

**NOV
2018**

VOL. 50 | NO. 5

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MONTHLY

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JUDAISM AND ART

**THE ART OF
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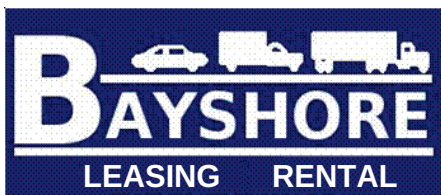


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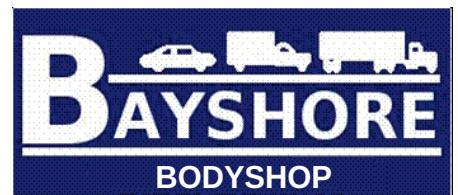
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j-VOICE Monthly and Shalom DELAWARE are published by Jewish Federation of Delaware.



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Jewish Federation of Delaware, a non-profit corporation, publishes j-VOICE Monthly 11 times a year and SHALOM Delaware annually. The known office of publication is: 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803.

MEMBER:



Views expressed by guest columnists, in readers' letters and in reprinted opinion pieces do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the j-VOICE Monthly, the j-VOICE Committee, Jewish Federation of Delaware or the underwriters of any columns.

Submissions of copy and .jpg photos may be sent to Jaidy@ShalomDel.org or mailed to the known office of publication. All copy or photos submitted to the j-VOICE shall become the property of the j-VOICE. All submissions of text or photography may be changed and printed at the discretion of the editor without notice to the submitter.

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Periodicals postage paid for the j-VOICE (USPS-704160) at Wilmington, DE and Philadelphia, PA. Subscription price: \$36.00/Mailed to subscribers and contributors to Jewish Federation of Delaware.

POSTMASTER

Send address changes to:
The j-VOICE Monthly
101 Garden of Eden Road
Wilmington, DE 19803

ShalomDelaware.org

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PORTRAIT: STEVEN SPIELBERG

By Solomon Souza
Mahane Yehuda, Jerusalem,
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RENEE GHERT-ZAND TIMES OF ISRAEL

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Jewish Federation of Delaware... Today, Tomorrow, and TOGETHER

Jewish tradition teaches us to care for one another. In our community we have shown – time and again – that our caring is boundless.

Jewish Federation of Delaware protects and enhances the well-being of Jews worldwide through the values of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), *tzedakah* (charity and social justice) and Torah (Jewish learning).

TODAY...The Annual Campaign

A gift to the Federation’s Annual Campaign provides unrestricted funds to meet urgent, ongoing humanitarian and social service, educational, and community building needs. These gifts provide our five beneficiary agencies, the Albert Einstein Academy, Jewish Family Services of Delaware, The Kutz Home, Siegel JCC, and University of Delaware Hillel as well as our overseas partners, the Jewish Agency, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), and World ORT, with critical

support. Doing so allows us to direct the funds in partnership with those agencies where the funds are most urgently needed.

One gift to the Annual Campaign makes it possible for us to simultaneously help our most vulnerable neighbors, build our Jewish community, stand with the people of Israel and reach out to our Jewish family around the world. By allocating your philanthropic dollars to ensure the greatest impact, we have earned a reputation as a trusted and effective charity that makes a real difference.

TOMORROW...Creating A Jewish Legacy

Creating A Jewish Legacy is an opportunity to ensure that you will be remembered and that your passion and your values will continue when you are no longer here. It also serves as an example to your loved ones that you believe it is important to support the Jewish community. The act of creating a legacy empowers you to complete the work of your heart. By leaving a

legacy, you will help to ensure that the traditions and institutions important to you remain vibrant for future generations.

Passing our values from generation to generation is one of the most fundamental tenets of Judaism. Our parents and grandparents built this Jewish community. That is their legacy. Securing its future financial strength will be our legacy.

Today and Tomorrow...We Grow Stronger TOGETHER

There is much to do. We invite you to take advantage of this opportunity to be part of a caring community that gives back. TOGETHER, we can accomplish what no one individual could do on his or her own. Repairing the world and building community is something we can all celebrate.

WILLIAM WAGNER
President

SETH J. KATZEN
Chief Executive Officer





The Candidates from left to right – Kathleen McGuiness, Auditor; David Chandler, State Treasurer; Colleen Davis, State Treasurer; Kathleen Jennings, Attorney General; Lisa Blunt Rochester, Rep. in Congress; Demetri Theodoropoulos, US Senator; Jill Farquharson, Campaign Manager for Senator Tom Carper; Laura Kaplan, Hadassah; Robert Arlett, US Senator; Nadine Frost, US Senator; Scott Walker, Rep. in Congress; Bernard Pepukayi, Attorney General; Ken Simpler, State Treasurer; James Spadola, Auditor PHOTO CREDIT: WENDY BERGER

BIENNIAL CANDIDATES' FORUM ONCE AGAIN SUCCEEDS IN MISSION OF EDUCATING VOTERS

By Mark Wagman
Jewish Community
Relations Committee

On September 17, the evening before Jews worldwide began their final appeal to be written and sealed in the Book of Life at Kol Nidre services, candidates for statewide office in Delaware stood before a standing room only audience of over 300 at the Siegel Jewish Community Center to make their initial appeals of the Fall campaign.

The Candidates' Forum, cosponsored by the Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah and the Jewish Community Relations Committee (JCRC) of Jewish Federation of Delaware, is traditionally the kickoff event of the general campaign season. It came only a week and a half after a primary election that featured several hotly contested races and a larger than usual voter turnout.

This year's forum included major party candidates for U.S. Senate, U.S. Representative, State Attorney General, Treasurer, and Auditor of Accounts. In addition, Green and Libertarian Party candidates for U.S. Senate and the Green Party candidate for Treasurer qualified to participate.

Actually, there was one candidate who was not present—the incumbent U.S. Senator Tom

Carper. His campaign manager, Jill Farquharson, explained that the Senate was still in session. Carper did arrive later, but only after the forum had concluded. Farquharson delivered opening and closing statements in his place but did not participate in the question and answer portion of the forum.

In her remarks, Farquharson touted Carper's lead role on the environment and his ability to "build bridges, not walls." She also countered ageist attacks, noting that the 71-year-old Senator has not missed a day of work in 35 years. He has never lost an election, serving Delawareans continuously for nearly 42 years as State Treasurer, U.S. Representative, Governor, and U.S. Senator.

The Republican candidate for Senate, Rob Arlett, who was state campaign chair for Donald Trump in 2016, did not even mention the president's name in his remarks. Rather, he declared that he wants to focus on "what we have in common" and "to hear what's important to you." Arlett wrapped up with the classic challenger question: "Are you better off because Carper has been in the Senate for 18 years?"

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

CANDIDATES' FORUM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Nadine Frost, the Libertarian candidate for Senate, introduced herself as a businesswoman, not a politician. She has operated a multi-million-dollar business, the Delaware Book Exchange, and now runs an accounting business. Her main platform is shrinking the federal government and “bringing power back to Delaware.” She also touted her independence, saying that nobody has tried to “buy” her, while kidding that, if you know someone who might want to, they should contact her.

Demetri Theodoropoulos, the Green Party candidate for Senate, described himself as a “frustrated moderate.” An engineer and a businessman, he has designed space suits and owned a local record shop. He decried big money in politics and voiced support for term limits. A vote for him, he asserted, would be for a Senate watchdog, providing the needed checks and balances from a third party.

Lisa Blunt Rochester is proud of being the “first woman and the first person of color” in Delaware’s House Seat. She repeated her favorite slogan: “When Lisa goes to Washington, we all go to Washington,” following up with “We are just getting started.” Acknowledging the hyper-partisanship in Congress, she resolved that it leads her not to be frustrated, but motivated.

Her Republican challenger, Scott Walker, was a surprise winner in the primary election.

He noted that his wife tells him that “you don’t do things the conventional way.” That was, perhaps, the understatement of the evening. Rather than sitting at his place to deliver his opening and closing statements like every other candidate, he walked in front of the tables and spoke from there. Without elaborating, he maintained that “the people of Delaware are suffering,” and he intends to go to Washington to fight for us.

With Delaware’s Attorney General, Matt Denn, not running for re-election, a competitive contest is underway to replace him between Democrat Kathleen Jennings and Republican Bernard Pepukayi. Both can claim extensive experience. Jennings has been State Prosecutor and Chief Deputy Attorney General, as well as being in private practice. Pepukayi, who recently switched from the Democratic party, spoke of having seen every side of the legal system, including being convicted of a drug-related crime as a teenager, serving as legal counsel to elected officials at the county and state levels, and being in private practice. He contended that “there has never been another candidate like me before.”

Three candidates are vying for State Treasurer—incumbent Republican Ken Simpler, Democrat Colleen Davis, and Green Party candidate David Chandler. Simpler described his passion for and accomplishments in “rebuilding and rebooting” the state’s financial systems. Davis, from Sussex County, would like to leverage her experience in driving down costs and

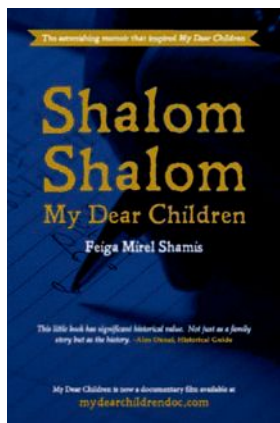
improving the quality of care in the health care industry. Chandler, a Ph.D. in Mathematics, spoke generally of the “pillars” of the Green Party: grassroots democracy, peace, environmental justice, and social justice.

Thomas Wagner, Delaware’s Auditor of Accounts for nearly 30 years, is not seeking re-election because of health concerns. His decision has set up a contest to replace him between Republican James Spadola and Democrat Kathy McGuinness. For many years Wagner was the only Republican elected to a statewide office in Delaware. Spadola emphasized the importance of having a Republican provide a check on fraud, waste, and abuse in an overwhelmingly Democratic state. He also pointed to his combination of investigative and financial experience. McGuinness may be a familiar name because of her unsuccessful run for Lieutenant Governor in 2016. She noted her leadership and managerial skills gained from public, private, and nonprofit experience, contending that this background makes her uniquely qualified.

After opening statements, questions submitted in writing from the audience and screened by a panel were posed to all candidates for a particular office. Questions covered a broad range of topics, including concealed carry permits, cash bail, school funding, conflicts of interest, border security, women’s rights, tax cuts, anti-Semitism, and BDS.

Senate candidates were asked about sexual assault allegations against Judge Kavanaugh,

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Decades later, Feiga’s granddaughter, Judy Favish, set out from South Africa for Poland and Ukraine to try to understand the grandmother she never met, the choice Feiga made, and her father who would never talk about his past.



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JEWISH FEDERATION WINS THREE FACE AWARDS

which were fresh at the time of the forum. Arlett and Frost both supported investigating the allegations. Theodoropoulos received the only significant boos of the evening with his dismissal of the allegations “unless horrific,” saying that they happened way back in high school.

Both Senate and House candidates were asked whether tax cuts make sense. Frost and Arlett both blamed federal spending for massive deficits, saying that money should stay in Delaware. Theodoropoulos and Rochester lamented that the tax cuts went primarily to the rich. Walker responded that the tax cuts were just a “political stunt.”

The Auditor candidates sparred over whether money and support from elected officials was a positive or negative. Spadola maintained that accepting endorsements and money from those you have to audit is a serious conflict of interest. McGuiness, who has sought and received numerous endorsements, stated that she is proud of her broad support.

House candidates were asked about the rise in anti-Semitism and xenophobia. Walker said that he is not aware of it but, at the same time, maintained that “bigotry is tearing the country apart.” Rochester, referring to Charlottesville, noted that hateful people have been emboldened; the solution is to get out and vote.

The Jewish Federation of Delaware had three three winning entries in the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) DE/ Brandywine Chapter’s 2018 Fundraising and Communications Excellence (FACE) Awards.

The 2018 FACE Awards recognizes and honors not-for-profit organizations whose communications demonstrates excellence, quality, creativity and overall effectiveness. The PRSA Delaware Chapter’s Board of Directors served as this year’s judging panel.

The federation’s three winning entries include Newsletter (j-VOICE Monthly), Special Event (WOW Event) and Special Publication (Shalom

Delaware) categories. Federation will be accepting the awards at the AFP 2018 National Philanthropy Day on Wednesday, November 15th at the DuPont Country Club. This year’s theme is “Inspire – Educate – Connect.”

“Winning multiple FACE Awards in consecutive years is a wonderful achievement and a testament to our professional and lay leadership’s commitment to excellence,” stated Seth J. Katzen, CEO of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. “We are honored to be part of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and building community together.”

The responses of both House candidates to a question about their position on BDS were undoubtedly disappointing to most pro-Israel voters. Walker did not appear to recognize the acronym, so the moderator, Michael Sigman, explained to him that it refers to efforts to isolate Israel by boycotts, divestment, and sanctions. Walker then had a one-word response: “Pro-Israel!” Rochester was equivocal. She said that, on the one hand, some say that BDS supporters are anti-Semitic; on the other hand, some say that legislative efforts

to counter BDS infringe on free speech. She implied that neither of these positions advances her goal, which is “real peace.”

Several of the candidates thanked the forum sponsors and noted that the event is always well run. Those in attendance certainly would agree. Credit for this success goes to event chair Laura Michelle Kaplan, JCRC Director Ellen Bernhardt, moderator Michael Sigman, other members of Federation staff, as well as many volunteers.



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PHOTO CREDIT: THE CROSBY FAMILY



Rosi and Rich Crosby

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AN EXCITING NEW CHAPTER

A Q&A Session Between *j-VOICE Monthly* Committee Co-Chairs Meredith Rosenthal & Elisha Caplan



From left to right, Elisha Caplan, Jaidy Schweers, Seth J. Katzen, and Meredith Rosenthal PHOTO BY JFD STAFF

M: I sat down with Elisha Caplan, my new co-chair, last month to ponder the workings of the *j-VOICE Monthly*, formerly the Jewish VOICE. Elisha had lots of important questions for me as we embark on this exciting new chapter together:

E: Thanks so much, Meredith, for getting me oriented to the *j-VOICE* committee. I've been a reader for years, and I've even written a piece or two, but there is still so much I don't know. First, who is on the committee?

M: Our current members are listed and consistently updated in each publication. We felt it was very important to have a diverse committee, from all over the state and from different walks of life. The 10 of us represent

five different Delaware congregations, many professions and a variety of political views. We meet quarterly to discuss thematic choices for the publication, content ideas, layout and distribution. We are constantly fine-tuning the *j-VOICE Monthly* magazine to make it relevant to our community.

E: Why are there two chairs on the committee?

M: Many people don't realize that *j-VOICE Monthly* is produced by a part-time editor, volunteer writers, a part-time graphic designer, a part-time advertising rep, and is overseen by Jewish Federation CEO, Seth J. Katzen. The committee fills an important role by supporting this small but mighty team. For the past five years, the committee has been chaired by just me, but as the publication has evolved and grown, I felt that it was

important to add another set of hands and a fresh perspective to the leadership team. Elisha, your knowledge of the community and leadership background with PJ Library and the Siegel JCC, coupled with your skills as a professional grant writer, made you an ideal choice for a co-chair.

E: I'm so excited to be a part of the team! Here's another thing I've been wondering: Who decides what stories run?

M: *j-VOICE Monthly* content is determined months in advance, and there is very limited space for new content unrelated to the Jewish agencies and organizations we provide space to each month.

E: Can anyone write articles for *j-VOICE Monthly*?

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



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FED FOCUS

M: We welcome the opportunity to speak with talented writers who are interested in volunteering to research and write articles. Our volunteer contributors are often given topics to write about, but other times they come up with ideas on their own. We are always appreciative when community members submit articles on behalf of the organizations they are involved with. While some topics are approved by *j-VOICE Monthly* Editor, Jaidy Schweers, others are vetted through the committee.

E: Where is *j-VOICE Monthly* distributed?

M: *j-VOICE Monthly* is distributed to 80 different local businesses and organizations across the state and is mailed out to 2,200 addresses each month. We recently offered local synagogue congregation members not currently receiving *j-VOICE Monthly* at home, the opportunity to sign up for a complimentary year-long subscription.



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The Delaware Jewish community has long been engaged with the Arts. Twenty-five years ago, one family's creative legacy was recognized in an exhibition, *Artistic Connections: One Century of a Family's Involvement in Art*. Learn more about these artists, and other noteworthy contributions to the arts scene by visiting the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware's website, JHSDelaware.org/jewish-voice.

– Gail Pietrzyk

Archivist, Jewish Historical Society of Delaware

Throwback Delaware



OCTOBER 22, 1993

Artistic Wilmington Family Featured in Art Show at UD's Arsht Hall thru Oct. 29

By BETH THOMAS

Three generations of artists from one family are represented in "Artistic Connections: One Century of a Family's Involvement in Art," an exhibition at Arsht Hall on the University of Delaware's Wilmington campus, 2700 Pennsylvania Ave.

The exhibition includes paintings by Delawareans Ruth E. Berger, Dr. Norman L. Cannon, Maura E. Golin and the late Clara Finkelstein, an early member of the Wilmington Studio Group. Sculpture by Carol Berger Hershman, now a resident of Seattle, also is featured in the show.

A time span of nearly 100 years is represented by this multigenerational art exhibition. Finkelstein who immigrated to the United States from Russia with her parents in 1893 studied at the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts and with M.A. Renzetti and N.C. Wyeth.

A summer resident of Arden, a creative center for artists and writers in the early decades of this century, Finkelstein painted memories from childhood and from the stories of her parents' experiences in Russia. She demonstrated her interest in the arts to her nieces and

nephews and imparted in them a passion and talent that has, in turn, been inherited by succeeding generations.

Paintings by Berger, Cannon and Golin, members of the second generation who are nieces and a nephew of Finkelstein, also are included in the exhibit. All three artists are Wilmington natives, and their work has been exhibited frequently throughout the area.

Berger's paintings have been shown exclusively in the Philadelphia area. She is a graduate of the University of Delaware and also studied at the Corcoran School of Art and the Tyler School of Fine Art in Philadelphia. She also works in printmaking and fiber art.

Golin's work is owned by several embassies throughout the world. She studied art history at the University of Pennsylvania, graduated from the Philadelphia College of Art and did graduate work at the University of North Carolina. In her painting, she works

through relationships of color forms to express the poetry of seemingly commonplace items.

Cannon, also a graduate of the University of Delaware, earned his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He has pursued his study of art for over 30 years. He has combined sketching and painting with travel, and some of his outdoor painting experiences in Wilmington, Canada and New England are reflected in this exhibit.

Hershman, a sculptor, represents the third generation of artists in this family. A Philadelphian since early childhood, she graduated from the Tyler School of Fine Arts and did postgraduate work with Gerd Utecher. Hershman works in a variety of media, including bone, stone, epoxy resin, cast aluminum and mixed media. Her work has been exhibited throughout the United States and Europe and is included in many private and corporate collections.



Jewish Historical Society of Delaware is an Affiliated Organization of Jewish Federation of Delaware.

JEWISH SCENE

CANDIDATES' FORUM

PHOTOS BY WENDY BERGER

On September 17 candidates for statewide office in Delaware stood before a standing room only audience of over 300 at the Siegel Jewish Community Center to make their initial appeals of the Fall campaign. This program was co-sponsored by Federation and the Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah.

- 1 Lou Brown, Lisa Blunt Rochester, Councilman Bob Weiner, and Faith Brown
- 2 Susan Delpesco, Errol and Ruth Ann Ger
- 3 Candidate supporters distributing information
- 4 Roger and Danna Levy
- 5 Suzy Grumbacher and Esther Timmeney



LEADERSHIP BRIEFING

PHOTO BY SETH BLOOM

Leadership Briefing with American Hebrew University, Professor Benny Chefetz about solving the world's water crisis.



From left to right: Seth J. Katzen, Connie Sugarman, Daniella Buchshtaber, Professor Benny Chefetz, Steven Bernhardt, Hedy Mintz, Jennifer Steinberg, Mark Wagman, and Jutta Pils

AJC CONFERENCE

PHOTO BY JFD STAFF



JCRC Co-Chair, Jennifer Steinberg, and Community Shlichah, Daniella Buchshtaber at the AJC Access Meeting with the Mexican Consulate on September 13th



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JFD CAMPAIGN OPENING EVENT

PHOTO CREDITS: DANIELLA BUCHSHTABER AND WENDY BERGER

Charlie Harary spoke at the 2019 Annual Campaign Opening Event for Jewish Federation of Delaware. Charlie was passionate, full of energy, knowledgeable, engaging and funny while delivering his impactful and inspiring message. Charlie has a unique ability to intertwine personal stories with lessons from the Talmud that are relevant to modern times and specifically to our own community. We are grateful to have raised over \$49,000 in pledges for the 2019 Campaign at the event towards our community goal of \$2 Million in 2019 – our highest Annual Campaign ever! Thank you to all who attended for your support and leadership.



Jewish Federation OF DELAWARE

- 1 Derek Bauer, April Bauer, Bonnie Solomon, Diza Braksmayer, and Michael Druck
- 2 Ed Tucker and Rosi Crosby
- 3 Lisa Dadone-Weiner, Debbie Nachlis, and Jerome Nachlis
- 4 Felisha Alderson and Susan Kauffman
- 5 Amie Baker, Robert Hronsky, and Ethan Hronsky
- 6 Hedy Mintz, Liran Abekasis, and Ilana Abekasis
- 7 Suzanne Grant, Charlie Harary, and Russ Silberglied

LION OF JUDAH BRUNCH

PHOTO CREDITS: WENDY BERGER & SHARI DYM



Jewish Federation of Delaware held a Lion of Judah brunch hosted by Suzanne Grant on Sunday, October 7th. The Lions are comprised of an amazing group of women who make a gift of \$5,000 or more in their own name to the Federation Annual Campaign. Amongst the honors presented at the brunch were the recognition of new Lions, (Sissy Aerenson - diamond level and Hedy Mintz - ruby level) and women who have recently endowed their campaign gifts in perpetuity by creating a Lion of Judah Endowment Fund (Hedy Mintz and Lisa Dadone-Weiner).

We were delighted that many of Lisa Dadone-Weiner's family members and friends were able to attend to see Lisa receive the prestigious Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award, a national award given to women who have demonstrated the highest ideals of leadership and involvement in their Jewish communities as "Women of Valor." Lisa will also be recognized at the International Lion of Judah Conference in January in Florida.



- 1** Barbara Blumberg, Suzanne Grant, Robin Kauffman Saran and Lisa Dadone-Weiner
- 2** Susan Jonas and Hedy Mintz
- 3** Gina Schoenberg, Barbara Schoenberg, Phyllis Aerenson, Sissy Aerenson
- 4** Karen Jacobs and Robin Kauffman Saran
- 5** Lisa Dadone-Weiner and her Beautiful Family
- 6** Lisa Dadone-Weiner and Barbara Blumberg
- 7** Margot Waitz, Beth Galperin, Patti Berk, Gael Szymanski and Carole Bakst

PHOTO CREDIT: JAMYE COLE

PJ Library participants fully engage in an Apples & Honey Craft and Hayride, while PJ OurWay takes a 'Peek' at Professions.



1 We loved our Storytime with Rabbi Winaker **2** Apples & Honey Craft **3** The Hayride **4** The PJOW kids took their first field trip of the year for our Peek at Professions Series: a studio tour of the Wilm U. TV station. **5** Thank you so much to Russ Lichterman (pictured here with Leo C.) and Timothy C. Day for this amazing hands on experience, learning all about TV production

PJ LIBRARY, EINSTEIN, & SHALOM BABY



PJ Library and Einstein pair up for Shalom Baby's Sukkah Decorating and Pumpkin Patch events remaining festive and creative throughout the holidays!

1 We learned all about Sukkot during Storytime PHOTO CREDIT: LISA KORNBUM
2 Michael K. and Oliver M. wrote their wishes for a sweet New Year PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JAMYE COLE
3 Pumpkin painting was so much fun! PHOTO CREDIT: LISA KORNBUM
4 We read fun stories about Fall PHOTO CREDIT: LISA KORNBUM



EINSTEIN CELEBRATES



1



2



3



4



5

1 Shayna A. and Etai Z. hold each end of the Torah at Einstein's Simchat Torah celebration PHOTO BY SIMA MALKA 2 Einstein Lunch Bunch kicked off with Miss Rachel from Gymboree PHOTO BY JEREMY WINAKER 3 Einstein students eating lunch in the sukkah PHOTO BY EINSTEIN STAFF 4 Einstein Upper School students helped decorate the Kutz Home sukkah with information about residents PHOTO BY AYELET SEED 5 Einstein Students at the Hershey Park Sukkah PHOTO BY JEREMY WINAKER

ART SPACE OPENING RECEPTION

PHOTOS BY DAN BRODY



Top left: Mary Lou Griffin, left, speaks with committee member Carol Balick
Top right: September Opening Reception for Artist Mary Lou Griffin

SUKKAHS AND MORE AT THE J

PHOTO CREDIT: SIEGEL J STAFF

- 1 Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long with Event Chair Janie Truitt and son at the Biden Cancer Community Summit
- 2 Community members coming together for the Biden Cancer Community Summit
- 3 Staff Member Frank Burgos helping build the Sukkah at the J
- 4 ECC students enjoying some time in the Sukkah



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**JFS PRACTICING
TIKKUN OLAM**

PHOTOS BY JFS STAFF



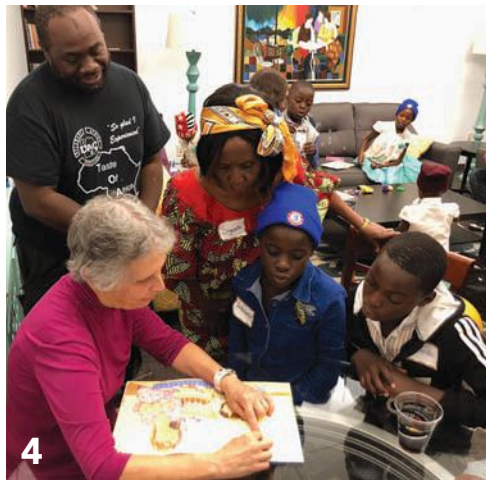
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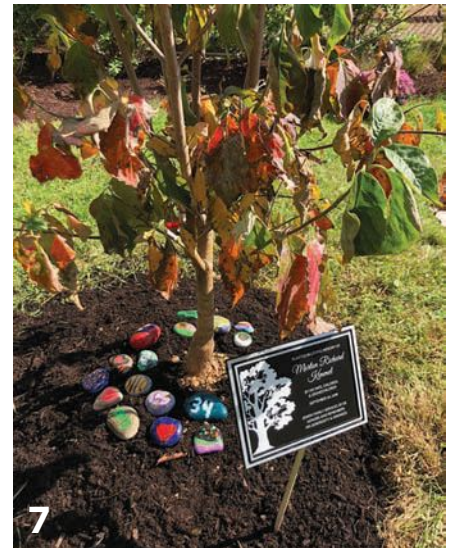
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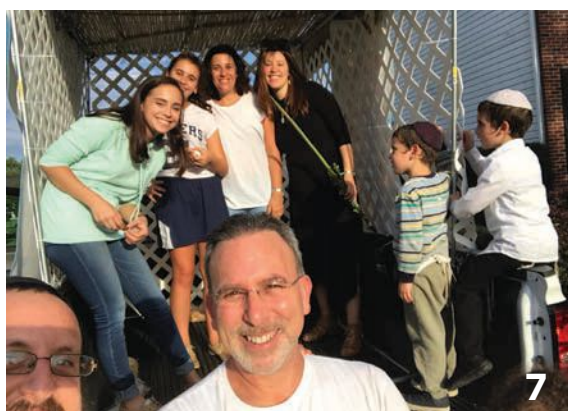


7

1 JFS receives book donation for youth programs from the Hockessin Bookshelf **2** Raymour & Flanigan's Concord Pike store supports JFS
3 Long awaited refugee family of 10 arrives for heartwarming reunion **4** RISE volunteer, Aida Waserstein, and Swahili interpreter, Francis, read with refugee family **5** RISE volunteer, Elly Alexander, colors with newly arrived refugee child, Hamisi **6** JFS honors the memory of community leader and philanthropist, Morton Kimmel. Beloved wife, Marcia, surrounded by her children and grandchildren, plant tree in the Dory Zatuchni Village Garden **7** Kimmel-Spiller family place hand-painted rocks as a symbol of lasting love and dedication

CHABAD TAKES THE SUKKAH MOBILE AROUND TOWN

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY RABBI MOTTI FLIKSHEIN



1 Rabbi Motti and Elyssa Gerstel 2 Rabbi Motti with Mark Alborn 3 A Family Mitzvah in front of the JCC 4 The Osbourns Hop on Board 5 Rochel Flikshtein takes the Sukkah Mobile to the Nisbets 6 The Bernstein Family in the Sukkah Mobile 7 The Harrison Family 8 Adam Wasserman Shakes the Lulav with Rochel Flikshtein in front of the ECC

LIFE AT TBE

PHOTO CREDIT: SHARON FULLERTON PHOTOGRAPHY



1 Alexis and Rich Teitelbaum celebrate Simchat Torah
2 Temple Beth El shares challah and honey at Newark Community Day
3 Tashlich with the TBE community at Paper Mill Park
4 Adult Hebrew study group organized by Mike Shay
5 Confirmation students enjoy class outside as they welcome new teacher, Andrea Bock
6 The Luft sisters perform together for the first time in TBE's klezmer band, *Thread of Blue*

ART, AUDIENCE, AND ARCHIVER

By Rabbi Jeremy Winaker
Head of School

It was the perfect postcard.

The message was on point; the artwork, so genuine; and the product, so touching. When the Biden Cancer Summit hosted by the Siegel JCC asked for a message of love from Albert Einstein Academy, we answered with intentional excellence. We answered with education focused on students producing something that mattered.

You can see our students' artwork in the accompanying image to this article. It is clearly done by young children, in our case five year-olds in our Kindergarten Gan class. Their innocence shines through, and so does their diligence. Look carefully at what otherwise might look like your average scribble of color, you will find layers of earth, vegetation, and color with touches of love, like hearts and flowers. Look carefully at the letter in "Love, Gan," you will see the extra effort to get the "G" just right. What you cannot see is what came before and after.

This past summer and continuing throughout this year, Einstein faculty are reading Ron Berger's *An Ethic of Excellence: Building a Culture of Craftsmanship with Students*. Berger's contention is that students can and will learn more, in general and about themselves, from going through multiple drafts with peer critique for public presentation. There is much more to his

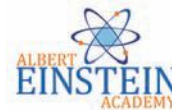
book, despite its short length. While Einstein students have for years been pushed to be presentation-ready (our small classes means everyone presents every project), our reading is pushing us to be conscious of an audience beyond peers in the classroom. The Biden Cancer Summit postcard is a perfect example of that extra audience that raises the level of excellence.

The framing of this special audience came before the students went to work on their art. Our art teacher, Lisa Kornblum, posed the question: "What is something that would make you happy?" After thinking for a bit and making a list, the next question was: "What would make someone who is sick or helping a sick person feel happy?" You can see from the product that flowers, gardens, prayers, hearts, and love comprise the meaningful response from the students. They wanted to make others feel happy, and they did.

Education does not stop with a product presented to an audience be it the teacher, peers, or the world beyond. Education turns the product into its own teachable lesson. Sometimes the product communicates content knowledge, sometimes it is a reminder of challenges overcome, and sometimes the product is its own beginning. The postcard is a collective work from our

students; they each contributed a piece that was then brought together. Our students learned that their individual symbols for making someone happy could have greater impact as part of a team effort. The collage offers flowers and a garden as a frame for a praying person, hearts, and of course a carefully written message of love. In the hands of a great teacher, our students became an audience of their own, learning how to make a bigger impact.

The art alone would have been enough. The intention of the art for a specific real-world audience raised the bar for our students. In true Einstein form, the teacher's efforts to be the archiver of the steps from start to finish make this postcard a lesson for a lifetime. Educational excellence is more than a slogan, it is a way of life based on valuing what students can do when guided to do their best.



Albert Einstein Academy is a Beneficiary Agency of Jewish Federation of Delaware.





YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH ANSWERED

ANSWERS PROVIDED BY:

Dr. Meghan Walls, PsyD, Nemours / A.I. DuPont
Sarah Robins, LCSW, Jewish Family Services
Mike Gavula, MS, Rockford Center
Heather Painter, MSE, School District of Philadelphia
Annie Greene, NAMI Youth Facilitator

Changing the conversation, eliminating stigma, and acknowledging the invisible experience.

As a community thought leader, Jewish Family Services addresses meaningful issues in the community.

Recently, JFS and the JCC hosted the Parent-Teen Wellness Summit, focusing on mental health awareness and suicide prevention. Community members began an important conversation and submitted thoughtful questions to our panel, which provided the answers below.

Why does the mental health stigma exist? How do those who don't understand mental health contribute to this stigma?

> Unfortunately, people are afraid of what they don't understand; lack of awareness, limited understanding, and failure to accept differences perpetuate the shame and discrimination. Teasing comments can minimize a very real situation and create a negative association with expressing emotions in a healthy way. Embarrassing someone like this can prevent them from asking for help, which can turn into a bigger problem later.

What are small steps we can each take to eliminate stigma?

> Continue talking about Mental Health and sharing your experiences. Being vulnerable takes courage, but it pays off to keep this dialogue open.

> Try having these conversations more naturally and regularly:

- Include mental health in conversations about overall wellness
- Normalize and validate feelings
- Stop using mental health "slang" negatively
- Encourage schools to host prevention & education programs

How can I differentiate between typical teenage moodiness and a deeper issue that requires attention?

> A helpful way to differentiate is noticing when teen "angst" interferes with daily life – affecting homework, school work, sleep patterns, social activities, relationships, etc. If you're noticing these deeper effects, it is probably time to seek help and identify if this is clinically relevant.

> REMEMBER: Even if someone isn't clinically depressed or anxious, counseling can be very helpful in learning to deal with stressors appropriately.

What is a good resource to find a pediatric psychologist for a child?

> Ask your pediatrician for recommendations! Many local child providers have intake specialists who can address questions about finding the right match for you.

I was overwhelmed when given a list of therapists to sort through and all the "great" therapists recommended were over-booked. How can I find an awesome therapist who has openings after school and takes my insurance?

> Start by looking online for more information. Do they specialize in your areas of concern? Is their approach evidence

based? If someone highly recommended isn't available, maybe they can make a referral.

> IMPORTANT NOTE: If your child had a physical illness, you wouldn't only go to a provider available after school hours. If you find a good fit, be flexible! Your child's mental health is just as important as their physical health.

How can we support someone whose child is suicidal?

> Social supports are SO important for an overwhelmed caretaker. If they are spending a lot of time finding services for their child, offer support in other ways – bring over dinner, call to chat, meet for coffee...try to be there for them.

> Just listen without trying to "fix" their problems. One of the most difficult parts of being a parent whose child is suicidal is feeling like they are the only one struggling with this. Validate and normalize their experiences and remind them they aren't alone.

What can we do when our child is over 18 and refusing help?

> Suggest family therapy rather than individual treatment; instead of focusing on the child as "the one with problems," approach therapy as something the whole family cares about and is invested in addressing together. The teen may be more open if they don't feel targeted or blamed.

> Give room to talk and bring them helpful resources. As a young adult, it can help to feel in control of your own treatment rather than being "fussed over."

> Consider getting help for yourself too. It's stressful to deal with family mental illness, especially when there's resistance. The best way to take care of your children is to take care of yourself.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



Jewish Family Services of Delaware is a Beneficiary Agency of Jewish Federation of Delaware.

What do you do/say if someone calls you in crisis (talking about suicide)?

- > Say *SOMETHING*. It's hard to know what to say, but a good place to start could be, "You're important to me. Can I help you find help?"
- > Immediately talk to a responsible adult. If you're concerned about harm being imminent, keep your friend on the phone while you get someone to help you have that conversation.
- > REMEMBER: You can always call 911.

I've had trouble finding a therapist I connect with, but I still believe therapy can help me. How can I find the therapeutic connection I'm looking for?

> A great place to start is seeking therapists with expertise in your area of concern. Call them ahead of time to discuss your concerns and determine if they feel like a good match. Be clear about the therapeutic connection you are looking for. Identify what you didn't like about your past therapy experiences so you have a better idea of what you want for the next one. Keep trying – it's worth it when you find the right match!

How can we raise more resilient kids?

- > There are many techniques for building resilience. Teaching kids coping techniques for when things go wrong can promote resilience – problem-solving, belly breathing, and clear communication are great ways to help kids cope. Create time to decompress with a parent or play with a friend, build a strong community of support, let them join activities; give kids enough of a positive frame so that, when negative things inevitably happen, the scales don't tip.
- > Let your child fail on small things instead of rescuing them. Use those moments as opportunities to learn what to do with adversity, so when the big things come up, they don't feel overwhelmed.

FREE 24/7 CRISIS TEXT LINE: Text 'DE' to 741741

For a FREE, confidential conversation, you can reach JFS's intake specialist at 302-478-9411

INTERTWINING ART AND JUDAISM

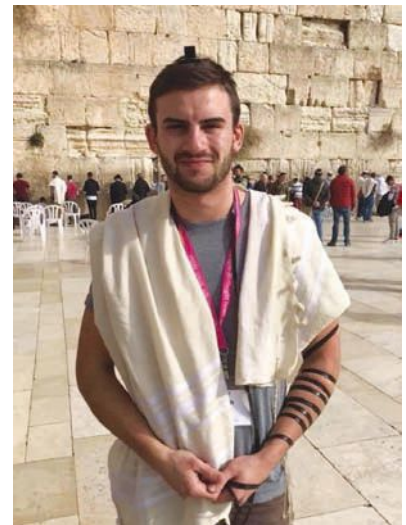
By Leigh Deitz, UD Hillel

University of Delaware Hillel is proud to hire student interns and allow them to gain experience in fields that they are passionate about.

Senior, Jonah Vesery, International Relations major is the Social Media Intern at UD Hillel this semester.

His work benefits Hillel and encourages a growth in development of Jonah's passions. This mutually beneficial relationship is what helps UD Hillel thrive and makes the internship program at this organization competitive and exciting.

Art and drawing have been a part of Jonah's life ever since he was a child. Jonah says, "My father is a professional artist, and was a stay at home dad. We did a lot of projects when I was young, and I've never stopped doing art. I doubt I ever will." Jonah has drawn designs from the art and architecture of his synagogue to get inspiration. He has used this as inspiration in his artwork and has even created his own mezuzahs with his father. Having the support and encouragement from family to allow a



Jonah Vesery PHOTO COURTESY OF UD HILLEL

talent and interest to turn into a college internship is valuable.

Jonah believes that Judaism and art are intertwined. He acknowledges the beauty of the Hebrew alphabet, mezuzahs, and architecture of synagogues. Art surrounds us in the Jewish world and encourages us to celebrate our creativity as members of the Jewish community.

UD Hillel is aware of the diversity of student talents at the University and presents opportunities for students to explore their skills in a new atmosphere. Creativity comes about in a variety of places, including the religions we practice. Jonah's upbringing helped him connect his Judaism to art and continue to expand that connection throughout his college experience.



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ART: UNFRAMED

By Katie Glazier
Membership Director

There are two distinct languages. There is the verbal, which separates people. . . and there is the visual that is understood by everybody.

– YAAKOV AGAM

Chances are, when you think about the J, the first word that comes to your mind is probably not “art.” But, perhaps it could be.

Art is all around us.

First stop: the ECC. They are art-a-holics down there! The amount of art these young people create is astonishing. The moment they can sit up unassisted, they are finger painting. As they grow, so does their artwork. Paper cuttings, hand-painted prints in the style of author, Eric Carle’s *The Hungry Caterpillar*, Dr. Seuss and *Cat in the Hat* themed crafts . . . our young artist’s tackle them all. Entering the ECC lobby, there is a beautiful graphic of a tree with two young readers underneath. Also, just last year, a beautiful installation led by Program Specialist, Nicholas Tavares, was created on the window of the lobby. It was also of a tree, but in the style of Tim Burton, with black swirls of branches dotted with vibrant, decorative colors. Using trees to fill an Early Childhood Center is an ideal metaphor to me of what the



ECC Art installation, directed by ECC Program Specialist, Nicholas Tavares, during the Week of the Young Child in April of 2018 PHOTO PROVIDED BY NICHOLAS TAVARES

ECC represents: children, growing their roots in a nurturing environment, which will eventually extend into branches, embodying Judaism, community, and a lifelong love of learning.

Next, I strolled through our beautiful rotating ArtSpace and Showcase exhibits, located just off the main lobby. The ArtSpace is one of my favorite parts about the J, which taps into community artists. When the ArtSpace was created, I thought I knew nothing about art, and I was nervous about working with the talented and knowledgeable artists on the ArtSpace committee. Six years later, I have come to realize that art is for everyone. We are all knowledgeable about art, because we see it and internalize it in our own ways. I may not be able to talk about this artist’s point of view and how it is reminiscent of a famous artist, but I can look at a piece of art and share what I see, and more importantly, how it makes me feel.

I then walked down to the fitness center. I thought about how earlier this year, the fitness center received a facelift. I remembered several discussions about the colors for the wall, and the mood those colors invoke . . . Hello, Art! Choosing the words and

phrases to keep us engaged and motivated while we are exercising . . . yup, there’s Art again. Art doesn’t always come framed. Sometimes it comes in orange and grey stripes or large vinyl letters in the background, reminding us to keep going and to achieve our goals.

Inspired now, I walked back to my office, but stopped in another hallway full of art. About two years ago, a long rectangular package arrived, with a wonderful gift inside – gorgeous posters, each with a Jewish quote and a drawing of what that quote means to the artist. It’s a gift that keeps on coming; we now have about two dozen posters lining the wall between the fitness center and the main lobby. I encourage you to read a few on your next visit.

Then, as I made my way back to my desk, I saw a group of three-year-olds from the ECC entering the ArtSpace. The class walked all around, pointing out the different colors and talking about the art. I loved listening in as they talked about what they saw and engaged together around the art. Their imagination, creativity, and joy was contagious. Here at the J, art is all around us.



Siegel JCC is a
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LODGE LANE CAPTURES THE ARTIST DURING NATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING WEEK

By Jessica Bannan, Administrator
Lodge Lane Assisted Living & Memory Care

The second week of September honors Grandparent’s Day, but it also, not so coincidentally, marks the start of National Assisted Living Week where residents, staff, volunteers and families celebrate the value of assisted livings in the healthcare continuum.



Pat proudly showing her completed artwork

PHOTO CREDIT: DANIELLE SHAW



Lee creating a vivid skyline



John putting on the finishing touches

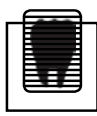
The annual events vary each year to match the designated theme. *Capture the Moment* was the title to this year’s week of events, inspiring residents to “realize their dreams and seize the day.”

Residents of Lodge Lane Assisted Living & Memory Care kicked-off the festivities by seizing the paint brush and capturing the inner artiste with a paint class led by Lisa Buttino of Lisa Buttino Art. While some dabbled in a new medium, others wielded the paint brush as a seasoned artist. No matter the level of expertise, there were splashes of color, music, laughs and a youthful whimsy that spread throughout the room. Within moments, the once blank canvases were transformed into colorful palettes. In some cases, the transformation transcended beyond the brush and canvas as residents discovered a new talent.

Resident, John comments, “My normal medium is a Ticonderoga No. 2, but his was rather fun. I like my painting.” Each piece, despite replicating the same image, held qualities that honor the individuality and vision of its creator. The experience from a single art class leaves us with a new awareness: despite your age, life is a blank canvas, you can and should try something new, make it your own and create a life to the fullest.



The Kutz Home/Lodge Lane are Beneficiary Agencies of Jewish Federation of Delaware.



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WHY SHOULD YOU SUPPORT JEWISH FEDERATION OF DELAWARE?

There are many organizations in our community that do wonderful work and deserve our support. However, there is only **ONE** organization that works across **all** of Jewish Delaware and unites the entire community.

THIS IS JEWISH FEDERATION OF DELAWARE!

1 FEDERATION IS COMMUNITY!

Without community, we are separate, isolated, and weak; ideas get confused and we feel alienated. With community we are able to host discussions; we can compromise and understand each other; we form partnerships, achieve our mutual goals, and provide support in times of tragedy or crisis.

Federation is the face of Jewish Delaware and our mandate, made possible by strategic planning and dedication, is to build community, educate Jewishly, help the vulnerable and support Israel all while advocating for and promoting an exceptional quality of Jewish life. Our mission goes beyond a single narrow cause.

2 FEDERATION WORKS FOR ALL OF US!

A gift to the Federation's Annual Campaign enables our community to function, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Federation provides the basic funding that does it all, from keeping the lights on to responding to our community's highest priorities. Without community-led planning and coordination, many needs would go unmet. Federation carries the communal load, providing for the ever-present needs. There is a wide spectrum of programs and services that can only be offered when we **GIVE COLLECTIVELY** and there are many organizations who might not survive without the support they receive from Federation.

3 FEDERATION'S FUNDING IS BROAD AND DEEP

While keeping fundraising costs low, Federation follows an allocations process to fund our agencies and partners. From supporting people in need of comfort, families with strife and individuals in pain to providing Jewish education and nourishing Jewish souls, Federation funding is broad and deep.

Federation also provides direct service for several important initiatives such as PJ Library, Shalom Baby, and Birthright Israel. A gift to the Annual Campaign does so much for so many in our community, in Israel and around the world.

THERE IS NO OTHER GIFT THAT WORKS HARDER OR DOES AS MUCH THAN A GIFT TO FEDERATION.



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Rabbi Steven Saks and AKSE CELEBRATING TEN YEARS TOGETHER

By Alan Bleier
Member of AKSE and CBS



Rabbi Saks delivers D'var Torah at AKSE community event PHOTO CREDIT: MARK WAGMAN

Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth (AKSE) is thrilled to honor Rabbi Steven Saks upon his 10th Anniversary as its Spiritual Leader with a Special Kabbalat Shabbat Service and Celebratory Dinner on Friday, November 16.

In 2006, Rabbi Saks received *s'micha* (rabbinic ordination) from Kollel Ayschel Avraham Rabbinical Seminary in Spring Valley, NY and an advanced rabbinical degree from the Union for Traditional Judaism (UTJ). He also holds a Master of Science degree in Human Resource Development from Towson University and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the State University of New York at Oswego. Moreover, uncommon for a rabbi, he is a black belt in Jiu Jitsu, which he has also taught.

Rabbi Saks' philosophy of Judaism has been referred to as Traditional, with a core principle that the religious center of Judaism must be strengthened regarding *Halakha* while also embracing the positive attributes of secular culture. He especially believes that each Jewish person should endeavor to climb the ladder of *mitzvot* at his/her own pace and within his/her comfort level. This approach has underpinned his work at AKSE, in the Wilmington area, and beyond.

Rabbi Saks serves as the head of the Delaware Association of Rabbis and Cantors and the *Rav Hamachshir* (rabbinic head) of the *Vaad HaKashrut* of Delaware and of the *Chevra Kadisha* (burial society). He has been a member of the UTJ Board of Directors throughout his tenure at AKSE and currently serves as its Vice President. He has consistently been active in communal organizations such as Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD), the Bernard & Ruth Siegel Jewish Community Center (Siegel J), and Albert Einstein Academy.

Recognized as a strong supporter of Israel, Rabbi Saks is active in national organizations such as the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, Israel Bonds, and the Zionist Organization of America. In 2016 he was honored with ZOA's Guardian of Israel Award.

He led a communal trip to Israel in 2014 with Rabbi Michael Beals of Congregation Beth Shalom and Rabbi Yair Robinson of Congregation Beth Emeth. He and Rabbi Beals are planning a second trip for 2019.

In the 10 years that Rabbi Saks has served AKSE, he has been an active leader in adult and youth education. He introduced informative and exciting programs such as his weekly *Parsha & Pizza* and periodic *What Profits the Prophets*. In addition, he generally teaches Talmudic and Halakhic material after morning and evening services throughout the week and provides Torah commentary at key points between aliyot on Shabbat and other days, such as Yom Tov and Rosh Chodesh. He has recently begun teaching a course at AKSE called Saks on Sacks, open to the entire community and based on the new Rabbi Jonathan Sacks' curriculum, *Ten Paths to God*.

In recent years, Rabbi Saks has hosted Community Seders for the first two nights of Pesach, attracting both AKSE members and non-members. He has supported the development of Partnership *Minyanim* at AKSE, in an effort to maximize women's participation in Shabbat Services within Jewish law as understood by Orthodox tradition.

Rabbi Saks has taught numerous adult education courses at the Siegel J under the auspices of the Delaware Valley Learning Institute. He has also regularly taught basic Judaism classes, which have culminated in some students converting to Judaism. His outreach efforts have also included holding a *Parshat HaShavua* (Torah portion of the week) class for a study group comprised of professionals who meet in downtown Wilmington during their lunch time.

By providing *mashgiach* services, Rabbi Saks has ensured kosher events for JFD and the Jewish community. Recently, he helped to bring kosher restaurant dining back to Delaware by kashering and supervising Drop Squad Kitchen at the Wilmington waterfront.

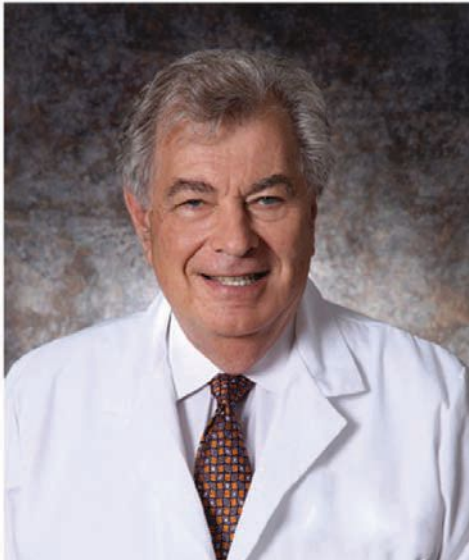
These and other of Rabbi Saks' accomplishments during his 10 years at AKSE have made him a most valued and integral member of our vibrant Jewish community and an important leader locally and regionally.

Mazel Tov, Rabbi Saks, and *Yasher Ko'ach!*

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Richard Derman

PHOTO COURTESY OF RICHARD DERMAN

TO SAVE A LIFE

By Ellen L. Weingart, *CBS Member*

The Talmud teaches that whoever saves a life, it is as if he saved an entire world.

By that reasoning, Congregation Beth Shalom congregant Richard Derman has saved the world many times over.

Derman, who is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology and also has a degree in public health, is finding ways to reduce maternal and newborn deaths.

“Every day, approximately 830 women—that’s more than 300,000 annually—die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth,” he said. “There are more than 2.5 million stillbirths and 3 million neonatal deaths each year. The vast majority of these losses occur in developing countries.”

Derman’s interest in global health issues was apparent when he served with the Peace Corps in India before beginning his medical residency. After attaining his board certification, he went into academics at the University of Illinois, then moved on to the University of Missouri. He left Missouri after 10 years to become chair of the obstetrics and gynecology department at Christiana Healthcare. He left after eight years for his current position as Associate Provost of Global Affairs at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, where he coordinates global

activities including collaborative research, educational exchanges and clinical initiatives.

Much of Derman’s work has been in India.

“Twenty or so years after being there with the Peace Corps, I was back doing research,” he said. “We can do a lot of important work there. Most women are virgins before marriage and a large percentage of them become pregnant in the first year of marriage. And now that everybody in India has a cell phone, a lot of medical work—checking ultrasounds, vital signs and so forth—can be done over the phone. With a little training, the healthcare workers are happy to help. We can get a 99 percent follow-up, an unheard of rate.”

Derman is the principal investigator for collaborations with Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College in southern India where the infrastructure is better than elsewhere.

A major focus of his work has been reducing postpartum hemorrhaging. “It’s the number one cause of maternal death everywhere except the United States. It accounts for about 35 percent of the deaths,” he said. Hypertension and infections account for about 20 percent of maternal deaths with anemia, HIV, malaria and other chronic illnesses increasing the risk.

“When I began working in India, about 75 percent of all births took place outside of a hospital,” he said. “Today, with the

government giving financial incentives for giving birth in a health center, about 80 percent of births are in birthing centers or hospitals.

“Between 1990 and 2015, maternal deaths dropped by 50 percent; the goal was 75 percent, but we’re not there. Deaths among children under five are down by two-thirds. India has 1.2 billion people so the number of people affected is very high even if the percentage change isn’t as high as we’d like.”

He considers the work he’s done reducing postpartum bleeding as most important. Using misoprostol, a synthetic form of prostaglandin, to cause strong uterine contractions after birth, has significantly reduced the incident and severity of postpartum hemorrhaging and maternal death. Misoprostol is low in cost, has a long shelf life and doesn’t need to be refrigerated. The drug is included on the World Health Organization Model List of Essential Medicines and is recognized by the UN Commission on Life-Saving Commodities.

Derman’s current research focuses on reducing pre-term births, the leading cause of newborn mortality and longtime disability, using low-dose aspirin.

In controlled, randomized, double-blind trials conducted in seven low- and middle-income countries, 9,000 women who were six to 14

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

SHABBAT AND YOM TOV CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2018

Light candles at 5:41 PM
Shabbat, November 3, 2018
Shabbat ends at 6:39 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2018

Light candles at 4:34 PM
Shabbat, November 10, 2018
Shabbat ends at 5:33 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018

Light candles at 4:28 PM
Shabbat, November 17, 2018
Shabbat ends at 5:28 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2018

Light candles at 4:23 PM
Shabbat, November 24, 2018
Shabbat ends at 5:24 PM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2018

Light candles at 4:20 PM
Shabbat, December 1, 2018
Shabbat ends at 5:22 PM

SYNAGOGUE NEWS

TO SAVE A LIFE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

weeks pregnant with a single baby, had not previously given birth and have had no more than two previous first trimester miscarriages, have been given 81-mgs of aspirin up until the ninth month of pregnancy. Two study sites are in India and there's one each in Pakistan, Congo, Kenya, Zambia, and Guatemala. The study is done with safety-monitoring groups that can stop it, but haven't.

"We are looking at the number of still births, newborn deaths, and maternal deaths," said Derman. "We should know the results soon. If these aspirin trials are successful, it will equal in importance the work we've done with maternal hemorrhaging."

The sheer size of India's population decreases biases and leads to sounder generalizations.

"It would be far more difficult in the United States with its much smaller numbers," explained Derman.

"We've been able to get funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the World Health Organization and the Department of Defense. We've had funding for 20 years," he said. Derman's work has also received millions of dollars through the National Institutes of Health.

"Increasing women's knowledge so they are equal partners is one of the most important factors in providing good healthcare," said Derman.

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TEMPLE BETH EL AND MATT MEYER SHOW SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ YOUTH

By Rae Cook
TBE Member



Top left: Anti-discrimination activist Sarah McBride told LGBTQ youth that they matter and that tomorrow will be different

Top right: Temple Beth El and 20 other organizations participated in the first annual LGBTQ Youth Fest, sponsored by Nemours Children's Hospital

PHOTOS BY RAE COOK

When you are young and sense feelings different from other kids sexually, where do you go?

Adult groups don't fit, and traditional organizations might not have services for you or a place to go. LGBTQ youth formed their own group, LGBTQ Youth Pride, and held their first annual festival with 20 vendors, five speakers, music, food, and even a wedding to bring LGBTQ youth together. The event was sponsored by Nemours/A.I. DuPont Children's Hospital and ROC. The FreeLee Foundation, whose motto is "Learn, Live, and Laugh Freely," organized the festival.

While we were setting up the Temple Beth El booth, we were struck by the flow of teens, young adults, and supportive parents hugging and greeting each other enthusiastically. Set surprisingly on the main thoroughfare of

Minquadales Village in New Castle on Sunday, September 30th, 2018, it turned out to be an intimate and joyful event.

Speakers and musicians enthralled a throng of young adults with exhortations to be proud and to hope for a future of acceptance.

The keynote speaker was Sarah McBride, a native Wilmingtonian and young transgender activist who was the first transgender person to speak at the Democratic National Convention (2016, in Philadelphia). You can view her speech on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brLZvqiGHMs>. She also worked closely with Jack Markell and Matt Denn to pass the Gender Identity Non-discrimination Act in 2013, and now serves as the press secretary for the Human Rights Campaign in Washington, D.C.

Temple Beth El's table at the event attracted Matt Meyer, New Castle County Executive and Congregation Beth Shalom member,

who wrote afterward, kindly, on LinkedIn, "It means a lot that Beth El got a table at today's festival. When a child struggles with their orientation and does something terrible, we hear about it. When a child struggles with their orientation, sees overwhelming love and support from the community - and their faith community - and feels good about who they are, it never makes the news. But of course it matters...."

And then there were the diverse organizations for LGBTQ people in Delaware, with one staffed by another temple member, ranging from P-FLAG for parents of LGBTQ children to the Rainbow Chorale, based in Wilmington.

It was an emotional and fulfilling day at the first annual LGBTQ Youth Pride Festival. We'll be back.

Q ■ What should our candidates know about our Jewish concerns?

A ■ RABBI JACOB LIEBERMAN
Temple Beth El

Democracy is the most important “Jewish” issue in the upcoming mid-term election. The United States is home to the largest Jewish population in the world outside of Israel. The Jewish people have thrived in this country in no small part because of the democratic ideals that inform our government. When these are weakened or threatened, the welfare of the Jewish community is too.

The founding thinker of Reconstructionist Judaism, Rabbi Mordecai M. Kaplan, emphasized the importance of democracy as a principle that could enrich the Jewish people and encouraged the democratization of Jewish communities and practice. For Kaplan, democracy was an art, practiced in order to reinforce itself and its effects. The ultimate objective of democracy was free, voluntary cooperation, a kind of “national solidarity [that] functions as a means of fostering the maximum welfare and collaboration of all who compose the nation, regardless of race, color or creed. Such welfare and collaboration presuppose unity in diversity and freedom from oppression and exploitation” (*Democracy and Zionism*, 1947). These were the conditions that allowed the Jewish people and our religion the freedom and the fertile soil to find acceptance in this country.

Democracy for Kaplan had overlapping similarities to and symbiotic relationships with his concepts of “otherness,” “community,” and “nationhood.” Kaplan rejected the Jewish people as “chosen” but endorsed our individuality. “Otherness” was defined by “cooperation and interaction with neighboring cultures and civilizations... [allowing us to achieve] an individuality which is of universal significance” (*Questions Jews Ask: Reconstructionist Answers*, 1958). “Community” for Kaplan is “that form of

social organization in which the welfare of each is the concern of all, and the life of the whole is the concern of each” (*The Future of the American Jew*, 1948). The animus of community was “reciprocal responsibility... the conscious human manifestation of the principle whereby everything in nature is both cause and effect of everything else;” in other words, interdependence.

Both Jews and the candidates that would represent us most passionately need to engage the issue of democracy itself. In this 21st century, are we committed to maximum welfare for the greatest number? Are we committed to promoting common interests over those that would divide us? Are we willing to fight the acquisition or exercise of power when it’s used without regard for the harm it causes? In his lifetime, Kaplan was all in for democracy, in America and in the Jewish community. Are we?

RABBI PETER GRUMBACHER
Rabbi Emeritus, Congregation Beth Emeth

To me it doesn't matter what your political affiliation is but I think - no, I KNOW - that our candidates should be informed that the Jewish values of justice and righteousness play into our decisions at the poll. Yes, we have our share of Jewish creeps in government and they must be called out for their attitudes contrary to those values. *Candidates should study up on the meaning of those values regardless of their own faith.*

Our candidates should know that we expect civility. What we are hearing today adds to the divisions in our country. Indeed, the anti-Semitism and racism in general, always under the surface, have emerged with full force, because the lack of civility "allows" the

uncivil among us to unleash their fury in word and deed... take Charlottesville for example. *Candidates should be models of civility on the trail and if elected.*

We expect that if they find the lifestyle, policies and even the personality of a politician to be less than presidential, they don't buckle under for the hope of victory in the next election. Leadership in the Senate and House requires courage, not kowtowing to the basest instincts that they loudly and forthrightly condemned in primaries. We don't need hypocrites among the unjust. *Candidates should put the American spirit above votes.*

We expect candidates to see Israel, as flawed as she is at times, as an ally. America needs Israel as much as Israel needs America. Criticism of the State of Israel is fine; there's plenty to criticize. Nevertheless, we see the rise of anti-Israel sentiments in the halls of legislatures as we do on university campuses. This is not criticism. It is anti-Semitism in another form. *Candidates should learn the history of Israel and be objective in their approach to the Jewish State.*

This is a crucial election. It's our responsibility as Jews to take to heart the call of democracy and go to the polling place and vote! *Candidates should know that Jews will vote... and will remember.*

RABBIS' VOICES

Each month, Rabbi Peter Grumbacher, along with rabbis from around the state, answer your questions about Judaism.

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Send your questions to:
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JEWISH BEDTIME STORIES and SONGS

APRIL

PJ/Einstein
Sunday
Morning Out
at Delaware
Children's
Theater

MAY 05

Shalom Baby on the Wilmington
and Western Railroad

JUNE 09

Family Build at
Home Depot

APRIL 07

Shalom Baby
Passover

MARCH

PJ/Einstein Sunday Morning
Out at Delaware Children's Museum

MARCH 01

Tot Shabbat with Beth Shalom

FEBRUARY

Rock 'n
Shabbat
with Beth El

JANUARY 20

PJ Library Tu
BiShvat
Mitzvah Day

JANUARY 25

Federation Shabbat

JANUARY 27

Super Sunday

FEBRUARY

PJ/Einstein
Sunday
Morning Out at Museum
of Natural History

JANUARY 18

Shalom Baby
Tu BiShvat

DECEMBER 16

Celebrating December
Holidays with Interfaith Families

DECEMBER 09

Lisa Loeb

NOVEMBER 09

Rock 'n
Shabbat
with Beth El

SEPTEMBER 23

Shalom Baby
Ment

OCTOBER 07

PJ Pumpkin Patch

OCTOBER 11

Mom's Nite Out with author
Marjorie Ingall

NOVEMBER 04

Einstein
Winter
Collection
Event

SEPTEMBER 16

Apples &
Honey & Hayride
at Linvilla

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THE NEW
YEAR!**

***Dates/ Programs are subject to change.

Please check Jewish Federation of Delaware calendar for updated information

***(<https://shalomdelawareorg.presencehost.net/calendar/>)



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PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.NEWJERSEYSTAGE.COM

KISS FRONTMAN PAUL STANLEY SHOWS OFF ARTISTIC SIDE

By Marc Shapiro | *Jewish Exponent* | This article originally ran in the *Baltimore Jewish Times*

You probably know his “Starchild” character, with white face makeup and a black star over his right eye, and the Spandex, leather and chains he wears onstage with platform shoes.

But when he’s not smashing guitars and telling you to “lose your mind in Detroit Rock City,” KISS frontman Paul Stanley is a prolific artist.

“About 18 years ago I was going through some turmoil in my life, as we all do, and a very good friend of mine said, ‘You should paint,’ and I kind of thought, ‘Well, I’m tired of throwing stuff at the walls,’” Stanley said. “So I went out and bought paint and canvases and brushes, and I had no idea what I was going to do.”

Marc Shapiro is the managing editor of the *Baltimore Jewish Times*, an affiliated publication of the *Jewish Exponent*.

Within a few years, he was asked to show his work at a gallery, and in the years that followed his work has been praised by art critics, become highly sought-after by collectors and been commissioned by entities worldwide. His portraits, abstract paintings, mixed-media creations and hand-painted acrylic sculptures have generated sales in the millions.

Stanley will make two area appearances this week, one at the Court at King of Prussia on Oct. 12 and the other at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Atlantic City, N.J., on Oct. 13. Both appearances are from 6-9 p.m.

It should be no surprise that the rocker took to art so well. Stanley hand-drew the ubiquitous KISS logo when he was still living at home and has designed the band’s album covers, concert stages and outfits over the years.

Stanley paints with the same discipline exhibited in his music. If KISS is a celebration of rock ‘n’ roll, Stanley’s art is a celebration of life.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

He's painted portraits of all the KISS members, created abstract canvases with bright yellows and dark reds, done colorful creations with peace signs and hearts at the center, painted flower sculptures and, perhaps unsurprisingly, painted plenty of guitars and musicians.

"The fact that it resonates with so many people, I think, shows an honesty and a joy in what I do," he said. "I use a lot of color, and to me, color is really an affirmation of life. To me, every day is a miracle and I'm thrilled to be able to, in my own way, document it."

It's quite a body of work for someone who started painting as a way of "purging," as he put it.

"I just found myself going deeper and deeper and I certainly never painted with any plans or aspirations to show my art. It was personal and purely for me," Stanley said. "At one point a gallery approached me about doing a showing and I was somewhere in between amused and ambivalent."

But the show was a great success, and his reputation as an artist kept building.

"I couldn't imagine having enough art to fill a gallery, and now I don't know that there's a gallery that's big enough."

And while you won't hear KISS playing "Hava Negila" at an upcoming concert, Stanley, born Stanley Eisen in New York City, considers his Jewish heritage foundational to the person he is today and thanks his immigrant parents for his work ethic.

"My mom indeed was born in Berlin and lived through just a horrific, horrific and a heinous time and, with her mom and stepdad, fled, left everything behind and fled to Amsterdam and ultimately was uprooted from there once again," Stanley said.

His father was a first-generation Polish immigrant. "I was explaining to my children that that seems to be the ongoing plight of the Jews, and that's something I hold dear to me and have a very strong feeling of obligation to make sure that my children understand Judaism and the Holocaust. I grew up with adults around me with numbers on

their arms. That was part of my life. So my sense of duty is to instill in my children my heritage."

Stanley, who says he's 99.9 percent Ashkenazi Jew according to genetic testing, finds Judaism very pure.

"I think that at its core, Judaism is, I think [Hillel] said, it's really treating people the way you would want to be treated and the rest of it is just exposition on that," he said. "That resonates beautifully."

Most recently Stanley has gone to a Reconstructionist synagogue.

"I believe very much that a religion — although the basic tenants should stay — that everything else needs to evolve over time to keep the practicality about it. It doesn't mean you dilute it, the essences stays the same."

Shared Jewish heritage was a catalyst for camaraderie between Stanley and KISS bassist Gene Simmons — born Chaim Witz in Haifa, Israel, to Hungarian immigrant parents, his mother a Holocaust survivor — since they were both the children of immigrants who came to the U.S. after harrowing ordeals.

"What we've seen is that Jews are resilient," Stanley said. "So I think that Gene and I always shared a work ethic and a core value of what's right and wrong and a sense that it's all about hard work and there's no shortcuts."

To that end, Stanley says he paints about five hours a day, Monday through Friday, when he's not on the road. And while touring can be grueling, the Starchild said the same feelings he exhibits in his art are what keep him engaged in the band he's fronted for more than 40 years.

"It's joy and gratitude for what I've been given and for how I am embraced and accepted and whatever naysayers and adversity I overcame to get here," he said. "And the fact that I get a chance to get out and celebrate life and celebrate self-empowerment. Look, touring is not fun, but the two hours onstage is the closest thing to rarified air. It doesn't get any better than that."

“What we’ve seen is that
Jews are resilient.”
– PAUL STANLEY



Examples of Paul Stanley's work
PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE BALTIMORE JEWISH TIMES

NEIL SIMON AND THE AMERICAN JEWISH EXPERIENCE

Dr. Yvette Alt Miller | aish.com

Mr. Neil Simon, author, sitting on a windowsill at home in 1966 pouring over a script of a play he wrote
WORLD TELEGRAM & SUN PHOTO BY AL RAVENNA. WIKIMEDIA.ORG

This past August, the prolific, award-winning playwright, Neil Simon, died at age 91.

Neil Simon was one of the most prolific playwrights of modern times. His dozens of plays and musicals, screenplays, and television scripts entertained generations of viewers and also defined much of American humor. Simon's hits included cultural touchstones and smash hits such as *Barefoot in the Park* (1963), *The Odd Couple* (1965), *Brighton Beach Memoirs* (1983), *Biloxi Blues* (1985), *Lost in Yonkers* (1991) and *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* (1993). He received 16 Tony nominations and won best play three times. He also earned four Oscar nominations, a Pulitzer Prize, the Mark Twain Prize and numerous other honors.

A Jew from New York, Neil Simon brought what many called his "Jewish humor" into his plays. For both Jews and non-Jews, Neil Simon defined what it was to be an American Jew today.

That's in part because many of his works were autobiographical in some way. Simon was known for his meticulously-written domestic dramas, some of which featured Depression-era Jewish youths who bore a striking resemblance to Neil Simon himself. "I don't write social and political plays," he explained, "because I've always thought the family was the microcosm of what goes on in the world. . . I write about the small wars that eventually become the big wars."

Brighton Beach Memoirs introduced the character of Eugene, a Jewish boy in New York growing up in an overbearing Jewish family. Eugene also was the subject of *Biloxi Blues*, which closely mirrored Neil Simon's World War II experiences and the play *Broadway Bound*.

Like millions of other fans, I vividly remember watching these dramas, two of which were also turned into hit movies. The bustling Jewish family seemed like something from another era, a throwback to a time when family bonds were stronger and people seemed to have stronger identities than I had growing up. A friend wistfully told me he wished he could live in a close family like that in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, with a house full of relatives and a strong sense of where he belonged. Growing up in American

suburbia, the busy, large Jewish families Neil Simon created on stage and screen seemed impossibly comforting and secure.

His characters sometimes conveyed the idea that to be Jewish was different, special and uniquely funny. In *Broadway Bound*, Eugene describes his grandmother's wish that the Statue of Liberty seemed more Jewish. "That would be a riot. A Jewish Statue of Liberty. In her left hand, she'd be holding a baking pan . . . and in the right hand, held up high, the electric bill." Neil Simon captured the voice of Jewishness in America: funny, irreverent, and ultimately decent and kind.

In *Come Blow Your Horn* (1961), a Jewish character intones a hilarious but also poignant insult: "May you and your brother live and be well. God bless you, all the luck in the world, you should know nothing but happiness. If I ever speak to either one of you again, my tongue should fall out!"

In real life, Neil Simon did indeed reflect the American Jewish experience. He lived through a time when Jewish identity declined precipitously and intermarriage rates rose. A 2013 survey showed that only 15% of American Jews regard Judaism as a religion; for most American Jews today, being Jewish is mainly a matter of culture: enjoying Jewish foods, having Jewish heritage, and identifying with Jewish humor.

Although Jewishness featured heavily in Neil Simon's plays, it often seemed more like a gag more than a meaningful way of life. In his 1996 memoirs, Simon poignantly discussed his unhappy childhood and dysfunctional family. It is striking, given how outspokenly Jewish his public persona was, how little being Jewish seems to have figured into Simon's life and worldview. In discussing his years of military service during World War II, Simon barely mentions the Holocaust. He recalls entering a Catholic church to pray one evening, and having a strong feeling that God was talking to him, telling him never to pray in a church again – yet he doesn't seem to have followed up that striking experience in any way.

One of Simon's most poignant recollections is going to synagogue with his father. They only

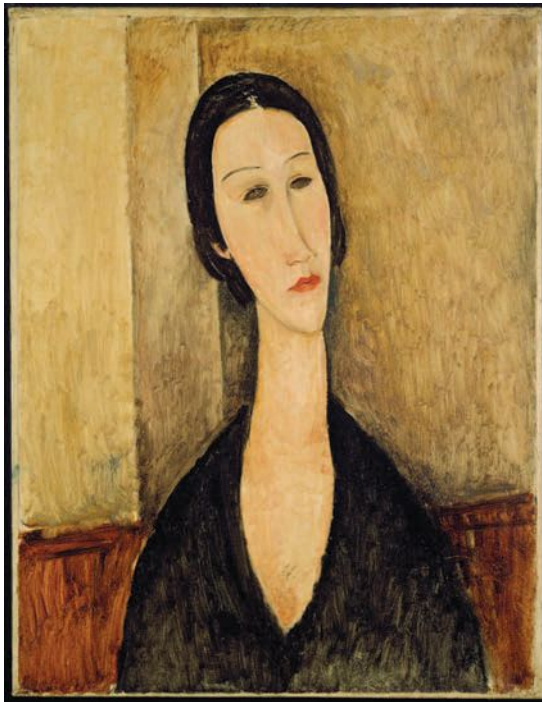
attended once a year, on the high holidays, and Simon's primary memories is of being rebuffed. He didn't understand Hebrew, and his father angrily told him not to pray in a way he could understand, because God supposedly couldn't understand English. The young Neil Simon was left unfulfilled and confused. Like so many assimilating American Jews, Judaism became less a way of life and set of beliefs than an accident of birth and circumstance.

Simon's one-liners were fantastic. In a particularly dull party in *The Gingerbread Man* (1970) a character exclaims "Gee, what a terrific party – later on we'll get some fluid and embalm each other." In *California Suite* (1976) a character explains that New York City isn't a Mecca – "It just smells like it." A young recruit in *Biloxi Blues* (1985) complains that Mississippi is so hot it's "Africa hot – Tarzan couldn't take heat like this." He created rich, funny worlds on stage.

Simon was open about his unhappiness and depression, even as his wonderful comedies brought smiles and happiness to his millions of fans. The brilliant playwright was often profoundly despondent even in the midst of success. He represented Jewishness to his fans, yet he was alienated from much of Jewish life. The author of tender romances, Simon was married five different times. Although he wrote some of the most wonderful plays of the past generation, he was often dissatisfied with his work. "I suspect I shall keep on writing in a vain search for that perfect play," Simon wrote. "I hope I will keep my equilibrium and sense of humor when I'm told I haven't achieved it."

For millions of his fans now mourning his death, Neil Simon didn't create the one perfect play; he wrote dozens. He brought joy to generations of theatergoers. For American Jews, he also offered us an unsettling mirror: one in which we watched our community identify as Jews only in the most cursory ways, through humor and cultural touchstones.

Yvette Alt Miller earned her B.A. at Harvard University. She completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Jewish Studies at Oxford University, and has a Ph.D. in International Relations from the London School of Economics. She lives with her family in Chicago, and has lectured internationally on Jewish topics.



Amadeo Modigliani, *Portrait of Anna Zborowoska*
COURTESY OF WIKIART.ORG

JUDAISM AND ART: Looking Beneath the Surface

By Rabbi Michael Beals
Congregation Beth Shalom

לֹא-תַעֲשֶׂה לָּךְ פֶּסֶל, וְכָל-תְּמוּנָה
Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven
image, nor any manner of likeness

--Exodus 20:3

When we think of the great Renaissance artists, names like Michelangelo, Rembrandt, and Raphael quickly come to mind. But in this pantheon of artists, there is not a Jewish artist to be had. Only in the later 19th century and early 20th century do artists like Marc Chagall (1887-1985), with his multi-colored nostalgic view of Russian shtetls, and Amadeo Modigliani (1884-1920), with his iconic elongated faces, begin to make a dent on the art scene.

The second of the Ten Commandments, prohibiting the creation of graven images, found in Exodus 20:3, was an insurmountable barrier for Jewish visual artists. Even to this very day, you will not find artistic likenesses of the human face or body in any of the sanctuaries of any of the synagogues up and down the State of Delaware. One trip to the Israel Museum in Jerusalem makes it

clear what Moses was worried about. From ancient Canaan, the antiquities department boasts hundreds of images of Baal and Ashtarah, the male and female fertility gods which were a constant snare for the Israelite farmers, so dependent were they on the vagaries of the elements to bring in a decent crop. It's not that our Israelite ancestors abandoned their worship of God. They just wanted to increase their odds by inviting in the local deities for extra protection. Yet over-and-over again, the prophets insist that our God is a jealous God, or perhaps better translated as an EXCLUSIVE God. So until the dawn of the modern era and the crumbling of the Eastern European ghettos with its ancient religious prohibitions, Jews avoided the arts.

Or did they?

In that same second Book of the Torah which prohibits graven images, we also meet Bezalel, the great architect of the Tabernacle, the *Mishkan*. In Exodus 31:1-5, God tells Moses:

See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, or the tribe of Judah, and I have

“ It is feelings that **move us to act**, give us the **energy to aspire**, and **fuel our ability to hand on our commitments** to those who come after us. ”

-- RABBI JONATHAN SACKS

filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts – to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship.

The works of art Bezalel creates are truly stunning. The alter of incense, the laver and stand, the service vestments, and the most iconic of all items, the enduring symbol of the modern State of Israel, the *menorah*, were all born out of the unbounded imagination and creativity of Bezalel, with a staff of gifted Israelites working under him.

Since Jews could not create free-form images (although the *cherubim* which were crafted above the ark in the Tabernacle seems to be the exception to the rule), Jews created beautifully crafted ritual objects instead. Visit any synagogue gift shop today, and you will see both classic and modern examples of Judaica which prove my point. With the festival of Sukkot just behind us, I can tell you that some of our congregants at Beth Shalom brought the most gorgeous etrog holders to synagogue to keep their precious citron-like imported fruit safe. I was perfectly content with the illustrated cardboard box which housed my etrog, but I did feel a little envious of those congregants who sported those wood-carved etrog boxes.

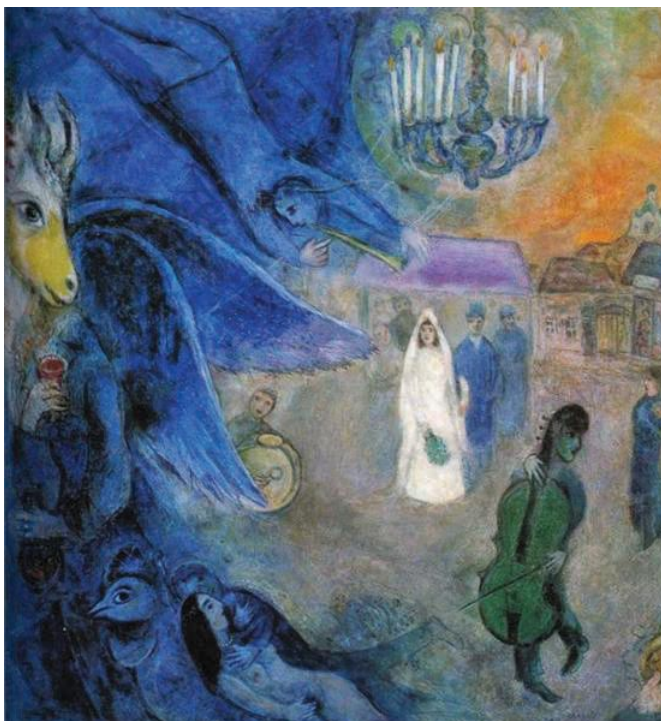
But I think we are missing something of Jewish artistic expression if we just limit our exploration to crafted objects. Artistic expression can take all sorts of forms – not just physical. In his most recent commentary on *parshat Ha'azinu*, from the closing chapters of the Book of Deuteronomy, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks makes a compelling case for Jewish biblical artistry in the hands of none other than Moses himself. Rabbi Sacks writes:

In Ha'azinu, Moses does the unexpected but necessary thing. He teaches the Israelites a song. He moves from prose to poetry, from speech to music, from law to literature, from plain speech to vivid metaphor. Why? Because at the very end of his life, the greatest of all the prophets turned to emotional intelligence, knowing that unless he did so, his teachings might enter the minds of the Israelites but not their hearts, their passions, their emotive DNA. It is feelings that move us to act, give us the energy to aspire, and fuel our ability to hand on our commitments to those who come after us.

Rabbi Sacks extends beyond Moses, to suggest that the classic biblical texts are suffused with literary artistry. Sacks observes:

Without the prophetic passion of an Amos, a Hosea, an Isaiah, a Jeremiah, without the music of the Psalms and the songs of the Levites in the Temple, Judaism would have been a plant without water or sunlight; it would have withered and died. Intellect alone does not inspire in us the passion to change the world. To do that you have to take thought and turn it into song.

From our earliest written expression, as found in our Torah poetry to the modern commentaries of Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, Judaism always has been replete with artistic expression. We simply need to delve beneath the surface, and perhaps beyond the paint brush, to find the true artist hidden in every Jew.



Marc Chagall, *Shtetl Village of Vitebsk*

COURTESY OF WIKIART.ORG

THE ART OF STORYTELLING



By Abby Schreiber
Communications Coordinator,
Siegel JCC

It's important to remember that the craft of words is just as tangible of an art form as a Van Gogh, and, just like the two dimensional, the lasting impact of art is subjective for every viewer.

Art has a funny way of awakening something in you. Years later, I remember asking some of my friends from camp when they first started really learning about the Holocaust.

"Well, I read *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas...*"

"My librarian showed me the book *Number the Stars...*"

"I remember being haunted by *The Devil's Arithmetic...*"

And on, and on, and on the stories continued, always the same pattern. A children's book, introduced in formative years, that helped bridge the gap of understanding.

What is it about a story that molds the mind? Why does a statistic in a textbook read differently after you've read it in first person perspective?

As a writer, it always felt really important to me to have my work mean something to someone. I was always searching for impact, always looking for the reason to continue telling the story. But writing doesn't work like that. You can't impart a lesson on someone. What the reader takes away is up to them. All you can do, as an author, is tell your version of the truth in its most authentic form. Perhaps that's why, years later, these books still haunt us: They never existed to teach us a lesson. They only existed as the truest versions of the authors' truth. There is something truly

intimate about telling that kind of story.

It is easier to understand tragedy through art. Art speaks to us, not at us. It humanizes tragedy. It provides faces and language where before there were numbers and lifeless facts.

There's a reason your high school history professor shows the class *Schindler's List*. There's a reason your freshman classroom reads *The Book Thief*. In order for history not to repeat itself, we need to understand it. In order to understand it, we need to connect with it. In order to connect with it, we need art.

There's also something to be said for words filling voids in our comprehension. History books give us a very dry understanding of the truth, when, ultimately, there is a degree of separation between truth and fact. Facts are objective - there is no gray area. Everyone knows the number 6 million, but it's just that at first: a number on a page. Write it out, type it out, it's just digits and decimals. "Truth" is when you see the number in faces, in separation, in loss. Quantifying a number with a feeling is something that can only be done through the art of storytelling.

Art grants perspective.

Because the effects of art inspire introspection, these pieces of media tend to resonate with us long after they're out of view. A part of me will always be the 10-year-old in the beanbag chair, placing faces to numbers for the first time in my life. And that's good. Words are art in motion. They help connect us. They humanize us. They paint their own pictures.

I was 10 when I read my first Holocaust book. It was a reading day in my 4th grade classroom. Sifting through stacks of paper, I landed on a small, dark-colored chapter book. The cover was a deep red, with a black and white photo torn to pieces on the cover. The young girl, about my age in the photo, was looking right at the camera. The title: *The Big Lie*.

There are few things more subjective than art. Art, by definition, is something created. It is fluid. It's impact on the viewer should be effortless, and it is almost always ambiguous; one of the greatest gifts art leaves us with is the imprint of introspection. Words are one of the most visceral of these art forms, and their influence on the reader has the ability to last a lifetime.

Of course, as a young, Jewish girl, I knew what the Holocaust was. I knew the general statistics of numbers and the groups afflicted. I knew the names. But my knowledge existed in a vacuum, the vague sense of, *This is a terrible thing*, with no way of truly rooting myself to the information. I think, for many people, art is what connects us to the world.

WORD ASSOCIATION

By Yoni Glatt
koshercrosswords@gmail.com

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ACROSS

1. Tater
5. When I say "Cain" you say.....
9. Gadget
14. Esther or Mordechai, e.g.
15. Goal of medical research, often
16. NBA Finals MVP in 2000, 2001 and 2002
17."Bar Kokhba"....
19. Cherished
20. She, in Rio
21. "___ Lang Syne"
22. Israel's Gedi
23. Darling of "Peter Pan"
25. Prefix meaning "four"
27. TV investigation letters
30. ..."Joseph"...
32. Goes to a restaurant
34. Maggie's "The Dark Knight" co-star, and others
37. Nuclear explosive, briefly
38. One way to Israel
41. ..."Jonah"...
43. Balm ingredient
44. Bloomer of Amsterdam
46. Youngest of Aaron
48. Forecast for improved weather
50. ..."Samson"...
54. "Star Wars" General
55. "There's ___ every crowd"
58. Israeli doctor
59. Advanced HS classes
60. 54- Across appears in this episode
62. Big do, in slang
63. Monkeylike
66. ..."Judah"...
68. Make a bow again
69. Huber of women's tennis
70. "...and step ___!"
71. Patriots owner
72. ..."Solomon"...
73. Tries to figure out a KenKen puzzle, perhaps

DOWN

1. Sly
2. Kitchen tool
3. Elegant in manner
4. Kosher animal not often on a menu
5. "Defending our rights" org.
6. Ripped
7. Lose ground, literally
8. Goodman of "Dancing with the Stars"
9. ..."David"...
10. Knowing, as a secret
11. Hebrew wolf
12. Fannie follower, in banks
13. ..."Methusaleh"...
18. "Now I ___ down..."
22. 1.78 is considered outstanding
24. Flowery girls name
26. It needs to be charged before you can go
27. Hip
28. Sport in the Israeli film "A Matter of Size"
29. "What'll ___?"
31. Visited
33. Food court pizza chain
35. When repeated, a calming word
36. Shabbat wear, for some
38. Make an impression?
39. Berg Opera in which Jack the Ripper is a character
40. Hamilton, for short
42. Hatzolah letters
45. ..."Elijah"...
47. Heart chambers
49. Nav. rank
51. Ignore a trigger warning, maybe
52. Sea nymph of Greek myth
53. House haunters
56. Founder of a Russian dynasty
57. Kroll and Jonas
59. "In your dreams!"
61. Beverage with brainfreeze potential
63. ..."Noah"...
64. Word with annum or capita
65. "Give ___ minute..."
66. Paw's woman
67. Squeezing snake

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: email Yoni at
koshercrosswords@gmail.com

An Interview with Screenwriter and Playwright,

**LISA
KENNER
GRISSOM**



By Jenna Glazier

Lisa Kenner Grissom is a fantastic screenwriter and playwright. I loved getting to speak with Lisa and strongly encourage everyone to explore her work. Read on to find out what Lisa thinks about the industry and what it means to tell a Jewish story.

How did you find yourself working in theatre as a playwright?

I came to the theatre in a circuitous way actually. I studied art history at Wesleyan and thought I'd go into the art world - galleries or museums. But I quickly realized that I'm way too much of an extrovert. You have to be quiet in museums! Writing has been in my DNA from an early age, but for whatever reason, I had put it on a shelf. Then I moved to LA and took an acting class, and that turned out to be my gateway back to writing. I started writing monologues and actors asked to use them for auditions. I thought, ok, I'm onto something here. I want to see where it leads. I didn't have a theatre background, so I started producing other people's plays as a way to learn the ins and outs.

I kinda created my own theatre school in a sense. Then I dropped the producer hat and focused on creating my own work.

What about the theatre industry frustrates you as a Jewish, female playwright? What is it that excites you?

I can get frustrated by assumptions people make about "Jewish stories." I see the eyeballs rolling - oh, here's another Jewish story. Sure, there are familiar themes that Jewish writers draw upon because we have a shared history. But there are an infinite number of Jewish stories because there are an infinite number of Jewish experiences, magnified by the fact that we are scattered all over the world. A Jewish writer from Australia is going to have a very different take on the world than a Jewish writer from South

America. And a writer from Texas is going to have a different take than a writer from New York. I want to hear those stories, too.

I'm excited these days about what seems to be a renewed sense of pride and confidence in being openly Jewish. You see more of this in pop culture in general, and it's spilling over into the theatre world. There are more Jewish female playwrights (and directors) calling attention to their Jewish-ness and writing explicitly about being Jewish in non-stereotypical ways that feels fresh. It's a cultural shift. We've seen it in TV with shows like *Transparent*, and I love that it's finding its way into the theatre. Jewish theatre artists are exploring identity in new ways. That's exciting to me.

What is a piece of theatre that spoke to you specifically as a Jewish woman?

The kind of theatre that resonates with me are stories that pull me into the emotional depths of the characters, regardless of whether the subject matter is Jewish or not. Oftentimes, I'll see something that moves me and wonder whether the writer is Jewish because there's a thread of empathy or heart-opening that feels very Jewish to me. One of those plays is *Tribes* by Nina Raine. It's about a dysfunctional British-Jewish family with three adult kids living at home, and how they all relate (or not) to each other. The play focuses on Billy, who is deaf, and how

his perspective shifts when he meets someone outside his family or "tribe" who changes his worldview. The opening scene is all five characters talking over each other. It's just so authentically Jewish with everyone interrupting and trying to get a word in. But more than that, the play rips your heart open - in a good way. There's so much raw emotion, which to me feels very Jewish. I don't cry easily and I was sobbing at the end of that play.

How does your perspective as a Jewish woman impact your work?

I'm obsessed with themes of legacy and identity and families and relationships and secrets and loss and trauma. Choosing these themes is not even conscious, it's just what I'm drawn to. I think I can safely say that Jewish writers explore this type of subject matter because it's very much part of our legacy to do so - and there's so much material there! I grew up Reform in a coastal suburb of Boston where there was a mash-up of immigrants, and that informs my perspective too. I always toggled between two worlds - hanging out with Irish Catholics and Italians and feeling part of their communities (celebrating Christmas at their houses), and then at the same time having a close-knit group of Jewish friends (Bar/Bat Mitzvahs; going to Israel). That sense of being in two places impacts the characters I create and the stories I choose to tell, which typically aren't overtly Jewish. My characters tend to find themselves caught between

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

Jenna Glazier is a Delaware native, now studying theatre at Emerson College in the hopes to professionally pursue directing. Strip It Down is her way of combining her passion for feminism, theatre, and Jewish identity. Read more from Strip It Down at <https://stripit-down.squarespace.com/> and find more by Jenna at heyalma.com.



Playwrights Union Writing Challenge PHOTO CREDIT: LISAKENNERGISSOM.COM

worlds in some way, needing to forge a path forward.

Can you talk a little bit about your play, *Motherland*? In your opinion, what about this play makes it Jewish?

Motherland is the first overtly Jewish play I've written, so it's actually new territory for me! It deals with the immigrant experience and the impact of inherited trauma among the women of a Jewish family. I like to think of it as a multiple mother/daughter story, because there are four generations of women on stage with time jumps and memories coming to life and character doubling. It's probably the most theatrical play I've written.

The play revolves around Lizzie whose life is in crisis. She's in her late 30's and totally adrift in all the ways—her career's a mess, she has no romantic prospects and to top it off, she's dealing with a mental health situation which she's keeping under wraps. She returns home to hide from the world but instead of getting some R&R, she's confronted by

her aging Russian grandmother who is intent on rediscovering her past before she dies, so she recruits Lizzie to help her.

Meanwhile, Lizzie's mother is in deep denial about her own past and wants to sit cross-legged and meditate it away. Lizzie gets drawn into her grandmother's relentless pursuit of the past and becomes obsessed with wanting to know what's "in her blood." Ultimately, each character has to reckon with her own past and come to terms with how family secrets have affected them. The play asks, can you reclaim your life without knowing your roots? And my answer is no - you have to get to the truth in order to move forward.

It's very Jewy to investigate one's history. I think it's safe to say that Jewish people are fairly obsessed with where we come from, especially because we are scattered all over the world. So many stories have been lost. I was inspired to write this play because I had a few tidbits from family history, and I wanted to fill in the gaps and create a fictional

story around it. My grandfather escaped the pogroms, so I'm second generation, but my family knows almost nothing of his life in Russia. My great-grandparents never talked about their experience getting to this country, so the history is basically lost. And not many people know about the pogroms, so I also wanted to bring that history to light and show its relevance today. Leaving one's country in order to survive is a very real issue right now. Plus, most of us come from immigrant backgrounds, so the themes are inherently universal. We all have an origin story.

What is a principle, or tradition, of Judaism that you find connects to your life in theatre?

I definitely think *Tikkun Olam* - repairing the world - is a principle that's at work in my writing. I tend to write about social issues from an intimate perspective, digging into a subject that people don't want to look at too closely. I like going micro about a macro subject. I think that's where the healing aspect of a story can

emerge. In *Motherland*, mental illness comes into play as the result of inherited trauma - it's something that's been passed down through the generations epigenetically. The truth is, most families have some form of mental illness but no one wants to talk about it. And it's 2018. Repairing the world starts with us, our relationships, our family units - and then catches fire from there.

What is something about Judaism, women, playwrighting, or really anything you're passionate about, that you wish was more celebrated in the theatre industry?

Diversity, parity and inclusion are essential. I mean, this goes without saying. I see tangible changes in Los Angeles with the LAFPI (Los Angeles Female Playwrights Initiative) working for 50/50 parity on LA's stages. And of course, The Kilroys have helped change the conversation on a national level. There's greater awareness, but we have to keep our feet on the gas for institutional change to take hold. More women artistic directors, more women on theatre boards, more women in positions of power making decisions - not reacting to them.

Another thing I've been thinking about lately is the importance of seeing a variety of ages on stage. We live in a youth obsessed culture but it's so important - and more interesting - to see a range of characters interact. Y'know, like in life. Family plays do this and that's probably why I love them. I love watching younger and older characters bump up against each other in weird and unexpected ways. It reminds us of our shared humanity.

Bat Mitzvahs

ABIGAIL ADELMAN

Abby Adelman is a current eighth grader at Kennett Middle School where she enjoys language arts, history, and playing softball for the middle school team. Abby is a proud graduate of Albert Einstein Academy as are her sisters, Emily and Molly, and her brother, Jake. While she enjoyed every aspect of her Day School education, her favorite activity was eating Hamora Osnat's falafel on Yom Ha'Atzmaut. When not playing softball, reading, watching Brooklyn 99, or hanging out with her family, Abby loves visiting New York City to see Broadway Shows. Abby felt so fortunate to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah with her family, friends, and CBS community!



Emma Bonsall PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CBS

She has also participated in Spring Softball, first for Talleyville and then on her Middle School team, for the past eight years. Emma's parents, Bill and Beth Bonsall, sister Madeline and Grandmother Susan Rosen are very proud of her accomplishments!

EVELYN PAIGE MAHAR

Evelyn Paige Mahar became a bat mitzvah on August 25, 2018 at Temple Beth El in Newark, Delaware. Evelyn is the daughter of Gretchen and David Mahar and the younger sister of Alanna



Evelyn Paige Mahar

PHOTO BY SHARON FULLERTON PHOTOGRAPHY

Mahar and Aidan Mahar.

Evelyn is an eighth grade honors student and an active member of National Junior Honor Society. She loves to sing and participates in the school chorus. Evelyn was a competitive gymnast for eight years, but now enjoys playing tennis and intends to play for the high school team next year. She also has participated in her school's running club each year and also volunteers weekly in a kindergarten classroom as a teacher's aide. Most of all, she loves her cats Sweet Pea and Bug that were recently adopted by her family.

Evelyn completed her mitzvah project at Cecil County Animal Services in Chesapeake City, Maryland. She spent many hours helping clean cat cages and feeding animals in the hope that the kittens and cats would be adopted quickly.

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Bar Mitzvahs



Aaron Albom PHOTO BY MARK ALBOM

AARON ALBOM

Aaron Albom is a 7th grade student in the gifted program at P. S. DuPont Middle School and a member of the National Junior Honor Society.

Aaron is a sports fanatic, particularly basketball and baseball. He has been playing in Brandywine Little League every year in the spring and fall and a CYM basketball team each winter. For the past two fall seasons, Aaron has played in Coach B.'s Kids basketball league in New Castle. Aaron participated in the Brandywine Invitational Tournament sponsored by Brandywine Little League this past

summer. He led his basketball team to the finals of a winter tournament earlier this year and hit several big shots to contribute to a championship last fall.

Aaron is fascinated by history, and loves reading about and visiting historical places. He enjoyed recent trips to places such as the Kennedy Space Center, Gettysburg, Ford's Theater, and the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia.

For his Mitzvah Project, Aaron combined his love of basketball with his appreciation of all his years in Siegel JCC programs, by teaching basketball skills to students from kindergarten to second grade at the KidsPlace after school program. This past summer Aaron participated in the LIT program at Camp JCC. He is an Ozer (Teacher's Assistant) at Beth Shalom for this school year.

Aaron's proud parents are Tammy and Mark Albom. His grandparents are Marcia and Jeffrey Albom from Monroe Township, New Jersey, Ann Zion from Dover, Delaware, and Kim and Joseph Smack from Summerville, South Carolina. Aaron's younger brother is Jacob.

JACOB SHAWN SOLOMON

Jacob will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, November 3rd. He is the son of Sandi and Ethan Solomon and the older brother of Adam Solomon. His grandparents are Malvy Solomon, Willard Bernstein, and the late Haim Solomon, Sheila

Bernstein, and Brenda Bernstein.

Jacob is a seventh grade student at P.S. DuPont Middle School. He is most passionate about travel to other states and countries and enjoys competing in academic tournaments, especially math. His interest in music began with piano lessons at a young age and continues now with playing trumpet in school. His favorite sport is baseball, which he would play all day every day if he could. He also enjoys solving cubes in a variety of shapes and sizes, but his favorite thing to do is spend time with his little brother.

His mitzvah project is preparing "Kiddie welcome bags" to entertain young kids during services at Beth Shalom. If you'd like to support his project, you can donate small, quiet toys in the box in front of the Beth Shalom Office.



Jacob Shawn Solomon

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CBS

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avelei tziyonvi'Yerushalayim.*

MYRA BERKOWITZ

Wilmington - Age 90, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, September 25, 2018 with family by her side.

Myra was born in Glasgow, Scotland and moved to the United States in 1947. She was one of the first women to venture into the Real Estate Business.

Myra was prominent in the business for over 65 years and highly regarded by all she came in contact with. She volunteered at A.I. DuPont and Wilmington Hospital for many years. Myra enjoyed knitting, reading, and loved to paint and draw.

The family thanks Senior Helpers and Compassionate Care Hospice for their guidance, support and exceptional care through this difficult time.

Preceded in death by her beloved husband Samuel of 36 years of marriage; she is survived by her sister, Hilda Oliver (Jerry) of Carson City, NV; her children, Mitch Berkowitz (Roe) of Newark, DE, Jan Berkowitz (Adrienne) of Charlotte, NC, and Cheryl Navitsky of Wilmington, DE; her grandchildren, Halie, Nicole, Sam, Kyle, Falyn, Stacey, Elena, and Asher; and her great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Compassionate Care Hospice Foundation, 248 E. Chestnut Hill Road, Suite 4, Newark, DE 19713.

STEWART BRAUNSTEIN

Boynton Beach, FL - Age 83, of Boynton Beach Florida, formerly of Baltimore, MD, passed away peacefully on September 17, 2018.

Stewart graduated from Forest Park High School and Purdue University. He was an insurance salesman for 60 years. Stewart founded Braun Insurance in Maryland.

He had a sense of humor, caring personality, loved history and was often found helping the indigent. He loved to garden and attend the theatre.

Stewart was predeceased by Anita Braunstein and was currently married to Jan Braunstein. His parents were Sarah and Benjamin Braunstein of Baltimore, MD. Stewart is survived by his sister, Sharon (Joel) Marchanti; predeceased by his sister, Barbara (Bobbie) Rothbloom and his brother, Herbert (Herbie) Braunstein. He has two daughters, Jodie (Ashley) Pezzner of Wilmington, DE and Randi Crystal of Baltimore, MD. Stewart adored his grandchildren and great-granddaughters, Josh Pezzner, Raichel (Adir) Barzilay, Zachary Pezzner, Joseph Crystal, Daniel Crystal, Jeweliana, and Aliyah. He is survived by nieces and nephews.

Donations in his memory can be sent to Congregation Beth Shalom (www.BethShalomWilmington.org).

FREDERICK "FRED" WILLIAM DEVRIES

Chadds Ford, PA - Age 88 of Chadds Ford, PA, passed away on Friday, September 14, 2018.

Fred was born on February 5, 1930 in New York City to Frederick and Maxine (nee Sondheimer) DeVries. He graduated at the age of 15 from Columbia Grammar School, continued his education at Columbia University in Engineering, and went on

to earn his Master's Degree in Chemical Engineering in 1950. Fred had only two job interviews and went on to work for DuPont in Buffalo, NY, Louisville, KY and Memphis, TN before settling in Chadds Ford, PA. He worked at the Experimental Station and later transferred to Chestnut Run where he eventually retired from the Pigments Division at DuPont. Fred was a world class expert in the use of cyanide in precious metal mining, traveling around the world including Eastern Europe, South Africa, and Australia educating people in the proper usage of cyanide.

He truly loved NYC, Columbia University, music, his family, being an eye witness to history, and was a proud Mason.

Fred was very active in all sorts of civic areas, including teaching Sunday School at Congregation Beth Emeth, volunteering as a judge for the High School Science Fair, helping to bring a program called Town Watch to his neighborhood, and involving himself in Pennsbury Township's recycling program.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Mary; his sister, Helen DeVries Edersheim; two daughters, Margaret DeVries Poretz (Victor) of Long Island, NY and Carol DeVries Leeland of Portland, OR; and his son, Frederick Joseph DeVries (Danielle Saunders) of Oakland CA. Fred was blessed with four grandsons, David Poretz, Max Poretz, Elijah DeVries, and Malachi DeVries.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his memory to Congregation Beth Emeth.

LINDA HOOK LEE

Wilmington - Age 73, passed away peacefully on September 14, 2018.

Linda was born in Atlanta, GA on June 28, 1945. She graduated from Georgia Baptist Hospital School of Nursing in 1965 and then completed her BA in Sociology at LaGrange College in 1967. Linda met her husband, Gregory, at LaGrange and they have been married for over 51 years. She retired in 2011 after working as a school nurse at Brandywood Elementary School for more than 25 years.

Linda is survived by her husband, Gregory J. Lee; her children, Shannon Lee (Tanya), Scott Lee (Bridget), and Meredith Lee Marks (Arthur); grandchildren, Eli, Max, Aaron, Skye, Olivia, Joshua, Jermaine, Samuel, Jersani, and Jordan.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations in her honor to Friends of Acadia, since Acadia National Park was her favorite place.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

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SOL SCHWARTZ

Silver Spring, MD - Age 92, devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, passed away peacefully on October 14, 2018.

He was the youngest of eight children born to Mary and Abraham Schwartz, in Brooklyn, NY. Sol earned a degree in Chemical Engineering from City College of New York, and went to work as an patent examiner for the United States Patent Office. He attended evening classes at George Washington University Law School, and received his law degree in 1955. The following year he became a patent attorney for the E.I. Dupont de Nemours and Company, where he helped to shepherd through patents on important advances in textile fibers, including Kevlar and Tyvek. While living in Wilmington, DE, he was an active member of Congregation Beth Shalom and a supporter of Jewish Federation of Delaware. Predeceased by wife, Celia and his eldest daughter, Joanne Hammer (Howard), he is survived by his other three daughters, Julie Schwartz (David Radlauer), Pamela Schwartz (Bruce Hess), and Amy Hirsch (Ziggy); his grandchildren, Jonathan (Ava), Michael, and David Hammer, Madalyn (Aaron Rosekind) and Jeffrey Radlauer, and Meir and Avi Hirsch; and his great-grandchildren, Jolene and Miles.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Mazon - A Jewish Response to Hunger, Second Harvest Food Bank, or your local food bank.

BERNICE LEAH TOMASES (NÉE HANDELMAN)

Wilmington - Age 94, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family.

A native and life-long Wilmingtonian, she was born November 23, 1923 to Israel and Bessie (nee Willer) Handelman, the eldest of their four children. She graduated from P.S. duPont High School in 1941, winning several awards including that of highest academic achievement.

On October 24, 1943 she married fellow Wilmington native Dr. Ralph Tomases. Bernice accompanied Ralph on several stops for his training as a Captain in the U.S. Army Dental Corps. During the war, she held the family together with poise and strength while Ralph served overseas and, following the Battle of the Bulge, was missing in action and subsequently a prisoner of war in Germany.

When Ralph returned Bernice and he formed a multi-faceted and true partnership. For over 60 years she managed the business and operations of Ralph's thriving dental practice. Together they created a warm, loving Jewish home where they raised three children.

Bernice was passionately dedicated to the concepts of social responsibility and building a community. She actively participated in many organizations including Congregation Beth Shalom Sisterhood and serving on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Community Center and the Women's Division of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. She was an elegant and gracious hostess and wonderful cook who enjoyed entertaining in her home. She also enjoyed taking courses at the University of Delaware and with the local rabbis,

traveling, participating in a tight knit study group, and taking early morning walks followed by coffee and scintillating conversation with lifelong friends, as well as a weekly luncheon gathering with them at Bon Appetit.

Her most joyous role was enthusiastically serving as MomMom to 11 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren, often traveling long distances to attend a celebration or performance event. Bernice was predeceased by her husband of 65 years Ralph and siblings Howard Handelman, Millard Handelman and Ilene Bunin. She is survived by her children Dr. Arthur Tomases and his wife Saralee of Lakewood, NJ, Faith Tomases of New York, NY and Dr. Ruth Tomases Joffe and her husband Dr. Mark Joffe, of Wynnewood, PA.

With a long, productive, healthy and fulfilling life, Bernice will be remembered for her sense of humor, selflessness, strength, humility, caring and devotion to her family. In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations in her memory to the Siegel Jewish Community Center.

SAMUEL ZUCKERKANDEL

Wilmington - Age 94, passed away Saturday, October 6, 2018 following a short illness.

Sam is survived by his wife of 69 years, Cynthia; his daughters, Karen Ackerman (Ken), Greta Borie (Stewart), and Amy Rose; four grandchildren, Jack, Nick, Katie, and Nate; and many nieces and nephews.

Born March 29, 1924 in Philadelphia, PA, he graduated from Central High School in Philadelphia

and from the University of Pennsylvania with Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Economics and Marketing. Sam served in the Army Air Corps in the Pacific during World War II. He had a long, successful career in advertising and market research during which he taught advertising and marketing at the Wharton Evening School and other Philadelphia area universities. Sam volunteered in numerous Delaware area organizations including the Hagley Museum and the Wilmington Medical Center. He was a strong supporter of the Jewish Federation and Planned Parenthood of Delaware. Sam was a vibrant presence in every life he touched.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate contributions in Sam's memory to the Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809 or the Franklin Institute (www.fi.edu) where Sam learned his love of science.

Please send obituary submissions of 300 words or less to Jaidy@ShalomDel.org




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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Visit the Jewish Federation of Delaware website at ShalomDelaware.org for a full, up-to-date listing of community events.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2018

Merchant of Venice – Theater in the Round

7 – 9:30 PM

Siegel JCC Auditorium

The Delaware Shakespeare Community Tour aims to bring professional Shakespeare performances to the full spectrum of humanity in our state. The centerpiece of the tour is seventeen performances at homeless shelters, detention facilities, community centers, and other non-traditional locations where people may have limited access to the arts.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2018

Genetic Symposium

10 AM – Noon

Siegel JCC Auditorium

Speakers on genetic disorders, especially common to the Jewish community. Testing kits available. For all ages from teens through seniors. Be informed. Free and open to the public. Free babysitting provided. RSVP needed for babysitting. Sponsored by the JCRC of Jewish Federation of Delaware in cooperation with JFS, Hillel, JCC, Albert Einstein Academy, Hillel, Chabad at UD, and JScreen. For information, please contact Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt, JCRC Director at ellen@shalomdel.org.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2018

FILM: My Dear Children

4 – 6 PM

Siegel JCC Auditorium

Pogrom Documentary- My Dear Children-Co-sponsored by Jewish Federation of Delaware, University of Delaware Jewish Studies Program and Hagley Museum. Free and Open to the Community.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2018

An Evening with Marjorie Ingall

Author of Mamaleh Knows Best: What Jewish Mothers Do to Raise Successful, Creative, Empathetic, Independent Children

6 – 7:30 PM

Siegel JCC

Please join us for a "Mom's Night Out" with Author Marjorie Ingall. Come nosh, listen

and enjoy. Free babysitting provided. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Lisa Kornblum at 302-478-5026 or events@einsteinday.org

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2018

Fall BBQ Dinner

5 – 7 PM

Siegel JCC Courtyard

Join us for a Fall BBQ Dinner! Enjoy a la carte barbecue in the courtyard. For questions, email Karen Ballard at karenballard@siegeljcc.org.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2018

Shalom Baby and Albert Einstein Academy

Present:

Baby Einstein - Music with Mr. Shelley

9:30 – 10:30 AM

Albert Einstein Academy - Music Room

Please join us for Music and Story Time with ECC's Music Teacher, Mr. Royce Shelley. This NEW Monthly Music Class will meet the SECOND Thursday of each month. This FREE class welcomes little ones (ages 0-3) and their caregivers for stories, music, and fun! (Strollers should enter through the Siegel JCC main entrance.) For more information or to RSVP, please contact Lisa Kornblum, Admissions Director at 302-478-5026 or lisa.kornblum@einsteinday.org

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2018

Rock'n Tot Shabbat at Temple Beth El

6:30 PM

Temple Beth El

Rock out with Rabbi Nick Renner of UDel Hillel and his guitar. Join us for a Kid and Family Friendly Rock'n Shabbat. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Lisa Kornblum at Albert Einstein Academy - events@einsteinday.org or Rachel Mussaf at Temple Beth El - rmussaf@tbede.org

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2018

Youth Social Guide (K-5): Mini Bash

6:30 – 9 PM

Siegel JCC

Celebrate your talents at the J! Enjoy workshops, craft soda, snacks, and a talent show. Cost: \$5/Members, \$10/Non-

members. For questions, email Becky Stahl at beckystahl@siegeljcc.org.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2018

Family Fun Night at Oasis

6 – 8 PM

Oasis Family Fun Center - Glen Mills

Join us for an evening of family fun hosted by the Albert Einstein Academy - Home School Association. Proceeds from the evening will go to support the Einstein HSA. For more information please contact the Albert Einstein Academy's Home School Association President, Hagit Ziv - nhagit@yahoo.com

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018

Community Service for Teens: Toy Drive Preparation

7 – 8:30 PM

Siegel JCC

Let's get together to prepare for a wonderful toy drive for the children with terminal illnesses and bring them some Chanukah light! This Toy Drive is in collaboration with Chai Lifeline and the children and families they support. If you would like to donate a new toy at one of our drop-off points, please contact one the contacts below. For more information on Chai Lifeline please visit chailifeline.org. For more information about CTeen and a calendar of events go to www.CTeen.com/Delaware or find the Facebook group CTeen Delaware. Contact Rochel, CTeen Director at Rochel@ChabadDE.com for more info.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018

Rabbi Saks at AKSE – Celebrating Ten Years

6 PM service

7 PM celebratory dinner

Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth

The community is invited to a Special Kabbalat Shabbat Service and Celebratory Dinner honoring Rabbi Saks's 10th Anniversary as Spiritual Leader of AKSE. The cost for the dinner is \$20 per person ages 14 and older and \$15 per person ages 13 and under. Please make reservations by calling the AKSE office at 302-762-2705. Reservations must be made and paid in full by Monday, November 5.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2018

Babysitters Training

9:30 AM – 3 PM

Siegel JCC Board Room

Teens will learn techniques in basic care, first aid, introductory CPR and how to be the best babysitter possible! For participants ages 11-15. For questions or to register, contact Steph Kegelman at stephkegelman@siegeljcc.org

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2018

Home Depot Menorah Workshop

12:30 – 2:30 PM

Home Depot, 601 Naamans Road

Stop by for this beautiful event in which the kids will be able to build their very own Menorahs with the guidance of the staff at The Home Depot! There will be four 30 minute times slots and registration is REQUIRED since there is a 25 child limit per time slot - first come, first-served! WALK-INS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED, since supplies are limited. Each child will also receive their very own Home Depot worker's apron as well. Jewish music, refreshments and a fun atmosphere

will be sure to get the kids (and the parents) into the Chanukah spirit! This event is FREE. Parents must be in attendance. Make sure to register to reserve your spot at ChabadDE.com/register. Please contact RabbiMotti@ChabadDE.com for any further questions.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2018

Thanksgiving Play

10:30 AM

Siegel JCC - Auditorium

Albert Einstein Academy presents - A *Thanksgiving Play* - starring the Einstein Student Body. Join us for a morning of songs and merriment. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Lisa Kornblum, Admissions Director at 302-478-5026 or admissions@einsteinaday.org

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2018

Jewish History Class

10 AM

Congregation Beth Shalom, Dover

Burt is Back. The Jewish History Class will continue to discuss materials already handed

out. Please contact Burt at burtrehab@gmail.com or 302-734-5578.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2018

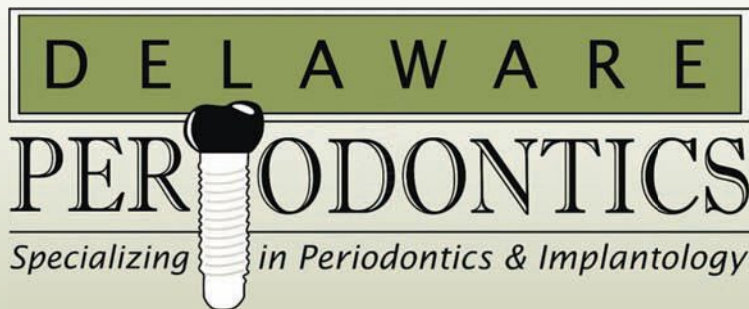
CTeen Community Service Event: Toy Drive for Children!

5 – 6:30 PM

Five Below, 3632 Concord Pike/Concord Gallery, Wilmington, DE 19803

Let's collect wonderful new toys for the children with terminal illnesses and bring them some Chanukah light! This Toy Drive is in collaboration with Chai Lifeline and the children and families they support. If you would like to donate a new toy at one of our drop-off points, please contact one the contacts below. For more information on Chai Lifeline please visit chailifeline.org. For more information about CTeen and a calendar of events go to www.CTeen.com/Delaware or find the Facebook group CTeen Delaware. Contact Rochel, CTeen Director at Rochel@ChabadDE.com for more info.

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WORD ASSOCIATION
PUZZLE LOCATED ON PAGE 41



i **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2018
Caring Group (Widow Support Group)

6 PM
JFS Wilmington Office

If you have lost a spouse and are looking for support from people who share the experience, please join JFS' new Caring Group.

FREE to join, contact Pam Stearn at 302-478-9411 or pstearn@jfsdelaware.org

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2018

Craft Bash 2018

7 - 11 PM
Siegel JCC Board Room

The Siegel JCC cordially invites you to Craft Bash 2018, benefitting our Early Childhood & Afterschool Enrichment programs, and honoring long-time J supporter Barbara Schoenberg. Join us for an evening of crafting, followed by craft beer flights, creative bar foods, and live music & dancing with the Dysrhythmics. For questions, contact Anna Saul at annasaul@siegeljcc.org

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SPRAY PAINTS OF ISRAEL

By Jaidy Schweers, Editor



PHOTOS BY JAIDY SCHWEERS

When Israeli graffiti artists are exhibiting in galleries world-wide, when their work is highlighted in videos and walking tours, when clothing designers and furniture lines are incorporating their urban projects, you know that graffiti has grown up.

Although there were plenty of extraordinary moments during my first journey in Israel, the art on the streets from what I experienced in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and in the far reaches of the Golan Heights, had me at *Shalom*.

Having lived and witnessed graffiti art in Philly for six years, the refinement of street art in Israel was not what was notable to me; successful mural and urban arts programs are adding beauty and eclecticism to otherwise dull or fractured cities world-wide. What was predominantly significant in some areas of Israel were the subtle (and sometimes not-

so-subtle) political and/or religious messaging underlying the art. In one group of artist's case, the agenda is: Art Over War; the motto of a group called Artists 4 Israel.

Artists 4 Israel's team of international artists (over 1,000 participating artists representing 21 different countries) have painted over 800 murals across the world on everything from bomb shelters and orphanages to the middle of the most populous cities. These murals transform the grim reminders of war and terrorism

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

into outdoor art galleries, beautify areas in need of renewal, add color to communities darkened by poverty and show that people in need are supported by Israel, artists, and the creative communities of the world. (artists4israel.org)

Most awe-inspiring to me was the team’s stamp on the bombed-out Syrian intelligence headquarters in Quneitra, Golan Heights, captured by Israel in 1967. In 2013, Artists 4 Israel was the first group of artists to claim the walls of the huge, two-story structure, designed and built by the Soviet Union in the 1950s.

“The statement is simply: We’re here. If it’s a no man’s land for everyone else, then we might as well claim it for art,” says Craig Dershowitz, founder of Artists 4 Israel. (As quoted in the NYTimes.com, November, 2013.)

Now, a shell of crumbling cement walls with trees creeping through broken windows and cracks in the floor, the abandoned base has become an artist’s canvas. Paint pallets originate from spray cans instead of tubes, and messages like, *Make Love Not War*, *Wake Up Before it’s too Late*, *Live Your Life* (with the ‘f’ crossed out), accompany graphics of religious saints, abstract shapes of vibrant colors, or a large-scaled caricature of Bibi, aka Benjamin Netanyahu.

And many times, you’ll find messages without images. Back in Jaffa, an old *meleke* (limestone) wall containing the message: *Free Gaza (from Hamas)* is insipidly tagged on a quaint, cobblestoned street near the old port. Contrasting basic graffiti tags, in Jerusalem, street artist, Solomon Souza, 23, is truly inspiring with his Shuk Gallery project. Spray-painted portraits of everyone from his grandmother to Bob Marley to famous Israeli Muslims, Christians, and Druze are painted on nearly 200 shop shutters in Jerusalem’s Machane Yehuda market. After the 360 shutters are all painted, the plan is to run Saturday art tours throughout the closed-up market. Souza says the goal is to ultimately turn the project into an expanded, not-for-profit venture advancing artistic and cultural expression related to the land and people of Israel.

Souza’s stamp of familiarity is not uncommon. For those in the know, street art in Israel can be instantly recognizable. These artists are developing their signature brands and moving on from the dark nights on the street, to galleries, print-shops, publications, and fashion. And artists aren’t only taking to spray cans; the historic days of tag-art are taking on new mediums such as tiling, beadwork, and patch-works of paper scaled-up, printed and pasted onto walls.

The Shuk Gallery Project’s producer, Berel Hahn says, “Even if one of these paintings affects just one person, then it’s worth it.”

It’s typical for the artwork to be painted over. Souza is used to it, stating:

“I understand it. It happens for a reason. Life is impermanent.”



SOURCES:

- artists4israel.org
- *On a Mission Within Earshot of a War, Armed with Paint*, NYTimes.com, November, 2013
- *Young Artist Turns Jerusalem’s Market into Gallery of Famous Faces*, timesofisrael.com, February, 2016

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