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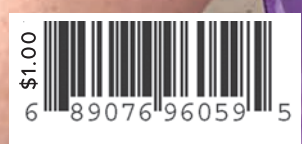
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# THIS WEEK

## Local

- 5 Is COVID Still Shaping High Holiday Plans at Synagogues?
- 6 Auburn Basketball Coach Bruce Pearl to Speak About Israel Trip
- 8 Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame Announces 2022 Inductees

## Opinion

- 12 Editorials
- 13 Letters
- 13 Opinions

## Feature Story

- 18 Judaism hangs on at a synagogue in rural Pennsylvania.

## Senior Section

- 20 Preventing Alzheimer’s Disease: The New Science of the Aging Brain

## Community

- 24 Obituaries
- 26 Synagogue Spotlight
- 28 Calendar

## In every issue

- 4 Seen
- 10 Jewish Federation
- 11 You Should Know
- 22 Food & Dining
- 23 Arts & Culture
- 27 D’var Torah
- 29 Around Town
- 30 Last Word
- 31 Classifieds

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**5** Is COVID still shaping synagogue High Holiday plans?



**8** Sports hall announces its 2022 inductees.



**18** Judaism hangs on at a synagogue in rural Pennsylvania.

## Wolf Blitzer Tours U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum for CNN Special

Growing up in Buffalo, CNN anchor Wolf Blitzer always knew he was the child of Holocaust survivors. His parents, both Polish Jews, told him often about their experiences surviving the concentration camps.

"I knew many children of Holocaust survivors whose parents didn't speak about it," Blitzer told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "But my parents were very open about it. I'm grateful that they were."

But it wasn't until Blitzer made his new CNN special about the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum that he discovered a video survivor testimony his father, David Blitzer, had recorded in the 1990s.

Filmed at the Holocaust Documentation and Education Center in Hollywood, Florida, David Blitzer discussed growing up in the Polish city of Oświęcim, later "Germanized" into Auschwitz, where his parents were murdered. (The city



CNN anchor Wolf Blitzer tours the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., for a special that aired on the network on Aug. 26.

is known as Oswiecim again today.) He shared intimate details about the mindset of the Germans around him,

who he said regretted that Hitler was in power "only when they started to lose the war," and his belief that the

United States' decision not to bomb the Auschwitz death camp was a moral failure.

David Blitzer's testimony, along with those like other survivors like Rita Kesselman and Irene Salomonawicz, is featured in the new CNN special "Never Again: The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum: A Tour With Wolf Blitzer," which aired on Aug. 26.

The hour-long special, originally intended for the now-defunct streaming service CNN+, follows Blitzer and current museum director Sara Bloomfield as they explore the Washington, D.C., institution and the history lessons it offers. The program aired on the network less than a week after fellow Jewish CNN correspondent Dana Bash's own special on antisemitism in the United States. It will subsequently be available on CNN's digital platforms.

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# Is COVID Still Shaping High Holiday Plans at Synagogues?

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

**B**efore the High Holidays last year, when 5781 became 5782, Philadelphia-area synagogues planned to return to in-person services after the remote COVID year of 2020. But the delta variant altered those plans.

Many synagogues were in-person but with restrictions, and with many congregants choosing the virtual option.

Now, going into this year's High Holidays, when 5782 becomes 5783, shuls again plan to gather in their sanctuaries. At the same time, they are offering a virtual option, though not because we are past COVID and into the hybrid future. They are offering it, along with requiring or suggesting other safety measures, because the pandemic lingers.

As Rosh Hashanah approaches on Sept. 25, hundreds of Americans per day are still dying from COVID.

Rabbi Abe Friedman of Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel in Philadelphia compared this stage of the pandemic to the recovery stage between the beginning and end of an illness. There is that space of recovery in between, he said.

"A lot of people are out of it, and a lot of people are very much in it," Friedman added. "We're trying to stay cognizant that these High Holidays will not be the same for everybody."

BZBI has about 400 households in its congregation. They fall into roughly two categories concerning COVID more than two years in, with a vaccine available and society back open. Friedman hears from some members who are immunocompromised and much more vulnerable than the average person. Then he hears from others who are no longer concerned about it.

Even last year, though, the Philadelphia synagogue did not cap its in-person attendance number. Its sanctuary is big enough to accommodate adequate spacing, Friedman explained. But it did require vaccinations and masks. This year, those are open questions that the rabbi and other synagogue leaders will figure out in the coming weeks.

One thing they know is that they will



**Rabbi Abe Friedman of Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel in Center City said many of his congregants are still worried about COVID.**

Courtesy of Rabbi Abe Friedman

hold two services, in separate places in the temple's Center City building, for Kol Nidre. BZBI's ritual committee expects peak attendance on the eve of Yom Kippur and wants to make sure that people feel comfortable coming in.

"If people feel like there are more people than they are comfortable with, they'll have another room to check out," Friedman said.

Other synagogues have similar concerns. At Ohev Shalom of Bucks County, leaders welcomed about a third of the normal, 1,000-person, pre-COVID, High Holiday crowd last September, according to Rabbi Elliott Perlstein. This year, the rabbi hopes to increase that in-person number to about 50 or 60% of the pre-COVID crowd.

The rest, like in 2021, will be able to gather online. And in person, social distancing and masks will be optional.

"So I wouldn't say we're totally post-pandemic, but we're moving in the right direction," Perlstein said. "It's a real balancing act."

Down the shore at Shirat Hayam Congregation in Ventnor, New Jersey, a large in-person sanctuary will allow people to spread out from each other, Rabbi Jonathan Kremer explained. But even

in that safe space, attendees who are not vaccinated must be masked.

Shirat Hayam's 300-family congregation is older, and "it's not worth taking the risk," Kremer said.

"We're told in the book of Deuteronomy to choose life, and we'd rather err on the side of being overly cautious, just as we do with security," he added.

Perhaps no synagogue in the region is being more cautious than Or Zarua on the Main Line, an 80-family congregation made up primarily of baby boomers. The older members decided to take the risk this summer to travel and see their families, according to Rabbi Shelly Barnathan. But then there were "a lot of incidents of COVID," she added.

Since Or Zarua gathers in the Old Haverford Friends Meetinghouse, which is small, congregants can't spread out during services. So when Barnathan and

her members looked ahead to the High Holidays in the fall, they decided to go virtual for the third straight year. Last year, there were more than 100 screens on Zoom.

"We found ways to do the social connection," she said.

Not all synagogues are operating with restrictions. Several rabbis said they would be back in person for the High Holidays with virtual options, yes, but no other limiting safety measures. But most are offering the online option because they acknowledged that many congregants are still worried about COVID.

"Beth El is fully back but, we are making accommodations for people who aren't quite comfortable coming into the building," said Rabbi David Cantor of Congregation Beth El in Yardley. **JE**

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# Auburn Basketball Coach Bruce Pearl to Speak About Israel Trip

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

**E**arlier this summer, Bruce Pearl made headlines in Jewish media with his “Birthright for College Basketball” tour in Israel.

The Jewish head coach took his predominantly Black Auburn University men’s basketball team to his people’s homeland, where they competed in exhibition games against Israeli teams, held a basketball clinic with Tamir Goodman, the “Jewish Jordan,” and visited historic sites.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency described it as “a 10-day Birthright-style trip.” Pearl called it a way to bring people together and, since ESPN aired the games, an “infomercial for Israel.”

On Sept. 13, Pearl, one of the biggest names in college basketball, will visit Philadelphia to talk about the trip.

The coach, who led Auburn to the regular-season SEC championship in 2022 and the Final Four in 2019, will be the keynote speaker at the 5th Annual Athletes Against Antisemitism Gala at the Hilton City Avenue. The event is a fundraiser for Stand with Us, a nonprofit that promotes a pro-Israel agenda and combats antisemitism, according to Paula Joffe, its executive director for the Mid-Atlantic region.

Pearl also is on the board of advisers for Alliance of Trust, a Philadelphia-based nonprofit that tries to “improve Black-Jewish relations through programs to combat racism and antisemitism,” according to its website. Stand

with Us is a sponsor for Alliance of Trust’s educational series on using sports to fight racism and antisemitism, said David Edman, the Alliance’s co-founder.

“I’m going to open up my heart. There are a lot of things that should bring the Black and Jewish communities together,” Pearl said. “One of the basic ones is we both have survived slavery.”

Pearl took his players to Israel because he wanted them to see that there was not much of a difference between his religious upbringing and theirs in the Christian faith. The group saw both Jewish and Christian sites.

It was an idea that the coach developed when he led the U.S. men’s basketball team to a gold medal at the 2009 Maccabiah Games. But due to COVID

and other events, the timing was never quite right, he said.

In 2022, though, it finally was.

“I’m a basketball coach. I’m trying to bring people together. Israel, Jerusalem, should bring everyone together. Not separate us,” Pearl said. “We got something started here.”

Pearl is working with a company called Creative Sports Marketing to bring more teams to the Holy Land in the future. He hopes to include a stop in the United Arab Emirates to teach a lesson about the Abraham Accords, the 2020 treaty organized by the United States between Israel, the UAE and Bahrain that normalized relations between the countries.

The coach’s grandparents were Orthodox. He went to shul with his

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Bruce Pearl and his team at Stand with Us' Israel Education Center in Jerusalem earlier this summer

*“I’m a basketball coach. I’m trying to bring people together. Israel, Jerusalem, should bring everyone together ... We got something started here.”*

BRUCE PEARL



Bruce Pearl

grandfather in Boston until he was 13 or 14 years old, when his grandfather died. As a college basketball coach, Pearl cannot really be Orthodox today, as it’s hard for him to observe the Sabbath when it happens to be college game day.

But his four kids had b’nai mitzvahs, and he still lights Shabbat candles on Friday nights. He also believes that it’s vital for American Jews to support politicians in both parties who support Israel.

“That’s got to be No. 1. Near or at the top of the list of what matters in American Jewry,” Pearl said. “Without Israel, we could be in trouble.”

Joffe believes that Pearl can provide insight into how to promote Israel to groups outside of the Jewish world, like his team. The Jewish community is finite and small, so it needs allies.

“The cause of fighting hate against Jews, against other minorities, against Israel, cannot rest on a small community,” Joffe said. “We need other people to stand on our shoulders.”

Pearl’s relationship with Edman’s

organization began in 2019 when both men were at an educational session with political leaders in Washington, D.C., about U.S.-Israel relations. Edman showed him the proposal for Alliance of Trust, and “he was on board,” Edman said.

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 2021, Pearl participated in a discussion at an Alliance of Trust event. He talked about how in sports, the color of a person’s skin does not matter. What matters is whether they can play.

“That’s why he’s such a perfect fit as the keynote speaker for an event called Athletes Against Antisemitism,” Joffe said. “These are natural alliances.”

The Sept. 13 gala is Stand with Us’ “major event,” according to Joffe. It is also its first big gala in the region since 2019 due to COVID. Stand with Us is raising money by selling tickets and sponsorships, as well as by holding an auction. **JE**

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# Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame Announces 2022 Inductees

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

The Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame still doesn't have a home after being flooded out of the Jewish Community Services building last summer. But for the second year in a row, that peripatetic existence will not stop the hall from holding its annual induction ceremony.

On Sept. 21 at Congregation Rodeph Shalom on North Broad Street, the PJSHF will induct six members into local Jewish sports lore. They are:

**Brent Novoselsky:** a University of Pennsylvania football player who went on to an NFL career with the Chicago Bears and Minnesota Vikings.

**Jimmy Kieserman:** the Abington High School basketball standout who also played at the University of Miami and in the Maccabiah Games four times.

**Brandi Millis:** the Cheltenham High School basketball standout who graduated to play for the University of Richmond and then professionally in Israel.

**Sarah Friedman:** a four-year soccer player at Penn.

**Jeff Asch:** a local sports journalist and broadcaster for KYW and other stations.

**The late Harry Lewis:** a welter-weight boxing champion who lived in Philadelphia.

Those six were chosen from a group of more than 80 nominees, according to Steve Rosenberg, the hall's chairman.

"This year's class is exceptional," Rosenberg said. "We have a person that played in the NFL. We have a woman who played professionally in Israel. We have Harry Lewis, one of the great names in boxing history."

We all know the old, often-used joke

about Jews and sports. And in competition for a Jewish hall of fame, athletes are going against fewer opponents. But for the five living inductees, the accomplishment is still a highlight.

After learning of their selections, all five took a minute to reflect on what it meant.

## Brent Novoselsky

"To be inducted to the Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame is really special to me because my time in Philly at Penn really was some of the best times of my life. I still have many great memories and the program we built at Penn and just the tremendous teammates that I had really have just allowed me to excel and be all I could be."

"I'm really excited to get back there and celebrate. I got some teammates

coming and some family, and it's going to be a great time."

## Jimmy Kieserman

"It's a culmination of everything I've done in my career. As long as that hall exists, my name is going to mean something — not just for athletics but Jewish athletics. That to me is really cool and special."

"If it wasn't for the Jewish hall of fame, I'd just be another athlete. People in our religion look up to that. Little Jewish kids at camps. People that are going to get involved in Maccabi."

## Brandi Millis

"It really justifies the background work that was put into my career. The behind-the-scenes stuff that people never really know or appreciate. It's the hours I spent in the backyard as a kid,

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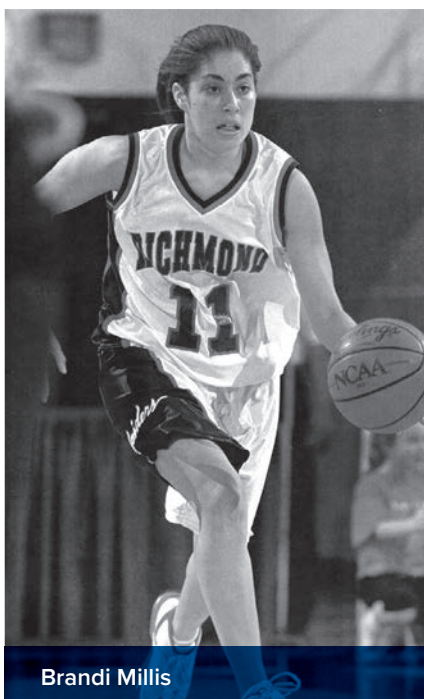
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Brandi Millis



Sarah Friedman



Jeff Asch

Photos Courtesy of the Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame

in the rain, in the snow, in the summer when my friends were at camp.”

“It’s a culmination of all that hard work.”

### Sarah Friedman

“One thing I was saying to my husband last night, we had a baby 10 months ago. I was saying to him last night that my life for the last two years has basically been all about baby. Getting this reward has reminded me of something prior to baby. Something that was so important to my life.”

“I got recruited. It helped me to get into college.”

### Jeff Asch

“When they called and told me I was being inducted into the Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, I didn’t know what to say and I started to cry. It means so much to be recognized for something you did for such a long period of time.”

“This is feedback that what I did for so many years, people really did hear me tell stories. I worked holidays, weekends, nights, overnights and mornings. I worked seven days a week for much of my career. But I never felt that it was a job. I didn’t know what the day would hold.”

\*\*\*

At last year’s ceremony, the hall required people to show COVID vaccination cards at the door and to wear masks while inside. This year, there will be no such restrictions, though Rosenberg did say to stay home if you’re sick.

He also mentioned that the hall is looking into making the Kaiserman JCC in Wynnewood its new home. Rosenberg believes that it’s important for the hall to have a permanent location again.

“People are going to be able to take their friends and family and say, ‘There’s my name,’” he said. **JE**

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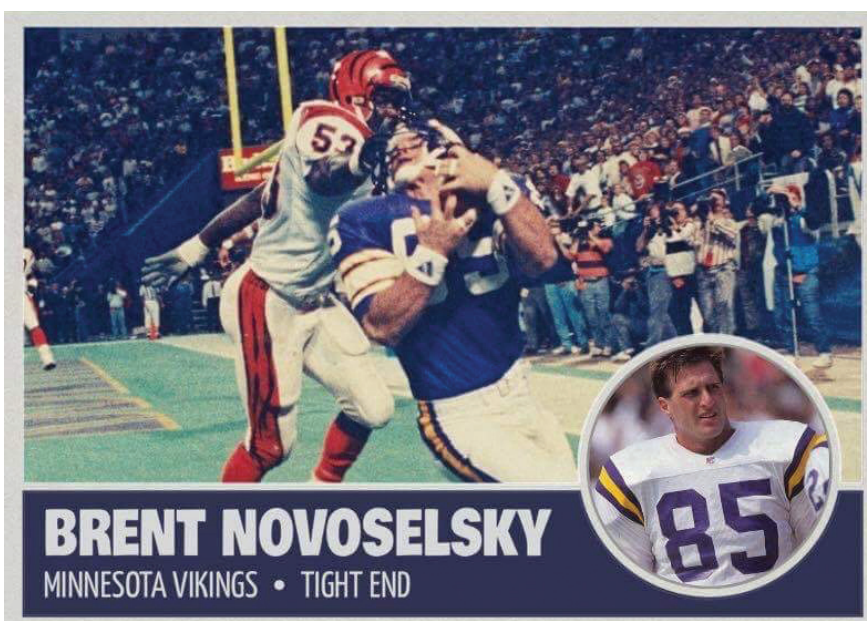
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# Meet the Jewish Federation's New Campaign Chairs: Michele S. Levin and Bill Glazer

**A**s a new Annual Campaign year starts, the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia is coming out of the gate strong with its campaign co-Chairs Michele S. Levin and Bill Glazer at the helm.

Announced as the new chairs in August, Glazer and Levin bring with them a wealth of experience to champion the critical work and impact the Jewish Federation makes locally, in Israel and around the world.

Following in the footsteps of immediate past campaign Chair Sherrie Savett, the two will build upon her tremendous success of raising critical dollars for Jewish education, social services and Israel engagement. And should the need arise for emergency dollars to be raised to meet an immediate need, they will lead that effort as well.

These communal needs are of no surprise to Levin and Glazer, who are deeply connected within the Jewish community, in addition to being prominent figures in the Greater Philadelphia business community.

Glazer founded Keystone Development + Investment in 1991, which has grown to a full-service real estate operating enterprise. He has invested and developed millions of square feet of properties, many of which have changed the landscape of the Greater Philadelphia area. In addition to a very busy work schedule, Glazer also prioritizes time to lend his expertise to nonprofit boards and participate in many professional organizations.

"It was an honor to have been approached early in my career to help create the Jewish Federation Real Estate affinity group," said Glazer, a founding member and a JFRE Executive Board member. "I'm proud of all that JFRE has accomplished over the years, bringing leaders in the real estate industry together to learn, network and make a philanthropic impact in the world."

Levin is the president of MSL Consulting Group, specializing in executive coaching, strategic planning and leadership development, and is a coach for BetterUp. She has also made a mark within the local and national Jewish community.



Bill Glazer

Courtesy of Bill Glazer



Michele S. Levin

Courtesy of Michele S. Levin

Levin serves on the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's Women's Philanthropy Board, and she is the chair of the Negev Now Network and an alum of the Jewish Federations of North America's National Young Leadership Cabinet. She is a past president of Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy and, most recently, co-chaired the Head of School Search Committee.

"I have enjoyed a long and fulfilling volunteer leadership career threading through much of the Jewish community," said Levin, who is also on the board of trustees at Har Zion Temple and previously served on the national board at Americans for Ben-Gurion University and board of Jewish Learning Venture. "The coveted role of campaign co-chair is an opportunity for me to bring together my passion for the global Jewish community and interest in strengthening Jewish engagement in Greater Philadelphia."

Levin's professional experience will prove useful in her efforts to engage with others who care so deeply for the Jewish community and want to make a difference.

"I want to see the Philadelphia Jewish community significantly increase its support of our local Jewish community, the global Jewish community and the state of Israel," she said.

Levin and Glazer are eager to get started.

Glazer is confident that the Jewish Federation is well positioned to be a priority among Jewish philanthropists.

"I've accepted this position so that I may help board co-Chairs Gail Norry and David Adelman unlock the potential of the Philadelphia Jewish community and to elevate the Jewish Federation's perception and standing among Jewish philanthropists," Glazer explained. "I look forward to igniting a passion for giving within others in the community."

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# YOU SHOULD KNOW ...

## Lori Salkin



HEATHER M. ROSS | STAFF WRITER

**M**atchmaking isn't always a straightforward process. Setting up two people who share the same values is a full-time job, as professional matchmaker Lori Salkin knows well.

Salkin, 40, is a relationship expert, dating coach and senior matchmaker at SawYouAtSinai.com and YUConnects.com and has been for more than 10 years.

Her first match was struck in college when she set up her brother with her roommate. Since then, Salkin has been responsible for 55 marriages.

Matchmaking takes up most of Salkin's day and some of her nights, but she still manages to find plenty of time to spend with her family and invest in her community. She serves on the board of directors

at Kohelet Yeshiva and the Union Fire Association in Bala Cynwyd.

"I don't sleep much. I don't have much free time. I tend to work until midnight or 1 a.m. every day. I don't have time to watch TV anymore," Salkin said.

But matchmaking is her passion, and the successes make everything worth it.

"I enjoy what I do. It's very, very fulfilling to know how many couples I've brought together. These people become your family — you hold them when they cry, celebrate with them," Salkin said.

Since the start of the pandemic, many have turned to dating apps to find companionship. While nearly half of all U.S. adults have used a dating site or app, only 12% reported being in a committed relationship or marriage with someone they met through a dating app, according to a 2020 survey by Pew Research Center.

"Everybody was in a complete state of panic that they wouldn't meet somebody. The opportunities were so diminished with everybody in lockdown," Salkin said.

According to Salkin, a major difference between traditional matchmaking and apps is that most dating profiles read like a list of facts: how tall someone is, how old they are, what they like to do and where they're from.

Salkin said those bios lack personality, and that the best way to get to know someone is to talk to them.

"Matchmaking is more personal: It tells you about their heart, their soul and their strengths," she said.

That's not the only gap in dating apps, according to Salkin.

"In-person meetings really make the difference," she said, "You learn a lot more about them and get a real sense of who they are."

For Salkin, the process starts when she reads a client's profile on SawYouAtSinai.com. She then calls them and gets to know them. Those initial conversations typically revolve around their personality, past relationships and the reason they've sought out a matchmaker or dating coach.

She also spends a lot of time talking with parents.

"Your parents know you best. They've known you your whole life; they have information I may not have," Salkin said.

Talking to parents helps Salkin get a better idea of values and desires her clients have.

"I think about shared values. We each have a set of values. People talk about the common background or common interests, but it's not the shared backgrounds; it's the shared values that people mix up with backgrounds," she said.

When it comes to love, there's a lot to learn from older generations, Salkin said.

"The way our parents did it and our grandparents did it was right. Sit down face to face and get to know somebody without going through all their social media. The way to meet someone is to talk to them, not Google search them," she said.

Salkin found love that way at Boston University. She was selling tickets for an event, and her future husband bought one from her. The next day, he sent her a message via the student portal and asked her to go for coffee. Salkin wasn't quite sure who he was, as she had sold a lot of tickets that day, but she was willing to give it a chance.

Salkin arrived early to their would-be date, and so did he. But when he arrived, Salkin had second thoughts and stood him up at the last minute. A day later, he messaged her, and they ended up rescheduling and going on several more dates.

During one date, they were walking Salkin's family dog when it hit her.

"Something clicked in my brain. I realized I like this guy. I got all nervous. What am I wearing? Why am I holding a dog?" she said.

Now, they've been married for 17 years and have four children.

Salkin shared some wisdom about what you can look forward to in a lasting partnership and how it gets better with time.

"When it comes to true love, to engagement, to the wedding night, your love continues to grow and get deeper and deeper," Salkin said. **JE**

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# Democrats to the Center, Republicans to the Right

The midterm elections are now a little more than nine weeks away. What was once predicted to be a resounding Republican recapture of the House and the Senate is no longer quite so clear.

But there are some interesting trends that were reinforced in last week's primaries: Republicans are voting for Trump-endorsed election deniers but not so much if they aren't Trump-endorsed; and Democrats are leaning toward the center.

In New York's District 12, the state's botched redistricting fiasco ended up pitting two prominent and moderate Democratic incumbents — Rep. Jerry Nadler and Rep. Carolyn Maloney — against each other. Nadler won that race. In nearby District 10, former federal prosecutor Dan Goldman defeated progressive State Assembly member Yuh-Line Niou and progressive incumbent Rep. Mondaire Jones. And in District 17, moderate incumbent Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney beat progressive state Sen. Alessandra Biaggi, despite her endorsement by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

We saw a similar result last month in the Michigan Democratic primary in a battle of two incumbents, where moderate Rep. Haley Stevens beat progressive Rep. Andy Levin. And in Minnesota, progressive Rep. Ilhan Omar, who was nominated by a wide margin in 2020, barely beat out her centrist



opponent in the 2022 primary.

If these and other Democratic results point to a tentative, but welcome, shift to party moderation, Republican results appear to be shifting to the right-wing fringe, where a Trump endorsement carries great weight and the assertion that President Joe Biden stole the 2020 election is taken as gospel.

Arizona is a good example. State lawmaker Mark Finchem won the Republican nomination for secretary of state. Finchem is an election denier who was endorsed by Trump. If he wins in November, Finchem will oversee the state's

election processes and will be the first in line to succeed the governor, since the state has no lieutenant governor.

In Florida, Cory Mills, a defense contractor who won the Republican nomination for a U.S. House seat, has also questioned Biden's 2020 victory. The same is true for Florida House nominee Anna Paulina Luna, who was endorsed by Trump and also boasted campaign backing from Georgia Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Jewish space laser fame.

Compare those results with the Republican elected officials that voters tossed out. For example, we wrote last week about Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming. Another Republican punished by voters is Rusty Bowers, speaker of Arizona's House of Representatives. Like Cheney, Bowers is pro-life, pro-gun, pro-small government and a former Trump supporter. He is also one of the people who refused requests to overturn 2020 election results in Arizona. He lost his seat to Trump-endorsed David Farnsworth, who believes that the 2020 election had been stolen by the "devil himself."

Such is the push and pull of today's politics. We are seeing a Democratic party strengthening its center as the Republican Party races for the right. While these primary results will present some clear general election choices in November, it isn't yet clear which way America wants to go. **JE**

GILI YAARI/FLASH90 PHOTO BY GAGE SKIDMORE / ATTRIBUTION-SHAREALIKE 2.0 GENERIC

## Let's Not Make a Deal

Israel Defense Minister Benny Gantz was in Washington last weekend to brief think tank directors on Israel's objections to the latest draft of a potential deal between the United States and Iran on Iran's nuclear program.

His argument was simple: Iran's nuclear know-how and infrastructure are irreversible. And if existing centrifuges are stored rather than destroyed as part of a new deal, they will be available to enrich uranium once the proposed agreement expires in 2031 — or immediately, if Iran chooses to do so.

Beyond that, no one has explained why there is any reason to believe that Tehran will be any more compliant with International Atomic Energy Agency regulations and investigators in 2022 than it was under the 2015 version of the deal. Of course, that concern may be irrelevant, since multiple sources maintain that Iran's enrichment capabilities have advanced to the point where it could produce a nuclear bomb within a matter of weeks, if it wants to.

But even if those reports are incorrect, and Iran needs a lot more work before being ready to produce and deploy a nuclear weapon, is it reasonable for the U.S. to trust Iran to comply with the terms of any new deal? This is, after all, the same regime that harbors and promotes the Iran Revolutionary Guard Corps, the terror mongers who, according to the Justice Department, offered a \$300,000 reward for the killing of former Trump national security adviser John Bolton and a second reward for killing former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. Are these the honorable people the U.S. government should trust?

We're skeptical. Nonetheless, even if there is good reason to believe that Iran will comply with inspection and assessment measures of IAEA, and a genuine belief that Iran will abide fully by restrictions regarding further nuclear development, we still don't understand what sense it makes to lift Western sanctions and free up the regime's access to more than \$100 billion in frozen assets.

Were that to happen, Iran would have even more resources to do all of the things we want the country to stop doing — including further pursuit of its nuclear ambitions, funding for the international terror activities of IRGC and even more support and encouragement for Hezbollah, Hamas and Islamic Jihad, which are poised to send deadly rockets into Israel and would like nothing more than to upend the spreading sense of acceptance of Israel as a legitimate partner in both the Middle East and, more broadly, around the world.

And finally, what would the U.S. get in return for entering into a new Iran deal? Simply correcting a perceived mistake by the Trump administration in an effort to vindicate a flawed deal of the Obama administration doesn't justify the move. We therefore encourage the Biden administration to abandon efforts to recreate a 7-year-old deal that is outdated and focus on charting a new course that is reflective of today's realities and responsive to today's concerns. **JE**

# A Second Iran Deal Would Be Based on Pure Fantasy



BY JOSEPH FRAGER

America is about to sign off on a second disastrous and foolhardy nuclear deal with Iran. Like Yogi Berra said, it's "déjà vu all over again."

The same people who made the first bad deal in 2015 are about to make another. The only difference is that it is not Barack Obama at the helm but President Joe Biden.

Once again, Israel's concerns are not being given the time of day. Biden has said over and over again that he will not allow Iran to acquire a nuclear weapon. He told this to Israeli officials on his recent visit to Israel.

the timeline of North Korea's agreements and deals with the United States and the West from 1994 until its nuclear breakout in 2006, one sees an eerie reminder of Iran's actions.

The difference, however, is that Iran is in the Middle East. Although South Korea is central to America's interests, the Gulf states and Israel are game changers. The oil states have all joined Israel via the Abraham Accords to fend off Iranian aggression. Yes, the Abraham Accords go much further and deeper than that, but it was Iran's nuclear ambitions that got the ball rolling.

Israel is not South Korea. It will not tolerate a nuclear Iran. There is no way of "containing" a nuclear Iran as some on the left have proposed. I believe that the proponents

*The Iranians learned how to build a bomb and fool the West from North Korea. Iran has been following the same playbook for years.*

The problem is that Iran is nearly at the point of nuclear breakout and a nuclear bomb is achievable in a very short time. No deal is going to stop the Iranians at this point. The deal will only be "smoke and mirrors." In a very important sense, a bad deal is worse than no deal at all.

The two main American critics of the first Iran deal, former National Security Advisor John Bolton and former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo now have Iranian bounties on their heads.

The Iranians learned how to build a bomb and fool the West from North Korea. Iran has been following the same playbook for years. All the while, it has used the \$150 billion it received from Obama as part of the 2015 deal to remain the number one state sponsor of terrorism in the world.

North Korea had 40 nuclear weapons, along with the ability to make at least seven more per year and outfit its long-range missiles with nuclear warheads. If one looks at

of a second Iran deal actually believe containment is possible. This is sheer fantasy. Israel and the Gulf states will hold Biden to his promise that Iran will not be allowed to acquire a nuclear weapon under his watch.

I have spoken to Israeli officials about how long it would take to obliterate Iran's nuclear capabilities. The answer was always "a few days." These were high-level officials with the intelligence to back up their statements.

There have been reports of Israeli F-35 jets flying over Iranian airspace. I don't doubt it.

Biden is determined to sign a second Iran deal. It plays well in the left's universe. It is not going to stop the Iranians from acquiring a nuclear weapon. **JE**

*Dr. Joseph Frager is the chairman of Israel advocacy for the Rabbinical Alliance of America, chairman of the executive committee of American Friends of Ateret Cohanim and executive vice president of the Israel Heritage Foundation.*

## J Street's Record Also Suspect

Rabbi Seymour Rosenbloom shows chutzpah slamming AIPAC when he represents the anti-Israel J Street ("AIPAC Needs to Rethink Its Strategy Before It Does Any More Damage," Aug. 25). They call themselves pro-Israel, but that's a lie. Their record speaks for itself.

I do, however, agree with Rosenbloom that this business of endorsing candidates is extremely unsettling to say the least. Should AIPAC endorse the Squad, Bernie Sanders and all so-called progressive Democrats that holler disproportionately when Israel defends itself? And should it ignore or excuse Palestinian terrorism and support BDS and the Iran deal, as does J Street? I don't have the answer, but neither does Rosenbloom.

Zachary Margolies, Philadelphia

## Substitute J Street for AIPAC

Regarding Rabbi Seymour Rosenbloom's op-ed ("AIPAC Needs to Rethink Its Strategy Before It Does Any More Damage," Aug. 25), one could substitute "J Street" for "AIPAC" in the same headline.

Rosenbloom, who serves on J Street's Rabbinic and Cantorial Cabinet, calls out AIPAC for endorsing and fundraising for Republicans in Congress who voted to overturn the 2020 election results, based on the claim that their votes "openly threaten democratic rights and freedoms."

Yet Rosenbloom is silent regarding his organization's endorsements of Democrats in Congress who voted for the Iran agreement (the JCPOA). In a rare display of unity, Jewish parties across Israel's political spectrum opposed the JCPOA because, by providing a legal pathway to Iran's development of a nuclear arsenal, the agreement constituted an existential threat to the Jewish state.

The likely revival of the JCPOA by President Biden after President Trump withdrew the U.S. from the accord in 2018 is drawing more attention to this threat. Indeed, on Aug. 24, Mossad Director David Barnea referred to the imminent deal as "a strategic disaster" for Israel.

Rosenbloom asserts that, by endorsing candidates who voted to overturn the 2020 election results, "It's long overdue for AIPAC to think about the group's actions." How ironic since, by supporting candidates who voted for an agreement that is an existential threat to Israel, the same could be said about Rosenbloom's own organization.

Jerry Stern, Merion Station

## Editorial Said Nothing

("The Trump Effect," Aug. 25) was a pretty useless editorial in the sense that it took no stance about anything.

Is the Exponent afraid to take a stance regarding one of the most dangerous people in America? I thought that was what editorials did. Guess I was wrong. No guts; no glory. Very disappointing. **JE**

Frank L. Friedman, Philadelphia

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



# To Help its Immigrants, Israel Must Invest in Education

BY BARBARA BIRCH

**J**ews who believe that Israel is an important refuge for the Jewish people aspire for Israel not only to welcome those in need but to help them succeed as citizens of Israel.

Whether it's Europeans escaping increased antisemitism, Americans fulfilling a dream of living in the Jewish homeland, a rescue mission from Ukraine or the long-awaited reunification of Ethiopian families, each story of a Jew arriving in Israel and starting a new life carries the hope of achieving the vision of Israel as a place where we all belong.

But too many *olim* (immigrants) become marginalized once they arrive. Aliyah to Israel included more than 20,000 new Israelis in 2021. For middle-class families who settle in Jerusalem or a Tel Aviv suburb and have jobs with comfortable salaries, a new life in Israel is the fulfillment of a dream. But for the Ethiopian, Ukrainian and so many other immigrants who arrive with few resources — and at times, little more than a backpack — the experience proves quite different.

"Operation Solomon" airlifted 14,325 Ethiopian Jews to Israel in 1991. The next generation of Ethiopian children is growing up in Israel, but they aren't faring as well as they should be. Today, Israel has 159,500 citizens of Ethiopian origin (about 1.72% of the population), and they face significant social disparities. They have low matriculation eligibility rates compared to other students, lower completion of service in the Israel Defense Forces, low rates of higher education and gaps in quality employment for women. The Ethiopian community deserves to be an integral part of Israeli society, yet their integration and that of other immigrant populations require a significant investment in education for them to succeed.

Since February, more than 15,000 Ukrainian refugees have arrived in Israel — nearly all women and children. Considering the statistics on the Ethiopian community, we should be worried about their future in Israel as well. Ukrainian immigrants, like many others, often settle in peripheral communities in the north and south of the country, where educational opportunities are much weaker than in the wealthier cities.

Thousands of young *olim* in Israel's geographic and economic periphery are not able to succeed due to an education system that is increasingly challenging. Israel's education ranks 42 (of 78) in science and 41 in math in the PISA (Programme



for International Student Assessment) ranking results (2018). The weakest areas are in the north and south of the country, where the populations include high percentages of immigrants and fewer government resources.

Israel's low teacher salaries and large class sizes led to strikes last spring. If Israel doesn't invest in its educational infrastructure, cities like Kiryat Yam in the north and Ashkelon in the south — both popular destinations for immigrant families — will find their children with limited options for success.

When we provide better educational opportunities, young students are significantly more likely to pursue higher education and better jobs. In Kiryat Yam, a new STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) Center built by ORT gave ninth-grader Aviv instruction in a maker lab, where he learned advanced technologies such as 3D printing. The experience has given him the option of a future career in engineering, something he had never considered before.

For Eden, the youngest of eight in an Ethiopian family, World ORT's Kfar Silver Youth Village addressed her challenges and provided her with the support she needed to build her confidence resulting in her completing her studies and her matriculation exams. Today, she is working in a hospital as part of her national service and plans

to study sociology.

While we hope that there will be improvements to the educational infrastructure, for now, much of the investment in peripheral communities comes from non-governmental organizations. By investing in early-childhood education, we will not have to provide as many interventions to support these populations later in life. They will succeed on their own; they will pass matriculation exams, serve in the IDF, continue on to higher education or work in jobs that provide for them and their families.

The measure of success of any immigrant population is the success of the next generation. The immigrant dream in Israel — and everywhere else — is that the next generation will have access to a high-quality, productive life. The first critical pathway to that life is education. We can help by investing in the education of thousands of *olim* arriving in Israel's periphery, ensuring that new Israelis don't fall short of their aspirations. Our support for educational programs can alleviate the cycle of poverty that currently exists and prevents these populations from achieving full engagement in Israeli society. **JE**

*Barbara Birch is the president and CEO of ORT America.*

# Mothers Who Report Abuse Still Losing Custody ‘at Staggering Rates’



BY AMY NEUSTEIN

Two weeks ago FX launched a ground-breaking five-part miniseries, “Children of the Underground,” focusing on a well-publicized 1980s vigilante movement that ran safe houses in the U.S. and Europe to assist mothers in hiding with their children when family courts had erroneously ordered their children to live with a sexually abusive parent notwithstanding compelling evidence to support the abuse.

Though the Underground Railroad has become a relic of the past, the danger to children posed by errant judicial decisions is just as exigent today.

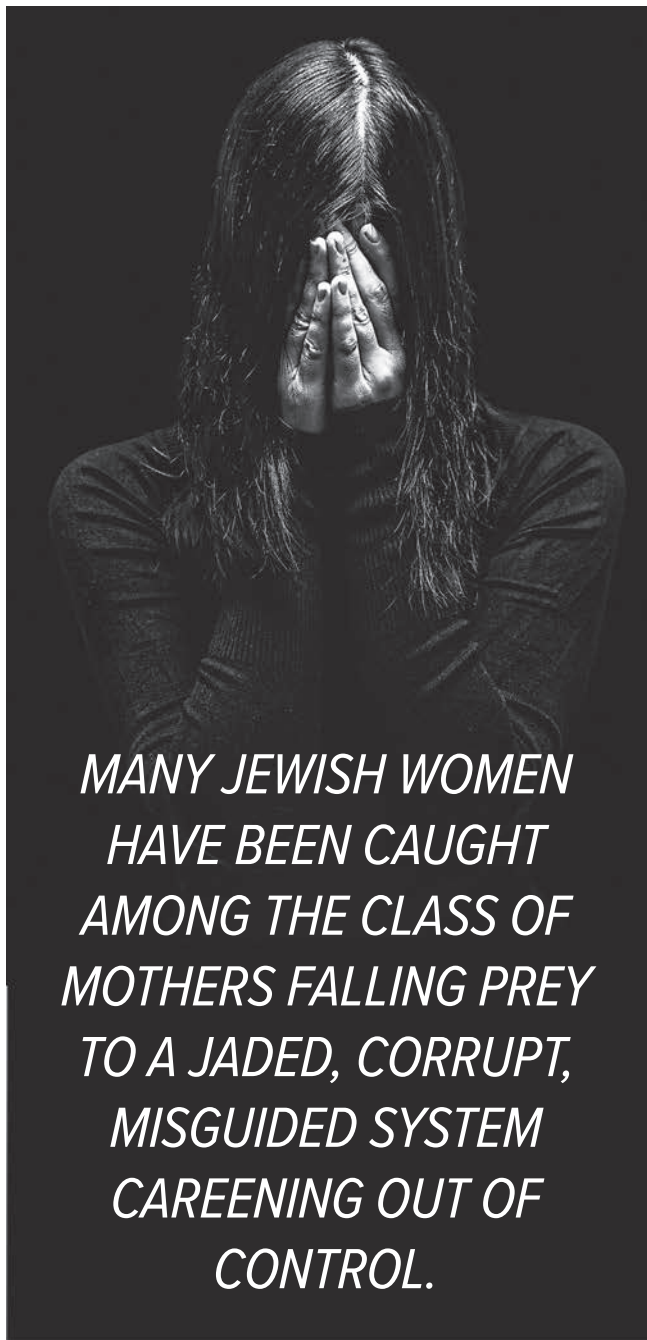
In 2019, The Washington Post, pointing to a trailblazing study conducted by a clinical law professor at George Washington University Law School, stated that “mothers who report abuse — particularly child abuse — are losing child custody at staggering rates.”

In fact, the study showed that in over 73% of the time when mothers presented credible evidence of abuse, and the other parent charges “parental alienation” — when a child refuses to have a relationship with a parent due to manipulation, an unsubstantiated theory invoked as a smokescreen — the family court judges who are easily persuaded by this fallacy will strip the mother of custody and relegate her to restrictive and limited contact with her child. This is usually at a court-approved institutional setting where a visitation supervisor is hired to monitor everything the mother says to her child to prevent any further discussion of abuse.

Sadly, such moratoriums even include when the children themselves initiate discussion in making new disclosures of abuse.

In most cases, the costs of supervised visitation become so prohibitive to the mother that she cannot continue to see her child. That is, the mother is forced to pay, in addition to child support, a few hundred dollars for each visit to cover both the costs of the supervisor and the institution, which provides the visitation setting.

Such visitation arrangements are structured after that mother has already been nearly bankrupted by attorney’s fees, court transcripts costs, expert witness fees, law guardian fees, and other litigation expenses. Yet, there is no structured government program to bankroll supervised visi-



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tation, lest the government would “catch on” and see the outrage of such setups in the first place — deeming the supervision of the mother to be nothing other than pointless and punitive.

Accordingly, when mothers run out of funds to finance this canard — which can begin with a preschool-age child and last until the child is 18 — the consequences to the mother and child are no less than dire. Not seeing Mommy anymore implants a terrifying message of abandonment in the psyche of the child, who has pleaded repeatedly to be protected from abuse by the other parent.

The child, who had once envisioned their

mother as anchor, protector and advocate, now sees their mother as powerless or worse — often as a co-enabler to the abuse the child is forced to endure living with the dangerous parent. Unfortunately, many children will turn against their mothers for abandoning them and when they reach adulthood they are reluctant to reunite with them.

Understandably, the system that has created such draconian conditions for mothers, has also harmed fathers — good fathers, loving fathers, caring fathers — who have been expunged from the lives of their children. But the devastation to mothers and children as a nationwide problem must be addressed too.

Many Jewish women have been caught among the class of mothers falling prey to a jaded, corrupt, misguided system careening out of control. Motherhood is the bedrock of Jewish society; it is the institution that nurtures, fortifies and sustains us. The ablation of mothers from the lives of their children has proven to take its toll on the mental health of such “orphanized” children, causing depression, low self-esteem, eating disorders or worse.

As a Jewish community, we have often taken the lead when confronted with social atrocities, from civil rights to reproductive rights, from school desegregation to gender equality in the military and in civilian life. No doubt Jewish women who were beacons in the earlier days of the feminist movement have been etched in history, and many still remain as household names today. At Judaism’s core is an enduring sense of moral justice that suffuses our history and modern-day existence.

The mothers across America badly need our help, and they cannot afford to wait. Whether the solution is a bipartisan congressional hearing, a full-fledged Justice Department investigation, or a proactive lobbying effort on Capitol Hill, we must not tarry.

We must gather and unite to assist mothers — Jewish and non-Jewish — so that women are no longer punished with the loss of custody of their children and the ensuing restrictive visitation that they cannot afford to sustain. To do anything less would be a disservice to mothers mired in the failed family court system. **JE**

*Amy Neustein is co-author of “From Madness to Mutiny: Why Mothers are Running from the Family Courts — and What Can be Done About It,” University Press of New England, 2005; second edition, Oxford University Press, forthcoming.*



# ‘Quiet Quitting,’ the Sudden Trend in Work, Sounds Sort of ... Jewish? (Hear Me Out.)

BY ANDREW SILOW-CARROLL

I hadn’t heard of “quiet quitting” until about 10 minutes ago. Since then every major news outlet has done a story on this purported trend, defined as a movement among office workers to draw firmer work-life boundaries by doing less work.

It means closing your laptop at 5 p.m. when your cubicle-mate is staying late to finish a project. It means turning off notifications on your phone so you can’t check your work emails after hours. It can mean doing the bare minimum and still hanging onto your job.

On a grander scale, it means cooling your hottest ambitions in favor of a saner work-life balance.

Of course, to a certain kind of devotee of the attention economy, this sounds like nothing less than slacking off. “Quiet quitting isn’t just about quitting on a job, it’s a step toward quitting on life,” huffed Arianna Huffington in a LinkedIn post. The Fox News host Tomi Lahren said it’s just a euphemism for being “LAZY” (she added an expletive).

I don’t have a dog in this fight, since I am not a “quiet quitter.” (I am more a “person without any hobbies or little kids, who if he closes his laptop at 5 p.m. doesn’t know what to do with himself.”) But I understand the impulse. Technology and corporate culture conspire to blur the lines between work and office. The demise of unions has shifted the workplace power balance to employers. For those who could work at home, the pandemic obliterated the boundaries between on and off hours.

“Quitting” is a terrible way to describe what is really doing your job, no more and no less. It only feels like “quitting” to a culture that demands that you sacrifice private time to your employer or career. This peculiarly American “ethic” shows up, for instance, in vacations: Americans get on average 10 fewer vacation days a year than Europeans because, unlike the European Union, the United States does not federally mandate paid vacation or holidays.

Just reading a New York Times article about how eight of the 10 largest private U.S. employers are using tracking software to monitor their employees made me feel guilty and anxious — even though I was reading the article as part of my job.



If quiet quitting were actually slacking, it would run afoul of Jewish law.

“Jewish employees are obligated to work at full capacity during their work hours and not to ‘steal time’ from their employers,” writes Rabbi Jill Jacobs in a *responsa* — legal opinion — called “Work, Workers and the Jewish Owner,” written for the Conservative movement in 2008. And yet this warning aside, Jewish law is much more concerned with employers who take advantage of employees rather than the other way around.

Jacobs — now the executive director of T’ruah, the rabbinic human rights group — describes nine principles of workplace justice in the Torah, and nearly all are addressed to the employer. These include treating workers with “dignity and respect” and paying them a living wage and on time.

“The ideal worker-employer relationship should be one of trusted partnership,” she writes, “in which each party looks out for the well-being of the other, and in which the two parties consider themselves to be working together for the perfection of the divine world.”

This is not exactly what we now know as the “Protestant work ethic.” The rabbis of the Talmud did not tie hard work and economic success to divine salvation. No doubt, they understand that people need to and should work for a living. “In traditional sources, work is often regarded as nec-

essary, and certainly better than idleness (which can lead to sin),” according to a helpful article from My Jewish Learning.

And yet, because the study of Torah is considered the ideal use of one’s time (assuming you are a man, anyway) the rabbis were clearly wary of occupations and ambitions that demanded too much of a worker. In *Pirkei Avot*, the collection of ethical sayings from the Mishnah, Rabbi Meir says, “Minimize business and engage in Torah.” The rabbis, My Jewish Learning explains, “were clearly worried that excessive pursuit of material well-being would distract from higher pursuits.”

The artist Jenny Odell’s 2019 manifesto about quitting the “attention economy,” “How to Do Nothing,” similarly rejects “a frame of reference in which value is determined by productivity, the strength of one’s career, and individual entrepreneurship.”

Easier said than done, however. Her antidote — to “stand apart,” to embrace “solitude, observation, and simple conviviality” — is perhaps more feasible if you are an artist rather than an office-worker, let alone a factory worker, home health aide or Amazon warehouse runner. (She spends a lot of time birdwatching and retreating to mountain cabins.)

To her credit, Odell quotes Samuel Gompers, the Jewish-British immigrant and labor leader who championed the eight-hour workday as far back as 1886. In an address asking “What Does Labor Want?,” Gompers answered by quoting Psalms: “It wants the earth and the fullness thereof.”

What most people want, I suspect, is simply more control over their time and mind-space, and to keep work from leaking into their private lives — and maybe vice-versa. They want to do work that matters, and the private time to decompress, reconnect and take care of stuff.

It’s telling that there is no commandment in Torah to work, but there are plenty to rest. Shabbat is a literal day of rest, but it is also a mindset. It strictly defines profane productivity, in order to carve out space and time for the sacred. This Jewish attitude toward work and rest is not about quitting, but it is about occasional quiet. **JE**

*Andrew Silow-Carroll is editor-in-chief of the New York Jewish Week and senior editor of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. He previously served as JTA’s editor in chief and as editor-in-chief and CEO of the New Jersey Jewish News.*

## Billionaires Give \$1M Apiece to Pro-Israel PACS

Pro-Israel PACs reported millions of dollars in donations in August, including from billionaire donors with long track records of giving to Israel-related causes, JTA reported.

Kraft Group LLC, the company owned by New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft, gave \$1 million to the United Democracy Project, the new super PAC affiliated with AIPAC, the powerhouse Israel lobby.

George Soros' Democracy PAC donated the same amount to the J Street Action Fund, the PAC affiliated with the liberal pro-Israel lobby.

Kraft, a prolific donor to Jewish causes who gave \$1 million to Donald Trump in 2017, is the sixth person to break seven figures in giving to AIPAC's super PAC, joining WhatsApp founder Jan Koum and five others to donate at that level.

United Democracy Project spent over \$26 million in Democratic primaries this cycle, making it the largest spender and one of the most active super PACs in the entire country. Its preferred candidates prevailed in seven of the nine congressional races where it spent money.

Meanwhile, Soros' donation was the single largest to J Street Action Fund, which has spent \$1.7 million this cycle, including \$100,000 to Rep. Jamaal Bowman, a progressive who staved off a challenger in his New York district.

## Italian Company That Produces Hitler Wines Says it Will Stop Next Year

The heir to an Italian winery that has long produced an Adolf Hitler varietal says he will be putting a cork in its "historical" series of wines next year, JTA reported.

"That's enough. We're sick and tired of all this controversy," Andrea Lunardelli, who expects to take over Vini Lunardelli in early 2023, told an Italian newspaper. "So from next year, the whole historical line with labels of people like Hitler and Mussolini will disappear."

If Lunardelli goes through with his promise, it would bring to an end a three-decade line of Nazi-themed business for his family's company — and to waves of criticism, including from Jewish groups, that have accompanied it.

Vini Lunardelli in northeastern Italy first introduced the series featuring dictators and fascist figures such as Francisco Franco and Josef Stalin in 1995. The company's site boasts more than 37 different labels, featuring dozens of Nazi-glorying slogans.

The wines have long generated outrage as well as official censure. In 1997, the German government lodged several complaints, and 10 years later Italian police seized bottles from the business.

## PCR Tests Reinstated at Ben-Gurion Airport

Ben-Gurion International Airport reinstated a service on Aug. 24 that most travelers probably didn't miss: PCR testing for people entering Israel, jns.org reported, citing Israel Hayom.

The tests are being funded by the government and are voluntary, at least for now. The purpose of the program is to make PCR testing easily accessible for people entering the country ahead of winter when COVID-19 numbers are projected to spike.

In the first phase of the new rollout, testing will be carried out from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Later, testing will be available around the clock. Travelers who want to be tested can avail themselves of the service in the "G zone" of the arrival hall after collecting their baggage.

## About Half of the Ukrainian Refugees in Israel Have Left

Of 29,000 Ukrainian refugees who sought refuge in Israel, 14,000 have left for other countries, Haaretz reported, citing Social Services Ministry data.

Meantime, another 4,200 have qualified for citizenship under the nation's Law of Return.

Nearly 13,000 Ukrainians have registered for humanitarian assistance, which might include medical care, education system placement and aid for buying food. **JE**

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb



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# Judaism Hangs on at Synagogue in Rural Pennsylvania

BY HEATHER M. ROSS | STAFF WRITER

**I**T STARTED IN CHAMBERSBURG in 1840 when a group of Jewish men established a burial society — a small cemetery with a building to prepare bodies for burials — and a house for a visiting rabbi where they held services.

By 1919, Congregation Sons of Israel applied for and received nonprofit status as a religious organization. And for the 103 years since, the synagogue has served as the center of Jewish life in the small (population of about 21,000), rural town of Chambersburg, about 25 miles northeast of Gettysburg in south-central Pennsylvania.

The closest synagogue has a part-time rabbi and is nearly 25 miles away and across the Maryland state line; the next closest is 35 miles away.

“My parents moved to Chambersburg when I was 4 years old. I was the second girl ever bat mitzvahed at the synagogue,” said Lynne Newman, the religious director and ritual chair.

While the congregation was larger in the past, the synagogue remains an important symbol to local Jews, and the congregation has undeniably shaped Chambersburg, which got its start as a milling town in 1730 and was burned by Confederate forces in 1864.

“When I was younger, if you missed three days (of

school), you’d be considered a truant. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur were considered truancy,” Newman said. “A group of merchants and our rabbi went to the school district and got that changed. They’re still not official, but you’re no longer truant. Those three days mean you can’t have perfect attendance.”

Jews have never had a major presence in Chambersburg but, for the most part, the community has welcomed, embraced and supported Franklin County’s only synagogue.

“When the Pittsburgh attack happened, I organized a memorial service, and 400 or 500 people came. People left flowers at the doors of our synagogue and wrote letters,” Newman said, referencing the antisemitic terrorist attack at the Tree of Life synagogue in 2018.

The largest religious population in Chambersburg is Christianity, and the majority of the town is politically conservative. According to Pennsylvania Department of State voter registration statistics, Franklin County has about 61,000 registered Republicans compared to 24,000 Democrats.

“This is an exceptionally conservative area. When my parents moved to Chambersburg, my father, who had been a lifelong Democrat, registered as a



Republican because in Chambersburg if you wanted to do business you had to be Republican — it was just that conservative of an area,” Newman said.

New arrivals seldom change Chambersburg, according to Newman. Chambersburg changes them.

“Chambersburg as a whole is not bad; there are antisemites here, as there are everywhere. Since Trump, they’ve become more overt,” she said.

The most striking antisemitism Newman encountered in Chambersburg happened when she was in ninth grade at the since-closed Central Junior High School.

Newman was in health class, raising her hand and answering questions when her teacher scolded her about the way she answered, despite all students responding in the same manner.

“He said, ‘This is not one of your Jewish prayer meetings,’” Newman recalled.

When Newman asked for an apology, she was sent to the principal’s office, where she explained what happened to a relatively unconcerned administration. For the next three days, instead of going to health class, she went to the office, where she stayed until the teacher apologized.

“Other than that, I’ve had no trouble at all, not with anybody or anything. It struck me even as I was married and grew up. Most people respected me as

Exterior photos by Heather M. Ross

long as I went to services and practiced my religion,” Newman said.

The synagogue is an important reminder for Chambersburg of religious diversity and the importance of interfaith cooperation.

“When I graduated high school, there were four Jews in my graduating class,” Newman said, so when her children were growing up, she made an effort to help educate the community about Jewish life.

“When my kids were growing up, I went into schools for Christmas and Easter to talk about Chanukah and Passover. I’d bring in food and games. I’d talk to them. And the teachers were all willing to do that,” she said.

According to Newman, the interfaith movement has an undeniable presence, even in Chambersburg.

“We get calls from different churches [with people] asking to come to our synagogue and observe a service. We have a ministerium that was started by one of our rabbis and a minister from a Presbyterian church. They did a Holocaust service; for a long time, it was held at different churches and occasionally at the synagogue. For the past 15 years or so, it has almost always been at our synagogue. The participation is interfaith with different churches in the area. We light memorial candles and have different readers,” Newman said.

The interfaith movement also plays a role in how the small synagogue raises money.

“We have [a few] different fundraisers. One is our Jewish Heritage Food Festival; we have the food festivals twice a year. Christians from all over come to these food festivals. The women of the synagogue do the cooking and [we] take stuff home with us. You come in, donate all the food and pay for a meal. People come, they like the food, they try different things. We take people upstairs, and show them our sanctuary. It’s a way to reach the community,” Newman said.

“It shows people we aren’t scary. It’s hard to hate something that you understand,” she said.

The synagogue has hosted Friday night services and invited different area churches to send representatives. Those services typically end with a question-and-answer period.



A young congregant in Chambersburg

Garry Kipe, a pastor in Chambersburg for more than 20 years at the Bethel Assembly of God Church, said that, overall, Chambersburg is not familiar with Judaism.

But he believes that other Christians and Americans can learn from Judaism.

“Their value, how they esteem the Torah, they just highly esteem the word of God, and it really spoke to me and challenged me, that wow, we need to really respect what we hold in our hands, the Bible. And a lot of people in America don’t really realize what they hold. They (Jewish people) take it seriously,” Kipe said.

Every year on Christmas, Jews and other volunteers make Christmas dinner to help the local Chambersburg Salvation Army. The collaboration between faiths has been a tradition there since 1986 and provides Christmas dinners for hundreds of people in the area every year.

“I’ve invited choirs, ministers, Santa and his elves. It’s not my holiday, but I want them to have a good

one,” Newman said.

Despite the rich history and deep community ties, the synagogue is struggling. It has shrunk to about 20-25 families, which is problematic.

“Most of our members were older, and they passed on. All the other kids went to college and never came back. A lot of the kids growing up in the synagogue didn’t come back as adults, they didn’t come back to Chambersburg. Most Jews in Chambersburg are not affiliated. They may have married a Christian,” Newman said. “We are losing the next generation.”

“My grandson will be 8 in September. I want it (the synagogue) to be there for him to be bar mitzvahed, but I don’t know if we’ll make it,” Newman said.

Jessica Doubell, the board president at Congregation Sons of Israel, said, “It’s very important for there to still be a Jewish presence in Chambersburg. We are in such an area that is predominantly Christian. When I was growing up, not a lot of people knew what Jews were. It’s very important for everybody to keep an open mind about the world, and remember that it’s not the same everywhere you go.”

Doubell cherishes the synagogue’s community, noting that even members who no longer attend stay connected via the mailing list. The history the synagogue shares with the Chambersburg community is only part of why it’s so special to Doubell, who grew up in the synagogue attending services and playing hide-and-seek with the rabbi’s son.

While the congregation has shrunk, it remains deeply connected to Chambersburg and Judaism, with members looking forward to every Friday.

“Without the Chambersburg synagogue, the next closest is so far away, it would really cut off those who want to go to services and be part of the Jewish community. I don’t have time to go to Harrisburg,” Doubell said.

The synagogue is looking to hire a new full-time rabbi, as a part-time rabbi left for a new position. Rabbi Dr. Samuel Richardson, who works for the Jewish National Fund as the director of small community outreach, is serving during the High Holidays, then staying on through Sukkot. [JE](#)

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The bimah of Congregation Sons of Israel in Chambersburg

# Preventing Alzheimer's Disease

## The New Science of the Aging Brain



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BY DR. PAUL E. BENDHEIM

Until recently, we thought today's grim facts about Alzheimer's disease could not be changed. According to the Alzheimer's Association "2022 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures":

- One in three seniors dies from Alzheimer's disease or another form of dementia.
- More than 6 million Americans currently have Alzheimer's disease.
- Since 2000, heart disease deaths are down 7.3%, but AD deaths are up 145%.
- Dementia will cost the US \$362 billion in 2022, projected at \$1 trillion by 2050.

Years ago, when I was a fourth-year medical student at the University of Arizona College of Medicine in Tucson, I had the privilege to spend several months at the Neurological Institute of Columbia University in Manhattan. Dr. Houston Merritt, emeritus chairman and perhaps the most famous neurologist in the history of American medicine, met with our group of students every week. On one of those occasions, he noted that the worst thing about getting old was listening to his brain cells commit suicide.

That seemingly programmed, self-destructive behavior of brain cells (neurons) was the central dogma of the aging brain until the last 20 years. This old dogma stated that the human brain — the most complex, creative and remarkable object in the universe — started to unravel at about the age of 40. If you were "lucky," it unraveled slowly and you maintained mental agility into your 60s, 70s and beyond. If you were "unlucky," it unraveled more rapidly and you became senile — or in modern medical parlance, demented.

It is true that the normal wear and tear of the aging brain causes some loss of gray matter brain cells and the white matter connections between them and results in an 80-year-old brain not being as nimble as a 40-year-old brain. But if properly maintained, the brain, even

*"Nor, indeed, are we to give our attention solely to the body; much greater care is due to the mind and soul for they, too, like lamps, grow dim with time unless we keep them supplied with oil ... intellectual activity gives buoyancy to the mind." Cicero, 44 BCE.*

in those 90 or even 100 years of age, can maintain its sharpness, agility and creativity. Alzheimer's disease is not an inevitable consequence of aging.

### The new science of the aging brain

Charles Darwin predicted what modern neuroscience has now proven: "If I had my life to live over again, I would make it a rule to read some poetry, listen to some music and see some painting or drawing at least once a week, for perhaps the part of my brain now atrophied would then have been kept alive through life. The loss of these tastes is a loss of happiness."

The new science of the aging brain is founded on two fundamental principles. The first is neuroplasticity. Neuroplasticity is the brain's ability to rewire, improve and fortify itself. Neurologists have known for many decades that a child's brain can take advantage of this inherent property to compensate for injuries occurring in childhood. We have learned over the past few decades that neuroplasticity can be activated throughout the lifespan. New cells can be generated — especially in the hippocampus, the seahorse-shaped structure responsible for new memory formation — and new synapses (connections) can be formed between brain cells.

The second fundamental principle is cognitive reserve, also called brain reserve.

Cognitive reserve is like physical reserve. Physical reserve results from regular physical exercise, a heart-healthy diet and controlling medical risk factors such as hypertension, diabetes, smoking, cholesterol and

obesity. Physical reserve significantly reduces the risk of heart attack and stroke; it hastens your ability to recover from the flu, COVID-19 or an operation.

Similarly, cognitive reserve is preserved, built and strengthened by practicing brain-healthy lifestyle behaviors and managing the same risk factors. There are six evidence-based lifestyle components that contribute to cognitive reserve and to happier, healthier aging:

- Brain workouts that engage, stimulate and fortify your inherent abilities to learn, think and remember
- Modest physical exercise on an almost daily basis
- An active social life
- Healthy nutritional habits
- Stress reduction
- Memory strengthening sleep

Cognitive reserve is an insurance policy. Building and maintaining it will not guarantee that you will not get Alzheimer's disease but it greatly reduces your risk and will enrich your life.

### Preventing cognitive decline and Alzheimer's disease

In 2015, "The Finnish Geriatric Intervention Study to Prevent Cognitive Impairment and Disability" (FINGER Study) was published in *The Lancet*, the leading British medical journal. This scientifically rigorous clinical trial involved 1,200 aging Scandinavians. It showed that it is possible to prevent

cognitive decline by employing a multi-component lifestyle intervention in at-risk older people. Individuals participating in the active arm of the study received cognitive training, physical fitness, socialization, nutritional guidance and monitoring and treatment of medical risk factors. Participants in the control arm received only general medical advice.

The results were so noteworthy that two years later, they made the cover of Scientific American (April 2017). “A Success in the Fight Against Alzheimer’s: New Ways to Stop the Fog of Dementia Before it Starts.” The authors, Miia Kivipelto and Krister Håkansson, wrote “A gold-standard clinical trial provides evidence that diet, exercise and an active social life can help prevent cognitive decline.”

Medical-science advances when experimental results are tested by other investigators and findings are reproduced. The Alzheimer’s Association recently launched the U.S. Study to Protect Brain Health Through Lifestyle Intervention to Reduce Risk (U.S. POINTER) study. This two-year clinical trial evaluates whether lifestyle interventions that simultaneously target many risk factors protect cognitive function in older adults who are at increased risk for cognitive decline.

Dementia has been declared a public health priority by the World Health Organization. The WHO 2021 report on dementia stated: “Studies show that people can reduce their risk



Dr. Paul E. Bendheim

Courtesy of Dr. Paul E. Bendheim

of cognitive decline and dementia by being physically active, not smoking, avoiding harmful use of alcohol, controlling their weight, eating a healthy diet and maintaining healthy blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar levels. Additional risk factors include depression, social isolation, low educational attainment, cognitive inactivity and air pollution.”

As of 2022, approximately 300 trials have failed to conclusively identify a drug or biological intervention to prevent or modify the relentless, progressive course of Alzheimer’s disease. The only proven approach to slow the growing epidemic of Alzheimer’s disease is the management of risk factors, both medical and lifestyle. This means a personal commitment to a brain-healthy lifestyle. Each of us has to be our own brain health quarterback.

One final note: There are numerous causes of memory problems and dementia, some of which are treatable and reversible. If you, a loved one, or a friend are experiencing increasing memory lapses, forgetfulness or have any concerns about your brain health, I urge you to speak with a health care provider. **JE**

*Dr. Paul E. Bendheim is a clinical professor of neurology at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix and author of “The Brain Training Revolution: A Proven Workout For Healthy Brain Aging.” Bendheim is also the founder, chairman and CEO of BrainSavers, Inc.*



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# Vietnamese-Style Chicken Meatballs for Dinner

KERI WHITE | SPECIAL TO THE JE

**M**y daughter recently invited a bunch of pals to the beach. We had planned a traditional burgers-and-dogs cookout, but she informed me that one of the guests would only eat a “chicken burger.”

I rolled my eyes a bit, but dutifully bought a pound of ground chicken at the supermarket to accommodate this preference. Then chicken-burger girl didn’t come, and I was stuck with a pound of something that I never use.

But I have spoken before of my abhorrence of waste and was determined to find a tasty use for the ground chicken. This simple recipe was a huge hit, as was the brown/cauliflower rice blend and the accompanying salad.

## Vietnamese-Style Chicken Meatballs

*Makes 12 meatballs, which serve 3 or 4 people*

Before I made these, I looked at several other recipes and came up with my own. I was pleasantly surprised that the meatballs held together well without additional binders — no egg, no panko or breadcrumbs — so the dish is a good option for people with allergies.

### For the meatballs:

- 1 pound ground chicken
- 2 tablespoons grated fresh ginger
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 teaspoon chopped jalapeño pepper
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 teaspoon soy sauce
- 4 tablespoons finely chopped onion, divided
- 2 tablespoons canola oil for frying

### For the sauce:

- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon grated ginger
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 tablespoon sesame oil
- 1 tablespoon hoisin sauce or Japanese barbecue sauce
- ½ cup chicken or vegetable broth
- Fresh cilantro for garnish, if desired.

Heat your oven to 350 degrees F.

Make the meatballs: In a medium bowl, mix the chicken, ginger, garlic, jalapeño, 3 tablespoons of the onion, cilantro and soy sauce. Heat the oil in the skillet with the remaining tablespoon of onion until fragrant.



Photo by Kerl White

Form the chicken into meatballs — slightly smaller than a golf ball. Pack them rather firmly, and place them in the skillet to brown. Turn the meatballs over until the outsides are browning, but they are not cooked through. Each batch should take about 5 minutes.

Place the meatballs in an ovenproof dish with a lid. (I used a square Pyrex or Corning-type 2-quart dish).

Set the meatballs aside and make the sauce: In the same skillet, add the ginger and garlic to the sautéed onions. Stir until fragrant. Add the remaining ingredients, and stir while bringing it to a boil. Cook for several minutes until the liquid reduces a bit, and then pour it over the meatballs.

Cover the meatballs, and bake them in a heated oven for 30 minutes until they are cooked through.

Top the meatballs with fresh cilantro, and serve them over rice or with lettuce cups.

## Brown/Cauliflower Rice

*Serves 4*

Like many of my recipes, this came out of a need to pivot. I had intended to make brown rice, but the quantity left in the bag was insufficient for the four guests I intended to feed, and I did not have time to go to the store.

I scanned the pantry and fridge and discovered that I had a bit of raw cauliflower rice left from another recipe. An idea began to germinate. It worked — and when this side dish was topped with the tasty meatballs and flavorful sauce, no

one sneered about the whole grain rice laced with vegetables!

- 1½ cups brown rice
- 1 cup cauliflower rice
- Pinch of salt

In a large saucepan, cook the rice according to the package directions. When it is just done and still hot, remove it from the heat, and add the cauliflower rice. Stir, cover and let it sit for a few minutes. This will “cook” the cauliflower rice and deliver a nice texture.

## Soy-Rice Vinegar Dressing

*Makes about ¼ cup*

This dressing was the perfect complement to a simple summer lettuce salad. It could also be tossed with any of the following, or a combo thereof: baby greens, raw cucumbers, sliced tomatoes, grated carrots, chopped cabbage, green beans or even cooked veggies.

- 1 tablespoon rice vinegar
- 3 tablespoons canola oil (or other mild oil)
- 1-2 teaspoons soy sauce
- A few drops of Sriracha or other hot sauce, if desired
- 1 teaspoon sesame oil
- Pinch sugar

Mix all the ingredients in a small bowl or sealable container until ready to use. **JE**

# ‘Rehearsals’ Pulls No Punches in Depictions of Relationships, Israeli Theater

ANDY GOTLIEB | JE EDITOR

From the very first scene of “Rehearsals,” viewers will realize the show isn’t sugarcoating how things work behind the scenes in theater, nor is it casting a warm glow on those who bring it to the stage.

In that first scene, we see the curtain call of a play, complete with the actors smiling and waving to an adoring crowd. But as they come off stage, it’s clear that all is not well. The male lead curses about having to do an extra curtain call and is more interested in getting the score from a sporting event. His co-star thinks he was dismissive of her, while another actor confronts him because he cut short her punchline.

All of this happens in about two minutes, and we haven’t even met the stars of the series, known in Israel as “Hazarot.” The 10-episode series airs on Hulu in its native Hebrew, although English subtitles are available.

Those stars would be Iris (Noa Koler) and Tomer (Erez Drigues), professional partners who are, respectively, a playwright and a director. Oh, and they’re romantic partners whose most recent work chronicles their relationship.

We first meet them pitching their new “Echad + Achat” (One Plus One) to the tough-as-nails Mishkan Theater manager Vera (the scene-stealing Eugenia Dodina). She doesn’t seem too impressed, however, so Iris and Tomer drive home disillusioned.

You already get the sense that the

couple is struggling and, sure enough, a fight breaks out that night when Iris falls asleep during sex; after extensive arguing, Tomer finally expresses the desire to break up. He leaves their apartment to cool off and, sure enough, a few minutes later receives a text from Vera saying the

theater is interested in the play.

And that means that even though Tomer subsequently moves out, he’ll still be working regularly with his longtime former girlfriend, who isn’t so ready to end the relationship — even if she still has plenty of gripes as well with



From left: “Rehearsals” stars Erez Drigues and Noa Koler  
Courtesy of Hulu

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her old lover.

With that framework in place, subsequent episodes detail the production of “Echad + Achat,” while Iris and Tomer wrestle with multiple emotions.

But wait — there’s more drama!

Maya (Agam Rudberg) is cast as the play’s Iris role, but the real Iris feels she’s a bad fit, and the self-absorbed, self-promoting Maya isn’t interested in the role anyway. She’d rather appear in Chekhov’s “The Seagull.”

Then there’s Ofer (Itay Turgeman), who gets the Tomer role. He’s got demons of his own — he’s a TV actor disgraced for inadvertent texts of his genitalia, a problem that resurfaces.

Throw in an ongoing subplot about

resources being taken away by a rude Australian director of a competing production — for example, a couch on a set is removed in the middle of a rehearsal — and you have a stew of discontent to navigate. Nobody is content in “Rehearsals.”

While parts of “Rehearsals” are played for laughs, the show functions more effectively as a drama thanks to well-drawn characters and striking performances. Koler, especially, depicts the conflicts Iris faces as she confronts relationships, would-be parenting, personal insecurities, aging and her career.

And some of that pain we see may be rooted in reality. Koler and Drigues apparently were a real-life romantic

couple and actually wrote and performed “Echad + Achat” years ago in Israel. They, along with Assaf Amir are billed as the creators of the show.

But wait — there’s even more drama!

The show is not without some real-life controversy because of its cast.

In February 2021 (just after the show concluded airing in Israel), a feminist publication accused Drigues of sexually harassing multiple women, including some who were underage. Drigues apologized, blaming it on a sex addiction; he said some of Ofer’s storylines stem from his issues.

Meantime, sexual harassment allegations surfaced against Shmil Ben Ari, who plays the theater patriarch Shlomo

featured in the show’s first scene; he has denied allegations that include bullying and inappropriate touching. Still, there’s a scene early on that hits a little close to home as he pretends to solicit a much-younger actress before contending that he was joking.

So, there’s a lot to unpack for anyone interested in the show.

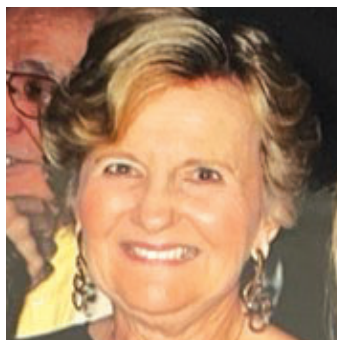
And considering that summer’s about run its course, but the fall TV season won’t begin in earnest for a couple of weeks, “Rehearsals” makes for an ideal transition from the usual light hot weather fare into a more thought-provoking drama. **JE**

[agotlieb@midatlanticmedia.com](mailto:agotlieb@midatlanticmedia.com)

## ADLER

JAMES L.-August 24, 2022 of Rydal, PA. Beloved husband of Joanne (nee Snyder); loving father of Susan Adler (Peter Jacoby), Michael Adler (Ruth Adler), Steven Adler; adoring grandfather of Daryl Seitchik (Dan Nott), Abby Seitchik, Rabbi Sydni Rubenstein (Rabbi Feivel Rubenstein), Jacob Adler, Jack Adler, and Kate Adler. Jim was a proud officer of the US Navy. His success in real estate inspired the next generation of his family. He also held a variety of interests including music, travel, bridge, playing golf at the Philmont Country Club, and working on his stamp collection. He was well-loved and respected in his community. Memorial services and burial were held August 28. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association Research Fund ([alz.org/research](http://alz.org/research)) or to Congregation Keneseth Israel ([kenesethisrael.org](http://kenesethisrael.org)).

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## BLOCH

BEVERLY FAYE (nee’ Berg), 87, from Allentown, Pennsylvania and Boca Raton, Florida passed away, peacefully in her sleep, with loved ones by her side, on August 21, 2022. Beverly, born on August 13,

1935, grew up in Olyphant PA and moved to Allentown at 19 years old after marrying Leonard Bloch, whom she first met on a blind date at the junior prom in Allentown. After raising her three children, Beverly returned to college receiving a BA in Social Welfare from Cedar Crest College in 1986. Beverly was the ultimate volunteer, actively involved at her beloved Temple Beth El in Allentown and Jewish Federation of Lehigh Valley. Additionally, she worked tirelessly for Hadassah Hospital. Beverly also provided volunteer social work services in Allentown to the Center for Prevention of Child Abuse, the Lehigh Valley Crippled Children’s Society, numerous old-age homes, and Jewish Family Service. Beverly was known for her loud (sometimes off key) chanting in synagogue, warm smile, passion for giving to others, and her love of life. She was artistic and enjoyed drawing and painting, as well as going to museums, the theater, and the symphony. She also loved to bake - often, but not always successfully - and her grandchildren always loved her mandel bread. Though she loved to travel the world with her beloved Lenny and ultimately moved permanently to Florida, she was first and foremost a very proud Allentonian. She loved to bring her Floridian friends to Allentown and crow about there being “so much to do and see in our Valley!” Beverly is survived by her loving husband of 67 years, Leonard, her children Craig and Mary Kay Bloch, Wayne and Sheree Bloch, Carole and Steven LeBlanc, and her grandchildren, Alison and Seth Samuels, Sam Bloch and fiancée Kayla Sredni, Ryan Bloch and Jonathan and Brittany Holder. Donations in Beverly’s memory can be made to Temple Beth El of Allentown (<https://www.bethelallentown.org/>

[donate.html](https://www.alyn.org/Donate)), ALYN Hospital in Israel (<https://www.alyn.org/Donate>), and Jewish Family & Children Service of Philadelphia ([www.jfcsphilly.org/donate](http://www.jfcsphilly.org/donate)).

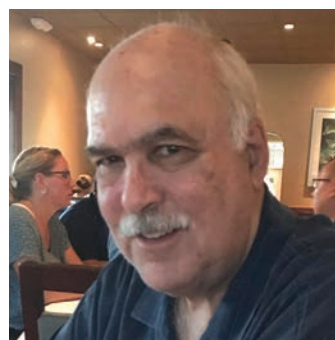
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## KOVACH

JACQUELINE L. (nee Cohn) on August 18, 2022. Beloved wife of Brian; Loving mother of Joshua Kovach (Naomi Gray) and Gabriel Kovach; Adoring grandmother of Teddy, Olive, Eve, and Rayna. Contributions in her memory may be made to Reform Cong. Keneseth Israel, Music Fund Committee, 8339 Old York Rd., Elkins Park, PA 19027.

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## SKLAROFF

ROBERT “DR. BOB” B., M.D., of Abington, PA, passed away August 14, 2022. Born in 1951 to parents Roslyn Cohn and David Mann Sklaroff, M.D., in Philadelphia, PA, he followed in his father’s footsteps, entering medicine after completing the 5-year program at Penn State and Thomas Jefferson University in 1974. His internship/residency was at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, MI, before his fellowship in medical oncology/hematology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center finished in 1979 and at Hahnemann University in 1980. He was a clinical assistant Professor at Temple University from 1980 to 2000. He founded his own private practice in 1981, and tirelessly helped sundry patients fight their diseases. He won various awards from the American Cancer Society, American Medical Association, American Heart Association, JFK Memorial Hospital, Albert Einstein Medical Center, American Academy of Family Practice, and the Pennsylvania Nurses Association. He had numerous appointments to institutions in the Philadelphia area, including the hospitals of Elkins Park, Episcopal, Albert Einstein Medical Center, Lawndale, JFK Memorial, Moss Rehab, North Penn, Northeastern, Oxford, Philadelphia Geriatric Center, and Nazareth. Besides being a fierce advocate for his patients, he also succeeded in medical-legal work and passionate activism, always laboring hard to try to make the world a better place. He was a long-standing anti-tobacco activist, supported Israel, helped institute safer designed needles for nurses, fought medical insurance monopolization, and was instrumental in passing the PA Holocaust education bill besides supporting education more broadly. He liked to say

## LEVITAN

CURTIS F. of Plymouth Meeting, formerly of Phila., devoted husband of Barbara (nee Servetnick) of Plymouth Meeting, PA, loving father of Rachael Levitan and Erika Levy (nee Levitan), son of Abraham and Rose Levitan (nee Chackman), brother of Elliot (Elaine) Levitan and the late Walter Levitan. Beloved Poppy to Ayla, Ethan and Eliana. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Curtis’s memory may be made to the American Lung Association ([lung.org](http://lung.org)).

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## POMERANTZ

ARTHUR - August 21, 2022 of St. Thomas VI and Philadelphia, PA. Husband of Barbara Pomerantz (nee Gordon); Father of Lauren Schulz (Craig); grandfather of Maya and Miles. Brother of Sandra Rosen, Paul Pomerantz and the late David Pomerantz. The family respectfully request contributions in lieu of flowers be made to Temple University c/o Beasley School of Law for Arthur Pomerantz Endowed Scholarship or Congregation Beth Or M & M Family Fund.

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that like his childhood Superman's show intro, he stood for "truth, justice, and the American way". He had copies of the US Constitution in his back pocket, in his car, at his desk, and even a snippet on a specialty pillow for his bed. He took great pride in his Sunday New York Times crossword puzzles, his family and friends, as well as passionately talking about and debating current events. He is survived by his brother, Harvey, and son, Michael. Internment was private.

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**SMOTKIN**

HOWARD STERN (61) of St. Louis died Aug. 9, 2022. He was the husband of Barbi, father of Michael, Lauren, Emily and Julia; son of the late Leonard 'Buddy' and Mina Stern Smotkin; and brother of Lee Smotkin. Funeral services and burial were held in St. Louis. Contributions in his memory may be made to Congregation Rodeph Shalom or Jewish Federation of Greater Phila.

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**STOLPER**

JUDITH (née Grossman) - August 10, 2022, of Philadelphia, PA.; beloved wife of the late Arthur Stolper and the late Mort Schaeffer; cherished mother of Brooke Stolper (Brian), Karen Stolper (Kelly),

Jonathan Stolper (Lynn) and step-mother of Emily Bakaj (Myron) and Bernard Schaeffer (Nanci); devoted sister of Arlene Adlin (Victor); loving grandmother of Ayva, Lila, Alexa, and Daniel. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to Jewish National Fund, (jnf.org)

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**VICTOR**

HERBERT of Philadelphia, PA, passed away at his home in Delray Beach, FL after a brief illness, a few weeks short of his 99th birthday. Herb was born on September 7th, 1923 to Dora and Meyer Victor in Philadelphia, PA. and graduated from West Philadelphia High School. He served on the front lines with the 44th Infantry Division from Normandy to Germany during WWII. Herb came back to Philadelphia and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1947.

He earned his CPA and opened his own accounting firm and practiced for almost 20 years. He then joined the family electrical construction business in the 1960s for another 20 years. In the 1980s. He went into the real estate business and acquired his own portfolio of properties in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, which he managed until the last few months. He is well known throughout the business and real estate communities of Philadelphia and New Jersey. He was also involved in numerous philanthropic pursuits for decades and served as President of the JCC in Wynne-wood in the 1970s. While attending Penn, he met the love of his life, Phyllis Ford. They were married in 1948 after a proposal on a bench outside Irvine Auditorium. Herb and Phyllis went on to have two sons, Mark and Scott. The family grew with the addition of grandchildren, Heather, Brett, Kyle, Fiona and Skye. The next generation brought him great grandchildren Belle, Mia, Leila and Bennett. Herb and Phyllis were avid travelers, still going on cruises into their 90s. They traveled around the world, but there was no happier place for Herb than on his balcony at night at 5000 Boardwalk in Ventnor. The sounds of the Atlantic Ocean lulled Herb to sleep over countless evenings. He also became a "snow bird" and started living in Boca Raton, Florida over 30 years ago and moved from one wonderful home to another,

spending most of his time at Toscana in Highland Beach, and most recently Harbor's Edge in Delray. For almost 75 years, theirs was a romance and marriage for the ages filled with love and commitment to each other. Herb is survived by his wife, Phyllis; his sons Mark and Scott; his grandchildren Heather, Brett, Kyle, Fiona, and Skye; and his great-grandchildren Belle, Mia, Leila, and Bennett. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to JAF-CO or the Jewish Federation of either Greater Philadelphia or South Palm Beach County.

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**WEST**

It's hard to say that a man who died at 94 died too soon, but that certainly is the case with Edward Charles West who died Saturday, August 20th, in Boca Raton, Florida. Born in 1928 in Philadelphia, Ed

was a graduate of West Point class of 1950. He retired from the Army Corps of Engineers in 1972, a Full-Bird Colonel. Ed lived an awesome life that touched the hearts of all who met him. Along with his wife of 72 years, Marlyn (Marci) née Wenger, and their two daughters, Becki and Stephanie, the Wests lived a typical career army life moving over 40 times. With limited access to synagogues in some of the smaller towns, Ed, fluent in Hebrew, would often assume the role of Rabbi to lead small congregations that he would form wherever the family ended up. A decorated war hero in Korea with a bronze star for Valor, Ed spent many years working at the Pentagon. Ed was a key partner in the composting companies Agripost and ECW. Ed earned a masters degree in engineering from MIT and masters degree in Business Administration from George Washington. He is survived by his wife Marci, sister Sandra, daughter Becki and husband Bruce Lev, daughter Stephanie and husband Michael Lieberman, grandchildren Josh, Brynn, Zachary, Erica, BJ, Bronwyn, Jake, Shannon and Ali. Great grandchildren Blake, Dylan, Ari and Julian. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the charity of your choice or to the Jewish Chapel Fund at West Point. For additional information, please visit shiva.com/edwardwest.



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*What's happening at ... Congregations of Shaare Shamayim*

# Congregations of Shaare Shamayim Welcomes New Rabbi Sandra Berliner

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

In the history section on its website, the Congregations of Shaare Shamayim describe its community as “a place that accepts all comers.” And it’s hard to argue with that description.

The synagogue, located on Verree Road in Northeast Philadelphia, is actually 15 synagogues combined into one. In 1966, the Greater Northeast Jewish Congregation merged with Congregation Shaare Shamayim of South Philadelphia. Then, in 1989, it did the same with Congregation Beth Judah. Finally, throughout the 1990s, 2000s and 2010s, many more synagogues joined the community in Northeast Philly.

After completing the process in 2017, temple leaders chose the updated name “to be assured of never forgetting our long history,” reads the history section.

Today that history, as well as the 400 families who keep it alive, are in the hands of a new rabbi: Sandra Berliner, a 67-year-old resident of Cheltenham Township.

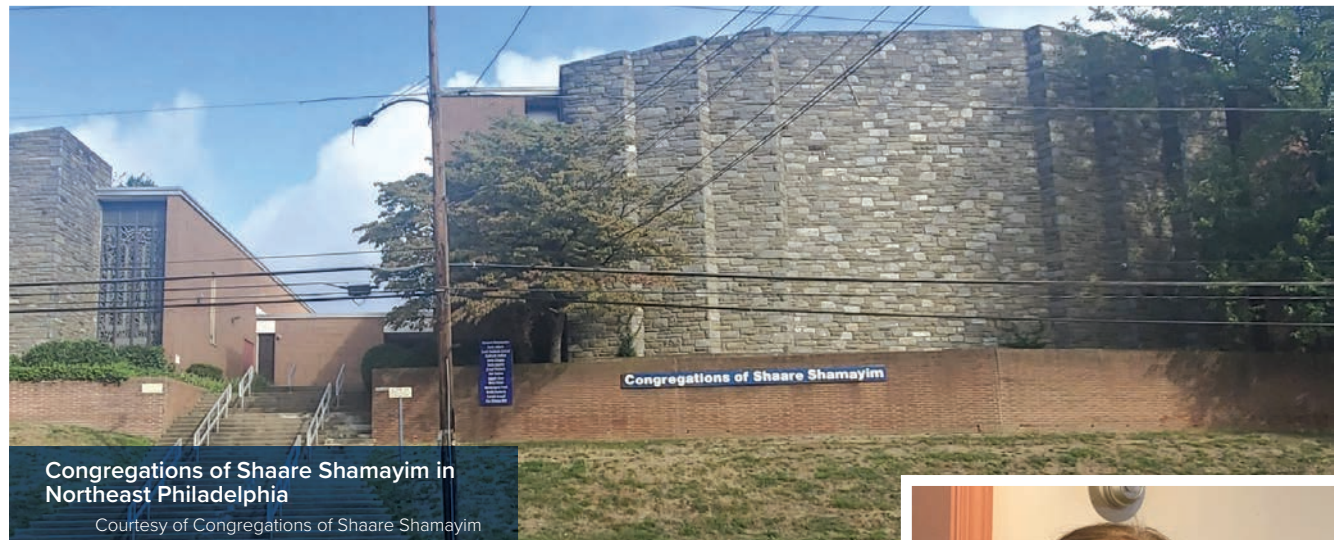
The Congregations of Shaare Shamayim welcomed Berliner to its community on Aug. 15. But she really started almost a year earlier. Last fall, following the retirement of Rabbi Reuben Israel Abraham, Berliner stepped in to lead the congregation. And then she just stayed ... until temple leaders formalized the arrangement.

“There was a wonderful chemistry as she walked through and spoke to people and got to know people,” synagogue President Fran Gabriel said. “She listened.”

Berliner said she “clicked” with the community when she started filling in last fall.

“Everybody is warm and welcoming, and I’m a warm and welcoming person,” she added.

The rabbi prides herself on accessibility, and it’s her goal to build relationships, she says. If you have a spiritual need, you can call her. The rabbi looks at people “from where they are com-



ing from” without “any pre-conceived ideas.”

It’s an approach she developed over the past 18 years as the rabbi for Federation Housing, the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia’s nonprofit that helps people find places to live. In that role, Berliner visited the organization’s many different housing complexes. She hosted discussion programs, holiday celebrations, private counseling sessions and memorial services.

Berliner was meeting with people from different backgrounds and of varying degrees of faith and practice. It was her responsibility to be the rabbi for all of them.

“I’m proud of the way the community came together to study with me, discuss with me, ask me for private counseling,” she said. “I love being able to teach. I like to think that I inspire a sense of connection to our Jewish traditions.”

The Congregations of Shaare Shamayim are similar. There are different types of Jews within the larger community.

Specifically, one group in the community prefers a traditional service. This means that Berliner, as a woman, cannot lead it from the bimah. But the other big group in the synagogue is an egalitarian one, and the new rabbi is very much allowed to lead its service

from the bimah.

Yet after their respective services on Shabbat, both groups get together for a Kiddush. They have joint events frequently, and Berliner plans on engaging everyone in classes together.

She wants to connect the groups in synagogue life as often as possible. She also believes that she can. Even though Berliner will not lead the traditional members in High Holiday prayers later this month, she sees herself as “the rabbi for the entire congregation,” she said.

“I see my role there as being a unifier,” the rabbi added. “I would like to see both groups study together, engage in social action projects together, celebrations.”

Berliner is the first female rabbi in the community’s history, according to Gabriel. The president called hiring a woman “a big step for us.” She also said that Berliner connected well with the whole community when she started in 2021, and that traditional congregants will do counseling with her.

The community’s spiritual leader only conducting one of its services is not even different from what the congregations did before. A year ago on the High Holidays, Abraham led the traditional service and temple leaders brought in another rabbi to lead the egalitarian service. Recently on the Sabbath, Cantor Don Samuels and



some lay leaders have guided the traditional members in their prayer sessions.

Perhaps more than anything, too, Gabriel believes that Berliner has the right personality for such a unique role. She’s warm, open and clear in her communication with members.

“She has a wonderful rapport with people,” the president said. “Sometimes people mesh together at the right times. It’s the right time for us as a congregation that has a large and very warm and welcoming, egalitarian presence, as well as a traditional presence.” **JE**

[jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com](mailto:jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com)



# Our Religious Imposter Syndrome

BY RABBI DANIEL YOLKUT

## Parshat Shoftim

In establishing the authority of judges in halakha, the Torah uses an apparently unnecessary phrase: “to the judge who shall be in those days.” (Devarim 17)

Somewhat incredulously, the Talmud (Rosh Hashana 25b) asks:

“Can it enter your mind that a person can go to a judge that is not alive in his days?”

The Talmud answers that the Torah is here empowering the judiciary in each generation, even if perhaps of lesser eminence than their predecessors, with the authority and obligation to fill their leadership role in the time they find themselves. Earlier, the Talmud illustrated this principle with the phrase “Yiftach in his generation is as Shmuel in his generation,” that notwithstanding the clear differences in stature between two Biblical leaders, both had identical roles to play in their respective eras.

On the surface, this concept is principally directed to the populace, who could understandably chafe at accepting a lesser light as a judge if they perceive them as not measuring up to past luminaries. At the same time, this can be read as a message to the leaders themselves. It is certainly easy for a leader to be painfully aware of their own shortcomings and of how overwhelming the abilities of others can be.

While humility is certainly a trait to be cultivated, when it spirals into a sense of a paralyzing lack of self-worth, leaders themselves need to be reminded that the very fact that God placed them in that time and place means that they have a mission to carry out and the inner abilities to rise to that occasion.

One doesn't need to be a formal judge to struggle with “imposter syndrome”: a lack of belief in one's ability to measure up to others' perceptions, the persistent internal sense of being a fraud. On the surface, we actually

*The real challenge is not measuring ourselves by someone else's yardstick, but accepting the role that God expects from us “in these days.”*

give voice to such a self-assessment of worthlessness every Yom Kippur:

“God, before I was formed, I was unworthy, and now that I have been formed it is as if I had not been formed.”

On the surface, this is a devastating admission of human frailty. However, the great 20th-century thinker Rav Avraham Yitzchak haKohen Kook (Siddur Olat Reiya'h) read this difficult text as a response and a challenge to our imposter

syndrome. He interprets “before I was formed, I was unworthy” to mean that each and every one of us enters the stage of life at the exact moment when we are needed. Before we were formed, Rav Kook taught, there was no need for us. However, God sends us into His world at the exact moment when we are worthy — that our skills and talent and abilities and even our challenges are uniquely needed by the universe.

We may not be the great Jews of previous generations, but we are precisely the ones needed at this moment. It is our calling to live up to that potential once we have been created in the here and now. Hence, this admission of Yom Kippur is not an admission of failure, but is rather a statement of resolve to appreciate our calling for the future and not to squander our potential and mission “as if we had not been formed.”

The real challenge is not measuring ourselves by someone else's yardstick, but accepting the role that God expects from us “in these days.” **JE**

*Rabbi Daniel Yolkut is the rabbi of Congregation Poale Zedeck. This column is a service of the Vaad Harabanim of Greater Pittsburgh.*

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# SEPT. 2 – SEPT. 8



WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 7  
**MAHJONG LESSONS**

FRIDAY, SEPT. 2

### PARSHA FOR LIFE

Join Rabbi Alexander Coleman, Jewish educator and psychotherapist at the Institute for Jewish Ethics, at 9 a.m. for a weekly journey through the Torah portion of the week with eternal lessons on personal growth and spirituality. **Go to [ijethics.org/weekly-torah-portion.html](http://ijethics.org/weekly-torah-portion.html) to receive the Zoom link and password.**

MONDAY, SEPT. 5

### MAHJONG GAME

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

TUESDAY, SEPT. 6

### BINGO WITH BARRY

Join Barry at Tabas KleinLife for an afternoon of bingo from 12:30-3:30 p.m. on Sept. 6, 7 and 8. Free parking and free to play with snacks available on Sept. 7. **For more information, call 215-745-3127. 2101 Strahle St., Philadelphia.**

### WOMEN AND MONEY MEET-UP

Are you a woman looking to improve your financial skills? Join Jewish Family and Children's Service and a supportive group of women the first Tuesday of every month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. to learn about a range of financial topics, share tips and ideas and alleviate your stress and anxiety around money. **Contact Laura Flowers at 267-256-2274 or [lflowers@jfcspshilly.org](mailto:lflowers@jfcspshilly.org) for more information.**

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 7

### MAHJONG LESSONS

Learn to play mahjong at Ohev Shalom of Bucks County, Wednesdays from 1-3 p.m. on Aug. 31, Sept. 7, 14 and 21; the cost is \$36 for four lessons. **RSVP to [mfreedman21@comcast.net](mailto:mfreedman21@comcast.net). 944 Second Street Pike, Richboro.**

THURSDAY, SEPT. 8

### CANASTA LESSONS

New year ... add a new activity. If it's Thursday, play canasta at Ohev Shalom of Bucks Country. Pay \$4 for open play, 1-3 p.m. weekly on Sept. 8, 15, 22 and 29; the cost of four lessons is \$36. **To register, call 215-968-6755 or email [mfreedman21@comcast.net](mailto:mfreedman21@comcast.net). 944 Second Street Pike, Richboro.**

### JRA FOOD PACKING

Volunteers will assist with Jewish Relief Agency's pre-distribution preparation. From 10 a.m. to noon, volunteers will tape boxes, pack toiletries and assemble family-friendly food bags. This is a great opportunity for team building and for small and large groups to come volunteer at JRA. **For more information about JRA's volunteer schedule, visit [jewishrelief.org/calendar](http://jewishrelief.org/calendar). 10980 Dutton Road, Philadelphia.**

### BEEF, BEER & BELLY LAUGHS

The Chaverim and Men's Club of Congregations of Shaare Shamayim are joint venturing an upcoming program as part of our 60th anniversary yearlong celebration. At 6 p.m., join us for an evening of Beef, Beer & Belly Laughs at a cost of \$30 per person. **For more information, contact the synagogue office at 215-677-1600. 9768 Verree Road, Philadelphia. [JE](http://JE)**

# Out & About

Photo by Jennifer Stark



Courtesy of Debbie Zlotnick



Courtesy of Serena Franks



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



Courtesy of Dena Wimpfheimer

1 Plymouth Meeting resident Sophia Lombardo played for Israel's 12U softball team in the EMRYT Tournament, a European tournament for youth softball, and helped lead it to a silver medal. 2 Federation Housing residents enjoyed a summer luau in August. 3 The Milton & Betty Katz JCC in Margate held its annual gala over the weekend of Aug. 20-21. 4 The Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties had its volunteer services supervisor Vanessa Smith and another volunteer in Mavis Gillies pick up more than 50 boxes of donated toiletries from the staff at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Atlantic City. 5 Residents of Bala Cynwyd and Merion Station raised \$90,000 to help a friend with hospital visits, medicine and food when they joined about 650 cyclists in the 13th annual Bike4Chai fundraiser on Aug. 17-18 in the Pocono Mountains and New York State.

# LANDSCAPE ARTIST Elizabeth Wilson

## MADE THE MOST OF PANDEMIC-CREATED FREE TIME

GALL SIGLER | SPECIAL TO THE JE

**M**obility is everything for a landscape artist, so when the COVID-19 lockdown and travel restrictions were issued, the scenery that fed Elizabeth Wilson's creativity for decades suddenly became inaccessible.

"I was stuck," she said.

Beyond professional obstacles, the pandemic was a challenging time for Wilson on a personal level.

"I live alone, so the silence was deafening," she said. Health concerns dissuaded her from accepting numerous opportunities, such as in-person interviews.

Yet instead of waiting idly for the restrictions to loosen, Wilson took advantage of the free time to paint.

For the first time in decades, she was able to dedicate consecutive working days to her projects.

She began to paint Long Island landscapes she let her memory conjure, all from her home in Lower Merion. She also turned the focus on her close surroundings, painting the forest adjacent to her house.

"For me, it was a luxury," she said. "I had unlimited time to work in my studio ... that was the most positive thing."

Now, in her first solo museum exhibition, "Elizabeth Wilson: Spirit of Place," Wilson reflects on the pandemic and the past two decades. The 30 landscape paintings portray scenery from rural England and Italy and the rocky beaches of Long Island, among other works.

Wilson traces her passion for art to her upbringing.

"I grew up in a household where there were a lot of beautiful objects," she said.

She recalled finding a 1973-'74 Sotheby's auction house sale catalog as a child, where she saw paintings and other items for auction that stimulated her imagination.

And as she rummaged through her parents' belongings during the pandemic, Elizabeth Wilson discovered that



her knack for art was inherited.

In a dusty portfolio and a brown box from her father's time as a gunner in World War II, Wilson found the source of her talent — in the form of her father's charcoal drawings of airplanes and her mother's work, some of which were collaborations.

"I couldn't believe how much good art was there," she said.

In 1978, Wilson matriculated at the Corcoran School of Art in Washington, D.C. After a year, she transferred to the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, where she graduated in 1984.

While Wilson began mainly in figurative work, she later became known

for her landscape paintings. Among the many honors Wilson received are the Sandra Karlin Award, the National Penn Bank Award and the Catherine Gibbons Granger Award for Painting.

Wilson's focus on landscape work congealed following a trip to Israel and Egypt. Urged by her interest in John Singer Sargent's works on Middle Eastern landscape, Wilson traveled to Israel, staying for a month in the kibbutz Netzer Sereni.

Wilson's career includes numerous international ventures. Some of her most notable landscape works depict the British Isles. In 1996, Wilson began traveling to Great Britain regularly, exploring

landscapes to paint, and even considered a permanent move.

"I really wanted to live there so badly ... Somehow, I feel genetically linked {to Britain}," she said.

While Wilson says that Judaism does not factor into her artwork, Wilson is intrigued by the amount of great Jewish artists.

"I am aware that I am Jewish, I am proud that I am Jewish," she said.

Wilson feels a particular kinship with Isaac Levitan, a 19th-century Russian Jewish painter whose approach to painting and looking at light coincides with Wilson's.

In conjunction with her career as an artist, Wilson worked as an educator for decades. In 1988, Wilson was asked to teach a drawing course to architecture students at Temple University.

"That was supposed to be for one semester, and I ended up staying for seven years," she said.

Wilson later taught at the University of the Arts and Philadelphia University. Although Wilson thoroughly enjoyed teaching, after about 25 years she decided to take a step back from teaching full-time.

"Teaching is a lot of work, and I am dedicated to my students ... it is a lot of time. I spent hours and hours," she said. "As rewarding as it is to teach, I want to use this time to make art myself."

Still, Wilson hosted a workshop at the Art Students League of New York in 2015 and was invited in 2018 to teach a summer course at JSS in Civita, in Italy.

Despite her achievements, art was not always Wilson's priority. When her mother was battling cancer and her father faced heart surgery, Wilson placed her career on the backburner for 15 years.

Wilson does not doubt that she made the right decision.

"I wouldn't have it any other way," she said.

Wilson's exhibition is on view at the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art in Altoona from Sept. 2-Dec. 4. **JE**

*Gall Sigler is an intern for the Jewish Exponent.*



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## NEW LISTING!



**VENTNOR \$2,300,000**  
MASSIVE BEACHBLOCK ESTATE.  
ENDLESS DIRECT OCEAN VIEWS  
THAT GET BETTER GET BETTER  
& BETTER ON EACH FLOOR!

## NEW LISTING!



**VENTNOR \$1,699,999**  
CALIFORNIA CONTEMPORARY  
HOME FEATURES A ROOFTOP, IN-  
GROUND/ ABOVE-GROUND POOL,  
& GLIMPSE OF THE OCEAN!

## NEW PRICE!



**MARGATE \$1,250,000**  
AMAZING WATER VIEWS  
FROM THIS TOWNHOME  
LOCATED DIRECTLY  
ACROSS FROM THE BAY!

## NEW LISTING!



**MARGATE \$839,000**  
WELCOME TO THE BEACH  
HOUSE! TWO-STORY TOWN-  
HOME JUST STEPS TO THE  
BEACH WITH A ROOFTOP DECK!

## NEW LISTING!



**OCEAN CITY \$799,000**  
OCEAN CITY BEAUTY!  
WELL MAINTAINED 3  
BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOME  
LOCATED ON BAY AVE!

## NEW PRICE!



**MARGATE \$799,000**  
GREAT LOCATION NEAR  
EVERYTHING! THIS BEAUTI-  
FUL 3 BED, 2 BATH, TOWN-  
HOUSE CAN BE YOURS!

## NEW LISTING!



**ABSECON \$579,000**  
4 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH TUDOR  
STYLE HOME LOCATED IN  
THE LOVELY NEIGHBORHOOD  
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## NEW PRICE!



**VENTNOR \$289,000**  
PET FRIENDLY CONDO LOCATED  
ON A BEAUTIFUL PEACEFUL  
VENTNOR BLOCK, THE OCEAN  
IS JUST ONE BLOCK AWAY!

## NEW LISTING!



**ATLANTIC CITY \$259,000**  
THIS SPACIOUS 12TH FLOOR  
LUXURY HIGH RISE UNIT FEAT-  
URES 1 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH  
AND BREATHTAKING VIEWS!

## NEW LISTING!



**ATLANTIC CITY \$149,900**  
WELCOME TO THE GRAND  
ADMIRAL! COMPLETELY REMOD-  
ELED MUST SEE 1 BEDROOM,  
1 BATH ON THE 4TH FLOOR!

## WANTED TO BUY

## HOMES FOR SALE

## WANTED TO BUY

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Also Vintage Modern,  
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Eric Cell **215-431-8300/8304** • Bus **215-953-8800**

**rickdesouza70@gmail.com**

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## CEMETERY LOTS FOR SALE

Burial plot for sale in Montefiore Cemetery, 600 Church Road, Jenkintown, Pa, 19046. Grave Number 4, Lot 52, situated in Block 23. Price is \$6000, which includes plot and perpetual care. Contact Marsha Boegly at marshabgl6@gmail.com.

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

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FOR SALE GREAT LOCATION IN GABRIEL SECTION TWO LOTS  
ALL SERVICES AND FEES INCLUDING  
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PERPETUAL CARE  
CALL 480-622-0596  
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SIDBE@AOL.COM

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ANTIQUE LOVERS  
TAKE NOTE!  
BRIMFIELD IS HERE –  
ALL SHOWS! September 6-11, New shows open daily! BrimfieldAntiqueFleaMarket.com. 2023 Show Dates:  
May 9-14,  
July 11-16, September 5-10

## ELDER CARE

**ELDER CARE:**  
**25 years experience**  
**taking care of elders.**  
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**to appointments.**  
**COVID vaccinated!**  
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**business.**  
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**3rd & Market**  
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**215-284-0065**

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**DOWNSIZING**  
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**1 man's trash/another**  
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**Call Joel 215-947-2817**  
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## MISCELLANEOUS

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

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DIRECTV for \$79.99/mo for 12 months with CHOICE Package. Watch your favorite live sports, news & entertainment anywhere. First 3 months of HBO Max, Cinemax, Showtime, Starz and Epix included! Directv is #1 in Customer Satisfaction (JD Power & Assoc.) Some restrictions apply. Call 1-855-806-2315

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

## Miscellaneous:

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

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Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 855-402-5341

## NOTICE OF RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR A PAWNBROKER LICENSE

Notice is given that Lowill's Jewelers Associates, Ltd. did on September 1st, 2022, submit to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Banking, an application for renewal licensure of a pawnbroker office at this location, which is as follows: 5719 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144. All interested persons may file written comments in favor of or in opposition to the application, with the Pawnbroker Hearing Officer, Pennsylvania Department of Banking, 17 N. 2nd Street, Ste 1300, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101-2290. All comments to be considered must be received by the Department within thirty (30) days from the date of this newspaper publication.

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## Legals

**Kings of Construction, Inc.** has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988.

**4629 Frankford Avenue, Inc.** has been incorporated under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988. Yung Wan Lee, Esquire  
Young K. Park, Esquire  
2009 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

**BAYSIDE REFRIGERATION INC.**, a corporation organized under the laws of the state of New York, has applied for registration in Pennsylvania under the provisions of Chapter 4 of the Associations Code. The address of its principal office under the laws of the jurisdiction of formation is 24-26 46th St., Astoria, NY 11103 and the address of its proposed registered office in this Commonwealth is c/o M. Burr Keim Company, 2021 Arch St., Phila., PA 19103.

**CBS Kosher Food Program** is a federally funded non-profit food program that provides Daycares, Schools, After-School, and Summer Food Programs with nutritious child-friendly meals. We are inviting qualified vendors to request the Invitation For Bid (IFB) on the following goods: Dairy, Dry, Frozen, Meat, Produce, Snacks, Baby Food, Bakery, and Non-Food/Paper goods for the year of November 2022 through September 2023. IFB information can be found at <https://www.cbsfoodprogram.com/procurement> or by emailing [blake@cbsfoodprogram.com](mailto:blake@cbsfoodprogram.com). Bids are due by 9/20/22 at 5:00pm. Winners will be announced by 10/14/22.

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 July 05, 2022 for **Baus-Haus** at 1920 South 17th Street Apt#1 Philadelphia, PA 19145. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Series Thach at 1920 South 17th Street Apt#1 Philadelphia, PA 19145. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

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 July 05, 2022 for **Brandywine Petroleum** at 4985 Lancaster Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19131. The entity interested in such business is Phoenix Energy Group, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is 4985 Lancaster Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19131 in Philadelphia County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

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 July 06, 2022 for **Danny Dubz Productions** at 3317 Edgemont Street Philadelphia, PA 19134. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Daniel Weeks at 3317 Edgemont Street Philadelphia, PA 19134. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

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 July 06, 2022 for **JoySource** at 1004 S. Bouvier St., Philadelphia, PA 19146. The entity interested in such business is JD Learning Partners LLC, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is 1004 S. Bouvier St., Philadelphia, PA 19146 in Philadelphia County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

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 July 11, 2022 for **T4Transitions Home Healthcare** at 1850 Old York Rd., Abington, PA 19001. The entity interested in such business is T4Transitions, LLC, whose Commercial Registered Office provider's address is 1850 Old York Rd., Abington, PA 19001 in Montgomery County. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.

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 July 14, 2022 for **Fishers' Smokin' Grill** at 225 W 6th St., East Greenville, PA 18041. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Alissa M. Fisher at 225 W 6th St., East Greenville, PA 18041. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

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 July 18, 2022 for **EJ Online** at 4720 Rosehill Street Philadelphia, PA 19120. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Enriquillo Jose at 4720 Rosehill Street Philadelphia, PA 19120. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

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 July 18, 2022 for **Forest to Table** at 118 Yerkes Road, Collegeville, PA 19426. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is David W. Johns at 118 Yerkes Road, Collegeville, PA 19426. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

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 July 18, 2022 for **Nexus Orion** at 3245 Masons Mill Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Ryan Cairns Rose at 3245 Masons Mill Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on June 13, 2022 for **JLC Mechanical** at 351 Cherry St. Pennsburg, PA 18073. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is James Clingman at 351 Cherry St. Pennsburg, PA 18073. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on June 22, 2022 for **Sunflower Massage SPA** at 11 West Schuylkill Road, Pottstown, PA 19465. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Zhihua Zhang at 11 West Schuylkill Road, Pottstown, PA 19465. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on June 29, 2022 for **Clean Choice Pressure Washing** at 643 Main Street Apt. B6, Pennsburg, PA 18073. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is David Forrest at 643 Main Street Apt. B6, Pennsburg, PA 18073. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

**HAMMAR, INC.** with a registered office address located at 20 Union Hill Road, West Conshohocken, PA 19428 in Montgomery County does hereby give notice of its intention to dissolve from doing business in this Commonwealth. Any proceedings directly affecting this company shall be sent to 335 Beaumont Road, Devon PA 19333. This shall serve as official notice to creditors and taxing authorities.

DECREE NISI – Phila. Orphans' Court Div. O.C. #1330 DE of 2021/ Control #217614, Estate of Joseph Edward Stanley - Notice is hereby given that on 1/19/22, a citation was awarded, and it was decreed preliminarily that the title to the interest of Joseph Edward Stanley in real estate situate 1627 W. Seybert St., Phila., PA is in Janice Rouse & Roberta Stanley. If no exceptions to the decree are filed within three (3) months, the decree shall be confirmed absolutely. Roderick L. Foxworth, Atty. for Petitioner, 7715 Crittenden St., #382, Phila., PA 19118, 267.674.2368

ESTATE OF ALAN JAY DENIS a/k/a ALAN J. DENIS and ALAN DENIS, DECEASED.  
Late of Newtown Township, Delaware County, PA  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DEBRA L. DENIS (NAMED IN WILL AS DEBRA DENIS), EXECUTRIX,

c/o Rebecca Rosenberger Smolen, Esq., One Bala Plaza, Ste. 623, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004,  
Or to her Attorney:  
REBECCA ROSENBERGER SMOLEN  
BALA LAW GROUP, LLC  
One Bala Plaza, Ste. 623  
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

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

ESTATE OF BERNADETTE SATCHELL-NICHOLAS, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia County, PA  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to TAMARA R. NICHOLAS, EXECUTRIX, - c/o Nathan Snyder, Esq., 3070 Bristol Pike, Bldg. 2, Ste. 204, Bensalem, PA 19020,  
Or to her Attorney:  
NATHAN SNYDER  
LAW OFFICE OF NATHAN SNYDER  
3070 Bristol Pike, Bldg. 2, Ste. 204  
Bensalem, PA 19020

ESTATE OF BERTHA BOROWICK Borowick, Bertha late of Philadelphia, PA. Dana Burg, 817 Welsh Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19115, Executrix.  
Keith Levinson, Esquire  
Boulevard Law Center  
1730 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19115

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

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

ESTATE OF DOROTHY M. PURUL Purul, Dorothy M. late of Philadelphia, PA. George Ginder, 2619 Aspen St., Philadelphia, PA 19130, Executor.  
Andrew I. Roseman, Esquire  
1528 Walnut St.  
Suite 1412  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE OF DUANE A. GOINGS, DECEASED  
Late of Philadelphia County  
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who requests 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  
DUANE MININALL, Administrator  
c/o DENNIS A. POMO, ESQUIRE  
121 S. Broad St., Ste. 1200  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
215-665-1900

ESTATE OF ELAINE C. COFFEY, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia County, PA  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to MARIA CONCETTA, EXECUTRIX, c/o Stephanie M. Shortall, Esq., P.O. Box 50, Doylestown, PA 18901,  
Or to her Attorney:  
STEPHANIE M. SHORTALL  
ANTHEIL MASLOW & MacMINN, LLP  
P.O. Box 50  
Doylestown, PA 18901

ESTATE OF FRANCIS A. GATTO, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia County, PA  
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to CHRISTINA MONZO, ADMINISTRATRIX, 2830 S. Marvine St., Philadelphia, PA 19148,  
Or to her Attorney:  
BRANDON J. LAURIA  
LAURIA LAW LLC  
3031 Walton Rd., Ste. A320  
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

ESTATE OF GARY PATRICK GILL a/k/a GARY P. GILL, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia County, PA  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JENNIFER ARLETH, EXECUTRIX, c/o Daniel R. Ross, Esq., One Summit St., Philadelphia, PA 19118,  
Or to her Attorney:  
DANIEL R. ROSS  
ROSS & MCCREA LLP  
One Summit St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19118

ESTATE OF GILBERT BACKERS Backers, Gilbert late of Philadelphia, PA. Vivian Wylie, 80 E. Collom St., #206, Philadelphia, PA 19144, Executrix.  
Keith Levinson, Esquire  
Boulevard Law Center  
1730 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19115

ESTATE OF JAMES HILTON BUTTNER a/k/a JAMES H. BUTTNER, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia County, PA  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to

the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to PAUL BUTTNER, 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 JAMES J. YIZZI, JR., DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia County, PA  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DENESE SCHUNK, EXECUTRIX, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103,  
Or to her Attorney:  
DANIELLA A. HORN  
KLENK LAW, LLC  
2202 Delancey Place  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF JOAN ROBERTA THOMAS  
Thomas, Joan Roberta late of Philadelphia, PA. Maureen Farrell, Esq., 1628 JFK Blvd., Suite 1901, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Administratrix.

ESTATE OF JULIET N. MALL a/k/a JULIET MALL, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia County, PA  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to NASEER MALL, EXECUTOR, c/o Stephen M. Specht, Esq., 2332 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19145,  
Or to his Attorney:  
STEPHEN M. SPECHT  
GREEN & SCHAFLE, LLC  
2332 S. Broad St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19145

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

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

7901 Ogontz Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19150

ESTATE OF TEKELA BAILEY, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia County, PA  
LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make payment without delay to STEPHEN M. SPECHT, ADMINISTRATOR – DBN, 2332 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19145,  
Or to his Attorney:  
STEPHEN M. SPECHT  
GREEN & SCHAFLE, LLC  
2332 S. Broad St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19145

ESTATE OF WALTER H. WILLIAMS, DECEASED.  
Late of Philadelphia County, PA  
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to PAMELA R. FONVILLE, EXECUTRIX, c/o Francesco G. D'Arro, Esq., Two Penn Center Plaza, 1500 JFK Blvd., Ste. 900, Philadelphia, PA 19102,  
Or to her Attorney:  
FRANCESCO G. D'ARRO  
THE D'ARRO FIRM, P.C.  
Two Penn Center Plaza  
1500 JFK Blvd., Ste. 900  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

ESTATE OF WILLIAM WESLEY BENNETT  
Bennett, William Wesley late of Philadelphia, PA. Karen Morrison, c/o Andrew I. Roseman, Esquire, 1528 Walnut St., Suite 1412, Philadelphia, PA 19102, Administratrix.  
Andrew I. Roseman, Esquire  
1528 Walnut St.  
Suite 1412  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF WILLS OF DELAWARE COUNTY, PA - IN RE: ESTATE OF JOE LOUIS DONALDSON, SR., DECEASED - FILE NO. 2322-1821 - RE: PETITION FOR CITATION TO SHOW CAUSE WHY PETITIONER SHOULD NOT BE APPOINTED ADMINISTRATOR – RULE - AND NOW, this 10th day of Aug. 2022, upon consideration of the above-referenced Petition, it is hereby ORDERED and DECREED that a Rule to Show Cause is issued and directed upon Joe L. Donaldson, Jr. and Jerilyn Donaldson to show cause why this Petition should not be granted. Respondent(s) shall submit a written response on or before the 28th day of Sept. 2022, via one or more of the following options: (1) U.S. mail at ATTN: Register of Wills, 201 W. Front St., Media, PA 19063; (2) In-Person or drop-box at the Office of the Register of Wills, First Fl., Gov't. Center Bldg., Media, PA, 19063; (3) fax at 610.891.4812; and/ or (4) email at RegofWills@co.delaware.pa.us. No Hearing is scheduled. If you fail to file a response, the averments in the Petition may be deemed admitted, and the Register of Wills may enter an appropriate Order pursuant to 231 Pa. R.C.P. 206.7.  
BY THE REGISTER OF WILLS  
/s/ RACHEL EZZELL BERRY, ESQ.

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