



Jewish Community News

The Publication of the Jewish Federation of the Desert

www.jfedps.org

Cheshvan/Kislev 5783 - November 2022

Event Highlights for 2022-2023 Season

October 30-November 1
*Jewish Fed'n of North America
General Assembly - Chicago*

November 2
Israel Philharmonic

November 29
"Cabaret for a Cause"
featuring David Burnham

December 11-13
JFNA Lion of Judah Conference - Phoenix

December 14
An Evening with Rita Rudner
(JBC Author)

December 18-26
Hanukkah

December 19
Bikur Cholim's Annual Chanukah at Boomers

January 11
Cantor Azi Schwartz Concert
Sun City Palm Desert

January 16
Lion of Judah Brunch
with JBC Author Letty Cottin Pogrebin

January 29
Holocaust Remembrance Commemoration
featuring "The Braid"

February 15
Major Gifts
featuring JBC Author Ira Rosen

March 6-7
Purim

March 21
Jewish Federation Golf Tournament
Tamarisk Country Club

March 26-29
10th Annual Jewish Film Festival

April 5
First Seder
Pesach April 5-13

April 30
Yom Ha'atzmaut Community Celebration

May 9
JMOGD Golf Tournament
Eagles Falls Course, Indio

May 25-27
Shavuot
JBC = Jewish Book Council

Spark IL



Alan Potash

Jewish Federation
Chief Executive
Officer

Micro lending takes a new form in Israel. Spark IL is an interest free loan program that connects the lender in the diaspora or in Israel to new businesses in Israel. Starting a business anywhere is challenging. With the help of the Jewish Agency for Israel, the Ogen Group, Jewish Federations and others are providing interest-free loans to help entrepreneurs get started. What is unique about this program is that the lender gets to know the business. Plus, when the business pays back the lender the lender can reinvest the money in another business or cash out the loan.

I have been an active purchaser of Israel bonds for a long time and when I learned about Spark IL it reminded me

of the value of Israel Bonds. You buy a bond and when it matures get more money back and at the same time you are helping build the country of Israel.

Spark IL is designed to help businesses that are not typical. Spark IL connects business from different parts of the country representing the diversity of people across the country working in many markets. For example; Ethiopian, Haredi, Israeli Arab, LGBTQ or Women Led. Most of the recipients are usually from outside of a major city such as the Negev, Galilee, Golan Heights and the outskirts of the major cities.

On this last trip to Israel, we had the opportunity to meet one of the businesses that received a loan and as of today paid it back. Hoshen is a Judaica gift shop in Jerusalem on the popular Emek Rafaim street. Hoshen's story was so compelling that it met the qualifications to be accepted into the program even though it was based in Jerusalem.

Here is Ziva's (Hoshen's owner) story:

I have been working at Hoshen

since I was 17 years old. A few years later my boss moved to Canada and made me the store Manager. Soon thereafter he decided he could not own a store from that far away and offered me the chance to buy it. I leapt at the opportunity. This store is my baby and I believe in it so much. I work hard to provide a beautiful cross section of merchandise to our customers, including a selection of pieces that are made by those with disabilities. Corona virus has hit the store very hard. A bulk of our business came from foreign tourists, so when Israel closed the borders, we had to pivot. We quickly enhanced our ecommerce site and managed to skate by. We now need a loan for cash flow, creating new marketing materials, and to purchase fresh inventory that will increase revenue. With your help we can continue providing beautiful items that will be used in one's home for years to come.

If you are interested in investing or learning more about Spark IL please check out the website www.sparkil.org or contact me.



Remembering Kristallnacht November 9/10, 1938



2022-2023

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Welcome Home



**Cora
Ginsberg**

Jewish Federation
Board of Directors
Co-Chair

Friends and Neighbors,

We have just finished gathering to celebrate the new year and our future.

What I wonder about is how did we get here? What brought you to Valley? Was it family (my parents were here), was it a friend or did you come because of the sun and

lifestyle?

We all come from somewhere. But where? What generation of American or Canadian are you?

Wouldn't it be wonderful to gather to tell our very interesting stories. Hey, you could be a long-lost cousin.

Please contact me or the Federation so that we can put together a gathering of new friends so we can tell our very interesting life's stories. It is a wonderful way to meet and get to know each other. You never know who you might meet. It might be a long-lost friend from grade school or Hebrew school. Jewish geography a great way to reconnect.

I would like to be the first to welcome you home. As we are all

returning home from the summer, Jackie, Arnie, Alan and I are so pleased to see you again. We have spent the last few months planning and planning for an exciting Federation year. We start with a new event on November 29th, Cabaret for a Cause, under our theme of Gathering for Good. We all are responsible for one another. May we all go from strength-to-strength.

Cora Ginsberg

Cora Ginsberg
Co-Chair,
Jewish Federation Board of
Directors

Jewish Federation of the Desert Presents
Cabaret For A Cause
 Starring Broadway Performer
DAVID BURNHAM
 Tuesday Evening, November 29, 2022
 Tamarisk Country Club

**WELCOME BACK AND
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TICKETS: \$365.00
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**GATHERING
FOR GOOD**

**GATHERING
FOR GOOD**

Cabaret for a Cause

Jewish Federation
OF THE DESERT

Key Considerations for your Year-End Tax Planning

By Alberto Tejero, CFO, Jewish Federation of the Desert

As we approach the end of the year 2022, please keep in mind the following instruments that will help you in your support of the Federation's annual campaign and in maximizing your tax benefits as well.

As always, your generosity allows us to maintain and strengthen the social safety net of our Jewish community, enables us to be active participants in the rescue and resettlement of people in need, and ensures the survival and continuity of Jewish communities around the world.

Look into an IRA charitable rollover. The IRA charitable rollover is



an attractive option because it can help satisfy the minimum distribution requirement without incurring income tax, even if you don't itemize your deductions. If the proposed legislation expanding the amount and nature of rollovers is enacted, this option will become even more attractive.

Consider donating to a Donor Advised Fund (DAF). If you are considering making a significant donation to charity over time but want a deduction today, consider adding funds to an existing Donor Advised Fund (DAF) or opening a new DAF. It can be especially beneficial to donate



appreciated property, because by doing so capital gains taxation with respect to the contributed assets is eliminated.

Use appreciated assets to make a charitable gift in 2022. As in previous years, gifts of appreciated assets (stock) remain a best practice. Such gifts not only provide a deduction to the donor but also avoid the capital gains tax. Conversely, built-in loss assets generally should be sold (generating a tax loss) with the resulting cash proceeds donated, if desired. Note that, as in previous years, up to \$3,000 of capital losses may be used to offset ordinary income.

You can give a special tribute gift to someone who may have lost somebody this year, and that is to give a gift in their memory. The person who

you wish to notify of the gift will receive a card from Federation letting them know about your gift.

As with any significant tax and charitable planning, it is always advisable to carefully consider potential changes in the context of your complete financial profile and to consult your tax advisor.

And Thank you again for your continuing support of the Jewish Federation of the Desert, as we care for the vulnerable, strengthen the community and support the Jews around the world.

Disclaimer: The Jewish Federation of the Desert does not provide tax advice. Please consult with your professional advisor before taking any action.

Report: More Than 350 Antisemitic Incidents Occurred on US College Campuses Last School Year

Jewish News Syndicate

A total of 359 antisemitic incidents took place on U.S. college campuses during the 2021-22 academic year, according to a report released by the Anti-Defamation League on October 12.

The ADL's Campus Report documented instances of accusations or "genocide" and "ethnic genocide" levied against Israel as well as the "ostracizing of Jewish students from campus organizations because of their assumed support for Israel or Zionism."

Among the incidents, there were 165

protests/actions, 143 anti-Israel events, 20 BDS resolutions and referendums, 11 incidents of vandalism, nine instances of targeted verbal and/or written harassment and one physical assault.

In response to the large number of incidents, the ADL announced that it would be "broadening its educational and programmatic investment on campus, including the launch of an expanded online resource to support students and combat anti-Semitism on campus."

According to the ADL, the report

exhibits a snapshot of a growing campus radicalism that places opposition to Israel and Zionism as "core elements of collegiate life or as a requirement for full acceptance in the campus community."

Bottom of Form

The report provided information about the sources of funding for the student clubs responsible for many of the incidents, including Students for Justice in Palestine and Jewish Voice for Peace. While most funds come from student activity fees, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund funds JVP and

Westchester Peace Action Coalition sponsors SJP.

There were three major themes and events characterizing campus antisemitism last year, according to the report—"Demeaning and ostracizing Zionists and Zionism, including expelling and excluding students from campus groups for expressing any affinity with Zionism or Israel; voicing support for anti-Israel terror and violence; and invoking classic antisemitic tropes and conspiracies in lectures and social media posts," the ADL stated.

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We appreciate your support!

Israel Election Update

By Alan Potash, Jewish Federation Chief Executive Officer

The timing of this article is going to be interesting. I am writing this for the November JCN which comes out a few days before November. The topic is the upcoming Israeli elections. Israeli's vote on November 1st. So, as I am writing this now, I will not make any predictions. Predictions don't really matter anyway because the work of forming a government will take weeks or months following the elections. The outcome that will occupy most Israelis and those interested will be how a coalition is formed.

What we know: to form a government in Israel a party or a coalition needs to have at least 61 seats. Israel is now in their fourth election in 3 years. Shocking that they cannot agree

on a leader. As I have written previously, there are two parties vying for the opportunity to create a coalition. Likud is headed by Benjamin Netanyahu and Yesh Atid headed by current Prime Minister Yair Lapid. Coming up behind are the National Unity Party headed by Benny Gantz and the Religious Zionist Party headed by Bezalel Smotrich. Sometime after the votes are in one of these leaders will be asked by President Herzog to form a government (this is where the formation of a government takes place).

The latest Polls give Likud 32 seats, Yesh Atid 23, National Unity 12 and RZP 14. As we learned from the last election, the party with the most seats not always is able to build a coalition. So, now the fun begins. However you do

the math it is unclear currently who builds the winning coalition. Last election it took 8 parties to agree on issues to get to 61 seats. We witnessed, whenever one party didn't like what was being done, they threatened to leave and that is what collapsed the last government.

I will conclude by sharing my enthusiasm for this democratic process. If you have been following my writings for the past several months, you know that as inefficient this process appears to be (needing elections frequently), one can learn about the key issues important to people and the country.

Look for my overall analysis in the December JCN or in my Friday updates.

JEWISH COMMUNITY NEWS

A Publication of the
Jewish Federation of the Desert
VOL. 49, No. 3

EDITORIAL

Alan Potash, CEO

Miriam H. Bent, Editor

Bailey Communications,

Layout & Design

JCN STATEMENT

The Jewish Community News seeks to provide news and feature material of special interest to its readership, and to create a heightened sense of Jewish identity through the dissemination of information about people, events and issues at home and abroad. The JCN seeks to serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas and opinions in the Jewish community.

The JCN is published monthly, ten months a year by the Jewish Federation of the Desert, 69-710 Highway 111, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270, 760-324-4737, fax 760-324-3154.

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In Landmark Ruling, Spanish Top Court Says Israel Boycotts are Always Discriminatory

By Cnaan Liphshiz, Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Over the past several years, dozens of Spanish courts have rejected Israel boycotts by nonprofits, municipalities and other groups. Now, the country's top court has ruled that the movement to boycott Israel represents "discrimination" that "infringes on basic rights."

Separately, the Spanish parliament on October 5 passed legislation that bars public funding for organizations that "promote antisemitism." The law uses the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism, which cites as examples of antisemitism some forms of Israel criticism.

The ruling by the Supreme Court of Spain, which was issued September 20 and published on October 4, was about an appeal that a pro-Palestinian nonprofit, Asociacion Interpueblos, filed contesting a lower court's 2020 ruling that called a specific action to boycott Israel discriminatory.

ACOM, a Spanish pro-Israel nonprofit that has sued multiple entities for discriminating against Israel, claimed the ruling as a major win. Spain was once a hotbed of efforts by the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israel, known as BDS. A slew of lower-court rulings in Spain had curtailed that trend, but they had pertained only to individual cases and thus had a limited impact, the group said, but the September 20 ruling will function as a legal precedent applicable to all cases going forward.

ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC

Lahav Shani, Conductor

Wed., Nov. 2, 7:30 pm

Paul Ben-Haim: Symphony No. 1
Mahler: Symphony No. 1 in D Major "Titan"



Tickets on sale now! www.PSPPhil.org

UPCOMING CONCERTS

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Programs and artists subject to change



SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

Domingo Hindoyan, Conductor

Sun., Jan. 8, 5 pm
With Anne Akiko Meyers, Violin

PACIFIC SYMPHONY

Carl St.Clair, Conductor

Mon., Feb. 6, 7:30 pm
With Yefim Bronfman, Piano



FILHARMONIE BRNO

Dennis Russell Davies, Conductor

Tue., Feb. 14, 7:30 pm



ACADEMY OF ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS

Mon., March 6, 7:30 pm
With Avi Avital, Mandolin



LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC

Dalia Stasevska, Conductor

Sun., April 2, 5 pm
With Randall Goosby, Violin



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Beth Shalom Inaugurates "Acts of Lovingkindness" Series



This fall, Congregation Beth Shalom will embark on a unique series of outreach experiences in connection with local social service organizations entitled "G'milut Hasadim: Acts of Lovingkindness," funded in part thanks to a grant from United Synagogue's Pacific Southwest Region and sponsored by Steven Karash of HomeSmart Realty Group Palm Desert. Members of the community are invited to take part in this series that is designed to engage

participants in hands-on connections with agencies that provide life-enhancing services to underserved and at-risk populations.

Agencies to be featured are: Safehouse of the Desert, November 11-13, 2022; Coachella Valley Volunteers in Medicine, December 9-11, 2022; and Childhelp, January 27-29, 2023. At each weekend, a representative of the featured agency will be a guest speaker at Friday night services. The theme will be further

explored during Shabbat morning services. At a complimentary Sunday morning brunch, Rabbi J.B. Sacks will present the Jewish connection to the agency's mission and goals, based on Jewish sources, traditions and values. During the Sunday morning program, participants will have an opportunity to donate, based on the specific needs and requests of each agency. Advanced reservations are required for the no-cost Sunday brunch program by the previous Monday.

All worship services and programs will take place at the synagogue's new location in the H.N. & Frances C. Berger Foundation complex at 42600 Cook Street, Second Floor in Palm Desert.

Roni Spetalnick is serving as Project Chair, with Steven Karash and Vivian Posen serving as Project Managers.

Committee members include: Rabbi J.B. Sacks, Spiritual Leader Ken Hailpern, Congregational President Bill Singer, Auxiliary Chair Debbie Orgen-Garrett, Communications Manager Bill Amplo, and Hospitality Chair David Baellow. Event Sponsors include: Jay & Roni Spetalnick, Vivian Posen, and Dr. Paul & Stephanie Ross.

Paraphrasing the sentiments expressed by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, this project is intended to imbue within our community a strong sense of "March with your feet – Do with your hands." Congregation Beth Shalom, the Coachella Valley's Conservative Synagogue welcomes participation from throughout the community. For reservations or information, email: info@CongregationBethShalom.net or call (760) 200-3636.

Jewish Art through Time – Creative, Innovative, and Transformative!

Desert Outreach Synagogue is offering a four-week online course on Jewish Art presented by Rabbi Nicolas Behrmann. The course actively explores Jewish art resources across the internet, with website design as the language of human expression through which we comprehend Jewish spirituality.



Rabbi Nicolas L. Behrmann

This zoom course uses illustrations, video clips, and the spoken word to create an appreciation of the richness of artistic expression in the Jewish historic experience. The course will be offered on Wednesdays, November 9th, 16th, 30th and December 7th, 2022, from 1:30-3:00 p.m. Registration for the course is \$40.

Topics:

- The Talmud, the Internet, Cyber

Angels, the 21st-century environment in which we define and experience Jewish Art.

- Visual Midrash- art as "family pictures" for Biblical personalities such as Ruth, David, Bathsheba, and others.
- Artists, Merchants, and Collectors: The expanding roles of Jews in the art world of the 19th and 20th centuries. From Picasso's dealers, Hitler's "Degenerate Art" exhibitions

to Jewish participation in Midcentury Modernism.

- Yaakov Agam, pioneer kinetic artist, rabbi of the visual, prophet of Hebraic Consciousness, and his Palm Springs connection (Sunnylands, The Palm Springs Art Museum, Temple Isaiah).

To register for the course call Desert Outreach Synagogue at 760-449-0111.

Temple Sinai Features Two Special Shabbat Programs in November

On November 4 the congregation is bringing back its Erev Shabbat dinner (eggplant Parmesan and spaghetti), complemented by the wonderful congregants and friends that comprise Sinai. \$28 for congregants, \$32 for guests. Call 760-568-9699 to reserve your place.

On November 18 Sinai is featuring Sinai Keshet, its new outreach to GLBTQ congregants and their

friends. After a pre-oneg we will worship together and then will share an oneg featuring Israeli hors d'oeuvres and beverages in the chapel. "Our congregation wants the LGBTQ community to know that we are a place for all Jews," said Sinai's Rabbi David Novak. "It is my hope that whether you are a regular temple goer or are coming back after a time away you will find acceptance and community

here." This evening is open to the LGBTQ Jewish community and their companions, underwritten from a

grant from the Jewish Federation of the Desert. RSVP to lgbtq@templesinaipd.org.



Who knows the history of the Jewish community of the Palm Springs and the Desert? In order to plan for the future needs of the Jewish community I am interested in learning more about the History of the Jewish community. Let me know if you have memories or stories about the early days of the Jewish community, the synagogues, the Federation, and other Jewish organizations.

Alan Potash, CEO

(alan.potash@jfedps.org - 760-324-4737)

San Diego Teacher Claims Hitler 'Had Strong Leadership Qualities'

Jewish News Syndicate

A teacher at San Diego's Carmel Valley Middle School justified the placement of Adolf Hitler's portrait alongside those of non-genocidal world leaders in a 7th-grade classroom, telling a Jewish student that "Hitler may have done some bad things, but he also had strong leadership qualities."

Hitler's portrait was placed alongside inspirational historical leaders, including U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi, U.S. President John F. Kennedy, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and American civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

A 12-year old student in the class told his parents at their dinner table, "Hey dad, my teacher has a picture of Hitler on the wall." Initially in disbelief, the father asked his son for a photo of the classroom display. "And there's Adolf Hitler, a big, portrait-size picture of Hitler. And right next to Hitler is Gandhi and Martin Luther King and JFK. And each one of these



Hitler's photo appeared in the same classroom display as pictures of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mahatma Gandhi, John F. Kennedy, Winston Churchill and Martin Luther King

people has some kind of inspirational quote written underneath them."

The school's principal, Vicki Kim, issued an apology. ottom of Form

"We have recently experienced one of those times that had a hurtful impact, particularly to our Jewish community, and to others, and for this we are sorry,"

Kim wrote in an email to the school community.

On October 6, the day after Yom Kippur, the Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC) released a letter that it had sent to leaders of the San Dieguito Union High School District, its Superintendent's Office and Carmel Valley Middle School. The Jewish human rights organization stated that "we need to understand that Hitler was not just another 'leader' and 'Nazism' was not just another political movement. If you want to compare Hitler's 'leadership qualities,' present him next to photographs of Stalin, Mao and Ayatollah Khamenei, not icons of liberty and human decency."

SWC added that "such hate almost destroyed civilization and bigotry is alive and well in today's America in many forms... Please let's make sure our teachers receive the proper training and our children receive an education that infuses them with basic ethical values."

Planned Gifts Conference – San Diego

By Alberto Tejero, CFO, Jewish Federation of the Desert

At the beginning of September, I had the opportunity to attend the Planned Gifts Conference, in San Diego, thanks to our friends from the Eisenhower Foundation that included us as part of their group. The conference offered numerous sessions on different topics. I focused on the financial sessions but still was able to sample a little bit of what makes Planned Gifts and Giving to Charity so important and the reasoning behind it. As discussed in the conference, these are some of the most common reasons why people give (in no particular order):

- To help others ...
- Makes you feel good - You can reap social, physical, mental, and spiritual benefits ...
- You become informed ...
- You fuel your passion ...
- Declutters Your Space ...
- Leading by Example ...
- Helps Build Community. By contributing to a cause, you are working

towards making the world a better place ...

- Donating is tax deductible!

There are many people in need at any moment. Some of their problems are not their fault or are beyond their ability to prevent or change. Humans are social creatures and the greatest way for humans to advance is by helping those who are unable to help themselves. We have the duty to care for other people, to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

The science of Philanthropy: Donating to charity is a great mood-enhancer. The knowledge that you are helping others

is tremendously empowering and, in exchange, can make you feel happier and more satisfied. Research has identified the connection between donating to charity and increased action in the region of the brain that registers joy – proving that as the old saying goes: "It is far better to give than to receive."

Participating in charity gives you the opportunity to meet new people and make new friends. This is particularly true when you give and share your time, experience or expertise to a worthy reason. While most charitable organizations and projects usually ask for donations, most would not operate without volunteers.

Giving provides people with a positive

self-esteem, self-worth, and optimistic outlook on life. Studies show that generous people tend to live positive and more active lives, are better adjusted and live longer.

Charity improves everyone's lives. One person's charitable contribution can positively impact and reach more people than he / she may ever imagine. In many parts of the world, others are not so fortunate. Charitable contributions help promote a happier and healthier world by improving the quality of life for those far or around us. And, by "making" this world better. **Gemilut Chasidim**, you also set your Legacy for the upcoming generations.

More to come in the next edition ...

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Lion of Judah



The Lion of Judah is perhaps the most successful development vehicle of all time and is a symbol of today's Jewish Woman's strength, a symbol of her

caring about the organized Jewish world and a symbol of her financial commitment of at least \$5,000 to the UJA Federation Annual Campaign. More than 16,000 women world-wide are Lions of Judah. According to Cora Ginsberg, Federation Board co-chairman and Lion of Judah Brunch chair, The Lions of Judah are the most dynamic philanthropic Jewish women in the world. "We are strong women of all ages, an international sisterhood of thousands of global activists who care deeply about the Jewish future."

This year our community will be honoring Fran Kaufman as our 2022 Kipnis-Wilson Friedland honoree at the International Lion of Judah Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. This prestigious national award recognizes and honors women who have set a high bar in their community. Fran certainly exemplifies this!

Our community's Lion of Judah Brunch will be Monday, January 16, 2023 at 10:00 am at Tamarisk Country Club. Our keynote speaker at the Lion of Judah Brunch will be Emmy® Award Winner Letty Cottin Pogrebin, an American author, journalist, lecturer, and social activist. She is a founding editor of Ms. magazine, the author of twelve books, and was an editorial consultant for the incredible TV special Free to Be... You and Me for which she won the Emmy®

For more information: contact Leslie Pepper, Director of Women's Philanthropy and Community Engagement, at leslie.pepper@jfedps.org, 760-324-4737.

Save the Date

Lion of Judah

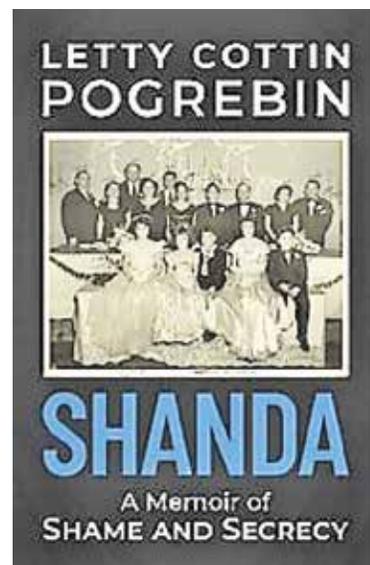
Brunch at Tamarisk Country Club
Monday, January 16, 2023

Featured speaker: LETTY COTTIN POGREBIN

Required minimum gift to Jewish Federation of the Desert Annual Campaign:
\$5,000 Local Lions - \$1,200 Out of Town Lions

For more information contact Leslie Pepper at
Leslie.pepper@jfedps.org or 760-324-4737

Jewish Federation OF THE DESERT | Women's Philanthropy



Letty Cottin Pogrebin

Letty Cottin Pogrebin--a writer, activist, editor, organizer, and advocate--gained national recognition first in the national women's movement and later as a spokesperson for Jewish feminism and issues related to Israel-Palestine. Growing up in a religiously observant Conservative household, Pogrebin

became outraged at the exclusion of women from full participation in Jewish ritual and tradition, leaving her determined to create a more inclusive Judaism. In her work, whether fiction or nonfiction, Pogrebin writes colorfully and honestly about her life and its complexities while

simultaneously echoing the experiences of millions of women. In fact, Pogrebin's memoir, *Deborah, Golda, and Me*, gave a public face to Jewish feminism. Over the years, Pogrebin merged political activism, feminism, strong Jewish identity, and intercultural harmony.

3 Jewish Women Sue to Block Kentucky's Abortion Restrictions on Religious Grounds

By Andrew Lapin, JTA

Three Jewish women have sued to protest Kentucky's restrictive abortion laws on religious freedom grounds, arguing that they violate Jewish teachings as to when life begins and place undue burdens on their ability to use in vitro fertilization to achieve pregnancy.

The suit is at least the third religious freedom lawsuit to be filed by Jews against a state abortion restriction since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* this summer. It follows a synagogue's challenge to Florida's laws and a Jewish pro-choice group's lawsuit in Indiana.

The Kentucky suit challenges the state's current law, which was written to go into effect following the Supreme Court's ruling that ended a constitutional right to abortion; the law bans all abortions after six weeks of pregnancy, with very few exceptions, and defines life as beginning at the moment of fertilization.

The law also forbids the disposal of unborn life "throughout the entire embryonic and fetal stage" — leaving women and their doctors concerned about the implications of IVF, which can result in surplus embryos.

The women behind the lawsuit — Lisa Sobel, Jessica Kalb and Sarah Baron — argue that Kentucky's definition of when life begins does not comport with Jewish law. They also argue that the law interferes with their religious freedom, they say, because the state would force them to continue to pay to keep embryos produced through IVF frozen indefinitely.

"As a mom, as a woman, this directly affects me, it affects my health care," Sobel told the *Louisville Courier-Journal*. "And then it's a personal affront to my personal religious views, on top of it. As somebody who is a person of faith, that's just wrong to me."

"Plaintiff's religious beliefs demand that they have more children through

IVF, yet the law forces Plaintiffs to spend exorbitant fees to keep their embryos frozen indefinitely or face potential felony charges," the lawsuit states. The three plaintiffs are all in their thirties and say they must rely on IVF for future pregnancies to avoid health risks; Sobel says she and her husband can't conceive any other way.

While Jewish law is still developing around IVF, most rabbinic opinions agree that embryo donation, an option that some anti-abortion activists urge, is problematic according to halacha, or Jewish law, because of the outside possibility that it could result in unintended incest in the future. They also tend to agree that passively allowing embryos to be destroyed, such as by not refrigerating them, is permissible.

Claiming the state abortion law "substantially burdens" the plaintiffs'

right to religious expression, the suit also says the law is in violation of Kentucky's Religious Freedom Restoration Act, as well as violating the state's constitution by granting preference to "theocratic" Christian teachings over other religious beliefs.

The Kentucky lawsuit is part of a newly emerging trend of Jews hoping to use religious freedom protections as a pressure point against state abortion restrictions driven largely by Christian activism. A nondenominational congregation in Florida sued that state over its abortion law in June, saying that its 15-week abortion ban "prohibits Jewish women from practicing their faith free of government intrusion and this violates their privacy rights and religious freedom."

And last month Hoosier Jews For Choice, a newly formed Indiana Jewish abortion-rights group, sued

over Indiana's own law banning abortions in the state with very few exceptions. That lawsuit, backed by the American Civil Liberties Union, also claimed that the abortion law (which had not yet gone into effect) was in violation of the state's Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

American Jews support abortion rights more than any other religious group, according to polling. Non-Orthodox Jews have been at the fore of advocacy against the current sweep of abortion legislation, while some Orthodox groups have said they applaud the *Dobbs v. Jackson* decision while still believing that abortion should be permitted in some cases. Scholars of Jewish law largely agree that it requires abortion when the pregnant person's health is at risk, though there is disagreement about what constitutes such a risk.



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A full-circle Journey: Bringing Ethiopian Jewry Home

The first time I helped bring Ethiopian Jews to Israel, it was a secret mission in the middle of the night. But last month, they came in broad daylight, with fanfare

By Major General (Res.) Doron Almog, chairman of the Executive of The Jewish Agency for Israel.

The first time I encountered the Ethiopian Jewish community, I was surrounded by darkness.

As the leader of one of Israel's elite combat units, Shaldag, I was on a mission to airlift Ethiopian Jews to safety via Hercules planes. It was 1983 and the mission, shrouded in secrecy and conducted in the shadows, was a harrowing experience not only for myself but for the Ethiopians.

At the time, there was no way to bring Ethiopian Jews to Israel. But that did not stop us from doing the right thing.

Thousands of Ethiopian Jews set off for Sudan on foot, where they waited for months to finally depart for Israel. Once possible, we worked alongside Mossad agents to gradually send planes in secrecy in the middle of the night to airlift them from the vast deep, dark desert. Upon landing, all our senses were hindered: the propellers hurled sand in all our faces and the noise was deafening. Despite the pitch-black around us, our sophisticated night vision equipment allowed us to see those we came to rescue, but attempting to gather hundreds of scared people who had never seen a plane before was certainly a challenge, especially with the horrible noise and swirling sand.

When we opened the back ramp to usher them inside the aircraft, some even fled, as the situation was too overwhelming. And yet, most had the courage to trust us — to come aboard with their torn clothes and their resilient hearts, to start anew in Israel.

Several things could have gone wrong. We were constantly teetering between launching one of the most successful operations in Israeli history or one of its biggest failures. However, my experience paled in comparison to theirs. For the Ethiopians, the journey from Ethiopia to Sudan was difficult and dangerous. Thousands did not make it alive.

I returned to the region in September in an entirely different capacity, as chairman of the executive of The Jewish Agency for Israel. And, again, I had the pleasure and honor of bringing Ethiopians back to Israel on Operation



Ethiopian Jews aboard Israeli flight during Operation Moses 1983

Tzur Israel (Rock of Israel) — a joint operation of The Jewish Agency and the Ministry of Aliyah and Integration, aimed to unite 3,000 members of the Ethiopian community with their family members in Israel.

The experiences could not be more dissimilar. What occurred 40 years ago in the shadows under the most hazardous conditions took place last week in broad daylight and with much — and justified — fanfare. Decades ago, after such a treacherous journey and difficult waiting period, the new immigrants' clothes were worn and torn, the shoes on their feet tattered. Today, the olim (immigrants) dress in festive white to commemorate their fulfilled wish of coming home.

And that deafening noise of the plane, when nobody could speak with each other — that was replaced with joyous singing.

I wish I could say that the Ethiopians I helped bring to Israel those many years ago transitioned seamlessly to their new home, but the aliyah experience is a challenging one. For Ethiopians, who come from a vastly different culture, the learning curve was steep. I am not sure my parents' generation truly understood those challenges, but it is something we certainly appreciate today.

After witnessing Operation Tzur Israel in action, I can safely say that this is no longer how we operate. The Jewish Agency now anticipates those challenges, which is why it arrives on

the ground months before planes are set to take off, working closely with the Ethiopian community, helping them prepare for the momentous transition into Israeli society.

After honoring my late brother Eran who was killed in battle during the Yom Kippur War and my late son, Eran, who was born with severe disabilities, my life philosophy has always been to never leave anyone behind. This applies to my approach regarding aliyah as well.

That is because how we treat the vulnerable among us reflects our morality as a society.

As we welcome the new year, what kind of society do we wish to be? One that throws its olim — whether they be North American, Ukrainian or Ethiopian — into the deep end of the pool and hope that they know how to swim? Or do we want to provide them not only a life raft, but the tools to be able to navigate those waters?

At The Jewish Agency, we strongly believe in the latter approach. As such, we operate 26 absorption centers across the country where olim can acclimate to Israeli society. Our organization provides them with tools and resources to be successful from a personal and a professional capacity.

That said, we can always do more and as chairman, I plan to explore options where we involve private citizens and the public and private sectors in this process, as acclimating olim into Israeli

society benefits us all. The absorption of olim should be a national responsibility. From private families who can forge ongoing relationships with new olim, to student volunteers teaching them Hebrew, to recruiting local industries to integrate olim into the workforce, every Israeli citizen has a role to play in this complex process.

Make no mistake — this is not about charity or helping the less fortunate. Rather, it is giving these olim an equal playing field so they can live up to their potential and give back to the country they love so much.

In my most recent visit to Gondar, I saw that potential with my own eyes. I toured the Hatikvah (Hope) Synagogue, I saw the holy books there that are kept in mint condition, despite the dilapidated buildings surrounding them. I walked through their classrooms, mikveh, and library. And I saw a whole generation of children hungry for knowledge that their current living conditions simply cannot satiate.

I do not know — nor can we control — what would have become of our olim if they remained in Ethiopia. But we can certainly influence what kind of people they will become once they are welcomed to Israel.

We must continue to work, in accordance with the government of Israel, to reunite families and bring olim home, no matter where they are in the world. It is also our obligation to ensure that Ethiopian olim become the absolute best version of themselves. It is what they deserve and what Israeli society needs.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Major General (Res.) Doron Almog is the chairman of the executive of The Jewish Agency for Israel. He is also a Israel Prize Laureate, and the founder and chairman of ADI Negev-Nahalat Eran (www.adi-israel.org), an expansive residential and rehabilitation village in Israel's south that is world-renowned as a symbol of true inclusion.

American Jewish Committee Calls for End of Arab League Boycott; Welcomes New US Penalties

By Andrew Bernard, *The Algemeiner*

The American Jewish Committee on October 7 welcomed new U.S. Commerce Department rules designed to more strongly counter the Arab League's boycott of Israel while also calling for the 76 year old boycott to end.

"We appreciate that the Biden administration has made enforcement against the Arab League boycott a priority as one of its tools in fighting antisemitism and anti-Zionist sentiment," AJC CEO Ted Deutch told *The Algemeiner*. "As more Arab nations have taken the sensible step of establishing diplomatic and economic relations with Israel, the Arab League should take a hint and end this misguided boycott once and for all. Just as the BDS movement has shown, boycotts that seek to demonize Israel and call for its destruction are ultimately doomed to fail."

Under the revised regulations announced on October 6, companies charged with acquiescing to the unsanctioned foreign government boycott will face larger fines and will have to admit wrongdoing before resolving any boycott charges.

The Arab League, a regional organization in the Arab world made up of at least 20 member nations, adopted the initial elements of the boycott in 1945 before Israel's foundation as a state. Together with the Arab League's 1967 "Three Nos" policy (No peace with Israel, no recognition of Israel, no negotiations with Israel), the boycott policy is one of the elements of regional politics that has been most dramatically reversed by the Abraham Accords, which established relations between Israel, the UAE, and Bahrain and were later joined by Morocco. Israel's peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan ended the participation of those countries in the boycott.



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1943: To Save Jews and Keep the Nazis Away, These Doctors Invented a Fake Infectious Disease

By Stephen Silver, JTA

How the subject of his new documentary, "Syndrome K," has largely escaped public attention is a mystery to filmmaker Stephen Edwards.

"It's the greatest elevator pitch in Hollywood," he said. "The story of three doctors, one of them Jewish, practicing with a fake identity, that fool the SS with a fake disease that saved Jews from certain deportation."

"Syndrome K," which hits digital and VOD platforms after some Jewish film festival showings, tells that little-known, surefire story: How three doctors at a hospital in Rome shielded a group of Jews from the Nazis in 1943 and 1944 by inventing a fake



Fatebenefratelli Hospital in Rome 1944



Adriano Ossicini, one of the doctors behind the Syndrome K ruse, with "Syndrome K" director Stephen Edwards in 2018.

infectious disease called Syndrome K. The prospect of catching the disease kept the Nazis, who were occupying Rome following the fall of Mussolini, away from the hospital. The Jews there hung on until the Allies liberated the

city in June of 1944.

Edwards, who has spent most of his career as a composer, is not Jewish — he was raised Catholic — but grew up among the large Jewish community in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he got the idea for the film when he saw a meme about the "Syndrome K" story on Facebook, and was shocked to discover that no one had ever made a documentary about it before.

Fatebenefratelli Hospital was located very close to the Jewish Ghetto in Rome. The three doctors were Vittorio Sacerdoti, Giovanni Borromeo and Adriano Ossicini. Sacerdoti was Jewish, while the other two were Catholic. Borromeo, who among other things protected the family of one of his Jewish mentors, is recognized as a Righteous Among the Nations at Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust memorial authority.

Jews were kept in hospital rooms designated as dangerously infectious. "The Nazis thought it was cancer or tuberculosis, and they fled like rabbits," Sacerdoti told the BBC in 2004.

The exact number of Jews saved, according to the film, is unknown, although various historical accounts have placed the number in the dozens.

"That's why I think it's such a secret story — the doctors didn't crow about what they did, or talk about it a lot," Edwards said. He added that the Syndrome K story is so obscure that the late historian Robert Katz's "The Battle for Rome: The Germans, the Allies, the Partisans, and the Pope, September 1943–June 1944," which is considered a definitive book about the Nazi occupation of the city, does not mention it.

When Edwards first began working on the film in 2018, he learned that Ossicini was still alive at age 98. Reaching out through an Italian-Jewish journalist named Ariela Piattelli, Edwards and his producer went to Rome and interviewed the doctor. On that trip, he also talked to a pair of brothers who survived the hospital as children, and Pietro Borromeo, the son of Giovanni Borromeo. Both Ossicini and the younger Borromeo passed away within a year of their interviews.

For interviews with the others featured in the film, Edwards utilized the USC Shoah Foundation, which has collected and archived interviews with more than 55,000 testimonies now arrived at the University of Southern California.

That archive included an interview with the Jewish doctor Sacerdoti from around the year 2000, made shortly before his death and believed to be the only one he ever gave. The physician never married or had children, and there's no record of where he is buried.

Edwards was full of praise for the Shoah Foundation, founded by Steven Spielberg, for including a system of tagging in their archive that allowed them to find interviews with survivors of the hospital of whom the filmmakers were previously unaware.

"We have no film without Sacerdoti," Edwards said. "If I meet Spielberg at some point I'm going to thank him."

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74 Years Later: IDF Identifies Bodies of Soldiers Who Fell in 1948 War of Independence

"Let every mother know that we will not stop until we return all the sons to the grave of Israel," said the head of the IDF Personnel Directorate.

By World Israel News Staff

Following a lengthy investigation, the IDF spokesperson announced Friday that the bodies of the late Private Binyamin Aryeh (York) Eisenberg and the late Private Yitzhak Rubinstein were located in southern Israel.

It is now clear that the two soldiers were taken captive by the Egyptians just a few days after the announcement of the establishment of the Jewish state and were buried in a mass grave in Nitzanim, southern Israel, Hebrew-language *N12* reported.

According to the investigation, which was conducted by the Missing Persons Branch of the IDF's casualty department and lasted over a decade, the two were taken prisoner during Israel's War of Independence and killed between May 23 and 24, less than two weeks after the establishment of the Jewish state was proclaimed on May 14, 1948.

Eisenberg and Rubinstein fought in the elite Palmach branch of the pre-IDF Haganah. According to the findings, they were imprisoned together with late medic Livka Shafer. In 1952, Israel's late Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren declared all three dead, with the place of burial unknown. Shafer's body was found already in 2018, but it has only now become clear that Eisenberg and Rubinstein were also buried there.

The families were notified. In the coming



Private Binyamin Aryeh (York) Eisenberg and Private Yitzhak Rubinstein

weeks, a ceremony will be held, and the names of the two victims will be added to the memorial at Nitzanim, as was Shefer's.

"Let every Jewish mother know that we will not stop until we return all the sons to the grave of Israel. And we will discover the burial place of our martyrs whose

burial place is not known," declared Maj. Gen. Yaniv Assor, head of the IDF Personnel Directorate.

The fighters of that generation "dreamed of the [Jewish] state...fought valiantly in fierce battles against Arab armies for the independence of the State of Israel. Determining a grave for the soldiers whose burial place is unknown, even 74 years after their fall, is a deep

and authentic commitment of the people of Israel and the IDF, which stems from memories that span generations and connects the soldiers past and present.

"Today, the State of Israel and the Israel Defense Forces fulfill a moral duty in determining the grave of Binyamin Aryeh Eisenberg and the late Yitzchak Rubinstein in the grave of the brothers in Nitzanim," said Asur

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Hadassah Medical Center Makes Newsweek's List of Top Cardiology Centers

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Newsweek magazine has selected the Cardiology and Oncology (Sherett Institute) Divisions of Hadassah Medical Center for their list of the best hospitals in the world specializing in various medical fields for 2022.

Hadassah Hospital's oncology unit is the only such unit in Israel that was eligible to make it to the list. Newsweek has also selected Hadassah Medical Center for the list of the world's smartest hospitals for 2023.

The magazine publishes a selection of 250 hospitals from around the world with the best departments in cardiology, oncology and other fields based on 40,000 recommendations from multiple medical professionals. They also held an international survey of hospital directors and health professionals.

Hadassah makes the list alongside many leading hospitals like the Mayo Clinic and Johns Hopkins in the United States, as well as many other large clinics around the world.



Hadassah University Medical Center

"The hospitals that appear on the list of the 'smartest' in the world are the ones that make the most correct and efficient use of the most advanced technologies," Newsweek magazine wrote. "The world's best smart hospitals rank medical centers in 28 countries, leading in their use of

artificial intelligence, digital imaging telemedicine, robotics and electronic functions.

"Taking advantage of these new technologies not only improves hospital outcomes and efficiency but also positions hospitals as part of a

broader ecosystem that aims to drive key processes in various areas of health such as disease prevention, population health and improved quality of life."

Hadassah Director General Prof. Yoram Weiss responded: "Hadassah has earned its name in Israel and around the world as a leading center of excellence, where first-class experts in the fields of medicine and science work, providing professional and humane medical care, leading in research and smart technological developments and training the next generation of physicians in Israel,"

"The achievements that the magazine has chosen to honor vis-à-vis the great work at Hadassah - oncology, cardiology and the use of advanced technological systems - are a huge source of pride and a spotlight directed at only a small part of what happens here every day by Hadassah staff in all departments, for the future of medicine."



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- **Howard and Sherry Schor**, *Wishing you many years of health and happiness in your new home, from Dale and George Rotner.*

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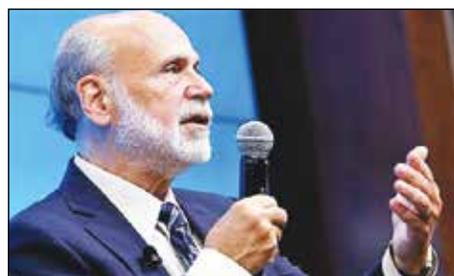
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- **Robin Family**, *in memory of Ed Robin, from Gail Stone.*

Ben Bernanke, Shares Economics Nobel Prize for Research on Banks and Crisis

By Ron Kampeas, JTA

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

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



Ben Bernanke

the time.

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

Bernanke, 68, was chairman of the

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

The Associated Press quoted Bernanke as saying that he and his wife turned off their cell phones on Sunday evening, and so did not know about winning the prize until Monday when their daughter called and relayed the news. The Nobel academies generally inform laureates the evening before the official announcement. It's not clear why the Bernankes had shut off their

phones, but Bernanke, whose middle name is Shalom, is known to observe Jewish holidays, and Sunday was the first night of Sukkot.

Bernanke grew up in Dillon, South Carolina (where a highway interchange is named for him), and in his autobiography wrote how he encountered antisemitism growing up — classmates asked him if he had horns — but that saw that Blacks had it much harder. His family was among the few Jewish families in town and hosted rabbinical students who traveled from New York City to lead services.



Shabbat Schedule - November 2022

While more congregations are opening to in-person services if participants are fully vaccinated, it is wise to check with your chosen facility on Thursday or Friday to make sure there are no changes regarding attendance. Most continue to offer online services as well.

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Rabbi Moshe Katz
50620 Eisenhower Drive, Ste. G103, La Quinta, CA 92253. 760-709-2431. Email: chabadlaquinta@gmail.com. Chabad LQ offers weekly Torah studies, home visitations, Kosher meals, Shabbat Services, Women's Circle, youth activities, Holiday programs and more.

CONGREGATION HAR-EL (Member, Union for Reform Judaism) Rabbi Richard Zions, Ph.D.; Cantor Joseph Gole, D.Mus. harelurjpd@gmail.com 760-779-1691. New website: harelurjpd.org.
Weekly online Shabbat services with Rabbi Richard Zions and Cantor Joseph Gole. Everyone welcome. For Zoom invite email harelurjpd@gmail.com.

DESERT OUTREACH SYNAGOGUE

Rabbi Dr. Jules King; Rabbi Rachel Axelrad, Rabbi Andrew Bentley, Cantor Lori Reisman Patterson. 760-449-0111. Mailing address: P.O. Box 982, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270. Shabbat services held on the second Fridays at Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert, 72425 Via Vail, Rancho Mirage. On second Saturdays: 10:30-11:30 am Torah study on Zoom with Rabbi Axelrad. Beit Sefer Religious School Saturday mornings (from 9:45

AM to noon. B'nei Mitzvah classes for Children with Arava Talve. "Talkin' Torah" with Rabbi Andrew Bentley: See listing on Community Calendar. Check website for most current information: www.Desert-Outreach-Synagogue.com.

OR HAMIDBAR

Rabbi David Lazar rabbi@orhamidbar.org. Virtual Kabbalat Services first, second and fourth Fridays of the month, at 6:30 pm and Shabbat morning services at 10:30 am. Join Zoom meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86202660636>. For more information email info@orhamidbar.org.

SUN CITY JEWISH SERVICES

Rabbi Dr. Kenneth Emert, Cantorial Soloist Alan Scott and Accompanist Brent Reynolds. In person services in Speaker's Hall in the Sunset View Clubhouse in Sun City Palm Desert the first and third Fridays at 7:15 pm. To attend participants must be fully vaccinated and wear a mask at services. Please bring your card. Information: Nadine Brinhendler, 707-332-3947.

TEMPLE HAR SHALOM, Idyllwild

(951) 468-0004. www.templeharshalomidyllwild.org
Email: templeharshalomofidyllwild@gmail.com.
Erev Shabbat Services the third Friday of each month with Rabbi Ilana Grinblat at 6:00 pm and Shabbat teaching with Rabbi Grinblat the next morning at 9:30 am. Every other Friday of the month: Shabbat Candle Lighting with Rabbi Emerita Malka Drucker or Rabbi Grinblat at 5:45 pm. Check website templeharshalomofidyllwild.org for Zoom Address.

TEMPLE ISAIAH

Rabbi Steven Rosenberg, with Cantor Ken Cohen or Soloist Dr. Sarah Sela joining Rabbi on the bima. 332 West Alejo Road, Palm Springs, CA 92262, 760-325-2281. Email: temple@templeisaiahps.com; www.templeisaiahps.com.
Weekly in-person Shabbat services Friday evenings at 7:30 pm, preceded by Wine and Cheese 'Happy Hour' from 7:00-7:30 pm. Saturday morning begins with "Nosh and Drash" at 10:00 am, followed by Shabbat morning services. To attend in person services requires being fully vaccinated. and masks are urged when in the building. All services also streamed online. To access any activity, go to Temple Isaiah's website and click on link to desired service or program. "Jewish University" Saturdays from 1:30-3 PM on Zoom. No charge. RSVP requested.

TEMPLE SINAI (Member, Union for Reform Judaism)

Rabbi David Novak
73-251 Hovley Lane West, Palm Desert, CA 92260. www.templesinaipd.org 760-568-9699.
Go to templesinaipd.org for access information. Shabbat services are in-person and online on Livestream at www.templesinaipd.org. Friday evening services 5:30 pm, preceded by pre-service Oneg at 5:00 pm. Saturday morning Torah study 8:45 am; Shabbat morning services 10 am. Proof of vaccination or negative covid test within 72 hours required.

BIKUR CHOLIM

A project of Chabad of Palm Springs & Desert Communities (Community Outreach) www.BikurCholimPS.com
Rabbi Yankel Kreiman - 760-325-8076, and Rabbi Mendy Kreiman - 760-567-6726.



Community Calendar of Programs - November 2022

Mondays:

Times TBA Har-El Classes offered on Zoom: **Rabbi Richard Zions** offers three classes on Mondays: (a) Youth Bar and Bat Mitzvah, (b) Adult Bar and Bat Mitzvah and (c) Conversion to Judaism. For times, registration and additional information email harelurjpd@gmail.com or call Rabbi at 760-668-9943.

2:00 pm - Chabad of Palm Springs/Sun City: Virtual class: The Prayerbook, with **Sussie Denebeim**

7:30 pm - Chabad of Palm Springs/Sun City: Virtual class: "The Prophets: Stories that shaped our history" with **Rabbi Baruch (Boz) Werdiger**.

7:30-8:30 pm - "2B A Jew" - Or Hamidbar's introduction to Judaism. **Rabbi David Lazar** teaches about the holidays as they come up in the yearly calendar alongside foundations of Jewish practice and culture. Email info@orhamidbar.org for more information.

Tuesdays:

4:00 pm Temple Sinai begins weekly class on ZOOM, "Torah in Translation" where participants join Rabbi David Novak in reading the Torah in various English translations. Contact rabbi for ZOOM information.

5:00-7:00 pm Chabad Rancho Mirage's popular and weekly **BBQ** resumes for the season tonight. Reservations not required but helpful. Call 760-770-7785. Choose your own menu from steak to hot dogs to salmon, veggie burgers and salads.

7:00 pm - Chabad of Palm Springs/Sun City: Virtual class: "Insights for Daily Living, from the Torah" with **Sussie Denebeim**.

Wednesdays:

7:00 pm - Temple Isaiah "Reintroduction to Judaism" with **Rabbi Steven Rosenberg**. Online course on ZOOM. For those who want to learn more about their Jewish heritage or want to learn about Judaism for the first time. Email Rabbi at rabbisteven.rosenberg@gmail.com.

7:00 pm - Chabad of Palm Springs/Sun City: 'Ask the Rabbi': A Weekly Open Q & A with **Rabbi Yonason Denebeim**.

Thursdays:

10:00 am - noon: Or Hamidbar online course "Interfaith Study of the Acts of the Apostles" with **Rev. Dr. Stephen Kinney** and **Rabbi David Lazar**. For more information email info@orhamidbar.org.

11:45 am **Rabbi David Novak** of Temple Sinai hosts a weekly "Lunch 'n' Learn" in Temple Sinai's Goodman Chapel.

8:00 pm - Chabad of Palm Springs - Virtual class: "JLI Torah Studies Course" led by **Rabbi Baruch (Boz) Werdiger**. RSVP to Boz Werdiger, boz@chabadps.com, or 760-550-5793.

Saturdays: *Talkin' Torah* with **Rabbi Andrew Bentley**. Hybrid class meeting both in person and during Shabbat school, with locations to be announced shortly, as well as online. Email Rabbi Andrew at rabbibentley@gmail.com for more information.

Youth and Teens:

Chabad of Rancho Mirage offers programs for children 3 through High School. **Ckids Club** for children 3-13 offers monthly programs. **CTeen** is for teens in high school who meet weekly for events, discussion and participation in humanitarian projects. Contact Chaya at 760-272-1923 for more information.

Wednesday, November 2

3:30 pm Har-El Galen Book Course: *A Backpack, A Bear and Eight Crates of Vodka* by Lev Golinkin. The powerful and moving story of a Ukrainian Jewish family's escape from persecution in Soviet Russia and their new life in America. Presenter: **Leslie Pepper**, Jewish Federation Director of Women's Philanthropy and Community Engagement. For Zoom invite contact harelurjpd.com.

Wednesday, November 2

7:30 pm Palm Springs Friends of Philharmonic **Israel Philharmonic Concert** at the McCallum Theatre. See ad page 5.

Thursday, November 3

7:00 pm Sabra Hadassah meeting for women and men. Program: "Life After Life" Judaism on Death and the After Life, with speaker **Sussie Denebeim**. Sun City Palm Desert Sunset View Clubhouse - Oasis Room. \$20 members; \$25 non-members. For more information call Debbie at 760-289-7987.

Wednesday, November 9, 16, 30, December 7

1:30- 3:00 pm Desert Outreach Synagogue virtual class "Jewish Art Through Time - Creative, Innovative and Transformative" presented by **Rabbi Nicolas Behrmann**. \$40. To register call 760-449-0111. See article page 6.

Wednesday, November 16

3:30 pm Har-El Galen Course Session 3: "The Middle East Today and the Little-Known History Behind the Present Situation." (East session stands alone), led by **Rabbi Richard Zions**. This class will address the topics: What

Britain Uncovered When It Seeks Support From the Zionist Movement" and "Where Do the Arabs and Jews Fit In?" For Zoom invite contact harelurjpd.com.

Wednesday, November 16

4:00 pm JFS of the Desert Auxiliary present acclaimed singer **Svetlana Portnyansky**. At Temple Sinai. See ad page 13.

Tuesday, November 29

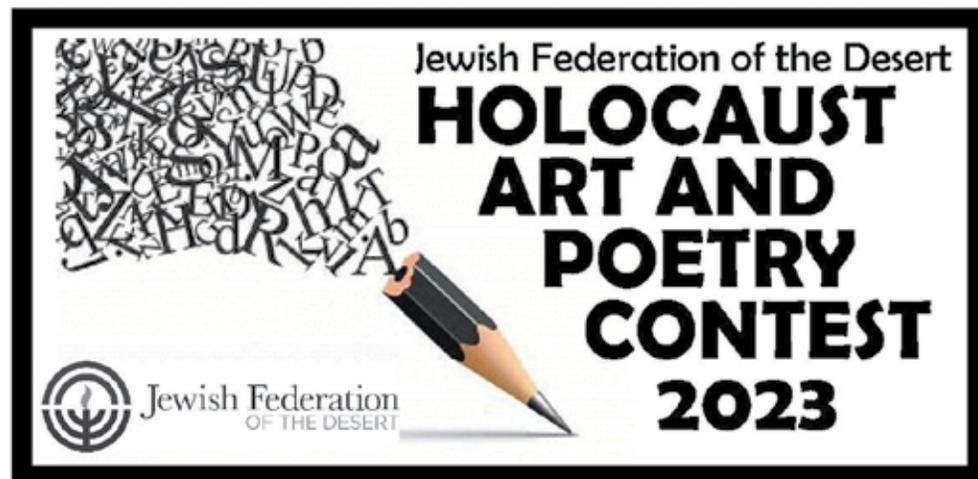
Jewish Federation evening "**Cabaret For A Cause**" with **David Burnham**. Welcome Back and Celebrate the Season. At Tamarisk Country Club. Ticket price: \$365. For more information call 760-324-4737. See ad page 2

Wednesday, November 30

3:30 pm Har-El Galen Course Session 4: "The Middle East Today and the Little-Known History Behind the Present Situation." (East session stands alone), led by **Rabbi Richard Zions**. This class will address the topics "What Did the Peel Commission Accomplish and Why Was Palestine Considered So Important to Britain and, Later, to Nazi Germany." For Zoom invite contact harelurjpd.com.

Email (preferred)
Miriam Bent at
mhbentjcn@earthlink.net
or call
760-323-0255
to have your
events included
in the community
calendar.

Holocaust Art And Poetry Contest "EVERY DAY IS REMEMBRANCE DAY"



This contest is open to all students, grades 8-12 in the Coachella Valley. This includes students currently enrolled in Middle School and High School (grades 8-12), including home schooled students.

All Poetry and Art Submissions are due on or before Friday, January 6th at 3:00 pm. Early submissions are encouraged. Winners will be judged and presented with their cash awards on Sunday, January 29 (3:00-5:00 pm) at our Community Holocaust Commemoration at the UC Riverside Auditorium, 75080 Frank Sinatra Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92211.

A student may submit only one Poem or Art entry (Framed or on a stand), using the Holocaust as a historical backdrop.

POETRY COMPETITION: All poems must be double spaced and on one side of the paper, and will be judged on originality, content and understanding of the subject. Written submissions must be into the Jewish Federation office, 69-710 Highway 111, Rancho Mirage, CA, by 3:00 pm on January 6, 2023. Do not include your name anywhere on the page of your poem. Please include a separate title page with your name, grade, email, school name etc. If you are dropping it off to the Federation, please contact Leslie.pepper@jfedps.org or at 760-324-4737 to schedule a drop off time.

ART COMPETITION: Art projects can include sculptures, drawings, photographs, paintings, posters or a collage.

All charcoal, chalk and pastels must be treated with fixatives. The work must represent the independent effort of a student. It may not exceed the dimensions of 20 inches X 20 inches. Sculptures must not exceed 18x18x18 inches.

Please include, on a separate piece of paper, with your art submission, a brief statement explaining your artwork (not to exceed 100 words), your name, grade, school, teacher, email and phone number.

Do not include your name on the art piece.

Art submissions must be in to the Jewish Federation office, 69-710 Highway 111, Rancho Mirage, CA, by 3:00 pm on January 6, 2023. Do not include your name anywhere on the page of your poem. Please include a separate title page with your name, grade, email, school name, etc. If you are dropping it off to the Federation, please contact Leslie.pepper@jfedps.org or at 760-324-4737 to schedule a drop off time.

Cash prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place entries in the Middle School and High School division.

1st place- \$300.00, 2nd place-\$200.00, 3rd place-\$100.00



Jewish Federation of the Desert

Welcomes you

APRIL 30, 2023 10am—2pm
AT PALM VALLEY SCHOOL CAMPUS

A New Klezmer Tradition Takes Root in Brooklyn's Prospect Park

By Julia Gergely, *New York Jewish Week*

After five consecutive days of rain — which included Judaism's holiest day of the year, Yom Kippur — the sun finally shone brightly on Thursday, October 6. That warm afternoon, Brooklyn's Prospect Park was alive with bikers, runners, dogs, parents, strollers and readers.

In one corner of the park, in a lakeside area called the Peninsula, a group of like-minded musicians and listeners of all genders and ages, from places as far away as eastern Europe, France and England and as close as Park Slope and Crown Heights had come together to enjoy the weather, catch up and improvise klezmer music together.

Known as the Brooklyn Klezmer Picnic, the informal, regular gathering is organized via a Facebook group of the same name. Spearheaded by Ilya Shneyveys, a 39-year-old klezmer musician who leads the band Forshpil, the picnics began in the summer of 2020 when performance spaces — along with everything else — were shuttered due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since then, there have been 23 of these picnics, which happen once a month-ish, always in Prospect Park. "At its best, it's a five-hour long jam session," said Aaron Bendich, who runs the klezmer and Jewish music-focused record label "Borscht Beat." Bendich said he comes to as many of the picnics as he can.

Shneyveys had started a similar gathering with friends in Berlin in 2013, known as the Neukölln Klezmer Sessions (named for the neighborhood where they all lived). Over the years, these casual public gatherings — which happened every few weeks and continue to this day — grew to attract a crowd of hundreds, and eventually branched into a yearly festival called Shtetl Berlin.

"I like informal music-making," Shneyveys told the *New York Jewish Week*. "I think it's a good environment for klezmer music in particular — it's



not a concert performance, but it's not rehearsal, either. It's somewhere in between. You get together and you play music and you don't exactly know what's going to happen. It's a nice mix of predictable and unpredictable and in general it's a nice communal activity."

Shneyveys moved to New York in 2017 with his wife Sarah Myerson, who is currently the cantor at Kane Street Synagogue. And while he played gigs and met other klezmer musicians, he quickly noticed that "there wasn't exactly a semi-regular gathering where people could meet and just play music."

In June 2020, when opportunities for gigs dried up because of the pandemic and everyone was starved for socially distant musical and social interaction, Shneyveys realized his fellow klezmer-inclined New Yorkers might finally have the time to get together, play music and hang out. The first Brooklyn Klezmer Picnic was organized.

"We were all wearing masks and trying to sit as far as possible from each other, but still it was a meaningful thing to do," he said of that first session, which drew dozens of musicians and friends.

During the recent October klezmer picnic, over the course of four hours, the group grew to nearly two dozen

people. About half of the attendees played instruments, including those you'd expect — fiddle, mandolin, clarinet — and some more exotic ones, such as the baglamas, a six-stringed Greek instrument and a sarod, an Indian stringed instrument used in Hindi music.

Others sat on blankets and enjoyed the company and the music, snacking on pizza, sandwiches and fruit.

"Everyone knows each other," said Eve Sicular, who is the director and drummer of the klezmer bands Metropolitan Klezmer and Isle of Klezbos. "But you never quite know who is going to show up."

Sicular is a veteran of the klezmer scene in New York, having been playing for three decades. She said that she doesn't recall there ever being something so informal and yet so crucial to the city's klezmer community — even if it took a pandemic to get it off the ground.

The picnic "creates a culture of trusting each other and depending on each other to put it on," Sicular said, adding that the internet, in general, and YouTube, in particular, have made it easier for musicians to learn klezmer music and improvise with one another.

Though Shneyveys may have taken

inspiration from his days in Berlin — before the pandemic, he was still traveling back and forth once a month, as well as organizing Shtetl Berlin remotely — he recognizes that the Brooklyn Klezmer Picnic is its own unique, New York phenomenon.

"Just being in a city that is so Jewish, in so many ways, where there really is a market for klezmer music and Jewish events," said Shneyveys. "You can both be playing weddings but also playing some more avant garde Jewish music and clubs."

As the weather starts to cool, Shneyveys isn't quite sure what will become of the Brooklyn Klezmer Picnic — there may be an indoor jam session in a jazz bar at some point. (Last year the group met at Barbès in the South Slope section of Brooklyn.) If the crowd keeps growing, Shneyveys said he could envision an outdoor concert series in the Prospect Park Bandshell or another festival of sorts.

"It's still very young, compared to what we have in Berlin," Shneyveys said. "It started as an informal thing that I did because I wanted to play music with other people. That's been my main motivation in life."

DID YOU KNOW?

All monies donated to the TZEDAKAH FUND enables the Jewish Federation of the Desert to respond to emergency needs of Jews living in our community.

Donating to the TZEDAKAH FUND is a wonderful way to thank, extend good wishes, offer condolences or recognize an occasion.



Call the Jewish Federation at 760-324-4737 or go online to jfedps.org/donate.

The Jerusalem Post's Top 50 Most Influential Jews of 2022



No. 1 Russia-Ukraine War made President Volodymyr Zelensky a global icon. There are not many political leaders who find themselves

elevated to icon status, but Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky became one of them this year. First, he was regarded as a curiosity – if someone outside Ukraine thought about him at all – because of having played the president of Ukraine in a sitcom before playing the role in real life. But Russia's invasion of his country in February thrust him into the spotlight and tested him in a way that few leaders in today's world have been tested.

With an artist's keen eye for the importance of optics, Zelensky began exclusively wearing olive green T-shirts. He embarked on a world tour via Zoom to admonish Western governments for insufficiently helping him beat back Russia, customizing the speech to fit each capital's history and concerns.



No. 2 Israel's Prime Minister Yair Lapid. In his 10 years in politics as the leader of Yesh Atid, Lapid's career has seen its ups and downs.

He started as a media star touted as a future prime minister but then left the government in 2015 to spend the next six years in the opposition. At the same time, his party - Yesh Atid - established itself as one of the smoothest communications and campaign operations Israel has ever seen. But a party that revolves almost entirely around its leader – Lapid determines its list, and anyone who challenged him was gone by the next Knesset – lives and dies by that leader. Luckily for Yesh Atid, Lapid developed the political skill, the tenacity, and the willingness to temporarily set aside his ego necessary to maneuver his way to the top. After the last election, Lapid had the patience and the wisdom to let Naftali Bennett be first

in a rotation for the premiership, which meant that Bennett took the fall for the government's collapse in June. And while many politicians believed that Lapid would never take up the role, in June he became prime minister of the interim government, allowing him to run in the November election as an incumbent. He will remain premier until another government is formed in the ensuing weeks, and if that doesn't happen, as it didn't twice in 2019, he'll stay in office for a few more months, for yet another election.



No. 3 Élisabeth Borne, France's Prime Minister.

Borne's father, Joseph Bornstein, and his three brothers were born to Polish-Jewish immigrants in Belgium. The family fled to France in 1940 and the four sons were arrested and sent to concentration camps, where two were murdered. Her father survived and became naturalized as a French citizen in 1950. He suffered from epilepsy and many other medical issues and killed himself at age 48, when his daughter was 11. According to his surviving brother, "he never got over Auschwitz."

Borne has served as Prime Minister of France since May 2022. She is a member of both President of France, Emmanuel Macron's party Renaissance and of the centre-right party Territories of Progress. A civil engineer, government official and manager of state enterprises in the transport and construction sectors, Borne previously served as minister of transport (2017–2019) and minister of ecology (2019–2020). She was then minister of labour, employment and integration in the Castex government from 2020 to 2022. On 16 May 2022, President Macron appointed her as the next prime minister after Castex's resignation, the second woman to hold the position.



No. 4 Tom Nides, US Ambassador to Israel.

In interviews and other public comments, Nides often talks not only of his commitment to preserving the "unbreakable" US-Israel relationship but also the importance he sees in ensuring that Israel retains its Jewish and democratic character. Since the 1990s, he has moved back and forth between politics and finance and dealt with Israel-related issues whenever he was in Washington. During the Obama administration, as the No. 2 at the State Department, Nides was often in the position of peacemaker when things grew heated between the US president and then-prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu. When President Joe Biden was elected, Nides actively lobbied to be envoy to Israel. In fact, there was no other ambassadorship that he wanted. Once again, he's in the position of middleman between Washington and Jerusalem. "I work for President Biden, who calls himself a Zionist and has said over and over again how important this bilateral relationship is," he has said. "My job is to articulate that in good times and in bad times.... I take it quite seriously." For Nides, a successful term as ambassador would mean "the continuation of the unbreakable bond between Israel and the US."



No. 5 Israeli Opposition Leader and Former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Benjamin Netanyahu, the former prime minister has diminished in influence, but it isn't extinguished. The year 5782 began and ended with Benjamin Netanyahu as opposition leader, which means that, necessarily, his influence has waned from its peak. The politician once known as "King Bibi" was relegated from the center stage to the occasional secondary Knesset speech. His trademark PowerPoint presentations

on the Iranian nuclear threat went from prime-time TV to Facebook Live. And yet, Netanyahu continues to cast a very long shadow over the Israeli political scene. Netanyahu's machinations, combined with the seemingly limitless and exceptionally vocal devotion of his supporters, pulled right-wing lawmakers away from the diverse governing coalition, bringing about its demise in June and the upcoming election in November.

Even though Netanyahu is not running as an incumbent for the first time since 2009, the electoral field is still mostly organized between "Yes Bibi" and "No Bibi." The party staking its campaign on bringing the sides together. So far, Netanyahu is leading the pack in polls by far, consistently showing to be the leader of the largest party and the candidate viewed as most fit to be prime minister. This is despite the ongoing trials for corruption charges and more recently, a warning that he could be held responsible for the deaths of 45 people at Meron last year.



No. 6 Chairwoman of Disney General Entertainment Content Dana Walden. As chairwoman of Disney General Entertainment

Content, Walden oversees the creation of the massive collection of Disney content, including on Disney+ – which recently reached Israel – as well as Hulu, ABC Entertainment, National Geographic Content and more. She previously worked as chair and CEO of Fox Television Group, during which she brought Fox Broadcasting Company from fourth place to first. Her latest role at Disney comes after a long time – 25 years, to be exact – at 21st Century Fox. During her time overseeing the studios there, they amassed 184 Emmys, 29 Golden Globes awards, 17 Screen Actors Guild awards, 24 Peabody awards and Humanitas prizes.

continued on next page

In her new leadership role, Walden oversaw the creation and successes of shows like *Modern Family*, *This Is Us* and *Empire*. She describes the current television arena, so largely focused on streaming, as incredibly versatile. In the aforementioned interview, she told *Variety* that “it’s almost as if any great idea a creator comes up with now, there’s a place for it in the streaming universe.”



No. 7 World Jewish Congress president Ronald S. Lauder.

Ronald S. Lauder, who has served as president of the World Jewish Congress since 2007, possesses a powerful voice of moral clarity, wielding influence on a wide range of issues related to Israel and the Diaspora, particularly in the US, where he is based.

As president of the WJC, which represents Jewish communities in 106 countries, Lauder meets regularly with heads of state, prime ministers and government representatives to discuss and advance causes of concern to Jews and Jewish communities internationally and does not hesitate to speak out. He advocates for the importance of supporting Israel, especially in times when the state or its citizens are under attack, and he encourages and aids the development of vibrant Jewish communities around the world.

From 1983 to 1986, Lauder served as US deputy assistant secretary of defense for European and NATO Affairs, and was appointed US ambassador to Austria by President Ronald Reagan in 1986. In that role, he built strong diplomatic bonds between the US and Austria. In 1987, he established the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation, which supports Jewish schools, camps and community centers in Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine.

Lauder was elected president of the Jewish National Fund in 1997, and after a successful 10-year tenure, became chairman of the board, a position he still holds. Jewish National Fund-USA

launched two employment centers in his honor – the Lauder Employment Center in the Negev and, more recently, the Lauder Employment Center in the Galilee, to attract hundreds of thousands of new residents to southern and northern Israel. He also serves as chairman of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial Foundation, which supports the preservation of the remains of the former German Nazi death camp.



No. 8 US Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

Blinken receives an Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise of the 2nd degree from Ukraine’s President Volodymyr Zelenskiy during his visit to Kyiv on September 8, 2022. There is no such thing as a boring year when you are the US secretary of state, but this year was especially busy for Antony Blinken. It started with the fallout from his country’s withdrawal from Afghanistan and the resettlement efforts of Afghan refugees in the States – an effort that faced major bureaucratic hurdles. The Biden administration, including the State Department, criticized the chaotic withdrawal as ill-planned and poorly executed.

However, Blinken’s most significant challenge this past year was, without a doubt, the war in Ukraine. The US imposed severe sanctions on Russia, including on its energy and banking industry. Experts estimated that these efforts, coordinated with the EU, surprised Russian President Vladimir Putin, who did not expect a unified front from the West. On the other hand, the sanctions also contributed to the global energy crisis and are considered one of the drivers of high inflation in the US and worldwide.

Blinken’s diplomatic work included visits to Kyiv, coordinating US aid to Ukraine and a diplomatic effort to accept Sweden and Finland as NATO members. He also oversaw the administration’s effort to revive the 2015 nuclear agreement with Iran. And while the administration is still looking for ways

to rejoin the JCPOA, Washington experts believe that the deal was put on ice – at least until after the midterm elections in November.

Between all these, Blinken also arrived in Israel earlier this year to participate in the first Negev Summit with representatives from the Abraham Accords countries to strengthen their agreements and explore tangible ways to achieve expanded cooperation, including with Jordan and Egypt. And while several countries were mentioned as potential candidates to join the accords – with a focus on Saudi Arabia – the Biden administration has yet to succeed in bringing another country to normalize ties with Israel.



No. 9 Jerusalem District Court Judge Rivka Friedman-Feldman.

Former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu was not happy when he drew Jerusalem District Court Judge Rivka Friedman-Feldman as the presiding judge for his public corruption trial. She is on the short list of judges who have convicted a prime minister (Ehud Olmert) and sentenced him to jail time.

And at the time, Friedman-Feldman left no doubts about her approach to public officials accused of crimes. When sentencing Olmert to jail time, although she and the panel expressed appreciation for Olmert’s contributions to the country, they also hammered home the prosecution’s talking points that he needed to go to jail to restore public faith in the system.

At one point, when a defense lawyer said he was worried the judges might miss a point in Yeshua’s police testimony that the prosecution had skipped over, Friedman-Feldman quickly deadpanned, “We all know how to read.”

Another key moment where she moved things in the prosecution’s direction was when the police Pegasus cellphone spying scandal broke. Even as most of the country and the political class were proclaiming the trial over, she

brushed off all the dramatic arguments made by the defense and limited their objections to narrow technical issues before the court.

That is not to say Friedman-Feldman is biased. She has disappointed the prosecution on many issues, such as ruling against it on some critical disputes relating to former Netanyahu top aide Shlomo Filber’s testimony. But if the defense might have hoped to use drama and the country’s political winds to drive the trial off course, she has stubbornly kept it moving forward, however slowly. If Netanyahu is ever convicted and must decide whether to express regret, he should recall that Friedman-Feldman and the panel said they were stricter with Olmert because he never “accepted responsibility for his actions.”



No. 10 CEO of Divvy Homes, Adena Hefets.

Many 35-year-olds dream of starting a successful company, becoming a CEO, or making their way onto illustrious lists such as *Forbes’* 40-under-40 or *The Jerusalem Post’s* 50 Most Influential Jews. Adena Hefets, co-founder and CEO of Divvy Homes, has accomplished all three of those dreams, and she’s still got some gas in the tank. With a BS in policy analysis and management from Cornell University and an MBA from Stanford University, Hefets has an impressive academic repertoire – one that stands shoulder-to-shoulder with her extensive career experience. While she studied for her first degree, Hefets interned at Goldman Sachs. After graduating, she took her fresh degree to Merrill Lynch, where she began work as an investment banking analyst, transitioning to Bank of America when it acquired her former employer.

After two years as a private equity associate at TPG Capital, a year as product manager and financing lead for Square, Inc., and a year as a venture capital investor at Draper Fisher Jurvetson, Hefets finally found her true

continued on next page

calling in 2017, when she co-founded Divvy Homes.

Divvy enables low-income Americans to feasibly become homeowners by allowing them to pick out a house they would like to own eventually, buying it for them, and renting it out to them while also collecting gradual down payments, with the ultimate goal of enabling the buyer to transition to a traditional mortgage.

Hefets's motivation for developing Divvy stems from her personal experience with the US's problematic housing market. Her parents met in Israel when her father picked up her mother who was hitchhiking. When they moved to the US, her family wasn't able to obtain a mortgage. As a result, they were forced to turn to seller financing – a risky, often predatory, process – in order to afford a home. In a recent podcast interview she recalled her family having to live "paycheck to paycheck" and not being able to save.

Hefets quickly learned that homeownership can be one of the primary factors in advancing low-income families' personal wealth. "We saved in our house and it was the only asset that

we really had. And so I was definitely motivated to be able to provide for myself."

In today's market with mortgage rates rising, Divvy is facing increasing demand. "Mortgage rates are going up and home prices have been rising pretty consistently over the last two years. The reason why that helps drive demand [for Divvy Homes' services] is the more mortgage rates increase, and the more home prices increase, the harder it is to actually get a mortgage," she explained in an interview for the Inman Innovator Award which she won in August. "And the reason why is because most mortgage originators have a fixed DTI [debt-to-income] ratio, which means they're going to be able to buy less home. In addition to that, the down payment that they need has also increased. And so it causes people to seek out alternative forms of financing."

To read the Jerusalem Post's article re: the 30 individuals numbered 21-50, go online to jpost.activehosted.com@s3.csa2.acemsa4.com.

DESERT HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL



The Desert Holocaust Memorial is located in the Palm Desert Civic Center Park at San Pablo Avenue & Fred Waring Drive. Residents and visitors are encouraged to visit this moving memorial, a place of remembrance and monument of hope.



Have A Nosh

When Chanukah is on the horizon I am always faced with the dilemma of "savory" or "sweet." In other words, delving into my collection of latke recipes or giving you a dessert Chanukah option: the sweet treat so popular in Israel, sufganiyot ... round, filled donuts. Since Chanukah is nine weeks away as I write this, I decided to give you a detailed sufganiyot recipe this month and then share from my collection of latke recipes in the December paper. Enjoy! MHB



Chocolate Filled Sufganiyot (Milchig)

3/4 cup warm water (about 100 degrees)	2 Tablespoons unsalted butter, room temperature
1 envelop active dry yeast	Frying oil
2½ cups all-purpose flour, plus more for work surface	Chocolate bars, (gourmet chocolates work best) cut in to approximately one-inch squares.
1/4 cup sugar plus ½ cup for coating	
½ teaspoon salt	
2 large eggs, separated	

In a large metal bowl, stir together warm water and yeast. Let stand until foamy, about 5 minutes. Add 3/4 cup flour, 1/4 cup sugar, and salt; mix until well combined. Add egg yolks and remaining 1 3/4 cups flour. Mix until combined, then knead dough in bowl until all flour is incorporated. Turn out dough onto a lightly floured work surface; knead a few minutes until smooth. Knead in margarine until incorporated. Transfer dough to a well-oiled bowl; turn dough several times to coat entirely with oil. Cover tightly with plastic wrap, and refrigerate overnight.

About 30 minutes before you're ready to form doughnuts, remove dough from refrigerator to let come to room temperature. On a lightly floured work surface, roll out dough into an 1/8 inch thick. Using a 2 inch cookie cutter (or a glass), cut out about 24 rounds, dipping cutter in flour as needed to prevent sticking. Re-roll scraps and cut out about 16 more rounds.

Line a baking sheet with a clean kitchen towel. In a small bowl, lightly beat egg whites. Brush edge of a dough round with egg white, then put chocolate bar pieces in center. Top with another round and press edges to seal. Repeat process with remaining rounds. Transfer to prepared baking sheet; let doughnuts rise until puffy, 20 to 30 minutes.

Heat a few inches of oil in a large (4-5 quart) heavy pot until it registers 360 degrees on a deep-fry thermometer or a scrap of dough sizzles upon contact. Working in batches of 4 to 5, carefully slip doughnuts into hot oil. Fry, turning once until golden brown, about 1 minute. Using a slotted spoon, transfer doughnuts to paper towels to drain.

Place remaining ½ cup sugar in a medium bowl. While doughnuts are still hot, toss them in sugar, turning to coat. Serve immediately. Makes 20 sufganiyot.

women's **PHILANTHROPY EVENTS**
Save the Dates!

JEWISH FEDERATION
OF THE DESERT

• **Lion of Judah Brunch at Tamarisk Country Club:**
Monday, January 16, 2023 – Guest Speaker: Letty Cottin Pogrebin
 • **Pomegranate Event at Le Vallauris: Monday, March 27, 2023**



Simchas

Mazel Tov to **Dr. Brad** and **Risa Wolfson** on the marriage of their daughter **Megan** to **Max Pless** on September 18, 2022 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and mazel tov as well to Grandmothers **Bettye Schwartz** and **Margaret Wolfson** ... Mazel tov to **Rabbi Yonason** and **Sussie Denebeim** on the engagement of their son **Beshe** to **Mariasha Dean**

of Brooklyn, New York ... Talk about starting the new year off right, **Jeff Easton** and **Fred Nunez** were married less than 24 hours before the start of Rosh Hashanah at a joyful, freilach September 24 wedding, officiated by Rabbi Stephen Rosenberg with Cantor Ken Cohen. Mazel tov! Mazel tov! ... *Share your simchas with us. Email Miriam Bent at mhbentjcn@earthlink.net or call 760-323-0255.*



Candle Lighting Times

Friday, November 4	Shabbat Lech-Lecha	5:11 pm
Friday, November 11	Shabbat Vayera	4:05 pm*
Friday, November 18	Shabbat Chaya Sara	4:01 pm
Friday, November 25	Shabbat Toldot	3:58 pm

* Daylight savings time ends November 6th.



We Mourn the Passing of...

Carol Berlant, Mary Anne de la Cruz, Eli Bassal Levy, Brian Press, Sidney Rubenstein Our deepest sympathies to their families and friends. May their memories endure as a blessing.



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JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE SUPPORTERS

welcomed. JFS has rewarding **volunteer opportunities** in its community programs and is now accepting applications for several positions. **Tribute cards** provide a unique way to celebrate a special occasion or honor a loved one, all while supporting JFS programs. If you're interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities or supporting JFS through the purchase of tribute cards, please contact 760-325-4088 ext. 101.

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The Jewish Book Council & Jewish Federation of the Desert welcome Rita Rudner on December 14th!



From dancing on Broadway at 15 to becoming a Johnny Carson favorite to headlining in Las Vegas, comedian, screenwriter, playwright and best selling author **RITA RUDNER** is coming to the Jewish Federation of the Desert. The event will be open to anyone in the community who contributes a minimum of \$365.00 to the Jewish Federation 2023 Annual Campaign. Save the date! Watch for more details coming soon!
For more information contact Leslie Pepper at 760-324-4737 or lpepper@jfedps.org.



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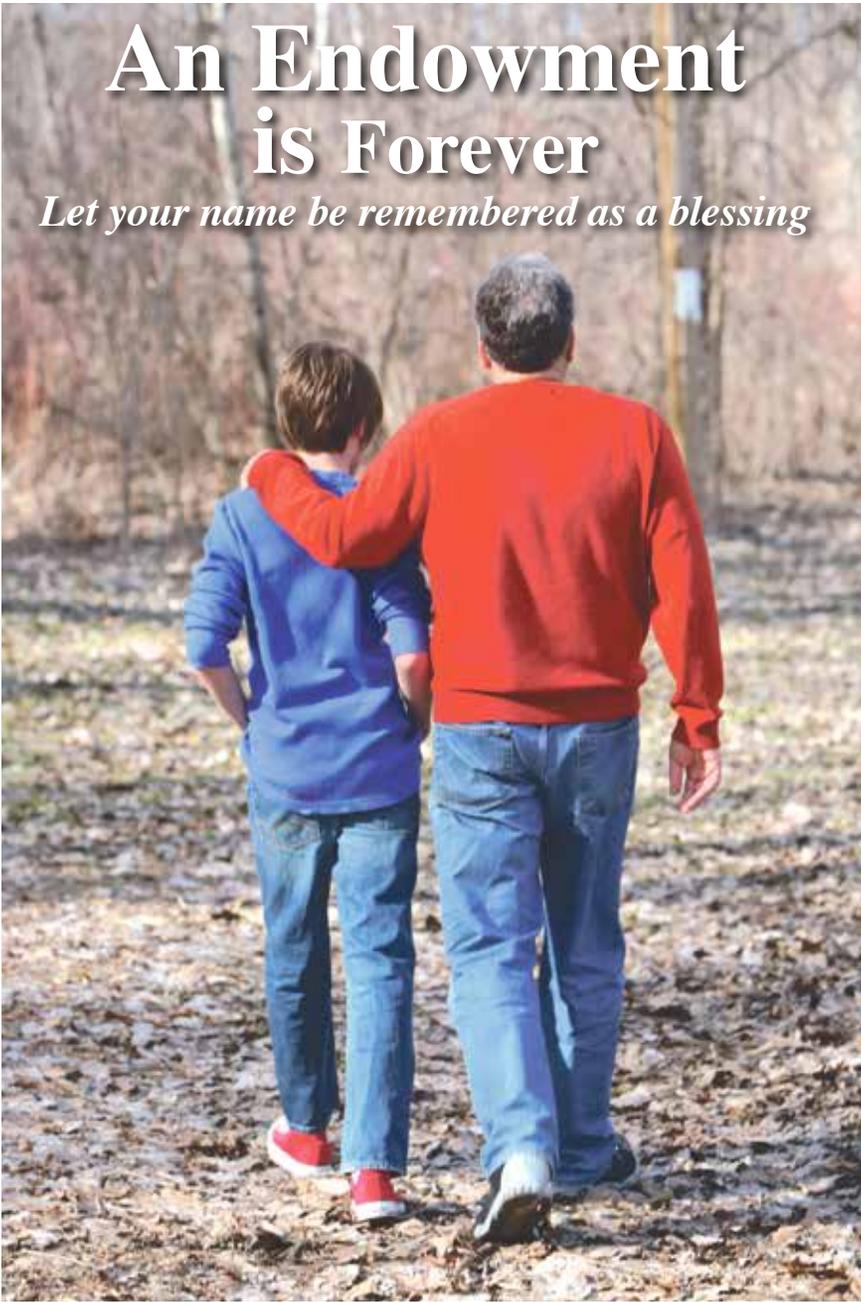
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Let your name be remembered as a blessing

Everyone leaves footprints.

Our prints are made by the impression of our lives on this earth. A person is remembered for the weight of his or her character, for marks of accomplishment, kindness, generosity, personal warmth and values.

Thoughtful estate planning is one means we have to leave our imprint. The simplest way to make a charitable gift in your estate plan is by a bequest in your will. This can be done when writing or updating your will or revocable trust. A simple statement is all that is needed. For example: "I give, devise and bequeath to the Jewish Federation of Palm Springs..."

There are many options available for charitable giving when you do your estate planning. Some can provide you tax savings and income for the rest of your life.

For more information and to explore options, please contact Alan Potash, CEO, Jewish Federation of the Desert, at alan.potash@jfedps.org or 760-324-4737.

A gift to the Jewish Community today will allow you to be there for your family, your community and the Jewish people - whenever help is needed in the future.



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