JUNE 2018 Vol. 49 | NO. 12

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REFLECTIONS ON EVENTS IN GAZA



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THE DELAWARE BREAKWATER EAST END LIGHTHOUSE, CAPE HENLOPEN PHOTO CREDIT: TRIPADVISOR.COM

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PUBLISHER'S REPRESENTATIVE: Seth I. Katzen

Chief Executive Officer

Jewish Federation

EDITOR: Jaidy Schweers Jaidy@ShalomDel.org 302.427.2100

ADVERTISING: Kathryn Weissenberger Kathryn@ShalomDel.org 302.427.2100 BILLING: Terri O'Neal Terri@ShalomDel.org 302-427-2100

CREATIVE DIRECTOR / DESIGNER: Carolyn Katwan

J VOICE COMMITTEE CHAIR : Meredith Rosenthal

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COME TOGETHER



William Wagner | President Seth J. Katzen | Chief Executive Officer

This month represents the end of Federation's fiscal year where we culminate our collective successes and achievements. While we have much to be thankful for relative to a projected increase in the Annual Campaign, growth in our planned giving and endowments, greater community collaboration and a shared commitment to building community. Please join us for the Jewish Federation of Delaware's 83rd Annual Meeting, chaired by Barbara Blumberg, on Thursday, June 7th at 6:30pm in the Siegel JCC auditorium. We will be installing the 2018-2019 Officers and Board of Directors, Suzanne B. Grant will be presented with the 2018 Irving S. Shapiro Community Builder Award, Ellisha Caplan will be presented the Gilbert J. Spiegel Young Leadership Award and Special Recognition for Service will be presented to Community Shlicha, Dana Berman. Attendees will also receive printed copies of our 2017-2018 Gratitude Report, generously being underwritten by Highmark Delaware and Delmarva Power. A Wine & Dessert reception will immediately follow with all dietary laws observed.

We hope to have the opportunity to thank you in person for your ongoing support and commitment and look forward to celebrating what we, as one vibrant community, can achieve **TOGETHER**.

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Installation of 2018-2019 Slate of Officers and Board of Directors

THE NATALIE PORTMAN By Rabbi Steven Saks CONTROVERSY

Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth

Natalie Portman, the Israeli-born American, Oscar-award-winning actress, announced that she will not appear in person to accept the Genesis Prize.

OPINION

This prize, which Time magazine dubbed the "Jewish Nobel," was established five years ago with a \$100 million endowment. The stated purpose of the prize, which gives the winner a million dollars to spend on the charities of his or her choice, is "to celebrate Jewish achievement and contribution to society." Past winners include Michael Bloomberg and Michael Douglas.

Though last November Portman agreed to receive the award, last week on Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) Portman's representative told the Genesis Prize foundation, "Recent events in Israel have been extremely distressing to her and she does not feel comfortable participating in any public events in Israel." Portman's representative added that "she cannot in good conscience move forward with the ceremony." Portman herself explained on Instagram, "I chose not to attend [the Genesis Prize Ceremony] because I did not want to appear as endorsing [Israeli Prime Minister] Benjamin Netanyahu, who was to be giving a speech at the ceremony. By the

same token, I am not part of the BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions) movement and do not endorse it. Like many Israelis and Jews around the world, I can be critical of the leadership in Israel without wanting to boycott the entire nation." How Portman can claim not to be boycotting Israel and yet refuse to participate in any public events in Israel defies logic. Regardless, Portman continued by stating "But the mistreatment of those suffering from today's atrocities is simply not in line with my Jewish values. Because I care about Israel, I must stand up against violence, corruption, inequality, and abuse of power."

At first glance it appears that Portman is performing the Torah's command (Lev. 19:17) not to stand by idly while your fellow sins, but to "reprove your fellow" (though Portman never actually specified what she finds troubling about Israel's actions). We should be concerned about the sins of our fellow and the nation as a whole, for B'nei Yisrael (the Children of Israel) are warned that if they contaminate the land by sinning they will be dislodged from the land (Lev. 18: 24-25). Rashi explains this with a parable. He compares Eretz Yisrael (the land of Israel) to a refined prince. If the prince eats disgusting food, his refined stomach will not be able to handle it and he will vomit it out. In other words, the pristine Holy Land will not tolerate unholy behavior. Portman's admonishments could be understood as a warning to Israel to clean up its act before the biblical warning

comes true and the people are again dislodged from the land.

So, were Portman's actions justified? Absolutely not. Portman, who speaks of "Jewish values," should be aware of the value of Machloket L'shem Shamayim (an argument for the sake of heaven). Such an argument is one in which the disputants are not concerned with winning the argument but discovering the truth. Therefore, one can vehemently disagree with another while still acknowledging the other's good intentions and integrity, because he too desires to arrive at the truth. Once you acknowledge the good intentions of one with whom you disagree, it becomes much more difficult to vilify him. Though the Houses of Hillel and Shammai rigorously disputed with each other, their sons and daughters married because all realized the arguments were for the sake of heaven. In other words, they did not boycott each other despite their disagreements. Portman's actions are being lauded by BDS activists because these actions understandably are being seen as a boycott of the Jewish State.

While I strongly believe Jews outside of Israel should refrain from publicly criticizing Israel, others disagree with me and we can agree to disagree. However, Ms. Portman is not only criticizing Israel but boycotting Israel while giving ammunition to BDS activists.

Boycotting your own family, and by that I mean Am Yisrael (the nation of Israel), is

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

OPINION

C In a healthy relationship people don't boycott each other

just because they disagree.

cruel, dangerous, and fractious. As David fled Jerusalem because his son Absalom led a coup against him, according to rabbinic lore David wrote Ashrei (Psalm 145) praising God. Why would David write a psalm praising God at such a time of distress? Would it have not been more appropriate for him to author a psalm beseeching God for aid? The rabbis teach that David realized that the coup was punishment for his sin with Bat Sheva. Therefore, David reasoned that God still cared enough about him to punish him, and this brought David joy. David did not fear divine punishment; what he did fear was God abandoning him and in essence saying to him, "Look, buddy, you're beyond hope and on your own. Don't

expect any more help from me." In other words, David was happy that God was not boycotting him.

In a healthy relationship people don't boycott each other just because they disagree. If that were the case, all spouses would be boycotting each other. Ms. Portman, you don't have to like Israeli policy, but you should treat your quarrels with Israel's leaders as an argument for the sake of heaven and allow for the possibility that they genuinely believe their actions are necessary to safeguard Israeli lives. Ms. Portman, you don't boycott those you truly care about.

2018-2019

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PHOTO CREDIT: CAROLYN KATWAN

ISRAEL: More than A land And its People

By John Elzufon JCRC Co-Chair

In his memoirs, reflecting on the events in then British Palestine in the 1930s, David Ben Gurion wrote:

There should be one place in the world, in G-d's whole world, where we could live and express ourselves in accordance with our own character and make our contributions to civilization in our own way and through our own channels.

The Jewish people now have that nation—Israel.

In May, Israel celebrated its 70th birthday. As Jews, we are rightfully proud of how this tiny strip of ancient desert and swamp is now an agricultural, medical, scientific, and "start-up nation" marvel.

Our hearts burst with pride at Israel's accomplishment and they break when we remember the deaths of almost 24,000 soldiers and over 3,000 civilian victims of terrorism.

Without meaning to diminish the problems, both internal and external, that Israel confronts, the mere fact of her existence and what she has accomplished in 70 years is without precedent in human history.

As Winston Churchhill once remarked:

The coming into being of a Jewish state in Palestine is an event in world history to be viewed in the perspective, not of a generation or century, but in the perspective of a thousand, two thousand, or even three thousand years.

When the word "Israel" is mentioned our thoughts go to a land and its people.

But Israel is more than that. Israel is a concept.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

Initially, we need to keep in mind that the first use of Israel was not as a name given to a land or a people but to a single person, Isaac's son, Jacob.

To understand why Israel is a concept we look, as Jews have done for centuries, to our scripture. Specifically, we take a new look at the stories and lives of Isaac and Jacob.

We know Isaac's story and how he appeared to be a willing participant in his own planned sacrifice. There is no resistance, physical or oral, by him. Acknowledging that Isaac had faith in his father, Abraham, and G-d, it is still the case that Isaac was unassertive and passively trusted his fate and his life to others.

Isaac's son, Jacob, was different. He did not passively accept the fate that might await him when wrestling with the angel. He fought back. He defended himself. He did not give in. He was assertive—and earned the name Israel. "Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel; for thou has striven with G-d and with men, and has prevailed." Genesis 32:29.

After the loss of our people's homeland in 135 C.E., the world looked on the Jews as a people who could be taken advantage of—a people who were, for the most part, reactive and passive. Without a homeland, the Jews were necessarily dependent on others. To the non-Jewish world we were Isaac—the passive, unassertive and not to be feared "ghetto Jew."

In the late 1800s we, as a people, changed with the advent of modern Zionism. We traditionally define Zionism as the political movement to re-establish a homeland for the Jewish people. It is more. Zionism was then and still is our people's proclamation to the non-Jewish world that we, as a people, have transformed ourselves from Isaac to Jacob. Israel is reborn and we, as a people, are no longer content to be passive and reliant on others to determine our fate. We are now both literally and figuratively Jacob—that is Israel.

We know from our history that Israel was attacked by five Arab armies within hours of Israel's declaration of independence in May, 1948. The attacking armies expected to drive the Jews into the sea. They expected Isaac but they found Jacob, and against all odds, the Jews prevailed.

Despite all of her enemies' attempts to destroy her, Israel has not only survived but has flourished. In the 30 years from 1987 to 2017, Israel's population doubled; its per capita GPD went from \$8,000 to \$41,000; its exports from \$10 billion to \$102 billion; independent energy resources, from 4% to 65%; life expectancy, from 75 to 82 years. Since the year 2000, Israel's economy has grown 65%, the second best among OECD countries. It is the world's "start-up" country. Israel's unemployment: 4%; the lowest in 40 years.

It is also the one country in the Middle East where peoples of all faiths, gender, sexual orientation, and ethnic background have full rights. It is the one country in the Middle East where the Christian population is growing.

This is the concept of Israel: we are Jacob -- not Isaac.

The concept of Israel is the Jewish people assuming again, after 2000 years, our rightful place among the nations of the world –never again to be voiceless.

The concept of Israel is the Jewish people declaring to the rest of the world that we have returned to our ancestral homeland never again to leave.

The concept of Israel is that never again will the Jewish people be powerless.







A SPECIAL CONCERT EVENT RESONATES DEEPLY FOR STUDENTS ON YOM HASHOAH

By Katie Capallo and Nora Carleson

Cantor David Wisnia and Avi Wisnia PHOTO BY JOE WHITLOCK

On April 11, 2018, the University of Delaware was privileged to welcome Holocaust survivor and liberator Cantor David Wisnia, along with his grandson Avi Wisnia, for a special presentation entitled, From Generation to Generation: Remembering the Holocaust Through Story and Song.

David, accompanied by Avi on piano, shared his vocal talents, singing traditional cantorial selections and songs from his childhood in Poland. This special concert event was cosponsored by the University of Delaware Jewish Studies Program, the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee, the Jewish Federation of Delaware, UD Hillel, and The Danielle Rose Paiken Foundation. This event coincided with Yom Hashoah, or Holocaust Remembrance Day, and was a valuable and moving experience. Interspersed between the beautiful songs, David shared difficult memories of his time as a Jewish boy coming of age in Warsaw, Poland during World War II. He poignantly started with the idea that "most people live and remember their lives in chronological order, but I see mine as two different lives – one before World War II and one after." The trauma he experienced at the hands of Hitler's war machine was palpable as he described coming home from work one day, "I discovered my freshly murdered family, and that thought would never leave me. Terror, heartbreak, horror, and so little time to mourn."

From that day forward, David was torn away from his normal life, like so many others, and found himself in the notorious concentration camp Auschwitz, or *Oświęcim* in Polish. During the almost three years he spent there, he was classified as a privileged prisoner because of his singing ability, which he used to entertain the guards and officers within the camp. **MORE ON NEXT PAGE**

Kathleen Capallo is a Program Assistant at the University of Delaware, Jewish Studies Program. Nora Carleson is a Teaching Assistant to Polly Zavadivker, University of Delaware, Director of the Jewish Studies Program.



This classification meant that he "could live another day," though as the war progressed this guarantee would no advanced and began liberating camps, the Nazis scrambled to destroy evidence of their atrocities. While David was forced on a death march from Auschwitz to Dachau, he realized he would not survive in the new camp and managed to escape.

When David heard the rumbling of tanks, he was terrified of seeing the Nazi iron cross; however, as they drew closer, he saw the American white star insignia. Since Nazis were impersonating Americans, he needed reassurance and received that when three soldiers spoke to him in English, Polish, and Yiddish. He was rescued and welcomed as an honorary member to the 506th Parachute Infantry of the 101st Airborne Division and continued on with them as they liberated camps throughout Europe. David proudly wore his Screaming Eagles hat and jacket. He said of those troops, and his new homeland America, "I am 150% American, they are my family."

David's tragic but inspiring story of struggle and survival is one that resonates. He reminded the audience that

of the 580 men with whom he entered Auschwitz, he is the only remaining survivor. In sharing his story, he is sharing longer be true. As the Allies and Red Army the story of all of those men, of his family, and of the millions who perished during the Holocaust.

> Nora Carleson, Ph.D. student in the History of American Civilization program and Teaching Assistant for Dr. Polly Zavadivker's History of the Jewish Holocaust course at the University of Delaware, shares her reaction to the program and its importance.

I often find it difficult engaging large classrooms of students who routinely quote the all too familiar trope that "history is boring." However, in teaching the history of the Jewish Holocaust this semester, I have encountered something different; a marked interest in the history being taught. I am convinced that this interest stems from bringing public history programming to the classroom. This semester, students heard from the Chief Conservator from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, a faculty member who is a second generation Holocaust survivor, and now Auschwitz survivor, Cantor David Wisnia.

These students are among the last generation that will be able to directly hear the stories of Holocaust survivors. While oral histories and documentaries do a great deal to personalize and relay the significance of first person accounts, there is something inherently different about being in a room with a survivor and feeling the presence of their memories and experiences flooding back.

With a voice filled with the emotion of loss, love, and faith, Mr. Wisnia teaches student and adult alike that in the darkest of times and facing the deepest of hatreds, it is our memories and voices that keep the past alive perhaps staving off horrors of the future. Through his story, the voices of the millions who lost their lives, homes, and culture under the Nazi regime resonate. Through his songs, we see the persistence of human spirit and a memory that cannot be forgotten. The students I have spoken with echo these feelings. For them, Mr. Wisnia brought alive a story so often distant, though ever present, and brought their studies to a personal level.



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FED FOCUS AN ISRAEL TEEN CON EXPERIENCE

By Todd Silberglied Student

For the first time in Delaware, teens from around the community joined together to gain knowledge about Israel in our increasingly partisan world. I had the privilege of helping Delaware's Shlicha from Israel, Dana Berman, along with other teen leaders from the community, Oryah Lahijani, Julai Frank, and Micah Harlev in planning this incredible event.

After months of planning, asking for grants, and recruiting teens, the event finally took place on April 22nd and we got to see all of our hard work pay off. We started the day split into two separate groups, each learning about the way the controversy over Israel affects college life here in America and how to combat situations in which you may personally feel attacked for your beliefs.

Part of what made this learning so special was that there were a bunch of teens

there who all had different reasons for wanting to learn more about Israel. Although most of us were Jewish, not everyone was, and I personally was very curious to hear the ideas of the people who were not Jewish. After a delicious Israeli lunch, we moved into the afternoon sessions which were extremely fun. First, I participated in an Escape Room that was very intricate and well put together. I'll spare some of the specifics but basically, David Ben Gurion needed to give a speech but was missing one crucial thing that we had to discover in order to escape. There were maps, newspaper articles, boxes with locks and so much more that made the room fun yet challenging. I also learned some basics to Krav Maga in my second session with an awesome teacher who choreographs the fights in the Creed movies with Michael B. Jordan and



Todd Silberglied, center, with Teen Con participants, and Dana Berman, right PHOTO COURTESY OF DANA BERMAN

Sylvester Stallone. Unfortunately, I did not have enough time for the third session, an Israeli cooking class, but I heard great things from it.

Overall, the day was packed with fun, enriching experiences, and plenty of learning.

JEWISH FEDERATION OF DELAWARE RECEIVES TWO 2018 HERMES CREATIVE AWARDS

By JFD Staff

The Jewish Federation of Delaware has received two awards recognizing creativity and marketing excellence from the 2018 Hermes Creative Awards

(HermesAwards.com), an international



awards competition recognizing outstanding work while promoting the philanthropic nature of marketing and communications professionals.

Federation received award recognition in the following categories;

- Platinum Award in the Magazine Category for the Jewish VOICE
- Gold Award in the Annual Report Category for its 2016-2017 Report to the Community

Hermes Creative Awards is administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals (amcpros.com). AMCP oversees awards and recognition programs, provides judges and rewards outstanding achievement and service to the profession.

"With 6,000 entries from throughout the Unites States, Canada and several other countries, landing two awards among such a highly competitive playing field is a true testament to the dedication of our staff and lay leadership as well as our commitment to excellence," stated Seth J. Katzen, Chief Executive Officer of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

In looking at Delaware's Southern Shores, here's a peek at the issue from August 14, 1998. This article describes the beginnings of the Seaside Jewish Community. The Jewish Historical Society of Delaware is undertaking a history of Delaware's synagogues and we love finding this story about Delaware's youngest congregation.

> – Gail Pietrzyk Archivist, Jewish Historical Society of Delaware

Throwback Delaware The EVISH VOICE "You heard it in The Jewish Voice"

AUGUST 14, 1998 Wilmington, Delaware

Building Community Throughout Delaware

The 1995 Delaware Jewish Population Study identified a series of issues regarding the future of the Jewish community in our State. A growing Jewish community in the Greater Newark area is probably one of its most important findings. The Jewish Federation decided then, in the spirit of its mission to enhance Jewish life throughout the State, to hire a professional to help build the community in Newark and other parts of the State.

The program officially started in December 1997. Today, the Newark Jewish Community Network, made up of local volunteers, have increased Jewish visibility in the general community through several programs, some of them in partnership with other Jewish agencies. It has also helped to identify families with an interest in Jewish life in the Greater Newark area, and is planning several more programs before the end of the year, and planning for a full day Preschool Plus program and Kindergarten in the Newark area in partnership with the Jewish Community Center and the Einstein Hebrew Academy to open its doors in September 1999.

The Jewish Community of Dover has also received support from this program, and the Federation helped to fund and to forge a partnership between Beth Sholom and the JCC to start a once-aweek Jewish preschool program to open in September of this year. This program was possible because of the commitment of local volunteers and the support of the leadership of the Synagogue in Dover.

But building community doesn't stop with existing organizations. Through this program, the Federation has assisted the leadership of the Seaside Jewish Community to define its future and its goals, and to translate those goals into an organization. The Seaside Jewish Community, Inc., was recently incorporated and will present shortly its bylaws for vote by its membership. We will be there to welcome this youngest sister of the Delaware Jewish Family.

At a time in our society when most Jews, and Americans in general, are looking for new definitions of themselves and starving for connection, the Jewish Federation of Delaware has made a commitment to this program because we believe that the Jewish identity is worthwhile. We believe that Organized Jewish life is the best chance to express our Judaism. And we believe that every Jew has the right to connect with his/her heritage as she/he sees fit. Those are the tenets of the program -- Respect for every person's approach to Judaism and Jewish life. **MORE ON NEXT PAGE**

THROWBACK DELAWARE





THROWBACK DELAWARE

Throwback Delaware



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13



for more information.

The full version of this article can be found at jhsdelaware.org/jewishvoice. You may also contact us at info@jhsdelaware.org

At the Seaside...

An exciting development is taking place in lower Delaware. A new organization, the Seaside Jewish Community, has enlisted one hundred members in its brief span of a little over a year. It all began with a news item in a local paper. Peter Wise who, at the time, owned a small restaurant in Rehoboth Beach put out a call for anyone interested in participating in Jewish services and traditions. The response was overwhelming. Over a hundred people attended the 1997 Seder at Peter's restaurant.

Since then the Community has found a home at the All Saints Church in Rehoboth where The Reverend James E. Manion and his congregation have provided a warm and hospitable place for the group's monthly meetings. At one especially meaningful program, a group of Holocaust survivors shared their experiences. At another meeting, the Community enjoyed an excellent production of a short play about two German friends who grew apart during the Hitler era. Another fine program brought in a reconstructionist rabbi from Philadelphia to talk about the woman's role in Judaism. The Community has also welcomed children with activities such as a Chanukah party and Passover and Purim festivities.

Currently, the Seaside Jewish Community is planning a picnic meeting at the home of Bob and Lenora Cohen, and a New York trip is slated for the near future.

With the interest already demonstrated and with the help of Daniel Chejfec from the Jewish Federation of Delaware who worked with the group to establish direction and goals, the Seaside Jewish Community looks forward to an active and rewarding future.



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NYLC: Young Leaders Visit Jewish Communities in Spain and Morocco

140 National Young Leadership Cabinet members from 39 Federation communities traveled to Morocco & Madrid from April 23rd-29th for The Jewish Federations of North America's National Young Leadership Cabinet annual study mission. The trip was Cabinet's largest-ever Study Mission, which highlighted the special relationship both countries have with the Jewish people, also helped the group understand the importance of supporting vibrant Jewish communities throughout the globe.



George and Lauren Danneman (center). PHOTO COURTESY OF G. DANNEMAN



NYLC Members Lauren and George Danneman in front of the Ibn Gabirol Jewish Day School in Madrid. PHOTO CREDIT: JENA



PHOTO PROVIDED BY RABBI MICHAEL BEALS



Congregation Beth Shalom's Rabbi Michael Beals visits the Delaware Hindu Temple for Governor Carney's DCFBP (Delaware Council on Faith Based Partnerships) monthly meeting.





PHOTO BY RABBI ELLEN BERNHARDT

Jenn Steinberg, Co-Chair of Delaware's JCRC, moderating a session at the JCPA Conference in NYC

ISRAEL TEEN CON

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DANA BERMAN





On Sunday, April 22nd, JFD kicked off the inaugural Israel Teen Con, coordinated by Community Shlicha, Dana Berman, where more than 30 teens learned about Israel advocacy.



YLD PHOTOS COURTESY OF DANA BERMAN

Holocaust survivor Ann Jaffe shared her story with YLD (Young Leadership Division) members as a part of the Zikaron Basalon – Memories in the Living Room program. The event was generously hosted at the home of Kimberly and Jeffrey Felzer.





Kimberly Felzer and Ann Jaffe
YLD guests engaged at Memories in the Living Room

YOM HA'ATZMAUT

PHOTO CREDIT: DONNA HARLEV

On Wednesday, April 18th we celebrated Yom Ha'Atzmaut - 70 years of Israel, with an interactive Sensorium program. Attendees utilized their senses to experience the sights, sounds, textures and tastes of Israel. Special thanks to Community *Shlicha*, Dana Berman, and the Israel & Overseas Committee for organizing such a wonderful program.













- 1 Ivy Harlev, Lt Governor Bethany Hall-Long, and Rep Debra Heffernan
- 2 Marty and Ella Zukoff
- 3 Amy Botagower and Oryah Lahijani
- 4 Guests enjoying the tastes of Israel
- 5 Marilyn Levin and Cindi Viviano
- 6 The band, Musika
- **7** Guests engaged in program installations
- 8 Ilay Malka



JEWISH SCENE

I NEVER SAW ANOTHER BUTTERFLY

PHOTO CREDIT: STEVE GONZER

Chair of the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee, Steve Gonzer was invited to attend an opening night performance (April 26) of *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* presented by God's Power & Light Company at the Everett Theatre, in Middletown.

I Never Saw Another Butterfly is a one-act play written by Celeste Raspanti and was also written as a musical by Joseph Robinette. The play centers around Raja, one of the children who survived Terezin concentration camp and her family, friends, and classmates. Raja shares her story of living in the concentration camp, while retaining a world filled with butterflies and flowers with other children in the camp.

Cast members in the play created butterflies in memory of the children who died in Terezin and sold them at the performances. All the proceeds from those sales were donated to the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee by Kim Taylor, Director of the play.





Everette Theatre Marquee
& 3 Cast members of I never Saw Another Butterfly
Handmade butterflies created by cast members, in memory of the children who perished in Terezin





1 Donor Luncheon Chairs with speaker Kathleen MacRae, Executive Director of the ACLU of Delaware: Bonnie Chirlin, Kathleen MacRae, Bobbi Levitt, and Iris Vinokur

2 Guests Phyllis Kazinoff, Marilyn Weiner, and Receptionist Jill Ferrier, enjoying the day with resident Bob Montgomery

3 Resident Miriam Burr reciting the Motzi assisted by Executive Director, Karen Friedman, and resident Ellie Manis







PJ OUR WAY DESIGN TEAM

PHOTO BY ELLISHA CAPLAN



- 1 Jaidy Schweers, Editor of the J VOICE Monthly, speaks with the Design Team about writing and publishing
- 2 The Design Team working their creative writing prompts







- 1 ECC students enjoying the weather in the courtyard PHOTO BY ABBY SCHREIBER
- 2 Having fun on Special Friends day PHOTO BY DONNA HARLEV
- **3** ECC student playing with bubbles in the warm weather PHOTO BY JAIDY SCHWEERS
- 4 A special moment on Special Friends Day PHOTO BY DONNA HARLEV
- 5 Members of the J Staff in their Be The Good t-shirts PHOTO COURTESY OF THE JCC

















EINSTEIN'S MANY CELEBRATIONS





- 1 Einstein Blended Primary Students celebrate Yom HaAtzmaut PHOTO BY JEREMY WINAKER
- 2 4th Graders leading Hallel at Congregation Beth Shalom before chanting Torah PHOTO BY SIMA MALKA
- 3 Einstein Students whose Eggs Survived the Howard Barton Memorial Egg Drop on Lag B'Omer PHOTO BY EINSTIEN STAFF
- 4 Rick Alexander receives the Community Builder Award (held by Elly Alexander) from Jack Blumenfeld and Karen Jacobs at Eintein's Thanks a Brunch Gala PHOTO BY MARK LIPMAN
- 5 Sylvia Wagman receives the Ner Tamid Award from Rabbi Saks at Einstein's Thanks a Brunch Gala PHOTO BY DONNA HARLEV





HAPPENINGS AT TBE

PHOTO CREDIT: SHARON FULLERTON PHOTOGRAPHY





- 1 Phyllis Seidel stands in front of another one of her beautiful handmade quilts up for auction at Basketfest
- 2 Asa Mitchell waves a flag to celebrate Israel's birthday
- 3 UD Chief of Police Patrick Ogden answers guestions after Mens Club Breakfast

CTEEN PRE-PASSOVER CHOCOLATE SEDER PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHABAD



- 1 Rochel Flikshtein holding up a sample of the Chocolate Seder plate
- 2 Preparing to drink chocolate milk while leaning to the left
- **3** Haley Flambaum enjoys a Seder plate full of Chocolatey Treats
- 4 Headbanz Passover Style
- 5 Jared Schwartz prepares for the Matzah step of the Seder
- 6 Learning the deeper lessons behind the Seder













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EINSTEIN RECOGNIZES ITS 2018 GRADUATES

By Einstein Staff

ALL PHOTOS BY SUSAN PATCH OF PATCHWORKS PHOTOGRAPHY



BENJAMIN MARTIN is the son of Lauren and Tom of Wilmington, DE, and will attend Barrack Hebrew Academy next year. Ben likes Social Studies and Language Arts. He enjoyed learning about the Civil War and camping in Gettysburg because it was "serious but fun."



ELIANA MORRIS is the daughter of Anne Morris of Wilmington, DE, and will attend Tatnall School next year. Eliana said, "My favorite subject is Art because we always do fun projects." Eliana noted, "I made good friends at Einstein and learned valuable life lessons."



SOPHIA PLATSIS is the daughter of Liz and Zach of Wilmington, DE, and will attend Springer Middle School next year. At Einstein, Sophia enjoyed learning computer coding. She also loves drama and singing. This year, Sophia played the part of Jack in the spring play Fee Fi Fo Fum. Sophia said she will miss socializing with her classmates.

MAX WINAKER is the son of Ali Mendelson and Rabbi Jeremy Winaker of Wilmington, DE, and will attend P.S. duPont Middle School's Gifted Program next year. Max said, "My favorite subject is whatever subject I am in." He added that kids should go to Einstein "because it is a great school, and my dad is the principal."



MAI ZIV is the daughter of Hagit and Mike of West Chester, PA. Mai said she liked "every field trip we took from kindergarten to fifth grade." Her favorite subject is Science, noting, "I love doing experiments." She enjoyed helping with the younger students and will miss all of her friends and teachers at Einstein.



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

Please join us for ALBERT EINSTEIN ACADEMY'S 5[™] GRADE CLASS COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Congregation Beth Shalom | 6:30 PM | June 5, 2018 Family, friends, alumni, and community members are invited to attend.



ATTENTION JFS VILLAGE (Formerly Brandywine Village Network) VOLUNTEERS...

By JFS Staff



Jewish Family Services of Delaware is a Beneficiary Agency of Jewish Federation of Delaware. After many months of meeting with members, volunteers, and community partners, JFS is excited to launch the new and renamed JFS Village – a reflection of the ongoing commitment of JFS to serving older adults in our community.

Neither the old Brandywine Village Network (BVN) or the new JFS Village program can work without the tremendous effort of our generous and caring volunteers. It is because of the thousands of hours of volunteer efforts that the JFS program has been able to run and be so successful in helping our neighbors stay in their homes with the support they need to remain independent and active.

The role of the JFS volunteers will not change; JFS volunteers will still provide rides, help around the home, electronics assistance, aid with shopping, and so many other services. One of the most exciting components of the new JFS Village is our partnership with the Siegel JCC Senior Center. Now, the Siegel JCC Senior Center membership is included and entitles the member to a calendar of events, transportation for weekday luncheons and programs, group shopping trips, excursions, and special events.

The JFS Team wants to take this opportunity to **thank JFS volunteers** for their incredible dedication and commitment to our community and the JFS Village members!



AGENCY UPDATE

THE STRENGTH & BEAUTY OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

This Spring, the Siegel JCC preschool children celebrated the National Association for the Education of Young Children's (NAEYC), "Week of the Young Child."

From Music Monday, Tasty Tuesday, Work Together Wednesday, Artsy Thursday and finishing up with Family Friday the joy and delight of childhood was made clear to everyone who visited during that special week.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to coordinate the Artsy Thursday activities, and I chose to do a collaborative project where each child used colored papers cut into interesting shapes, tape, beads, and pipe cleaners to assemble their portion of the project.

Inspired by the quote, "We are each unique and beautiful, but together we are a masterpiece," I carefully selected a project that would require the children to work together, even choosing to use scraps of paper painted by the students at Albert Einstein Academy making this truly a collaborative effort. By allowing each child to be the master of his or her own work, they were given a chance to see themselves as artists. Then, showing the children that we could string their work together, the collaborative impact of the art became an installation more beautiful than that of its individual parts. The children were able to see in a concrete way, that their work was part of a larger whole.

In our community, we often speak of, "Stronger Together." The truth of this sentiment can be found in just about everything we do! During The Week of the Young Child, our ECC children showed the world once again, that each unique member of our community has much to offer, but together we are strong, we are beautiful, and we are an inspiration.

Thoughts of an inspired Art Teacher.

By Julia Forester Art Educator, and Director of Admissions, Albert Einstein Academy



PHOTO BY JULIA FORESTER



Siegel JCC is a Beneficiary Agency of Jewish Federation of Delaware.



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FULL HOUSE, FULL OF LIFE

By Chaplain Mollie Epstein



A group of Lodge Lane residents proudly representing their community PHOTO COURTESY OF LODGE LANE

Lodge Lane Assisted Living is about to reach an important milestone.

It will be celebrating five years since opening its doors to welcome the first residents in August, 2013. This hidden gem in North Wilmington boasts full occupancy in both the assisted living community and the memory care neighborhood. Lodge Lane has seen tremendous growth and accomplishments during these five short years.

The Lodge Lane residents have bonded into a community. The physical structure has become their true home and stands as a microcosm of our larger society. On any given evening one will find a group of Lodge Lane ladies engaged in conversation around the Great Room fireplace. These same ladies have begun a walking club. Meeting on "good weather" days, they enjoy friendship and physical fitness on the Lodge's beautiful grounds.

Not to be outdone, some of the male residents have formed a Men's Club where they spend time in dialogue and activities of interest to them – such as building models, with assistance from community volunteers.

The Tuesday Lunch Bunch, as well as the Take-out Tuesday Groups include both men and women. They enjoy some of Wilmington's culinary offerings by either, going out or ordering lunch in, from local dining establishments. The residents have also expressed interest in giving back to the greater community. To that end, they established the Lodge's "Community Cares Corner." Greeting cards and small sewn articles created by Lodge Lane residents have been distributed to other facilities.

Community support is also evidenced by The Kutz Home and Lodge Lane's participation in the annual Alzheimer's Walk. The team is comprised of staff and resident family members from both facilities. In addition, Lodge Lane hosts a monthly Alzheimer's family support group open to the public.

Complementing the resident driven activities, Lodge Lane's activity and dining services departments contribute to creating an ever-changing and exciting environment.

Everyone enjoys the bi-monthly "Happy Hour" gatherings; complete with delicious drinks, hors d'oeuvres and entertainment. There are also the monthly "Theme Days." These special days pay tribute to The Arts. The dining services department develops menus to support the theme, and the activities department engages the residents in theme-based events. Themes to date have included: Jazz Night, The Spoken Word, Pantomime and Opera. Aside from focusing on The Arts, residents keep up with the changing seasons through sports, super-food, and nature's bounty meals prepared by the dining services department. These meals provide not



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

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

I AM ENOUGH

Leigh Deitz, UD Hillel, Class of 2019

The theater fell silent as students reflected on Scott Fried's words, "I am enough."

No one said a word as the speaker shared his inspirational story of perseverance and self-acceptance. The audience was intrigued to hear what he had to say next.

As a motivational speaker, Fried can inspire and draw emotion through a few simple words. On April 30th, students at the University of Delaware let those words, "I am enough," sink in.

Fried's discussion was more than telling students that they are worthy, it was about understanding how to encompass and feel those words. The hardships and struggles that Fried discussed in his own life enhance his ability to speak positively to others. He reinforced that everyone in the room is "valuable, beautiful, necessary, and sacred." He repeated these few words multiple times throughout the lecture. The final time he paused after saying these words to look each individual in attendance, in their eyes. Fried made a personal connection with everyone in the room by giving a moment to just appreciate each other's presence.



Scott Fried PHOTO SUBMITTED BY UD HILLEL

Throughout his presentation, Fried showed us how little we might know about those sitting around us. A metaphor he used to describe this had to do with what we put in our pockets. He explained that one pocket holds our phone, our link to the outside world, our understanding that we are not alone. We can feel this connection to others when our phone vibrates from a text message. The other pocket holds secrets and stories that we will never share. These stories never vibrate or ring, they remain hidden and buried in the pocket. Reflecting on what each of the audience members finds in their own pockets was a personal and eye opening experience.

Fried's positive and inspiring outlook on life did not come without hardship, pain, and grief. Experiences happen to all of us, but the ways in which we understand and perceive these experiences shape us. Throughout our lives we will continue to encounter experiences, overcome obstacles, and sometimes fall down; however, we will always get back up again because Scott Fried has shown us that *we are enough*.



UD Hillel is a Beneficiary Agency of Jewish Federation of Delaware.

FULL HOUSE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

only interesting culinary opportunities, but, information and education, as well.

Lodge Lane's residents are always busy doing something interesting. Inside the building there are: Weekly sing-alongs, baking, crafts, the monthly science club and presentations on a variety of topics. Recent presenters have included Trish Chambers speaking about the U.S. First Ladies, Benjamin Soffer describing the Historic Gardens of the Delaware Valley, and The Delaware Historical Society sharing insights into the Underground Railroad.

Venturing outside, recent trips have been to the Delaware Art Museum, various shops of interest and nature rides.

Back inside, Lodge Lane is the first facility in Delaware to offer Bayada's Fitness & Wellness Program. This independent program is run by a specialized fitness trainer from Bayada. All residents are invited to participate in this twice weekly formal fitness exercise program. The goal of the program is to increase balance and strength and reduce the risk of falls. Exercises are included for both ambulatory and wheelchair bound residents.

In consideration of all that the residents and staff experience together, it is no wonder that Lodge Lane Assisted Living has won the prestigious News Journal's Reader's Choice Award for best Assisted Living Facility for 2016 and 2017.

Lodge Lane is truly a "Full House, Full of Life."





The West Side Story gang in 1957: lyricist Stephen Sondheim, scriptwriter Arthur Laurents, producers Hal Prince and Robert Griffith (seated), composer Leonard Bernstein, and director and choreographer Jerome Robbins PHOTO: FRIEDMAN-ABELES/©THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

2018: LEONARD BERNSTEIN'S BIG YEAR

By Anne Zwick Turner



The concert at Beersheba, November 20, 1948 PHOTO: LEONARDBERNSTEIN.COM BY LAZAR DUNNER, 1948

Happy Birthday, Mr. Bernstein, in this, your centenary year.

You would be genuinely moved, I'm sure, to know how esteemed and beloved you are, 28 years after your death—not only by Jewish people, but by everyone who loves your music and knows of your heartfelt and tireless efforts on behalf of brotherhood and peace.

Bernstein's parents, Sam and Jennie, were Ukrainian immigrants who raised

Anne Zwick Turner moved to Wilmington, Delaware in May 2016 from Albany, New York. Anne had a 45-year career as a professional soprano throughout the United States and was Artist-in-Residence in Voice and Opera Studies at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. Anne is a private voice teacher and accomplished pianist and currently teaches at the Osher Institute of the University of Delaware. Anne enjoys volunteering for OperaDelaware and mentoring and tutoring for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Delaware and the West End Neighborhood House in Wilmington. Her greatest joy is being Bubbe to her four adorable grandsons, ages 5 to 9, both here in Wilmington and in Greenbelt, Maryland. their family in Boston and were devoted members of Congregation Mishkan Tefila. It was here that Leonard was exposed to Professor Solomon Gregory Braslavsky, the music director and organist at the temple. His influence on Bernstein was enormous. In October of 1946, three years after his first stunning successes as a conductor and composer, Bernstein wrote to Braslavsky:

I have come to realize what a debt I really owe to you - personally - for the marvelous music at the Mishkan Tefila services. The memories of your music are so bright, strong and dear, that I shall probably never be able to truly estimate the real influence those sounds exerted on me. (1)

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

And eighteen years later, in 1964, he paid lavish tribute to Braslavsky in a letter sent to the Cantors Assembly of America, including these words:

I shall never forget your music, nor cease to be grateful for the power, conviction and atmosphere with which it was conveyed. I may have heard greater masterpieces performed since then, and under more impressive circumstances; but I have never been more deeply moved. (2)

Bernstein never strayed far from his Jewish roots as a composer. Two of his symphonies, the Jeremiah (No. 1) and the Kaddish (No. 3) refer directly to Jewish religious texts. The Jeremiah quotes the cantillation of the Book of Lamentations, as well as of the weekly reading from the Prophets (Haftorah). The Kaddish includes a narrator struggling with faith and a chorus singing the familiar hymn of praise to God recited by mourners.

As an orchestral conductor, Bernstein was renowned for his devotion to the Israel Philharmonic. He performed with them both in Israel and abroad, raising their international profile and raising money for the State of Israel. He donated his fees back to the orchestra.

A legendary Bernstein concert in Beersheba may have changed the course of Israel's War of Independence:

Probably no concert by Bernstein and the Israel Philharmonic had the extraordinary impact of the one on November 20, 1948, in the midst of the tiny new state's War of Independence, when just about the entire Arab world was attacking... On November 19, the UN ordered Israel to withdraw its troops from the strategically situated Negevdesert town of Beersheba, which had been captured by the army in October as one of many military steps in the new state's struggle to survive... The Beersheba troops defied the UN and stayed put. The very next day, they faced an unexpected invasion: thirty-five members of the Israel Philharmonic... led by Leonard Bernstein arrived from Jerusalem by armored bus... At 3:30 PM, the concert began. Bernstein played three concerti in a row... When Egyptian planes reported sighting [what they thought were] troops massing in large numbers in Beersheba, Egypt withdrew its troops from a position menacing Jerusalem... (3)

All four creators of the classic West Side Story—Bernstein, Jerome Robbins, Arthur Laurents, and Stephen Sondheim—were Jewish. And Robbins' original idea for the musical was actually "East Side Story"—the story of a Jewish girl and an Italian Catholic boy on New York's Lower East Side. But it is perhaps Bernstein's brilliant score that is most "Jewish." The haunting opening notes of the Prologue, *Maria* and *Cool* are one and the same as the first two intonations (minus or plus a half step) of the Shofar heard at Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Bernstein's Jewish works are deeply connected to his "Jewish nature" his need to create communal musical experiences to honor his Judaism.

We are the grateful beneficiaries of this man's remarkable gifts as an extraordinary musician and extraordinary human being. Thank you, Lenny.

THE JEWISH LEONARD BERNSTEIN A presentation, with audio and video examples, celebrating

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Presented by Anne Zwick Turner

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REFERENCES:

(1) and (2) Leonard Bernstein and the Boston Jewish Community of His Youth: The Influence of Solomon Braslavsky, Herman Rubenovitz, and Congregation Mishkan Tefila. Journal of the Society for American Music (2009). Volume 3, No. 1.

(3) leonardbernstein.com



Congregation Beth Emeth's Cantor Mark Stanton (right) with CBE's Rabbi Yair Robinson during a special Havdalah service and celebration to honor Cantor Stanton on May 5th, 2018.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIRIAM SANDI ER PHOTOGRAPHY

Dear Friends,

Words will never be able to express the outpouring of love and the overflowing abundance of blessing that was palpable by me, and I hope by the many others, who attended the weekend's events over the 4th and 5th of May, from the membership of Congregation Beth Emeth and the entire Jewish community of Wilmington, Delaware! It was quite the visual to see so many faces at both ends of Shabbat; at Friday evening services joined by Beth Emeth's Youth and Adult Choirs for Music Appreciation Shabbat, and my colleague from Congregation Beth Shalom, Cantor Elisa Abrams Cohn, opening Havdalah services on Saturday night followed by members of Beth Emeth's professional High Holy Day Choir and the beautiful duet sung by Lindsay Hawtoff and Aaron Gluck, young members of Beth Emeth. My cup truly runneth over.

My very first memory of Wilmington was 20 years ago, when I was invited by a classmate to sing in a musical presentation for the 25th anniversary of her rabbi's tenure at her student pulpit. Who could possibly know that years later I would be performing for the 35th anniversary for the same rabbi, Rabbi Peter Grumbacher? By that point, I had also performed with another, then student cantor and for the installation of the first full-time Cantor, Cantor Michael Mandel. I had been given a taste of the area during those visits taking the tours of Longwood Gardens and seeing the annual light show, the Brandywine River Museum, and Funscape, before its conversion to Regal Cinemas. (Remember the Go-Karts?) And of course there was Winterthur, and A.I. duPont, with its host of parks and museums that peppered the northern Delaware region.

What struck me on my visits to Delaware were the warm receptions I received every time I came to town by the members of Congregation Beth Emeth and from Wilmington's Jewish community as a whole. Most impressive, upon my arrival at Beth Emeth, was the discovery of how very well the Jewish community "played" together. For the most part, the various Jewish movements in Delaware worked very well together to create the truest sense of Klal Yisrael, Yiddish for All of Israel. Having moved here from my student pulpit, Temple Sinai of Long Island, Lawrence, New York, I saw my share of inflexibility and non-cooperation within the Jewish community. Coming to Delaware was truly, a breath of fresh air! The Jewish Federation helped to coordinate the various synagogues and other Jewish MORE ON NEXT PAGE



agencies' events through the use of the Federation Calendar to make sure that each other's "toes" weren't stepped on when it came to scheduling important events in the life of all the various Jewish entities. When there was a conflict, the Delaware Association of Rabbis & Cantors (*DERECH*), along with the heads of the various agencies worked it out so that everyone in the community could share in each other's events and simchas. Israel could take a lesson!

I have been incredibly blessed by this community in the sharing of each other's talents; from joint concerts with Congregation Beth Shalom, to the annual Café Tamar concerts each Memorial Day weekend at Congregation Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth (AKSE), to the Einstein Academy's children's shows, and to the concerts at the Music School of Delaware that brought the Jewish and non-Jewish communities together as we sang in celebration of our respective winter holidays in a joint celebration of light and song.

Around thanksgiving time and for observances of Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday we have joined our hands, hearts *and* our voices for many years, connecting with brethren of many faiths to join together at Hanover Presbyterian Church and other Wilmington churches and synagogues, reminding to help those around us by giving a hand to lift those who are looking for answers. Choral music has a way of bringing us together to do that sacred work.

One of the groups that has been near and dear to my heart was the Jewish Barbershop quartet, *Kishkapella*. We had opportunities to perform in various Jewish and non-Jewish venues including for the Jewish War Veterans and various presentations throughout the Delaware region offering a Jewish twist to standard Barbershop musical traditions.

Last, but not least, were the times the Beth Emeth Youth and Adult choirs performed for Lodge Lane and for the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home where my grandmother, Florence Weinstein, resided for over 10 years. These Jewish facilities have done, and continue to do amazing work, and it was an honor to be able to give back in my own way.

It has been an honor to be a part of this amazing community! The memories of my time here in Wilmington will ALWAYS be cherished. Thank you all for fifteen years of blessing!

> B'ahavah uv'Shalom, in love and in peace,

> Cantor Mark Stanton



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Hong Kong



SYNAGOGUE NEWS



Lisa Levine PHOTO BY LOUIS LEVINE

SEASIDE WELCOMES New Religious leader, LISA LEVINE

By David Udoff Seaside Community

Seaside Jewish Community has hired Rabbinic Pastor Lisa Levine to be its new Religious Leader, beginning this summer.

Reb Lisa will start her tenure at Seaside on July 1, succeeding Rabbi Beth Cohen, who will serve as Seaside's Rabbi Emeritus. Levine comes to Seaside after an exhaustive search for Rabbi Beth's successor. Reb Lisa had come down to Rehoboth Beach to visit and dine with members of the Seaside congregation last December, when she also helped lead Saturday morning and Havdalah services as part of a weekend of music, prayer, and spiritual discussion. She was hired by the congregation's Board of Directors in February.

Reb Lisa has been serving as cantor at Temple Shalom in Chevy Chase, Md. She



FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2018 Light candles at 8:06 PM Shabbat, June 2, 2018 Shabbat ends at 9:13 PM

FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 2018 Light candles at 8:11 PM Shabbat, June 9, 2018 Shabbat ends at 9:18 PM

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 2018 Light candles at 8:14 PM Shabbat, June 16, 2018 Shabbat ends at 9:22 PM

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2018 Light candles at 8:16 PM Shabbat, June 23, 2018 Shabbat ends at 9:23 PM

FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2018 Light candles at 8:16 PM Shabbat, June 30, 2018 Shabbat ends at 9:23 PM has worked as a cantor for various Jewish communities since her investiture in 1989, including Dallas, TX.; Des Moines, IA; Kansas City, MO.; Baltimore, MD.; and Stamford, CT.

Additionally, Reb Lisa has been a composer and recording artist, having released multiple albums and songbooks. She has also taught yoga and is the creator of *Yoga Shalom*, a combined book, CD, and DVD collection that provides an overview of the traditional Shabbat service complete with yoga teachings.

In January, Reb Lisa was ordained as a Rabbinic Pastor by ALEPH, the Alliance for Jewish Renewal.

"I feel truly blessed to be joining the Seaside Jewish Community family at this time in its history," Levine said. "My intention is to meet and listen to as many people's stories as possible, be supportive of the leadership's goals for the congregation, and provide pastoral care and excellent worship experiences where people of all ages and faiths feel comfortable gathering together in prayer and song. I'm most excited about working with the children of the [Seaside] Religious School and becoming part of their Jewish journey."

Reb Lisa added she was honored to be following in the footsteps of Rabbi Beth, "who has forged the way for the congregation to grow and expand its presence and partnership with the greater community."

SYNAGOGUE NEWS

BASKETFEST SPREADS CHEER AND Raises funds for temple beth el



TBE's 19th Annual Basketfest sells out again with 280 men and women enjoying a fun afternoon PHOTO CREDIT: SHARON FULLERTON

By TBE Staff

What can happen when a sellout crowd of 280 men and women, gather together in one room to bid on more than 150 unique baskets, and enjoy great food and company?

Basketfest is born and instant happiness is achieved! Baskets of goods and gift cards were donated by members of Temple Beth El, community organizations like The Grand Opera House, and area businesses such as Skipjack restaurant in Newark. Many of the baskets were whimsical combinations of gift cards and items. From Dooney and Bourke handbags to a basket of fine wine, lucky bidders won valuable prizes as others smiled and cheered the winners.

This traditional Temple Beth El fundraiser, in its 19th year, unites Temple Beth El members with the community. Chaired this year by Sue Herst and Shelley Perlmutter, Basketfest is the top fundraiser for Temple Beth El. Basketfest's longevity is a function of the power of fun, and, well, gambling. Thanks to the many volunteers, participants, and organizations, and businesses that made it happen.



Jonathan Dior gets a beach-themed basket ready for the next lucky winner PHOTO CREDIT: SHARON FULLERTON



June 2018 | J VOICE MONTHLY | 31



■ What are your views ■ about Jews-by-Choice?



When I was a rookie rabbi serving my first congregation, I almost got into fisticuffs with a member of my congregation. He was saying horrible things about people who converted to Judaism implying they were second-class Jews. My blood pressure was rising. I was brought up to have respect for all Jews regardless of their origins and I defended their honor. Thank God it didn't come to blows.

Since that time attitudes toward Jewsby-Choice have improved. In 1978 Rabbi Alexander Schindler, the president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (now the Union for Reform Judaism) called for outreach towards the "unchurched" in a "dignified and responsible" manner. Speaking for rabbis that I know, we have always fostered great regard for all our members whether they were born Jewish or not.

The debate over those who chose to be Jewish didn't start in recent times. In the Jerusalem Talmud (Kiddushin 65b) Rav argued with his peers who maintained that it was illegitimate to accept converts for their love of a Jew. Rav said: "They are to be received. This is the law. They are to be welcomed immediately. They are not to be repelled at the beginning; and they must be treated kindly for perhaps they will become converts with pure intent." Rav's attitude was not unique. Throughout the ages there have been rabbis who have warmly welcomed the stranger into our midst. Though the tradition has been to bring closer with one hand and push away with the others, often the approach is leniency.

In the nineteenth century Solomon Buber in his collection of midrash declared,

Dearer to God than all of the Israelites who stood at Mt. Sinai is the convert. Had the Israelites not witnessed the lightning, thunder, quaking mountain and sounding trumpets, they would not have accepted the Torah. But the convert, who did not see or hear any of these things, came and surrendered to God and accepted the yoke of heaven. Can anyone be dearer to God than such a person?

Buber's dictum echoes in our approach to those who choose to become Jews today. Given the complexity of our world, our exposure to all sorts of thoughts and beliefs, it is hard to imagine multitudes of people who don't consider choosing another faith. Even born Jews must make a conscious choice to be a committed Jew. If this is the case, then we are all Jews-by-Choice.

RABBI PETER GRUMBACHER

Rabbi Emeritus, Congregation Beth Emeth

I always thought I could easily tell you who was a cradle Jew and who was a Jew-by-Choice. Then a woman asked me about the role of non-Jews at a Bar Mitzvah. I couldn't imagine anyone in her family or that of her husband who would fit into that category so I asked her. She replied (looking at me as if I had lost my marbles), "Rabbi, I'm a convert! Didn't you know?" Well, I didn't, and from then on I realized I couldn't be so cavalier.

And it doesn't matter... a Jew is a Jew, cradle or otherwise!

We know that people who adopt something are usually far more intense about it and certainly that is the case with Jews-by-Choice. Sometimes, however, they just substitute the synagogue for the church; that it is the religion of the Jews in which they are involved, but the Peoplehood often remains foreign. They immerse themselves in the spiritual life the synagogue offers, but when it comes to Israel or k'lal Yisrael, world Jewry, they aren't sure what their role is, how they are supposed to respond. It wasn't in their world before they chose Judaism and it often will not be in their Jewish world.

Alas, there are those who I believe "crossed their fingers" when they pledged their loyalty, who didn't necessarily "forsake the religion of their past." One woman told me point blank a year or so after her ceremony, "I didn't want to give up everything I had as a Christian, and I certainly didn't want to be exposed to the anti-Semitism I'm finding in my unit in the DuPont Company!" I wondered out loud why then did she convert? Her husband at the time insisted

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



RABBIS' VOICES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32

he wouldn't marry someone who wasn't Jewish. It seems to me that the first nail in the coffin of their marriage was lack of honesty.

One of the most interesting experiences I had was the woman who was educationally challenged. She was a kind and open person, and when she said (one month before her wedding) that she couldn't go through with the conversion. "Look, Rabbi, it's not that I don't believe in Judaism and what it represents. But I need support now and later, and my fiancé and his parents could care less. They do nothing to show they are Jewish. They just want me to go through the process."

Since I don't officiate at interfaith marriages, I found a colleague who was available on their announced date. But I also told her how much I valued her honesty. Knowing her husband-to-be from the times he joined us in our lessons, I felt bad for her. Indeed, he wasn't the nicest person, but who am I to play God and say that they shouldn't get married! I can't do that and wouldn't do that. I only wish I knew what happened to her. I was convinced that one day I'd again have her as a potential convert with an open mind and dedicated spirit and without the burden of HIM.

I welcome the opportunity to work with those interested in linking their lives to ours, and I hope that those who have chosen Judaism are, and will continue to be, dedicated to the preservation of our People and our Faith.

BAT MITZVAH

TALIA BRACHA SAKS, daughter of Rabbi Steven Saks and Anne Saks, will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday June 9, 2018 at Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth. Talia is older sister to Gavriella, Elisheva, and Margalit. She is the granddaughter of Carl and Barbara Saks of Bellmore, New York and Sandra and Isidore Teitelbaum of Manalapan, New Jersey. Talia is a graduate of Albert Einstein Academy and currently attends Kohelet Yeshiva Middle School. She loves to volunteer and help people. She has participated in bake sales, helped with youth groups and is always looking for more ways to help people. Talia's hobbies include knitting, scrap booking, piano, and theater. She loves to dance and is passionate in her support of the Friends of the Israeli Defense Force. She has been donating a



Talia Bracha Saks PHOTO CREDIT: LIFETOUCH PHOTOGRAPHY

portion of her birthday money to FIDF since her 8th birthday. She hopes to continue this tradition next year when we go to Israel and deliver letters to the soldiers personally. She's also a lifetime member of Hadassah. You can help her efforts by donating to FIDF or Hadassah in honor of her Bat Mitzvah.

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Summer, summer... where for art thou?

Or, as my mother might say, "When are we going to be done with this fashtunkinah weather?"

As I write this column about going down to the beach, I'm hoping that by the time it's published, it will be warm enough to actually go there. If you want to.

For most of us, we know the drill by now. From September to June, coinciding with school, the kids' extracurricular activities, and of course, the crush of so many holidays – Jewish and otherwise – our schedules are filled with responsibilities. Ahhh, but summer! That's the time when we take a break from all of that and head for the beach. If you're from New York, you'll probably take a day trip or stay at a beach house somewhere out on the island or the Jersey shore. If you're in New England, chances are you're headed for Cape Cod, Nantucket, Narragansett, or some other town along the coast whose name your kids likely have more trouble pronouncing than they do reciting the Four Questions.

And if you're somewhere in the vicinity of Philadelphia, Baltimore, or Washington, DC, you're either crawling down Route 1 or over the Chesapeake Bay Bridge in that epic journey to reach either Lewes, Rehoboth Beach, Dewey Beach, Bethany Beach, or if you're really going for it, Fenwick Island or Ocean City.

And being right smack in the middle of all that traveling madness, I get a bird's eye view of the critical mass of visitors and second homeowners that temporarily swells the population here, the ones we affectionately call "summer people."

Oh, don't get me wrong. We *want* you down here (if we didn't, my adopted Jewish congregation, Seaside Jewish Community, wouldn't have expanded its Shabbat services schedule during the **MORE ON NEXT PAGE**


By David Udoff Member, J VOICE Committee, and Seaside Community

summer months). After all, there aren't that many other options for Delaware to grow its economy and public coffers, since we have no sales tax here, you know?

But you'll have to forgive me if my perspective on the whole beach-going experience has changed over the years. Once upon a time, I was a part of those summer families, growing up in suburban New York, vacationing in rustic ocean enclaves like the Hamptons.

Then, I grew up and actually found work with a newspaper in those same Hamptons and saw how the summer



day trippers and second homeowners turned a normally serene, countrified atmosphere into a large outdoor party and traffic nightmare, where pedestrian crosswalks on the main streets of town were apparently just for show. A similar vibe has taken shape for me over the past six years since I moved from the DC 'burbs to the other side of the Chesapeake.

To put it more bluntly, that beach life you spend all autumn, winter, and spring daydreaming about and itching to return to? Around here, we call that "Friday."

But since we do want you here, here are a few tips for getting here and what to do once you arrive.

--Avoid peak travel times, if you can. You know those electronic signs on Route 50 between the Capital Beltway and Annapolis, the ones that tell you that the Bay Bridge is 22 miles away and will take you 22 or 23 minutes to get to? Multiply that second number by at least three if you're even thinking of crossing it on a summer, Friday afternoon, or Saturday morning. Don't even bother counting if a thunderstorm is about to tear through the area. Just make sure you've got plenty of music or audiobooks on hand, and make sure your bladder is empty before you hit the road.

--Remember this: down here, it's called "the beach." Not "the shore" (that's New Jersey) and not "the island" (that's New York).

--Take advantage of some our beautiful state parks, like Cape Henlopen, which incidentally, is where Seaside Jewish Community has its annual Havdalah on the Beach (this year's event will take place on Saturday, July 7). The Gordon's Pond trail, completed just a few years ago, is wonderful for hikers and bikers and a natural gem among the hotels, condos, and other development that draws so many tourists (also great for hikers and bikers is the Junction and Breakwater Trail, which can be accessed from a number of parking lots in Lewes and Rehoboth). Delaware Seashore State Park, located on Route 1 just south of Dewey Beach, is a great place to set up shop for a day at the beach. Fenwick Island State Park, just north of the Ocean City line, is good for the same purpose.

And if you're feeling somewhat adventurous, want to avoid crowds, or otherwise want to wander off the beaten path, you can always stop midway in between the suburbs and the ocean resort areas and visit some of the smaller, quieter areas along Delaware Bay (closer to where I live). Bowers Beach, a tiny fishing village about 15 miles south of Dover, is one such place, as is Slaughter Beach, a little bit further south. There's also the Prime Hook National Wildlife Refuge, near Milton, where you can enjoy the salt marshes, woodlands and ponds, and observe a variety of birds, reptiles, and mammals.

Oh, and of course, by all means, feel free to stop at the little synagogue with the white façade just down road from the Tanger Outlets on Route 1 in Rehoboth (that would be our very own Seaside Jewish Community) for Friday night or Saturday morning services. Our new religious leader, "Reb" Lisa Levine (who begins her tenure on July 1), as well as our friendly congregation members, will make you feel like you've found a home away from home, if only for a couple of hours.

And, Rosenfeld's Deli, now with locations in Rehoboth Beach and Ocean City, will make you feel at home when you need something to eat.

With all that said, shalom! And welcome! And, just for PSA's sake, don't forget to bring lots of sunscreen, and apply generously!

PUZZLES JERUSALEM POST CROSSWORD PUZZLE

VALUABLE JEWS

By Yoni Glatt koshercrosswords@gmail.com

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Medium SOLUTION APPEARS ON PAGE 40

ACROSS

- 1. Cowboy Emmitt
- 6. " ___ the Dog"
- 9. 1930s French premier Leon
- 13. On the briny
- 14. "New York State of Mind," essentially
- 15. Philosopher Descartes
- 16. Artist whose only (solo) #1 was in 1975
- 18. Pirkei _
- 19. Compare
- 20. 502, in Herod's day
- 21. Fossey animal
- 24. Animal house
- 25. More nervous
- 28. Sarajevo's land
- 30. Make like Randy Savage
- 31. Where a bat might be found in the house
- 32. Patel-Kidman film of 2016
- 33. House, for ex.
- 34. Former Flushing structure
- 35. What can be found in each of this puzzle's
- theme answers
- 36. Treadmill setting
- 37. Cultivate
- 38. Israeli sandals
- 39. Less than right?
- 40. "E.T." kid
- 42. Entertained
- 43. "So Long, ____" ("Hello, Dolly!" song)44. "Raiders of the Lost Ark" soundtrack grp.
- 45. His, in France
- 46. Chernobyl's loc.
- 47. Moolah, in Israel
- 49. Gregorius of the Yankees
- 51. 2007 NL Rookie of the Year
- 55. "I'll second that"
- 56. Mess up
- 57. Big insurance carrier
- 58. Jewish ice?
- 59. "Bambi" villain?
- 60. Ben with a boring voice

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
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58	\vdash				59				60				

DOWN

- 1. Easy mark
- 2. Train and bus overseer, for short
- 3. Where Larry Bird played coll. ball
- 4. Giveaway, in poker
- 5. Like a Lubavitcher6. All hosts of "The View"
- 7. Olam
- 8. Two before Lev.
- 9. Smarts
- 10. Eponymous jeans maker
- 11. "Dos" half
- 12. Player in 34-Across, once
- 17. Chain from Scandinavia
- 20. Celebrity chef Paula
- 21. Shamed
- 22. Winter opening on Broadway?
- 23. Cosmetics mogul who said "Beauty is an
- attitude"
- 25. Set foot (on)
- 26. One with the most votes, usually
- 27. Tries to improve, as a lawn

- 29. Vardalos of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding"
- 30. Droop, as flowers
- 32. Dreidel take
- 35. Jaffa or Zion
- 36. 1994 Jeremy Piven film
- 38. Black, in Bordeaux
- 39. Creatures on a slide
- 41. Annoying
- 42. Part of Nasdaq: Abbr.
- 44. What a kollel member does
- 47. Actress Sedgwick
- 48. Guitar bar
- 49. Delicately apply
- 50. "____ Mine" ("Let It Be" song)
- 51. Michael Stipe's band
- 52. Didn't observe Yom Kippur
- 53. College, to an Aussie
- 54. A Bobbsey sister





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

How many common words of 5 or more letters can you spell using the letters in the hive?

- Every answer must use the center letter at least once.
- Letters may be reused in a word.
- At least one word will use all 7 letters and have a direct Jewish connection.
- Proper names and hyphenated words are not allowed.



SCORE: 1 point for each answer 3 points for Jewish related word that uses all 7 letters.

RATING:

6 = Good 8 = Excellent 11 = Genius

HERE IS A LIST OF SOME COMMON WORDS

(Yes, we know there are more words in the dictionary that can work, but these words are the most common):

JEWISH ANSWER: CHUTZPAH

OTHER ANSWERS: CATCHUP, CHAZZAN, CHUPPAH, CHATAN, HUZZAH, PAZAZZ, ATTACH, CATCH, CAPUT, HATCH, PATCH

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School

WORLD RENOWNED DESIGN CRITIC SPEAKS AT BEZALEL Academy of Art & Design in Memory of Stuart B. Young

By Liv Sperber Vice President for International Affairs, Bezalel Academy

World renowned British design critic Alice Rawsthorn was featured as the second speaker at Bezalel Academy's international lecture series in memory of Delaware's Stuart B. Young.

Rawsthorn presented at the Academy's Industrial Design in a Changing World conference which took place in Jerusalem on May 1. The conference focused on the new direction in which industrial design is evolving, including discussions about Bio-Design, Design Thinking, and Open Design.

Rawsthorn is an award-winning design critic and the author of several books and articles. Her latest book, *Hello World: Where Design Meets Life*, explores the influence of design on our lives – past, present, and future – and was translated into several languages. Rawsthorn's next book, *Design as an Attitude*, will publish this month and focuses on the new directions of design today.

Beyond her role as a writer and thought leader, Rawsthorn is an influential public speaker on design and has participated in important global events including the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland and TED. She began her career as a foreign correspondent for the Financial Times in Paris and after a fiveyear stint as the director of the Design Museum in London, she became a design critic for New York Times International



Edition. Her weekly design column has been published in the New York Times International Edition for over a decade.

Rawsthorn is an honorary senior fellow of the Royal College of Art with an honorary doctorate from the University of the Arts. She serves on the recognition committee for numerous arts and cultural awards. Rawsthorn has also served as a trustee on the Arts Council England from 2007 to 2013.

Bezalel Academy's Stuart B. Young International series is dedicated in memory of Stuart B. Young, who served on the Boards of Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design both in Israel and the United States. Upon his sudden passing in 2014, Young's wife, Toni dedicated the series in order to expose Bezalel's students to global thought leaders in various arts and design.

Throughout his life, Young was an active member in Wilmington's Jewish community. He was a lifelong member of PHOTO BY MARIA SHERF Congregation Beth Shalom, a contributor to the Jewish Federation of Delaware for more than 55 years and a steadfast supporter of Israel. He served as president, chairman and chairman emeritus of the Delaware College of Art and Design; chairman of the Delaware State Arts Council; President of the Delaware Art Museum; a board member of the National Conference of Christians and Jews; and trustee of the Wilmington Friends School.

Liv Sperber, Vice President

Rawsthorn; and Ann Saban,

for International Affairs at Bezalel Academy; Alice

Daughter of Toni and Stuart Young

Young was also active locally with the Wilmington Development Council and the city's Holocaust Memorial Committee.

Founded in 1906, the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design is Israel's oldest institution of higher education and the birthplace of Israel's art culture. With programs ranging across the discipline, Bezalel's graduates influence the world through their designs utilizing the top skills instilled within them in their time at the historic art academy in Jerusalem.

ARTS CULTURE



Victoria Millsap







HALINA WIND PRESTON HOLOCAUST EDUCATION **COMMITTEE AWARDS GRANT TO PADUA** ACADEMY ART STUDENTS

By Denise Vitollo, Art Educator, Fine Art Department, Padua Academy

Hannah Scott

The Mordechai Anielewicz Creative Arts Competition, now in its 44th year is sponsored by The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia:

> Named in honor of the young leader who led Jewish resistance against Nazi tyranny in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising in 1943, the Anielewicz competition encourages all students, grades 7-12 in the Greater Philadelphia area, to learn

about and respond to the Holocaust by means of creative expression.

This year, the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee awarded a generous grant to Padua Academy art students to cover the costs of matting and professionally presenting the almost 40 entries that were submitted to the competition. In preparation for the project, Steve Gonzer, committee Chair met with me, to discuss the importance of Holocaust education in Delaware. Barbara Markham, Chair of the History Department at Padua and Holocaust education expert gave a presentation

to my students. Barbara has worked over the years with Mr. Gonzer and has been awarded several grants through the Arnold D. Kerr Holocaust Education Endowment Fund.

My own classes have participated in the Mordechai Anielewicz creative arts competition for over five years, ever since I first heard of it through a mailing to Padua. All through my own education, my knowledge of the Holocaust was pathetically lacking. Finally, I learned the horrific, shocking truth in detail through my own investigation. I wondered how MORE ON NEXT PAGE



such an event could be glossed over in an educational environment. Thankfully, that is not the case at Padua.

At Padua Academy, Barbara Markham offers a yearlong elective on the Holocaust and Twentieth Century Genocide to students in grades 10 through 12. Barbara brings several guest speakers, including local Holocaust survivors and Mr. Gonzer to talk with the Padua students.

"The program has cross curricular applications to emphasize the respect for life, the preservation of a democracy, and the moral dilemmas in an immoral reality. Extending beyond the historical treatment of the Holocaust, themes of the course deal with reconciliation, survival, morality, indifference, and immorality."

Today's Catholic School Teacher



VALUABLE JEWS

PUZZLE LOCATED ON PAGE 36





The work of all of the other students who participated in the competition will be on display at Moore College of Art and Design, along with the creations of the award winners.

Prizes will be awarded at a special Awards Ceremony on Monday evening, June 4th at 7:30 PM at the Moore College of Art and Design, 20th Street and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

My students get thoroughly immersed in their work while researching and creating their art. I asked a few of them how they felt about participating in this year's Creative Arts Competition project:

"Creating this project helped me experience empathy for my subject. As I fully immersed myself into my artwork, I also put myself in the situation."

– Brittany K.

"Creating art for the competition is a way of expressing the pain of the Holocaust of the past, and the genocides of the present. It's still relevant. Some people just don't value human life."

– Ursula D.

"This event was really important to me because an old family friend was one of the liberators of the concentration camps, and the Holocaust has always been a very prominent event in history to me. I believe that the Holocaust is something that we can never forget, and even though it's filled with horrific events and terrible people, there are always the memories of those who fought against the criminal injustices done against those persecuted. Through events like these and teaching about it in school, we can keep the memories of the heroes and victims alive for the rest of time."

– Molly S.

Chloe G.

"It is important to participate in the Mordechai Anielewicz competition because it allows one to fully understand and see the effects of the Holocaust. I did not really enjoy working on this project because it made me very sad just thinking of the brutality of the Holocaust." "It was important for me to participate in this arts event because I was able to give justice to those who experienced the Holocaust's tragic events. Through my research of Holocaust survivors and historians, I was able to find quotes that perfectly fit the sacrifices and difficult situations the victims had to face. I wanted to give homage to the victims and showcase how they were more than just casualties, but people who stuck to their beliefs and tried to fight for their dignity and humanity. I felt inspired to create a memorial to the victims of the Holocaust."

– Lauren P.

This year, eight Padua students placed in the Mordechai Anielewicz Creative Arts Competition. They are:

9th and 10th Grade 2D Entries:

- Alexis McKeown, First Place
- Maggie Pryor, Honorable Mention

9th and 10th Grade 3D Entries:

- Hannah Scott, First Place
- Maggie Flanagan, Second Place
- Abigail Cowan, Third Place
- Megan Davis, Honorable Mention

11th and 12th Grade 2D Entries:

- Georgia Volpe, Second Place
- Victoria Millsap, Honorable Mention

11th and 12th Grade 3D Entries:

• Naja McCain





By Kerin Hearn ArtSpace Committee Member

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE Sometimes unnoticed In Artspace New Pottery Colors In Showcase

The two summer artists in the Siegel JCC ArtSpace both began their current art efforts after successful careers in other fields. What Caught My Eye features the photography of Virginia Lockman, recently retired from 27 years as an officer of a non-profit agency. Steve Datz, whose work is in the Showcase, made the jump from computers to ceramics to create colorful functional pieces.



Green Trailer PHOTO BY VIRGINIA LOCKMAN

VIRGINIA LOCKMAN - What Caught My Eye

When Ginny was getting ready to retire from her non-profit management job in 2013, she knew that she wanted to do something creative. She had enjoyed playing with cell phone photography and so she made the major decision to buy her first professional grade camera, a Nikon.

She then went about training herself how to use it by taking photography walks with a local professional photographer, attending local and on-site photography workshops in other states, and just plain practicing "photographing things."

In 2014 she went to Cuba and loved the challenge of photographing the newly opened country. Her resulting work became a one-person show at Colorworks Gallery.



Red Leaf PHOTO BY VIRGINIA LOCKMAN

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



ArtSpace

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 41

Travels to India, South Africa, and Italy provided more subjects for her photography. At first she liked to do birds and boats, but then was captivated by people and their lives.

Her ArtSpace show, What Caught My Eye, reflects her travels up and down the East Coast from North Carolina to Massachusetts. Ginny began to notice that everywhere she went, there were little noticed, overgrown, and almost hidden, decaying abandoned buildings, rusting vehicles and crumbling machinery. On the other side, there were also little bits of colorful, blooming, and ripening pieces of nature.

When something catches Ginny's eye, she studies it carefully. She sees a cropped image and takes the photo that way. Although her photos may appear to be



Birdhouse PHOTO BY STEVE DATZ

close-ups, or details of a larger image, they are not. Rather her photos are taken to achieve the exact picture she wants.

"What makes me raise the camera to my eye," says Ginny, "are things like the texture of rotting wood on an abandoned house, the golden shades of sea grass at dawn, the joy of a child at play." Ginny likes to feel that she portrays a slightly different perspective or angle on what people see every day. **MORE ON NEXT PAGE**



Do you love the thrill of the hunt seeking that perfect treasure? And support a great cause too? Great Stuff Savvy Resale and Great Stuff Home benefit the Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition.





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ARTS CULTURE

ArtSpace CONTINUED FROM PAGE 42

STEVE DATZ Discovering New Colors in Ceramics

Steve began his career with two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in Thailand. He stayed in the country for an additional four years working with local development agencies creating HIV/ AIDS education programs and teaching computer science in a Bangkok business school.

When he came home, he took up computer programming and remained in the field for many years. After he left his well-paying job, he took a year to decide what he wanted to do with his life. He had always wanted to make pottery and figured "it might as well be now!" He purchased a second-hand potter's wheel and kiln and was on his way.

He loved making things, especially useful objects that people could enjoy. He created textured crackle effect glazes and airbrushed sunsets, trees, and shadows onto the clay. Next he experimented with color and developed bright shades that other potters don't have. He eschews earth tones for bright reds, greens, and yellows, toned down with a little mustard.

Over ten years ago he opened Your Creation Station in Middletown. At first people could come to paint ready-made pieces of bisque, which were fired there. Then he expanded into hand-built and pottery wheel classes. Since then he has gone into every imaginable craft including canvas painting, tie dye, fused glass, jewelry, painting on wood plaques and wine glasses, etc.

Middletown has become a "happening place" and Steve feels Your Creation Station provides a gathering place where people can create and learn about art. He has moved his studio into the store and makes his colorful bowls and birdhouses right along with whoever is there!



The Siegel JCC ArtSpace is located across from the front desk in the main lobby. Visit the exhibition during regular lobby hours. Artists or artist groups interested in exhibiting at the Siegel JCC ArtSpace or in the Showcase should contact Katie Glazier at 302-478-5660 or katieglazier@siegeljcc.org



LIFE CYCLES OBITUARIES



Ha'makom yenahem etkhem betokh she'ar avelei tziyonvi'Yerushalayim.

ROSE GREENBERG

Wilmington - Age 89, of Wilmington, DE passed away Sunday, April 29, 2018.

Born in Poland, Rose was a Holocaust Survivor. She immigrated to the United States in 1951. In 1956, Rose together with her husband, Ben, started B & M Meats, Inc. which they operated until their retirement in 1994.

Rose was a good, kind, strong-spirited woman, who deeply loved and cared for her family.

Preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, Ben Greenberg; she is survived by her son, Henry Greenberg (Maureen); her daughter, Annette Baruch (Josef "Yossi"); her grandchildren, Rena and Maya Baruch and Cara Greenberg; her great-granddaughter, Maryam Baruch.

Schoenberg Memorial Chapel

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DR. EDWARD E. JAFFE

Wilmington - We are saddened to announce the passing of Dr. Edward E. Jaffe at the age of 89 on May 9, 2018. He passed away at home after a long illness, under the care of his loving wife Ann, to whom he was married for 63 years.

Born in a small Lithuanian village in 1928, he avoided the worst fate of the Nazi Holocaust with his brother, Abe, and his parents, Leah and Paul, after the family was deported to Siberia by the Soviet regime for the duration of World War II.

He met Ann after the war in a displaced persons camp in Germany, and began his studies in Chemistry. After arriving in America a few years later, he earned his BS from City College of New York and both his Masters and PhD in Chemistry from NYU, after which he immediately went to work for the DuPont Company as a research scientist, rising to the very top of his field in Pigment Chemistry over a long and brilliant career, with numerous US and International patents to his name. When DuPont sold the business, he finished out his active research life with the Ciba Geigy Corporation, becoming revered for his problem-solving and troubleshooting skills in every phase of pigments research, development, and production. Among his many accolades, he was honored by the Delaware Section of the American Chemical Society in recognition of his scientific achievements and contributions.

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An avid reader and writer, Ed's passions were academic excellence and achievement, values that flowed from his Eastern European Jewish heritage, and which he instilled in his children and grandchildren from a young age. His unflinching support for his family's educational advancement never wavered. Ed expressed never-ending gratitude for the opportunities given to him by the United States, the "greatest country on earth." He was a person with opinions, and those who knew him found him refreshingly (and often entertainingly) honest and direct. Above all else, he had a deep and heartfelt love for his family.

Ed is survived by his wife, Ann; his daughters, Rebecca Jaffe (Jerome Heisler, Jr.) and Linda Jaffe Sereduke (Christian); his son, David; grandchildren, Maayan Lattin (Robert), Tali Vodovis, Joshua Heisler, and Rachel Heisler; and great-grandson, Caleb Lattin.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Ed's memory may be made to the Jewish National Fund (www.jnf.org)

SANDRA FAITH SCHENK (nee RUBIN)

Glen Mills - Age 80, passed away Friday, May 11, 2018.

Born April 6, 1938 in Wilmington, DE to the late Max and Ida (nee Sharov) Rubin, she had been part of the Maris Grove Community for the last 7 years.

Sandra is survived by her husband of 59 years, Stuart; children, Meryl Kaplan (Jeffrey) of University Heights, OH, Karen Caplan (Scott) of West Chester, PA, and Michael (Dennice) of West Simsbury, CT; sister, Myra Sachs; grandchildren, Adam, Brandon, Kelsey, Natalie, Ellen, and Daniel.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Maris Grove Residents Fund, 200 Maris Grove Way, Glen Mills, PA 19342 or to Willow Tree Hospice (www. willowtreehospice.com).

IRWIN WEINBERG

Wilmington - Age 89, passed away Saturday, May 5, 2018.

Born October 29, 1928 in Cambridge, MA, he was the son of the late Benjamin and Kathleen (nee Rubin) Weinberg. Irwin was a real mensch. His family was his life and his greatest pleasure, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Preceded in death by his cherished wife

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

of 65 years, Beverly (nee Diamond); Irwin is survived by his children, Richard (Helene), Howard, and David (Cathy); grandchildren, Michelle Heed (David), Amanda Marino (Michael), Leslie Hudson (Kyle), and Jennifer Weinberg; great-grandchildren, Elijah and Josiah Marino and Olivia Heed.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions in memory of Irwin and Beverly Weinberg to the Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809.

JOSEPH ZIMMERMAN

Greenville - Joseph Zimmerman, devoted family man, passionate musician, and renowned chemist, passed away with his family present on Tuesday, May 8, 2018.

Joe was born in 1921 in New York City to Russian immigrant parents, Jacob and Tania. His father taught him to play the cello when he was eight years old, and he played his entire life. He was educated in the New York City public schools, City College of New York, and Columbia University, where he earned a PhD in Physical Chemistry. Joe served in the armed forces as a communications officer. He was stationed in Berlin after World War II. He met Marion Arbeit in 1947 and they were married in 1948. Joe began working for the DuPont Company in 1950, and had a distinguished career there through retirement, being awarded the Lavoisier Medal, and informally referred to as "Mr. Nylon." His name is on many patents, and he wrote chapters for numerous publications.

Since his retirement from DuPont, he has been a dedicated teacher and student at the Osher Institute for Lifelong Learning, teaching music appreciation and conducting and performing in the orchestra and chamber music groups. He and Marion were world travelers, and Joe often arranged chamber music sessions in foreign countries, which enabled them to get to know the locals.

Family and Jewish community were very important to Joe. His house has been the center of extended family gatherings for years, getting family members from all over the country together for Thanksgiving, Passover, and summer reunions. He often said that he felt that keeping the family together was one of his greatest accomplishments. He was always willing to listen and lend his advice to help his family members make big decisions.

Joe was predeceased by his parents; his wife, Marion in 2016; and younger brother, Morris. He is survived by his children, Neil Zimmerman (Debbie), Donna Herbert (Steve), and Steven Zimmerman (Laurie Ross); grandchildren, Daniel (Cassie), Angela,



Jonathan (Jeanette), Matthew, Amber (Rick), Josh, and Lindsey; and great-grandchildren, Thomas, Levi, Henry, Damien, Liam, and Audrey. He is also remembered fondly by Marion's sister Harriet, Morris's wife Shirley, and his nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Jewish Federation of Delaware, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19802; the Music School of Delaware, 4101 Washington Street, Wilmington, DE 19802; or a charity of your choice.

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

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2018

Scavenger Hunt (Grades 6-8)

6–9 PM

Siegel JCC

1

Hunt for photo ops and video'd craziness in this wacky scavenger hunt across North Wilmington. Cost: \$25/member, \$30/nonmember. For more information, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact Becky Stahl at beckystahl@siegeljcc.org.

MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2018 26th Annual Sports Classic

12-7:30 PM

Wilmington Country Club Join the J in this special day-long event and celebration that has supported our various programs, staff and members for the last 25 years! For sponsorship information, contact Ivy Harlev at ivyharlev@siegeljcc.org.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018

Einstein Commencement Ceremony 6:30-8:30 PM

Congregation Beth Shalom All are welcome to celebrate the culmination of Einstein studies for the 5th Grade as they mark graduation by leading services and reflecting on their education. We will also present the Arnold Cohen Memorial Teacher of Excellence Award. Reception follows. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Rabbi Jeremy Winaker, Head of School at 302-478-5026 or jeremy.winaker@einsteinday.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2018 Jewish Federation of Delaware's 83rd Annual Meeting

6:30 PM

Siegel JCC Auditorium Join us to celebrate another successful

year with JFD. Special awards presented to Suzanne B. Grant, Ellisha Caplan and Dana Berman. Dessert and wine reception to follow meeting.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2018 Pool Party (Grades K-5) 7–9:30 PM Siegel JCC

End of the year late night party on the pool deck! Join us in celebration of the beginning of summer with a Pool Party! Kids will enjoy late night swimming in the outdoor pool, and music, games, and snacks. Cost: \$30/member, \$45/non-member. For more information, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact Becky Stahl at beckystahl@siegeljcc.org.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018

The Jewish Leonard Bernstein

9:30 AM – breakfast

10 AM – presentation

Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Breakfast program jointly sponsored by AKSE Sisterhood and Men's Club. Anne Zwick Turner will present a lecture with musical excerpts celebrating the life and work of Leonard Bernstein, emphasizing his relationship to his Judaism and Israel. This year is the centenary of his birth. Anne is a professional musician, singer and voice coach who has studied Bernstein in depth. Breakfast cost is \$7 with an advance reservation by contacting the office at 302-762-2705 or office@AKSE.org by Friday, June 8 at 12:45 PM. Without a reservation, the cost is \$9. Payment at the door.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018 Babysitters Training

9:30 AM-3:30 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. Cost: \$80/members, \$100/non-members. For more information or to register, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact Steph Kegelman at stephkegelman@siegeljcc.org.

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2018 ArtSpace Opening Reception

5-7 PM

Siegel JCC ArtSpace Join us for an ArtSpace Opening Reception, featuring photography by Virginia Lockman and colorful pottery bowls and birdhouses by Steve Gatz. This event is free and open to the public. Wine and refreshments will be served.

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2018 84th Annual Meeting

7–9 PM Siegel JCC Courtyard You are cordially invited to the Siegel JCC's 84th annual meeting! Please join us as we elect our new Board of Directors, reflect on the past year's accomplishments, and honor our award recipients. Refreshments will be served.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 2018 BBQ Dinner

5-7 PM

Siegel JCC Pool Deck BBQ Dinners are back! Featuring live jazz music from Bruce & Sam. For more information, contact Katie Glazier at katieglazier@siegeljcc.org

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2018 BBQ Dinner

5-7 PM

Siegel JCC Pool Deck BBQ Dinners are back! Featuring live indie rock music from Mesen Around. For more information, contact Katie Glazier at katieglazier@siegeljcc.org

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2018 Member Appreciation

5-8 PM

Siegel JCC

Let us show you how much you mean to us! Join us for free food, drinks, music, and activities all evening long at the J. For more information, contact Katie Glazier at katieglazier@siegeljcc.org.

COMING THIS SUMMER!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2018 JEWISH HERITAGE NIGHT AT THE WILMINGTON BLUE ROCKS 6:35 PM | Frawley Stadium-801 Shipyard Dr Wilmington, DE 19801 A night of baseball with a side of Jewish Heritage. Kosher food options. First 500 fans will receive a free t-shirt. Discounted tickets available for this night.

REFLECTIONS ON EVENTS IN GAZA

By Barry Shrage, CJP

PHOTO CREDIT: CJP.ORG

Dear Friends,

Like many of you, I have been closely watching events in Israel and Gaza. As I read the news, I recall my visits to the Israeli communities that sit alongside the Gaza Strip. I think of conversations with families that live in fear of the rockets and mortars fired from Gaza that have rained down on their homes for over a decade. They spoke of the terror tunnels stretching from inside Gaza that have been discovered at the doorsteps of their community. They shared their concern for the young men and women in uniform who guard them from the terror on their doorsteps. In difficult times, I think of the Israeli parents who must send their sons and daughters to protect our precious state. I also think of the families in Gaza and am profoundly saddened by the loss of life. It wasn't that long ago that the future looked more promising. In 2005, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon oversaw

Israel's disengagement from Gaza, removing over 9,000 Israeli citizens living in 25 settlements (including four in the West Bank). Here was the opportunity for the Palestinian people to build their own society, to develop an economy, and to build security and prosperity in the region. It was not to be. Just two years later, Hamas took over the Gaza Strip — terror has reigned ever since. Today, peace seems a distant dream. I believe that in these difficult times, we have a responsibility to engage our community in conversations. I believe we must model respectful dialogue so that individuals can ask questions and voice their hopes,

concerns, fears, and frustration. These are complicated issues, and they deserve thoughtful exploration. I have heard conflicting thoughts and emotions. Many, including myself, are deeply distressed by the violence, casualties, and loss of lives.

REFLECTIONS

Our conversations are often complicated by the polarized political divides here in the United States. I try hard to separate out my feelings toward the political figures involved and consider the issues themselves — the right of Israel to defend its borders, my profound concern for the State's security, and the loss of

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

A passionate advocate for Jews in Greater Boston and around the world, Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP) President, Barry Shrage has worked tirelessly to create an inclusive community and drive positive change.

I pray for the day when Hamas cares more about the future of the Palestinian people than the end of the Jewish state. Palestinian lives. When I read the news, I am angered and dismayed by media coverage that is, by any standard, deeply biased and hypocritical. These same media outlets have largely ignored the indiscriminate murder of hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children in Syria, including 4,000 Palestinians. This selective condemnation of Israel's actions, absent all context and balance, is profoundly wrong.

The following are just a few of the most important points that I believe are not being accurately or clearly conveyed. (For more facts, visit https://cdn.fedweb.org/ fed-34/2/JFNA_Fact_Sheet_Final.pdf).

The violence we are seeing has been orchestrated by Hamas and funded by Iran as part of a weeks-long "March of Return."

While some Gazans are interested in protesting peacefully, there are others — including Hamas operatives — that are instigating a dangerous situation. They have burned tires, waved swastikas, and thrown rocks, explosives, and firebombs. Rioters have also sent kites with tails carrying rags soaked in gasoline to ignite the nearby fields of rural Israeli communities.

Several Hamas agents have attempted and succeeded — to sabotage the border fence and, in at least two cases, have crossed into Israel, armed with knives and explosives.

Hamas's actions pose a serious threat to Israeli security and the lives of Israeli civilians located in communities only meters away from the Gaza border. Israel cannot allow Palestinians, armed or otherwise, to cross the border and attack nearby Israeli communities. Israel has the absolute right and obligation to protect its citizens.

Hamas is an internationally-recognized terrorist organization that openly declares its intention to destroy the Jewish state. It has orchestrated the recent violence to advance its own nefarious interests at the expense of Palestinian lives.

I find former Israeli Air Force general Amos Yadlin's description helpful. He writes, "Hamas aims to place Israel in a dilemma: to protect its sovereignty and border security Israel must neutralize individuals (some armed and others unarmed) attempting to storm the border at the expense of its international image, while failing to defend its boundaries could result in mass border infiltration and many dead on both sides."

Hamas has orchestrated a win-win situation for itself. If it succeeds in overwhelming Israeli military forces by breaching the Gaza security fence, it is a win for terror. If Israel prevents Palestinian terrorists from infiltrating and carrying out attacks against Israelis, Hamas is there to photograph the casualties for a willing media. I am dismayed that so many journalists fail to ask why the Hamas leadership is sending Palestinians into harm's way and instigating events that will inevitably end in the loss of life.

The deaths at the border with Gaza are tragic, but a mass incursion into Israel by thousands of armed Palestinians would lead to far more casualties on both sides.

The IDF has acted with tremendous restraint. On Monday, it dropped leaflets urging Gazans to stay away from the security fence. Despite these efforts, Israel has been forced to push back demonstrators who have tried to tear down and breach the fence.

Sixty-two people were killed earlier this week. According to Hamas, the majority were known members of terrorist organizations. This is a public relations victory for Hamas.

I pray for the day when Hamas cares more about the future of the Palestinian people than the end of the Jewish state.

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