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— WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA —

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Volume 133
Number 26

Published Weekly Since 1887

Survey: PA in Top 10 for Holocaust Knowledge

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

PENNSYLVANIA RANKED AMONG the top 10 states in the country for Holocaust knowledge in a survey recently released by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

Although the state does not have a Holocaust education mandate, it scored higher than several states where Holocaust education is mandated, including New York, New Jersey and California.

The Claims Conference stated that the U.S. Millennial Holocaust Knowledge and Awareness Survey released Sept. 16 is the first-ever 50-state survey on Holocaust knowledge among millennials and Gen Z. Researchers calculated their “knowledge score” by using the percentage of millennials and Gen Z adults who met all three of the following criteria: have definitively heard about the Holocaust, can name at least one concentration camp, death camp or ghetto, and know that 6 million Jews were killed in the Holocaust.

Even in states that performed relatively



▲ Mayer Kirshenblatt's 'The Black Wedding in the Cemetery' from 'They Called Me Mayer July: Painted Memories of a Jewish Childhood in Poland Before the Holocaust,' by Mayer Kirshenblatt and Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett (University of California Press 2007)

Courtesy of Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett

Couple Wed in Graveyard to Stop 1918 Flu Pandemic

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

THE WEDDING OF Harry Rosenberg and Fanny Jacobs was unusual for several reasons.

For one, the bride and groom didn't

know each other prior to the ceremony. For another, their nuptials attracted 1,200 guests, though they didn't have the money for a big party.

But perhaps the strangest aspect of their union was that it took place in a

See Holocaust, Page 14

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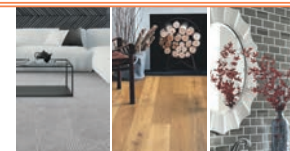
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JEWISHEXPONENT.COM

Miriam's Advice Well

MIRIAM | CAN SUKKOT BE CELEBRATED SAFELY?

A reader asks Miriam for advice on hosting guests during Sukkot, noting that it should be a good holiday for hosting because it occurs outside. Miriam points out that the safest thing to do during the pandemic would be to not host at all. Yet for those who do want to host, she offers some suggestions, including not having food. For further details, read Miriam's Advice Well online. From dating to parenting, Miriam welcomes all questions. Email yours to news@jewishexponent.com and put "Advice Well Question" in the subject line. jewishexponent.com/2020/10/05/dear-miriam-can-sukkot-be-celebrated-safely



Philacatessen

BAKED EGG CUSTARD

Food columnist Keri White had some surplus eggs in her refrigerator that she needed to use, so she came up with a simple recipe for baked egg custard that involves throwing the ingredients into a blender, then dumping the mixture onto a pie plate. The recipe is a bit eggy for a dessert, but works well as a sweet brunch dish. Read Philacatessen, her online blog, for the recipe. And check Philacatessen regularly for content not normally found in the printed edition, including other recipes, gift ideas, restaurant reviews and food news from around the Delaware Valley. jewishexponent.com/2020/10/05/baked-egg-custard

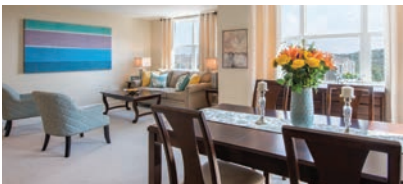
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2100 Arch Street, 4th. Floor,
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MAIN PHONE NUMBER:
215-832-0700

JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

David Adelman and Gaily Norry, Co-Chairs
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JEWISH PUBLISHING GROUP

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Dayna Finkelstein, Nancy Astor Fox, Joan Gubernick, Shawn Neuman,
Hershel Richman, Rachael Rothbard Heller, Lee Rosenfield, Brett Studner

SALES & MARKETING

DISPLAY
sales@jewishexponent.com

Sharon Schmuckler
Director of Sales
215-832-0753
sschmuckler@jewishexponent.com

Susan Baron
215-832-0757
sbaron@jewishexponent.com

Taylor Orlin
215-832-0732
torlin@jewishexponent.com

Shari Seitz
215-832-0702
sseitz@jewishexponent.com

CLASSIFIED/ DEATH NOTICES
classified@jewishexponent.com

Nicole McNally, 215-832-0749

Kimberly Schmidt, 215-832-0750

BUSINESS

Laura Frank
Publisher's Representative
215-832-0512
lfrank@jewishphilly.org

Eileen Pursley
General Manager
215-832-0741
epursley@jewishexponent.com

Mike Costello
Finance Director
215-832-0757
mcostello@jewishexponent.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS
subscriptions@jewishexponent.com
215-832-0710

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
215-832-0797

News & Tips
news@jewishexponent.com

Letters
letters@jewishexponent.com

Calendar Events
listings@jewishexponent.com

Liz Spikol, Editor-in-Chief
215-832-0747
lspikol@jewishexponent.com

Andy Gotlieb, Managing Editor
215-832-0797
agotlieb@jewishexponent.com

Jesse Bernstein, Staff Writer/Books Editor
215-832-0740
jbernstein@jewishexponent.com

Sophie Panzer, Staff Writer
215-832-0729
spanzer@jewishexponent.com

PRODUCTION
production@jewishexponent.com

Jennifer Perkins-Frantz, Director

Steve Burke, Art Director

Justin Tice, Graphic Designer

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Wanamaker to Boost 'Israel 30'

By SHEILA JACOBSON
Special to the JEWISH EXPONENT

Under the banner of "Israel 30," John Wanamaker will mark the 30th anniversary of the State of Israel with the largest Israel promotion ever conducted by a United States department store.

Timed for May 8 to 20, to coincide with the official anniversary celebration, the Wanamaker stores will showcase more than \$1.5 million of Israel-made goods, downtown and in five suburban locations, Northeast, Moorestown, Wynnewood, Jenkintown and Springfield.

A SENIOR STORE OFFICIAL told the JEWISH EXPONENT that the Israel-made merchandise will cover virtually

successful retail events like these that do the most to promote continuing export of Israel's varied range of consumer goods, an important component of the state's overall economic output. Support of the Israel event by the Jewish community in Philadelphia will play a major role in success of the promotion, according to Israel Trade Commission sources here.

TO SPARK INTEREST IN "Israel 30" throughout Philadelphia community, a series of events, exhibits, personal appearances has been arranged. Present plans for Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, a strong promoter of Israel's economic growth, to attend opening ceremonies at Wanamaker's.

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Election 2020: A Guide to Voting in Pennsylvania

LOCAL

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

ELECTION DAY is less than a month away, and voting is going to look a little different this year.

No matter who you're voting for, it's important to make a plan to ensure that your voice is heard.

To learn more about how to vote safely and securely in Pennsylvania, two Jewish members of Committee of Seventy, a nonpartisan organization that advocates for better government in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania, explained the various options.

"What we try to do at the Committee of Seventy is to provide simple basic information through our website, seventy.org, where we have a voter guide," board member Adam Laver said. The site features a build-your-own-ballot tool where users can review candidates and ballot questions. Other resources are outlined below.

Register to Vote

Visit votespa.com to register to vote online or download the Pennsylvania Voter Registration

Application to register by mail. You can also register in-person at your county voter registration office.

If you are unsure whether you have already registered to vote, check your registration and polling place at pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/voterregistrationstatus.aspx. You can also contact your County Board of Elections or call 1-877-VOTESPA.

Know Your Options

The pandemic has made congregating in large groups risky, but in-person voting is still an option. Be prepared to wear a mask and maintain at least 6 feet of distance from others when possible. Seventy board member Howard Davis said most people will return to their pre-pandemic polling places, but advises people to double check in case a location has changed.

You may request a mail-in ballot online, by mail or in person at your county election office. You can request an absentee ballot if you will be outside the municipality where you live when it is time to vote. If you live in Philadelphia and are worried that your ballot will not arrive in time through the mail,

you can fill it out completely and deposit it in one of the city's ballot drop boxes. If you live in Pennsylvania, you can deliver it to your county election office by 8 p.m. on Nov. 3.

Laver said that if you receive your mail-in ballot but decide you would prefer to vote in person, you can bring your ballot with you to your polling place and forfeit it in order to cast your vote there. It is important to bring all parts of the ballot, including the two envelopes.

If your mail-in ballot doesn't arrive, you can go to your polling place and request a provisional ballot.

If you are already registered to vote, you can vote early by going to your county election office in person and submitting a mail-in or absentee ballot application. The county will process your application while you wait. If the office determines you are eligible, it will give you your ballot, which you can then mark and return there.

As of press time, the Philadelphia City Commissioners have opened seven satellite election offices in the city where you can vote early by either dropping off your mail-in ballot or applying for one and filling it



▲ A sign near City Hall encourages civic participation. Photo by Sophie Panzer

out when you visit. More locations are expected to be announced as Election Day gets closer. To find the satellite election office closest to you, visit philadelphiamvotes.com or call 215-686-3469.

Follow Instructions

While each of the options listed above is a safe and secure way to cast your ballot, Laver and Davis emphasized that it's important to follow instructions carefully. Some mistakes can result in your ballot being rejected.

First, pay attention to registration and voting deadlines: The following is not a comprehensive list.

The last day to register to vote in the 2020 General Election is Oct. 19.

Applications for mail-in or absentee ballots must be received by your county election office by 5 p.m. on Oct. 27 (Seventy recommends sending them as soon as possible.)

Mail-in ballots must be postmarked by Nov. 3 and received by the county election office by 5 p.m. Nov. 6.

If you are voting by mail-in ballot, including early voting, beware the naked ballot. Pennsylvania ballots come with two envelopes, a larger mailing envelope and a smaller secrecy envelope. Ballots must be sealed in the secrecy envelope before they are sealed in the larger mailing envelope, or they will not be counted. You must also sign and date the voter declaration on the mailing envelope.

Election Results

Seventy board member Howard Davis said it is important for voters to be aware that the increased amount of mail-in ballots may result in a longer counting process.

"We are really stressing at the Committee of Seventy that this is Election Week. It's not Election Day the way you normally think of it," he said.

That doesn't mean you can cast a ballot after Election Day, but it does mean patience is key.

"It's quite possible, depending upon how close it is, that it will take a while for us to have the result. That doesn't mean that there's fraud. It means that it is taking a while to count the ballots that are valid ballots according to Pennsylvania law," he explained.

He added that it is important to have faith in the election system and not to fear for the validity of the process if it takes longer than usual to get results.

For More Information

If you have more questions about how to vote this year, visit votespa.com, an official Pennsylvania government website.

You can also call your local county election office or 1-877-VOTESPA. If you live in Philadelphia, call the voter hotline at 267-405-3401. •

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HEADLINES

NEWSBRIEFS

Gal Gadot Is Third Highest-Paid Actress in 2020

ISRAELI ACTRESS Gal Gadot, who is best known for her role as the title character in “Wonder Woman,” is 2020’s third-highest paid actress, according to Forbes, JTA reported.

She will earn \$31.5 million in 2020, including \$20 million for “Red Notice,” which also stars Ryan Reynolds and Dwayne Johnson. The biggest feature film ever made by Netflix is set to be released next year.

Gadot also stars in the sequel “Wonder Woman 1984,” whose release date has been pushed back four times because of the pandemic. It is now set for a Dec. 25 release.

Sofia Vergara of “Modern Family” placed first with \$43 million, and Angelina Jolie was second with \$35 million.

Gadot first appeared on the Forbes highest-paid actresses list in 2018, when she was 10th with \$10 million in earnings.

Jewish actress Scarlett Johansson ranked first on the 2019 list with \$56 million in earnings.

NYC to Shut Down 9 Neighborhoods Due to COVID-19 Spike

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio announced Oct. 4 that the city will reimpose a COVID-19 lockdown in several neighborhoods with large Orthodox Jewish populations, JTA reported.

The lockdown will last two to four weeks in parts of Far Rockaway, Queens and Kew Gardens in Queens; and parts of Borough Park, Midwood, Gravesend, Bensonhurst and Sheepshead Bay in Brooklyn, The New York Times reported. At least 3% of those tested there have tested positive for COVID-19 in recent days.

The lockdown will include the closing of schools and nonessential businesses; the city had just reopened all public schools the previous week.

Anti-Semitic Chants Added to Dutch Soccer Match

Anti-Semitic chants were added to the soundtrack of a live Dutch soccer game that aired Oct. 4 on Fox Sports Netherlands, JTA reported.

In a match between the Amsterdam team Ajax and a rival from the city of Groningen, the network added a recording from a past game that featured the chant “Whoever doesn’t jump is a Jew.” Because of the pandemic prompting games to be played in empty stadiums, many TV stations are adding audience sounds to broadcasts.

Supporters of rival teams sing the chant to taunt the players on Ajax, which many Dutchmen associated with Jews because of Amsterdam’s rich Jewish history.

“Due to human error during the match, during the first halftime a certain chant was heard that should not have been played. The fragment was removed,” FOX News Netherlands wrote on Twitter.

Jewish Researcher Shares Nobel Prize in Medicine

The Nobel Prize in medicine was awarded on Oct. 5 to three scientists who identified the hepatitis C virus, including Harvey Alter of the National Institute of Health, who is Jewish, JTA reported.

Alter, 85, was born in New York and attended medical school at the University of Rochester. He worked previously with Nobel Prize-winning scientist Baruch Blumberg, who identified the hepatitis B virus.

Alter shared the award with Michael Houghton of the University of Alberta and Charles Rice of Rockefeller University. •

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Teen Groups Work to Bridge Pandemic Gap

LOCAL

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

THE LIBERTY REGION of BBYO made an exciting change on Oct. 5: After a few months of outdoor events limited to 10 or fewer masked participants going off without a hitch, it expanded that number all the way to ... 18.

It's been that kind of year.

For Jewish teen groups with both international footprints and a local presence like BBYO, United Synagogue Youth and NFTY: The Reform Jewish Youth Movement, 2020 has been a wrench in best-laid plans. Conventions and conferences were canceled at every level, long-awaited trips were postponed, local events were moved to Zoom and the in-person relationships that

the groups foster have been tested by distance.

But professional staff and students leaders from each group say that with a few months of experience under their belts, they're prepared to make the most of the fall. And better yet, they said what they've learned during this time could lead to reinvigorated versions of their organizations when life resembles normalcy again.

Jami Fogel, a senior at Radnor High School, is the regional "s'ganit" with the Liberty Region of BBYO, a title that covers her duties as vice president and head of programming for an area that covers the eastern half of Pennsylvania, parts of Delaware and southern New York, excluding New York City. She has found it to be fertile ground for people looking to

make new friends outside of their schools. The past few months, she said, threatened to make that ground grow arid.

"It's hard to make friends when you're not actually creating a human connection with them, as much as you are over the internet," she said. "Obviously, social media is a great help with that, because you can connect with people through text or through Snapchat or through Instagram. But it's definitely not the same."

Fogel has worked closely with Liberty Region Senior Regional Director Jared Rosenbloom to bridge the gaps. The relatively recent addition of outdoor events for small groups has been part of a nationwide effort to connect BBYO participants who may have otherwise met at regional and national conferences.

Rosenbloom helped connect Fogel with BBYO leaders in Wilkes-Barre, Rochester, New York and Harrisburg, and now, Fogel said, she's spoken with many more BBYO participants during this period than she otherwise would have. Locally, Rosenbloom and BBYO participants are planning an Olympics-style event for the coming weeks to bring people together.

"We try to be really innovative, we try to listen, to do our best to listen to our teens and meet them where they're at," he said.

A similar dynamic is at play with NFTY. East Area Manager Emily Messinger said the sacred cows of the organization are to develop programming with Reform values and teen leadership, with adult support. Even through the pandemic, that has remained the case.

Because NFTY is supported by the Union for Reform Judaism, its financial status is tied to the health of the latter; after URJ summer camps became pandemic victims, the reverberations of the lost revenue bounced throughout



▲ Teens at the West Chester BBYO Kickoff. Their region of BBYO, which includes the eastern half of Pennsylvania, recently expanded its cap on in-person participants from 10 to 18.

Photo by Janine Ure

the movement. Staff members from NFTY were laid off, and Messinger finds herself advising many more teen leaders than she had in the past.

Not that she's complaining.

"I always tell the presidents this, and I don't know if they believe me or not, but the highlight of my week is when I have my weekly presidents' meeting," Messinger said. "It's so fun seeing the culture of all the different regions come together, and see them learn from each other."

Anna Schwartz, president of the Pennsylvania Area Region of NFTY and a senior at Mt. Lebanon High School in Pittsburgh, expected the new arrangement to be bumpy.

"But Emily's been amazing, and it's proved to be a successful system," she said. The NFTYx online platform, which allows for seamless planning and interaction between NFTY networks, has become an invaluable resource to her and other NFTY leaders.

"We spent a lot of time in June and July, organizationally, thinking about what needed to still be the same, despite all of

the changes that are happening around us," Messinger said. As a result, she believes, teens are growing into their positions of leadership.

Corey Bass, the branch director for the Mizrach and Seaboard regions of USY, based in Elkins Park, said that one of most positive lasting changes for the teen leaders he oversees is that it's forced them to think more creatively about the time between conventions. Rather than function as a "convention factory," as Bass put it, teen leaders have been a part of arranging online events such as esports, pen pal programs, racial justice speakers, SAT prep courses and even a Disney singalong event. And that's just the start.

"This was the first time that we were literally forced to do everything to meet them where they are, and not just run those conventions," Bass said. "And it's created more space and more time to have that more niche programming, because we're not so focused on the other pieces." •

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Shai Cherry, Ph.D. is rabbi of Congregation Adath Jeshurun in Elkins Park, PA. Formerly on the faculties of Vanderbilt University and the University of San Diego, he is 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*. His forthcoming book, *Coherent Judaism*, will be available this November.

HEADLINES

ISRAEL BRIEFS

Israel, Lebanon to Negotiate Maritime Border Dispute

LEBANON AGREED Oct. 1 to negotiate with Israel regarding a disputed maritime border, JTA reported.

The United States will mediate the negotiations, which will be held under United Nations auspices.

The dispute enters around more than 330 square miles of the Mediterranean. Israel has extracted large quantities of natural gas in its maritime territory in recent years, and other deposits may lie within Lebanon's economic zone; the lack of a clearly demarcated internationally agreed upon border is complicating exploration efforts.

The New York Times reported that talks will be limited to the maritime border demarcation and don't extend to normalization of relations between the countries.

Lebanon does not recognize Israel as a legitimate partner for civilian matters negotiations. That policy dates to 1983, when its government canceled a peace accord signed with Israel a few months before.

Israel Delivers Missile Defense System to US

Israel has delivered the first of two Iron Dome missile defense system batteries to the U.S. Army, JTA reported.

The nations signed an agreement to buy two batteries from its developer, the Haifa-based firm Rafael Advanced Defense Systems Ltd.

The U.S. will use the batteries to defend its troops against ballistic and aerial threats, Israel's Defense Ministry said.

Congress gave more than \$1.5 billion to produce Iron Dome batteries. In 2014, a co-production agreement was signed that allowed parts of the Iron Dome system to be produced in the U.S.

Since being deployed in 2011, Iron Dome has intercepted more than 2,400 rockets fired at Israel from Gaza.

Public Protests Limited in Israel During Lockdown

The Knesset passed legislation on Sept. 30 limiting public protests in Israel during the coronavirus lockdown, JTA reported.

Protesters will be prohibited from traveling more than 0.6 miles to participate in a demonstration. Outdoor gatherings will remain limited to 20 people.

Protests of up to 20,000 people have occurred outside Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's residence for several months, as various groups have protested his remaining in office while on trial for corruption, his handling of the economy and his failure to stop COVID-19's spread.

The legislation caps protests at 2,000 individuals protesting in 100 capsules of 20 people, depending upon the size of the area designated for protest outside Netanyahu's residence, The Times of Israel reported.

Hours after the legislation passed, a watchdog group filed a challenge in the Supreme Court. The challenge argues that the measure violates the democratic right to protest.

Price of Medical Cannabis Cut in Half Through End of Year

A pilot program was announced Oct. 4 by Israeli Health Minister Yuli Edelstein and Deputy Health Minister Yoav Kish that will subsidize medical cannabis products to about half the current prices through the end of 2020, The Jerusalem Post reported.

The program is designed to ease the financial burden on patients while working to ensure a steadier supply of medical cannabis is grown in Israel. •

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

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Sue Hirsch

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- Why leave the financial burden to the next generation?
- Why not encourage the next generation to stay together?
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LEAH FELDMAN
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High School Senior Wins Congressional Award Gold Medal for Public Service

LOCAL

ANDY GOTLIEB | JE MANAGING EDITOR

OLIVER OTTO LEARNED firsthand the power that a mentor can have while tutoring a disadvantaged fourth grader from a nearby charter school in math.

"I was able to turn this kid from not wanting to go to school ... to him becoming on one of the better math students in his grade," Otto said.

A senior at Germantown Friends School, Otto recently received a Congressional Award Gold Medal for performing more than 800 hours of voluntary public service — many hours of tutoring — personal development and physical fitness, as well as planning and going on an in-depth "exploration/expedition."

Germantown Friends math teacher David Mraz said the honor was well-deserved.

"The personal connection is at the heart of what he does," Mraz said. "I'm not surprised he would win an award."

Otto, 17, of Abington was one of 478 youths nationwide honored on Sept. 26 by Congress in a virtual ceremony that included video messages from Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, as well as interviews with former Exponent journalist Wolf Blitzer, U.S. Sen. Mike Enzi (R-WY) and former football star Emmitt Smith.

Otto said the couple hours of tutoring each week at Mastery Charter School has helped him understand how he can be a positive catalyst in someone's life.

"It wasn't so much about developing myself as it was about making a change in the community," he said.

Mraz said Otto is effective because he's easygoing, sees what his pupils need, develops



Oliver Otto displays his Congressional Award Gold Medal.

Courtesy of Oliver Otto

quiet, he shows his intensity on the basketball court, Mraz said. Even when a broken wrist kept him from playing last year, Otto stayed connected to the team by keeping statistics during practice, helping the coach to build game plans.

While Mraz said Otto could be a gifted teacher, Otto, who hopes to attend the University of Pennsylvania next fall, said he plans to major in American history and eventually pursue a career in some sort of contractual law.

"He is thoughtful, polite, considerate — everything you'd want your child to be," Mraz said. •

agotlieb@jewishexponent.com;
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a plan he can implement and then explains math concepts at a level they'll understand.

"He has such a way with the kids there," he said. "He's kind of a mentor as well as a tutor."

Aside from the tutoring, Otto's a member of the school's basketball team, does graphics art design and layout for the school newspaper and yearbook and works with his younger sister Amelia on a club called Big Sibbs that tutors within Germantown Friends.

Outside of school, he works with the Pennsylvania Shade Tree Commission planting trees in parks around Abington. He estimated that he's planted 30 trees on his own and more than 200 in the last four years as part of a group.

Through his family, Otto, who is a member of Beth Sholom Congregation, has learned art appreciation and is a fan of Dutch abstract artist Piet Mondrian. That was nurtured by a trip a couple years back to London and Paris to visit the multiple famed museums there.

Although Otto's generally

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Locals Team Up to Make Mask-Wearing Smell Better

LOCAL

ANDY GOTLIEB | JE MANAGING EDITOR

AFTER MORE THAN a half-century of business experience, Norman Feinstein has an eye for a promising business idea.

Or, more accurately, a nose for one.

An insurance broker by trade, the 86-year-old is teaming with his former neighbors on a product made more timely by the pandemic — the ScentClip, a tiny clip-on essential-oil reservoir that attaches to the outside or inside of a mask, making the mask-wearing experience more pleasant.

So, how did this partnership come about?

The story goes back about 20 years, Feinstein said, when his late wife Harriet, who was a builder, constructed a home on a neighboring lot in Wynnewood. Young medical professionals Mark and Deb Pizzini bought the house. The Feinsteins and Pizzinis became friends.

A few years back, Mark Pizzini, who is an anesthesiologist, was tinkering with scent products. Harriet Feinstein, who by then was ill, liked the scents, which also made her feel better.

Mark Pizzini also noticed members of his surgical team concealing bad smells by smearing local anesthetic mint lidocaine into their masks. The practice worked, but members couldn't feel their lips afterward.



▲ Norman Feinstein
Photo by Marlene Feinstein



▲ From left: Norman Feinstein, Deb Pizzini and Mark Pizzini
Courtesy of the Pizzini family



▲ ScentClip Photo by Andy Gottlieb

"There really was not a good solution for it," he said. "I thought there had to be something better than this."

Meantime, recovery room nurses began using essential

oils as aromatherapy to soothe nauseous and anxious patients.

Pizzini put two and two together and began developing ScentClip with the idea that operating staff could cover up bad smells while simultaneously benefiting from aromatherapy. It took five years to develop the product. The scent in each clip is designed to last for days to weeks.

About a year ago, Feinstein became more involved, becoming an investor and partner in the project, not to mention its primary manager. Given that his daughter was handling the lion's share of his brokerage firm Corporate Consultants, he felt he had time to spare to run the parent company, which is called Aroxel.

"I said, 'I'm looking for something to do,'" he said, adding that he also is director of internet security company Cymatic. "I'll run this."

The project has proven challenging for Feinstein, especially the manufacturing part.

"Just to get it produced was and still is difficult," he said. "It was totally frustrating not to get our manufacturing done sooner."

But things now seem to be falling into place, with full-fledged production slated in

the next week — and seemingly no competitors.

"We have a blue ocean out there," Mark Pizzini said.

ScentClip launched on Kickstarter on Sept. 30, seeking \$2,500. As of Oct. 5, \$3,526 was pledged. The goal is to have ScentClips available on Amazon later in the fall. For now, the two scents available are periwinkle lavender and apple orchard, although up to a dozen are planned.

The goal now is marketing, which is definitely a family affair for both the Feinsteins (a cousin is assisting) and the Pizzinis, whose 20-something daughters Maria and Anne (as well as a cousin) are handling social media.

"We have a wonderful team with three generations," said Feinstein, who has since remarried, had a joint second bar-bat mitzvah with wife Marlene at Temple Shalom in Broomall and now splits his time between Newtown Square and Florida. "We all get along really well."

Deb Pizzini said Feinstein is the key to it all.

"Norman is keeping this project moving along," she said. "Norman is the driver on the team." •

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8 Months Into Pandemic, Israel Readies Refrigerated Morgues. How Did It Get Here?

ISRAEL

BY MARCY OSTER AND
GABE FRIEDMAN | JTA.ORG

ISRAEL HAS BEEN known as a country that can rise to face a crisis — usually of the military kind — quickly and efficiently.

The country's response to the coronavirus pandemic in its early months garnered international praise, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at one point boasted that "the world is learning from us."

But now Israel has become the world's foremost cautionary tale, stuck in one of the worst second waves of cases on the planet, one that is showing no evidence of slowing down.

On Oct. 1, the country's health ministry reported a record high of nearly 9,000 COVID-19 cases in the previous 24 hours — the equivalent of well over 300,000 in the United States. Hospitals are filled to capacity and threatening to close, and the government has significantly tightened a second lockdown that began on the Rosh Hashanah holiday.

Israelis are now limited to traveling just over a half mile from their homes.

It gets more gruesome: Last week, Israeli media reported that Haifa's chevra kadisha, or ritual burial society, was preparing refrigerated shipping containers in which to store the bodies of the dead, until they could be buried, and that other cities were preparing to do the same.

How did Israel get here? There are many factors.

Government disarray

In March, Benny Gantz, the man who came close to unseating Netanyahu in three consecutive elections in less than a year, laid down his proverbial arms and struck a deal with Netanyahu to finally form a government coalition. Gantz, who some called patriotic and others called politically naive, deemed it an "emergency" unity government and said it would "fight the coronavirus and look out for all Israeli citizens."

In the end, it has done neither effectively.

The two main sides of the government — Netanyahu's



▲ Health care workers take test samples of Israelis in a drive-through complex in Lod on Oct. 2.

Yossi Aloni/Flash90, via JTA.org

Likud Party and Gantz's Blue and White coalition, which has splintered and shrunk after his deal with Netanyahu — have worked at cross-purposes from the start. They have argued over almost every aspect of government and haven't been able to pass a national budget for 2020 — which is, of course, three-quarters over.

If a budget isn't approved

by Dec. 23, another round of elections will be triggered. And Netanyahu isn't exactly against this, for a couple of reasons. In the deal that he signed with Gantz, he agreed to step down to allow Gantz to become prime minister after 18 months. Netanyahu would love for the deal to not last that long, and to keep his grip on the role.

Gantz's coalition, as mentioned, is also in pieces, leaving less in Netanyahu's way when it comes to significantly consolidating his power in the next election.

Meanwhile, the ineffective government has not filled several top civil servant positions, including the state

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Israel

Continued from Page 11

prosecutor and the chief of police. Coronavirus czar Ronni Gamzu was appointed without the basic authority that he needs to implement his programs, and his plans have been weakened by the government's constant bending to pressure from different sectors of the public.

"The same government that appointed [Gamzu] has no problem with subverting or eroding some of his main recommendations and to water them down," said Yohanan Plesner, president of the Israel Democracy Institute.

Rather than operating as it should, the coalition is in many ways acting like an interim

government and is operating as if it is "sliding toward an election campaign," Plesner added.

Netanyahu's distractions

Israel began coming out of its first lockdown in early May, opening businesses, restaurants and schools. It had four months to prepare for the challenges of any second wave.

But besides the domestic politicking, Netanyahu was also preoccupied with bigger moves that he knew would add to his diplomatic legacy. He flirted with the idea of annexing parts of the West Bank, an idea that drew criticism from an unusually wide range of stakeholders — including the Trump administration and even some settlers, whom Netanyahu has successfully courted for years.

Then in the fall, with the help of the Trump team, Israel signed normalization deals with the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, two of Israel's Arab neighbors. Netanyahu attended a signing ceremony for the so-called Abraham Accords in Washington, D.C., just days before the beginning of Israel's second lockdown went into effect, giving him just the right visuals to mount a new election campaign, whenever relevant.

There would, of course, be competing visuals from the anti-Netanyahu protests that grew over the course of the summer and fall. Critics of the prime minister gathered outside his Jerusalem home weekly to call attention to his poor handling of

the coronavirus crisis and his governing while under indictment for corruption. The protests grew to include disparate segments of Israeli society and at times resulted in violent clashes between police and protesters. This week, the government enacted steep restrictions on protests as part of its pandemic response, effectively ending the weekly public display of resistance.

Reopening timing

The seemingly successful quick reopening of Israel's economy that drew so much praise proved to be dangerous, and all sides of the government have admitted it.

Israel began coming out of its first lockdown in late April. Some retail outlets were allowed

to open, with a limited number of customers at a time. Schools then reopened, followed by hotels, malls and gyms, then restaurants, cultural venues and event halls, all operating at less than full capacity.

But by July, some restrictions — including on gyms, public pools, event halls, bars, clubs and cultural shows — were reimposed as coronavirus cases began rising again. Israelis had headed to beaches and restaurants, unmasked, too early, encouraged by a government that figured it had conquered the virus.

In the hours before the start of Yom Kippur, Netanyahu acknowledged that the country opened too fast after the first lockdown. "Did we make mistakes in the past? Of course," Netanyahu said in a Hebrew video posted on social media. "Our decision to open event halls was too fast. Perhaps also the decision to reopen all schools."

Gantz agreed, saying that the country was also too slow to implement widespread contact tracing. On Oct. 3 in an interview on Channel 12's "Meet the Press" show, Gantz apologized, saying the government had been too involved in political squabbles to get their jobs done.

Despite the now out-of-control COVID caseload, there is still opposition to the second strict lockdown — from Gamzu, the coronavirus czar himself.

Gamzu said last week that he preferred the idea of "a slight tightening of the lockdown, to prevent serious damage to the economy." By that night, he called the government's decision to implement a total lockdown "disgusting," added that he would have to take an "anti-nausea pill."

Schools in session

When Israeli schools reopened for the first time in May, things did not go very well.

The announcement that schools were opened came out days before the planned

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HEADLINES

reopening date. A patchwork of policies and guidelines left administrators scrambling. Hundreds of teachers, students and their relatives contracted the virus quickly. In less than two weeks, dozens of cities shut down their school systems.

Still, with many Israeli parents sick of home schooling and supervising, clamoring to send their children back to school, Education Minister Yoav Gallant insisted in July that the next school year should start on time on Sept. 1 — and it did, despite widespread objections from teachers.

That didn't last long either. Almost immediately, outbreaks were associated with schools, and classes, grades and even entire schools were sent into quarantine. Even as students were lumped into "capsules" to limit exposure to each other, teachers moved between capsules, potentially spreading disease between them. (The country had too few teachers to reduce class sizes and had tried to mount a rapid hiring effort.) The situation became so acute that schools ended up closing before the general lockdown on Rosh Hashanah.

The emphasis on getting students back to school meant that little attention had been given to what would happen if they needed to learn from home again.

"I believe that we made a mistake and missed an opportunity to develop the distance learning components," said Zimra Vigoda, a parent whose daughter's school switched to virtual learning earlier in September when there were too few unexposed teachers to operate in person.

"The administration and teachers worked hard to develop the pod-based learning and added a multitude of interesting courses but, here in Israel, the land of apparent perpetual optimism, nobody, including myself, really wanted to believe that in-person learning would not be possible this year," Vigoda said.

A particular response

Last month, the government flagged some 40 cities and towns, most of them haredi Orthodox and Arab, as "red light" communities — or areas with higher infection rates that would be hit with individualized and stricter restrictions than the rest of the country. This "traffic light" system of categorization has been used successfully in other countries, and Gamzu is a proponent of it.

But after Orthodox religious politicians threatened to abandon Netanyahu and his government coalition over the red light rules, which would have included a strict lockdown, the communities instead only received night time curfews.

The incident highlighted how important the haredi Orthodox have become to Netanyahu politically and how he is willing to bend the rules for them. It also displayed how COVID-19 has spread further in some Orthodox communities, where continuing to gather in large groups to pray and celebrate has trumped precaution. It's a trend in Orthodox communities around the world, including Brooklyn, where local authorities have threatened to crack down in heavily Orthodox neighborhoods where infection rates are high.

A symbol of this tension has been Yaakov Litzman, the haredi former health minister. He resigned that position in April, after reports claimed he contracted the virus from attending a prayer group that his ministry had banned. Litzman became housing minister, but he resigned that post as well in protest over the new lockdown restrictions imposed on Rosh Hashanah in time for High Holiday prayer services.

Not all haredi Orthodox have been anti-social distancing, however — for example, Aryeh Deri, Israel's interior minister who also heads the Sephardic Orthodox Shas Party, compared ignoring the lockdown rules

See Israel, Page 28

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Holocaust

Continued from Page 1

well, there were still large percentages of respondents who did not meet the criteria.

The organization reported that 63% of all national survey respondents did not know that 6 million Jews were murdered, 36% thought that “2 million or fewer Jews” were killed during the Holocaust and 48% of national respondents could not name one of 40,000 concentration camps and ghettos.

Along with Pennsylvania, the states with the highest scores were Wisconsin, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Maine, Kansas, Nebraska, Idaho, Iowa and Montana.

The states with the lowest scores were Alaska, Delaware, Maryland, New York, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Florida, Mississippi, and Arkansas.

The survey has garnered mixed reactions among educators. Some think the data reflects real problems with Holocaust awareness among youth, while others find the methodology limited and alarmist.

Gretchen Skidmore, director of education initiatives at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, said the study’s exposure of overall

nationwide gaps in Holocaust knowledge, as well as the amount of disinformation young adults are exposed to on social media, is cause for concern.

“Also alarming is the high percentage of respondents saying they believe Jews were responsible for the Holocaust, or that the Holocaust is a myth or exaggerated. And Holocaust denial is a form of anti-Semitism, which is on the rise and dangerous,” she said. “As an institution that works with educators in all 50 states, it is from our experience very clear that for Holocaust education to be successful, there are certain conditions that are really important, like ongoing commitment from leaders, local school districts and the local community.”

Randi Boyette, senior associate regional director of education at Anti-Defamation League Philadelphia, said she was excited by the results of the survey in Pennsylvania.

“When I look at this, when I see that 80% of respondents have definitely heard about the Holocaust, that 89% see that the Jewish people were victims, but there’s so many others who were able to name other victim groups, that they had a lot of core basic knowledge about the

Holocaust, when so many other states — even states that are mandated like Delaware, New York and Florida — are among the lowest, it actually made me feel very good,” she said.

Boyette worked on the advisory committee for Act 70, a bipartisan piece of legislation passed in 2014 that strongly recommended the teaching of Holocaust education in Pennsylvania schools and provided resources for teachers. She said Holocaust educators were asked to weigh in when the legislation was being crafted, which played a big role in strengthening Pennsylvania students’ Holocaust knowledge.

“I do want to give a particular shout out to Sally Flaherty, who worked for the Department of Education at the time,” Boyette said. “She ran the Act 70 Advisory Committee, and she was deeply committed to Holocaust education, and Holocaust, genocide, human rights violation, education in Pennsylvania, and very purposeful in working with the committee. The infrastructure provided by the Department of Education made a huge difference.”

That infrastructure included statewide teacher trainings on presenting content in age-appropriate ways and connecting the events of the Holocaust to other civil rights topics.

Josey Fisher, director of the Holocaust Oral History Archive and instructor in Holocaust and genocide studies at Gratz College, was also on the advisory committee for Act 70. She said the legislation focused on teacher preparedness and support.

“You can have a state that mandates Holocaust education but does not offer preparation or resources for teachers to study and to explore and to give them support so that when they go into the classroom they present the subject in the most appropriate way,” Fisher said. “Just because something’s being mandated doesn’t mean



▲ ‘The Monument to Six Million Jewish Martyrs’ at the Horwitz-Wasserman Holocaust Memorial Plaza
Photo by Sophie Panzer

it’s done well.”

Boyette gave examples of Pennsylvania Holocaust education initiatives that predated Act 70, including Echoes & Reflections, an educational partnership among ADL, USC Shoah Foundation and Yad Vashem, and the ADL’s Bearing Witness Program, a Holocaust education initiative specifically geared toward Catholic schools. She also cited the Jewish Community Relations Council’s work connecting students with survivors through its annual Youth Symposium on the Holocaust programs and its Survivor Speaker Bureau.

Writing in *The Forward*, Stephen Smith, executive director chair of the USC Shoah Foundation, criticized the study for using a narrow definition of Holocaust knowledge, downplaying the efficacy of Holocaust education and inciting fear.

“The Claims Conference survey defined ‘knowledge’ of the Holocaust as follows: a person has ‘definitely heard of the Holocaust’ (78% said

they had), can name at least one concentration camp, death camp and ghetto (52% could name at least one), and knows that 6 million Jews were killed in the Holocaust (37% did),” Smith wrote. “These are not unreasonable things to expect people to know. But it’s also a high bar to clear in order to say that someone has ‘knowledge’ of the Holocaust.

“The implication of this survey is that people are somewhat anti-Semitic because they do not know facts about the Holocaust, when in fact they just may not know specific details about history.”

Fisher said this was an important point, and that statistics may not always tell the whole story.

“I am not involved in statistical results. I want to know what’s going on in the classroom,” she said. “What are students learning? What should they be learning? How can we help teachers?” •

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1918

Continued from Page 1

cemetery near Cobbs Creek in the hopes of stopping a deadly pandemic.

Rosenberg and Jacobs were part of a *shvartse khasene*, a custom created to save the Jewish people when all seemed lost. On Oct. 20, 1918, influenza was ravaging populations all over the world, and the Jewish immigrant community of Philadelphia was no exception. The ritual, known as a black wedding or plague wedding in English, was a desperate attempt to bring down God's mercy.

During a *shvartse khasene*,

have interpreted the rite as a good deed designed to end God's divine wrath. Cholera was a terrifying disease that could kill people within hours, and by fulfilling two mitzvot — helping the poor and facilitating the creation of a Jewish family — Eastern European Jewish communities may have hoped to end divine wrath.

Press samples from the time period that describe the plague weddings as raucous and joyous affairs suggest another reason for the celebration.

"It was a theory in the 19th century that you could be more susceptible to cholera if you were afraid and if you were

against the physically and mentally disabled may have meant it was considered permissible to use them as spiritual scapegoats to carry the burdens of the Jewish community as a whole. There is no evidence that the selected couples were asked for consent about participating in the ritual and, even if they did agree, they may have been pressured by a sense of obligation from having received charity.

When these Jewish immigrants arrived in the United States during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, they lived in tight-knit communities that preserved

Jews were horrified by the superstitions the ceremony was based upon. Shortly after the wedding took place, the Jewish Exponent ran an opinion piece denouncing the event.

"The wedding held in a Jewish cemetery last Sunday for the purpose of staying the ravages of the epidemic was a most deplorable exhibition of benighted superstition. We are told that the custom originated in Russia. It and the participants should have been permitted to remain there. Unfortunately the publicity given to the occurrence will convey to many people that this is a custom sanctioned and encouraged by the Jewish religion. The people who do such things do not know what Judaism means," an outraged contributor wrote.

One month later, the paper published a slightly more flattering announcement about another *shvartse khasene* that took place in New York. The ceremony was held in Mount Hebron Cemetery and joined Rose Schwartz and Abraham Lachterman in matrimony.

"The tradition on which the couple acted is one which declares that the only way to stop a plague is to hold a marriage ceremony in a cemetery. When

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Miss Schwartz and Lachterman consented to offer themselves to stop the influenza epidemic, the neighbors were so grateful that they provided food, taxicabs, a wedding gown and even the furnishings for a flat. Two thousand persons cheered the courageous pair as they started for the cemetery," the announcement read.

The influenza pandemic eventually came to an end in the spring of 1920. The couples who volunteered to be wed in Philadelphia and New York were honored for their service to their communities. •

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There was a popular understanding that you should try to ward off the fear and anxiety that came with a pandemic in various ways. And so I suggest that the cholera wedding might have been a way for ordinary Jews to try to bring some joy to a very very bleak situation, which we understand very well today from our own circumstances."

NATAN MEIR

the Jewish community collectively pays for the graveyard wedding of a poor or disabled couple who may not have the resources to get married on their own. The custom originated in Eastern Europe and gained popularity during 19th-century cholera epidemics in Russia, Poland and the Pale of Settlement. In his new book "Stepchildren of the Shtetl: The Destitute, Disabled, and Mad of Jewish Eastern Europe, 1800-1939," Natan Meir, Lorry I. Lokey Professor of Judaic Studies at Portland State University, argues that the origins of the *shvartse khasene* can be interpreted in a variety of ways.

"It's a wonderful example of a very rich religious ritual that religious studies scholars and anthropologists can look at from many different angles and keep discovering new things," he said.

Meir said some scholars

anxious," Meir said. "And therefore, there was a popular understanding that you should try to ward off the fear and anxiety that came with a pandemic in various ways. And so I suggest that the cholera wedding might have been a way for ordinary Jews to try to bring some joy to a very very bleak situation, which we understand very well today from our own circumstances."

Another more sinister possibility, Meir argued, is that the wedding served as a symbolic sacrificial ritual.

"These disabled people, these marginalized figures within Jewish society in Eastern Europe, were often perceived as half-dead," Meir said. "Of course, they're living people, but there's something about them which was perceived as very liminal, which is kind of on the border between this world and the other world."

Widespread discrimination

the old traditions. Faced with the deadly 1918 influenza pandemic, which killed 12,000 Philadelphians in four weeks and almost 700,000 Americans in two years, they turned to these customs for guidance.

"At the time of Harry and Fanny's wedding in the fall of 1918, the Spanish flu epidemic was at its peak," wrote Charlie Hersh, administrative assistant at Jewish Learning Venture and a former education specialist at the National Museum of American Jewish History, in an article for My Jewish Learning. "Public gatherings were banned while social groups, including synagogue congregations, donated time and supplies. In an atmosphere of desperation, a handful of Jewish couples hoped this tradition from the 'old country' might make a difference."

While the Cobbs Creek plague wedding attracted huge crowds, many American-born

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When It Comes to Denouncing White Supremacists, Words Matter



BY SHIRA GOODMAN

WORDS MATTER. This is a lesson we teach our kids, but adults must heed this as well. And often, the intent behind the words becomes less important than the meaning imbued in those words by the audience. Our country is again realizing this as we deal with what President Donald Trump did and did not say during last week's debate.

Trump was asked by moderator Chris Wallace, "Are you willing, tonight, to condemn white supremacists and militia groups and to say that they need

to stand down ...?" Rather than condemn white supremacists, Trump repeatedly dodged the question, and then responded, "Proud Boys should stand back and stand by. But I'll tell you what, somebody's got to do something about antifa and the left."

Immediately following the debate exchange, ADL CEO Jonathan Greenblatt tweeted that he was "trying to determine if this was an answer or an admission. @POTUS owes America an apology or an explanation. Now." Forty-eight hours later in an interview on Fox News, the president finally said, "I condemn all white supremacists." This delayed response, however, could not undo the messages sent and heard Tuesday night.

Here are the facts. Domestic extremism is a growing and increasingly deadly problem. In 2019, domestic extremists killed at least 42 people in the United States in 17 separate incidents. Although there are

extremists on the left and the right who have engaged in violence, over the last decade, right-wing extremists have been responsible for 76% of all domestic extremist-related murders. Trump's own FBI director recently testified that "the most lethal of all domestic extremists since 2001" have been those who are racially and ethnically motivated, with white supremacists encompassing the largest share of such extremists. And a September 2020 draft report from the Department of Homeland Security identifies white supremacists as the greatest domestic terror threat to the United States.

We cannot defeat this deadly form of hatred if we fail to recognize it and if our leaders fail to condemn it unequivocally, every time. Tuesday night, those who fight hatred, bigotry, anti-Semitism and racism heard silence where there should have been a simple, strong statement.

Worse, those motivated

by hatred and bigotry heard a call to action. They were emboldened and empowered; one Proud Boys chapter used the phrase "Stand Back, Stand By" in a new logo. The Philadelphia Chapter posted a doctored image of the president wearing one of the Proud Boys' standard polo shirts. Others tweeted, "Standing by."

Words matter. In the pyramid of hate that ADL uses to demonstrate how hate unchecked can escalate from biased attitudes to violence, we emphasize how important it is to interrupt hate at every level. That includes calling out friends and family for telling offensive jokes and posting racially biased memes, criticizing and correcting those who misgender trans people, and condemning community leaders for racism, anti-Semitism or any other hateful speech.

When we fail to do so, a cycle of escalation begins that is harder to interrupt. This is because once we tolerate the

jokes and posts, those speakers are emboldened. It is not a tough leap from words to action, and as we normalize that kind of speech, it creates an atmosphere where discrimination, hate incidents and violence can occur.

We all share the responsibility to call out hate wherever we see it, whichever side of the aisle it comes from, and whoever the speaker is — ally or opponent, friend or critic. In these highly polarized times, it is easier to call out the other side and to give more leeway to those we might agree with or support. This is a dangerous trap because those who are motivated by hate will be empowered by that polarization and any silence it creates. Words matter — what is said, what is heard, and how we respond. ●

Shira Goodman is the regional director of ADL Philadelphia, which serves eastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and Delaware.

Teaching and Understanding Culture Is Vital



BY CAROLYN LEIGH KELLERMAN

I HAVE OFTEN wondered about the meaning of "culture." As an adult, I am still learning. As an educator, I must know. It's a crucial topic to be taught today. It's as important as learning mathematics. When children grow up appreciating each other's differences, we are creating a generation of individuals who will have more

respect for each other.

I grew up in a town just 15 minutes from Cherry Hill, New Jersey. I was born and raised Jewish. I had my bat mitzvah in my adulthood. When I was younger, there were probably only two Jewish children in my grade. The town I grew up in is a beautiful town with excellent schools; however, there are few Jewish families.

I will never forget the moment in the lunchroom when I first felt excluded. I was sitting with my friends eating lunch when I felt something cold hit my skin. I looked up and didn't see anything. Then it happened again. It was a coin. I looked around and found another coin on the ground. A bunch of boys were laughing and staring at me. I immediately thought, "Why on earth is someone throwing

money at me?" It wasn't until I spoke to my parents about what happened that I realized I was being singled out. Before lunch, I'd felt included. The minute someone threw a coin at me, I felt excluded. In one second a child's well-being can change.

We need to change that as a community. We need to educate our friends, students and families so that we appreciate each other's differences.

Of course, this wasn't the only time in my life when I was treated unfairly due to being Jewish. There were many instances as I grew into my teenage years when I was criticized, laughed at, joked about and belittled for being Jewish. Someone I considered a friend even said to me, "I could never marry a Jew!" Once again, I wondered: Why do people think

this way? What makes someone have these feelings? I believe the answer is that they are not educated properly about their own traditions. It's our customs that make us all unique and special. Families need to take more time to do this.

Cleopatra had it right when she ruled Egypt as queen. Her native language was not Egyptian, but she believed a ruler should know her people's language. She studied the Egyptian language and continued to learn several more.

What happened to George Floyd has brought national attention to the importance of teaching kindness and compassion toward others. It's more important than ever to change the way we raise our children and educate our students about culture. My story is just one

of many.

My parents are educators. My dad was a principal of a middle school and my mom taught elementary education. During my graduate studies, I substituted at my father's school to earn extra money. Not always happy about waking up at 5:30 a.m. to get ready to head to Northern Burlington Middle School, I didn't realize my time there would forever change my view about education. My father ran that school in and out. Everyone loved him. The school was warm and welcoming. The cafeteria workers loved my dad. As I watched him work hard, communicate and create a warm working environment for his staff, I knew at that moment the importance of leadership.

See Kellerman, Page 20

The American Jewish Story Needs to Include More Non-Ashkenazi Jews Like Me



BY LAYLA RUDY | JTA

WHEN I WAS in first grade, during my first few weeks of yeshiva in New Jersey, my teacher asked the class what we knew about Shabbat. I kept quiet, but my classmates had plenty of answers.

“We can’t cut paper with scissors,” one said.

“I’m not allowed to use glue,” a classmate behind me pointed out.

Another student raised their hand and gleefully shouted out, “Kibbeh and lachmagine!”

Our teacher laughed and responded, “Yes, we do eat kibbeh and lachmagine on Shabbat, that’s my favorite part!”

That was the moment I realized my fellow classmates, my teachers, my community, were just like me. They ate kibbeh, lachmagine, sambusak, ka’ak and every other food I thought would be considered weird or different. It was in that moment I realized the stark difference from the stories I heard from my mother about her own upbringing.

My entire paternal family came from the Syrian city of Aleppo in the early 20th century. My maternal grandfather was born in Damascus, my grandmother in Istanbul. They married in Lebanon, had two children and escaped in 1967 when it became untenable for Jews to live there. My mother is the first in her family to be born in North America.

She was raised in Montreal and attended a Jewish school with mostly Ashkenazi children.

My mother and I were in our backyard a few weeks ago when I was imparting my thoughts on being raised in our Syrian community surrounded by people who shared our background, values and traditions. I told her about my experience in first grade and the small, stunning revelation of my community.

Sitting on lounge chairs under the sun, my mother relayed the story I’ve heard since I was a child: my great-grandmother Leila baking pita bread, then spreading labneh and mint with a drizzle of olive oil and rolling it up for my mother to eat for lunch. And my mother — nearly the same age I was when I heard “kibbeh and lachmagine” — taking the rolled-up pita out of her bag at lunchtime and attempting to eat it, only to be surrounded by questioning classmates.

“What is that?” they asked my mother.

She told them about her pita sandwich with labneh and mint, a sandwich her grandmother made for her, a sandwich my grandmother still makes for me.

“Arab! She’s an Arab!” they taunted her, faces twisted in disgust.

I have heard this story since I was young, nearly every time my mother or grandmother prepares me a pita sandwich with labneh and mint (and tomatoes and olives). But this was the first time my mother told me the actual taunts thrown her way, the manner in which they spit out the word “Arab!”

I have never met that level of blatant hostility, but now, venturing out of my community and onto a university campus in Brooklyn and now Montreal, I do encounter confusion and questioning

when I tell classmates that I’m a Syrian Jew. I’m often met with, “There are Jews in Syria?”

To which I respond, “Well, not anymore.”

As I proceed further out of my community and into the “real world,” I realize my Jewish identity is a puzzle to nearly everyone I meet. I didn’t understand it at first. How could people not know about Jews, about where we come from and our histories, how we ended up where we are today?

Learning more about my Jewish history, as well as the histories and heritages of our vast community, has made me realize that the lenses through which the world views Jewish people is very much centered on Ashkenazi Jews (and even then, people aren’t aware of nor educated fully on the multifaceted history of Ashkenazi Jews, either).

Mizrahim (Jews who were exiled to Middle Eastern countries), Sephardim (Jews who were exiled to Spain) and other subdivisions within our larger Jewish community are too often ignored by Ashkenazi Jews and the institutional Jewish world. The dangerous connotations and rhetoric that comes along with our erasure within and outside of Jewish communities is more than just a matter of “they don’t know about us.” With our existence being barely an afterthought, the mainstream idea of Jewish people — what we look like, our traditions, our historical backgrounds — is inherently warped.

The conversation on Judaism and Jewish history, as well as the modern Jewish experience, has largely been led by and centered on Ashkenazim. That conversation is an important one. There are people who deny the Holocaust and those who subscribe to the preposterous notion that

See Rudy, Page 20

KVETCH 'N' KVELL

Runyan Wrong on Trump

IT IS DISAPPOINTING that Rabbi Joshua Runyan (“Why Trump’s Not Getting This Orthodox Vote: He’s Neither Good for the Jews, Nor for Judaism,” Sept. 10) has not applied the teachings of the Torah and the wisdom of the sages to his analysis of our upcoming election.

The relocation of the U.S. Embassy was authorized in 1995 by the United States Congress. Successive presidents of both parties delayed doing so. The recognition of Israel by the UAE is the first movement of rapprochement in a quarter-century. And these steps are supposed to make the USA more dangerous for Jews?

Four years ago, we began the biggest economic growth from an economy that was undergoing the slowest recovery since the Great Depression. We are now recovering from the worst pandemic in over 100 years with a vaccine months, not years, away.

It is difficult to understand how the rabbi can support a candidate who wants to reinstate millions of U.S. dollars annually to the Palestinians with their “Pay to Slay” government. It is equally difficult to understand how he can vote for a party who honored noted anti-Semite Linda Sarsour by allowing her to speak at their recent national convention. This same candidate wants to rejoin the horrible Iran deal, reopen the Palestinian pseudo-embassy in Washington, and supports Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and her anti-Israel squad.

It is unfortunate that Runyan does not seem to remember the words of Hillel the Elder, “If I am not for me, who am I?”

Robert M. Rubin | Huntingdon Valley

Rose Wrong on Trump

Binyamin Rose (“Many Orthodox Jews Support President Trump. I’m One of Them — Here’s Why,” Sept. 10) should worry more about the blatant anti-Semitism in this country, which is a direct result of Trump’s unleashing of hatred and bigotry.

Rose should also be more worried about the narcissism that puts thousands of Trump’s followers at risk of contracting and spreading COVID-19 when urged to attend Trump’s rallies.

Rose should also realize that Trump really does not care about Israel or the Jews. He cares only about himself — currying favor with the Jews and evangelicals is self-serving, as is everything Trump does.

Suzi Gerber | Lafayette Hill

See Letters, Page 20

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As of September 29, 2020
**ז"ל (of blessed memory)*

Kellerman

Continued from Page 16

His positive leadership led to a positive school environment, and a warm and embracing school culture. I was proud to be earning an education degree so that I could also make a difference.

In the summer I attended a workshop about culture. The workshop hit home because of my own story. I learned that your culture may change as you grow. We often make assumptions about a person's beliefs based on just one thing, but culture is more than a single indicator. It is a combination of

beliefs and values and groups we belong to. When educators create a classroom that is both culturally proficient and responsive, students thrive.

Sometimes we view someone's traditions based on the food they eat, the clothing they wear, or the holidays they celebrate. But it is all larger than what we see. If I created a circle and wrote the word "culture" in the middle, the words around the circle would be "feelings," "thoughts," "attitudes," "behavior," "social groups," "values," "race" and "ethnicity." Our heritage is not only where we came from but also determines who we choose to be as adults.

We need to ensure children

learn more about this. Raising awareness about our differences is crucial. It can help a child succeed in school without feeling excluded. Making connections between peers and co-workers establishes that warm environment I felt at my father's school. If culture had been a topic of discussion when I was a child, maybe my story would have been different. •

Carolyn Leigh Kellerman got her master's in education from The College of New Jersey and holds a certificate in early childhood. She is working on a special education endorsement certification and teaches in New Jersey.

Rudy

Continued from Page 17

Ashkenazim are not "real Jews" because they don't know the expansive, complicated history of Jewish people in Europe. But a conversation centered on and led by Ashkenazim while Mizrahi, Sephardi and numerous subdivisions are overlooked leaves us ignored by the rest of the world, too.

Which means our stories aren't part of the conversation. Which means our cultures, languages, traditions and struggles aren't considered part of the whole Jewish experience and history. Which means I'll spend my whole life telling people I'm a Sephardic Syrian Jew, and the response will always be, "I thought Jews were from Europe?" or, "So you're not a real Jew."

My question isn't why has this happened, for the answer is complicated, painful and too dense to sum up. Instead I ask how: How can we as Jewish people combat anti-Semitism and miseducation regarding our very existence and history if the experiences and validity of Sephardim, Mizrahim, Beta Israel, Jews of Color, Black Jews and so forth is constantly questioned, denied and excluded within our own communities?

But that framing can be

problematic, too, because it does something that I am unequivocally against: It implies that the only way we can be united as a people is if we focus on combating hatred.

I don't want a rally cry of unity for the sake of fighting back against anti-Semitism. I don't want the reason we come together as a people to be for the sake of being a united front against hate.

But there are two truths that exist:

I firmly believe that we cannot face anti-Semitism head-on if we don't face the biases and prejudices within our own communities. We cannot be a united people for ourselves if the classification and inclusion of Jewish people and experiences is continuously determined solely by the majority (and by extension, the rest of the world).

I believe that if we are to come together, our motivation should not be spite, hatred and fear. I yearn to learn more about all Jewish traditions, heritages and stories because I love being Jewish and I love my own traditions, heritage and stories. Community is a vital part of Judaism, and while I have been fortunate to be a member of a Sephardic Syrian community, it's the bigger picture I'm concerned with.

Stepping out and interacting with the "real world" while simultaneously witnessing the influx of anti-Semitism — particularly in New York and New Jersey, where I live — was something of a rude awakening. But my rudest awakening was seeing my Judaism questioned, denied and pushed aside by fellow Jews.

I find myself thinking about my mother's story often, how she went home that day and told my grandmother and great-grandmother to stop giving her pita bread, or other "weird food," for lunch. My grandmother refused, telling my mother to stand her ground. I don't think my mother has stopped standing her ground since. I certainly don't have to ask her what she brought for lunch the next day.

The fact that I was raised in and belong to a community of Sephardim from Syria like myself and my family, the way I love and cherish my Judaism, how it is rooted in every aspect of my life — it all stems from my mother's pride in her heritage, which stems from her mother, her grandmother and so forth. One can say I'm simply keeping up with my family tradition. •

This piece originally appeared in Alma.

Letters

Continued from Page 14

Runyan Overlooks Iran Deal

Joshua Runyan says, "A President Biden would do no harm to Israel," ("Why Trump's Not Getting This Orthodox Vote: He's Neither Good for the Jews, Nor for Judaism," Sept. 10) He already has! It is called the Iran deal.

Biden supported giving \$150 billion to the mullahs, providing funds to their terrorist proxies. The arms embargo is about to end, courtesy of the Iran deal. By 2030, the deal sunsets and Iran has the right to build a bomb. Biden wants to restart funding to the Palestinian Authority that would be used to support terrorism against Jews. Biden has a short memory, as he was only blocks away as Taylor Force was being stabbed to death by a Palestinian terrorist.

Would a President Biden have helped achieve the peace with UAE and Bahrain, and support the other Sunni Arab nations, so more peace deals will be made? I think not. Biden wouldn't be trusted by them as he still believes the Iran mullahs will change. He refuses to take down terrorists, whether Osama bin Laden or Suleimani. Biden wants to fund UNRWA, which supports schools that teach that Jews are pigs, promoting anti-Semitism. Having already done serious harm, it is time for our Jewish community to look elsewhere.

Ted Harrison | New Hope

Rose Overlooks Moral Defects

In reply to the op-ed by Binyamin Rose ("Many Orthodox Jews Support President Trump. I'm One of Them — Here's Why," Sept. 10), we're surprised that Rose is willing to overlook these issues:

- Donald Trump has stated he knows more than the generals and that he alone can fix our problems; he makes fun of the physically handicapped; said that in the "old days" people who dissented from speakers at political rallies were "carried out in a stretcher"; and said "when you're a star ... you can do anything" you want to women, including "grab them by the p****."
- Rose believes Orthodox Jews need to support "family values." Does Donald Trump's behavior reflect family values?
- Any so-called breakdown of law and order and actual increase in anti-Semitism are happening *during* Donald Trump's presidency and watch.

These are simply a few demonstrations of Trump's character which require that he be voted out of office. Any of Biden's flaws are minor in comparison to the much more serious moral defects sadly present in our current president.

Rose's overarching message seems to be that the Orthodox vote needs to be made for Trump because of Trump's support for Israel and Jews. Our point is that the vote should be made against Trump because his character is devoid of values that Israel and Jews hold dear. •

William and Lynn Thames | Wynnewood

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Autumn Salads

FOOD

LINDA MOREL | JE FOOD COLUMNIST

WHEN SUMMER gradually gives way to fall, I'm never quite ready to give up eating salads. In early October, it's too late for delicate field greens but too soon for brisket and short ribs, noodles and mashed potatoes.

There are many sunny October days in the 60s, when I crave the crunch of salads. However, I shift the ingredients I toss into my salad bowl from sugar snap peas and cherry tomatoes to the heartier vegetables so prevalent in the fall.

I love the earthy smell of autumn produce that floods farmers markets. I fill my shopping basket with spinach, mushrooms, watercress, sweet potatoes, cauliflower and carrots. I often roast these vegetables and add them to salads warm, taking the chill off of cooler days. Even at room temperature, there's something cozy and filling about roasted vegetables in salads.

Autumn salads are satisfying as side dishes, but when served with soup or sandwiches, they create light lunches or dinners that compliment October, which hovers between warm September days and the long winter ahead.

ROASTED SWEET POTATO SALAD | PAREVE

Serves 6

- 1/3 cup pecans, chopped
- 2 bunches of scallions
- Nonstick vegetable spray
- 3 large sweet potatoes
- 4 tablespoons olive oil, or more, if needed
- Kosher salt to taste
- 3 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
- 1/8 teaspoon balsamic vinegar

Place aluminum foil on a toaster oven tray. Sprinkle the pecans on the foil. Bake at 350 F for 1-2 minutes or until fragrant. Watch the pecans

constantly, as they burn easily. Cool and reserve.

Cut the roots off of the scallions and discard. Thinly slice the white ends of the scallions and place them in a small bowl and reserve. Thinly slice the green parts of two scallions and place them in a second small bowl and reserve.

Preheat your oven to 400 F. Coat a 9-by-13-inch ovenproof pan, such as Pyrex, with nonstick spray.

Peel the sweet potatoes. Cut them into 1-inch chunks. Move them to a bowl and drizzle in 2 tablespoons of olive oil. Toss them with a spoon until they are coated with oil. Add more oil, if necessary, then sprinkle with salt. Move the potatoes to the prepared pan and spread them out evenly.

Cover the pan with aluminum foil and bake for 20 minutes. Remove the foil and discard it. Turn the potatoes with a spoon. Sprinkle on more salt. Bake until just soft in the center, about 10-15 more minutes. Remove the potatoes from the oven and cool them to room temperature.

Transfer the potatoes to a bowl and add the white parts of the scallions, along with the apple cider vinegar, balsamic vinegar and 2 tablespoons of olive oil. Gently toss the ingredients. Add more oil and salt, if needed. This can be made to this point up to 2 days before serving if covered with plastic wrap and refrigerated.

When ready to serve, move the salad to an attractive serving bowl and bring it to room temperature. Sprinkle it with the pecans and green parts of the scallions.

WARM SPINACH SALAD | PAREVE

Serves 6

- 8-10-ounce package of baby spinach
- 1/2 pound white mushrooms,



- cleaned and sliced thin
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries or raisins
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 3 cloves of garlic, minced
- Kosher salt to taste
- 2-3 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice

Rinse the spinach under cold water and dry it in a salad spinner or spread out on paper towels. When the spinach is dry, place the leaves on a large platter or on individual salad plates. Arrange the sliced mushrooms on top of the spinach, then scatter the dried cranberries or raisins. This can be made to this point several hours ahead if covered with plastic wrap and refrigerated.

In a small saucepan, heat the olive oil on a low flame until it's warm. Add the garlic and salt, stirring almost constantly until the garlic is fragrant and wilted, about 2 minutes. Remove it from the flame and cool it briefly to warm. Sprinkle lemon juice on the salad. Spoon the oil mixture over the salad and serve immediately.

CAULIFLOWER CARROT SALAD | PAREVE

Serves 6

This salad tastes best if made the day before.

- 1 head of cauliflower
- 2-3 carrots
- 1 hard-boiled egg, cooled
- 1/3 cup pitted black olives, such as Picholine
- 2 tablespoons red onion, diced

Using a vegetable scraper, scrape off the outside surface of the carrots and discard. Rinse the carrots under cold water and dry them with paper towels. Using the vegetable scraper, scrape the carrots into ribbons, until only thin stalks of carrot remain. Be careful not to cut your fingers. Place the ribbons in the bowl with the cauliflower, and use the remainder of the carrots for another purpose.

Slice the hard-boiled egg and add it to the cauliflower, along with the olives, red onion, garlic powder, salt, olive oil and vinegar. Toss the ingredients well. Check the salt and add more, if needed. If the salad is too dry, add a bit more olive oil and vinegar.

Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate it for about 24 hours. Serve at room temperature in an attractive bowl. •

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Reviews: Memories, Money Considered

BOOKS

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

'What Happened Here?'

"The Memory Monster"

Yishai Sarid
Restless Books

AT THE INTERSECTION of Arch Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, an Israeli flag flaps above the Horwitz-Wasserman Holocaust Memorial Plaza. If you're just driving by, the sculpture in the center of the plaza, "Monument to Six Million Jewish Martyrs," looks like a Lovecraftian horror, or "The Thing" — seemingly disembodied limbs and faces straining out of a tower of flames.

Look more closely, and you see a Torah, too. A fully formed man with tefillin on his forehead stretches his arms, and two sword-wielding hands arise at the peak of the fire. The swords and the blue-barred flag may as well represent the same thing: Out of the fire and the chaos of the Holocaust, an iron people emerged, ready to defend themselves.

Yishai Sarid's "The Memory Monster," a 2017 Israeli novel translated into English by Yardenne Greenspan, released this fall, is concerned with the world these iron people have created. What did it mean, for Israelis, Jews and all of us, really, to meld together Israel and the Holocaust? It's not simply a question of facts and figures for Sarid's narrator, an unnamed Israeli historian, but a question about our peculiar inheritance, which is adjusted and redefined with each bequest.

Sarid, the son of longtime Israeli politician Yossi Sarid, is a lawyer and the author of five other novels. His questions are piercing, and his answers, even more so.

The novel takes the form of a letter from the historian to the chairman of the board of

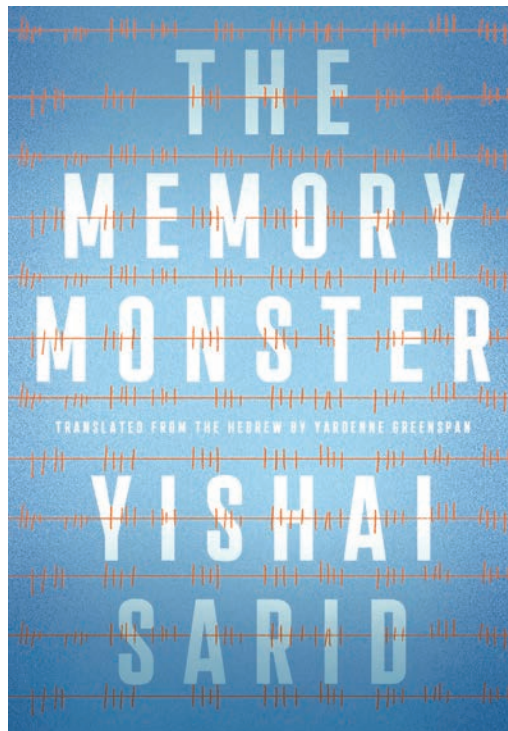
Yad Vashem, whom the historian holds in great esteem. The feeling was once mutual, but this is evidently no longer so. The letter, then, is the historian's opportunity to "provide a report of what happened here."

"At first, I tried to separate myself from the report and convey it in a clean, academic fashion, without bringing in my own personality or my private life, which, in and of themselves, are nothing worthy of discussion," he writes. "But after writing only a few lines, I realized that was impossible." It can be easy to lose track of the fact that the story is progressing within a letter, which begs the question of whether the epistolary structure is necessary.

The historian relays the arc of his professional life, a middling academic career that began as a choice between a funnel to military intelligence (Persian history) or Holocaust studies. He chooses the latter, declaring that he is "ready to harness himself to the memory chariot."

He becomes freakishly adept at recalling the columns of long-gone Jewish towns, the names of Bavarian functionaries and methods of efficient extermination that make up the Holocaust as it is taught. Befitting a person with such powers of recall, he becomes a tour guide, leading travelers and student groups at Yad Vashem, and then, for much more money, through Auschwitz, Majdanek and the former sites of Jewish life in Poland.

What he finds on these tours is scarier to him than anything he'd found in his studies, deadened as he is to the human realities of the Holocaust. The students, if they're paying attention at all, whisper that such measures should be taken against "the Arabs"; he's used as a prop by bored politicians, as a wind-up



▲ 'The Memory Monster' by Yishai Sarid
Courtesy of Restless Books

fact doll by glib tourists and as an unwitting participant in a renowned German director's documentary, inspiring an act of violence for which the letter is an explanation. All sense of sanctity is pared away from his project.

Worst of all, his obsession turns him into a piece of the Memory Monster, a wriggling life form that's jumped from the awful host. Consumed by the Nazi calculation of humanity, he finds himself unable to hide his admiration for the German people and comes to agree with the student who tells his class that they must all become "a little bit Nazi" if they are to survive this world. He doesn't fall apart, but becomes something new and terrible to behold.

Sarid has a sharp eye for the uses and abuses of Holocaust memory in Israel, but his book is more than a critique of his own country (and, of course, a good story). It's the work of a lawyer, preparing us for the

next bequest, asking: What are we planning to do with all of this?

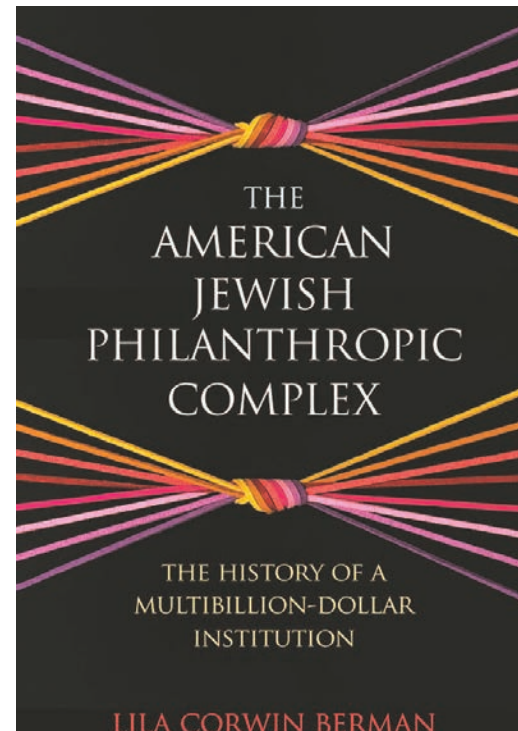
Jews and Their Money

"The American Jewish Philanthropic Complex: The History of a Multibillion-Dollar Institution"

Lila Corwin Berman
Princeton University Press

Lila Corwin Berman gave herself the unenviable task of writing about Americans Jewish institutions and their financial maneuvers over the course of about two centuries.

Berman, a professor and the director of the Feinstein Center for American Jewish History at Temple University, writes in the introduction to her new book that she wants her scholarship to "make it impossible — or at least, an act of willful blindness — to confuse a diffuse category of people with a turgid and fraught abstraction about the totality of their power."



▲ 'The American Jewish Philanthropic Complex: The History of a Multibillion-Dollar Institution' by Lila Corwin Berman
Courtesy of Princeton University Press

In other words, she wants to make clear that her questions and findings about Jewish groups and their relationships to power in the United States are not meant to function as an "attempt to name or reify something called Jewish power," but rather, a good-faith deeply researched study of the ever-changing Jewish interaction with power over the course of a long period. That's a tough needle to thread. But Berman, in her furious focus on her subject, makes a clean stitch.

The thesis of the book is that American Jewish philanthropic institutions, like all American philanthropic institutions, have become a "complex" — an intentional echo of Eisenhower's description of the military-industrial-complex in 1961. In their co-development with the modern American regulatory state, with all of its financial complexity, American Jewish philanthropic institutions have

been a part of reproducing the same inequalities that the state has, Berman argues.

Jewish philanthropy, like the American financial system, has developed in such a way as to concentrate power into the hands of a small group of wealthy parties. Berman sees the movement of the U.S. economy as being in favor of capital, at the expense of democracy, and so, too, for the philanthropic bodies that, as she acknowledges, pay her salary, support the newspaper she reads, fund the public radio she listens to and fills the art museum she visits. Philanthropy is so ubiquitous that its particulars seem natural and unchangeable.

Berman sketches the history of Jewish philanthropy, relying on primary source documents and interviews with industry leaders to explain how Jewish communal wealth came to be used in its present form, a deep toolbox of donor-advised funds and endowments that, in her estimation, keep resources from being distributed as they should. Her deep knowledge of the development of American tax policy regarding nonprofits powers the book forward, and could send you looking for more to read afterward, too.

If there is a way toward a more democratic vision of American Jewish philanthropy, Berman believes, it will come with honest engagement on the subject. No matter what anyone else might think about a bunch of Jews and their money. •

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Zoom Singing a Bust, Choirs Get Creative

MUSIC

SOPHIE PANZER | JE STAFF

AFTER 52 PEOPLE in Washington state became infected with coronavirus during a choir rehearsal in March, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published a report declaring communal singing a potential “superspreader” event.

The news was devastating to singers and choirs all over the world.

“It became very clear that there was not going to be any choral music of any kind for maybe 12 to 18 months until a vaccine was invented,” said Cantor David Tilman, conductor of Shir KI, the adult volunteer choir at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park. “So everybody entered this period of frustrating inactivity and a lot of grief and a lot of hand wringing.”

Like everyone else in 2020, singers and conductors have used technology to collaborate and adapt to their constrained circumstances.

“In mid-June, the concept of the virtual choir was becoming very, very popular all over the United States, and not only with choirs but with orchestras as well,” Tilman explained.

Nashirah, the Jewish Chorale of Greater Philadelphia, continues to meet for rehearsals online. Meetings are typically 90 minutes and split into sections, including sight singing practice, presentations on breathing techniques and lectures on various topics in Jewish music.

Conductor Julia Zavadsky said Nashirah will host a virtual lecture series beginning Oct. 16. The 2020 schedule includes appearances by Jonathan Coopersmith, chair of music studies at Curtis Institute of Music, and Donald Dumpson, conductor of the Philadelphia Heritage Chorale, who will speak about the



▲ Shir KI sings during a recorded Rosh Hashanah performance.

Courtesy of David Tilman

connections between Jewish and African American music. It also will host Festival of Light, a Chanukah celebration featuring singers and dancers from Israel, New York and Argentina.

The series will continue into 2021 and feature virtual choir performances in addition to speakers.

Zavadsky said the choir’s virtual schedule may be busier now than it was a year ago.

“We were practicing every day, obviously, and preparing for concerts, but it was more focused on only singing,” she said. “And now, because singing is obviously limited in a way, we figured out that making music together is not limited in other ways. So we’re exploring all of them right now and keeping us all together and as positive as possible.”

But what about concerts? While actors, comedians, dancers and other performing artists have transitioned many of their live performances to Zoom, sound delays, echoes and slow internet can wreak havoc on singers’ timing and sound on the platform.

“If you hear people trying to sing on Zoom, it’s a disaster,” said Amy Eisen, member of the Temple Beth Hillel – Beth El Synagogue Chorale.

A popular option for virtual

choirs is having individual members record their performances at home. The recordings can then be submitted to sound editors, who compile them into one video that mimics the sound of a live choir performance with the acoustics of a synagogue. Shir KI and Temple Beth Hillel – Beth El Synagogue Chorale chose this approach for High Holiday services since the videos could be prepared well in advance.

Tilman said it took about three weeks for his choir, which consists of 25 to 30 volunteer singers and four professional singers, to produce a recorded performance of Louis Lewandowski’s Psalm 150 for Rosh Hashanah. After sending singers click tracks — a series of audio cues used to synchronize audio tracks — Tillman met with the sopranos, tenors, altos and basses for section rehearsals on Zoom. Once the singers learned the piece, they were given a tutorial about how to record and send their audio file and 10 days to submit their parts on their own time.

“The end result was really spectacular,” Tilman said.

Eisen and her fellow singers recorded 12 songs for Beth Hillel-Beth El’s High Holiday services using a similar technique. While some members of the volunteer

choir chose not to participate virtually, 13 were featured in the videos. She said that while singing alone seemed a bit strange and the technology appeared daunting at first, the final product felt like a team effort.

“It was really thrilling,” she said.

Nashirah plans to perform in two ways.

For Festival of Lights, Zavadsky will play a prerecorded video of the singers performing in their homes. During the new lecture series, however, the singers will live-stream together on Zoom and sing into muted microphones while their prerecorded voices are played for the audience. This approach combines a real-time communal presence with high-quality sound that won’t be disrupted by Zoom delays.

Zavadsky said an unexpected result of the pandemic was that Nashirah welcomed back members who were previously too busy to practice or had moved away from Philadelphia.

“Don’t forget, people are isolated,” she said. “Being in the choir, even in the way as we are right now, is uplifting, so our choir actually got bigger.” •

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Pandemic Complicates Fight Against Cancer

FIGHTING CANCER

JESSE BERNSTEIN | JE STAFF

SINCE MARCH, Mimi Ferraro has experienced losses big and small.

She lost her mother, Joan Polin, who died of COVID-19, alone in a hospital. As a chaplain for Abramson Senior Care, she lost access to her older Jewish patients. As a rabbi to Congregation Tiferes B’Nai Israel, she lost in-person contact with her congregants during the High Holidays. For a time, she lost the comfort of selecting her own produce at the grocery store.

But as a chemotherapy patient at Fox Chase Cancer Center, where she recently passed the two-year mark of chemotherapy sessions for her stage 4 colon cancer, the quality of care, thankfully, has stayed the same. Even there, though, Ferraro can’t have her husband or daughter with her to ask questions and take notes from the doctor. She can’t see her doctors’ faces behind their masks; she’s not sure that she would recognize them on the street.

She’d just like things to feel normal again.

“But even when we go back to whatever normal is, I still feel like I’m extra vulnerable,” Ferraro said.

Cancer care is already a tricky proposition for patients, their families, doctors and hospital workers. The intermingled processes of treatment have been complicated even further by the pandemic. And beyond the world of doctors, nurses and patients actively fighting cancer, offshoots like screening services and chaplaincy have been affected as well.

Dr. Jeffrey Farma, a surgical oncologist at Fox Chase Cancer Center, is thankful that he and his patients have been able to see one another in person as much as they have, even if the process of an in-person visit now involves tests, masks and other PPE. And to be able to see patients via telehealth, different as it may be for both parties, is better than nothing.

But it’s still a notable divergence from the way he learned how to care for people.

“Part of what I love about what I do is the relationships

I’ve built over the years with my patients and their families, and seeing them and getting hugs, and frequently kisses, and shaking hands and the physical contact,” he said. “A lot of my patients have become family, and it goes both ways. And so that becomes very difficult.” Respectfully declining a hug from an older Jewish patient, one who reminds him of his own grandmother, was just one of these hard moments. Farma’s patients can’t even have visitors.

Dr. Richard Bleicher, also of Fox Chase, explained that the Temple Health system quickly recognized the risk that COVID would pose to immunocompromised patients, which includes those with cancer. Fox Chase was declared a COVID-free zone, and patients who developed coronavirus were transferred elsewhere in the system for treatment.

“It was just a Herculean effort on their part,” Bleicher said. Of course, even though the hospital is “COVID-free,” it exists in the reality shaped by the disease. Consequently, Bleicher has found himself treating his patients’ fears about the pandemic alongside the cancers that they’re already afflicted with.

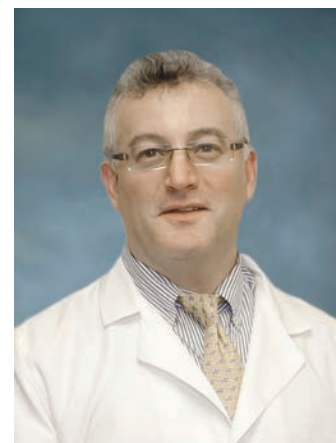
In addition to the changes made in visitor policy, Fox Chase turned attention toward its order of care procedures, creating new schedules of therapies and surgeries that minimized risk for patients. Telehealth, which can keep vulnerable patients at home for visits that don’t necessarily need to be in person, is one example.

Dr. Mark Morginstin, an attending physician in oncology and hematology in the Einstein Healthcare Network, believes that those telehealth visits are here to stay. There are obvious positives, he believes, but he knows that it’s a new experience, for doctors and patients alike; toward the beginning of



▲ Dr. Jeffrey Farma explained how difficult it is to stay distant from his patients, many of whom have become like family.

Courtesy of Fox Chase Cancer Center



▲ Dr. Mark Morginstin believes that telehealth is here to stay.

Courtesy of Einstein Healthcare Network

the pandemic, patient satisfaction scores were down as a result of the perceived impersonality of a video chat, in his view. Those scores have since recovered, but Morginstin misses the in-person visits.

“I’ve been doing this for many years, and I like to have people in front of me,” he said. “You get to see their expressions of their face, you get to see if there’s something really going on. You don’t get that over the phone; even on a video, you may not get that. So I really think it’s not the best way to do medicine. This is not how things are meant to be.”

Elaine Grobman, CEO of Susan G. Komen Philadelphia, is concerned that certain short-term effects of the pandemic could become lasting. Grobman is troubled by stories she hears about more and more women delaying their mammograms, increasing the risk that they won’t be able to catch signs of breast cancer at an early stage.

“I’ve spent 30 years educating women about the importance of early detection and treatment,” Grobman said. “Delaying getting your mammogram puts you in a difficult spot if there’s something going on.”

She hopes that women who feel comfortable doing so will

soon return to such risk-mitigating practices.

Doctors and patients aren’t the only ones with reservations about telehealth.

Rabbi Tsurah August, a chaplain with Jewish Family and Children’s Service of Greater Philadelphia for 12 years, is still trying to figure out how best to be emotionally and spiritually present for patients requesting her services at a time when she can’t be physically present. It’s no idle question for her; so many connections have been forged in her line of work, she said, through a hand laid on an arm. Like Morginstin, August said that she strives to make patients she interacts with become much more than someone to whom she is providing a service.

August has found that the phone skills she gained as a management consultant a few careers ago have served her well. Still, she’s looking forward to being in person again.

“One of the feedback loops in doing this work that wasn’t true in management consulting is there is this reciprocity,” she said. “Not the thank-you’s, but that when I would look into someone’s eyes, they’d look into mine.” ●

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Israelis Scientists Identify New Culprit Behind Cancerous Growths: Tumor-Specific Bacteria

FIGHTING CANCER

LARRY LUXNER | JTA.ORG

REHOVOT, ISRAEL — Despite their reputation, most bacteria are harmless. Many are vital to human life.

Others, however, cause infections that lead to fatal

diseases ranging from tuberculosis to bubonic plague.

Add cancer to that list, at least indirectly. According to new research led by Dr. Ravid Straussman of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, bacteria living inside cancer cells are likely to have a profound effect on how different types of

tumors behave.

“Most bacteria you find in tumors are known to be present in normal people, but there’s also a minority of bacteria that were never described in humans or any other host before,” Straussman said. “Some of these bacteria don’t even have names.”

While bacteria were first detected in human tumors more than 100 years ago, Straussman reported in a paper in the May 29 issue of *Science* that he found bacteria live inside the cells of many cancer types, and that each type of cancer houses unique populations of bacteria.

types. Interestingly, he discovered that about 70% of breast cancer patients have bacteria in their tumors.

“Some of these bacteria could be enhancing the anti-cancer immune response, while others could be suppressing it,” said Dr. Mark Israel, executive director of the Israel Cancer

Overall, this research will change the diagnosis, management and prognosis of human cancer.”

DANIEL DOUEK

Breast cancer, which has a relatively high incidence among Jewish women, has a particularly rich and diverse microbiome.

“Overall, this research will change the diagnosis, management and prognosis of human cancer starting now and for many years to come,” said Daniel Douek, a senior investigator in the human immunology division of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland.

Straussman began his research into bacteria nearly 10 years ago after wondering why cancer cells in patients don’t consistently respond to drugs the way they do in the lab.

“People think of tumors as a mass of cells that grows uncontrollably,” Straussman said in a recent interview at his 15-person laboratory at Weizmann’s Department of Molecular Cell Biology. “The truth is that tumors are just like any other organ.”

In Straussman’s most recent project, he and his team took tumor samples from 1,526 patients with seven cancer types — breast, lung, ovarian, pancreatic, melanoma, bone and brain — and found different assortments of bacteria that correlated with specific tumor

Research Fund, or ICRF. “This is important because specificity in biology means that those bacteria are playing some biologic role. In other words, if there wasn’t a reason for those bacteria to persist, the body would reject them.”

Since 2016, ICRF has been funding Straussman’s work with grant funding exceeding \$300,000. The organization, which raises millions of dollars in North America for cancer research, supports scientific investigations at more than 20 institutions across Israel.

“The unique finding of Straussman’s paper is that the collections of bacteria within tumor cells vary from tumor type to tumor type,” Israel said. “They must be providing some sort of advantage to the tumor cells, or doing something that contributes to the tumor’s behavior. Therefore, there’s a lot of interest in getting rid of them, and hopefully having a therapeutic effect.”

Straussman said his latest study may also shed light on why some bacteria are drawn to certain cancer cells and why each cancer has its own typical microbiome.

Tumors are complex



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▲ Dr. Naama Geva-Zatorsky of the Technion Integrated Cancer Center in Haifa is among a growing number of cancer researchers studying bacteria that live in the gut microbiome. Courtesy of the Technion via JTA.org

ecosystems that are known to contain immune cells, stromal cells, blood vessels, nerves and many more components in addition to cancer cells. They're all part of what's known as the tumor microenvironment.

"Our studies, as well as studies by other labs, clearly demonstrate that bacteria are also an integral part of the tumor microenvironment," Straussman said. "We hope that by finding out how exactly they fit into the general tumor ecology, we can figure out novel ways of treating cancer."

Supervising a 10-person lab,

she has tested at least 60 types of bacteria that thrive in the human gastrointestinal tract. Geva-Zatorsky hopes to learn whether the immune effects of gut bacteria can be used either to prevent cancer from forming or to increase the efficacy of cancer treatments.

"We believe we can induce an environment where cancer cannot develop," she said. "Maybe in the future bacteria that stimulate the immune system can be added to immune therapy, so that the cancer can be eradicated more quickly and efficiently."

Her work, too, is being funded by the Israel Cancer Research Fund.

"We've known for centuries that the bacteria in your gut play important roles, but in the last three to five years it's been discovered that a collection of bacteria influences your immune response," Israel said. "That's important now because of the major new modalities of treatment that modify the immune system to fight off the tumor." •

This article was sponsored by and produced in partnership with the Israel Cancer Research Fund.



▲ Dr. Ravid Straussman of the Weizmann Institute of Science found that bacteria living inside cancer cells are likely to have a profound effect on how different types of tumors behave. Photo by Larry Luxner via JTA.org

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BY RABBI SHAWN ZEVI

Shemini Atzeret

“ON THE EIGHTH DAY (of Sukkot), you will have a holy day ... it is a day of cessation, of quiet and solemn gathering (‘Atzeret’) (Leviticus 23:36).

This Shabbat and weekend — depending on whether you celebrate seven or eight days of Sukkot and, depending on this, whether you combine or add on to the eighth day the later celebratory day of Simchat Torah, completing the yearly cycle of Torah reading — comes the rather obscure Shemini Atzeret.

A part of Sukkot? A separate festival in its own right? The Torah leaves it open for us to interpret.

Although the observances of Shemini Atzeret generally share the characteristics of the rest of Sukkot, there are four significant differences.

The first is that there is no more shaking of the lulav and etrog. Second is that although we have our meals and recite Kiddush in the sukkah (though customs vary), we no longer say the blessing to sanctify us through the commandment to dwell in it, as we did the previous seven days. The third is that in the synagogue, after the Torah reading, we recite the memorial prayer (Yizkor).

And finally, the special

prayer for rain (*Geshem*) is added to the repetition of *Musaf* and thus begins the period of an additional call for the appropriate amount of rain in the year ahead in our prayers, which lasts until Passover.

The earliest rabbinic reference to Shemini Atzeret calls it *yom tov acharon shel ha-hag*, the last day of the festival. The Talmud (Taanit 20b-31a), however, declares, “The eighth day is a festival in its own right.”

At the same time, the Talmud (Taanit 28b) attempts to distinguish it from Sukkot, as there are 70 temple sacrifices given throughout Sukkot, compared to only one given on Shemini Atzeret. The Sefer HaChinuch adds that by the holiday of Shemini Atzeret (which is the eighth day of Sukkot), although we have no special commandment on the day, we do not need anything to focus our happiness on the miracle of life itself and the Source of All.

The Sefer HaChinuch goes on to say that the sages have told us that, in reality, Shemini Atzeret is not the eighth day of Sukkot, but rather a separate holiday, which occurs at the end of the Sukkot holiday. Building on the midrash (Bamidbar Rabbah 21:24), “let us now rejoice together, you and I, with whatever you can find ...”, the sages are described as taking us into the realm of “Divine inner

wrestling.” No big sacrifices, no ornate rituals, forget the big meal — let us keep our connection simple and focused on our relationship, not outward practices and symbols.

For our biblical ancestors, I can only imagine what it meant to look at each other face to face in the Jerusalem where they had gathered from so many locations to celebrate the final big harvest. They faced the temporality and vulnerability of life ahead, the reliance on rains for survival and, in those days, a half a year before Passover could offer the possibility of regathering at a time no other Jewish holidays were on the calendar.

Will the earth be our sustainer or our grave? Will we live through all the uncertainty ahead and be able to gather again to rejoice in liberation, freedom and just rulers and leaders? There is much to identify within the poignancy and intimacy of Shemini Atzeret that resonates with our current political, socio-economic and ecological upheaval.

What will the world look like when we are next able to gather again safely in person? For the sages and our people post-Temple times, they reveal their own inner struggle with what it means to detach from each other after such an intense month of introspection, soul-baring and then

harvesting our experience.

They interpret God’s longing and difficulty of saying goodbye into the eighth day of Sukkot as telling us “Please, stay with me one more day, as it is difficult for me to part with you, so I will add on one more day, so you can spend with me and each other before your departure” (Rashi on Leviticus 23:36).

The Zohar further suggests that we may have some leftover spiritual work from all the Holy Days, which is to forgive ourselves for our failings and also commit to the change we may have become aware of needing to enact. “From now on, for one day, let me and you rejoice. This is the meaning of the verse ‘On the eighth day you shall have a solemn assembly; ‘you’ means offering sacrifices for yourselves’” (Zohar 3, Emor 104:2).

When all the prayers have been offered for the *Yamim Noraim* and Sukkot, all the high rituals and sermons offered — our tradition, in ever-evolving interpretation and expression, brings us back to each other, the earth and the breath of all life in the bonds of love.

I would add to the centuries of thought, “If you remember nothing else — remember our connection, remember the love that exists by virtue of creation itself, and our ability to be together as all people and

creatures these last days, and seal that love and connection in your own hearts for time-release over the year ahead. We will leave our intense days of communal return, reflection and celebration to meet the future head on and be active players in it for the sake of peace, justice, liberty and a fairly represented voice for all. Remember in the quiet of Shemini Atzeret that love remains when all the external trappings fade.”

As we gather to celebrate Shemini Atzeret, we remind ourselves that this content does not depend on a particular commandment, place or situation. Stop — in the name of love! •

Rabbi Shawn Israel Zevit is the rabbi at Mishkan Shalom in Philadelphia, co-founder/director of the Davennen Leader’s Training Institute, associate director of the ALEPH Hashpa’ah program and co-chair of the clergy caucus of POWER Interfaith PA. 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.



Israel

Continued from Page 13

to murder earlier this month. And the Shas Council of Torah Sages on Sept. 29 called for prayer services to be held outside only and according to current coronavirus regulations.

Right now, haredi Israelis make up 40% of new cases, despite amounting to just 12% of the population. That proportion has continued to generate

criticism from more secular Israelis about why the entire country is under lockdown. But even without those cases, the country would have an infection rate that exceeds what public health experts say is safe.

“Don’t call me a *freier*”

The word “*freier*” in Hebrew roughly translates to “sucker” — someone who gets taken advantage of. Avoiding being a *freier* is a top priority in Israeli culture these days — a concept

that is a far cry from the socialist kibbutz culture that reigned in the country’s early days.

In the context of the pandemic and social distancing, the anti-*freier* line of thinking goes: Why should I adhere to the coronavirus restrictions when I see my neighbors and friends flouting the rules? Why should they enjoy the opened economy and life without a mask, and not me?

That culture may be hurting Israel’s ability to contain the

virus. In Haaretz, Anshel Pfeffer wrote that Israelis have been “too busy looking at other sectors and demanding ‘equal’ rights to be infected.” In The Jerusalem Post, Liat Collins wrote, “Now is the time to fear the spread of corona, not the Israeli fear of being considered a ‘*freier*.’”

There’s also the psychological downside of that successful reputation for rising to meet a crisis. More Israelis have died of COVID-19 than from terror attacks, but with sickness and

death hidden away inside hospitals, the pandemic is not eliciting the same reaction.

“Israelis can sometimes be a little bit too resilient,” said Alison Kaplan Sommer, a journalist at Haaretz, said during a recent panel discussion. “Our fear threshold is very high. We lived through all of these traumas and all of these wars and that’s damaged us in our ability to take this virus seriously. ... The national psychology is a big part of the story.” •



Year-End Tax Planning

FOLLOWING A TUMULTUOUS START to the year, there are several factors that may influence key year-end tax and charitable planning decisions. The pandemic continues to impact the economy, and the upcoming election may result in significant changes to the income tax and the estate and gift tax regimes. State and local governments are facing unprecedented budget crises that could lead to new or larger tax burdens.

"The importance of 2020 and 2021 tax and charitable planning discussions with all of our business and individual clients, commencing after the election outcome is known, will be more important than ever," said David Gold, Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.

While the election results will greatly impact future tax policy, regardless of the outcome, the economy will likely still be in a recession. It will be even more difficult to raise sufficient revenue to support government spending including key social safety net programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

Differing tax agendas could bring significant changes: The Trump tax plan for the second term revolves around making permanent several key provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017 as well as a potential cut in the tax rate on capital gains and dividends. The Biden tax agenda may reimpose a top income tax rate of 39.6% above \$400,000 and taxing capital gains and dividends at ordinary income tax rates for those taxpayers with incomes over \$1 million.

Key considerations for year-end decisions:

Tax rates: The prospect of increased tax rates in 2021 could lead some to second-guess the typical planning mantra of "deferring income and accelerating deductions" to reduce the current year's tax bill. Effective tax rates and the value of deductions may be worth more in 2021 if Congress does impose a tax increase next year. However, recently enacted tax legislation, as well as some other long-standing planning techniques, could be beneficial in 2020.

Planning idea: The CARES Act, enacted to provide COVID-19 relief, enables the current deduction of up to 100% of adjusted gross income for cash gifts to charity (other than donor-advised funds, supporting organizations, and private foundations). Individuals considering large cash donations may find this beneficial. The IRA charitable rollover remains an attractive alternative to those over age 70½ who may not otherwise be able to itemize their deductions and claim a tax benefit from a charitable contribution. Congress has suspended the pension rules imposing "required minimum distributions," but rollover contributions to qualified charities could still make sense for some.

Taxes on capital gains could rise dramatically: Under Biden's plan, taxes on capital gains could almost double to 39.6% for taxpayers earning more than \$1 million.

Planning idea: Clients with appreciated assets may want to consider selling before year's end to lock in more favorable tax rates or consider donating those appreciated assets to charity to take advantage of the larger deduction based on the fair market value of the asset at the contribution date rather than selling the asset, paying capital gains taxes that might be due and then contributing the proceeds.

Estate taxes are likely to increase: Under the TCJA, Trump increased the gift and estate tax exemption from \$5 million to \$10 million with inflation adjustments, bringing that amount to \$11.58 million for this year. Individuals can gift



up to this amount without paying tax during their lifetime. Anything remaining can be used to offset estate taxes at death. Biden has mentioned plans to reduce the gift and estate exemption to a level closer to pre-TCJA amounts of \$5 million.

Planning idea: Consider gift transactions before year-end in order to take advantage of the higher exemption amount and remove future appreciation from the estate. A number of estate planning techniques can be utilized, including transferring assets to charities now through charitable lead annuity trusts.

Cost basis step-up of bequeathed assets may be eliminated: Under current law, heirs receive appreciated assets with a step-up in basis to fair market value at the time of death. The Biden plan proposes to eliminate this rule, making transfers at death taxable. This "taxable recognition event" would occur even if the beneficiaries do not sell the asset.

Planning ideas: Gifts at death to charity would be exempt from the Biden plan tax changes. However, donors who are considering making such gifts may wish to accelerate these transfers in order to provide significant support to charities now, as many charities face increased costs and potential decreases in fundraising during the pandemic.

In the event that Biden wins the election, it may make sense to consider shifting certain assets, especially those likely to continue to appreciate in value to others in lower tax brackets such as younger generations and potentially defer capital gains taxes that might otherwise need to be triggered.

Endowment professionals at the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia remain available to work with you and your other professional advisors to maximize the benefits of these and other tax planning strategies for you and the Jewish community. For more information, contact Jennifer Brier, Interim Director, Planned Giving and Endowments, jbrier@jewishphilly.org or 215-832-0528.

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COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - PHILA. COUNTY - CIVIL ACTION LAW - NO.: 190903653 - Mary Ann Whitonis & John Whitonis, Plaintiffs vs. Edward Thompson, Defendant - To: Edward Thompson, Defendant, 240 Royal Court, Langhorne, PA 19047. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A COMPLAINT has been filed with regard to the above captioned matter. NOTICE YOU HAVE BEEN SUED IN COURT. If you wish to defend against the claims set forth in the following pages, you must take action within twenty (20) days after this Complaint and Notice are served by entering a written appearance personally or by attorney and filing in writing with the Court your defenses or objections to the claims set forth against you. You are warned that if you fail to do so, the case may proceed against you by the Court without you, and a judgment may be entered against you by the Court without further notice for any money claimed in the Complaint or for any other claim or relief requested by the Plaintiff. You may lose money or property or other rights important to you. YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP. Phila. County Bar Assn., Lawyer Referral Service, 1101 Market St., #11, Phila., PA 19107, 215.238.6300. James J. Conaboy, Atty. for Plaintiffs, Abrahamsen, Conaboy & Abrahamsen, P.C., 1006 Pittsford Ave., Scranton, PA 18505, 570.348.0200.

ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF BARBARA ANN LOGUE aka BARBARA A. LOGUE; LOGUE, BARBARA ANN aka LOGUE, BARBARA A. Late of Philadelphia, PA. Letters Testamentary on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons having claims against or indebted to the estate should make claims known or forward payment to Kathleen Collins Wieda, c/o Mary Kay Kelm, Esq., Kilocone & Kelm, LLC, 418 Stump Road (103), Montgomeryville, PA 18936, Executrix. Mary Kay Kelm, Esquire Kilocone & Kelm, LLC 418 Stump Road (103) Montgomeryville, PA 18936

ESTATE OF BERNICE F. KLIGERMAN, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DON KLIGERMAN, EXECUTOR, c/o Bradley Newman, Esq., 123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030, Philadelphia, PA 19109. Or to his Attorney: BRADLEY NEWMAN ESTATE & ELDER LAW OFFICE OF BRADLEY NEWMAN 123 S. Broad St., Ste. 1030 Philadelphia, PA 19109

ESTATE OF CURTIS CLARK, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to LARHONDA HANTON, ADMINISTRATRIX, c/o Marc Vogin, Esq., 1700 Sansom St., 3rd Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103. Or to her Attorney: MARC VOGIN KLEIN, VOGIN & GOLD 1700 Sansom St., 3rd Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19103

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ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF DOROTHY C. SNEAD, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia, PA. LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DENNIS L. O'CONNELL, EXECUTOR, c/o Bruce M. Dolfman, Esq., 901 N. Penn St., F-2102, Philadelphia, PA 19123. Or to his Attorney: BRUCE M. DOLFMAN 901 N. Penn St., F-2102 Philadelphia, PA 19123

ESTATE OF HAROLD SLOTNICK, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to BERNARD SLOTNICK, JEFFREY SLOTNICK & AARON SLOTNICK, EXECUTORS, c/o Andrew J. Barron, Esq., 1701 Walnut St., 6th Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103. Or to their Attorney: ANDREW J. BARRON THE LAW OFFICES OF PETER L. KLENK & ASSOCIATES 1701 Walnut St., 6th Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF HERBERT A. MILLIGAN, SR. a/k/a HERBERT ALLEN MILLIGAN, SR., DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to LINDA E. ROYAL, EXECUTRIX, 5424 Baltimore Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143. Or to her Attorney: BRUCE M. DOLFMAN 901 N. Penn St., F-2102 Philadelphia, PA 19123

ESTATE of Joseph J. Zingaro; a/k/a Reverend Joseph J. Zingaro DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia, PA

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to Linda Milewski, Executor c/o Jon Taylor, Esquire PC 1617 JFK Blvd. Suite 1838, Philadelphia, PA 19103. The Law Office of Jon Taylor 1617 JFK Blvd. Suite 1838 Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF MARTIN ANELLIA, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to BARBARA ROME, EXECUTRIX, 414 Fountain Farm Ln., Newtown, PA 18940

ESTATE of Maureen Lucas a/k/a Maureen K. Lucas; Lucas, Maureen a/k/a Lucas, Maureen K., Deceased

Late of Philadelphia, PA. Letters Testamentary on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons having claims against or indebted to the estate should make claims known or forward payment to Michelle Achtert, 160 Kirk Lane, Media, PA 19063, Executrix. Stapleton & Colden 5248 Township Line Road P.O. Box 350 Drexel Hill, PA 19026

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ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE OF MICHAEL V. PASSARO, SR., DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia. LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to MICHAEL PASSARO, JR., ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Marc Vogin, Esq., 1700 Sansom St., 3rd Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103. Or to his Attorney: MARC VOGIN KLEIN, VOGIN & GOLD 1700 Sansom St., 3rd Fl., Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE of Patricia Celia; Celia, Patricia, Deceased

Late of Philadelphia, PA. Letters Testamentary on the above estate have been granted to the undersigned. All persons having claims against or indebted to the estate should make claims known or forward payment to Kimberly DiNardo, 2418 S. Camac St., Philadelphia, PA 19148, Executrix. George V. Troilo, Esq. 453 Maplewood Rd. Springfield, PA 19064

CORPORATE NOTICES

AtroCity Planning Dept. has been incorporated under the provisions of the PA Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988.

Neil T. Rubin, Esq. Zarwin Baum DeVito Kaplan Schaefer & Toddy, PC One Commerce Square 2005 Market St., 16th Fl. Philadelphia, PA 19103

REMODELING ZAMORA, INC. has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

FICTITIOUS NAME

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 13, 2020 for **Active Work** at 533 E Elkin Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19120. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Malik Lloyd at 533 E Elkin Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19120. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 26, 2020 for **Girltopia** at 2230 N Woodstock St. Philadelphia, PA 19132. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Jasmine Bellon at 2230 N Woodstock St. Philadelphia, PA 19132. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 12, 2020 for **Gold Falcon Productions** at 2560 Belmont Ave. Apt. 302B Philadelphia, PA 19131. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Sharon I. Duckett at 2560 Belmont Ave. Apt. 302B Philadelphia, PA 19131. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 10, 2020 for **JPFaudits** at 463 Kingsley Street Philadelphia, PA 19128. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is James P Fadigan at 463 Kingsley Street Philadelphia, PA 19128. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 10, 2020 for **JPFaudits** at 463 Kingsley Street Philadelphia, PA 19128. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is James P Fadigan at 463 Kingsley Street Philadelphia, PA 19128. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

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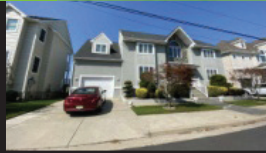
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FICTITIOUS NAME

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 10, 2020 for **L.A.X. Beats** at 5331 North Carlisle Street Philadelphia, PA 19141. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Kamil Sultan at 5331 North Carlisle Street Philadelphia, PA 19141. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 19, 2020 for **LiveLifeLuvish** at 1850 N. 77th Street Philadelphia, PA 19151. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Mashauna Green at 1850 N. 77th Street Philadelphia, PA 19151. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 14, 2020 for **NextGen Heating & Air Conditioning** at 2435 South Bancroft Street Philadelphia, PA 19145. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Jonathan Picano, Sr. at 2435 South Bancroft Street Philadelphia, PA 19145. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 07, 2020 for **Sassy Beautique** at 5206 Marlowe Street Philadelphia, PA 19124. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Erica T. Smith at 5206 Marlowe Street Philadelphia, PA 19124. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 14, 2020 for **Save The Day CPR** at 5407 Rutland St. Philadelphia, PA 19124. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Rodney Daye, Jr. at 5407 Rutland St. Philadelphia, PA 19124. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

FICTITIOUS NAME

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 13, 2020 for **The Written** at 1838 Fox Chase Road Philadelphia, PA 19152. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Gila Primak at 1838 Fox Chase Road Philadelphia, PA 19152. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 26, 2020 for **Signature Drinks** at 3030 W Stiles St. Philadelphia, PA 19121. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Kevin Isley at 3030 W Stiles St. Philadelphia, PA 19121. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 26, 2020 for **Sixteen Nineteen** at 5024 Locust Street Philadelphia, PA 19139. The names and address of each individual interested in the business are Earline Lang and David E. Richardson both located at 5024 Locust Street Philadelphia, PA 19139. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 10, 2020 for **SMRK CREATIONS** at 1356 Unruth Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19111. The names and addresses of each individual interested in the business are Sonia Ramos and Reynaldo Ramos both located at 1356 Unruth Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19111 and Mario Ramos located at 3603 Kesington Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19134. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

To place an ad in the Real Estate Section call 215.832.0749

FICTITIOUS NAME

Fictitious Name Registration Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on August 14, 2020 for **Thirsty Turtle** at 6504 Bobolink Place Philadelphia, PA 19142. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Jason Tran at 6504 Bobolink Place Philadelphia, PA 19142. This was filed in accordance with 54 Pa.C.S. 311.

STATEWIDE ADS

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DEATH NOTICES

ASHER

Betty Asher, 96 of Cherry Hill, NJ died September 26, 2020. Wife of the late Stanley Asher. Mother of Nancy (Neil) Levin and the late Ellen Asher. Grandmother of Scott (Jennifer) Levin and Jennifer (Shane) Mitzner. Great grandmother of Elise Levin, Alexa levin, Avery Mitzner and Layla Mitzner. Sister of Annette (the late Sam) Brody. Graveside services were private. Contributions in her memory can be made to the Inglis House, www.inglis.org

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CHANSKY

Elissa Ruth Chansky (nee) Ellsas, on September 24, 2020. Wife of Norman Chansky, mother of Linda (Thom) Jandilo, James (Katherine) Chansky, Keren (Moshe) Suberri, Tamar (Philip) Stern, and Matthew (Lisa) Chansky. Sister of Lila Trachenberg, also survived by 10 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Services were private. Contributions in her memory may be made to: The Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County in whose Thrift Shop Elissa was a dedicated and enthusiastic volunteer for many years. <https://www.dapdc.org> and to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society <https://www.lls.org>

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EBER

Judith Alice Eber (nee Udren) died peacefully on September 26, 2020, surrounded by family, at age 83. Beloved wife of the late David Eber, "Judy" is survived by her 4 daughters Marcy Eber Goldberg, Dena Eber, Maxine Eber, and Miriam Eber; her brothers Mark and Eric Udren; and her grandchildren Ben, Clara, Alex Margaret, Seanna, Henna, David and Noah. Born in 1936 to Joseph and Clara Udren in Philadelphia, Judy attended Overbrook High School, and graduated from the Pennsylvania State University in 1958 with a B.S. in Bacteriology. She later pursued graduate coursework in Microbiology. She worked as a Bacteriologist in multiple university and food processing laboratories, and later joined Houghton International Inc. as an application specialist in their Industrial Process Chemicals Laboratory, from which she retired at age 70. Judy was actively engaged with her community and neighborhood throughout her retirement, enjoying the arts, travel, nature, her grandchildren, her Synagogue, and her many friends. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the charity of your choice.

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FINE

Jeff Fine, born March 1st, 1958, of West Palm Beach Florida. Beloved Father, Brother, Son, Grandfather, and Friend, passed away September 26th, 2020 at Age 62. Jeff grew up in Elkins Park, PA, attended Abington High School, and graduated from Temple University with a degree in Computer Sciences. He previously worked for Unisys, later establishing his own business, Fine Networking, providing Information Technology Services. He is survived by his Mother Joni Grossman, Father Bud Fine (Linda), Sister Reina Cohen (Michael), Daughter Beth (Jacob) and Son Brandon, Grandsons Shane and Devon, Nieces Gabriela and Ariana. Services were private. Donations can be sent to the Parkinson's Foundation or the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.

DEATH NOTICES



FOMALONT

Robert Fomalont M.D., of Cranbury, New Jersey, passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by his family on September 27th, 2020 due to complications from Parkinson's disease. He was 85. Born in Philadelphia to Celia and Jack Fomalont, Bob (often referred to as Rob) grew up in West Philadelphia and graduated with friendships that lasted a lifetime from West Philadelphia High School in 1952. He completed undergraduate studies at Temple University in 1956. After receiving his medical degree from Hahnemann Medical College in 1960, he was commissioned in the United States Navy where he served in the Medical Corps as a Lieutenant. Following his service, Dr. Fomalont was a founding physician of Princeton-Nassau Pediatrics in Princeton, NJ. He remained with this growing medical practice his entire career, caring first for thousands of children and then for their children a generation later. He was loved by his patients and their parents – sharing a smile, or a joke, and often wearing a brightly colored tie that told the kids he was there for them. Dr. Fomalont became a pioneer in the emerging specialties of Attention Deficit Disorder and learning disabilities and helped countless children address these previously unmet medical needs. In 2004 he retired to a new home in Cranbury, NJ. Dr. Fomalont lived a full life filled with love together with his wife and high school sweetheart, Bobbi (nee Narish), until she predeceased him in 2016. They traveled to Africa, went on cruises, and thought Paris was the most romantic city in the world. You could often find them enjoying a fine meal and a Broadway show, opera, or ballet in NYC, or dining in and around Princeton before attending a performance at the Arts at McCarter Theater. Being an avid reader, his home was filled with stacks of newspapers, magazines, medical journals, and books of all genres. Dr. Fomalont was also involved with CWW and The Old Guard of Princeton, NJ for many years. For decades after retiring, Dr. Fomalont was often approached in public venues by former patients, friends, and acquaintances who were thrilled to see him and to remember and thank him for how he had cared for them. Dr. Fomalont thrived being surrounded by family. After marrying Bobbi in 1975, their blended family included eight children; Michael Fomalont, Joel Fomalont, Susan (Tom) Fomalont Sloan, Bud (Sindey) Dranoff, Sue Sabogal, Dede (Peter) Horowicz, Lisa (Michael) Connors, and Judi (Harvey) Malove. Along with their spouses and 14 grandchildren and four great grandchildren, Dr. Fomalont's "immediate" family included 35 people. He will be greatly missed. Due to Covid-19 considerations a services are private. Charitable donations in the memory of Dr. Fomalont are requested to be sent to McCarter Theater Center (<https://www.mccarter.org/donate>). To send condolences to the family visit orlandsmemorialchapel.com

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DEATH NOTICES

GELBER

Marlene Gelber (nee Novick), of Phila.; passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on September 26, 2020; beloved wife of 65 years to John Gelber; loving mother of Tara (Dr. David) Pudles and Debra (Scott) Homel; cherished grandmother of Danielle (Justin), Tiffany (Brandon), Shaun (Dr. Briana), Logan and Ava Jewel; adored great-grandmother of Jackson, Landon, Madison, Chelsea, Jordyn and Leo. Services were private. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

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GLASSMAN

Julie Glassman (nee Minter) on August 31, 2020 of Mountain View, CA formerly of Northeast Philadelphia. Beloved wife of the late Carl Glassman. Loving mother of Eileen (Roger) Bettman. Devoted grandmother of Sarah and Justin. Loving sister of Geri Cohen.

GREEN

Harriett Borten Green, 98, died peacefully October 23, 2019 at her home at Shannondell. She was the youngest child of the late Louis and Anna Lazar Borten and was predeceased by her 6 siblings as well as by her adored husband, Dr. Harry "Dutch" Green. She worked full time while raising a family, rising to the position of Executive Assistant to Dr. Sidney Weinhouse, Director of the Fels Research Institute of Temple University. Her passion for art and horticulture nurtured her creativity and she studied at the Barnes and upon retirement she earned a degree in Horticultural Therapy from Temple University Ambler. She was a long time volunteer and member of the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society and won prizes annually for her Flower Show and Harvest Show submissions. She was a vibrant member of the community and held a leadership position within every organization and group she supported. She is survived by her children, Ann G. and Richard Frankel, and Jane M. Green as well as by her devoted caregivers, Teca Bowen and Nadine Wilson Stennett of Abramson Home Care. She is also survived by her sisters-in-law Charlotte Benoff and Shirley Marti. In honor of her commitment to the healing power of horticulture, the Harriett Borten Green Endowed Fund for Horticulture Therapy has been established at the Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital of Main Line Health System c/o Karen E. Gadson, Executive Director of Development, GadsonK@mlhs.org. In addition, as per her wishes, an endowed memorial fellowship in honor of Dr. Harry Green will be established at the University of Pennsylvania to support a Ph.D or M.D./Ph.D. candidate in the Biomedical Sciences Research program c/o Torren J. Blair, Senior Director for Biomedical Research, torrenb@upenn.edu. May their legacies endure and may their memories be a blessing.

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DEATH NOTICES

HALBERT

Stanley Halbert, September 28, 2020; of Upper Gwynedd, PA; beloved husband of Carol (nee Baron); loving father of Isa (Mitchell) Welsch and Jay (Randi) Halbert; cherished grandfather of Jared, Corey, Melanie, Alex and Zachary. Services were held for the family on Friday (October 2, 2020), 11:00AM, at Joseph Levine & Sons, Trevese, PA. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to Cong. Beth Or, Maple Glen, PA, Beth Tikvah B'nai Jeshurun, Erdenheim, PA, or Jewish Family and Children's Services of Greater Phila.

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HERMAN

Phyllis G. Herman (nee Yanks), on September 28, 2020. Loving mother of Alyse Herman (Jacob Kornit) and the late Rosemary Herman. Former wife of the late William Herman. Contributions in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society.

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S

RAPHAEL-SACKS

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PAUL

Howard Paul, September 25, 2020. Husband of Sylvia (nee Miller) Father of the late Warren Paul and the late Stephen Paul, also survived by 5 grandchildren. He was a active member of Beth Shalom in Elkins Park and Equity Lodge #591 FNAM. He was a draperies salesman. Contributions in his memory may be made to Beth Shalom Congregation, 8321 Old York Road, Elkins Park PA 19027.

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S

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RAPPAPORT

Jan Morris Rappaport, 87, passed on October 1, 2020. She was the loving wife of the late Lawrence Rappaport, caring mother of Dr. Jay Rappaport & Dr. Jonathan (Susie) Rappaport, and devoted grandmother of Elizabeth, Adrienne, Ethan, Jack & Stella. She was a teacher for many years in the Philadelphia School System and she spent most of her life in Wynnwood, Pennsylvania. Her life was a beautiful example of putting others first and the lives of those she touched are so much richer.

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SACKS

Dorothy Sacks (née Schlesinger), on September 28, 2020. Beloved wife of the late Bernard Sacks; loving mother of the late Amy Sacks, Howard (Vesna) and Andrew (Brooke) Sacks, adored Mom Mom of Alex, Gus (Lindsey), Marisa (Brooke), Anna and Ezra; cherished great grandmother of Mason; devoted sister of Felice (Ralph) Kahn. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, services on Thursday, October 1 at Joseph Levine & Sons Funeral Home will be limited to immediate family members only but other relatives and friends are invited to attend the ceremony and internment at Montefiore Cemetery, Pennsylvania Lodge Section "C" Lot #63 Grave #2, 600 Church Road, Jenkintown, Pennsylvania at noon. 11:30AM. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Dorothy's memory to the Amy Sacks Memorial Scholarship Fund of Haverford College or to The Tri-State Lupus Foundation.

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DEATH NOTICES

SHANKROFF

Steven E. Shankroff, 64 years, on September 30, 2020. Much loved son of Helen W. Shankroff and the late Louis M. Shankroff. He will be sadly missed by Aunt Frances Freedman and cousins Sheryl (Jack) Perry and Abe (Maureen) Freedman. He graduated from George Washington Univ. and got his masters from American Univ. For many years, he was global operations manager and legal technology manager for several Washington and New York law firms. He will also be missed by his group of friends from grade school and his work team in New York. He was an aficionado of the theater and because of the closing of Broadway due to the coronavirus, with so many out of work, donations to Broadwaycares.org would be appreciated. Services were held Sunday Oct. 4 at Har Jehuda Cemetery (Section R), Upper Darby, PA.

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S

RAPHAEL-SACKS

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ZISSERMAN

Richard Zisserman, September 30, 2020 of Philadelphia, Pa. Loving father of Adam (Onit) Zisserman. Devoted brother of Sharon Zisserman. Proud grandfather of Hillel, Batya and Atara. Services interment were held at Roosevelt Memorial Park. Contributions in his memory may be made to Caskey Torah Academy or a charity of donor's choice.

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COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Penn Law Deletes Public Statement on RBG's Death

THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA Carey Law School deleted its public statement on Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's death because it included a critical quote from Amy Wax, a controversial Jewish law professor there, the Daily Pennsylvanian reported.

The statement was posted on the law school's Facebook page on Sept. 23 and removed later that day after students complained.

Wax's quote came from a review she wrote for the Claremont Review of Books on Jane Sherron De Hart's "Ruth Bader Ginsburg: A Life." The quote starts out with "Let us now praise Ruth Bader Ginsburg," then mentions several favorable aspects of her career.

"But these accounts paid a price for their relentlessly laudatory tone," Wax wrote. "Missing was any serious appraisal of her professional legacy, its place within larger judicial and legislative debates, and its implications for the shifting and often conflicting roles of women in modern society."

Later in the review — but not included in the Penn Law statement — Wax described Ginsburg's work ethic as an outlier for women.

"Although perhaps she inspires a few women to greater heights, RBG and the worship that attends her may lead others to feel ashamed of the lives they have chosen or of what they really want from work, men, and family life," Wax wrote. Students who objected to Wax's inclusion in the Penn statement cited her negative appraisal of RBG as inappropriate for the moment.

Wax is no stranger to controversy.

In 2017, she claimed that she had not seen a Black student graduate in the top quarter of the law school's class. That prompted prominent Penn trustee emeritus and Penn Law School overseer Paul S. Levy to step down. And Wax was barred from teaching a required first-year civil procedure course.

Last year, Wax argued at a conservative conference for an immigration policy favoring Western country immigrants over those from non-Western countries. She said the United States would be "better off with more whites and fewer nonwhites."

PICC Honors Temple Dental School

The Philadelphia-Israel Chamber of Commerce honored Temple University's Maurice H. Kornberg School Dentistry and its Bridge to Peace Initiative on Sept. 30 with its 2020 Life Sciences, Bio and Healthcare Innovation Award.

PICC said the award is presented to "regional businesses and academic institutions that exemplify the organization's goals of broadening business and research ties between Greater Philadelphia and Israeli innovators in life sciences, bio and healthcare."

"Under the leadership of Dean Amid Ismail, [the school] was instrumental in bringing together investigators from Hebrew University Hadassah School of Dentistry, Al Quds University School of Dentistry and 40 additional research institutes to advance dental care for disabled children and adults as part of the Bridge to Peace program," PICC President Matthew I. Fingerman said.

Temple joined 40 other dental schools and organizations in 2011 in signing a charter to transform Bridge for Peace into an expanded enterprise called the Alliance for Oral Health Across Borders. The alliance, which is headed by Ismail, promotes peace and builds relationships of understanding through oral health.

NCJW Walks to Honor RBG

The National Council of Jewish Women Greater Philadelphia Section members held two commemorative walks on Oct. 2 to mark the end of the mourning period for Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who died Sept. 18.

Attendees circled the U.S. Court House at Sixth and Market streets in Philadelphia, as well as the Bucks County Justice Center in Doylestown.

Prior to the shiva walk in Philadelphia, a prayer circle was conducted by Rabbi Annie Lewis and Hazzan Jessi Roemer.

Einstein Joins Health Systems in Addressing Racism

Einstein Healthcare Network announced that it was joining 38 other health systems in addressing racism and public health disparities caused by racism.

Participants are members of the Healthcare Anchor Network, a national collaboration of health care systems, which published the "Racism is a Public Health Crisis" document.

"The higher rates of disease and death from COVID-19 among African American and communities of color, has magnified the systemic racism and healthcare disparities that exist in society," said Barry R. Freedman, president and CEO for Einstein Healthcare Network.

Einstein and its partners in the Healthcare Anchor Network said they are committed to improving primary and specialty care, helping communities overcome chronic diseases, and hiring from, procuring from and investing in local communities, among other pledges.

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia also has signed on to the "Racism is a Public Health Crisis" document. •

MARRIAGES

► DUPONT-BUCKMAN

Gail and Keith DuPont of Weddington, North Carolina, and Amy and Terry Buckman of Bala Cynwyd and Ventnor, New Jersey, announce the marriage of their children, Emily Frances DuPont and William Frederick Buckman, on Aug. 1.

Rabbi David Straus of Main Line Reform Temple Beth Elohim officiated at the intimate ceremony in the backyard of the groom's childhood home. The couple's parents, siblings and the maid of honor attended, while other friends and relatives watched via Zoom. A larger celebration is planned for July 31, 2021, in Gwynedd.

The bride is a compensation analyst at NFI in Camden, New Jersey. The groom is a third-year student the Beasley School of Law at Temple University and an intern in the Chester County District Attorney's Office.

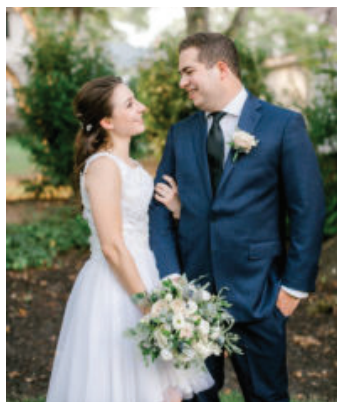


Photo by Erin Keough Photography

► GOTTLIEB-NEWMARK

Andrea and Richard Gottlieb of Merion Station and Kimi and Harry Newmark of Beachwood, Ohio, announce the marriage of their children Gracie Gottlieb and Tony Newmark on Aug. 20.

Gracie graduated from Muhlenberg College, where she double majored in business and Jewish studies. She is pursuing a dual master's degree in public administration and Jewish studies at New York University. Tony is a graduate of Rutgers University with a degree in computer engineering. He is a software engineer.

Joining in the simcha were Gracie's siblings, Avraham and Hadas Gottlieb, and Charlie Gottlieb; Tony's siblings, Yossi, Rachel and Mendy Newmark; Gracie's grandparents, Don and Phyllis Stoltz; and Tony's grandmother, Marcy Newmark.



Photo by Donald Stoltz

ANNIVERSARY

► MARCOVITZ-SNYDER

Hal Marcovitz and Gail Snyder celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on Oct. 5. They met on a blind date orchestrated by Hal's future sister-in-law and were married at Beth Sholom Congregation in Elkins Park.

Joining the couple for the anniversary celebration were their daughters Michelle and Ashley, son-in-law Jonathon, and Ashley's partner Geoff.



Photo by Rebecca Barger

BIRTHS

► RUTHIE FAYE SLAVIT

Debbie and Edward Hoffman of Holland and Sandy and Howard Slavit of Palm Beach, Florida, announce the birth of their granddaughter, Ruthie Faye Slavit, on June 8. Ruthie is the daughter of Kate (née Hoffman) and David Slavit of Potomac, Maryland.

Ruthie Faye is named in loving memory of her paternal great-uncle Ronald Glancz and maternal great-grandmother Faye Kay. Joining in welcoming Ruthie are maternal great-great-aunt Florence Reid and paternal great-grandmother Frances Pensler, in whose honor she is also lovingly named.

Also celebrating her arrival are aunt Jeramy Zimmerman and uncle Josh Hoffman, cousin Sidney Hoffman and aunt Wendy Slavit.



Photo by Kate Slavit

► EMERY DOROTHY SETZMAN

Jenna Leibowitz and Rob Setzman of Gladwyne announce the birth of their daughter, Emery Dorothy, on Aug. 11.

Sharing in their happiness are grandparents Lynn and Mike Setzman of Richboro, and Karen Brodsky and Don Leibowitz of West Windsor, New Jersey; aunt Jocelyn and uncle Scott Setzman and cousins Sydney and Payge; and aunt Mara and uncle Michael Fox and cousin Ethan.

Emery Dorothy is named in loving memory of maternal grandmother Evelyn Leibowitz and paternal grandmother Dorothy Babbitt.




Photo by Rob Setzman



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