us to share our knowledge and see if we can collaborate



Dr. Jack Rychik

with the center in Israel and welcome centers in the Middle East where we can develop a network.

"I was able to convince our leaders at CHOP to do a couple of things to spread our knowledge of how to care for these individuals. By doing so, it'll be a catalyst for improving relations between Israel and the Arab world."

That's where CHOP Vice President of Global Strategy and Business Development Ruth Frey comes in. She's hopscotched the Middle East, serving as the symposium's chief liaison.

"After the Abraham Accords were signed, we hosted an event at CHOP on July 21, 2021, and invited diplomats from Israel and the UAE virtually but had the UAE consulate from New York there in person," she explained. "The response was overwhelming, and we put the gas to the pedal after that. It takes a year, between planning the location, speakers and driving the money."

Much of that money has come from anonymous donors, including a prominent member of the Jewish community, she said. For those wishing to contribute, CHOP has set up a donor relations line at 267-426-5332 or through giving@chop.edu.

With the preliminaries completed, the moment of truth will soon be at hand. For Rychik, it's about more than spreading the word: It's personal.

"As a child of Holocaust survivors, the

importance of Israel and its value has always weighed heavily in my life," he said. "All the more this history motivates me specifically to do what small things I can to make a difference.

"Even a small course correction like this — simply bringing medical experts from Israel and the Arab world together in the same room to talk medicine and discuss and learn about how to advance fetal and pediatric health care in a small domain of fetal cardiovascular medicine — may have a great impact as we move forward in time.

That's why he, Frey and 15 of their colleagues — some of them Jewish — will board that 13-hour flight to Abu Dhabi, where they'll interact with Arab partic-

ipants in person and virtually. Despite opposition from Saudi Arabia and other Arab nations, the conference will go on.

"Recorded greeting from Isaac Herzog, president of Israel, and the UAE minister of tolerance will open the conference," Rychik said. "There will be virtual registrants from India, China, South America and other countries.

"This kind of international conference happens all the time. Hosting it in the Middle East is a totally different thing. Thanks to the Abraham Accords, our hope is we can make it a sustainable thing.

"Maybe next year in Jerusalem, as we say." **JE**

Jon Marks is a freelance writer.

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YOU SHOULD KNOW ...

Ari Sussman



SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

Composer Ari Sussman's "I mean you no harm," a 43-minute mixed chamber ensemble piece, begins with a long pull of strings, followed by the clang of a bell, then more humming strings and a tentative, almost discordant piano. A quiet collection of voices emerge from the backdrop and crescendo.

The piece — Sussman's dissertation when he received his doctorate in composition at the University of Michigan in 2021 — is hardly the melodic euphony of sounds that chamber ensemble music has been associated with, but, according to Sussman, it's not supposed to.

Composed during COVID, "the general gist of the piece was to alleviate stress and anxiety by means of different meditative and healing practices, so I used some from both in the medical field and some in the spiritual field," Sussman said.

In addition to using binaural sounds (played in both ears) at slightly

different hertz to create different pitches — a strategy used to decrease heart rates — Sussman employed spiritual techniques from Buddhist meditation, but also from Kabbalah, using 10-note chords to mirror the 10 *Sefirot*, or divine emanations, described in Jewish mysticism.

Sussman, 29 and a Fairmount resident, has made room for Judaism in his compositions throughout his career: He's a professor of composition and music theory at Temple and West Chester universities; he won the University of Michigan Brehn Prize in Choral Composition and the Leonard Bernstein Fellowship in composition from the Tanglewood Music Center, among other recognitions for his compositions throughout his formal music education.

"The first music I was ever writing were campy liturgical songs ... doing settings to Hallelujah/Psalm 150, to just different texts throughout Shabbos liturgy or daily liturgy," he said.

Sussman graduated from the Debbie Friedman and Rick Recht-esque guitar and keyboard arrangements to Jewish liturgical choral music and then contemporary takes on classical Jewish music.

He makes his goals as an artist clear. Sussman tells his students, "Not as much what can you copy in our field, but what can you add to our field? What is something unique about you, your life, your circumstances, your background, that no one else on the face of the earth can say on your behalf?"

Born and raised in Elkins Park, Sussman grew up "in a house full of Yiddishkeit," the factor in his background that would define his musical voice. Resembling the path of many Jewish kids in the area, he attended Perelman Jewish Day School-Foreman Center, the Robert Saligman Middle School (which later merged with Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy) before attending Barrack for high school. In the summers, he was a camper, and later counselor, at Camp Ramah in the Poconos. A longtime member of Congregation Adath Jeshurun, Sussman was the head gabbai in high school, responsible for assigning Torah readings to congregants.

But what was most influential about

Sussman's Jewish upbringing was the synagogue's "strong music tradition." Sussman, who took classical piano lessons for most of his childhood, looked up to Adath Jeshurun's Cantor Charles Davidson.

"For a lot of synagogues, regardless of where you live in downtown Philly or Wisconsin or Vegas, I just assumed that any city would have a cantor of the caliber of Charles Davidson, someone who's written such incredible music that has received thousands of performances worldwide," Sussman said. "I just thought it was a foregone conclusion."

Though always a proud Jew, it was Sussman's grappling with God that eventually led to how Judaism features in his music.

Before Sussman found new ways to connect with Judaism during his time at Boston's New England Conservatory of Music, where he pursued his bachelor's and master's degrees, he became frustrated with the literal and physical descriptions people would give God. Combined with his identity as a gay man, Sussman took issue with a diety's personification as a man or a king on a throne.

When Sussman began studying Kabbalah and *Sefirot*, his perceptions of God were allowed and encouraged to become untethered from a physical form, something he had struggled with since high school.

"It was a good-things-come-to-those-who-wait situation," he said. "That's why Kabbalistic teaching has meant a lot to me when it comes to my own struggles with my Jewish identity."

As his relationship to Judaism changes, so does Sussman's music. Sussman has noticed that the horizontal elements of his music have evolved: how he plays with time and tempo to create different effects. But some things stay the same. He still relies on similar chord structures and harmonics, techniques he's favored since beginning his journey as a musician over two decades ago.

"A lot of the chords I enjoyed playing on the piano at the Barrack auditorium I still play in my office, at Temple or at West Chester," Sussman said. "Still playing those same chords." **JE**

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Courtesy of Ari Sussman

From Fist Bump to Poke in the Eye

The U.S. relationship with Saudi Arabia has always been complicated. With the recent decision by the Saudi-led OPEC Plus cartel to scale back oil supplies by up to 2 million barrels per day in order to bolster international oil pricing, the complicated relationship between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia became downright confrontational.

President Biden pledged last Tuesday to impose “consequences” on Saudi Arabia. In explaining what that meant, White House personnel spoke of a willingness to re-evaluate the entire U.S. relationship with the kingdom and an openness to considering retaliatory measures proposed by members of Congress and others, including the curbing of arms sales and permitting legal action against the OPEC Plus cartel. Although the president was intentionally vague regarding the details of what would happen and when, he was direct and clear in his promise that “there will be consequences.”

Mr. Biden has reason to be upset. Last July, Biden made a much-publicized and highly criticized relationship-mending visit to Saudi Arabia despite a campaign promise to make the kingdom an international “pariah” for the 2018 killing of the journalist Jamal Khashoggi. Upon arrival in Riyadh, Biden avoided an embrace or warm handshake with the 37-year-old de facto Saudi ruler, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (MBS), who the CIA says ordered the murder and dismemberment of Khashoggi, and defaulted to a fist bump



Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman

— which made critics even more upset, as it was viewed as the equivalent of a brotherly embrace.

Nonetheless, following discussions during the visit, U.S. officials said they reached an understanding that Saudi Arabia would increase oil production in the fall and lower gasoline prices heading into the critical, upcoming midterm elections. And now, MBS and the Saudis have done

just the opposite.

To some, the move looks like an attempt by MBS to discredit Biden and influence internal U.S. politics for the benefit of Saudi friend Donald Trump and the Republican Party. To others, it represents a tilt by Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states in favor of oil-producing Russia, by making it more difficult for Western nations to implement a planned December price cap on Russian oil exports as part of a sanctions program in response to Russian aggression in Ukraine. Both are probably right.

And while the president is right to focus on meaningful consequences for Saudi betrayal, there is no need for an immediate response. Instead, Biden is properly working through numerous political, economic and military equipment-related options and considering their consequences. Virtually every proposed response will have clear intended consequences and many potential unintended ones. Moreover, it is still possible that the planned OPEC Plus production cut may not be quite as consequential as initially projected.

Biden’s challenge is to formulate a Saudi response that satisfies his domestic political needs, is careful not to aggravate the fragile U.S. economy in the run-up to the midterm elections and preserves international agreements relating to Russia and elsewhere around the world. There are a lot of moving parts. Don’t rush it. **JE**

Ban Congressional Stock Trading

Members of Congress are privy to a lot of nonpublic information. And because they regularly introduce legislation or participate in closed-door committee investigations or inquiries, many members become aware of information or a new regulation being considered or a law in the making that can have a significant impact upon various business sectors and many publicly traded companies. They learn these facts as part of their work, and they get that information long before members of the public.

The law prohibits insider trading, or the buying or selling of stock based upon nonpublic information. Members of Congress are subject to those laws just like everyone else. But it is often very difficult to prove awareness of or use of nonpublic information in connection with specific stock transactions.

Nonetheless, it is a clear conflict of interest for members of Congress to make personal investment decisions when they possess confidential

information not known to the public. Yet, we regularly hear about senators or representatives, or members of their immediate families, who have traded in stocks directly impacted by some aspect of congressional review or action.

Those activities could be legal, or maybe not. But they unquestionably look bad. And it is reported that nearly 20% of the 535 members of Congress — including members of leadership on both sides of the aisle — are buying and selling stocks where there may be a conflict of interest.

Public trust in the federal government is at an all-time low. According to a recent Pew Research Center report, less than 30% of Democrats and less than 10% of Republicans trust government always or most of the time. But notwithstanding the deep political and cultural divides in our country, close to 80% of all voters — Democrats, Republicans and Independents — reportedly support banning members of Congress from trading stocks. It is difficult to think of another current

legislative issue on which such an overwhelming majority of American voters agree.

A number of bills have been introduced in the House and the Senate to address the congressional stock trading issue. Their common theme is the imposition of significant restrictions on the ability of congressional lawmakers and their immediate family members to profit from trading stocks and other securities, with serious penalties for violations. Although House Speaker Nancy Pelosi indicated a short while ago that a bill would be brought to the House floor for a vote, that plan was scrapped and consideration is now delayed until November, or even later.

Delay on the enactment of a congressional stock trading ban is a mistake. The longer congressional stock trading goes unchecked, the more the image of congressional ethics is diminished. We encourage prompt consideration and adoption of a ban on congressional stock trading. It is the right thing to do. **JE**



Both the Left and the Right Have Turned on the Jews

BY IAN HAWORTH

I'm a British Jew who works in the world of American conservative media, and the behavior of the conservative movement over the past few days has been honestly terrifying.

As we witness supposedly anti-antisemitism conservatives brush the open and unapologetic antisemitism of cultural figures like Kanye West under the rug in exchange for the second-hand cultural attention his presence might provide — as well as cash and clicks — a familiar and brutal reality has resurfaced for Jews:

No one cares about us.

Both sides of the political aisle are quick to rally against antisemitism when it is politically conve-

standing firm when doing so presents the possibility of damage — whether that damage is political, cultural or financial.

In addition, one must ask: What are principles if they are so easily cast aside?

Conservatives claim to abhor antisemitism, and yet foolishly believe they can ride the coattails of non-conservative loose cannons like Kanye West and greedily feed off the cultural scraps that fall to the ground; all while trampling on the supposed principles that were their “hills to die on” in their battles with the opposing side.

West, who in a matter of days argued that Jared Kushner sought peace in the Middle East to make money, repeatedly promoted the radical Black Hebrew Israelite conspiracy theory that American blacks are the “real Jews,” implied that Jews cre-

I do understand the attitude of wanting to bring culturally powerful people into our tent based on their supposedly aligned views on single-issue topics. (Let's leave aside for now the fact that West's “pro-life” views are based on an antisemitic conspiracy theory.) However, if there are no entry requirements to the ideological tent, if admission numbers are the only metric of value, what does that tent even represent?

Until our movement is willing to look in the mirror and stick to their supposed principles, the Jewish people cast out from this tent will wonder whether any of this is worth fighting for.

Yet again, Jews are alone. **JE**

Ian Haworth is the host of “Off Limits with Ian Haworth.”

Both sides will happily throw the fight against antisemitism — and, by extension, the Jews — under the bus in exchange for the chance to engage other (larger) political groups.

nient. On the left, when figures like Marjorie Taylor Greene engage in antisemitic rhetoric, they wring their hands and cry to the skies. Meanwhile, on the right, when figures like Ilhan Omar engage in antisemitic rhetoric, they wring their hands and cry to the skies.

Except both sides will happily throw the fight against antisemitism — and, by extension, the Jews — under the bus in exchange for the chance to engage other (larger) political groups they'd much rather have under their increasingly valueless banner.

The truth is that there is now no true political home for Jews in the United States, if there ever really was one. In recent months and years, both sides have demonstrated that they care about Jews right up until a more tempting opportunity presents itself.

Of course, it's phenomenally easy to remain principled in the face of an adversary whose values are antithetical to your own, an adversary your audience already loathes. There is no inherent bravery in the left calling out Marjorie Taylor Greene, and there is no inherent bravery in the right calling out Ilhan Omar.

There is difficulty, and therefore bravery, in

ated cancel culture and announced that he would be going “death con 3” on “Jewish people,” has shown no signs of apologizing.

And yet, days later, conservatives celebrated West — an open and unapologetic antisemite — on the red carpet, labeling his very presence iconic.

A line has been crossed.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez spoke with Jeremy Corbyn and said veiled antisemitic things in the past, and conservative media — myself included — never let it go. And quite rightly so.

West, who has far more cultural influence than Ocasio-Cortez, pushed multiple explicit antisemitic tropes, and what was the result?

Many high-profile conservatives shrugged and moved on that same day. Some didn't even shrug at all.

Now, many have responded to my vocal criticism of this appalling conduct with “whataboutism,” declaring that the leftist media ignores antisemitism all the time.

Yes, they do. So what?

I was under the impression that we were meant to be the principled ones. If that is true, where on earth are our principles?

letters /

Court and Torah Law Conflict

With regard to its recent decision to force Yeshiva University to allow LGBT groups to have their own club, it seems that the Supreme Court of New York has overstepped its bounds (“Why Mainstream Jewish Groups Didn't Defend Yeshiva University,” Oct. 13).

The board of the university has the right to decide if any group should be sponsored by the university. A group which mainly focuses on the sexual activity of the group would seem out of place, even with regard to heterosexual interests. Torah law forbids men to lie with men as they would lie with women. This is a matter of our faith. It must be adhered to, no matter what the current political dogma dictates.

Until about 50 years ago, homosexuality was considered a psychological aberration, a failure to reach developmental milestones (Freud) or misplaced sexual attraction (Krafft-Ebing).

Any Supreme Court is on slippery grounds when it makes up rules for a faith-based institution. The board of Yeshiva University might be taking a politically, and financially, incorrect position in this matter but it is following Torah law correctly. **JE**

Aryeh Wood, Philadelphia

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



Remember the Hope, Focus on the Positives

BY STEVE ROSENBERG

It is hard to believe we will observe the fourth anniversary of the slaughter of 11 innocent Jews gunned down in Pittsburgh while praying on a Saturday morning Shabbat service at Tree of Life Or L'Simcha in my hometown of Squirrel Hill.

By now, we all know the sickening story of a deranged psychopath looking to kill Jews. It's a tired story we see repeated time and again.

After every occurrence of antisemitism, we are outraged and upset and vow to do more and to do better, but as the song says, the "beat goes on." Incident after incident, beating after beating. It's a maddening cycle and one that often leaves us wondering if it can ever be stopped.

But what are we really to do?

After the Holocaust, we said NEVER AGAIN and, just 27 years later, 11 Israelis were murdered on the world's biggest stage in Germany, home of the greatest Jew hatred ever.

These incidents continue to occur, and there is nothing to suggest an end is forthcoming. We can spend millions of dollars securing our Jewish institutions, paying for armed security guards to stand watch while we are inside praying and learning, but there are still vulnerable and innocent people being attacked by far too many.

I just returned from Israel where I was exactly four years ago when I first heard the words, "active shooter Tree of Life" in my ongoing group text from my friends I grew up with back in Squirrel Hill.

As I walked the streets of Tel Aviv, Netivot, Jerusalem, Sderot and the other places I visited, I was inspired by the Israelis and resolved to make their lives better. They work hard each day to determine the best path forward on matters around security, food supply, irrigation and water resources, along with many other areas.

They give me hope, and they should give all Jews hope. One of my visits was to an air force base as a guest to watch the ceremony for a new

base commander. As they played "Hatikvah," I began to think of Tree of Life and the Squirrel Hill community and the resolve of the people from there. The common themes from both are hope and faith.

"Hatikvah" means "the hope." The first two lines read "As long as within our hearts, the Jewish soul sings." This is what we all need to rely upon as we push forward as Jews.

Antisemitism is as old as time, but we need to focus on the positives. Shine the light on the great achievements of the Jewish people — actors, athletes, scholars, creators of all sorts. Help to change the narrative and get the paradigm to shift in our direction. The men I take to Israel every year return with a glow in their eyes as they see the incredible fortitude and gusto with which Israelis live. They have hope and are an inspiration

because of this hope.

"Hatikvah" should be the rallying cry for each of us as we think of those 11 murdered in Squirrel Hill on that awful day in late October. "The Star-Spangled Banner" ends with the land of the free and home of the brave ... unfortunately, Jews have had to be brave too often in the past, even while living free.

Let's use "the hope" — let us all continue to have hope. We are less than 16 million people worldwide — hope is a tiny piece of what we all need, but it is a crucial piece. Let us not forget the names of those 11 innocent lives, and may their memories continue to be a blessing. **JE**

Steve Rosenberg is a former Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia executive and the chair of The Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.



Tree of Life Synagogue - Memorials to Victims on Oct. 30, 2018

"Hatikvah" should be the rallying cry for each of us as we think of those 11 murdered in Squirrel Hill on that awful day in late October.



The Israel-Lebanon Maritime Border Agreement Is a Defeat for Israel

BY ALEX NACHUMSON

“Ending wars is very simple if you surrender,” said American political satirist P.J. O’Rourke. It is a very true statement but lost on far too many today.

The Israeli government recently announced that it has reached a historic agreement settling its maritime border dispute with Lebanon. Prime Minister Yair Lapid and other members of the ruling coalition have tried to claim that the agreement is a victory for Israel.

“This is a historic achievement that will strengthen Israel’s security, inject billions into Israel’s economy and ensure the stability of our northern border,” Lapid said.

But we have to look at what led to the agreement in order to understand whether it is truly a victory or a surrender.

In 2013, the Karish oil field was discovered off the coast of Israel in the Mediterranean Sea. It is located in waters claimed by Israel but also partially by Lebanon, though the Lebanese claim is largely without merit.

In June 2022, the company that licensed the field, Energean, brought a production vessel into the field. The Lebanese government protested that no action to develop the field should be undertaken until U.S.-mediated negotiations — which began in 2020 — on the exact location of the maritime border between Israel and Lebanon had been concluded.

The Lebanese government’s statements were swiftly followed by action from the terror group Hezbollah, which dominates Lebanon. It launched drones toward Karish at the beginning of July. The drones were shot down by the IDF, but Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah had made his point. “Our eyes and missiles are locked on Karish,” he said.

The truth is, the dispute was less about Karish and more about a nearby gas field called Qana, which extends into the disputed maritime territory and has been claimed by Lebanon. According to numerous reports, in late June, Lebanese President Michel Aoun had already agreed that the field straddles a recognized maritime border and the proceeds from its development should be split between Israel and Lebanon.

This fair compromise came to an abrupt halt with the Hezbollah drones and Nasrallah’s threats. Even though these were not major actions and did not harm a single person, they appear to have thrown the Israeli government into a panic. Israel promptly



gave up any claims disputed by Lebanon, even though these claims had already been recognized as legitimate.

In other words, the Israeli government is claiming that the maritime agreement is a victory because Israel gained what was never in dispute and gave up everything that was.

It is true that tensions between Israel and Hezbollah appear to have been lowered due to the agreement, but this means nothing more than that a potential war has been averted because Israel surrendered.

This provides a major boost to Hezbollah, which will be seen as strong-arming Israel to the finish line without making much of an effort. It will also boost the Iranian proxy’s popularity at a time when it was on the wane due to the economic situation in Lebanon, for which Hezbollah has been partially blamed.

Israel’s concessions also make it look weak, given that it seemingly snatched defeat from the jaws of victory. If the president of Lebanon agreed to divide Qana only a few days before the drone incident, and the final agreement gives Qana entirely to Lebanon, how can that possibly be seen as anything other than a massive concession?

As former U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman tweeted in reaction to the proposed agreement: “We spent years trying to broker a deal between Israel and Lebanon on the disputed maritime gas fields. Got very close with proposed splits

of 55-60% for Lebanon and 45-40% for Israel. No one then imagined 100% to Lebanon and 0% to Israel.”

One can certainly argue over the merits of the deal, but there is no doubt that Israel had a strong hand and folded anyway. In other words, Israel capitulated to terrorist threats. It surrendered and lost.

This goes well beyond a simple maritime border dispute. It will be understood by Hezbollah as proof that it can get its way in any dispute with Israel, and there are many, including the terror group’s persistent territorial claims on the Golan Heights, which are inside Israel’s sovereign borders.

Moreover, Hezbollah’s patrons in Iran will conclude that it is easy to force Israel to give up on its interests. All it took was some unarmed drones and Israel retreated. Iran will reinterpret Israeli political and security leaders’ persistent threats against its nuclear weapons program.

Let there be no mistake, Israel’s concession will embolden Hezbollah, Iran, Hamas, Islamic Jihad and numerous other terrorist entities that are constantly probing for Israel’s weaknesses. They will see the agreement as an Israeli defeat.

Israel must seek ways to reverse this outcome, or it could soon be facing far more serious threats. **JE**

IDF Maj. (Res.) Alex Nachumson is CEO of Mivtachi Israel, an organization of former IDF officers, and an adviser to the Israel Victory Project.



US Politicians Jump Into Israel's Elections

BY JAMES SINKINSON

Sen. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), one of Israel's most stalwart — and passionate — supporters, dropped a bombshell last week when he warned former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu against forming a coalition government with Israel's far-right Religious National Party, one of whose leaders is the outspoken attorney-politician Itamar Ben-Gvir.

Menendez's bold statement raises the question as to whether Israeli politicians may also exercise their right to suggest whom American political parties should allow into their coalitions.

Menendez reportedly told Netanyahu that including Ben-Gvir in Israel's next government would threaten U.S.-Israel relations. As chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Menendez has the power to make that danger real.

Menendez's warning was echoed by Rep. Brad Sherman (D-Calif.), who urged Israeli politicians to "ostracize extremists like Itamar Ben-Gvir." Neither Sherman nor Menendez specified any Ben-Gvir views to which they object.

Ben-Gvir hasn't made Netanyahu's decision easy: He has a reputation for making statements against Israeli Arabs — such as suggesting the deportation of those who attack Israeli soldiers, a proposal some consider racist.

This past weekend, when Arab rioters attacked a prayer service that Ben-Gvir was attending in Jerusalem, he drew a pistol and waved it at stone-throwers.

On the other hand, Ben-Gvir swears he is not racist — that indeed he is an anti-racist, fighting antisemitic instigation within the boundaries of Israel's "homeland" by the likes of the Muslim Brotherhood, Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad, with the aim of defeating them "just as the United States defeated Al-Qaeda."

Netanyahu's decision on Ben-Gvir is likely to come soon, since Israel's next national election — its fifth in just four years — happens on Nov. 1. Because so many parties are vying for control of the Knesset, top politicians will almost surely face huge challenges in negotiating a ruling coalition partnership ... once again.

Currently, Netanyahu's Likud Party looks likely to capture the most seats in the Knesset — projected at 32 — but nowhere near enough to clinch a 61-seat majority. This means that in order to govern, Netanyahu may well be forced to include the National Religious Party, which with 13 seats is likely to rank as the nation's third-strongest party.

Americans should note that in a rough-and-tum-



Melinda Nagy / AdobeStock

ble Israeli election, one thing is fairly certain: About 62% of voters will support right-leaning parties.

This percentage has grown substantially over recent years, mostly at the expense of the political center (now about 24% of voters) and the left (now about 11%).

Even so, Netanyahu's path to the premiership is not certain: Some polls show him only able to muster 59 or 60 seats, short of a majority — throwing more uncertainty into the mix. While right-leaning voters are a clear majority in Israel, their division among the various right-wing parties still makes it difficult to form a right-leaning government.

In other words, if Netanyahu's only path to governance is by coalescing with Ben-Gvir and the National Religious Party, he is going to do it. (And so, we believe, would Menendez.)

Contrast Israel's voter sentiments with those in the United States in the runup to the midterm elections on Nov. 8. We can safely say American voters are generally split between left and right, with most voting in the center. While coastal states lean left and the country's center leans right, no one party shows a clear advantage.

Indeed, Democrats' margin of control in the Senate is just a single vote. Its majority in the 435-member House of Representatives is just eight — which could easily be swept away in the midterms.

Notably, one of the Democrat's newest Senate members, Raphael Warnock (D-Ga.), has accused

Israel of being an apartheid state — clearly a falsehood and clearly antisemitic on the grounds of demonization and delegitimization of the Jewish state.

How receptive would President Biden — or Menendez — be to Israeli suggestions that Democrats exclude Warnock from their governing coalition?

Likewise, six members of the Democratic "Squad" in the House — made up of Reps. Ocasio-Cortez, Omar, Tlaib, Pressley, Bowman and Bush — have all made anti-Israel (and many openly antisemitic) statements.

Should Israeli Knesset members recommend that Squad members be disavowed by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi or stripped of their membership on key House committees?

While Menendez's support of Israel is respected and highly valued, his attempt to influence the will of Israeli voters and the composition of Israel's government is misplaced and unwelcome.

Likewise, while a handful of American politicians in both the House and Senate have made clearly antisemitic and anti-Israel remarks, Israeli members of the Knesset have rightly resisted making recommendations to either political party as to who should serve in the United States government. **JE**

James Sinkinson is president of Facts and Logic About the Middle East, or FLAME.

JOSH SHAPIRO VERSUS DOUG MASTRIANO

WILL THE JEWISH DEMOCRAT BECOME PENNSYLVANIA'S NEXT GOVERNOR?

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

According to the polls, Josh Shapiro should win the Pennsylvania gubernatorial race going away.

The Jewish Democrat leads Republican opponent Doug Mastriano by an average of more than 10 points. As FiveThirtyEight's aggregation tool shows, recent polls from Suffolk University, Emerson College and others got the same result: Shapiro is ahead by between 10 and 15 percentage points.

But "according to the polls" has become a loaded phrase in American politics in recent years. Before 2016, it usually meant what the numbers showed: a victory for the candidate who was ahead. But then in 2016, Donald Trump defied consistent deficits to stun Hillary Clinton and become president of the United States. Four years later, Trump nearly did the same thing against his Democratic challenger Joe Biden.

Perhaps the fastest-rising star in American politics right now, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, won his gubernatorial race in 2018 after trailing in the polls. In the most high-profile race of the 2021 election season, Virginia Republican Glenn Youngkin did the same. And in that same off-year season, just over the bridge in New Jersey, Republican Jack Ciattarelli nearly upset incumbent Gov. Phil Murphy. The Democrat led by double digits in the polls in late October but only won by 3.2%.

So, should Josh Shapiro trust the polls?

Probably not.

But does that mean he is going to lose in a shocking upset to a man who, as a state senator, tried to overturn Biden's victory in Pennsylvania in 2020?

Not necessarily.

The Jewish Exponent spent a day with both campaigns to take the pulse of the race. As you should expect by now in American politics, the reality is far more complicated than the numbers show.

Why Shapiro Shouldn't Trust the Polls

It's a rainy Saturday morning in early October. Outside of a Phoenixville fire hall, the parking lot is almost full. Stickers on the back of one car say, "Doug Mastriano Governor" and "Socialism Destroys Nations." Another car's front license plate reads, "One Nation Under God."

Inside before the meet-and-greet with the Republican candidate, seats are filling up fast. They come from Chester County, the Philadelphia region's westernmost territory, and the surrounding area.

Many say they love Trump, who endorsed Mastriano before the Republican primary; many others say that they are conservative voters supporting the Republican candidate; and still many others blame the Democrats, who hold power in the Pennsylvania governor's mansion (Tom Wolf) and in Washington, D.C., for rising crime in communities and prices at gas stations and grocery stores.

Not a single person said they were there to see Mastriano the candidate, the man, the politician. (He's a first-term senator in the Pennsylvania General Assembly.)

"They are screwing our state," said Alan Walter, a Chester Springs resident, of the Democrats.

When asked in what ways Democrats were "screwing" the Keystone State, Walter laughed. But then he said, "Well, I don't even feel safe going down to Philadelphia."

Though they may not be drawn to Mastriano the man, supporters kept walking in, eventually filling

hundreds of seats. Campaign volunteers later estimated that about 600 people attended, though the real number was probably between 300 and 500. Nonetheless, according to volunteers, the planned meet-and-greet transformed into a rally.

When Mastriano walked through the back door with his wife Rebbie, they proceeded to a podium that was already set up. The candidate spoke for more than 30 minutes, handing the microphone off to other speakers at various points throughout his remarks.

Mastriano has been described by the mainstream media as extreme, and it's not an unfair description.

Mastriano said three years ago that women should be charged with murder for getting abortions. He organized buses for the Jan. 6, 2021 protest against the election result that turned into a storming of the Capitol Building in D.C. Earlier in the campaign, he joined a social media site, Gab, known as a safe haven for antisemites and white nationalists. While Mastriano did not say anything antisemitic on the site, he did pay Gab and its founder, Andrew Torba, a \$5,000 consulting fee.

During his speech in Phoenixville, the candidate doesn't back down from any of those positions. He also brings up a right-wing media opportunist, Norristown native Jack Posobiec, who has more than a million Twitter followers, to offer rambling remarks to the crowd about how dangerous Philadelphia is these days, among other topics. (They mostly yawn and tune him out.)

At the same time, it is not any of these positions that Mastriano emphasizes in his speech. Instead, he leads with the issues that seem to be defining this campaign. He also ties them to a Democrat who is in power: his opponent, Shapiro, Pennsylvania's attor-



Attorney General Josh Shapiro talks to supporters at a canvass kickoff in Swarthmore on Oct. 8.

Photo by Jarrad Saffren

ney general.

"On his watch, crime has risen by 40%," Mastriano says of Shapiro's tenure as AG.

"One thousand carjackings in Philadelphia alone this year," he continues. "Are you kidding me?"

"He's worse than Tom Wolf," he says later.

The crowd seems to agree. Mastriano talks in a low monotone, so he's hard to hear at times. But his hundreds of supporters nonetheless cheer loudly, hold up campaign signs with the slogan "Walk as Free People" and even stand in unison.

Carolyn Di'Arcangelo, a resident of East Vincent Township, said she believes abortion is "personal" and that she's "not judging anybody." But she also said she's voting for Mastriano.

"I do not want Shapiro because he's a career politician. I hate career politicians," she added. "I just don't like him as a Democrat."

Later in the day at The Fuge in Warminster, Bucks County, even more supporters turned out for similar reasons. Mastriano and his volunteers said almost 1,000 people showed up and, while that number may have been exaggerated, it was not exaggerated by much.

Why Shapiro Might Win Anyway

By all traditional measures, Josh Shapiro is winning this race.

In addition to his lead in the polls, the Abington resident is convincing the mainstream media to buy his credible argument about how dangerous Mastriano might be for the commonwealth. On Oct. 9, The Philadelphia Inquirer endorsed Shapiro and said a Mastriano win would "effectively end democ-

racy in Pennsylvania."

The Jewish Democrat has also outspent his opponent by more than \$40 million. The Mastriano campaign just ran its first television ad in early October. And finally, Shapiro, a politician with a career dating

almost 20 years, has been his party's sole candidate since October 2021. Mastriano, on the other hand, won a crowded primary and has not gotten support from the national Republican Governors Association. As LancasterOnline reported on Oct. 9, many former Republican officeholders in Pennsylvania have endorsed Shapiro.

Yet as Shapiro well knows, in 2022, none of this guarantees anything. And in fact, Mastriano is drawing hundreds, sometimes close to 1,000, supporters on the campaign trail. To beat an opponent who can score, you cannot simply run out the clock.

So on Oct. 8, a sunny Saturday in the Philadelphia area with temperatures in the 60s, the Democrat hit the trail.

In the morning outside of the United Steelworkers' hall in Media, he used a 10-minute version of his stump speech to motivate his assembled supporters, more than 100 people, most of them members of labor unions, to go knock on doors and spread the word. Much like his opponent, Shapiro opens his speech with the issues that are defining this campaign.

On crime, like Mastriano, he promises more cops. On the Pennsylvania economy, like Mastriano, he pledges to drill. And on schools, like Mastriano, he promises more options for kids. (In Shapiro's vision, that means vocational-technical programs. In Mastriano's, it means redirecting state funding to students and families over public schools.)

"We're running for office not just to win an election," Shapiro says during his Media speech. "But to meet this moment for Pennsylvania."



And like Mastriano, Shapiro draws cheers and applause. His crowd is not as big as his opponent's from the previous Saturday because it's a canvass kickoff, not a rally, but it's just as enthusiastic.

Later in the day in nearby Swarthmore, more than 50 people crowd into a small room in a nondescript office building. It's another canvass kickoff. Only these residents of Swarthmore and its surrounding area are not union members. They are just supporters.

Many believe that, in the wake of Trump's attempt to "stop the steal" of the 2020 election and Mastriano's support for it, democracy is in peril; many others want to uphold abortion access for women in Pennsylvania; some are even former Republicans who resent the party's Trumpian turn.

None, however, mention crime or the economy as their reasons for coming out.

"I'm worried that the MAGA part of my party is taking over," says Pat Brodeur of Wallingford. "And they are going to hurt our future elections."

Shapiro has been a state representative, a Montgomery County commissioner and now an attorney general. He understands how to craft and communicate a narrative about his career.

In this race, he is pitching himself as a public servant who takes on "big fights," like balancing Montgomery County's budget after years of Republican excess, suing the Catholic Church over sexual abuse allegations and settling for \$1 billion with pharmaceutical companies that pushed opioids. This pitch started last October during Shapiro's campaign kickoff, but after Mastriano won the Republican Primary in the spring, it took on new meaning.



Pennsylvania state Sen. Doug Mastriano delivers a speech on Dec. 14, 2021.

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

Mastriano, the woman-hating, election-denying friend of the antisemites, as Shapiro often portrays him, became the "big fight." In his stump speeches on Oct. 8, the Democrat reached the big fight beat around the middle, after he got through his plans for

dealing with crime and stimulating the economy, but before he orated his way through his depiction of his rival.

At the day's last public event, a campaign office opening in West Philadelphia, Shapiro looked out over a parking lot of more than 100 excited supporters. They came from the Main Line, Center City and nearby neighborhoods. It was his most diverse crowd of the day.

And with more Black residents in the audience than at either of his previous two events, the Democrat painted his most vivid picture yet of his opponent.

He said Mastriano is the "only candidate in the nation who is on a white supremacist website known as Gab." He talked about how a few years ago, Mastriano wore a Confederate uniform for a picture at the U.S. Army War College. And then he paraphrased a Maya Angelou quote, "When someone tells you who they are, believe them," to emphasize that Mastriano "keeps telling us who he is."

"In Doug Mastriano's Pennsylvania, unless you think like him, and look like him, and vote like him, and pray like him, and marry like him, you don't count," Shapiro said. "Here's my view: No matter what you look like, where you come from, who you love or who you pray to, you count in Pennsylvania, and I want to be your governor."

The crowd hollered.

"I will do everything I can to make sure that Doug Mastriano is not elected," said Sajda Purple Blackwell, a West Philadelphia resident. "We don't need white supremacists in office." **JE**

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Lighting the path for all generations

Former Fed Chair Ben Bernanke Shares Economics Nobel

Ben Bernanke, the Jewish former chairman of the Federal Reserve, shared the Nobel Prize for Economics with two other scholars for their work in examining how banks function in economic crises.

Bernanke was recognized for an influential 1983 paper, written when he was a professor at Stanford University, that examined the Depression era to show how runs on banks during economic uncertainty tend to exacerbate and broaden a crisis. His theories helped inform his handling of the 2008 economic crisis and the bailout of major financial institutions at the time.

Sharing the prize for their separate research into bank collapse were two American scholars, Douglas Diamond and Philip Dybvig.

Bernanke, 68, was chairman of the Fed from 2006 to 2014 and was one of at least five Jewish chairmen of the body, which is the United States' central banking system. His predecessor, Alan Greenspan, was Jewish, as was his successor, Janet Yellen.

Stanford Apologizes for Discriminating Against Jewish Applicants in the 1950s

An official investigation by Stanford University released on Oct. 12 confirmed long-standing suspicions that university administrators acted to limit Jewish enrollment in the 1950s while publicly denying that they were doing so, JTA.org reported.

In tandem with the report, Stanford's president, Marc Tessier-Lavigne, apologized to the Jewish community.

"This ugly component of Stanford's history, confirmed by this new report, is saddening and deeply troubling," Tessier-Lavigne wrote. "As a university, we must acknowledge it and confront it as a part of our history, as repellent as it is, and seek to do better."

Tessier-Lavigne also wrote that Stanford will work to ensure that it is welcoming to Jewish students today by increasing anti-bias training, creating a dedicated advisory committee, paying more attention to Jewish holiday cycles in university scheduling and other measures. The university's first day of classes this fall took place on Rosh Hashanah.

Stanford convened the task force that produced the report after a historian published his discovery of documents left behind by Stanford's admissions director from 1950 to 1970, Rixford Snyder, suggesting that Snyder was biased against Jews and interested in reducing their enrollment at the university.

Early American Jewish Novelist Gets Bridge Named for Her

A Massachusetts town at the center of a high school antisemitism scandal last year has just renamed a bridge in honor of a pioneering but little-known Jewish woman writer who lived there during the 19th century, JTA reported.

Cora Wilburn, whose autobiographical novel "Cosella Wayne" is likely the first novel published in English by a Jewish woman in America, settled in Duxbury, south of Boston, as an adult and lived there until her death at age 82 in 1906.

Now, 116 years later, the town of Duxbury has dedicated the Cora Wilburn Bridge in her honor, renaming "Bridge D-14-009(49Q)."

Duxbury is where a high school football team was revealed last year to have used the terms "Auschwitz" and "rabbi" as football calls. The coach was fired and the town commissioned an investigation that found evidence of longstanding antisemitism in the team culture.

Trader Joe's Drops 'Israeli' Name on its Pearl Couscous

Couscous lovers who frequent the grocery store Trader Joe's may have noticed a change in the grain aisle: The chain's brightly colored purple boxes of "Israeli Couscous" are now simply known as "Pearl Couscous," JTA.org reported.

The Nosh, a sister website to the JTA, first reported the label change after word of it spread on the popular Facebook group Kosher Trader Joe's.

The move raised questions in the group about whether Trader Joe's was trying to distance itself from Israel, a move that some companies have made for political reasons.

But a spokesperson for the company said it "recently switched to a new supplier for this product and it is now sourced domestically rather than from Israel." The product itself hasn't changed, according to The Nosh's report. **JE**

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

Dinner Is Served: Tilefish with Lemon-Olive Topping

KERI WHITE | SPECIAL TO THE JE

This dish was deceptively simple — the topping had a decidedly Greek flair with the olives, lemon and fresh oregano and, although we used local tilefish, it would complement any fish.

I could also see it as a delicious topping for chicken or tofu. Strategic cooks can whiz the topping together in a blender and assemble the potato salad ahead of time; when the dinner hour approaches, putting the fish on a tray with a schmear of the olive spread is the work of a moment.

This potato salad was another benefit delivered by my sister-in-law Esther. The fact that the recipe is mayo-free is a boon: It is healthier than the old-school deli version; it can be served hot, warm, at room temperature or chilled; and the fresh herbs make for both delicious flavor and pretty presentation.

Round out the menu with a simple green salad or some steamed veggies.

Tilefish with Lemon-Olive Topping Serves 4

I am a huge fan of lemon. This puts me in the minority in my household, who prefer to limit their consumption of the citrus fruit to lemonade and the occasional dessert. But as I am the chief cook, the rest of the crew has to tolerate my preferences in some measure.

If you are like my nearest and dearest and prefer that lemon be subtle at best, simply reduce the amount of lemon used here; instead of the whole thing, drop in a half. Or squeeze the juice and grate a bit of zest into the mixture and discard the rinds.

- 4 tilefish fillets (or the fish of your preference)
- $\frac{2}{3}$ cup black, pitted oil-cured olives with oil
- 1 whole lemon, cut in half
- 2 tablespoons of fresh oregano or 1 teaspoon dried
- 2 tablespoons honey
- Fresh cracked pepper to taste



Salt if desired (Note: Olives are salty, so if you are watching your sodium, you can omit)
Spray oil for pan

In a blender, mix the olives, lemon halves, oregano, pepper, honey and salt, if using. Puree until fairly smooth. If the mixture is very thick, you can add a bit of olive oil or water.

Heat your oven to 300 degrees F. Spray the bottom of a baking dish with a cover to lightly coat it with oil. Place the fish in the pan, and spoon a light coating of the olive mixture on each fillet.

Cover the pan, and bake the fish for 25-30 minutes until cooked through. The fish is done when it flakes easily and it is opaque throughout with no translucency.

Mustard-herb Potato Salad Serves 4

Esther made this to accompany grilled chicken during her recent visit. It was delicious, and she used a bunch of different types and colors of baby potatoes, which added visual appeal to the dish. If you don't have an assortment of spuds, just use what you have, and cut them into bite-sized pieces.

I was especially chuffed to supply the herbs the recipe called for from my garden — alas, they are the only “crops” that have flourished.

$\frac{1}{2}$ pounds baby potatoes (a combo

of red bliss and fingerling is nice)
2-3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup olive oil
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon pepper
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped red onion

1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill
2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil

Place the potatoes in a large pot of salted water. Bring it to a boil, cover and continue cooking until the potatoes are tender, about 20 minutes. Drain well, and allow the potatoes to air dry for a few minutes.

Place the warm potatoes in a large bowl, and sprinkle them with 1 tablespoon of vinegar. Toss the potatoes and vinegar.

Make the dressing: In a small bowl, mix the oil, remaining vinegar, mustard, oil, onions, salt and pepper. Pour it over the potatoes, and then add the herbs. Toss to coat, and let it sit for a while to allow the flavors to blend. Add more salt and pepper, if needed. **JE**

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‘OY/YO’ Artist to Speak at the Weitzman

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

It’s easy to spot the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History these days. For the past six months, it’s been home to the eight-by-16-foot Lamborghini yellow “OY/YO” sculpture that sits outside its doors.

The sculpture has become a selfie destination and makeshift playground for young museumgoers, transcending its original purpose of exploring the multitudinous meanings of just two letters.

Deborah Kass, the artist behind “OY/YO,” is well aware of the sculpture’s changing meaning in its temporary Philadelphia home. On Oct. 27 at 8 p.m. at the Weitzman, she’ll discuss “OY/YO”’s evolution and the role of art in the growing landscape of antisemitism with Neubauer Family Executive Director and President of The Barnes Foundation Thom Collins.

“The sculpture truly speaks to the diversity that is Philadelphia,” said Weitzman Chief Curator & Director of Exhibitions and Interpretation Josh Perelman. “The word ‘oy’ and the word ‘yo’ mean so many different things in different cultural contexts. While it announces in a very wonderful way the presence of a Jewish institution on Independence Mall, its flexibility and mutability — and to different languages in different contexts — embraces the full spectrum of Black, brown, immigrant people from every place in the world who have made Philadelphia their home.”

First created as a painting in 2011, “OY/YO” was inspired by Ed Ruscha’s 1962 painting “OOF” and drew influence from Robert Indiana’s “LOVE,” which has become iconic in Philadelphia. Kass, known for her works that combine art history and pop culture with commentary on feminism, gender and sexuality, racism and identity, wanted to explore the numerous meanings behind the two words.

Based in Brooklyn, New York, the Jewish artist designed “OY/YO” to be an homage to the informal greeting and a nod to the word “I” or “me” in Spanish and the Yiddish phrase to express exasperation.

“The fact that two letters can mean so many different things to so many communities is really the joy of the piece,” Kass said. “And you can’t say ‘joy’ without ‘oy.’”

“OY/YO” was transformed from two to three dimensions in 2015 when the monumental sculpture was installed at



The “OY/YO” sculpture was first installed outside the Weitzman on May 2.

Brooklyn Bridge Park. Since then, it’s lived in many cities. It will remain in Philadelphia until next May.

During its time in the City of Brotherly Love, the piece has taken on additional meanings, most famously in its tribute to Rocky’s “Yo, Adrian!” line from the eponymous Philly-based film.

But “OY/YO”’s placement outside of the Weitzman has established the statue as a “conduit” between Independence Mall’s breadth of American history and the Weitzman’s scope of American Jewish history, Collins said.

“It’s absolutely powerful that this piece be front and center in that interface between what could be construed as a central element of American history broadly and Jewish American history,” he said.

Kass finds the location of her piece outside of a Jewish institution even more powerful due to rising antisemitism in the U.S. She cites the 2018 Pittsburgh Tree of Life synagogue shooting and Republican gubernatorial candidate Doug Mastriano’s association with antisemitic politicians and appropriation of Jewish symbols as evidence of growing hatred against Jews.

“As the culture changes, the relevance of this just keeps not only changing, but being added to — it’s an additive process,” Kass said. “Doug Mastriano wasn’t running when I made that piece; antisemitism wasn’t in the news. So, over the course of years, it has unfortunately been increasing, been more and more in the news.”

Beyond being a physical portal between Independence Mall and the Weitzman and a symbolic portal into American Jewish history, the sculpture

serves as a portal of access to those not well-versed in Kass’ works or in what “OY/YO” represents.

A growing selfie destination, “OY/YO” has become an opportunity to shine light on the Weitzman and begin a simple conversation around the meanings of words that can spark more meaningful

dialogue around identity.

“Susan Sontag argued that one of the reasons people take photographs on vacation is that they take photographs so that they don’t have to actually experience anything. They use it to distance themselves. I think the selfie is different, and I think in this case, it is quite the opposite,” Collins said. “I think they’re identifying themselves with some aspect of it: their interpretation of the piece.”

As an artist who made a name for herself in part because of her mimicry and appropriation of other artists such as Andy Warhol and Jackson Pollack, Kass is familiar with the concept of reinterpreting artwork. She knows it’s an inevitable part of her work to have an audience find meaning in her art.

“It’s not in your control,” she said. “The audience is, in fact, part of the meaning of the work.”

For more information about the event, visit theweitzman.org/events/oyyo-event. **JE**

srogelberg@midatlanticmedia.com



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Those who grieved over the emptiness of their pandemic-era social calendars are enjoying a better 2022 — a boom time for weddings.

More than 2.4 million weddings are expected for 2022, according to the Wedding Report, a trade group that gathers data on the industry. According to The New York Times, if that prediction holds up, that would be the most weddings since 1984.

“Client load has increased. Everything feels crazy and busy,” said Rachel Lassoﬀ, owner of Dream Day Events, a Haverford-based company that plans events like weddings and bar and bat mitzvahs. “It’s hard to explain, but yeah, things everywhere have increased. More clients, more questions, more what-ifs. More money because inflation is killing us all!”

The majority of the celebrations planned in 2022 represented events that were rescheduled over the past two years, the Times reported, while much of the remainder was couples who got engaged during the pandemic.

Heidi Hiller, the CEO and creative director of Innovative Party Planners, an Owings Mills, Maryland-based wedding planner, also saw a significant uptick in the number of weddings being organized this year. She concurred that it is a result of restrictions put in place during the pandemic.

“During the height of the pandemic, many of our couples couldn’t get married,” said Hiller, a Jewish resident of Pikesville, Maryland, and an active volunteer at the Pearlstone Conference & Retreat Center in Reisterstown, Maryland. “They wanted to celebrate, and whether it was [that] the venue was shut down due to the COVID restrictions ... there were just too many risks that they didn’t want to take for themselves, for their families, for their guests.”

Many of Hiller’s clients thought about their wedding long before ever meeting their significant other, she added, and a wedding with COVID restrictions was simply not what they envisioned.

“We’re seeing this [swell] because now that the restrictions have been lessened and more people are vaccinated ... [they’re] still taking risks, but they’re more willing to take them now,” Hiller said.

Lassoﬀ, however, said that the backlog of weddings was only partially a result of COVID.

“I had pretty steady work throughout the pandemic. We had to change what events looked like. I never truly lost people, but it just morphed into something else. The hardest part was that it pushed back a lot of things. People had just stopped their lives. There’s a lot of people who held off, and now we have this influx of people trying to find and access all these things. Sometimes they’re booked, sometimes all of them are booked.”

According to Lassoﬀ, May, June, September and October are the most popular months to get married.

“People want to be outside,” she said.

The uptick in weddings has resulted in couples having difficulty scheduling them, Hiller said. Last fall, for example, finding a florist was all but impossible if a couple had not already booked one.

An additional factor complicating things is that many wedding industry vendors are working with fewer employees than before, Hiller added. Many industry employees lost their jobs when COVID shut things down and had to look for work elsewhere, she said. Those former employees are not necessarily in a rush to return now.

In addition, ongoing problems in the supply chain have been a challenge, Hiller said.

“If you get engaged and choose to get married in the next few months, you may find yourself having to get married on a Thursday night or at an odd time of day in order to get the kind of vendors that you want,” Hiller said. **JE**

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What's in a Name?

FOR JEWISH COUPLES, THE ANSWER IS CHANGING

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

For as long as there's been Judaism, there's been the Jewish tradition of bucking naming conventions.

Abraham and Sarah, the religion's foreparents, changed their respective names from "Avram" and "Sarai," adding extra letters as a reminder of God's presence. After Jacob wrestled with angels, God changed his name to "Israel."

Thousands of years later, Jews in the Philadelphia area are continuing the longstanding Jewish tradition of breaking and remaking the rules with the name game, especially when it comes to marriage.

Instead of following the convention of a woman taking her husband's last name upon tying the knot, heterosexual couples are getting creative

with changing their last names — or refusing to change their names altogether.

"We have the power, we have the agency to go by that which we choose or feel inspired to become," said Philadelphia resident Molly Wernick, who married her partner Andrew Davies in 2017.

Wernick drew on the breaking of naming conventions of Jewish ancestors in her decision to keep her last name upon getting married. (On their wedding website, the couple wrote in jest that Davies chose to keep his last name, instead of taking Wernick's.)

Jewish values aside, Wernick was not interested in what she called the patriarchal practice of changing her last name to match her husband's.

"I grew up just seeing with every wedding invitation or bar mitzvah invitation, credit card offer, the societal assumption that a woman becomes the property of her husband," Wernick said.

Keeping her last name also felt like an opportunity to hold onto family lineage, harkening back to her family's story of her great-grandfather coming to the U.S. after a run-in with the czar's army. At the end of the day, Wernick's name was intertwined deeply with her own identity.

"I was born Molly Wernick," she said. "It is who I am."

For other women, the decision to keep a last name is practical.

Ellie Kaplan-Kahn, though she legally hyphenated her name, still uses her maiden name Kaplan

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Molly Wernick and Andrew Davies decided to keep their respective names after getting married, in an effort to reject patriarchal norms and preserve their respective family identities.

Courtesy of Molly Wernick and Andrew Davies

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A photograph of an elderly couple sitting at a table. The man, on the left, has white hair, a beard, and glasses, and is wearing a blue button-down shirt. The woman, on the right, has blonde hair and is wearing a white blouse. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. In front of them are two glasses of red wine. The background is softly blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting with warm lighting.

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in professional settings. She is a research psychologist who has published in several journals under her maiden name. When applying for new jobs, that old moniker made it easy for employers to see her credentials.

"Many of my women friends are also in academic settings, where your name is really important," she said.

However, some couples have decided to change both their last names, forging a new identity for future generations.

Josh and Rachael Silverbauer both legally changed their original last names and opted for a new last name that combined Josh's last name Schwartz-Neubauer and Rachael's last name Silverstein.

"It was more symbolic of our relationship to create something that binds the two of us together and create kind of a new generation together," Josh Silverbauer said.

The couple wanted to make sure they kept parts of their original last names as an homage to their respective family histories.

Now with a young child with the last name Silverbauer, the couple feels a sense of pride in their new tradition.

"It was more symbolic of our relationship to create something that binds the two of us together ..."

JOSH SILVERBAUER

"It's exciting for him to one day understand the story of that, like, 'My name came from two people that love each other, wanting to start something new,'" Rachael Silverbauer said.

Though the choice to create a new last name was obvious, the execution was more difficult. Legal name changes require time, money and even some strategy.

Josh Silverbauer decided to change his name

before the couple got married so that Rachael would be able to go through the expedited process of taking what was technically her husband's last name after the wedding.

Over eight to 10 months, Josh Silverbauer made multiple court appearances in front of a judge, published his new name in journals and newspapers and paid more than \$2,000 for the name change.

Danielle Abrams, who is in the process of changing her name from Danielle Brief, had a similar story. She and her husband, originally Jonah Adams, decided on the joint last name Abrams to honor Jonah's grandfather, who changed his name from Abrams to Adams to assimilate into his new home country of England.

With both of them undergoing a name change after their wedding, the process is twice as challenging. They've been undergoing the legal process for more than a year, but the fight for a new last name has, in some ways, brought the couple closer.

"It is nice to kind of be frustrated together," Danielle Abrams said. **JE**

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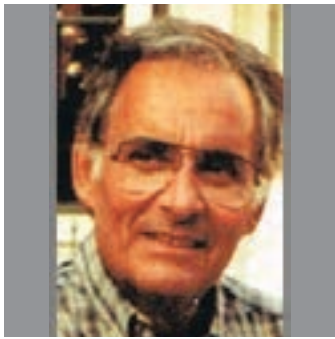
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BENNETT

Sun City Center, FL - BURTON EDWIN, almost 90, formerly of Margate, NJ, and Pompano Beach, FL, died on October 12, 2022, after succumbing to a number of chronic illnesses. He was married to Jean Lee Bennett, nee Neff, with whom he recently celebrated their 66th year together. They successfully raised three children, resulting in four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Burt was born in Philadelphia, the oldest child of Benjamin and Dorothy (nee Wolfson) Bennett. He graduated from West Philadelphia High School, where he lettered in basketball, a sport that brought him a good deal of joy throughout his life. After four years of service in the Coast Guard, Burt began a career in the insurance business,

eventually holding executive positions in several companies. He also proudly co-owned and operated a hotel in Atlantic City for 12 years, with Jean, Jean's twin sister Irma and Irma's husband Aaron Hafetz. After leaving the insurance industry, during the early days of the casino era, Burt tapped into his industrious spirit and developed and ran one of the main bus parking lots in Atlantic City. In his retirement years, Burt taught himself watch repair, using an impressive amount of dexterity and patience to master this delicate skill. He enjoyed making his many friends and customers happy by fixing their treasured timepieces. In addition, he designed custom-made pieces that his grandchildren recall and cherish until today. More recently Burt turned his creativity to painting, making collages and creating showpieces by painting abstract designs on common household objects. Some of his designs were used on pillows, cutting boards, and face masks on the Society6 creative website under the name Bebart. Thanks to his charm and easygoing style Burt made friends easily. Often was the time that the family would be out, even many miles from home, and he would run into someone he knew. Burt also maintained lifelong relationships with his child-

hood friends from West Philly. Burt leaves behind his loving wife Jean, his children Brad Bennett (Kebby Berg) of Clinton, NY, Paula (Stan) Lipski of Sun City Center, and Robin (Shlomo) Ben-Hur of Vevey, Switzerland. He also leaves his cherished grandchildren Michael (Beth) and Steven Bennett, and Daniel and Arielle Ben-Hur, along with his great-grandchildren Gregory and River Bennett and his sister Sally. Burt also had a special relationship with his nephews Scott, Drew, Larry, and Glenn Hafetz, and their families. He will be greatly missed. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be sent in Burt's memory to a charity of your choice. To express condolences online visit segalfuneralhome.com.

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BRAY

BARBARA (nee Seldin), October 9, 2022 of Blue Bell, PA. Devoted wife of Buzz Bray. Beloved mother of Melanie Birger-Bray (Hadar of blessed memory) and Sam (Laura) Bray. Cherished sister of Meg Seldin (Reuben Altizer). Proud grandmother of Emma, Amethyst and Jason. The family requests that in

lieu of flowers contributions in her memory may be made to Darchei Noam or Mitzvah Circle.

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GERBER

EDWIN "ED", Professor Emeritus at Drexel University, died peacefully surrounded by family. Funeral services private.

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GORDON

CANTOR JOSHUA H. October 5, 2022. Devoted husband of the late Marilyn Weiss Gordon for 50 years. Beloved father of Ra-

chel Lichten (Jason) and Howie Gordon (Laurel). Brother of Esther Gordon. Cherished grandfather of Lucas Gordon and Sam, Jake and Sophie Lichten. Dear Uncle of Gary Blaustein (Antoinette) and the late Ron Blaustein. Cherished cousin of Ira Schafer (Tricia). Fiercely loyal friend. Josh was quick with a joke and knew how to make people feel at ease. He loved his family fiercely, especially his 4 grandchildren. Josh earned his BA from Yeshiva University, where he studied at the Cantorial Training Institute and earned his Masters degrees from Temple and Dropsie Universities. Josh was the Cantor at Congregation Ner Tamid in Delaware County from 1970-81 and then became the Cantor for Congregation Melrose B'Nai Israel Emanu El for the next 36 years before retiring. He was also a guidance counselor for the School District of Philadelphia for 35 years, spending most of that time at A. Philip Randolph Vocational Technical School. Contributions in his memory may be made to American Friends of Magen David Adom, www.afmda.org or the Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org/delval.

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KAHN

DR. ERNEST on October 11, 2022. Husband of the late Marcia. Father of Rachel Kahn Ross and Beth Kahn. Grandfather of Daniel Ross and Brian Ross. Dr. Kahn was a former executive with the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia. Contributions in his memory may be made to Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, LB# 4000, PO Box 95000, Philadelphia, PA 19195-0001.

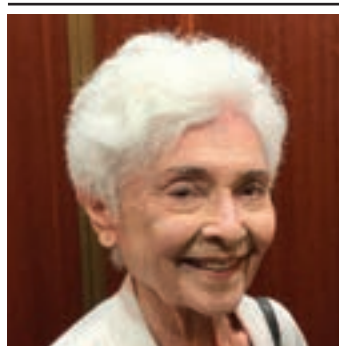
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KRENSEL

It is with a sense of profound sorrow but also a celebration of a life well lived, we announce that Edward Krensel has passed away on October 10, 2022, peacefully at his home surrounded by those he loved and that loved him. Ed was 89 years old. He was born on May 11, 1933 in South Philly to Molly and Louis Krensel. He is survived by his loving wife, Vivian, and his children, Donna, Lauren, Michelle, Matt, Leiba and Lauren as well as his 16 beautiful grandchildren, his sister Judy Burgis. Ed was preceded in death by his daughter Lisa. He was an all-city athlete at Olney High School and received a track scholarship to Temple University. He was an entrepreneur at an early age and while still in high school produced a number of R&B acts. He was drafted into the army during the Korean War and served with distinction as a Staff Sergeant, was tasked to produce USO shows in Korea. He was a Mummer in the fancy division for 45 years winning a dozen 1st place prizes. During his life he enjoyed sailing, winter camping and fly fishing amongst his many favorite activities. He was an avid landscaper and won first prize in the Philadelphia Flower Show. Ed loved his cats and has had many throughout the years. He was an entrepreneur during his life, but his crowning jewel was the business he co-founded with his partner, Andy Janczak. Their high-performance polymer business is a well-known, international company employing over 60 people with distributors in over 60 countries worldwide. When

Ed moved to Doylestown in 1996, he became involved with the VFW Post 175 and became involved in many projects, most notably the Global War on Terror Memorial located at the Bucks County Courthouse. Ed was also actively involved in sporting clay shooting and recently the Bucks County Fish & Game Association named a pistol range in his honor. He was a long-time supporter of the Doylestown Hospital and the County Theatre. Ed leaves behind a legacy that has reached far and wide. His influence on the lives of others will carry on through generations. His parting words were "Make everyday a holiday." In lieu of flowers or gifts, donations may be made in Ed's honor to the Doylestown Post 175 Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post Office Box 1533, Doylestown, PA 18901.

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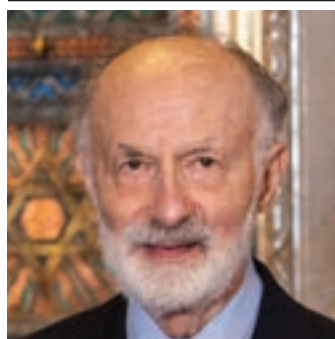


LUTZNER

YVONNE SYTNER died peacefully on October 12th, 2022 days shy of her 88th birthday. She was born on October 15th, 1934 in Antwerp, Belgium, to Polish-Jewish parents, Abram Sytner and Rosa Rotsztein Sytner. Her older brother, Harry Oskar, was born in Berlin prior to the family's move to Belgium. Of a large family that extended from Poland to France, Yvonne was one of very few to survive the Shoah, having spent the war years as a hidden child in Brussels, living in plain sight with an assumed identity. Yad Vashem honored her loving rescuers, the Le Chat family, as Righteous Among the Nations in 2000. At the war's end, Yvonne spent nearly two years at Profondsart, an orphanage that gathered surviving Jewish children in Belgium. Located

by a cousin in the U.S. Army, who helped to arrange passage, at 12 years old Yvonne made a difficult journey on a refugee ship to the United States. There she was welcomed by her uncle, Louis Sitner, in Philadelphia, where she settled with his daughter and son-in-law, Miriam Sitner Clibanoff and Louis Clibanoff, who took her in as a sibling to their daughter Lynne Clibanoff Selkow (Donald Selkow), who survives her. In 1954, Yvonne married Herman Lutzner, the boy next door, and they spent 64 loving years together until Herman's death in 2018. Yvonne and Herman's two children, Jodie Lutzner Garay (Andrea Stanley) and Jeffrey Lutzner (Jessica DeGroot), have widened the circle with their children, Ella Lutzner Garay, Jocelyn DeGroot-Lutzner, and Julian DeGroot-Lutzner. Though scarred by unfathomable early loss and trauma, Yvonne was a woman of remarkable strength and resilience – and elegance. She was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother, who doted on her grandchildren, cultivating a special relationship with each one of them. Yvonne will be sorely missed by her close-knit family and the many who experienced her love of life. The family asks that friends make a contribution in Yvonne's name to HIAS (<https://www.hias.org>), an organization that was instrumental in helping her find refuge in the United States.

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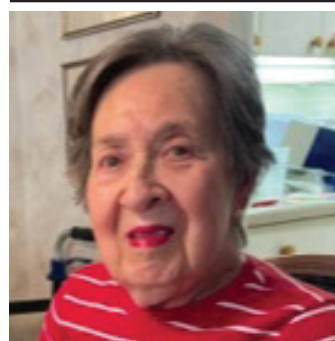


MILLER

RICHARD STEVEN-October 8, 2022 of Philadelphia, PA. Treasured partner of Carolyn Drafft; beloved husband of the late Iris;

loving father of Andrew Miller (Elissa Gilbert Miller) and Lizzi Miller Weyant (Matt Weyant); adoring grandfather of Isaac, Lily, Henry, Amalia, and Hannah. Private family services were held Sun October 9 at Roosevelt Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the Lewy Body Dementia Association (lbdad.org/donate).

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RUDERMAN

ELISABETH "LISETTE"

(nee Rosenkranz)

March 16, 1936 - October 8, 2022
22 Adar 5696 - 13 Tishri 5783

Lisette Ruderman was born in Tel-Aviv, Israel on March 16, 1936 to Maurice and Fanny Rosenkranz. She graduated from Gymnasias Herzliya – Israel's first Hebrew high school - in 1950. After serving in the Israeli Defense Forces, Lisette attended the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and graduated with a degree in law. In 1959, she met the love of her life and married Jerome (Jerry) Ruderman. In 1967 they moved to the newly completed Kennedy House, where they resided for 55 years. Lisette studied Interior Design at Moore College of Art, and pursued a degree in Library Science From Villanova University. She worked as a high school librarian with The School District of Philadelphia for 32 years. The couple spent alternate summers in Tel-Aviv, and spent time locally. In her retirement, she and Jerry enjoyed each other's company, traveled with friends and showered their grandson and his parents with love. Lisette is survived by her daughter Shelley Ruderman, son-in-law Jordan (Cassway) and grandson Eitan (Cassway). Contributions in her memory may be made to Penn Hospice, www.pennmedicine.org.

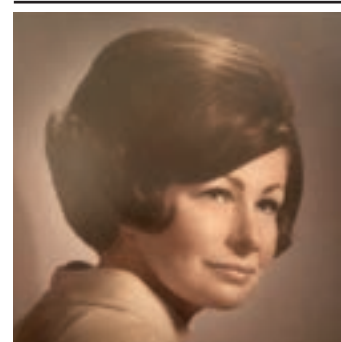
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SILVER

EUGENE "GENE" D.-A Central High School Class 193 graduate, passed away on October 6, 2022. Longtime Partner of Lynne Bloom. Father of Rebecca (Barry) Lenick and Jonathan Silver. Stepfather of Dr. Carl D. (Dr. Elizabeth) Bloom and Lawrence A. (Diana) Bloom. Grandfather of Brooke, Kyra, Courtney and Lu Bloom. Contributions in his memory may be made

to Southern Poverty Law Center, 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 36104, www.splcenter.org, or to The Nature Conservancy, Attn: Treasury, 4245 N. Fairfax Drive, Ste. 100, Arlington, VA 22203, www.nature.org/en-us.

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STERN

GERRIE (nee SELTZER)-Beloved wife of Harris I. Stern "Hank" and the late Milton Tellem, MD. Devoted mother of Jamisen Shrut (Barry), Arn Tellem (Nancy), Rhonda Sacks (Jeffrey), and Pamela Goldman (Andrew). Dear sister of Natalie Weinstein and the late Bernard Seltzer. Loving grandmother of Kimberly, Philip, Michael (Emma), Jonathan (Jenny), Matthew, Allison (Sammy), Eric, Ellissa, Sophie, and Hope. Loving great grandmother of Theo, Olive, Madeline, Gemma, Lea, and Asher. Contributions in her memory may be made to Moss Rehab www.mossrehab.org or a charity of the donor's choice.

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WILF

LYNNE BETH SIMON, 72, of Blue Bell, PA passed away October 2, 2022, at home, with family by her side. She was born to the late Maurice and Mildred Simon, on March 27, 1950, in Philadelphia, PA. Lynne graduated from Philadelphia High School for Girls in 1967 and received a BA from Temple University in 1971. Lynne was a loving mother to Melissa Wilf (Edward Baker) and Meredith Wilf (Daniel Vanderbilt), and a devoted sister to Sharon Gordon. She is also survived by the joys of her life, her two grandchildren, Amalie Baker and Jacqueline Vanderbilt. Lynne loved family, friends, numbers, travel, and nature. Lynne was immensely proud of her family, and leaves behind nothing but beautiful memories. As her health declined, she often repeated the quote, "My heart is full." All donations are requested to the Lung Cancer Research Foundation.

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The Philadelphia Jewish Exponent extends condolences to the families of those who have passed.

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What's happening at ... Congregation Tifereth Israel

Congregation Tifereth Israel Gathering Again in Bensalem Sanctuary

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur this year, Congregation Tifereth Israel in Bensalem set up 140 seats.

Sixty-two percent of members said they planned on coming into the building for the High Holidays, but synagogue President Jacki Cohen still wasn't sure what to expect.

She thought the temple might be "out of sight, out of mind" for people in the wake of COVID. They had spent so much time away and doing services on Zoom.

But on the first day of Rosh Hashanah "we were filled to capacity," CTI Rabbi Jeff Schnitzer said. Then on Yom Kippur, the main service of the day was "standing-room only," he added.

"I think the need for people to reconnect after being separated for so long; I think it is a prime motivation," the rabbi said.

Before COVID, Congregation Tifereth Israel's membership base dropped from 250 to less than 130, according to congregants. But over the past two-and-a-half years, it has gone back up a little.

In August 2020, the building reopened after a five-month pandemic closure, and CTI's nursery school had 24 kids. For the 2022-'23 school year, it is up to 100. Many of them are from non-Jewish Bensalem families who just



Cindy Citron, Congregation Tifereth Israel's educational director, has seen school enrollments increase in recent years.

need a preschool, but their enrollment nonetheless helps the temple, explained Cindy Citron, its educational director.

Citron also mentioned that in 2017, CTI's Hebrew school had maybe 10 or 12 students. Today, though, it is up to 48.

"It's growing," she said. "And most of the kids in the Hebrew school right now came through the preschool. So the preschool does serve as a feeder."

Congregants also have started to come back out for Shabbat. CTI's hybrid services, in person and on Zoom, can draw 30 or more people, according to Cohen.

Schnitzer, 67, a Levittown resident, joined the synagogue in 1979 as a member, staying until 1985. Then he came

back in 1995 as a congregant in time for his daughter's bat mitzvah. Finally, in 1998, he became the temple's spiritual leader.

He believes that, over all of that time, the synagogue has felt like a family. When he's talking to a prospective congregant, Schnitzer explains that members "fight like family," he said. But then he says that, "When something happens, we celebrate and grieve together."

It's this feeling that has kept Tifereth Israel alive, according to the rabbi. It's also a desire for this feeling that is bringing some new people in post-COVID.

Going shopping or to an event can create connections with other people. But it's not quite the same as going to synagogue together, Schnitzer said. "It's not a personal kind of connection that you get in a synagogue like ours," he said. "We look at our community as family and not as members."

Among existing members, there's an intergenerational quality to the community. Schnitzer's daughter Rebecca is now a Hebrew school teacher at CTI. Cohen, a member for 33 years, has a daughter, Julie Miller, who is on the board, as well as two grandkids who are in the Hebrew school.

"I want them to grow up in the congregation," she said. "I fully expect that that will happen."

Sherry Saks, a congregant since 1988, also has grandchildren who are in school at the synagogue. In her time

at Tifereth Israel, she's served on the board, as co-president of the Parent-Teacher Organization, in the Sisterhood and even in the gift shop.

Saks is motivated to help the synagogue because she loves it, but also because she does not want to see it close. Even with the recent increases in enrollments for the nursery and Hebrew schools, she is worried that CTI is not gaining enough new families. She thinks that younger generations don't care as much about religious practice and Jewish institutions, and while the congregant numbers have gone up slightly in recent years, the numbers bear her out.

At the smaller High Holiday services, like on the second day of Rosh Hashanah and on Kol Nidre, Saks did not see many young families. She also said that "that's been going on for years, and it hasn't really changed much."

"It's not the same as it used to be," she added. "And that breaks my heart."

But while Saks and another member, Renee Feder, may be concerned, they were still able to look around during High Holiday services this year and see a crowd. During the blowing of the shofar, Feder looked behind her at all of the people and started to cry.

"There were people. It was different," she said, comparing it to Zoom. "Very different." **JE**

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com



Congregation Tifereth Israel's sanctuary



Congregation Tifereth Israel on Bristol Road in Bensalem

Photos by Jarrad Saffren



Creating Humanity and Midrash in the Divine Image

BY RABBI SHAI CHERRY

Parshat Bereshit

When teaching midrash, I enjoy showing how paintings are just as much midrash as classical rabbinical texts.

A Renaissance painter, Bacchiacca (1494-1557), depicted Eve lovingly holding Abel aloft, while Cain, vying for her attention, tugs at her hem. The Torah gives us no indication that Cain murdered Abel due to Eve's maternal favoritism, but that is what Bacchiacca suggests. Blame the woman!

Earlier, in the Garden, Eve was punished by God for her transgression: "Your desire will be for your man, and he will rule over you" (Gen. 3:16). The traditional commentators try to determine if the husband's rule over his wife is general or limited to the beginning of the verse, which references her desire. In either case, patriarchy is planted in the garden.

Bruria is among the few women mentioned explicitly in the Talmud. Rivka Lubitch, an Israeli rabbinic advocate for women, imagines what is found in Bruria's Torah: "Your desire will be for your woman, and she will rule over you." Lubitch's midrash explains that "whoever desires someone is ruled by them; but the Torah of Moses spoke in the language of humans, which is to say, males."

Lubitch's midrash is offered in a newly translated volume of the Israeli women's midrash, edited by Tamar Biala, entitled "Dirshuni." Biala unpacks each midrash for those unfamiliar with rabbinic literature.

Bruria, Biala explains, is the wife of Rabbi Meir who is known for hav-

ing variant readings in his Torah! Moreover, since Hebrew is a gendered language, *b'nei adam*, the words we translate as *humans*, is literally, "the sons of Adam." The recognition that the Torah (of Moses) is written in the language of "humans" is found frequently in the Talmud where it is used to neutralize a hyper-literal reading of grammatical conventions or common idioms.

Lubitch reinterprets this common rabbinic notion to destabilize and uproot the Torah's patriarchal origin story of both gender and sexual orientation. In our world of power and politics, whoever possesses what another desires enjoys the advantage. Lubitch, Biala and the other writers in "Dirshuni" have appropriated the traditional method of midrash and written themselves into the tradition. For those of us familiar with rabbinic literature and supportive of their efforts, the result is breathtaking.

At Congregation Adath Jeshurun, we are celebrating this year 5783 as the Year of the Woman. A series of distinguished female authors, scholars and Torah teachers will lead many of our educational programs. For regular Shabbat services, we are highlighting female voices whose wisdom is now enriching our tradition.

The first female rabbi, Regina Jonas, was ordained in Berlin in 1935. In 1972, Sally Priesand became the first American woman to be ordained.

In the 50 years since then, we have benefited as a community from the insights and perspectives of the other half of our people. We will, of course, continue to bring the widest range of Jewish talent after the Year of the Woman, but we wanted to begin the

second half of this century of woman's rabbinic leadership with a year explicitly devoted to women's voices.

Feminism has also generated midrash by men now able to see Torah differently from our male ancestors. Years ago, I noted that the language of human creation in Genesis One (verse 27), for example, is not how it is usually translated, male and female. Our verse in Genesis One says God created humanity "masculine and feminine" (*zakhar u'n'kevah*). (When God instructs Noah to bring male and female animals onto the ark, the Hebrew is *ish v'ishah* [Genesis 7:2].)

One of our congregants, Mikayla Fassler, astutely noted that such an expression is not necessarily binary, masculine and/or feminine. Like "day and night," the expression might be a merism, one that is inclusive of everything in between — like twilight.

Just as the divine image in which all

humans are created is neither exclusively masculine nor feminine, the Torah may be suggesting that human gender identity is also not exclusively binary.

Rabbi Shai Cherry is the rabbi of Congregation Adath Jeshurun in Elkins Park, the featured lecturer for The Great Courses' "Introduction to Judaism" and author of "Torah through Time: Understanding Bible Commentary from the Rabbinic Period to Modern Times" and "Coherent Judaism: Constructive Theology, Creation, and Halakhah." The Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia is proud to provide diverse perspectives on Torah commentary for the Jewish Exponent. The opinions expressed in this column are the author's own and do not reflect the view of the Board of Rabbis.



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OCTOBER 21 – OCTOBER 27



THE ABORTION DEBATE

TUESDAY, OCT. 25
ABORTION DEBATE

At noon, hosted by the Institute for Jewish Ethics, a rabbi, a lawyer and a physician discuss one of the most provocative topics of the 21st century: the legal history of abortion in America, the Talmudic view on abortion and real-life stories from an OB-GYN. **For more information, visit ijeseminars.com/products/the-abortion-debate.**

FRIDAY, OCT. 21

NESHAMA BAND SHABBAT

Join Beth Sholom Congregation's Rabbi David Glanzberg-Krainin, Cantor Jacob Agar and the Neshama Band for a musical Kabbalat Shabbat service at 6 p.m. The community is welcome. **Call 215-887-1342 for information. 8231 Old York Road, Elkins Park.**

ART EXHIBIT

After two-and-a-half years, the Olitsky Gallery presents an exhibit featuring area artists Cyndi Philkill and Karen Liebman. The exhibit continues until Nov. 9. **For more information, call 267-975-7555. 239 Welsh Road, Upper Dublin.**

JRA FOOD PACKING

Volunteers will assist with Jewish Relief Agency's pre-distribution preparation from 10 a.m. to noon. Volunteers will tape boxes, pack toiletries and assemble family-friendly food bags. **For more information**

about JRA's volunteer schedule, visit jewishrelief.org/calendar. 10980 Dutton Road, Philadelphia.

SATURDAY, OCT. 22

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
CONCERT

The Keneseth Israel Community Music Arts Committee announces the next concert of its 23rd season: the Main Line Symphony Orchestra at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$18. **Order Here: kenesethisrael.org/musicarts. For more information, call 215-887-8700. 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park.**

THEATRE ARIEL OPENING

Philadelphia's only professional Jewish theater company, Theatre Ariel, presents its 32nd season, all on the theme of legacy. The season opener, "We All Fall Down" by Lila Rose Kaplan, runs on Oct. 22, 23, 29 and 30. **For more information and for tickets, visit TheatreAriel.org or contact info@theatreariel.org or 610-667-9230.**

SUNDAY, OCT. 23

BLOOD DRIVE

Congregation Kol Emet is hosting a blood drive from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. as part of its Mitzvah Day in conjunction with the American Red Cross. **Sign up online at redcrossblood.org using sponsor code Kol Emet Yardley. 1360 Oxford Valley Road, Yardley.**

JRA FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Join Jewish Relief Agency from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. for junior and all-ages food packing. Additional delivery opportunities are available on Monday through Wednesday. **For more information about JRA's volunteer schedule, visit jewishrelief.org/calendar. 10980 Dutton Road, Philadelphia.**

HOLOCAUST DOCUMENTARY

Voorhees, New Jersey, resident Larry Hanover directed and produced a documentary adapted from a memoir he co-wrote with Fred Behrend. "Rebuilt from Broken Glass" tells the story of Behrend's childhood friendship with a fellow German Jew he left behind. Congregation Brothers of Israel will show the film at 10 a.m.

For more information, contact 215-579-2200. 530 Washington Crossing Road, Newtown.

AUTO INVITATIONAL

The Beth Sholom Preservation Foundation will fill the driveway of Frank Lloyd Wright's glass-roofed monument from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. with beautifully restored and passionately maintained examples of automobile design. **8231 Old York Road, Elkins Park.**

HADASSAH FASHION SHOW

Join Hadassah Greater Philadelphia for a fall fashion show from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., featuring Designs by Karen. Included in this event are lunch, raffles and vendors. \$55. **For more information, visit events.hadassah.org/2022fallfashionfling. 171 Jacksonville Road, Ivyland.**

GENEALOGY LECTURE

The Jewish Genealogical and Archival Society of Greater Philadelphia

and the Mid-Atlantic-Eurasia Business Council invite you to a 1 p.m. free webinar to recognize and celebrate the life and accomplishments of Carl Lutz. **For more information, visit jgasgp.org. 615 N. Broad St., Philadelphia.**

INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE
LECTURE

The Jewish-Christian Studies program at Gratz College hosts the 2022 annual two-day conference for the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations, starting at 4 p.m. Rabbi Burton Visotzky will deliver the keynote address, "The Mitzvah of Interreligious Dialogue." **You can register for this in-person event at gratz.edu/news-and-events/event-calendar/ccjr-keynote-program. 7605 Old York Road, Melrose Park.**

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 26

AUTHOR VISIT

Jean Meltzer studied dramatic writing at New York University Tisch and has earned numerous awards for her work in television, including a daytime Emmy. She is the author of "The Matzah Ball" (soon to be a movie) and "Mr. Perfect on Paper." Join Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel on Zoom at 7 p.m. **Register here: tinyurl.com/meltzerki1026.**

HELPING BOYS THRIVE

Join Moving Traditions at 8 p.m. as we welcome Jason Ablin, author of "The Gender Equation in Schools," and others to talk about how teen boys experience gender in school and in their everyday lives, the challenges they face and how we can better support their changing needs. **For more information, visit movingtraditions.org/helping-boys-thrive.**

THURSDAY, OCT. 27

CANASTA GAME

Ohev Shalom of Bucks County Sisterhood invites the community to a friendly weekly canasta game from 1-3 p.m. Open play is \$4. **Call 215-968-6755 for more information. 944 Second Street Pike, Richboro. [JE](https://www.facebook.com/OhevShalom)**

Out & About

Courtesy of Debbie Zlotnick



1

Courtesy of Stu Coren



2

Courtesy of Andrea Cantor



3



4

Courtesy of Andrea Cantor



5

Courtesy of Wendi Schweiger



6

Courtesy of Rhonda Cohen

① Federation Housing's corporate staff celebrated staff appreciation day at Café Michelangelo in Northeast Philadelphia. ② KleinLife in Northeast Philadelphia marked the first day of Sunday school with a High Holidays celebration. ③ Friends of Jewish Cemeteries held a cemetery cleanup at Har Nebo Cemetery in Philadelphia on Sept. 18. ④ The Bucks County Kehillah hosted community members at Styer Orchard in Langhorne to listen to the shofar, relax to music and go on a hayride. ⑤ The Kellman Brown Academy in Voorhees, New Jersey, announced the upcoming launch of its Jewish Leadership Academy Middle School Program for the fall of 2023. ⑥ Tikvah Advocates for the Jewish Mentally Ill received a \$300 gift from the Rotary Club of Northeast Philadelphia Cheltenham Rockledge on Oct. 2 at KleinLife in Northeast Philadelphia.

Paul Levy

REFLECTS ON CENTER CITY LEGACY

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

Paul Levy moved to Philadelphia in 1976. He had attended graduate school at Columbia University in New York City and experienced the city's spiral "toward bankruptcy," as he described it.

And right before he moved south, he was living on a farm in upstate New York where one winter the temperature dropped to 25 degrees below zero.

Levy, who was about to turn 30, said "enough living on a farm." He started exploring options in Boston, North Jersey, where he was originally from, and Philadelphia. He chose the latter because his brother, Michael Levy, was working in its district attorney's office.

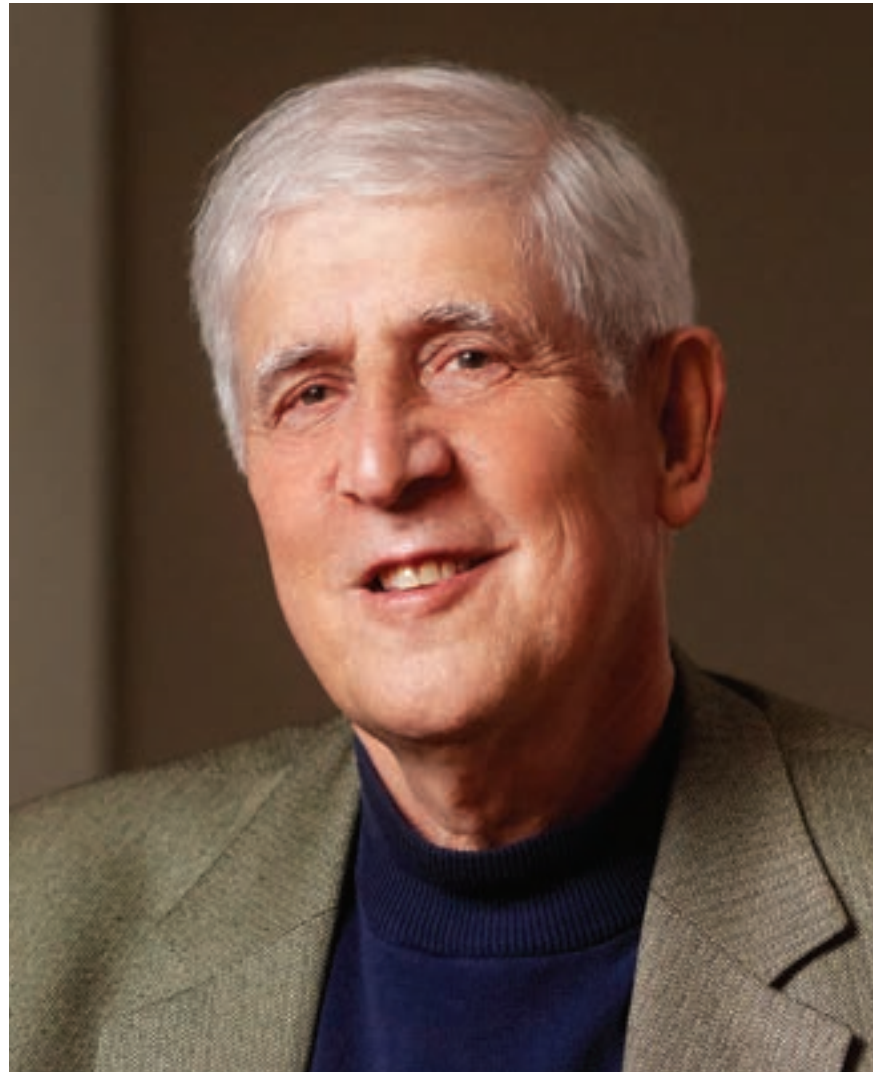
But when Levy arrived, he started walking around and saw a similarly dense downtown to the one he experienced in New York. Then he walked a few blocks and recognized that, all of a sudden, he was in a neighborhood.

"I fell in love with the scale of the city," he said. "It's a small town that's a big city. Very quickly, you meet a lot of people."

And once Levy met people, he never left. Almost five decades later, he's still living in Center City. And Parkway Corp. Chairman Joe Zuritsky, an associate for many years, said, "It's Paul more than anyone who has built Center City."

On Nov. 16 at Vie, a venue on North Broad Street, Levy will receive the 2022 Civic Achievement Award from the American Jewish Committee Philadelphia/Southern New Jersey, a nonprofit that works to combat antisemitism and promote Israel. Levy is being honored for his many local accomplishments as the founding CEO of the Center City District, an organization that tries to make Philly an attractive destination for employees, residents and tourists, according to its website.

An AJC news release lists Levy's accomplishments as "\$151 million in streetscape, lighting, park and facade improvements," the "\$60 million



reconstruction of Dilworth Park" next to City Hall and the renovation of four other parks.

Levy, who attends Congregation Rodeph Shalom, founded the Center City District in 1991. But in the 1980s, while still working for the city, he realized that the budget for community development had dropped from the last year of the Jimmy Carter administration in 1980 to the first year of the Ronald Reagan administration.

In the coming years, he would need to work with the private sector to achieve his goals.

"I came out of the 1960s," he said. "Everything was about community commitment."

Zuritsky remembers the city as

"dark, dangerous and dirty" before Levy got to work. The sidewalks were unlit. Everyone went inside when the sun went down.

According to Zuritsky, in 1991 Jewish developer Ronald Rubin bought the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel on South Broad Street. After the purchase, Rubin wanted to fill his hotel with high-end tenants and "remake Walnut Street from Broad to Rittenhouse Square," Zuritsky said.

Rubin researched other cities and discovered that they had created successful "special services districts." These were clean, safe areas that could be taxed at higher levels for "special services," Zuritsky said.

Zuritsky, Rubin and other businessmen determined that Philadelphia's

special services district should feature businesses. Developers are willing to take risks and invest in the future and, therefore, are more willing to be taxed at a higher level, Zuritsky explained.

The business leaders knew Levy because he was running the Philadelphia Parking Authority. Since Zuritsky led a private parking company, he saw Levy as a competitor and "jumped" at the chance to work with him. The businessmen tapped Levy to guide the development project.

"Paul created a district that was probably 98% business," Zuritsky said. "Paul is brilliant."

As Levy explained, his Center City District that led this effort did not construct any buildings. It just "set the stage." Levy's organization put in lower lights to illuminate sidewalks, cleaned up graffiti and "bought machines that blasted the sidewalk and got the gum off of it," Zuritsky said.

These efforts were visible; they made people feel comfortable coming to Philadelphia again, and, according to Zuritsky, they galvanized migration to Center City. He estimated that "100,000 additional people have been drawn to Center City and its immediate surroundings."

"All the areas that touch Center City have been rehabilitated and rebuilt," he added.

Unfortunately in pandemic-era Philadelphia, that old "dark, dangerous" vibe has returned to a degree. Crime is rampant and residents talk of no longer feeling safe on the streets.

"The notion that cities were wonderful places for young people and to raise families, that was challenged," Levy said.

So, for the man who remains the CEO of the Center City District, the rebirth must begin.

"Building people's confidence," he said. "That's what started as our mission. And I think it's our mission today." **JE**

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com

Courtesy of Paul Levy



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Burial plot for sale in Montefiore Cemetery, 600 Church Road, Jenkintown, Pa, 19046. Grave Number 4, Lot 52, situated in Block 23. Price is \$4000, which includes plot and perpetual care. Contact Marsha Boegly at marshabgl6@gmail.com.

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Legals

Estrella Flooring, Corp. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

Northeast Baptist Church, Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988. Daniel J. Tann, Esquire
100 South Broad Street, Suite 1355 Philadelphia, PA 19110

O.S.I.A. NORTHEAST LODGE 610 has been incorporated under

the provisions of the Pennsylvania Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988. Richard Cataldi, Esquire
Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaer & Toddy, PC
One Commerce Square
2005 Market St., 16th Fl.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Sandra Flooring, Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

Wulff Architecture, P.C. has been incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 29 of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation law of 1988 as a Professional Corporation. Offit Kurman, P.C.
240 North Third Street
Suite 1101
Harrisburg, PA 17101

AGC Investments Inc. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

BINDER & WEISS CERTIFICATE OF GRANT OF LETTERS

ESTATE OF ANTHONY MAISANO
Late of Philadelphia County
Date of Death: July 11, 2022
File Number: A4365-2022
Whereas, the grant of letters of administration is required for the administration of said estate: Now, therefore, I, Tracy L. Gordon, Register for the Probate of Wills and Grant of Letters Testamentary and of Administration in and for the County of Philadelphia in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, hereby certify that I have this day granted Letters Testamentary to Anthony Maisano and Raymond J. Maisano, who have duly qualified as Administrators of the estate of the above-named decedent and have agreed to administer the estate according to law, all of which fully appears to record in the Office of the Register of Wills of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania. In Testimony Whereof, I have here-unto set my hand and affixed the seal of my Office on this 24th day of August, 2022.
Justin Graham, Deputy
Register of Wills

BINDER & WEISS CERTIFICATE OF GRANT OF LETTERS

ESTATE OF VICTORIA HOPLAMAZIAN
Late of Chester County
Date of Death: July 15, 2022
File Number: 15-22-1914
Whereas, on the 29th day of August, 2022, my office admitted to probate an instrument dated the 23rd day of August, 2002, known as the Last Will of the decedent a true copy of which is annexed hereto: Now, therefore, I, Michele Vaughn, Register of Wills in and for the County of Chester in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, hereby certify that I have this day granted Letters Testamentary to Mark Hoplamazian, who has duly qualified as executor of the estate of the above-named decedent and has agreed to admin-ister the estate according to law, all of which fully appears of record in my office at Chester County Courthouse, West Chester, Pennsylvania. In Testimony Whereof, I have here-unto set my hand and affixed the seal of my Office on this 29th day of August, 2022.
Sharon Nerdy, Deputy
Register of Wills

ESTATE OF AMANDA BROOKE MEDINA, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent

to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to EDWARD BERNARD GIEDA, III, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Kristen L. Behrens, Esq., 457 Haddonfield Rd., Ste. 700, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002, Or to his Attorney: KRISTEN L. BEHRENS
DILWORTH PAXSON LLP
457 Haddonfield Rd., Ste. 700
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

ESTATE OF ARIE DAVIS, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who re-quest all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to TAMIKA DAVIS-MASON, EXECUTRIX, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to her Attorney: DANIELLAA. HORN
KLENK LAW, LLC
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF ARTHUR ANTHONY MISERO, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to ANTHONY PETER MASSEY, ADMINISTRATOR, 169 Via Largo Dr., Lewisburg, WV 24901

ESTATE OF BARBARA ANN NADLEY a/k/a BARBARAA. NADLEY, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JACOB B. LESSMAN, EXECUTOR, 20 Pelham Dr., West Deptford, NJ 08051

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

ESTATE OF DAPHNE L. BRYCE Bryce, Daphne L. late of Philadelphia, PA. Hyacinth Yorke, c/o John R. Lundy, Esq., Lundy Beldecos & Milby, PC, 450 N. Narberth Ave., Suite 200, Narberth, PA 19072, Executrix. Lundy Beldecos & Milby, PC
450 N. Narberth Ave., Suite 200
Narberth, PA 19072

ESTATE OF DONALD SCOTT, DECEASED
Late of Philadelphia, PA.
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay, to

Executor, William Taylor. Beneficiaries John Fritz, Evan Samuel, Ronald T. Scott, Gail Scott Reich, Roger Kolb, Mark Scott, Debra Scott, Deborah K. Scott, Joanna Zepp. The Law Offices of Jon Taylor, Esquire, PC, 1617 JFK Blvd., Suite 1888, Philadelphia, PA19103 also the attorney

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

ESTATE OF ELAINE R. SKIDDS, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or de-mands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment with-out delay to HAROLD J. SKIDDS, III, EXECUTOR, 610 Winton Ave., Everett, WA 98201

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

ESTATE OF FRANCES JAMES, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to CHRISTOPHER M. BROWN, EXECUTOR, 1240 West Chester Pike, Ste. 210, West Chester, PA 19382, Or to his Attorney: CHRISTOPHER M. BROWN
LAW OFFICES OF CHRISTOPHER M. BROWN, PLLC
1240 West Chester Pike, Ste. 210
West Chester, PA 19382

ESTATE OF HARRY NEWBOLD, DECEASED
Late of Philadelphia County, PA.
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment with-out delay, to David Newbold, c/o Tova Weiss, Esq., 648 2nd Street Pike, Southampton, PA 18966

ESTATE OF ILENE O. DEMCHENKO a/k/a ILENE DEMCHENKO, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the

above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to ADRIANN O. DEMHENKO, EXECUTRIX, 15158 Wayside Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19116

ESTATE OF JAMES J. SANTONI, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to ANGELA SANTONI-WEIGHTS, EXECUTRIX, c/o Arthur G. Krevitz, Esq., 4230 Bensalem Blvd., Bensalem, PA 19020, Or to her Attorney: ARTHUR G. KREVITZ
KREVITZ & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
4230 Bensalem Blvd.
Bensalem, PA 19020

ESTATE OF JANICE BRECHT, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to EDWARD H. WOLF, EXECUTOR, 146 Ticonderoga Rd., East Petersburg, PA 17520, Or to his Attorney: MARK J. DAVIS
CONNOR ELDER LAW
644 Germantown Pike, Ste. 2-C
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

ESTATE OF JEANETTE COLQUITT-ALSTON a/k/a JEANETTE C. ALSTON, JEANETT C. ALSTON, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment with-out delay to WILLIAM ALSTON, JR., EXECUTOR, c/o Adam S. Bernick, Esq., 2047 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to his Attorney: ADAM S. BERNICK
LAW OFFICE OF ADAM S. BERNICK
2047 Locust St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF JEFFREY S. CARPINO, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JOSEPH CARPINO, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o D. Keith Brown, Esq., P.O. Box 70, Newtown, PA 18940, Or to his Attorney: D. KEITH BROWN
STUCKERT AND YATES
P.O. Box 70, Newtown, PA 18940

ESTATE OF JOSEPH E. KRAMER, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to BENJAMIN JEFFREY FREEMAN, EXECUTOR, c/o Andrew J. Haas,

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Or to his Attorney:
ANDREW J. HAAS
BLANK ROME LLP
One Logan Square
130 N. 18th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103-6998

ESTATE OF JOSEPHINE DIGIOVANNANTONIO, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to ROBERT A. DITOMASSO, EXECUTOR, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to his Attorney:
DANIELLA A. HORN
KLENK LAW, LLC
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF JULIA McLAURIN, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to KATHRYN WILLIAMS, EXECUTRIX, c/o Nicole B. LaBletta, Esq., 200 Barr Harbor Dr., Ste. 400, Conshohocken, PA 19428,
Or to her Attorney:
NICOLE B. LABLETTA
LABLETTA & WALTERS LLC
200 Barr Harbor Dr., Ste. 400
Conshohocken, PA 19428

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

ESTATE OF LEROY M. JOHNSON Late of Philadelphia, PA.
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay, to Genevieve Carminati, Executor, c/o Gary A. Zlotnick, Esq., Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaer & Toddy, PC, One Commerce Sq., 2005 Market St., 16th Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103 or to their attorneys,
Gary A. Zlotnick, Esq.
Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaer & Toddy, PC
One Commerce Sq.
2005 Market St., 16th Fl.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF LILLIAN BETH BARONE, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to MATTHEW

WENTZ, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to his Attorney:
DANIELLA A. HORN
KLENK LAW, LLC
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF LUCILLE BEALE, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DUERWARD BEALE, ADMINISTRATOR, 1242 E. Mt. Pleasant Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150
Or to his Attorney:
JOSEPH L. DITOMO, JR.
JOSEPH L. DITOMO, JR., P.C.
1026 Winter St., Ste. 100
Philadelphia, PA 19107-1808

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

ESTATE OF MARGARET M. MARQUART, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JACOB A. MARQUART, III, EXECUTOR, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to his Attorney:
DANIELLA A. HORN
KLENK LAW, LLC
2202 Delancey Place
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF MARIE LECOIN, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to FREDERICK DOUGLAS LECOIN and SAMUEL KING LECOIN, JR., EXECUTORS, c/o Jay E. Kivitz, Esq., 7901 Ogontz Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19150,
Or to their Attorney:
JAY E. KIVITZ
KIVITZ & KIVITZ, P.C.
7901 Ogontz Ave.

ESTATE OF MICHAEL FARINA aka MICHAEL FARINA, JR.
Farina, Michael aka Farina, Jr., Michael late of Philadelphia, PA.
Maureen M. Farrell, Esq., 1628 JFK Blvd., Suite 1901, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Administrator.
Maureen M. Farrell, Esq.
1628 JFK Blvd., Suite 1901
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF NASEERDHEEN A. DAVIS Davis, Naseerdheen A. late of Philadelphia, PA. Zakiyyah Saleemah Dean-Davis, c/o John R. Lundy, Esq., Lundy Beldecos & Milby, PC, 450 N. Narberth Ave., Suite 200, Narberth, PA

19072, Administratrix.
Lundy Beldecos & Milby, PC
450 N. Narberth Ave., Suite 200
Narberth, PA 19072

ESTATE OF PHILOMENA K. BATSCHELET a/k/a PHILOMENA BATSCHELET, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to WARREN BATSCHELET, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Harry Metka, Esq., 4802 Neshaminy Blvd., Ste. 9, Bensalem, PA 19020,
Or to his Attorney:
HARRY METKA
4802 Neshaminy Blvd., Ste. 9
Bensalem, PA 19020

ESTATE OF ROBERT J. PFEIFER, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to MARK STEPHEN PFEIFER, EXECUTOR, c/o D. Keith Brown, Esq., P.O. Box 70, Newtown, PA 18940,
Or to his Attorney:
D. KEITH BROWN
STUCKERT AND YATES
P.O. Box 70
Newtown, PA 18940

ESTATE OF SAMOEUN OUM, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to KEO NUTH, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Jermaine Harris, Esq., 100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1523, Philadelphia, PA 19110,
Or to her Attorney:
JERMAINE HARRIS
100 S. Broad St., Ste. 1523
Philadelphia, PA 19110

ESTATE OF SARAH LAMBERT a/k/a SARAH LOU LAMBERT, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to SHARON GREEN-HOLDER, EXECUTRIX, c/o Nicole B. LaBletta, Esq., 200 Barr Harbor Dr., Ste. 400, Conshohocken, PA 19428,
Or to her Attorney:
NICOLE B. LABLETTA
LABLETTA & WALTERS LLC
200 Barr Harbor Dr., Ste. 400
Conshohocken, PA 19428

ESTATE OF SHAHIDAH B. MUHAMMAD, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or

demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to SALAHUDDIN SABREE MUHAMMAD, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Wendy Fein Cooper, Esq., 50 S. 16th St., Ste. 3530, Philadelphia, PA 19102,
Or to his Attorney:
WENDY FEIN COOPER
DOLCHIN, SLOTKIN & TODD, P.C.
50 S. 16th St., Ste. 3530
Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE OF SHELDON L. STEIN, DECEASED.
Late of Upper Moreland Township, Montgomery County, PA LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to STEVEN M. STEIN and DIEDRE STEIN COLE, EXECUTORS, c/o Adam S. Bernick, Esq., 2047 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19103,
Or to their Attorney:
ADAM S. BERNICK
LAW OFFICE OF ADAM S. BERNICK
2047 Locust St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF SUSAN GRAHAM, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DONALD W. GRAHAM, EXECUTOR, c/o Stephanie A. Henrick, Esq., 1001 Conshohocken State Rd., Ste. 1-625, West Conshohocken, PA 19428,
Or to his Attorney:
STEPHANIE A. HENRICK
OBERMAYER REBMANN
MAXWELL & HIPPEL, LLP
1001 Conshohocken State Rd., Ste. 1-625
West Conshohocken, PA 19428

ESTATE OF TOMMY J. DODD aka TOM J. DODD
Dodd, Tommy J. aka Dodd, Tom J. late of Philadelphia, PA. Penny E. Dodd-Bruneau, c/o David A. Applebaum, Esq., Friedman, Schuman, PC, 275 Commerce Dr., Suite 210, Ft. Washington, PA 19034, Executrix.
Friedman, Schuman, PC
275 Commerce Dr., Suite 210
Ft. Washington, PA 19034

ESTATE OF VERONICA A. BASARA a/k/a VERONICA BASARA, DECEASED.
Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to – LORRAINE BASARA, EXECUTRIX, c/o Benjamin L. Jerner, Esq., 5401 Wissahickon Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19144,
Or to her Attorney:
BENJAMIN L. JERNER
JERNER LAW GROUP, P.C.
5401 Wissahickon Ave.
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