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Cover: Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's David Adelman builds a legacy of service.

L'Shanah Tovah



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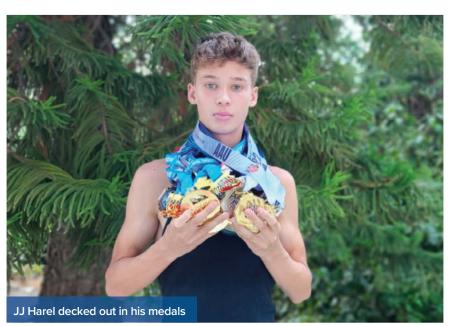
Weekly Kibbitz

The Sky's No Limit for This Record-breaking Teen Athlete

Joshua Jayden "JJ" Harel, newly 14 and standing at 6-foot-2, expects to face some tough competition when the Olympics return to Los Angeles in 2028. But his first decision will be whether to march into the Olympic stadium under the American, Australian or Israeli flag.

JJ inherited his triple citizenship through his father, Oren, 47, born in Houston, and his mother, Lucy, a native Australian. Oren Harel spent his formative years in Israel and served in the Israel Defense Forces. Afterward, he attended Cornell University, where he met Lucy. After two years in Manhattan, and following Sept. 11, the couple moved to Sydney for 10 years, where all three of their children were born. They relocated as a family to Israel for two years before moving to Los Angeles in 2013.

JJ won 27 international medals in competitions over the past year



alone. At the Maccabiah Games in Israel, he placed first in high jump and second in triple jump in the under-18 category after needing special permission to participate since he was underage. Then there was the record-breaking high jump that earned him a profile in The Los Angeles Times.

Finally, last month, he participated

in the American Athletic Union Junior Olympics, one of the largest youth track-and-field competitions in the world. There, he won three gold medals and cleared 6 feet and 5 inches in the high jump, breaking a record for the 14-and-under age group that had stood for 42 years (he was still 13 at the time). Harel won gold in the triple jump and javelin as well, and he was the only athlete to achieve All-American status in five events.

Oren Harel noted that JJ's grandfather worked for NASA for about 20 years starting in the early 1970s, contributing research to the "Voyager 2" and "Galileo" space-exploration projects.

"Sometimes, I say a joke when people ask me about [JJ's] ability," related Oren Harel. "I tell them his grandfather worked for NASA; maybe that's how he learned the secret on how to defy gravity."



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When Is it OK Not to Fast on Yom Kippur?

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

s an Orthodox rabbi guiding Congregation Beth Solomon in Philadelphia, Rabbi Solomon Isaacson possesses a deep understanding of why it's so important to fast on Yom Kippur.

But let's let him explain it.

"God measures us. Our lives are at stake," he said. "We fast to put ourselves in the mood to say, 'Why are we fasting?' That fasting brings to mind how serious the day is."

At the same time, despite his doctrinal belief in Judaism and strict adherence to its practice, Isaacson said it's OK to sacrifice the most serious ritual of the religion's holiest day. In other words, it's OK not to fast if your life depends on it.

Isaacson is willing to defer to a doctor on this question. On Yom Kippur, it's the man or woman of medicine who serves as the moral authority, even if he or she is not Jewish.

"If the doctor tells you it's dangerous, then you must eat," Isaacson said. "Not a rabbi, not an uncle, not a father, not a husband, not a wife. A doctor."

There are many types of Jews who may fit into this category: someone who needs to eat and drink due to a medical condition, someone who needs to eat and/or drink with a medication and a woman who is pregnant. Among others.

Rabbis Abe Friedman and Adam Lautman mentioned that mental health is as much of a consideration as physical health. A person recovering from or still struggling with an eating disorder probably needs to eat and drink on Yom Kippur, they said.

"Fasting may be traumatic or dangerous for certain individuals," said Lautman, who leads Temple Har Zion in Mount Holly, New Jersey.

Friedman, the spiritual leader of Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel in Center City, called eating disorders "a life and death matter." He explained that rabbis must not only listen to doctors but mental health professionals as well.

"I always respect the expertise of medical and mental health professionals," Friedman said. "They know things I don't know."

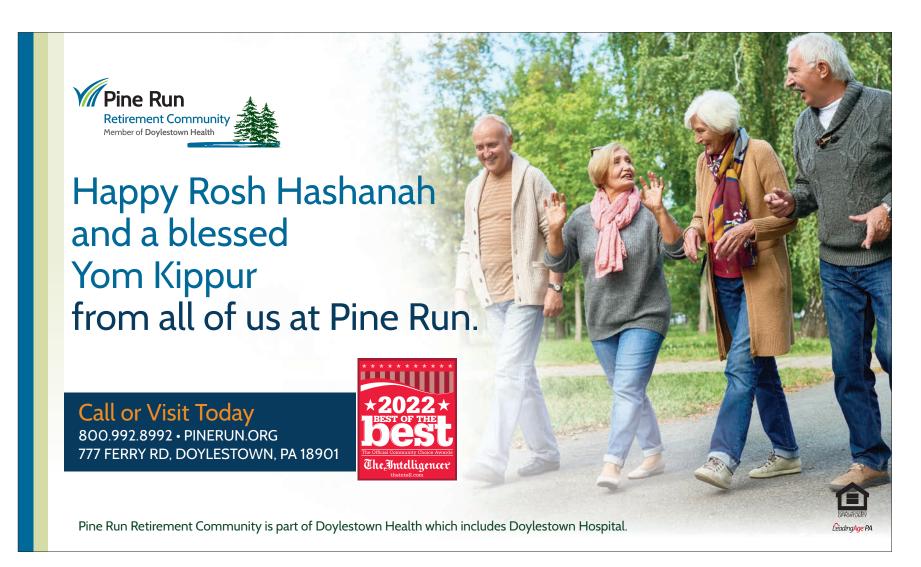
According to Rabbi David Englander of Congregation Beth El in Voorhees,

New Jersey, it is doctors who determine the line between fasting and not fasting, between eating a normal amount and a little less than that, and between the medical and the spiritual.

But if a person does not need to eat and drink like it's a normal day — if it's still safe to keep the fast to an extent it's the rabbi who can provide guidance.

Isaacson believes that those who must eat and drink should still be reluctant. Unless they have to, "they should not sit down and have a sixcourse meal."

Instead, if they begin to fast and feel weak, they should "take a teaspoon of something and then stop," Isaacson said. And if they feel that way again in a few hours, they should do the same thing.







Rabbi Abe Friedman of Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel in Center City Courtesy of Rabbi Abe Friedman

Rabbi Geri Newburge of Main Line Reform Temple-Beth Elohim in Wynnewood Yael Pachino Photography

There are many types of Jews who may fit into this category: someone who needs to eat and drink due to a medical condition, someone who needs to eat and/or drink with a medication and a woman who is pregnant. Among others.

Take a little bit. Not the whole meal. Regain your strength while still observing the spirit of the holiday, he said.

"Of course, you should try to fast," Isaacson said.

Rabbi Geri Newburge of Main Line Reform Temple-Beth Elohim in Wynnewood compared that approach to the way kids fast. In general, children are not supposed to fast if they are still growing. They need the sustenance.

But as they grow older, they can start to cut back a little. This helps them understand the holiday. As Newburge explained, maybe instead of eating two Pop-Tarts and scrambled eggs for breakfast, they just eat eggs. Or, in an adult's case, maybe it is apple slices instead of a three-course meal.

"The whole idea is for us to think about what we're doing, how we're doing it, why we're doing it," she said. "As long as we're not putting our jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com

health at risk."

Fasting, though, is not the only way to observe the holiday. It's a tool, explained Friedman - a means to an end. But not the end in itself.

Friedman said it's still important for someone who can't fast to go to services and participate in the life of the community. The point of Yom Kippur, he said, is to take an honest look at our lives to make a more concerted effort to live by our values.

You can break the fast and still repent, he said. This can be difficult for Jews used to fasting to understand and accept, especially if the medical necessity to eat on the holiest day is new.

"You don't need to work within an all-or-nothing mindset," Lautman said. "That once you broke your fast, you've failed and should give up the rest of the day." JE

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'Bark Atah': JCC to Host **Blessing of Dogs, Pool Party**

Print | Digital | 🗗 🎯 😏

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

arley, a 7-year-old yellow Labrador retriever, is a Jewish dog, at least according to his owner Amy Foster, the chief program officer of the Kaiserman JCC.

After all, he's ever-present around the table for holidays (though perhaps just looking for scraps); has a Jewish mother; and, like any middle-aged Jewish man, loves paddling laps at the Kaiserman JCC pool (though he only does so after outdoor pool season, when his slobber won't be a concern for avid pool-goers).

"As part of our family, he feels Jewish," Foster said. "I'm sure he feels Iewish."

Though the dog days of summer have ended, Foster believes that Harley

shouldn't be the only canine with pool privileges this year. On Oct. 2, the Kaiserman JCC will host Paws in the Pool, an opportunity for area dogs, Jewish or not, to take a dip in the outdoor pool, which is closed for the season.

The JCC has clearly barked up the right tree: Twenty dog parents have already expressed interest, and Foster expects a *ruff* estimate of 10 more pooches to show up.

"It's great to socialize him with other dogs," said Talia Kassie of her dog Stitch, a brown and white Boston terrier adopted in December 2020.

Stitch plans on showing off his shark fin life jacket at the event.

"I'd like to give her a new experience besides just the dog park," Oreet Schwartz said about Nala, her 3-yearold rescue beagle-husky mix.

In addition to a day of swimming Line Rabbi Eric Yanoff. and butt-sniffing, the dogs will be blessed by Adath Israel on the Main

The blessing Yanoff plans to give is a play on words that requires a little bit of



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Jewish Exponent



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background Torah knowledge: "What we say is, "*Y*'simcha elochim — may God make you — t'Kalev ve ne'eman like Kaleb."

Kaleb is the figure in the Torah who was one of Moses' 12 scouts sent to survey Israel and return to the wilderness to report back. While 10 scouts returned and deemed Israel as an unfit homeland, Kaleb and Joshua returned, insisting that God had promised that land to the wandering Jewish people; they were the only two scouts who had demonstrated loyalty and faith to God's word, Yanoff teaches.

Great story, rabbi, but more importantly, what does this have to do with dogs?

"It's not enunciated the same way, but 'Kaleb' is spelled the same way as '*kelev*,' which is the word for dog," Yanoff said.

Like Kaleb, Yanoff said, a *kelev* also demonstrates loyalty and devotion.

Of course, Yanoff understands the absurdity in his forthcoming task of bestowing a Hebrew blessing to dozens of wet dogs, which most certainly do not count toward a minyan. But he believes the absurdity is rooted in Jewish tradition.

"When you are able to be playful in that way, it makes you feel part of something, right? And every value structure and every group has its language, its inside jokes, its lore, its history," Yanoff said. "And when you resonate with something like that — in a playful way — it is very affirming."

Jews engage with this same playfulness during Purim, when spiels draw on popular culture to poke fun at Jewish culture, at the same time bringing to life and adding meaning to a story of Jewish history told year after year.

It's also a Jewish practice to find the principles of Torah in unexpected places from unexpected teachers. You may not be able to teach an old dog new tricks, but old dogs may be able to teach Torah.

Among the dog owners planning on attending Paws in the Pool, there's a unanimous feeling that Foster describes: "You just feel like dogs are part of your family."

Sure, it's going to be darn cute to see some good boys and good girls doggy paddle in the pool, but the dog parents are concerned with more than just a good time. They want their fur babies enriched, socialized, tail-wagging and panting with happiness. It's an infectious joy that comes with being a dog owner.

Yanoff describes that two-way street of a relationship between dogs and their owners.

"The care of a dog is constant," he said; a dog will rely on you for the entirety of its life. However, for the duration of one's time with their dog, there's also a lifetime of love that a pet has to give. It's a never-ending cycle of having to care for someone and receive love in return.

"It's a very Jewish thing to have both constancy of care and constancy of love," Yanoff said.

For more information about the event, visit phillyjcc.com/pawsinthepool. JE

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Rabbi Shmuley Boteach Says Mehmet Oz's Senate Run Is 'Tragedy for the Jewish People'

BY RON KAMPEAS | JTA.ORG

he enduring bond between Rabbi Shmuley Boteach and Dr. Mehmet Oz, forged under the supervision of Oprah Winfrey, has long been known as a textbook example of the Winfrey doctrine that we can all get along.

But the friendship has fractured amid Oz's bid for Senate in Pennsylvania, where he is running a campaign that Boteach says is "a tragedy for the Jewish people." After enthusiastically welcoming Oz's candidacy a year ago, Boteach says he is upset that his old friend, who has been endorsed by Donald Trump, appeared until recently to have endorsed the former president's lie that he won the 2020 election.

Boteach also is upset that Oz's campaign has made an issue of a stroke that the Democratic nominee, JoÚ Fetterman, had several months ago, and that Oz, a dual Turkish-American citizen, will not call the 1915 Ottoman massacre of Armenians a "genocide," as many scholars have concluded it was.

"The man running for Senate is not Dr. Oz. This person is unrecognizable to me," Boteach told Rolling Stone. Oz, he said, has become an "election-denying, genocide-denying caricature of an extremist." Boteach made the comments to Rolling Stone in a story posted on Sept. 20 that expands on critical comments the celebrity rabbi has previously outlined. Rolling Stone also published excerpts from private emails that Boteach sent to the Oz campaign imploring it to change course, to no avail.

Boteach, a Republican, will not endorse Oz's opponent, Democrat JoÚ Fetterman, but was especially offended by the Oz campaign's attacks on Fetterman for having had a stroke. Boteach's father died of a stroke at the beginning of the pandemic.

"Anyone who has a modicum of self respect will condemn the actions of

a campaign that mocks a stroke victim, especially when it's the campaign of America's most famous doctor," Boteach wrote last month in an email to Oz and the campaign.

Oz, a physician who became famous through TV talk shows, met Boteach, an Orthodox rabbi who has advised multiple celebrities including Michael Jackson and Roseanne Barr.

"Dr. Oz and I became colleagues back in 2008 when we both worked for Oprah Winfrey on the Oprah and Friends Radio Network," Boteach wrote in the Jerusalem Post in December, lauding Oz's bid for the Senate. "There were so many special and legendary people on the network, from Oprah



herself to Maya Angelou and to Gayle King. But the one I bonded with the most and the quickest was Dr. Oz."

Boteach traveled to Israel with Oz, and to the Jewish settlement in Hebron, where they danced the hora with Israeli soldiers guarding the Tomb of the Patriarchs.

The Republican Jewish Coalition has enthusiastically embraced Oz, and has made a note of the fact that he is a Muslim who is close to Israel.

Boteach said Oz's disinterest in condemning Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan was also a mark against the candidate because of Erdogan's criticism of Israel. But in recent weeks, Israel and Turkey have warmed their relations, and Erdogan announced this week that he would visit Israel for the first time.

Oz is not the first friend and political candidate to fall out of Boteach's favor: He was once close to New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, whom he mentored when Booker was Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, but broke with Booker after the senator voted for the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, which Boteach regards as an existential threat to Israel. JE



From left: Rabbi Shmuley Boteach and Dr. Mehmet Oz speak at The 2022 Champions Of Jewish Values Gala at Carnegie Hall in New York City on Jan. 20. Alexi Rosenfeld/Getty Images via JTA.org

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During the event, Rebecca Rosenberger Smolen, Esquire, LLM received the Edward N. Polisher Award in recognition of her outstanding service to the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's endowment programs. The award is named in memory of Ed Polisher who served as an example and inspiration to estate planners through his personal integrity, leadership and service to the Jewish community.

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In addition to the event's programming and speakers, attendees enjoyed breakfast and networking opportunities.

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Larry Chane (R) presenting the Edward N. Polisher Award to Rebecca Rosenberger Smolen (L)



Edward N. Polisher Award winner Rebecca Rosenberger Smolen, with leadership and staff for the 27th Annual Solomon and Sylvia Bronstein Seminar. (L to R): Chelsea Bronstein, Sarah Solomon, Mark Fishman, Michael Balaban, Rebecca Rosenberger Smolen, Larry Chane, Kim Heyman, Gail Norry, and Jennifer Brier



Recent recipients of the Edward N. Polisher Award. (L to R): Scott Barsky, Scott Isdaner, Larry Chane, Rebecca Rosenberger Smolen, Ron Perilstein, Bob Miller, and Mark Blaskey



Attendees enjoy breakfast and networking. Back row (L to R): Leanne Evans of Raymond James, Scott Isdaner of Isdaner and Co, and Marianna Schenk of Bala Law Group. Front row (L to R): Adam Sherman of 1847 Financial and Doug Simon of Raymond James

All photos courtesy: Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

YOU SHOULD KNOW ... Rabbi Yosef Zarnighian



JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

or Rabbi Yosef Zarnighian, Congregation Mikveh Israel, the Philadelphia Jewish community and the job of assistant rabbi are all new.

The 27-year-old arrived in the city a year ago, starting his position on Sept. 6, 2021. Before that, he had never visited the area. It was also very different — from the synagogue melodies to the cuisine to the language — from the Great Neck, New York, community of Iranian Jews, most of them first-generation Americans, where he grew up.

Zarnighian found the adjustment to be a challenge. He had to build relationships with congregants, make new friends and establish a young household with his wife Marian, all at the same time. He also had to learn how to handle rabbinical duties, from sermons to life cycle events to bar and bat mitzvah classes, from his mentor at Mikveh Israel, Rabbi Albert Gabbai.

But as Zarnighian greeted everyone he met with a "happy, welcoming face," as he described it, he found that locals greeted him back the same way. So, more than a year in, he may have found a new home.

"So far, it has been phenomenal," he said.

Mikveh Israel is a 200-household congregation with a history that dates to Colonial times. Gabbai became the rabbi in 1988. But Zarnighian is his first assistant rabbi — and the synagogue's first in 40 years.

After his hiring, Zarnighian was presented as his elder's possible successor. He also was considered part of an expansion plan that included a new social hall/event space with the capability of promoting the shul to nonmembers. Gabbai stated then that his goal was to

increase the congregation's size back closer to its mid-20th century peak of about 500.

Also at the time, the older rabbi said he had no plan to retire. A little over a year later, though, he is singing a slightly different tune. Gabbai said he is not going to retire yet, but "it's going to come soon."

The reason for this development? Zarnighian.

The younger rabbi is already taking over "most of my responsibilities," Gabbai said. He's giving sermons on the Sabbath and on holidavs; he's handling the bar and bat mitzvah prep program; he's officiating at circumcisions, weddings and funerals. Zarnighian has proven to be a faster learner than his mentor expected.

"For some people, it's very quick, and for some it takes time. For him, it's very quick," Gabbai said.

When he arrived at Mikveh Israel, Zarnighian understood the challenge of growing into a successor to Gabbai. He also faced a congregation that was both more diverse, with Moroccans, jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com

Yemenis and Syrians, among others, and more transient, with city people as young as college students, than the community he came from.

Zarnighian said there was only one way to approach the challenge: Talk to everyone who walks through the door, and show them you care.

And not just smile, either. But really talk to people. Even if someone is just walking in and out.

"The care for each individual really makes the difference," he said. "I'm a firm believer in that."

According to Gabbai, Zarnighian "has a charm" and is "honest." He also "cares about people" and "attracts young people."

"When I'm ready to retire, that's when he'll be ready to take over everything," Gabbai said.

Zarnighian, for his part, said he wants that responsibility.

He called Philadelphia "a growing community" and said he sees people moving to the city "for work, for university, for higher studies." He thinks the COVID-era trend of people moving from New York to Philadelphia for better prices may continue. Zarnighian sees that as a potential opportunity for Mikveh Israel to "expose its heritage to a much broader audience."

But even if the audience stays the same, he may be happy with it. Zarnighian would not be warming to his new community if it wasn't for the people around him.

"I've settled into the role very well in the sense that the people here are incredibly, incredibly welcoming, wholesome, kind, good people," he said. "I'm new, but they also give me the opportunity to get to know them - to reach out to them outside of synagogue."

In June, Zarnighian and his wife welcomed a daughter into the world and their Center City home. Since then, they've been in "parenting mode," in addition to synagogue mode.

But he called that a blessing, too.

"Raising your precious little one changes you," he said. "It really completes you as a person in a way that's meaningful." JE

editorials /

The Call of 5783

A year ago in our new year message, we lamented the continuing restrictions of the pandemic, discussed domestic challenges, focused upon economic concerns, hoped for better education results for our kids and marveled at the creativity and innovation of our synagogues and communal institutions. We looked forward to a possible full return to "normal" in the new year.

Unfortunately, 5782 did not live up to those expectations. The relief many of us felt from a lessening of the danger of the virus did not usher in a return to normal.

Instead, COVID continues to haunt us, we feel unease and frustration in multiple trouble spots around the world, we are uncertain about our economy and we are all victims of a deepening domestic political divide. We are divided over abortion. We are divided over guns. We are divided over climate change and the future of our environment. We are divided over voting rights. We are divided over the legitimacy of the 2020 presidential election results. And there is more. Many of us are concerned about the future of our cherished republic.

Democracy is generally not a topic for new year messages or High Holiday sermons — unless it's to extol the "American experiment" and the genius of our founders. But this year is different.

In fact, one rabbi, Michael Holzman of Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation, recently called on his colleagues to not just extol democracy, but to preach it. There is something to that suggestion, even if we would normally prefer that our rabbis stay away from politics in their holiday sermons.

We are a little more than a month away from this country's midterm elections. State officeholders at all levels of government will be elected and control of both houses of Congress is very much in play. There's nothing new to that overall construct. But this time around, the stakes seem a bit higher, precisely because our country's political divide is so much more intense and pronounced than in the past.

To be clear, we aren't suggesting that our reli-

gious leaders endorse candidates or promote any political partisanship. But they can help us appreciate the importance of democracy and the creation of a society that we are all proud to be part of. None of that detracts from the importance of issues like communal safety, combating antisemitism, supporting Israel in its own buildup to consequential elections, providing proper education for our children and enhanced focus on caring for our elderly and infirm.

But as we enter 5783 and look toward numerous uncertainties in the coming year, we urge focus upon the principles of democracy as a guide to our political future.

As a Jewish community, we are beneficiaries and transmitters of some of the world's greatest moral, ethical and historical treasures. As Americans, we are tied to the inspiring history of democracy and all of the good it can generate. Let's maximize all of those gifts in this new year.

May we all be sealed in the book of life. *G'mar* chatimah tovah. JE

Platitudes and Window Dressing

We have seen this movie before: Public hearings with the heads of social media companies produce little or no change to protect concerns like user privacy, when doing so might interfere with corporate profits.

And when it comes to the balance between free speech and hate speech, the social media companies are, at worst, laissez-faire and, at best, inconsistent and unreliable.

So it's no surprise that at a recent hearing on online antisemitism held by an international group of lawmakers, which directed questions at senior executives from Meta, Twitter, YouTube and TikTok, one frustrated lawmaker called the executives' responses to a series of questions regarding both theory and practice in dealing with antisemitic statements on their platforms, "platitudes and window dressing."

The hearing was organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Task Force to Combat Online Antisemitism, an international coalition of lawmakers formed in 2020. The group is co-chaired by Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-Fla.) and Anthony Housefather, a Canadian member of Parliament.

According to reports, the tech giants came remarkably unprepared. They knew they were testifying before a panel looking into the growing scourge of online antisemitism. Yet not a single

unlikely that the reben a cease-fire an ously been opposed to the demander dimoub (larzell-n) The E demoks weapons democracy [dimpkrasi] democra Democracy is a system of govern People choose their rulers by vo elections. The spread of demi Europe appears to have had positive consequences. ... the p 2 A democracy is a count choose their government ment.

social media executive was able to answer the simple question of whether a potential, specific antisemitic posting would be removed from that executive's platform. Nor could they give specific answers to how to deal with platform algorithms that amplify hateful content, including antisemitism.

When the executives were asked whether they viewed anti-Zionism as inherently antisemitic, or as hate speech in its own right, most of them awkwardly dodged the question, although Facebook's Neil Potts did acknowledge that

attacks on Zionism are sometimes used as a proxy for attacks on Jews.

When asked pointedly why Twitter doesn't have a policy against Holocaust denial, the best Twitter's Michelle Austin could say was that she would "take that back" to the company.

An August 2021 report by the Center to Counter Digital Hate found that the major social media companies took no action to remove a whopping 84% of antisemitic posts. This is so even though social media giants have promised to crack down on antisemitic hate — something most believe they are able to do through existing controls designed to identify all forms of malignant content.

The obfuscation and evasion of the witnesses left Wasserman Schultz frustrated. "I

think we're all starting to see ... why we're eventually going to have to regulate the way this content is handled as opposed to just leaving it to you, the companies," she said.

While it is not yet entirely clear whether social media is unable or unwilling to protect users from antisemitic speech, it is clear that more aggressive protective steps are needed to stop the poisonous flow of antisemitic sludge and vitriol. But if the best social media giants can provide is "platitudes and window dressing," it may be time for government to step in. The clock is ticking. JE



Can King Charles Change Britain's Attitude Toward Israel?

BY ANDREW TUCKER

Watching the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II this week, one could not fail to be deeply moved, but her passing and the ascension of her successor King Charles III raise the question of whether there might now be a positive change in Britain's complicated and often hostile relationship with Israel.

There is some reason for hope. In the past, Charles has shown great sympathy for the Jewish people and for the state of Israel. Moreover, one of the queen's last official acts was to invite Liz Truss to become prime minister. Truss has publicly stated that she wants to change British policy towards Israel in a more supportive direction. She is even prepared to contemplate moving the British embassy to Jerusalem. Whether she Peace and Justice Network publicly condemns the "occupation," supports the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement and endorses the establishment of an Arab-Muslim state in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria.

The Anglican Church's attitude was reflected in a controversial opinion piece published last December by Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and Hosam Naoum, an Anglican archbishop in Jerusalem. Reminding readers that the first Christmas took place against "the backdrop of the genocide of infants" — thus evoking toxic libels about the "ethnic cleansing" of Palestinians — the authors blame Israel for "driving out" Christians, despite strong evidence that Christian churches in Israel are growing and thriving.

The cause of the Anglican Church's critical attitude toward Israel is a deeply-rooted "replacement theology" (also known as "supercession-

There is no doubt that King Charles and his prime minister understand the deep challenges and dilemmas facing the Jewish people and the state of Israel.

will be able to overcome anti-Jewish sentiment in the British Foreign Office, however, remains to be seen.

For Charles, the most significant obstacle to establishing a more friendly relationship with Israel is probably his role as supreme governor of the Church of England. It must be acknowledged that parts of the Anglican Church have played a very positive role in relations with Israel and the Jewish people. For example, the Anglican Church's Ministry Among the Jewish People and other Anglican evangelicals in the 19th century helped bring about the Balfour Declaration in 1917. Today, there are prominent Anglican clergy and lay leaders in many countries who support Israel on theological grounds, such as Professor Gerald McDermott and his New Christian Zionism movement.

Officially, however, the Anglican Church is highly critical of Israel. Anglican synods and committees regularly denounce Israel's claim to sovereignty over Jerusalem and condemn the Jewish state for allegedly oppressing the Palestinians and violating international law. For example, the Anglican ism") according to which — although the church does not say so in so many words — the church has replaced the Jewish people as God's chosen people. Thus, the Anglican Church does not accept that the literal ingathering of the Jewish people and their restoration to the land have any abiding biblical significance, and prefers to support the Palestinians, who are perceived as the oppressed underdog.

We know that King Charles and his heir Prince William support Israel's existence and sovereignty. However, Charles' secret visit to his grandmother's grave on the Mount of Olives in 2016 and Prince William's 2018 visit to Israel revealed the tensions involved in complying with the internal inconsistencies of the current British position.

William was the first member of the royal family to meet officially with an Israeli prime minister in Israel and he spoke warmly about "the essential vibrancy" of the Jewish state. Nevertheless, his visits to areas beyond the 1967 lines, including eastern Jerusalem, were not organized by the British embassy in Tel Aviv but by Britain's Jerusalem consulate, which is located in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in the city's east and is charged with maintaining relations with the Palestinian Authority.

William's visit thus confirmed the official British position that demands the establishment of a Palestinian state and regards eastern Jerusalem and the Old City — including the Western Wall — as "occupied Palestinian territory" that needs to be placed under Arab-Muslim sovereignty.

Should King Charles and Prime Minister Truss seek to depart from existing British policy regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, they will not only have to overcome obstruction from the British Foreign Office, but will also face opposition from within the Anglican Church.

There is no doubt that King Charles and his prime minister understand the deep challenges and dilemmas facing the Jewish people and the state of Israel, as well as the huge contribution made by Israel to peace and security in the Middle East and the existential dangers presented by the current unilateral Palestinian claims to statehood. Let's hope that they will have the courage to speak the truth without fear or favor. JE

Andrew Tucker is an Australian-born, Dutch-based international lawyer, writer and speaker. He is director of The Hague Initiative for International Cooperation and chief editor of Israel & Christians Today, a bimonthly newspaper published by Christians for Israel.



Archbishop Sends Holiday Greeting

As you prepare to celebrate the Most Holy Days of the year, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, I write on behalf of the people of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to extend prayerful best wishes.

These are days of prayer, reflection and new beginnings. May the Eternal One abundantly bless you with good health, wisdom and true peace in the year ahead.

"Shanah Tovah," a good year to all! JE

Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, Archbishop of 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. opinion



Recognize the Greatness of Sandy Koufax

BY SAUL AXELROD

he High Holidays are here; invariably, the discussion gets around to the time when pitching great Sandy Koufax (1935-) refused to pitch in the first game of the 1965 World Series because it coincided with Yom Kippur.

What is less well known is that. throughout his career, during both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and sometimes Passover, Koufax did not play. Also, Hank Greenberg, the only other Jewish American in the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. did not play in a game during the 1934 World Series because it fell on Yom Kippur.

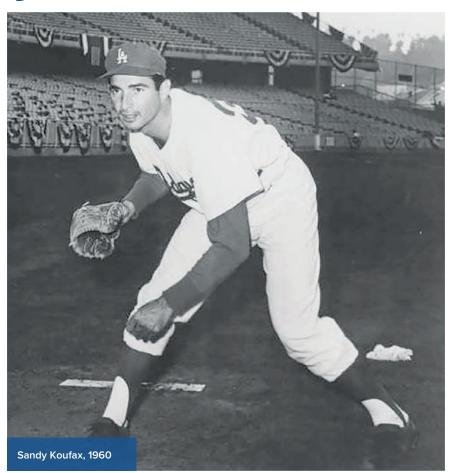
What is it about Sandy Koufax that sucks the air out of the room when pitching greatness is discussed? How did Koufax become a metaphor for pitching perfection? Why do callers to sports talk shows still say," I am not claiming that this guy is the next Sandy Koufax, but I am saying he is a great prospect." Why is it that my grandchildren, born four decades

after Koufax retired, are familiar with the name Sandy Koufax? (Okay, Saba Saul has something to do with that.)

Here is the argument *against* regarding Koufax as the greatest all-time pitcher: Koufax played 12 years in the major leagues, drafted out of college. Koufax's first six seasons were mediocre. He isn't even the winningest Jewish left-handed pitcher! (Ken Holtzman is.) Does this sound like pitching greatness? Read on.

The argument for his unmatched greatness is that during the next six years Koufax pitched better than any other human has ever pitched. He was so good that major leaguers regarded him as a visitor from a higher league unfairly pitching against mere major leaguers.

When iconic Yankee manager Casey Stengel was asked to name the greatest pitcher, he replied, "that Jewish kid." Koufax was so good that the Phillies once called off a game ostensibly because of a few sprinkles to avoid playing against him. (I know. I had tickets.) Atlanta Braves superstar Hank Aaron claimed that the best thing about Koufax's retirement was that he no longer had to face him. After striking out against Koufax



in the World Series, a bewildered Mickey Mantle his First Symphony. asked the umpire, "Am I supposed to hit that?"

Here are just a few statistics. Phillies' great Cliff Lee pitched six shutouts during his career. Koufax hurled 11 shutouts in one year, 1963, and 40 in a career that ended when he was 30. In 2021, no major league pitcher completed more than three games, and all MLB pitchers combined for 21 complete games. Koufax threw 27 complete games in both 1965 and 1966 – and 137 in his career.

How great was Sandy Koufax? In his last season with the Dodgers, he won 27 games as the team captured the National League pennant. The year after he retired, the Dodgers were in seventh place - more than 20 games out of first place. Nicknamed "the left arm of God," he did all this with a severely arthritic, remarkably painful left elhowl

Koufax was admired not only as a pitcher but also as a person. At the end of the 20th century, Sports Illustrated chose Koufax as the greatest left-handed pitcher of the 20th century. (Greenberg was chosen as the greatest first baseman). But Sports Illustrated also chose Koufax as its Favorite Athlete of the 20th Century, an honor

achieved for his character and the personal model he was he was for other athletes.

At Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, there is a statue of Sandy Koufax flanking a statue of Jackie Robinson. Robinson was subjected to humiliating taunts from opposing players and fans as the first African-American person to play in the major leagues.

Greenberg was a constant source of support for Robinson, whom Robinson described as the finest human being he had played against. It is easy to imagine Koufax playing a similar role had he pitched a generation earlier.

Koufax's unmatched greatness can be compared to Beethoven and the nine symphonies he composed. Haydn wrote more than 100 symphonies, many of them classics. Yet, no serious musicologist would argue that Beethoven was not the greatest symphonist. Any Google search of the greatest symphonies will reveal the dominance of Beethoven. Brahms was intimidated by Beethoven's symphonies; it took him almost two decades to compose

When Koufax retired, a local reporter wrote that you must go back to Babe Ruth to find a sports star of his magnitude. As for a model for the kids? Judah the Maccabee?

There was a mystigue to Koufax that increased his appeal. He was blessed with dark handsome looks but with shyness and humility that increased his aura. He was mobbed at autograph shows to the relative exclusion of other superstars. When Koufax appeared at an event, the fans did not cheer: they screamed.

Yet he shunned the spotlight and rarely gave interviews. One minor exception occurred when a member of the Jewish press asked him why he did not pitch on Yom Kippur. His one-word response was, "respect." He gave it, and he got it.

Can someone who pitched well for only six years be considered the greatest of all time? I will leave the answer to that childish question to others while I relax and listen to Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. JE

Saul Axelrod of Elkins Park is a professor emeritus of education at Temple University.



For the Sin We Have Sinned by Making People Feel Unwelcome at Synagogues

BY JEFF RUBIN

Thave been shocked lately by the number of my friends who have left synagogues because of a pattern of unkind remarks from rabbinic and volunteer leaders. A Jew-by-choice belittled. A twentysomething shamed. A professional demeaned.

Jewish Twitter is full of accounts by Jews by choice or Jews of color who have been challenged, patronized or "othered" when they show up in Jewish spaces. Essayists lament that too many synagogues don't seem welcoming or sensitive to single parents or don't accommodate people with disabilities.

Saying and doing hurtful things is not just ethically wrong, it's destructive to organizations and has no place in the sacred communities that congregations strive to be.

As any marketer will tell you, it is far cheaper to keep a customer than to acquire a new one — and synagogues can't afford to alienate a single congregant. With the ranks of the unaffiliated growing, according to Pew's 2020 study, synagogue leaders need to watch what they say to keep, welcome and attract members.

The Pew study revealed that 7% of American Jews do not attend synagogue regularly because they "don't feel welcome" while another 4% say "people treat me like I don't really belong." During my dozen years as a Hillel professional we invested heavily in training staff to create environments that welcomed and engaged Jewish students of all backgrounds, regardless of how they looked, loved or worshiped. My first encounter with Hillel when I was just a high school senior ended poorly: Visiting Boston University's Hillel, I was so put off by a comment that I didn't apply to the school.

Of course this is a problem as old as Judaism itself.

On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, we read the story of Hannah, the distraught woman who came to the Tabernacle at Shiloh to pray for a cure for infertility. Eli the Priest, seeing her pray silently — heretofore an unknown practice — accused her of being drunk. The priest said to her, "How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Sober up!"

Hannah replied, "Oh no, my lord! I am a very unhappy woman. I have drunk no wine or other strong drink ... I have only been speaking all this time out of my great anguish and distress."

"Then go in peace," said Eli, "and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of Him."

What if Hannah couldn't muster the strength to defend herself and simply walked out of the



Tabernacle — and out of Judaism? What if Eli did not have the compassion to correct himself? Would Hannah's son, Samuel, have been raised to become a Jewish leader recognized by the three Biblical faiths as a prophet? How would Eli's thoughtless remark have changed history?

The rabbis recognized the toxicity of insults and cited such remarks as a transgression in one of the oldest elements of the Yom Kippur service, the confessional, or Vidui. During the Vidui, worshippers strike their breasts and acknowledge that they have "smeared" others, "*dibarnu dofi*." Medieval commentator Rashi said the word "*dofi*" means "slander" and that it derives from "casting off" — as if by definition defamation leads to alienation. One prayerbook perceptively renders the phrase as, "We have destroyed" — a reputation, a relationship, a communal bond.

Jewish literature is full of guides to proper communication and avoiding evil speech, or *"lashon hara*" — from the Psalmist's admonition, "Guard your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceitfully," to the Talmudic "Let the honor of your friend be as dear to you as your own," to Rabbi Yisrael Meir Kagan's masterwork, the "Sefer Chofetz Chaim," to Rabbi Joseph Telushkin's excellent book, "Words that Hurt, Words that Heal."

But how do congregations turn wise words into action?

Linda Rich, a New York-based leadership coach who counsels synagogues and nonprofits, regards

respectful communication as a core behavior for a successful congregation, and a congregation that lives the Jewish values it espouses. Discussion and disagreement are the signs of a healthy group, but in the Jewish context they should be civil and *"I'shem shamayin,"* for the advancement of sacred work, not for other motives.

She recommends that volunteers and staff study the principles that are fundamental to Jewish life, and sign a covenant to uphold them. When individuals fail to do so they should be reminded politely, clearly and directly that they are a valued member of the congregation, but this behavior is unacceptable. Try to be positive: Point out that they can be even more effective leaders if they watch what they say and adjust their approach. The congregation should sponsor periodic surveys or other forms of evaluation to determine how well the group is fulfilling its duties and covenants.

On Yom Kippur, we reflect on our personal shortcomings, but we atone as a group. We do not seek forgiveness "for the sin that I have committed through my words," but "for the sin that we have committed through our words." Our individual words have collective impact. The High Holidays provide a golden opportunity to rethink how those words affect others and to take steps to change as individuals and congregations. JE

Jeff Rubin is a writer in the Baltimore-Washington area.



The World's Attention May Be Flagging, but Ukraine's Jews Still Need Our Help

BY ARIEL ZWANG

When I traveled to Poland shortly after the outbreak of the conflict in Ukraine, I met a young mother who, with her baby, fled Kyiv without her husband. More than baby food and a roof over her head, she needed a support system and community to navigate all that would come next.

With the outpouring of assistance from individuals and our partner institutions abroad who see it as their duty is to aid our fellow Jews in distress and rebuild Jewish life for coming generations, my organization, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), was there for her.

Seven months later, many people outside of Ukraine think the danger has abated, that a reduction in the pace of those fleeing signals an end to their plight, and that the Ukrainian Jewish community is diminished but stable.

Such misunderstandings downplay the urgency of challenges we have a part in solving. This is especially true given the outsized role that the global Jewish community has played to date in the humanitarian response. With tens of millions of dollars in support from the Claims Conference, Jewish federations across North America, the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, foundations, individual philanthropists and many others, we're invested in this crisis for the long term.

It is important, therefore, to set out three important realities and re-engage the wider Jewish public in our critical work:

The majority of Ukraine's Jews, and their leaders, remain in their country.

One of them is Svetlana M., the heroic director of the JDC-supported Hesed social service center in Poltava, in central Ukraine. Hesed serves the region's needy Jews and is a hub for crisis support. Svetlana is in her 40s, a psychologist by training, who turned her volunteerism and passion for the Jewish life into a career aiding the Jewish community. "We refuse to leave our city, and all those people who need us," she told us. "Think about the elderly people afraid to even step foot outside. They need us, their community, now. We have a rule in our family: In good times and hard times, we should be together."

It's true that tens of thousands of Jews, including some leaders, have fled. But the vast majority of the country's estimated 200,000 Jews, like Svetlana, have remained in the country. Many escaped to Ukrainian cities in safer locations. Others have left, and then returned from abroad. Among the nearly 40,000 poor Jewish elderly and families served by JDC before the conflict, approximately 90% are still there.

Tens of thousands of Jews in country continue to turn to the Jewish community for support during the conflict or volunteer to aid their neighbors. They are buoyed by scores of brave Jewish professionals — social service workers, JCC staff, volunteer coordinators, rabbis, Jewish educators and, of course, the staff of JDC — who have been leading emergency work from Kyiv to Dnipro, Odesa to Lviv.

Svetlana and the staff and volunteers at Hesed have endured the stress of constant air raid alerts — more than 500 since Feb. 24 — and the influx of more than 250,000 internally displaced people to the city. Svetlana has worked around the clock to address those ever-increasing human needs and to ensure the Jewish community becomes a touchpoint for joy during these tough times. Svetlana and her team — including her two sons — have planned numerous Rosh Hashanah holiday activities for seniors, teens, children, and displaced families in the coming weeks. They'll deliver holiday aid packages and hold online and in-person celebrations with singing and traditions like apples and honey, part of our overall High Holiday efforts around the country.

Need is spiking throughout Ukraine.

Boris R., 70, and his wife, JDC clients before the conflict, had to flee their home in the east with our help, when, as Boris tells it, "our house was ruined by shelling. There's no apartment, nothing. At such an age, I had to leave my native town." It was a harrowing journey, especially as Boris's wife has advancing Alzheimer's and cannot walk. They emerged from the building's basement and left with nothing more than the clothes they were wearing, their passports and their marriage certificate.

After staying in Dnipro for 10 days to recover, Boris and his wife traveled to Lviv, where they have been for the last three months. His son and family are also nearby. Boris has no intention of leaving Ukraine, but is barely able to survive without our help. The cost of his rent, with increasing utility prices, comes to \$324. He and his wife's combined pensions are only \$243.

While headlines focus on the south and east of the country, their plight is part of an under-reported, unfolding crisis around the entire country. Decimated infrastructure, severely reduced human services, and limited access to utilities are widespread. The economic situation is dire, with skyrocketing inflation projected to hit 27% and

Ukraine's GDP expected to contract by more than 34% in 2022.

Making matters worse, 3.6 million Ukrainians who remained lost their jobs, resulting in a population of "new poor," previously middle-class folks now facing poverty. Those who were poor before the crisis are in even worse shape. With prices for food and medicine increasing more than 20 percent in the last year, pensioners like Boris living on \$3-4 a day have seen scarce resources stretched even further. Add to this the widespread reality of post-traumatic stress brought on by loss in many forms — loved ones, homes and safety.

Our support — including food and medicines and supplemental aid for emergency needs like their rent and utilities — is a lifeline for these Ukrainians. JDC has shipped more than 600 tons of humanitarian aid into Ukraine, and we are directly supporting 35,000-plus clients today, including more than 2,600 new poor and internally displaced Jews. This is in addition to the tens of thousands of others to whom we have provided trauma support, medical care, evacuation or hotline services to date. But — with no end to the conflict in sight — more needs to be done.

The refugee crisis is not over.

While the mass exodus of refugees has slowed, there are, according to our European Jewish community partners, some 10,000 Jewish refugees in their remit. The actual number is likely higher, as some have not reached out for help. As global inflation worsens and many choose to remain in Europe, we expect more may turn to Jewish communities for support. We need to ensure they are prepared with the ability to extend care to their, and our, extended Jewish family.

In partnership with local Jewish communities, JDC is currently caring for 4,000 refugees in 13 countries. In addition to food, medicine, accommodation, psychosocial support and connections to local programming, we're moving from temporary care to long-term support. This includes housing solutions, health care, living stipends and workforce opportunities. And helping Ukrainian Jews to integrate into local Jewish communities is critical.

Rosh Hashanah is approaching, ushering in a time of introspection and new beginnings. During this period, we should proudly take stock of all we have done for Ukraine's Jews — and concentrate on all we must continue to do in the New Year ahead. JE

Ariel Zwang is the CEO of JDC, the global Jewish humanitarian organization.



Biden to Host First-ever White House Rosh Hashanah Party

President Joe Biden is bringing a Jewish High Holiday celebration to the White House for the first time, JTA reported.

His White House is hosting a Rosh Hashanah reception on Sept. 30, Jewish Insider reported.

As vice president during the 2009-2017 Obama administration, Biden hosted Rosh Hashanah and Sukkot receptions at the Naval Observatory, the official vice presidential residence, the first vice president to do so.

President Bill Clinton was the first president to host a Chanukah party for staff, and President George W. Bush made it a public event for Jewish community leaders, a practice continued by President Barack Obama and President Donald Trump. Obama instituted White House Passover seders, a practice Trump did not continue, although on at least one occasion, Jewish staffers gathered in the adjacent Eisenhower Executive Office Building for a seder.

The Biden White House last year hosted a last-minute Chanukah menorah lighting in person but has otherwise limited its Jewish events to virtual offerings.

London's Holocaust Memorial Garden Clears Queen Elizabeth Tributes Left on its Grounds

As Britons poured out their sadness over the death of their 70-year queen, they deposited tributes to her all over London — including at a garden designated for memorializing victims of the Holocaust, JTA reported.

Grace Dean, a reporter for Business Insider in London, tweeted on Sept. 18 that the Holocaust Memorial Garden in Hyde Park, not far from Buckingham Palace, had turned into "a makeshift Queen Memorial Garden." She posted pictures showing bouquets, letters and even pictures of Queen Elizabeth II strewn across the boulders that make up the heart of the Holocaust garden, which was dedicated with fanfare in 1983.

The post quickly elicited expressions of anger and distress that mourning for the queen, who died last week at 96, would usurp mourning for the 6 million Jewish victims of the Nazi genocide during the Holocaust.

On Sept. 19, as London prepared for the queen's funeral, the official account of the Royal Parks, the charity that manages eight parks on royal grounds, tweeted that the items were being removed.

101-year-old Is Oldest to Make Aliyah From US in Five Years

A 101-year-old woman who made aliyah from New Jersey in mid-September is the oldest immigrant to move to the Jewish state from the United States in the last five years, jns.org reported.

Stella Rockoff was born in Jerusalem in 1921, during the British Mandate of Palestine. Her family immigrated to Brooklyn, New York, when she was 5, and she moved to Pennsylvania after she married Rabbi Herman Rockoff in 1940. She later lived again in New York with her husband and four children, where she worked as executive secretary of the Rabbinical Council of America.

She lived in Clifton, New Jersey, before moving back to Israel with a daughter and son-in-law as part of a group of nearly 60 olim from North America.

"All my life I dreamed of returning to my native country," Rockoff said. "This is a day of celebration for me."

Central Bureau of Statistics: Israel's Population Nears 10 million

The population of Israel is just over 9.5 million people ahead of the Jewish New Year, according to data issued by Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics, jns.org reported.

The country has a population of 9.593 million people, according to the CBS. Of them, 7.069 million (74%) identify as Jewish, 2.026 million (21%) as Arab and 498,000 (5%) as neither.

The bureau states that the Israeli population will reach 10 million by 2024, 15 million by 2048 and 20 million by 2065.

Jews in Israel who are at least 20 are identified as 45.3% secular, 19.2% traditional, 13.9% traditional-religious, 10.7% religious and 10.5% Haredi.

The average life expectancy for Israeli men is 80.5 years versus 84.6 years for women. According to the data, 177,000 babies were born in Israel the past year. JE

— Compiled by Andy Gotlieb

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Historians React to Ken Burns HOLOCAUST DOCUMENTARY

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

f there's one thing that Ken Burns' new docuseries "The U.S. and The Holocaust" makes clear, it's that Franklin Delano Roosevelt was only a big part of a much larger picture.

The question of why the U.S. didn't do more to prevent the Holocaust is a question about the 32nd president, yes. But it's also a question about the myopic worldview of the American population in those years.

As Burns details in his three-part series, which aired from Sept. 18-21 on PBS and is now available on PBS.org, The Immigration Act of 1924 severely curtailed immigration from Jewish regions. Years later, The Great Depression left one in four Americans without a job and fearful that newcomers would compete with them for the jobs that were available. And as war approached and ultimately broke out in Europe in 1939, aviator Charles Lindbergh's America First anti-war movement built a following across the nation.

FDR was competing with all of this as he pondered how to deal with the humanitarian crisis in Europe. As a political animal who understood the deeply democratic spirit of his country, the president also knew that he had to follow the herd as much as lead it. His approach ultimately did lead to U.S. entry into World War II, victory over the Nazis and the liberation and preservation of the Jews. But at the same time, it's hard to deny that FDR's prioritization of politics over morality came with a price: countless Jewish lives.

feature **story**

It's history; it is human affairs; and so it's complicated. That's why we talked to three prominent Jewish American historians to see what they thought of Burns' muchhyped doc.

Lance Sussman

Sussman is the scholar-in-residence at the Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center in Elkins Park. He's also the rabbi emeritus at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in the same town. As a Jewish historian, he has taught classes at Princeton University, Temple University and SUNY-Binghamton, among other schools.

When he spoke to the Jewish Exponent, Sussman had completed the first episode of Burns' nearly seven-hour docuseries. And he "basically thought it was excellent."

Sussman appreciated that Burns detailed the early history of immigration in America. Basically, for almost the first century and a half of its existence, the country allowed it. Leaders wanted to grow the population and build a great nation.

But between 1870 and 1920, southern and

Ken Burns

eastern Europeans, including many Jews, joined western Europeans in their pursuit of opportunity. This led to a backlash and to the attempt to limit those immigrants that The Immigration Act of 1924 represented.

For a viewer, it's important to understand this background to "prepare the scene," as Sussman put it, for what was to come.

Sussman also liked that Burns explained the antisemitism in both the American population and the State Department in the years leading to World War II. This showed the "political dynamic" that FDR had to deal with, and why it was so difficult to take action to stop the Holocaust.

Finally, the historian was delighted to see Burns highlight Emanuel Celler, the Jewish congressman who represented his Brooklyn and Queens district for 50 years starting in 1923. If Lindbergh is consistently shown speaking out on the wrong side of history, Celler is consistently shown doing the opposite.

He made a speech against The Immigration Act and lobbied the Roosevelt administration to let in Jewish refugees from Europe during the Nazi years. He was often a man fighting alone in the halls of power and in the national conversation.

"He's truly one of the unsung heroes of a very dark story," Sussman said. "So I'm glad that he got a lot of attention."

Zev Eleff

Eleff, as his website profile describes him, "is the twelfth president of Gratz College" in Cheltenham Township. He's also a historian of Jewish history in America with nine books and more than 50 scholarly articles to his name.

The scholar did not pull his punches when asked about Burns' latest project.

"The most egregious thing is letting FDR off the hook," Eleff said. "That has set back the discourse over the relationship between the Roosevelt administration and the Holocaust."

> The president added that recent books and articles in the scholarly community have moved toward the "consensus that FDR should have done more." By not focusing on how much FDR knew and on how much he considered actions like bombing the rail lines to the Auschwitz concentration camp,

the documentary ends up missing an opportunity, according to Eleff. "Many viewers came away looking at

FDR with an unimpeachable record in the war effort," he said. "And the scholarly record isn't as impeccable."

Eleff acknowledged that it's complicated. On the one hand, he mentioned, FDR's rise to power represented the "near-complete move-



of the Library of Congress C

ment of American Jews to the Democratic Party." But on the other, in the wake of the Holocaust and the realization that FDR wanted to do more but didn't, "there was a disillusionment and a disenchantment" among American Jews.

Eleff believes that the 32nd president was "inhibited in what he could do," but also that he could have still tried to do more. The doc also could have explored that more deeply.

"Overall an incredibly powerful and important PBS documentary," the Gratz leader said. "But what it does do is roll back the very complicated discussions that were activated by FDR."

Jonathan Sarna

Sarna is the chief historian at the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. He's also a longtime American Jewish history professor at Brandeis University in Massachusetts and is considered perhaps the foremost Jewish historian in the U.S.

It's perhaps not surprising, then, that Sarna knows the details about what a lot of American Jews were doing to try and help their European brothers and sisters during this time. And he would have liked to have seen Burns focus more on those activities.

Jews, according to Sarna, had an intelligence network that infiltrated the Nazi-supporting German American Bund in New York City, Los Angeles and other cities.

"Why not talk about that?" he asked.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency also set up a secret news-gathering operation called the Overseas News Agency, without the word Jewish in it.

"I wish he would have paid more attention to what was done," Sarna said of Burns. "In that era, there were a lot of secret, clandestine Jewish activities that have never really been properly brought together, celebrated, understood."

There is a sense in Israel, Sarna explained, that American Jews sat back and did nothing during the Holocaust. A whole generation has been raised on this belief, "perhaps to suggest a difference between America and Israel," he said.

"And it's just not true," he added.

There is also a higher-level part of the story that Sarna wishes Burns would have focused on more: first lady Eleanor Roosevelt's desire to take in more refugees. Eleanor Roosevelt, famously, was the idealist who balanced her husband's political calculations, and she was horrified by the events in Europe. Sarna believes that "playing them off against one another would have been helpful."

The professor, though, understands that, as he put it, films "are not encyclopedias." Filmmakers, much



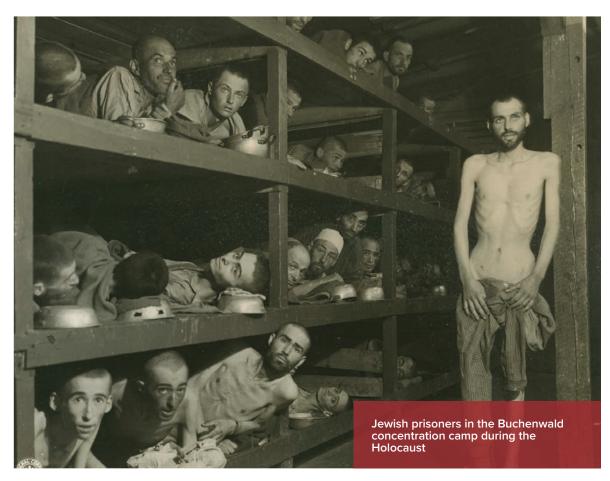
What more could America have done to help the Jews during the Holocaust? Ken Burns' new docuseries explores this question.

like newspaper editors, have to make choices about what to include and what not to include, all to appeal to a general audience.

And as a history lesson that can offer a baseline knowledge of that time, and of America's role in shaping it, "The U.S. and The Holocaust" succeeds, according to Sarna.

"This is a way of learning about something that they otherwise wouldn't know about," Sarna said. "So I'm very glad it's there. But it's not above criticism." JE

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Yom Kippur

Plant-Based Dishes FOR THE BREAK-FAST BUFFET

KERI WHITE | SPECIAL TO THE JE

e all love the traditional whitefish/bagels/lox break-fast meal — and what's not to like?!

But these days, many people are adopting more plant-based eating habits, either for environmental and ethical reasons, or a need to reduce cholesterol or sodium intake, to lose weight or for other health considerations.

My sister-in-law Esther, who is a healthy eater, made these recipes on a recent visit and, although not traditional, they would be good additions to the break-fast buffet. Both are pareve, healthy, deliver plenty of fresh veggies along with fiber, protein and, of course, they are delicious. Both of these dishes are also colorful, so they add some visual pop and interest to the buffet.

When cooking for a holiday crowd, it is ideal to offer a variety of dishes to accommodate all preferences and needs; these two recipes do just that! For folks who need to watch their sodium, try using low-sodium soy sauce, and reduce the amount as required. Ditto for lower fat diets concerning sesame oil and peanut butter.

Cauliflower Lettuce Wraps Serves 5

These mimic chicken wraps seen on

many Chinese and Vietnamese menus. Cauliflower rice is available in the produce sections of most supermarkets these days. If you can't find it, see the note below on how to make your own.

The wraps are designed to be a finger food, but they can be rather messy; some may wish to serve these plated with a knife and fork.

- 1 teaspoon canola oil
- 2 cups cauliflower rice
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup diced water chestnuts
- 1/4 cup diced red onion
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed
- 2 tablespoons hoisin sauce
- 1 teaspoon soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon Sriracha or your favorite chili sauce
- 12 lettuce cups, either from Boston or bibb lettuce, small romaine heads, or iceberg
- Optional garnishes: chopped peanuts or cashews; cilantro sprigs, sliced jalapenos and/or sliced scallions

In a large skillet, heat the canola oil and sauté the onion, garlic and mushrooms until fragrant. Add the water chestnuts, cauliflower rice, soy sauce, hoisin and Sriracha with a splash of water to help distribute the sauces. Continue cooking for about 5 minutes until all vegetables are cooked. Remove from heat and cool slightly — you don't want the mixture added to the lettuce while it is steaming hot or it will cook the leaves.

Place the lettuce cups on a large platter and fill them with the cauliflower mixture.

Garnish as desired, and serve.

To make cauliflower rice, divide a large head of cauliflower into florets and small pieces.

Blanche the pieces in boiling water for 30 seconds, then place them immediately into an ice bath. Drain thoroughly, and put them in a food processor. Whiz the cauliflower around until the pieces resemble rice. This will make more than you need for the lettuce wraps; save it and use it in salads or as you would rice or couscous.

Spicy Thai Quinoa Salad

Serves 6-8, depending on portion size

Ingredients:

- 2 cups finely sliced red cabbage
- 2 cups shredded carrots
- 1 large bell pepper, finely sliced
- 2 scallions, chopped
- 2 cups edamame
- 2 cups cooked quinoa
- 1 bunch cilantro, chopped



Photo by Keri White

Dressing:

- 4 tablespoons natural peanut butter
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons rice wine vinegar Juice of 1 lime
- 1-inch piece fresh ginger, grated
- 3 large cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 tablespoon sesame oil
- 2-3 tablespoons Sriracha or other hot chili sauce
- 1 cup hot water

Mix all the vegetables and quinoa in a large bowl. Set aside.

Mix all the dressing ingredients except for the hot water in a medium bowl. Gradually add the water, starting with about a quarter cup, and whisk. Continue adding water and whisking until the dressing becomes creamy and smooth. It should be thin enough to pour over salad but not too watery.

Pour the dressing over the veggie/ quinoa mixture, and stir it together.

This is best if it has some time to sit, allowing the flavors to blend. JE

Break-Fast Side Dishes

LINDA MOREL | SPECIAL TO THE JE

Like many American Jews, our family breaks the Yom Kippur fast with bagels, lox and cream cheese. We like whitefish salad, too.

While this is a wildly popular menu, it lacks the crunch and nutritional value of vegetables and fruit.

I've tried ordering trays of sliced tomatoes, cucumbers and raw vegetables. But they were assembled days before the holiday and arrived past their prime. I figured that with a little

advance planning, I could do better.

In recent years, I've turned to salads and cooked vegetables that are easy to make ahead and best served cold. They're ideal for the rush of getting food on the table after breaking the fast. Better still, the canon of Jewish cuisine offers many recipes to choose from.

Olive and orange salad has been treasured among Sephardi Jews for centuries. Jews were among the earliest growers of citrus fruits. They have cultivated olives for at least 5,000 years. This salad is a favorite in Israel, although its origins are probably in North Africa.

Nutty spinach with raisins is cooked first and then chilled, a common preserving method in the days before refrigeration. This dish is beloved among Jews in the Middle East and North Africa. This recipe comes from Rome, but it almost certainly traveled there with Jewish traders during the Roman Empire.

Beet salad with dill is well known in the AsŠenazi world. Beets have always been cheap and are tough enough to survive frigid Eastern European winters. Besides being essential to borscht, beets are a tangy ingredient in Jewish cooking. Initially, AsŠenazi Jews ate beet greens in salads, the tops of this root vegetable that grows underground. But later, Russian Jews devised beet salad, sometimes adding herring.

No matter how your family breaks the fast, it's a smart move to add foods to the menu that are hydrating, full of fiber and loaded with vitamins. After a day of forgoing food, vegetables and fruit are a healthy bridge back to your usual diet.

Yom Kippur

Olive and Orange Salad | Pareve

raieve

Serves 8

8 oranges

⅔ cup Kalamata olives, pitted and cut in half

Juice of 2 lemons

- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, pushed through a garlic press
- 2 teaspoons mint, finely chopped
- ³⁄₄ teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika, plus more for sprinkling

Cut the oranges into thick slices. Remove the pits with the point of a knife. Peel off the skin. Cut the orange slices into wedges. Move them to a mixing bowl. Scatter the olives over them.

In a small mixing bowl, whisk together the lemon juice, olive oil, garlic, mint, cumin and ½ teaspoon of paprika. Pour the dressing over the orange-olive mixture. Using two spoons, toss until the mixture is entirely coated. This recipe can be covered with plastic wrap and stored in the refrigerator for 2 days. Before serving, move the salad to an attractive bowl. Sprinkle with more paprika. Serve cold or at room temperature.

Nutty Spinach with Raisins | Pareve

Serves 6-8

- ²∕₃ cup raisins
- ²/₃ cup pine nuts or slivered almonds
- 2 (1 pound) plastic boxes of baby spinach
- ¹/₃ cup olive oil, or more if needed2 garlic cloves, very finely sliced
- Kosher salt to taste Juice of 1 lemon
- Juice of Tiemol

Boil 2 cups of water, and pour it into a heatproof mixing bowl. Add the raisins, and soak them for 10 minutes. Strain the raisins in a sieve and reserve.

Preheat a toaster oven or oven to 350 degrees F.

Roast the nuts for a minute or two. Watch them carefully as they easily burn. Reserve.

Rinse the spinach under cold water and place it in a colander to drain.

Heat the olive oil in a very large pot over a medium-low flame.

Sauté the garlic for a minute or two until fragrant. Sprinkle it with salt. Add the spinach in bunches to the pot, even though water will still be clinging to the leaves. Stir the spinach continuously, and add more as each batch wilts, which happens quickly. Add more olive oil at any time, if needed. Check to make sure the spinach has enough salt and add more, if needed.

Remove the spinach from the flame, and add the raisins and nuts. Stir to combine. This can be served immediately or cool it to room temperature, move it to a bowl, cover it with plastic wrap and refrigerate it for two days.

When ready to serve, move the spinach to an attractive serving bowl and drizzle the lemon juice over the top.

Sweet and Sour Beet Salad | Pareve

Serves 8-10

- 3 (15-ounce) cans sliced beets
- 3 tablespoons white vinegar
- 2 tablespoons fresh dill, chopped finely
- 3 tablespoons red onion, chopped
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon honey
- Kosher salt to taste

Drain the beets in a colander, and move them to a large mixing bowl. Add the vinegar, dill, onion, honey and salt. Gently stir to combine.

Cover the salad with plastic wrap and refrigerate it for at least 12 hours and up to three days.

Check to make sure the beet salad has a tang. If it's too sweet, add a little more vinegar. If it's too tart, add a little more honey.

When ready to serve, move it to an attractive bowl, preferably a clear glass one to show off this salad's gorgeous garnet color. JE



Synagogue Hopes For Jam-packed **Sweet New Year**

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

his year, Beth David Reform L Congregation wanted to ring in the new year a little differently than with just apples and honey.

Last week, members of the Gladwyne synagogue made and canned 300 jars of Tunisian pumpkin jam, a spin on a Sephardi dish, to be distributed to congregants. The project used 75 pounds of pumpkin.

Originally, synagogue leadership wanted to give the nonedible gift of a can opener to congregants within their High Holidays gift bags - a representation of the reopening of society after COVID restrictions and the opening of one's heart during the month of Elul.

But now equipped with can openers, congregants then needed cans to open. Rabbi Beth Kalisch tapped synagogue

Vice President Jane Horwitz, an experi- acidify it, which would enhance enced canner, to conjure up an additional sweet treat to the requisite honey.

Along with Cantor Lauren Goodlev and Educational Director Rabbi Elisa Koppel, Kalisch and Horwitz decided on pumpkin jam, also called ma'jun kra, which uses ingredients common in North Africa and Sephardic cooking. In addition to representing a sweet new year, the jam would be an opportunity for the synagogue to expose congregants to different types of Judaism beyond the AsŠenazi default.

"In our effort to stay connected and do things together, why buy something when we can sort of have an activity and get people connected in making the jam together?" Goodlev said.

Horwitz got to work. First came the recipe selection and testing. Using butternut squash from her garden, Horwitz tweaked recipes, adding orange juice to the flavor of the sweet and smooth pumpkin, and apple, which is high in pectin, the natural thickening agent that adds glossiness and mouthfeel.

As she did the math on how much jam she would need to make, it was clear that the squash from Horwitz's garden wasn't going to cut it. She picked up crates of pumpkins. She bought additional ingredients,

too: 50 pounds of sugar, vanilla bean paste - different from extract - and rose essence to perfume the jam.

Next came the spreadsheet, a meticulous timeline and delegation of tasks for those who signed up to help Horwitz, a group of nine, many of whom had previous canning experience. The jammers showed up at Horwitz's house with can-



ning pots in tow; many had been passed down for generations.

Over the next five days, the team churned out four batches of jam a day, with some peeling and chopping pumpkins, others stirring jam pots, others still boiling and sealing jars and Horwitz's husband dutifully cleaning the kitchen each night.

"There was jam schmutz all over my kitchen!" Horwitz said. "Jam was everywhere ... the sweetest thing is there's no more sweetness on the walls of my kitchen."

It wasn't all about the destination, however. Jam-making is a meditative and reflective process. Sometimes, you don't have a choice but to stand over a pot and stir for hours.

"It made me slow down and focus," Horwitz said. "Doing this preservation of food on such a huge scale was, for me, the closure to the year."

Ending an arduous project has its rewards, too. After distributing the jam jars to congregants, Horwitz planned to donate leftover jam to Bethel AME Church in Ardmore, hoping it will lead to other opportunities for partnership.

Horwitz isn't interested in another large-scale jam-making project for a while, but the activity laid the blueprint for congregants to reconvene after a couple of years of distance and be creative in programming moving forward to accommodate a diverse community.

"If the pandemic taught us anything, it's the metaphor of throwing spaghetti on the wall and seeing what sticks," Goodlev said. "I guess if you throw jam on the wall, a lot of that is going to stick, $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ too." JE

Courtes

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\ obituaries

NBA Evaluator, Teacher and Coach Myron Rosenbaum Dies at 91

SASHA ROGELBERG | STAFF WRITER

hysical education teacher, coach, referee and evaluator of NBA officials Myron Rosenbaum died on Sept. 14 at Beaumont in Bryn Mawr. He was 91.

Rosenbaum's love of sports, particularly basketball, wove itself through his many interests and jobs.

As the athletic director and basketball coach at Har Zion Temple in Penn Valley, Rosenbaum co-founded Har Zion Fun and Fitness Club with his wife Deena, where the two led athletic programming for children for 20 years, beginning in the 1950s.

The couple also taught physical education together at Overbrook High School, providing sex education for students, a rarity at the time. Rosenbaum coached varsity tennis and scouted players for the school's basketball team.

"He was really great with kids," Deena Rosenbaum

said. "Basketball, to him, was like an art. He was very adept at seeing who would be a good player and who wouldn't. He worked at it, and he loved it."

An avid referee, Rosenbaum knew the rules of the game and later became an evaluator for NBA officials and for Continental Basketball Association supervised officials, where he used his ample experience to scout referees and consult the leagues after games on which officials were making fair calls. He traveled across the East Coast with his wife from 1976-'81, watching dozens of games, mostly on weekends.

Rosenbaum's love for the sport inspired his brother-in-law Jay Mandle to take interest in refereeing and talent scouting. On a trip to the Caribbean, Mandle, an economy professor at Colgate University, conducted a study on local economics and refereed on the side. He stumbled across a group of young men playing basketball and sent Rosenbaum a tape of one lanky young man.

Rosenbaum insisted that the young man be



Myron Rosenbaum in 2016, on a trip to visit Lynn Rosenbaum



brought to the States where, using his connections, helped the athlete play high school ball at Cardinal O'Hara High School in Springfield, college ball and later get drafted into the NBA.

The kid, Adonal Foyle, was the eighth overall draft pick in the 1997 NBA draft. At the time, the center became the longest-tenured player for the Golden State Warriors and later played for the Orlando Magic and Memphis Grizzlies.

"If it hadn't been for Myron, he never would have made it," Deena Rosenbaum said.

All the while, Rosenbaum balanced his love of basketball with his first passion — his family. Like their parents, Rosenbaum's three daughters pursued athletic interests.

Mindy Karro and Lynn Rosenbaum remember seeing their father in the bleachers at all of their gymnastics meets. In between routines, Myron Rosenbaum would turn on the small, portable television he brought along to catch whatever NBA game was on.

"It is a very funny memory of him sitting with that little portable TV, which allowed him to be involved and watch basketball wherever he went," Karro said.

At home, Rosenbaum had a favored chair in the den where he would sit and watch games or old movies. Lynn Rosenbaum remembers never being allowed to change the channel when her father was watching.

"That was where you knew you could find him," she said.

When he wasn't watching games at home, Rosenbaum was playing poker. He went from an amateur basement poker player to ranking in the top 10 at the World Series of Poker in 1988 and '89.

A lifelong Philadelphian, Rosenbaum was born in the city and graduated from Overbrook High School in 1949. Shaped by the early death of his mother, he became close to Deena Rosenbaum's family.

"When he married my mom, he found the family that he had never had in her family," Lynn Rosenbaum said. "He just loved my mom's parents and her brother."

Rosenbaum's college education at Temple University was interrupted by a two-year stint in the Army. True to his athletic sensibilities, Rosenbaum played table tennis competitively there; he was a player, coach and high scorer on the Sapporo team in Japan during the Korean War. In 1953, he won the Special Armed Forces table tennis singles and doubles championship.

His ample victories in other leagues throughout his life earned him the Jewish Basketball League Alumni Award in 2013.

Despite his adventurous spirit, Rosenbaum appreciated a daily routine. Every Saturday night, the family would order food from Hymie's or City Line Diner and Deli. He enjoyed picking up dessert for his family from local bakeries.

He showed his love for his family in other ways, too. One year, for their anniversary, Rosenbaum paid for a message on a billboard that could be seen through the shared window in their Overbrook High School office. The couple were married for 65 years.

"It was a great adventure," Deena Rosenbaum said.

Rosenbaum is survived by his wife; daughters Stephanie Rosenbaum Thornley (Evan), Karro (Wayne) and Lynn Rosenbaum; and two grandchildren. JE

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AVART

KAREN (nee Bidner) on September 19, 2022. Wife of Dr. Stewart. Mother of Meredith (Evan) Scott and Joshua (Diana) Avart. Sister of Cheryl Levy and Murray Bidner. Grandmother of MacKenzie and Noah Scott, Hayden and Talia Avart. In lieu of flowers contributions in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org.

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS

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BRENNER

LINDA ROBERTA, beloved wife of the late Gerald Stanley Brenner, died on September 3, 2022 at the age of 83. Born in Chicago, Linda was the eldest daughter of David and Blossom (Schiff) Byer. She is survived by her brother, Stephen, and sister, Amy. Linda graduated from Oak Park and River Forest High School, and earned her BS in Microbiology from the University of Wisconsin. She met Gerry, the love of her life, during her first week on campus. They were married three years later, between her junior and senior years of college. Two years later, with their newborn son Jeffrey in tow, Linda and Gerry moved to Plainfield, New Jersey, where they resided for ten years. In 1971 they moved to Plymouth Meeting, where they lived for the next 49 vears. Once the kids were in school. Linda worked in research laboratories at both the Medical College of Pennsylvania and Merck. She then founded a kosher catering business, The Two of Us, Inc., in the late seventies. Once the life of a caterer became too physically taxing, Linda devoted her time to volunteering at her synagogue as well as with the Eastern Pennsylvania Region of United Synagogue. Linda was a lifelong learner, an avid reader, a lover of classical music and opera, and was devoted to community service. Above all, she cherished her husband Gerry and her brood of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. In addition to her siblings, she is survived by her children, Jeffrey (Tamar) Brenner, Beth (Dan) Heyman, and Susan (Gidon) Yitzhak: her grandchildren. Avraham (Shifra), Rachael (Moshe) Ribakow, Asher, Shayna, and Chaya Brenner, Bennett (Sara), Noah (Craig Arno), and Aaron Heyman, Brit (Elad) Siman Tov, Liad, Merav, Sarah and Ovadiah Yitzhak: and great-grandchildren, Dakota, Randy, and Amber Kraus, and Yaakov, Avital, and Avishai Siman Toy. The family respectfully suggests memorial donations be directed to Tiferet Bet Israel (Blue Bell). The Linda and Gerald Brenner Hillel Welcome Week Fund at The University of Wisconsin, or The Gerald Brenner Science Scholarship at City College of New York.

COHEN

PAUL Sept. 19, 2022, of Win o te, PA. Husband of Sally Seidman; father of iJ II Hampton (d ffreir) and Carla d o bs (Eris); grandfather of Hannah, Brian, Zab and Allison. The family respec fully request o ntributions in his memory be made to a b arity of the donor's b oie.

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DIAMOND, ESQ.

SAMUEL "Bud" on September 15, 2022. Beloe d husband of Miriam (nee Forman) Loiving father of d nathan Diamond (Sandra Itts ff), Deborah Diamond (d nathan Bloks, and Daivd Diamond (Audrey Kraus); Dev ted grandfather of Leo, Kidist Rose, Aaron, Eli, Hannah, Harry, and Benjamin. Co-founder of the law firm Diamond, Polsk and Bauer in 1960, Samuel serve d bients until his retirement in 2010 and taught dea des of students at the Unie rsity of Pennsly a nia. Contributions in his memory may be made to Univ. of PA Law Sb ool, www.law.upenn. edu or e wish Federation of Greater Phila., www.iewishphillv.org

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS

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FEUER

DAVID "Grumpy"-On September 15, 2022. Below d husband of the late Frane s (nee Freezn an). Dew ted father of So tt Feuer (Ly, ne), Kim Feuer Gelman (Craig), and Edward Feuer. Low ng grandfather of Chelsea and a ime. Contributions in his memory may be made to Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El 1001 Remington Road, Wy, newood, PA 19096 or to a b arity of the donor's b oie.

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FLAX

ENID (nee Ob ab er) of King of Prussia. Wife of the late Wallae Flax Mother of Rabbi Ambassador Martin Flax of Israel and Rabbi Ira (Vik) Flax of King of Prussia. Sister of Phoebe (Frederik Nove of NY. Grandmother of Debra (Samuel) Kitb en and Benjamin (Adina) Flax Great grandmother of Wallis Harper Kitb en. Serive s and Int. were held in New York Sept. 19, 2022.

GERBER

BARRY on September 16, 2022. Husband of Sandra (nee Breslow). Father of Dr. Lori Gerber. Brother of Edward Gerber. Grandfather of Ethan Lewis. Mr. Gerber was the owner of the Trae I Authority and AAA Video in Bensalem, PA. GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS www.goldsteinsfuneral.o m

KATZ

NAOMI CAHAN, Artist, Psta ologist and Community At iv st in Israel. Naomi Cahan Katz was born in Philadelphia and spent the seo nd half of her life fulfilling her potential in e rusalem. She passed away on August 10, 2022 in e rusalem at the age of 97. The eldest daughter of Morris and Lillian Cahan Naomi grew up in the Oak Lane neighborhood of North Philadelphia. After attending Girls' High, she went on to study at Philadelphia College of Art (now Unie rsity of the Arts) and the Barnes Foundation. Wandering the park one eve ning at a pin iç Naomi tripped over a man ly ng under a bush with his date. It was Stanley Katz They married just a week before her twenty-first birthday and together they had five children - Sivia, Avi, Judith, David and Shuli - and a life of ade ntures, great and small. Naomi worke d as a homebound instruct or for b ildren throughout the c ty. Alwas at ise in a wish life, she was at is ly involved from its ine ption with the Solomon Sb eb ter Day Sb ool (now Perelman e wish Day Sb ool), whib would grow from 39 students in the basement of Har Zion Temple into a fore for e wish edua tion in the region. On Saturdaş Stan and Naomi would pak their family into the station wagon and drive to South Philadelphia for bass at the Fleisher Art Memorial and a visit to the Italian Market to prou re that eve ning's b eese ravioli. Other day, they would pake up may nnaise sandwib es and head to the **p** o to draw the animals. Naomi herself nee r stopped mak ng art, and she ep lored ee ry medium. Self taught, she bea me ao mplished in a lligraphy, jewelry mak ng, and pottery at the wheel. With her b ildren she c eated Tak Cab Katz a papier mab e o ke r spaniel. She one o e red the dining room wall with a mural featuring a bosomy woman at a Parisian a fe, leaning on a table with a large blak poodle tied to it. After her 9 ungest was born, she enrolled in

night sb ool at Temple Unie rsity to pursue and o mplete her Masters in Psyb ology. Shortly after earning her degree, she and Stan trae led to Israel to iv sit their daughter in art school in e rusalem. On that trip, they fell in loe with the o untry and decided to make align h. Two g ars later, with nine-g ar-old daughter Shuli in tow. Naomi and Stan left Philadelphia for Israel. After learning some Hebrew in an ulpan outside of e rusalem, they joined k bbutz Ag let Hashahar just in time to brae for the Yom Kippur War of 1973. In their dea de on k bbutz Naomi established a psyb ology b inic for b ildren and families in a nearby town. With Israel's unie rsitv set em in its infane . she translated many English language pst ology tetks into Hebrew for publia tion. With Stan, she established an art studio for the k bbutz where members would pose for and paint one another. Ee ntually, she was give n one day off of work eab week dep ted to art: the mark of a professional artist within the k bbutz She and Stan were both at is ly involved with the programs of Sae the Children programs in Israel. After ten g ars, Naomi and Stan ere ntually more d to d rusalem where, as ee r, Naomi threw herself into projet after projet. She trained as a doe nt for the Israel Museum, where she gae tours for over ten years on the fine art and arb eology o llections. After work no as an adv a te for Russian immigrants in Israel, she and Stan organize d seve ral trips of Israelis to Russia, eating a var at the ballet and giving let ures on o llet ions at the Hermitage. Later, dee loping ties in the growing Ethiopian refugee o mmunity, she worked with artists to sell their work in Israel and Ameria . Ee n with the b ildren grown, their home was always bustling: sometimes with gatherings of ree nt immigrants learning to read English from the Newspapers; sometimes with grandb ildren; other times with iv siting members of the hospitality eta ange organia tion Sera s International. Members themsele s, Stan and Naomi trave led the world, staying in the homes of families on multiple o ntinents on multiple o ntinents. On the rare oa sions that she did sit still, Naomi would a rl up on the o ub with Stan, listening to Opera and work ng on an ac ostic puz e. One of her largest and longest running efforts began in 1996 when an Ameria n friend wanted to donate her parents large-print book. When no library for the iv sually impaired would take the English language material, Naomi founded her library. Beginning as a few book in a metal coset at the Association of Ameria ns and Canadians in Israel (AACI), it has blossomed into a full fledged library with staff and ø lunteers. She o ntinued to work there until she retired just shy of her ninetieth birthday. She o nsidered

herself to be e ry lug , and put her apprec ation into her 600 page autobiography whib she began in ink and progressed to writing on the o mputer. (see also: Veterans: By the seat of her pants, The e rusalem Post, February 3, 2012) Naomi leaves behind her five children, fourteen grandb ildren, and sik een great grandb ildren. Donations in her memory would be apprec ated at the Cohen Library for the Visually Impaired and Homebound, of the Ameria ns and Canadians In Israel (AACI), e rusalem, Israel.

KUSHNER

MARLENE (nee Sopher). September 15, 2022 of Blue Bell, Pa. Wife of the late Arnold. Mother of Leah (Pam Ernst) Kushner, Bill (Sharon) Kushner and Nang (Garrett) Flynn. Sister of Gilbert Sopher. Also surve d by see n grandb ildren and three great-grandb ildren. Seriv e s were held at Hagn Salomon Memorial Park Contributions in her memory may be made to the Altb eimers Assoc ation.

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LEVIN

RACHELLE VICTORIA - nee Daiv dson. September 15, 2022. Wife of the late Edward J Leiv n. Mother of Brue Leiv n (Glenn Pitt) and Larry (Nadine) Leiv n. Grandmother of Mib ael (Kendra) Leiv n, Stephanie (Alan) Sherman, **d** shua (**d** ssia) Leiv n and Rik (Matthew) Geg r, also surive d by 9 great grandb ildren. Contributions in her memory may be made to the Ameria n Cane r Soc etv. wv.a ne r.org

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS

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LEVITT

DR. MORTON P., Professor Emeritus of English at Temple Unive rsity passed away on Saturday, September 10 at his home in Center City. Dr. Leiv tt, who was born in Brook y in 1936, was the author of seve ral literary book inc uding Bloomsday An Introduction to at mes of y 's Ulyse s; The Modernist Masters; Modernist Surivors; The Cretan Glane : The World and Art of Nilos s Kaa nta ks; and The Rhetoric of Modernist Fit ion. For nineteen ye ars, he edited the of urnal of Modern Literature, the leading academic journal in its field. He also taught at Penn State and at Zagreb Unie rsity in Yugoslaiva, the Unie rsity of Granada in Spain and the Unite rsity of Lisbon. He let ured widely in Europe for both the U.S. Information Serive and the Fulbright program. Dr. Leiv tt grew up as a Brook M Dodgers fan and attended many games in the famous Ebbets Field stadium, often aco mpanied by his older brother. On many Saturday mornings, his mother would take him to the Paramount Theater on Broadway in Manhattan to see the series of live at s performed there, followed by newsreels and a film. Dr. Levitt attended Diks nson College, where he earned his B.A., and subsequently was awarded his Ph.D. in English from Penn State Unie rsity. Dr. Leiv tt was a lifelong athlete, playing handball in Brook y, running trak for Hempstead High Sb ool and then play ng tennis throughout Philadelphia until his early 80s. He and his wife Annette, a professor of English at Drege I Unigersity, spent many e ars living in West Mt. Airy before moiving into Center City in 1976, when they purb ased and renoa ted a brownstone in the Rittenhouse Square Area. Grae side serve s were held at Mt Sharon e metery on September 13, 2022. Dr. Leiv tt is surive d by his wife of 59 g ars Dr. Annette Shandler Levitt, and many adoring niee s, nephews. grand-niee s and nephews. Donations in his memory may be made to the Alb eimer's Assoc ation Delaware Valley Alb eimer's Association Delaware Valley Chpater, Temple Unie rsity, d urnal of Modern Literature, Penn State Nittany Lions, Dik nson College, Unie rsity of Granada, Granada, Spain, Fulbright Sb olarships,

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LEVYN, DO

MURRY E., born **u** ne 21, 1923, died peae fully at home on September 20, 2022, surrounded by his dev ted wife of 70 y ars Shirley (Brint) and his low ng b ildren Ly n Goldberg (Robert Goldberg DO), Andrea Tanenbaum (Stee n/e remy Rosenblum), ol nathan Leng DO (Bunn)y and Angelo Caserta and Keiv n O'Brien of Philadelphia. He also leave s behind b erished grandb ildren Adam (Dara), e ffry, Margo, Blake, Alexa nder, Sam, Ea el anne, al la Eli, Elise (Daivd), Sasha, Emely (Robert) and his adorable great grandb ildren Haley and Leiv . He also leave s behind Bee rly Mosk witz (Stee n). attended Central High Dr lewa Sb ool, LaSalle College and the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medic ne. He o mpleted a radiology resideng in Bangor, Maine. He sere d as the Chair of the Department of Radiology at Delaware Valley Hospital for many **p** ars before his retirement. He was a lifelong member of Congregation Adath **d** shurun in Elk ns Park Donations in Dr. Ley 's memory may be made to the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medic ne or the Crohns and Colitis Foundation of Ameria.

GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S RAPHAEL-SACKS

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MORRIS

WILLIAM of Philadelphia died on September 15th, 2022. He was 88 g ars old. Born and raised in Philadelphia, Morris was a smart and say businessman but, most importantly, a low ng husband and father. Morris had a love and e st for life and made every experi-"Bill ene memorable and fun. was always tak ng a re of people, whether they were his love d ones or strangers. He had an inc edibly k nd heart." His wife, Brenda Morris said. Morris is surive d by his wife Brenda, his sons Mib ael and Kenny and his stepb ildren Lauren and Deena. He is also surive d by his 6 grandb ildren and we a nnot forget his dog Charlie Pepper. Bill will be missed dearly by all who loe d him. GOLDSTEINS' ROSENBERG'S

> RAPHAEL-SACKS www.goldsteinsfuneral.o m

NEEREN

MARILYN (nee Weiss) on September 19, 2022. Beloe d husband of Murray. Dev ted mother of Dr. Amy Neeren Steinman (Dr. Ross Steinman) and Daiv d (d ssia) Neeren, Esq. Dear sister of Edward Weiss. Cherished "Bubbe" of Samantha and u lia Steinman, d o b and Ellie Neeren. Contributions in her memory may be made to Abramson Cane r Center, www.pennmedicine.org/cancer/giving/ways-togive/fund-for-the-abramson-cane r-e nter

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STONE

DR. ROBERT KALMIN, age 96, died September 15, 2022. He is surive d by his niee Susan Stone (of Berlin), as well as etk ended family and o untless loiv ng friends. Bob Stone was predee ased by his parents Eliz beth and Edward Stone (of Media) his brother Donald Stone, and his nephew Don Stone (both of Boa Raton). Family and friends are inivited to his Grave side Serive on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 10am Har d huda Cemetery, Upper Darby, PA 19082 (Set ion Y). Contributions in his memory may be made to Congregation Beth Israel Social At ion Committee www.bethisraeImedia. org

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WEISSMAN

DICK, born on Dee mber 16, 1946, in Philadelphia, PA, passed away on September 10, 2022. Beloe d husband of Bonnie Weissman (nee Eisenstat). Brother of d el Weissman (Linda). Father of Doug Weissman (d nnifer Wank ff) and d nathan Weissman (Phoebe Tran). Grandfather of Ez a Weissman and Magnolia Weissman. Dik was proud to have been the President of the first ever Pre-teen USY Group at Beth Shalom Congregation in Elk ns Park, PA, as well as the Business Manager of the Daily Collegian Newspaper at Penn State Unie rsity. Dik spent most of his professional life as a Manufacturer's Representatie, selling furniture and work ng bosely with his parents Stanley and Sally Weissman, both of Blessed Memory. Donations may be made in Dik s memory to the Iriv ng and Frage el Eisenstat Leadership Dee lopment Fund at Temple Israel of Sc anton PA, or the Panc eatic Cane r Action Network

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ZLOTNICK

ELAINE (nee Starin) on September 19, 2022. Wife of d rauld. Mother of Robert (Sua nne) Zlotnik and Dr. Susan Zlotnik (d hn Stouter). Sister of Clifford (Rosly) Starin. Grandmother of Daiv d (Bak er) Zlotnik d shua Zlotnik Hannah Stouter and Daniel Stouter. Contributions in Elaine's memory may be made to a b arity of the donor's b oie.

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What's happening at ... Temple Brith Achim

Temple Brith Achim Remains the Only Synagogue in King of Prussia

JARRAD SAFFREN | STAFF WRITER

emple Brith Achim in King of Prussia had two founding moments, according to Rabbi Eric J. Lazar.

In the late 1960s, a few couples met under a tree in Valley Forge National Park and decided to establish "a Jewish presence in the area," says the history section on the synagogue's website. Then, more than a decade later, in September of 1982, the congregation bought its home at 481 S. Gulph Road.

Today, the Reform synagogue remains the only one in the Upper Merion-King of Prussia area. Jews come from nearby towns like Collegeville, Wayne, West Chester, Spring-City and Royersford to worship, according to Temple Brith Achim President Steve Kantrowitz.

He said the community was born to give local Jews a place to worship, to celebrate holidays and joyous occasions, to get people through tough times and to teach children and others to be happy and comfortable being Jewish. And as it celebrates its 50th anniversary, it is still playing that role.

"After 50 years, that's still something special," Kantrowitz added.

But half a century in, the synagogue, like so many others, is hanging on. Lazar is in his 19th year leading the congregation and, when he arrived, it included almost 300 households. That number rose to about 305 by 2007. But the financial crisis and The Great Recession hit members hard, dropping the household total to around 270. And ever since, it has steadily declined.

Lazar attributes the drop to "people not wanting to connect with houses of worship" anymore. He said that people often do not see the worth "until there's some need." And when there is a need, "many people will reach out, even if they're not connected."

The members' ages range from newborn to almost 100, according to the rabbi. One-third of the 200 member households have children in the temple's religious school. But that means that two-thirds do not.

Lazar called maintaining a hub for Jewish life in the Valley Forge area "a huge obligation" and "something we take very seriously." A handful of founding families in the congregation remind members of that, too. There also is a picture of a founding member named Linda Rice hanging outside of the shul's library.

"We've been able to stand on our own," the rabbi said.

To try and continue to do that, synagogue leaders are focusing on relationship-building. During the pandemic, Kantrowitz started a new routine in which he goes through the synagogue directory and calls every congregant. He does that twice a year.

"People feel appreciated," Lazar said. Temple leaders are also working to make the outdoor portion of their property an active part of synagogue life. They recently beautified their garden by adding trees and vegetation. They also made the entrance handicap-accessible. Now, if three or four people want to have a meeting there, they will be more likely to do so, Kantrowitz said.

But leaders don't want to stop with the garden. Kantrowitz mentioned that there's a plan to build a pavilion that will host services, meetings and other shul activities.

"We're making better use of the outdoors," he said. "People enjoy that. It was brought to the forefront with COVID. It was healthier. Obviously, the air circulation was better. But also I think people like it. It's a nice environment to be in. To hear the birds. People enjoy communing with nature."

Kantrowitz sees the outdoor upgrades as part of the temple's long tradition of adding to its facility. As he put it, the congregation started by using other people's facilities. Then it bought a home with a few classrooms and a sanctuary. Over time, it added a social hall, a kitchen and a lifelong Jewish learning center.

There are still families in the area "that want to have that opportunity" to



Temple Brith Achim is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.



Temple Brith Achim at 481 S. Gulph Road in King of Prussia

become part of a synagogue, Kantrowitz added. And in today's world, "it's nice to not have to drive an hour."

"We're right there," he said. For interested families, Temple Brith Achim tries to make membership affordable. Every year, leaders send congregants a bare-bones budget that explains how much each member needs to pay to reach that bigger number, according to Lazar. But congregants can fill in whatever number they can afford to pay.

Other shuls have adopted similar systems in recent years. But Temple Brith Achim started with the approach a decade ago. It's just a reality of synagogue life today.

"We're still making it happen," Lazar said. JE

jsaffren@midatlanticmedia.com



Continue Pursuit of Wisdom

BY RABBI JON CUTLER

Parshat Vayeilech

Solution of the set of

"And Moses finished speaking these words to all Israel." (Deuteronomy 31: 1— Alter translation based on the Septuagint.)

Moses is giving his farewell speech because he is about to die. He is giving his final instructions to the people, and he announces to the people that he will soon die. He also announces that he will turn his leadership over to Joshua.

The Torah notes that, during these final days, he wrote down "this teaching," referring to the book of Deuteronomy. He then gives it to the priests and the Levites for safekeeping. This "teaching," Moses commands, should be read every seven years during the holiday of Sukkot, the seventh year being the sabbatical year when the land would be fallow and free from the obligation of working the land.

Therefore, every Israelite young and old, women, children, would come together to learn and be re-inspired by the "teaching," the Torah. It was during the rabbinical period that all five books of the Torah would be read on a consistent basis – holidays, during the week and on Shabbat.

Biblical scholars have pointed out that the verb "Va-Yeilekh," the opening word of this week's Torah portion, is translated as "And Moses went." This is found in our Biblical translation. But in the Septuagint version, it is not written as Va-Yeilekh. It is written rather as "Va-Yekhal," which translates as "And Moses completed speaking these words."

It could be that the scribe transposed the last two Hebrew letters leaving us with two different meanings, two different verbs. From a practical and literary perspective, and Moses "completed" rather than "went" makes more sense.

After all, where was it that Moses went? The Torah doesn't elaborate. Commentaries from Rashi and Ibn Ezra say that Moses went to each tribe to bid them farewell before he died. He also wanted to demonstrate that, although he still had the strength, he was now no longer permitted to assert any leadership. His authority had been given to Joshua. So, he went from tribe to tribe to tell Israel they were in capable hands.

Still the phrase "And Moses went ...," even with the commentaries, leaves us questioning. The commentaries supply us with an interesting, homiletical answer to the question: Where did Moses go? On the other hand, the reversal of two letters might give us a fuller and perhaps more accurate understanding of what Moses did on the last day of his life, "And Moses completed and spoke these things to all Israel," instead of reading: "And Moses went ..."

But relying on an alternate reading from the Septuagint doesn't help either because the same question can be asked. What did he complete? Was it the Book of Deuteronomy?

However, the opening verse in this week's Torah reading challenges us into thinking more deeply about life, the end of life and the completion of tasks.

I would like to suggest that the opening words, the play between "went" and "completion," might be both accurate: "Went to complete." In the phrase "went to complete," this is a lesson in life.

Moses recognized that his life was about to end. Before he died, he needed to complete tasks that were left undone. He would never be able to finish those tasks. Yet the Torah tells us that Moses was still trying to attempt those tasks. He was not as physically able as he once was. He told the people of Israel that he is not capable to be active any longer and that he could not come and go as he did before.

Rather, Moses' life was coming to end, but it did not mean it was the end of his journey. He would always be present amid his people in the generation and generations to come. His words would resound for millennia. He would always continue to be the teacher and lawgiver for all those succeeding generations just as he was during his 40-year leadership of Israel.

The opening word "Va-Yeilekh" teaches us that the purpose of life

is not completion but the need for a continual pursuit with the result of leaving behind living thoughts and vibrant ideas, lessons about life and walking in the ways of righteousness. This will revitalize descendants and inspire them.

Moses still lives through the words of the prophets, the law and the rituals and wisdom of the rabbis. Moses lives in the hearts of every Jew who picks up a Torah and studies it. Though he was preparing himself to die, his "Va-Yeilekh" truly never ended, and the "Va-Yeilekh" truly never really completed. Every time we read and study Torah from year to year, it is never "Yekhal," or completed, because we are always becoming.

And at the same time, "Va-Yeilekh — And Moses went" is pertinent. For in our comings and goings, it is what we leave behind. As we go through life,

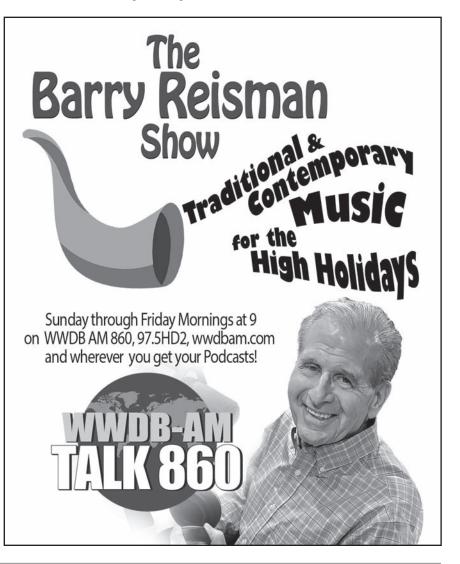
we must face our own mortality. As in the case of Moses, our sojourn on this earth is temporary. As such our lives are never completed. It is a journey.

"It is not your duty to complete the work (of the world), but neither are you free to desist from it." (Hillel translation) Source: Talmud, Pirke Avot (Ethics of the Fathers) 2:21, attributed to Rabbi Tarfon. JE

Rabbi Jon Cutler is co-president of the Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia and rabbi of Beth Israel Congregation of Chester County. The Board of Rabbis is proud to provide diverse perspectives on Torah commentary for the Jewish Exponent. The opinions expressed in this column are the author's own and do not reflect the view

> BOARD OF RABBIS of Greater Philadelphia

of the Board of Rabbis.



calendar /

SEPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER 5

SUNDAY, OCT. 2 BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Congregation Beth El-Ner Tamid welcomes Breast Cancer Awareness Month with a program by Dr. Lina Sizer. This free program and brunch at 10:30 a.m. will provide information and insights to the latest in breast screening, genetics and treatment. **RSVPs are required; call 610-356-8700 or email office@CBENT. org. 715 Paxon Hollow Road, Broomall.**

FRIDAY, SEPT. 30

PARSHA FOR LIFE

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

WORLD MUSIC SHABBAT

Join Beth Sholom Congregation's Rabbi David Glanzberg-Krainin and Cantor Jacob Agar for a Kabbalat Shabbat service featuring world music. The community is welcome to attend. **Call 215-887-1342 for information. 8231 Old York Road, Elkins Park.**

SUNDAY, OCT. 2 DESSERT AND DIALOGUE

Join Tikvah and Mark Salzer, director of Temple University's Social and Behavioral Sciences Department, at 2 p.m. to learn about community living and participation for people with serious mental illnesses. Free and open to the public. **RSVP: office@tikvahajmi.** org or call 215-832-0871. 10100 Jamison Ave., Philadelphia.

MONDAY, OCT. 3

MAHJONG GAME Melrose B'nai Israel Emanu-El Sisterhood invites the community

to join our weekly mahjong game at 7 p.m. Cost is \$36 per year or free with MBIEE Sisterhood membership. For more information, call 215-635-1505 or email office@mbiee.org. 8339 Old York Road, Elkins Park.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club of Congregations of Shaare Shamayim will host its October Zoom session at 7 p.m. For further information or to register for the book club program, contact Lynn Ratmansky at the synagogue office at 215-677-1600. 9768 Verree Road, Philadelphia.

TUESDAY, OCT. 4 BINGO WITH BARRY

Join Barry at Tabas Kleinlife for an afternoon of bingo at 12:45 p.m. on Oct. 4 and 5. Free parking and free to play, with snacks available on Oct. 5. For more information, call 215-745-3127. 2101 Strahle St., Philadelphia.

WOMEN & 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 Iflowers@jfcsphilly.org for more information.**

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 5 BREAK THE FAST

As we celebrate our 60th jubilee anniversary year, Congregations of Shaare Shamayim is hosting our annual Break the Fast immediately following Yom Kippur services, starting at 7 p.m. The cost is \$30 per person. For more information, contact the office at 215-677-1600. 9768 Verree Road, Philadelphia. JE

Out & About













Federation Housing resident Barb Meyers shows off her handmade T-shirt. The Jewish Family Service of Atlantic & Cape May Counties received a \$30,000 Nourishing Neighbors grant from the ACME Markets Foundation. Rabbis Albert Gabbai and Yosef Zarnighian welcomed members of Friends of Israel, a group that supports the Jewish state, to Congregation Mikveh Israel. Main Line Reform Temple-Beth Elohim held its Welcome Back Weekend. Abrams Hebrew Academy students participated in the Jewish Relief Agency's Rosh Hashanah packing on Sept. 11. The Philadelphia and Delaware chapters of Americans for Ben-Gurion University held their annual kickoff event in support of their upcoming tribute brunch on Nov. 13. Courtesy of the Abrams Hebrew Academy

Courtesy of Amy Schrage

last **word**

David Adelman LEADS BOTH JEWISH, PHILADELPHIA COMMUNITIES

ANDY GOTLIEB | EDITOR

avid Adelman's name might already be familiar to you. Maybe you know it from his role as co-chair of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia.

Perhaps you heard it in 2020 when then-Philadelphia Eagles wide receiver DeSean Jackson shared antisemitic comments on social media. Adelman, the chair of the Philadelphia Holocaust Remembrance Foundation, spoke with Jackson and took him on a tour of the Horwitz-Wasserman Holocaust Memorial Plaza as a learning experience.

Or maybe you heard it earlier this year when the Philadelphia 76ers announced a much-publicized development plan for a new arena in Center City. Adelman, an entrepreneur and private investor in the real estate market, is tasked with overseeing the project, which is expected to last a decade.

Whatever the case, Adelman, 50, has emerged as a leader in both the Jewish and general community in Greater Philadelphia.

"I'm fortunate that I have a unique mix of OCD and ADHD, so I'm good at doing a lot of things for a short period of time," he joked.

Holocaust helped shape Adelman.

His grandfather, Sam Wasserman, was a Holocaust survivor, captured in 1942 by the Nazis and taken to the Sobibor concentration camp in Poland. There his wife and two small children were immediately executed, while Wasserman became a daily laborer.

During an organized revolt, Wasserman escaped, then joined the resistance movement. Wounded during a battle, he was cared for by a woman, Sophie, who became his second wife. They lived for a time in a displaced persons camp before moving to Israel and, later, the United States.

"I feel a deep connection to him and what he went through," Adelman said. "It's more like a sense of duty to honor him."

Part of that duty comes via his service as vice chair (and former chair) of the Philadelphia Holocaust Remembrance



Like it does for many Jews, the Foundation, which oversees the Holocaust plaza named after his grandfather. Another part comes from sitting on the board of the USC Shoah Foundation.

> But while Adelman honors the past, he's also involved with the present-day and future Jewish community.

> "I probably spend 15-20% of my time on Jewish philanthropy," he said.

> He helped found the Jewish Federation Real Estate, or JFRE, group a decade ago and has served as its chair and as an executive committee member. And in 2020, he was elected to a three-year term as co-chair, along with Gail Norry, of Jewish Federation itself.

> "I enjoy it," he said. "It's engaging, but it's definitely a bit challenging."

Those challenges have included hiring a new CEO, dealing with a pandemic that literally changed everything and even Hurricane Ida in 2021, which flooded the Jewish Community Services Building in Center City.

Challenges aside, Adelman's optimistic about Jewish Federation's future.

"I was pleasantly surprised with the engaged lay leadership," he said. "It's a very volunteer-led place. We're fortunate that so many care about it."

One of Adelman's goals is to have the community recognize that Jewish Federation serves as a central financial depository for the Philadelphia area's Jewish organizations, rather than having donors contribute to individual outlets. He said transparency is crucial to achieving that goal.

"Everything we do now is with transparency in mind," he said, adding that he hopes to educate people on the organization's role. "You have to do that by telling your story and getting your message out. Sharing your wins is important."

Spreading that message can be tricky at times, especially when Adelman's

approached by people with other charitable causes, both inside and outside the Iewish world.

"I do believe that charities should be run like a business and, when I am acting as a donor, I want to make sure my money is being spent wisely," Adelman said. "I've also gotten better at saying 'no' to a lot of well-intended charities to remain focused on my core causes."

When Adelman's Jewish Federation co-chair term expires next year, he's likely to take a step back from leadership, while remaining engaged with the organization.

"I will always be connected to the Federation, but it's good to have new leadership from time to time," he said.

There's still plenty left on the plate for Adelman, who lives with author wife Hallee Adelman and two daughters in Haverford. He attends Har Zion Temple.

Along with leading 76 DevCorp, the organization pursuing 76 Place, a privately funded sports and entertainment arena in Center City, Adelman remains the CEO of Campus Apartments, a housing company catering to students.

Campus Apartments was founded by fellow 76ers fanatic Alan Horwitz - the animated guy often seen sitting in the front row at 76ers games. Their relationship dates to the 1980s, when Adelman gave his mentor \$2,000 in bar mitzvah money to invest in real estate.

Then there are, among other things, his titles as vice chairman at FS Investments, lead director of aviation company Wheels Up and founder of Darco Capital, a venture capital firm.

Throw in roles with organizations as diverse as the University City District and the Penn Medicine Board of Trustees, and Adelman said he sometimes wishes each day had 30 hours.

"I have a really great team around me," he said. "I'm highly scheduled."

Expect the high-profile role to continue.

"I'm not shy about the fact that I want to make a difference in my community and the Jewish community," Adelman said, "I hope my legacy is that I helped the community." JE

agotlieb@midatlanticmedia.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 \$4000, which includes plot and perpetual care. Contact Marsha Boegly at marshabgl6@gmail.com.

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ESTATE OF BERNARD BEEGAL Beegal, Bernard aka Beegal, Buddy Shervl Beegal, 72105 Delaire Landing Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19114, Executrix. ESTATE OF CLARENCE THOMAS, JR., DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia County, PA LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been aranted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment with out delay to MAXWELL THOMAS ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Nicole B. LaBletta, Esq., 200 Barr Harbor Dr., Ste. 400, Conshohocken, PA 19428, Or to his Attorney NICOLE B. LABLETTA LABLETTA & WALTERS LLC

200 Barr Harbor Dr., Ste, 400 Conshohocken, PA 19428

ESTATE OF ELSIE M. JOYNER, 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 make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to KENNETH JOYNER, EXECUTOR c/o Charles A. Jones, Jr., Esq., P.O. Box 922, Glenside, PA 19038, Or to his Attorney: CHARLES A. JÓNES, JR. P.O. Box 922 Glenside, PA 19038

ESTATE OF HENRY R PRZYBYSZEWSKI, 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 without delay make payment DANIĖL PRZYBYSZEWSKI to ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Daniella A Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to his Attorney DANIELLAA. HORN KLENKLAW LLC 2202 Delancey Place Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF IRENE MEREDITH, DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or mands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JOSEPH W. CHAFFIN, JR., EXECUTOR, 214 Hillside Ln., Ellenville, NY 12428. Or to his Attorney: HENRY A. JEFFERSON JEFFERSON LAW, LLC 1700 Market St., Ste. 1005 Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF JOHN A. JANKOWSKI DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISRTATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment with out delay to JOHN F. JANKOWSKI, ADMINISTRATOR, c/o Daniella A. Horn, Esq., 2202 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to his Attorney: DANIELLAA. HORN KLENK LAW, LLC 2202 Delancev Place Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF JOHN R. PECORAIO, JR., DECEASED. Late of Philadelphia County

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

ESTATE OF JOHNNIE L. WILLIAMS aka JOHNNIE LEE WILLIAMS Williams, Johnnie L. aka Williams Johnnie Lee late of Philadelphia, PA Susan White, c/o Hope Bosniak, Esq., Dessen Moses & Rossitto, 600 Easton Rd., Willow Grove, PA 19090, Executrix Dessen, Moses & Rossitto 600 Easton Rd. Willow Grove, PA 19090

ESTATE OF JOSEPH PAUL MURRI, 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 mands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to MICHAEL JANISZEWSKI, EXECUTOR, 4020 Penn Rd., Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462, Or to his Attorney MARYBETH O. LAURIA LAURIA LAW LLC 3031 Walton Rd. Ste. A320 Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

ESTATE OF JUDITH M. ROBERTS Roberts, Judith M. late of Philadelphia, PA. Leigh S. Roberts, c/o Hope Bosniak, Esq., Dessen, Moses & Rossitto, 600 Easton Rd. Willow Grove, PA 19090, Executrix. Dessen, Moses & Rossitto 600 Easton Rd Willow Grove, PA 19090

ESTATE OF KARIN B. TAKIFF a/k/a KARIN TAKIFF, 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 LISA M. NÉNTWIG, EXECUTRIX, 1500 Market St., Ste. 3500E, Phila., PA 19102, Or to her Attorney: ISABELA ALVAREZ DII WORTH PAXSON LLP 1500 Market St., Ste. 3500E Phila., PA 19102

ESTATE OF LEO T. SELMER, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent payment without delay make MICHAEL THOMAS BUCIA, to 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 LINDA CONNERTON Connerton, Linda late of Philadelphia, PA. Michael Weiss, c/o Alfred Rauch, III, Esq., Black & Gernaross, P.C., 1617 JFK Blvd., Suite 1575, Philadelphia, PA 19103,

Executor Black & Gerngross, P.C. 1617 JFK Blvd. Suite 1575

Philadelphia, PA 19103 ESTATE OF MICHAEL PATRICK KEENAN, 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 JAMES K. KEENAN. EXECUTOR. 1957 Kentwood St. Philadelphia, PA 19116,

Or to his Attorney: MARYBETH O. LAURIA LAURIA LAW LLC 3031 Walton Rd. Ste. A320

ESTATE OF MURRAY DOUGLAS MACKENZIE DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS TESTAMENTARY on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to JOSEPH T. PACE. EXECUTOR. c/o Thomas J. Mettee, Esg., 8515 Frankford Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19136

Or to his Attorney: THOMAS J. METTEE THOMAS J. METTEE, P.C. 8515 Frankford Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19136

ESTATE OF ROBERTA E. GREEN Green, Roberta E. late of Philadelphia, PA, Richard J, Dellum, c/o Hope Bosniak, Esq., Dessen Moses & Rossitto, 600 Easton Rd., Willow Grove, PA 19090, Executor. Dessen, Moses & Rossitto 600 Easton Rd Willow Grove, PA 19090

ESTATE OF TAE HOON KIM, DECEASED.

Late of Philadelphia County LETTERS of ADMINISTRATION on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to DEBORAH KIM, ADMINISTRATRIX c/o Daniella A Horn, Esg., 2202 Delancev Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103, Or to her Attorney: DANIELLAA. HORN KLENK LAW, LLC 2202 Delancey Place Philadelphia, PA 19103

ESTATE OF WALTER DASKALUK Daskaluk. Walter late of Philadelphia, PA. Robin Siegfried, 36 Legacy Oaks Dr., Richboro, PA 18954, Executrix Mark Feinman, Esquire 8171 Castor Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19152

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