



Shalom10|17

The Journal of the Reading Jewish Community published by the Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks

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- Jewish Education
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- Jewish Family Service
- Jewish Cultural Center
- Lakin Holocaust Library
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- Israel & Overseas
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- High School
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- Richard J. Yashek Lecture
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- Jewish Agency for Israel
- Yemin Orde
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- Youth Events
- Great Decisions Series
- Jewish Community
- Relations Council
- Community Holiday Programs
- Women's Philanthropy
- Jewish Federations
- of North America
- Counseling Services
- Leo Camp Lecture
- Shabbat B'Yachad

2018 Annual Community Campaign kicks off with Oct. 15 dinner

Federation's Leadership Gifts Dinner on Oct. 15 marks the start of the 2018 Annual Community Campaign. The event will be held this year at Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom, and our speaker is Tamara Wittes, Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institute - Center for Middle East Peace. The dinner begins with a reception for Dr. Wittes at 4:30 p.m. A contribution of \$1,200 per person toward the 2018 Annual Community Campaign is recommended for

anyone interested in attending the reception and dinner with Dr. Wittes. For those who are unable to attend the dinner, there will be a free and open community lecture by Dr. Wittes at 7 p.m. followed by a dessert reception. You can register for the Leadership Gifts Dinner or the community lecture online at ReadingJewishCommunity.org or by email to brendas@jfreading.org or by calling Federation at 610.921.0624. Registrations are requested no later than Oct. 9.



Leo Camp Lecture to feature constitutional scholar

By Amanda J. Hornberger
Privacy and security are two hot-button topics currently in the news. In a speech titled "The U.S. Constitution: Honoring the Past, Imagining the Future" Jeffrey Rosen, President and CEO of the National Constitution Center, will address these and other pressing issues regarding our constitution and privacy concerns. Rosen will give the 38th Annual Leo Camp Memorial Lecture at Albright College on Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m. Rosen is one of the leading speakers and writers on the issue of privacy and security in America. He is a strong advocate of using well-designed laws and technologies to strike an effective and reasonable balance between liberty, privacy, and security, and he offers a penetrating account of why some are reluctant to adopt the appropriate

laws and technologies necessary to accomplish these goals. He describes the challenges for businesses and citizens of living in the world of Facebook and Google where everything we do is recorded and it's hard to escape your past. Our speaker is also a leading expert on the Supreme Court and the judicial system. His latest book, Louis D. Brandeis: American Prophet, was published on June 1, 2016, the 100th anniversary of Brandeis's Supreme Court Confirmation. Special thanks to the Camp family for sponsoring this annual lecture, in memory of Leo Camp, a beloved member of our community. The lecture will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 24th in the Chapel at Albright College and is free and open to the public. If you have questions or



for more information, please contact Amanda at amandah@jfreading.org or call 610-921-0624.

Reading community steps up after hurricanes

Our Reading Jewish community should be proud to have raised more than \$18,000 to support the relief efforts in hurricane ravaged areas. Among those affected, Hurricane Harvey brought catastrophic damage to hundreds of Jewish families and multiple Jewish community institutions. In Houston, nearly three-quarters of the city's Jewish population live in areas that were flooded, and nearly every Jewish-owned business and institution felt the impact. One thousand Jewish families have been displaced from their homes for 8-12 months. Several of the largest Jewish institutions were heavily damaged and cannot reopen until remediation and rehabilitation is completed. Although Hurricane Irma's unexpected shift to Florida's west coast spared most of Florida's largest Jewish population centers from what could have been a terrible disaster, long-term power outages in Florida's hot and humid climate

continue to raise serious health concerns, especially for many seniors. One hundred percent of funds raised will be used to help those victimized. Your funds supported the efforts of three relief organizations. JFNA immediately set up the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund to help meet urgent needs such as food, medicine, cleaning supplies, and trauma counseling and to enable rebuilding. Our network of local and international partners means we can respond quickly and effectively to these emergencies. Your funds also supported IsraAid, one of the teams Israel sent to aid Florida, Texas, Mexico, Haiti, and the Caribbean to help recovery efforts. Their volunteers rushed to help in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey in Texas and then proceeded to Florida to help local people pick up the pieces after that devastating storm. Eight experts in search and rescue, and medical and psychological

first-aid responders also flew from Israel to Florida. In addition, the Israeli government sent \$1 million to Houston for relief efforts. IsraAID is a non-governmental organization committed to providing life-saving disaster relief and long-term support. For over a decade, its teams of professional medics, search & rescue squads, post-trauma experts and community mobilizers, have been first on the front lines of nearly every major humanitarian crisis in the 21st century. Victims in Charleston, S.C.; Haiti; Sierra Leone; South Sudan; Japan; Jordan and Kenya have all been helped by IsraAid emergency response actions. And your funds also helped NECHAMA, a U.S. voluntary Jewish organization that provides natural disaster preparedness, response, and recovery services nationwide. NECHAMA volunteers are planning to be in Texas and Florida for at least six months providing relief and repair assistance.

Legacy gifts ensure strong future for community

By Richard Nassau
Development Director

The next time someone asks, “What do you do,” tell them you make a difference in people’s lives. It is not a humble statement and yes, it does sound awkward when repeated out loud. However, it is also true. You may not think about it much or have a chance to see it in action every day, but you do make a real difference in lives.

We’ve started a New Year. My wish for the year is that all the thanks I hear from people for all you do is bundled and given directly to you. Each individual thank-you has a story, a reason. Yet, there are certain themes that repeat and run through many of them. One that I find meaningful at this time in the Jewish calendar is stability. People are thankful because you have given them stability in their life.

You have given people a stable foundation because of services they’ve



received that many of us might consider routine. You have provided them with answers to questions, “how will I feed my child or get to the doctor or find services that will help my parents?”

Having stability is so very important. It makes a difference in people’s lives and should not be taken lightly.

The beginning of a new Jewish year reminds me of how fortunate I am. It also reminds me of how uncertain life can be. It is a time when I think about the past and talk with others about the future. I speak with family and friends about changes that occurred and we discuss the transitions we’ve all experienced. When I do this, I admit it makes my life feel very unstable.

Stability, especially for our community, is why you keep hearing from me about creating your Jewish legacy. How your legacy gift brings stability to our future. It serves as the foundation we need for an uncertain future.

When I bring up the subject of legacy gifts, there is a concern that it will cause us to lose our focus and overlook today’s needs. Please know, your annual gift

remains the cornerstone of what you do for our Jewish community. Your legacy gift is later. It is a critical way that ensures we can remain a strong Jewish community.

There are also concerns that a legacy gift is an all or nothing gift. It is not. For many, the Jewish community is their first choice, but it is not their only choice. So it is with a charitable bequest. Studies have found that American Jews are more likely to leave a bequest to many different charities, not just the Jewish ones. I am proud to say that nearly one-quarter of American Jews provide for charities in their wills. This is nearly twice the number of people outside of the Jewish community who leave a charitable gift in their will.

Please take a moment to consider adding a charitable bequest in your will for a Jewish cause you care about. It is easy to do. Your Jewish legacy means a stable future. You are the source that can ensure we remain a vibrant Jewish community.

Contact me, richardn@jfreeding.org, for more information about how you can bring stability into lives and continue making a difference for others.

Global partnerships with your Jewish Federation

Your partnership with Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks enriches our local community. Your reach also extends beyond Berks County. You build communities, connect people, and help those in need through the work of Federation’s national and international partners. It is through these organizations that you impact more Jewish lives throughout the world every day than any other single organization. The three global partners of the Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks:

Jewish Federations of North America – JFNA

JFNA serves as the central address of North American Federated Jewry. Under the JFNA umbrella, the Federation movement protects and enhances the well-being of Jews worldwide. Collectively among the top 10 charities in the world, JFNA represents 148 Jewish Federations and more than 300 independent Network Communities. Together they provide more than \$3 billion annually for social welfare, social services, and educational needs. Annual and emergency campaigns raise over \$900 million each year with an additional \$2+ billion coming from associated foundations and endowments.

JFNA services build the capacity of local Jewish communities, helping Federations learn from one another, developing affinity groups, and providing training, collateral materials and seed funding for innovation. JFNA also brings together community leaders and serves as a leading advocate in the fields of caregiving, aging, philanthropy, disability, foreign policy, homeland security and health care.

In Washington, JFNA lobbies to secure \$10 billion in public funds that flow to Jewish communities. Funds that support thousands of agencies serving people of all backgrounds, including hospitals, nursing homes, community centers, family and children’s service agencies, and vocational training programs. JFNA partners with the government of Israel and a variety of agencies to secure the Jewish State; helping the most vulnerable groups, including immigrants and Holocaust survivors; and strengthen and rebuild Jewish life throughout the world.

The JFNA system identifies, supports and addresses the full range of social service issues, provides lifesaving humanitarian relief, supports breakthrough programs for all ages, and sustains the Jewish community today and for future generations.

Jewish Agency for Israel – JAFI

Since 1929, the Jewish Agency has been working to secure a vibrant Jewish future. The Jewish Agency is considered to be the Jewish world’s first responder, prepared to address emergencies in Israel, and to rescue Jews from countries where they are at risk.

JAFI serves as a main link between

the Jewish state and Jewish communities everywhere. One of the many ways it does this is by bringing Jews to Israel and Israel to Jews. JAFI’s work provides engagement with Israel that is meaningful. It facilitates Aliyah and works to build a better society in Israel. Its work energizes young Israelis and their worldwide peers to rediscover a collective sense of Jewish purpose.

Led by Natan Sharansky, JAFI’s Board of Governors oversees a global partnership with representatives of federations in North America, leadership of the religious streams and heads of world Jewish organizations centered in USA, representatives of world Zionist organizations, mayors in Israel, representatives of the Israeli society, and representatives of the political system in Israel and leaders of Keren Hayesod campaigns throughout the world. This broad representation ensures that Jews around the world collectively decide on the Jewish Agency’s programming in coordination and understanding with the Israeli government.

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee – the Joint

JDC is the world’s leading Jewish humanitarian aid organization. It helps Jews in need and has done so for more than 100 years. Its work reaches beyond the Jewish community, providing immediate relief for victims of natural and man-made disasters, and long-term development assistance worldwide. JDC was founded during World War I,

when U.S. Ambassador to Turkey Henry Morgenthau, Sr. wired New York philanthropist Jacob Schiff to ask for money to help Jews suffering in Ottoman Palestine. World War I left in its wake the seeds of many additional catastrophes—pogroms, health epidemics, famine, revolution, and economic ruin—and JDC played a major role in sustaining Jews in Palestine and rebuilding the devastated communities of Eastern Europe. JDC’s relief activities, emigration aid and rescue operations were critical following the Nazi rise to power and the outbreak of World War II. After the war, JDC mobilized to support and resettle survivors, help reconstruct the remnant communities of Europe, create a network of social welfare services in the fledgling State of Israel, set up an extensive assistance program for Jews in North Africa and the Muslim world, and provide discreet relief behind the Iron Curtain. JDC services in displaced persons’ camps helped Holocaust survivors start new lives. With the fall of communism, JDC established cultural and educational programs to foster a sense of Jewish identity in Eastern Europe and developed an innovative welfare and relief system for needy elderly and Holocaust survivors.

Today JDC works in some 70 countries to alleviate hunger and hardship, rescue Jews in danger, create lasting connections to Jewish life, and help Israel overcome the social challenges of its most vulnerable citizens, both Jewish and non-Jewish.

Development

- Annual Campaign
- Women’s Philanthropy
- Maimonides Society
- Your Jewish Legacy
- Chai Circle
- L’Chaim Society
- Book of Life
- Letter of Intent



2017 totals
as of Sept. 15

Jewish Community
Campaign
\$250,633

*Includes transfers from Donor
Advised Funds

Shalom

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The opinions expressed in Shalom are of the writers and not the Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks



Jewish Federation®
OF READING/BERKS

From the President's Desk

Taking responsibility for one another

By William D. Franklin
President

As I read the last Torah portion before Rosh Hashanah during Shabbat services, I was struck by its beginning: “You are standing, all of you, before your God.” Here, Moses introduces the concept of arevut — a community’s responsibility of one for another, under which every Jew is obligated to help every other Jew. In Reading, we are blessed with a



Message from the Chair

My family’s strong connection with Israel

By Haia Mazuz
Federation Chair

Best wishes for a healthy and happy new year from myself, Haia, and my husband Meir Mazuz.

I’d like to share with you details my connections with Israel and the city of Rehovot in particular.

Meir and I visit family in Israel at least twice yearly. Most of both our families live in Israel — surviving parents, aunts, uncles, siblings, nieces, nephews.

Our visit this time was planned around the wedding, on Aug. 23, of my sister Judy’s daughter, Yael. Yael Franco is the second of four children, her three siblings being brothers.

Since we planned to be in Israel in late August, Meir’s brother Haim planned the Bat Mitzvah of his Yael, the youngest of his four children, a day before the wedding. So we had the pleasure of “dancing” at two simchas back to back. In addition we spent time with Meir’s mother. She is 95 and living at home with her youngest daughter. Meir returned to home and work after nine days.

I stayed on to spend two additional weeks with my mother Erika, age 89.

Mom lives in a small apartment on the 20th story of the tallest high-rise in Rehovot.

She lives alone but close to my sister Mimi (a half-mile) and not very far from Judy in Jerusalem (an hour if traffic isn’t horrible).

Her building is situated only a few blocks south of the Weizman Institute of Science, a powerhouse among Israeli research institutions. Rehovot is less than 20 miles south of Tel Aviv. Its population is around 132,000.

My parents made Aliyah to Rehovot from New York City in early 1985, after my father, then 67, underwent bypass surgery. At the time the decision was made that they sell their retail business and retire to Israel. Dad had long wished to live in Israel. My mother was 56. Meir and I and our two older children had moved to Reading a year and a half earlier, from Iowa (where he finished his cardiology fellowship).

They had chosen Rehovot because my sister Mimi had settled there after studying to be a nutritionist at the Hebrew University Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment in Rehovot.

Mom and Dad had two daughters in the U.S. and two in Israel. Financially, Israel was far more affordable for their meager retirement income than New York City. Two additional reasons to settle there.

Most of my time in Israel after Meir flew back home, was dedicated to being with my family, Mom in particular. The



wide spectrum of political beliefs and Jewish practices. Yet, despite this diversity, our community came together and raised over \$18,000 for the victims of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Jewish communities across America raised over \$18 million for these victims. Here was strong evidence of us actualizing this wonderful Jewish value and it reinforced for me the purpose of building and nurturing a strong Jewish community.

To that end, we recently sponsored a community get-together where David Bernstein, President of Jewish Community Public Affairs (JCPA), discussed ways to

counter the growing polarization within our Jewish communities and within the United States. He suggested that we need to encourage civil discourse and enter these conversations with humility, i.e. “admitting we may be only 80 percent right and not a 100 percent right” so that the conversations are constructive.

Our future events include our film series, which will feature “Hummus” and shared tastings of different hummus recipes with our Muslim friends, and “Body and Soul,” a movie followed by a discussion exploring the relationship of African-Americans and American Jews.

See Page 11 to learn more about Kaplan Medical Center

kind in the Middle East, let alone Israel. Professor George explained that almost all the necessary services to practice cutting edge cardiology treatments had already been implemented at Kaplan.

Some examples:

They utilize an intra-arterial camera in coronary arteries to ascertain that stents were optimally deployed in diabetic patients’ blood vessels. Those vessels tend to be extremely uneven, and challenging for stenting.

Special day treatment centers are available to heart failure sufferers, to prevent deteriorating function and rehospitalization. This is very proactive medicine and rare to see even here in the US. It saves lives, improves quality of life and saves money.

The rehab department has been extraordinarily successful. When patients’ benefit periods expire for outpatient rehab, most would willingly pay out of pocket to continue there. Those fees are high enough to generate a profit for the hospital, but for now most available time slots are needed for recently discharged patients.

Despite delivering outstanding medical care, efficiency is sacrificed by lack of centralization. A cardiac patient needing an MRI or CT scan is wheeled through long walkways or corridors to get to the imaging department. Wards have multiple patients per room and multiple rooms share toilets and showers throughout the hospital.

Meticulous planning and thought had been given to the layout of the floors of the new center. Economies of scale drove it. I was shown a scaled model — not of a building or fancy shell- but of all the floors, rooms, nursing units, test centers- all the operations portions of the center. Each floor was on a separate model- and I could see how things aligned horizontally and vertically. This functionality is what Professor George passionately presented.

Walking through the various sections of the current heart center what profoundly impressed me was that Professor George was greeted everywhere, whether by physicians, technicians, nurses, ancillary employees, or patients- with warm wonderful smiling faces. It was very evident that this doctor had great personal relations with all around him. And while I was mightily impressed at all the cutting-edge procedures brought to Kaplan by Kobi George — without the evidence which I felt and observed of a caring compassionate heart in a physician, patients would not be best served.

I had a strange sense of nostalgia

We are excited to bring many interesting and relevant speakers in the coming year to lead us in constructive learning about the critical issues we are facing. Plans for 2018 also include a community celebration of Israel’s 70th birthday and a mission to Israel. Stay tuned.

In the New Year, your Jewish Federation will work to provide educational and entertaining programs for all ages. As we approach the High Holidays, Andi and I wish you a happy, healthy sweet year.

L’Shanah Tovah.

while continuing my tour through Kaplan with Shai. In 1975, I was living in Israel. I had moved there after marrying Meir in 1971. My maternal grandfather (opa to his grandchildren) had emigrated to Israel from the US 2 years after my grandmother had died in 1970. He had been taken ill in 1974 and spent 2 weeks at Tel Hashomer hospital (in Ramat Gan, just north of Tel Aviv) where I visited him several times. My mother had flown to Israel since his condition seemed serious even though the doctors weren’t sure what was wrong.

The conditions at the hospital- sprawling over a large area, different sections separated by outdoor multi-bed wards, all these which I walked through at Kaplan on Sept. 1 were just as I remembered them at Tel Hashomer, 43 years ago.

Kaplan today provides much the same level of medical care that Tel Hashomer does now.

There is a new pediatric care center which while smaller, is reminiscent of Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia in its design. It is not yet completed.

I decided then and there I would do my utmost to help Kaplan in its goals for the future- investing in revamping the campus to provide the best possible care for the citizens of South Central Israel. There is a long term goal for the entire medical center. But long term goals are met incrementally.

Building a cardiac center will address the health issues of a large number of patients. Heart disease is still the number one killer in the developed world.

There is so much more to tell about this “little engine that could”. Nov. 8 Carlos Gruzman (CEO), Shai Alderoty, and Professor George will be in Reading hoping to enlist your attention as they explain their mission. Consider joining the conversation — be you part of the medical community or not.

I am reminded of the years I lived in New York City — the first time I visited Liberty Island and climbed the Statue of Liberty was when family and friends from Israel came to the U.S.. I hadn’t taken much interest in seeing it until then. So much of what is unique about Rehovot remained at arms length, despite my being there frequently over more than 30 years.

So much of what is unique about the Reading Jewish Community was explained to me by someone who was a newcomer to this community four years ago. He held up the mirror.

I often refrain from submitting an article to the *Shalom* from the chairmanship. You are a warm and generous community. What else needs to be said? I thank you for the privilege of chairing this board. We’ll continue working together on reaching out and building new leadership.

L’shana Tova Tikateivu V’ techateimu ומתחת ובתנת הבוט הנשל

Enjoy the international flavor of hummus

By Amanda J. Hornberger

What delicious superfood has the power to bring Muslims, Christians and Jews together, not to mention secret recipes and a Guinness World Record? Hummus, of course!

Beyond the mystique and competition, beyond arguments over who makes the best hummus and even beyond religious and political divides, “Hummus! The Movie” showcases the personal stories of the colorful men and women who simply live their lives and love their hummus. This lighthearted documentary is the next film in the 2018 Reading Jewish Film Series and will be shown on Wednesday, November 1 at 7 p.m. at FOX EAST, 4350 Perkiomen Avenue, Exeter Township (next to Boscov’s East).

In partnership with the Islamic Center of Reading, there will be a complimentary hummus tasting following the film screening, courtesy of the Wyomissing

Family Restaurant. Come try out some of the many various recipes for hummus and find your favorite!

The 2018 Reading Jewish Film Series is co-sponsored by the Rubin Educational Fund of the Jewish Federation of Reading and Fox Theatres. Admission is \$5 per film or \$30 for the series of seven films. All films will be shown on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. at FOX EAST. Tickets can be purchased at the theater beginning at 6:30 p.m. the day of the screening, and series tickets can be bought at the JCC. Cash and checks are accepted.

The complete list of dates and films for the 2018 Reading Jewish Film Series can be found below:

Nov. 1 — “Hummus! The Movie”* with the Islamic Center of Reading

Dec. 13 — “There are Jews Here”

Jan. 24 — “The Women’s Balcony”

March 7 — “Body & Soul: An American Bridge”* with the Central Pennsylvania



African American Museum

April 4 — “Fanny’s Journey”

May 16 — “The Venice Ghetto, 500 Years of Life”*

*Special event following screening

Join us this fall for series of free, fun Movie Mondays

By Amanda J. Hornberger

Come enjoy cinematic treats at the JCC! We will continue hosting Movie Mondays this fall, on the first Monday of each month, free of charge. So gather your friends and visit to the JCC!

We’ll kick the series off on Oct. 2 with “The Sturgeon Queens.” This American documentary follows

the four generations of a Jewish immigrant family that created Russ and Daughters, a Lower East Side lox and herring emporium.

On Nov. 6 join Patrick Stewart in the Israeli comedy “Hunting Elephants.” Shown in English and Hebrew with subtitles, the film follows Jonathan, a 12-year-old boy, whom with his grandfather

and two others, attempts to rob the bank where his deceased father had worked. This comedy of errors was a big hit in our 2015 Reading Jewish Film Series.

Finally, on Dec.2 we’ll see the new drama “Norman: The Moderate Rise and Tragic Fall of a New York Fixer,” starring Richard Gere. Norman Oppenheimer is a small

time operator who befriends a young politician at a low point in his life. Three years later, when the politician becomes an influential world leader, Norman’s life dramatically changes for better and worse.

All films will be shown at 2 p.m. at the JCC. Popcorn will be provided. We hope to see you for Movie Mondays this fall!

Experience a re-created wooden synagogue in film

By Amanda J. Hornberger

Follow the journey of Rick and Laura Brown as they reconstruct the elaborate roof and painted ceiling of the Gwoździec synagogue, an 18th century structure that rivals the greatest wooden architecture in history, in the documentary “Raise the Roof.” The film will be screened at Albright College on Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 7 p.m.

Filmmakers Yari Wolinsky and Cary Wolinsky go behind the scenes to reveal the Browns’ decade-long endeavor to re-create a nearly lost piece of Polish Jewish history. This briskly paced detective tale examines how the synagogue was built, who built it, and why. With the Browns leading more than 300 students and professionals from 16 countries,

the film captures the echoes of World War II while revealing an optimistic and creative time in Jewish history that has been lost. At one time, there were some 200 wooden synagogues across the Polish-Lithuanian countryside. None survived destruction during the Nazi occupation of Poland.

The Lakin Holocaust Library and Resource Center at Albright

College is happy to sponsor this special FREE screening of Raise the Roof. The screening will take place in the Klein Lecture Hall (Center for the Arts) at Albright. Seating is limited to 75 and is first-come, first serve.

If you have questions or need directions, please contact Amanda at amandah@jfreading.org or 610-921-0624.

CASTING CALL!

“Trial of Aaron”
Saturday, Nov. 18 at RCOS

No acting experience or memorization is required. Attend two rehearsals to learn the details of the script, characters, and situation.

“Trial of Aaron” will take place at RCOS on Saturday, Nov. 18 at 7 p.m.

Cast:

Joshua, the judge
Bailiff
Hur, the prosecutor
Milcah, Aaron’s attorney

Eldad, an elder, witness for the prosecution, expert on the Ten Commandments

Azubah, a gentle 18-year-old-girl, intern in Milcah’s office

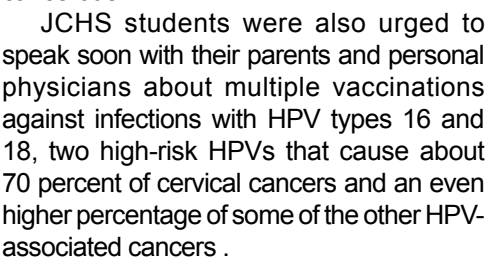
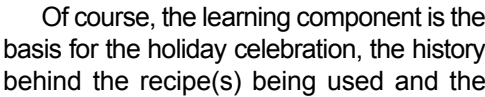
Imnah, a Levite, witness for the prosecution, hostile to Moses and Aaron

Aaron, the defendant
Foreman of the jury

Interested? Please contact Amanda at amandah@jfreading.org or 610-921-0624



- Before eating string beans (rubia): May



Better Together

The advertisement is presented in a clean, professional layout. At the top, the business name "WYOMISSING OPTOMETRIC CENTER" is prominently displayed in a bold, sans-serif font, followed by the slogan "The Best Care In Sight!" in a script font. A central graphic consists of a large, light-colored diamond shape overlaid on a background of faint, overlapping circles. Inside the diamond, the names of the five optometrists are listed in a serif font. To the left of the diamond, a vertical list of medical services is provided. To the right, another vertical list includes surgical and vision therapy services. Below the main header, the contact details for three locations—Wyomissing, Douglassville, and Myerstown—are organized into three distinct columns. Each column lists the address, zip code, and phone number. A small Facebook logo with the text "LIKE US ON facebook" is positioned at the bottom left of the main service area.

WYOMISSING OPTOMETRIC CENTER

The Best Care In Sight!

24/7 Medical Eye Emergencies
Comprehensive Vision Care
Post Concussion Syndrome
Specialty Contact Lenses
Diabetic Retinopathy
Pediatric Eye Care
Contact Lenses
Optical Services
Orthokeratology
Allergy

A small rectangular button featuring the Facebook 'f' logo and the text "LIKE US ON facebook".

Glenn S. Corbin, OD
Kerry J. Burrell, OD
Karen L. Heaney, OD
Heidi L. Sensenig, OD, MS
Michael D. Burkhart, OD
Amanda S. Legge, OD
Perry C. Umlauf, OD

Refractive Surgery Co-management
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WYOMISSING

50 Berkshire Court
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Phone: **610-374-3134**

DOUGLASSVILLE

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Douglassville, PA 19518
Phone: **610-385-4333**

MYERSTOWN

356 West Main Avenue
Myerstown, PA 17067
Phone: **717-866-1400**

New concept in continuing at home for seniors

By Sari Incledon, M.Ed.

Pathstones by Phoebe is a new program in Berks County that provides continuing care at home for Independent adults who prefer to age at home instead of moving to a retirement community. People who choose this type of program do not want to burden friends and family with caregiving. They hope to avoid needing a nursing home and are interested in preserving their financial assets. Joining Pathstones provide guaranteed lifetime (medically related) services. In Pennsylvania four other cities have Patestones programs operating and it is overseen by state regulations.



Wellness is the primary focus of Pathstones, and the goal is that members live at home for as long as possible using monitoring, intervention and preventative programming. A wellness coordinator helps Pathstone members to proactively navigate current healthcare needs and includes diet and nutrition assessments as well as home safety and medication evaluations. As more care is needed Pathstones provides comprehensive services similar to those offered by long-term care communities. These may include in-home nursing care, companionship, live-in support, transportation to and from medically necessary appointments, physical therapy and medication management all while members live in the comfort of their own homes. Like retirement communities with a buy-in fee, memberships are not inexpensive. The one-time

nonrefundable membership fee ranges from \$35,000-\$64,000, and members pay a monthly fee from \$411-\$454, depending upon which plan they pick. To enroll, members must be relatively healthy and independent at time of enrollment. The application process includes a medical review, financial evaluation and home assessment. The fees for Pathstones offer tax benefits and there are discounts for existing long term care policies and for couples and multiple plans are offered. Membership services are portable throughout the United States so snowbirds could benefit from this program. If you are interested in learning more about this program you can contact Pathstones by Phoebe's membership coordinator Cindy Moser at 610-794-6700 or cmoser@phoebe.org or call me at 610-921-0624.

Sharing the holiday's sweetness



Jewish Federation delivered baskets of apples and honey to 10 nonprofits throughout the city of Reading with the message, "have a sweet, healthy and happy year and join us in our celebration of Rosh Hashanah!" Pictured are the staff at Olivets Pendora Clubhouse receiving their apples.



Volunteers key to success at monthly JFS Food Pantry

By Carole Robinson

Jewish Family Service operates a monthly Food Pantry at the Olivet Clubhouse in Pendora Park. The groceries purchased from the Greater Berks Food Bank are supplemented by donations of canned and packaged food. In order to receive food, families must have an income based on federal poverty guidelines. In September, we supplied 8,000 pounds of food to 164 families. This accomplishment would not have been possible without the dedication of our 25 Food Pantry volunteers. They helped carry in the boxes of food, set it up on tables, opened boxes,

and assisted clients in selecting and bagging food items. Their assistance is invaluable, and their kindness is appreciated by our clients. If you would like to contribute food to help needy families in Berks County, JFS accepts donations of canned goods, pasta, cereal and other nonperishable food items. We also collect plastic grocery bags to use at our pantry. We have donation bins located at the JCC and at Lakin Early Education Center. If you would like to volunteer at our food pantry, please contact Sari at Sari@JFReading.org or 610-921-0624.

Jewish Family Service recommends ...

Family Friendly Animal Fun

Lake Tobias Wildlife Park, Halifax, Pa., features exotic animals and safari tours
Elmwood Park Zoo, Norristown, features North and South American animals

Two free petting zoos, both serving ice cream:
Oley Turnpike Dairy, Oley Turnpike Road at Route 662, Oley
Hayloft Candles and Petting Zoo, Leola, Lancaster County

JFS promotes activities for all generations



Special thanks to our PJ Library participants for putting together 60 apple and honey care packages to be delivered to our seniors at Friendship Circle and in nursing homes for Rosh Hashanah. Above, PJ Library participants are pictured with Pennsylvania Honey Queen Kayla Fusselman, who led our program on Sept. 10. At left, our youngest volunteer delivers packages to a senior citizen.



Rabbi Brian Michelson of Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom welcomes the New Year with a discussion of High Holiday traditions at Friendship Circle.



The Better Together program connecting local teenagers and senior citizens is back for another year at our Jewish Community High School. Please contact the Federation office if you'd like to participate.

Jewish Family Service programs 2017



Planning for Retirement

If you are planning to retire in the near future, our two informational programs can help you make important decisions.

At the Jewish Cultural Center
1100 Berkshire Blvd., Wyomissing

Wednesday, November 8 at 7pm
"Basic Introduction to Medicare"

Speaker: Phyllis Dessel, community volunteer, Retired from Berks County Area Office of Aging

Learn about all the parts of Medicare:
Medicare Part A- hospital insurance
Medicare Part B- medical insurance
Medicare Part C- Medicare Advantage plans
Medicare Part D- prescription drug plans



Wednesday, November 15 at 7pm
"Maximizing Social Security Benefits"

Speaker: Earl Schultz
Strategic Wealth Advisory, Birdsboro

Learn the following:
Strategies to maximize your benefits
How benefits are calculated: how to coordinate benefits with your spouse
Common mistakes that may cost retirees thousands in lifetime benefits
What the new law means for your social security decision

These events are FREE and ALL are invited to attend! Minimum registration is required.

Please RSVP to Sari Incledon (610) 921-0624 or email Sarii@JFReading.org

"Maximizing Social Security Benefits" RSVP by October 28

"Basic Introduction to Medicare" RSVP by November 7

Obituaries

Sidney Sokoloff, 91, of Wyomissing and formerly of Philadelphia. Sidney was a member of the Navy during World War II and an Industrial Plumber at the Philadelphia Navy Ship Yard for many years. He is survived by his son, Dr. Joel Sokoloff and wife, Lisa, of Exeter Township and his daughter Sandra Bogin of Michigan. There are also six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Phyllis W. Knoblauch, 92, of Reading. Phyllis graduated from Penn State in 1946 and devoted her energies to art and fashion design. She received her master's degree with honors at the age of 80. She was a voracious reader, a talented artist, sculptor and a lifelong learner. Phyllis was engaged with Reading's cultural life. She created workshops for the 1994 Native American Festival at the Reading Museum, was head of the Friends of Daniel Boone Homestead and an active participant of the Janssen Conference Center at Penn State Berks.

Phyllis is survived by her daughter, Amy Knoblauch-Dubin and her husband, David, of New York City; and her sons Joel and Peter Knoblauch of Reading. Other survivors include her three grandchildren, her brother Fred and sister Ilena and numerous nieces and nephews.

All Around the Town

Mazel Tov to **Rabbi Matthew Abelson and Dr. Shiri Cohen** on their engagement.

Congratulations to new grandparents **Ellice and Rich Gunter** and great grandmother **Miriam Neugroschel** on the

birth of Gavin Hayes on Sept. 3. Delighted parents are Brooke and Zach Pistelli of Manassas, Va.

Mazel tov to grandparents **Corinne and Andy Wernick** and great grandparents **Esther and Sid Bratt** on the birth of Ethan

Davi Wernick to Brian and Joy Wernick.

We love good news about members of our community! Please share it by emailing Marknem@aol.com.

Until next time: Shalom!

2017-18 Jewish Community Calendar Corrections/Updates

Add
Jaime Komeni – add Birdsboro 19508
Richard Simons – 539 Spring St., Reading PA 19601 – 484-258-4211

Change of Address
Paul and Jo Cohn – 18 Timberline Drive, Wyomissing 19610
Marsha Goldberg – 3000 Windmill Road – Rm. 13B, Sinking Spring 19608
Joel Knoblauch – 619 Walnut Street, Reading 19601
Daniel and Stephanie Kuppersmith – 103 Oak Street, Collegeville 19426
Alan and Marjorie Leisawitz – 8 Franklin Court, Newton, CT 06470

Phone number correction
Joel and Marsha Adelman – 610-780-5063
Claire Greenfogel – 610-743-5958

Deceased
Kenneth Goodman Shirley Jacobs Phyllis Knoblauch Sidney Sokoloff

Korey Blanck – 610-468-3269

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2017 Shalom Contributors

We wish to thank the following members of our community for their generous support of Shalom, in addition to those listed in our September issue

SPONSOR \$118 - \$153
Paul & Solange Mintz

SUPPORTER \$36 - \$71
Ellen & Don Abramson

Tali Fox

Bernard & Toby K. Mendelsohn

Valerian & Svetlana Popov

Congregational News

By Rabbi Matthew Abelson
Kesher Zion Synagogue

The Yamim Noraim is a period that allows us to reflect on the many facets of being Jewish. One of the most profound facets of being Jewish is the tie that we feel to the state of Israel. Because Israel is such an enormous source of joy and pride for me, I'd like to share with you some of my thoughts about the Jewish state.



During the 1990s, when I was a teenager, I remember the horror I felt when I would come downstairs to the breakfast table and see on the front page of the newspaper a report about yet another suicide bombing in Israel. The Oslo peace process had been underway since September 1993, but instead of reconciliation with its neighbors, Israel suffered a rash of one of the most pernicious forms of terrorism seen anywhere in the world.

Israelis' capacity for endurance allowed them to withstand that assault. During that decade, many Europeans and some Americans thought that if they propitiated the Arab and Muslim worlds and sided against Israel, they would be spared the same assaults. European public opinion turned progressively against Israel, and European leaders frequently suggested that terrorism was simply the outcome of Israel's military and civilian presence in Judea and Samaria, commonly known as the occupation of the West Bank.

The record of American Jews during the 1990s was, unfortunately, mixed. While the American Jewish community publicly stood by Israel when Hamas or Fatah, the dominant faction in the Palestinian Authority, committed or incited a terrorist act, a component of American Jewry allowed the headlines of major media outlets to guide them in their view of Israel. Frightened of terrorism, they postponed visiting Israel – sometimes indefinitely.

When Al-Qaeda struck the twin towers at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, Americans received a bitter taste of what Israelis had endured for more than eight years. In the months that followed the attack, a newfound empathy developed among Americans who had otherwise not been particularly moved by the rash of suicide bombings perpetrated against Israelis during the 1990s. Americans recognized that jihad and Islamist terror did not merely target the Jewish state of Israel, but the United States too.

During the last three years, the sense of solidarity with Israel that characterized post-9/11 America returned. Terrorist attacks in a host of European and American cities — including Paris, London, San Bernardino, Orlando, and Barcelona — led many to

recognize that “the truth is, we are all living in Israel. It's just that some of us haven't realized it yet,” as the public intellectual Sam Harris wrote in July 2014.

While they never stood alone, Israelis relied primarily on one another. Indeed Israel still faces threats, but it has demonstrated that it can endure persistent violent attack and international defamation. In the last year alone, in fact, Israel elevated its diplomatic relations with numerous countries. To wit, 1) while still not public, Israel's ties with several Sunni Arab states have developed privately in ways unimaginable a decade ago; 2) Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi's three day trip to Israel during the week of July 2 —, the first-ever to Israel by an Indian PM — highlighted the increasingly close relations between India and Israel; 3) in early September, the new Secretary-General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, visited Israel and promised that under his leadership, the UN would seek to be more impartial toward Israel, which has suffered discriminatory treatment in the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, and UNESCO; and 4) rounding out the

new picture, in September Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu became the first Israeli prime minister to visit Latin America. The heads of state in Argentina, Colombia, and Mexico received him graciously.

While the acute period of teshuva (repentance) — the ten days between Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur — has concluded, teshuva is not complete until Simchat Torah. I encourage you to include in your teshuva a re-visiting of your relationship to the Jewish state. Do not allow a concept of perfection to be the enemy of the good. Israel embodies goodness in a way that promotes the possibility of humanity, redemption, and — yes — shalom (peace). Wondrously, Israel endures and Israel prospers. American Jews ought to decide that in the coming year, they will participate in that endurance and that prosperity rather than remain indifferent, aloof — or God forbid — critical-to-the-point-of-unloving-and-unsupportive. For Judaism, the Jewish people, and the Torah's teaching to continue, Israel must endure. Let us commit ourselves in this corner of the Diaspora to doing our part to strengthen the present and future of the Jewish state.

October Tishri- Cheshvan	
	
October 4 (Erev of first day of Sukkot) 6:23 p.m.	October 5/Tishri 15 Sukkot 7:19 p.m.
October 6 6:20 p.m.	October 7/Tishri 17 Chol HaMo'ed Sukkot (Exodus 33:12-34:26)
October 11 Hoshana Rabbat 6:12 p.m.	October 12/Tishri 22 Shemini Atzeret 7:09 p.m.
October 13 Simchat Torah 7:43 p.m.	October 14/Tishri 24 B'reisheet (Genesis 1:1-6:8)
October 20 5:58 p.m.	October 21/Cheshvan 1 Noach (Genesis 6:9:11:32)
October 27 5:49 p.m.	October 28/Cheshvan 8 Lech-Lecha (Genesis 12:1-17:27)

Chabad
Kesher Zion
Reform Congregation
Oheb Sholom

LOCAL CONGREGATIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

REFORM CONGREGATION OHEB SHOLOM (610) 375-6034
Wednesday, Oct. 4: Erev Sukkot service, 7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 6: 6 p.m., followed by dinner in the Sukkah
Saturday, Oct. 7: Tot Shabbat at 4 p.m. at Oley Turnpike Dairy
Wednesday, Oct. 11: Simchat Torah/Consecration, 7 p.m.
Fridays, Oct. 13, 20 and 27: 7:45 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 28: Sophia Horowitz Bat Mitzvah, 4 p.m.

CHABAD CENTER OF BERKS COUNTY (610) 921-0881
Saturday mornings: 9:30 a.m.; Friday evenings: 6:30 p.m.

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE (610) 374-1763
Thursday and Friday, Oct. 5-6: Sukkot service, 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12: Shemini Atzeret, 9:30 a.m.; Simchat Torah, 7:15 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 13: Simchat Torah service, 9:30 a.m.
Other Weekly services Saturdays: 9:30 a.m.; Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
at Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom, 555 Warwick Drive, Wyomissing

CONGREGATION SHOMREI HABRITH

CHABAD LUBAVITCH
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Traditional Cooking
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Make Shwarma and pita bread from scratch

Sunday, October 22
4:00pm

At Chabad Lubavitch
2320 Hampden Blvd
Reading, PA 19604

\$12.00
RSVP lipskerreading@aol.com



Immigrant from Iran thrives thanks to Yemin Orde

Yemin Orde graduate Erez Hakiki arrived in Israel at the age of 16 from Tehran, Iran, with little more than a dream for a Jewish life as a proud and productive Israeli.

With no Hebrew language skills or family to help and encourage him, Erez was welcomed at Yemin Orde Youth Village where he received the emotional and academic support he needed to learn, gain confidence and thrive.

Yemin Orde is supported by local dollars through the Jewish Federation of Reading's Israel Now campaign.

Erez studied hard at Yemin Orde and became involved in many of the Village's extracurricular activities. He learned to play the drums in its music program and was an active volunteer throughout the year. Even during the summer months when most students would leave the Village, Erez remained at Yemin Orde to assist disabled youth who attended a unique recreational program.

"Yemin Orde connected me to my Judaism and to Israel. I also appreciate how the Village helped me connect to my cultural heritage," Erez said. "I received the greatest gift that could be — an education. I learned to not give up on my dreams — to go for it!"

Following high school graduation, Erez attended the Jerusalem College of



Technology, where he received a B.A. in Engineering and Education. His college degree enabled Erez to enter Israel's Navy as an officer, where he continues to serve, full-time, as an ammunitions expert. Today, Erez is fluent in Hebrew and Farsi and holds the rank of major in the IDF's Naval forces.

Erez is a frequent visitor at Yemin Orde and remains in close contact with staff. He often returns to speak with its youth and, as a graduate, reminds them to study hard and remain hopeful for a bright future. While attending college, Erez received financial assistance from Yemin Orde at the its Graduates Day ceremony, an important annual program that provides academic scholarships and financial assistance to alumni in times of need.

"Yemin Orde helped me build the moral and value-laden life I wanted. I am honored to share this vision with other youth," he said.

Erez said, even today, he must often work twice as hard as his Israel-born counterparts in writing reports. He is grateful for the strength of character he developed at Yemin Orde and enjoys sharing his experiences with the next generation.

"For me, Yemin Orde is special because its support doesn't stop after you finish high school. The Village continues to support all of its graduates who have a dream," said Erez. "It is important to share my experiences with other Persian Jewish communities so they can learn about Yemin Orde and feel connected to the land of Israel."

Erez, 34, lives in Jerusalem and is married. He has two daughters.

Project brings special volunteers to Meir Panim

The Hebrew prophet Isaiah teaches that Jerusalem will be rebuilt through righteous acts and the giving of charity. To fulfill the words of the prophet, the Meir Panim charity organization created a "Vision of Isaiah" project. "Though Meir Panim welcomes volunteers all year round to serve lunch at our free restaurant-style soup kitchens located throughout Israel, we reached out to Members of Knesset, Bridges for Peace and newsmakers asking if they would like to volunteer at this special time of year and, hopefully, help speed the redemption," said Goldie Sternbuch, Director of Overseas Relations for Meir Panim.

"The response has been heartwarming and participants have been very moved by their experience."

Rabbi Tuly Weisz, CEO of Israel365, volunteered with his wife, Abby; daughter Shaindee; and a friend. The family expressed joy at helping and being able to share their bounty with others. Shaindee Weisz and her friend distributed decorative and delicious cookies in honor of her bat mitzvah. The 12-year-old wanted to fulfill a Biblical commandment for this special rite-of-passage by feeding the hungry and downtrodden.

By fulfilling the "Vision of Isaiah" through feeding Israel's hungry, Meir Panim brings joy to those who experience mournful, hungry and lonely lives all year round. "Israel's poverty-stricken citizens struggle every day to find joy in their lives," said Sternbuch. "Especially during this tragic time of year

when joy is decreased, increasing our good deeds, particularly through giving love and care to Israel's neediest citizens, has special meaning."

Meir Panim's Jerusalem free restaurant is located near the city's central bus station in order to make it as easy as possible for people to get their food. "People need to eat a nutritious meal every day," said Sternbuch. "For many, the meal that the volunteers serve them is their only food for the day. We do all that we can to ensure that Israel's impoverished citizens receive daily a proper and delicious hot meal.

Meir Panim is supported by local dollars through the Jewish Federation of Reading's Israel Now campaign.

U.S. envoy: World must see Israel's treatment of Syria's wounded

The world should hear about Israel's quality treatment of Syrian patients in its hospitals, U.S. Special Representative for International Negotiations Jason Greenblatt said after visiting Ziv Medical Center in Safed. "These are the stories of Israel the world needs to hear, and stories like this show how peace in the region can be possible," Greenblatt said.

According to a U.S. Embassy statement, some 3,500 Syrian wounded have been treated in Israeli hospitals, including more than 1,000 at Ziv.

Greenblatt also went to the Gilboa crossing near Jenin to look at and hear about various Israeli-Palestinian economic projects there. His visit took place a little more than

a month after the U.S. brokered significant Israeli-Palestinian economic agreements dealing with electricity and water.

Transportation and Intelligence Minister Israel Katz, who accompanied Greenblatt, said the visit was held in the framework of ongoing meetings with Greenblatt "to enhance economic and infrastructure initiatives which will benefit all parties in the region."

In July, Israel and the Palestinian Authority signed an agreement on a new power substation in Jenin and the sale by Israel to the PA of 33 million cubic meters of water each year, agreements Greenblatt said were examples of how the two sides can cooperate to improve Palestinian living

conditions.

According to Katz's office, Greenblatt's visit focused on an initiative to connect the Haifa Port via the Beit She'an railway link to the Jordan River Crossing/Sheikh Hussein Bridge border point with Jordan, and southward to Jenin, where Palestinians could connect to it. The plan, called "Tracks for Peace," would also give Jordan, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states access via rail links to the Mediterranean through Israel's ports in Haifa and Ashdod.

Mordechai briefed Greenblatt on the security and economic situation in the northern West Bank, as well as initiatives Israel is advancing to develop the economy and "improve the fabric of life in the region."

Israel & Overseas

Jewish Agency
for Israel
Yemin Orde
Jewish Federations
of North America
Joint Distribution
Committee
Meir Panim

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I LOVE TAKING LUNCH ON CHOL HAMOED SUKKOTH.

THE COMMANDMENT TO EAT IN THE SUKKAH DURING THE WORKWEEK MAY BE AN INTRUSION FOR SOME. NOT FOR ME.

I WELCOME THE RARE INTERSECTION OF COMMUNITY AND NATURE-- A BREAK FROM ALL THE TECH TO SIT OUTDOORS AND SCHMOOZE WITH MY NEIGHBORS.

Local event to focus on Israeli cardiac care innovations

On Wednesday evening, Nov. 8, the Maimonides Society of the Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks is pleased to bring Professor Kobi George, Director of the Heart Institute, Kaplan Medical Center, Rehovot, Israel to share the latest high-tech medical innovations performed on cardiac patients in Israel. Professor George has been providing similar seminars throughout Israel. The Maimonides Society will also be reaching out to invite members of the Allentown and Harrisburg medical

communities to learn more about these groundbreaking techniques in heart care. Kobi George's innovative procedures have won numerous medical awards, including The Kellerman Prize from the Israeli Cardiology Society, The Zigler Prize from Technion, and the Yosefa and Leonid Alschwant Prize for research in Medicine in the field of immunology of atherosclerosis. At the event, Kobi George will be joined by the CEO of the Kaplan Medical

Center, Dr. Carlos Gruzman. Dr. Gruzman is a participant and expert in Israeli world rescue missions and Israel's achievements in Global Medical Rescue. Together they will present their vision of Israeli future advancements in heart care, including the development of the largest hi-tech cardiac center in the Middle East. Their discussion includes the background on the innovation that has gone into this project, along with the involvement and role of governmental medical administrations in Israel

A look inside the little Israeli hospital that could

Jpost.com
Directors-general of relatively small public Israeli medical centers don't have it easy. They must spend time and effort fund-raising abroad, as matching funds from their owners for development are usually dependent on collecting money from donors. Competing for funds with well-oiled friends organizations of larger and world-renowned medical institutions is brutal, especially when people abroad have heard neither of their hospitals nor even the cities where they are located. That's the predicament of Dr. Carlos Gruzman, who runs Clalit Health Services' Kaplan Medical Center in Rehovot as well as the Herzfeld Geriatric Hospital in Gedera south of Ashdod. In office since last fall, Gruzman replaced the retiring Professor Jacob Yahav, a gastroenterologist and pediatrician who came to Kaplan — named for the country's first finance minister, Eliezer Kaplan — in 2007. The 63-year-old Gruzman, who was born in Buenos Aires and studied medicine in Argentina before his aliya to Israel in 1977, was most recently director-general of Hasharon (Golda) Medical Center in Petah Tikva. Four years before he settled here, he came here as a doctor to help out during the Yom Kippur War. Married with four children, the friendly immigrant doctor received a master's degree in health systems administration from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, interned at Meir Medical Center in Kfar Saba, specialized in intensive care and anesthesia and filled various administrative posts in Clalit. He served in the Israel Defense Forces as head of the trauma sector of the Israel Defense Forces' military medical school and was a member of aid delegations to help survivors of a massive earthquake in Turkey and the Jewish community building disaster in Buenos Aires, the volcano disaster in Cameroon. Gruzman also was an intensive care unit physician at Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer and Emek Medical Center in Afula. A longtime resident of Kfar Saba, Gruzman has just headed for Philadelphia for his first fund-raising trip to the U.S. as hospital director. Kaplan's sole friends organization, located in the Pennsylvania city, is holding an event to memorialize Yoni Netanyahu, who fell in the Entebbe rescue mission of hijacked Israeli airline passengers in Uganda four decades ago. "I want American supporters to know more about my hospital and to get to know them," Gruzman told *The Jerusalem Post* in an interview before his flight to the U.S. Established in 1953 with 88 inpatient beds in hastily built barracks to absorb the growing immigrant and local population of 50,000 living in neighboring towns, cities and agricultural settlements, Kaplan has had to hurry to upgrade itself to today's advanced state of medicine. Today, the hospital serves a catchment area of some one million Israelis — more than 10 percent of the whole population — many of them from the lower socioeconomic strata. They live not only in Rehovot but Ashdod, Yavne, Ness Ziona, Kiryat Malachi, Rishon Lezion, Ramle, Lod and Gedera, as well as numerous kibbutzim and moshavim. The diverse population includes the second-

largest community of former Ethiopian immigrants (nearly two-fifths of all those who came from that country), as well as the country's second-largest ultra-Orthodox community, many immigrants from the former Soviet Union, a large Sephardi community, aging Holocaust survivors and minorities. Though Kaplan is located in the center of the country, it was vulnerable to rockets and missiles from Gaza in Operation Protective Edge two years ago, and while it did not take any direct hits, several did explode nearby. The hospital treated most of the wounded civilians from Ashdod and other places in the vicinity. Affiliated with the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, Kaplan is an academic and teaching hospital for medical students in their clinical years. There are 554 general, 75 day care, 17 dialysis and 54 newborn beds as well as 10 surgical theaters, four ambulatory operating rooms and 26 emergency room beds. Nearly 150,000 people were treated at its emergency rooms, 50,000 admitted, 7,000 babies born and 14,000 operations last year. It has a nursing school, a school for retraining immigrant doctors and a school for radiology technicians. Its scientists/ physicians conduct basic and applied research together with colleagues at the nearby Weizmann Institute of Science. Gruzman noted that the hospital cares deeply about community outreach and educating the public about health promotion and disease prevention. "We hold health promotion days in collaboration with local authorities and municipalities in the region; run a lecture series with a panel of our doctors for the general public; submit articles on health to local newspapers; offer activities for expectant couples and pregnant women; lead Internet forums; and run special events for Ethiopian immigrants," he said. As a hospital, Kaplan offers all inpatient and outpatient services except for organ transplants and neurosurgery, said Gruzman. But he doesn't want such advanced services, as "the number of procedures in the country is relatively small. There should be specialized centers so they accumulate experience and have high success rates," said the director-general. Kaplan does not have an in-patient psychiatry department, but it does boast a day hospital for both children and adults who need psychiatric care. There is also an outpatient facility for oncology patients, but not an inpatient cancer ward. "And our AIDS center is veteran. We provide free dental treatment for HIV patients from all over the country." Men who need prostate surgery appreciate Kalan's minimally invasive "green laser" — purchased with donations — that removes tumors with no bleeding. It evaporates the malignant growth, said Gruzman. Since 2010, Kaplan has carried out considerable construction of new facilities. These include a state-of-the-art day surgery center, intensive care units, a speech and hearing institute, a catheterization theater and an obstetrical emergency room. A cardiology center now being built on the campus will, said the director-general, be the largest of its kind in the Middle East. Gruzman is pleased to note that Gedera's

Herzfeld Geriatric Hospital, old but considered the best geriatric facility in the south, will in two years close down and move to a new building being constructed on the Kaplan campus. Herzfeld gives inpatient care to thousands of Israeli seniors, and it serves as a "halfway house" before their return home after surgeries, strokes and other ailments. The new Herzfeld will include advanced rehabilitative technology, day clinics, diagnostic and treatment facilities and additional half-house facilities. Together with Herzfeld's 231 beds, the combined Kaplan campus will have more than 700 beds, making it a large medical center. There will be only two patients per room in the new building. As delivering babies is prestigious and financially rewarding to hospitals, Kaplan is building a mini-hotel for women to recover for a few days after delivery. "We will be the first medical center owned by Clalit to have one. We will also have a facility where families can spend Shabbat and holidays to be near their relatives who are hospitalized," Gruzman said. Heavy charges for parking in hospitals are a widespread national problem. "We set a limit to NIS 20 a day, but we have a shortage of parking spaces on and around the campus. We are going to build a structure with over 1,000 parking places." As for the high price of food for visitors in many Israeli medical centers, Gruzman said that the next public tender for kiosks and public cafeterias will invite companies that offer inexpensive sandwiches and beverages. The director-general said 60 percent of staff members rolled up their sleeves for flu shots last year. This is a high rate, but we want more, as the vaccination is effective and safe. I always make the rounds in departments every autumn to persuade the staff to get a shot." And even though almost 170 years have passed since Hungarian physician Ignaz Semmelweiss discovered that doctors and nurses who observe sanitary conditions by scrupulously washing their hands with soap and water effectively eliminate hospital infections, the rate is not 100 percent in Kaplan, as it isn't in any medical center. "We do observations of staff members to encourage them to always wash their hands, but sometimes they get lazy or forgetful." Asked about his hospital's relationship with the country's largest health fund, Gruzman said it is "very good. I have no reason to complain. They make great contributions to us. When we raise donations for development projects, they give us matching funds twice or three times the size of what we raise. For example, they will help us to buy a fusion machine to do better biopsies of the prostate. At present, when we remove tissue for examination, we can't always find all cancerous tissue. The fusion machine integrates ultrasound of the whole gland so doctors can see exactly where to biopsy and do fewer removals of suspect tissue. "We will need some \$190 million, some from donors and some from Clalit, for our heart center. In a decade," he continued, "if we get significant donations from abroad, the Kaplan campus will look completely different from the way it looks now.

Our community stands in solidarity after Charlottesville

Our Reading Jewish community joins Jewish and non-Jewish communities throughout the United States in expressing heartfelt condolences to the three families of those who died needlessly due to a rally by hate groups in Charlottesville, Va.

“There is no comparison between the protesters, who brought hate and violence to the streets of one of the symbolic birthplaces of American democracy, and the counterprotesters,” said David Bernstein, Jewish Council for Public Affairs president and CEO. “The

rally was one of the largest showings from hate groups in decades. We believe that we must continue to work toward a more just and equitable society in which we can all live together. These values are what makes America the great country that it is today.”

Because we remember our own history, we must redouble our fight to shape our present and our future. We do this as Jews, as Americans and as global citizens by standing up today for our own dignity and for the dignity of all human beings.

Israel Book Club: ‘The Fight for Jerusalem’

By **Moisey Schneider**
and **Andi Franklin**

Dore Gold’s “The Fight for Jerusalem” is an indispensable history of the Holy City and a thoughtful analysis of future possibilities. The author is president of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs and served as Israel’s ambassador to the United Nations as well as diplomatic envoy to Egypt, Jordan and Persian Gulf states. He argues that if Jerusalem is to be a free city where all faiths may be practiced and all holy sites protected, it will have to remain under Israeli sovereignty.

Jerusalem was the political and

religious capital of ancient Israel. The Hebrew Bible refers to the Holy City nearly 700 times. And the author writes that Jerusalem remained at the heart of the collective identity of the Jewish people for centuries even after ancient Israel lost its independence.

Historically, Jerusalem has been the magnet that pulled the Jewish people back to their ancestral homeland well before the creation of Israel in 1948. The Jewish immigrants to Jerusalem in the Ottoman Empire period came from all parts of the world. In 1842, the total population of Jerusalem was 15,150 of which 7,120 were Jews. It

was a Jewish majority for the first time since Romans defeated Bar Kochba in the second century. By the beginning of the First World War in 1917 there were 45,000 Jews in Jerusalem out of a total population of 65,000. In 1920, the League of Nations Mandate recognized the Jewish right to Palestine. It is clear that Jews possess historical claims to the Holy City.

During the 1967 Six Day War, Israel repeatedly asked Jordan to refrain from attacking. However, it entered the war and over the course of three days, beginning June 5, more than 180 young Jewish soldiers fell fighting against Jordanian forces. The Israeli victory liberated the Old City and reunited Jewish Jerusalem for the first time in almost 2,000 years.

The author concludes that while Arab Nationalists could not assert their historical rights to Palestine, the Jewish people had an ancestral right that was acknowledged by the international community. They were the true indigenous population of the country that had been forcibly removed, but their bond with the land had never been severed. In Jerusalem, the Jews had restored an overwhelming majority even without the Balfour Declaration or the League of Nations Mandate.

The question that remains is how can the holy sites of all faiths be best protected. Historically, when Christians occupied Jerusalem, Jews and Muslims were restricted; and when Muslims occupied Jerusalem, Jews and Christians were restricted. In 1921, the British appointed Hajj Amin al-Husseini as grand mufti. He fought against any Jewish presence in Jerusalem. Under Jordan’s jurisdiction, most of the Jewish Quarter was reduced to rubble, the Jewish population was evicted or taken prisoner, and Jewish religious sites were converted into stables. Tombstones from Jewish cemeteries were used to pave roads and used as floors in latrines. David Ben-Gurion remarked in April 1948, “The Jews of the Old City of Jerusalem have been under siege for several months and completely cut off from the rest of the

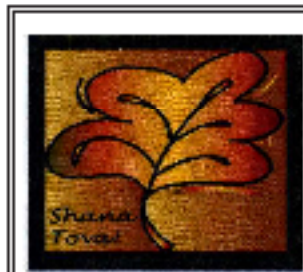
country and under constant threat of starvation.” The U.N. was not moved to offer protection and maintained a hands-off policy. Therefore, on June 8 when the IDF liberated the Old City, Moshe Dayan announced: “We have reunited the torn city, the capital of Israel. We have returned to this most sacred shrine, never to part from it again.”

Since the Israelis liberated Jerusalem, the American and Israeli approach has focused on the protection of the holy places and not on restoring Arab control. All faiths have been free to worship at their holy sites unless there are legitimate security issues and all holy sites have been restored, preserved and protected. Unfortunately, the question of Jerusalem sovereignty has once again emerged as an international issue.

There are two modern complications to the peace of Jerusalem. The U.N.’s newly articulated position on a shared Jerusalem has only radicalized the Palestinians and broadened their aspirations well beyond Gaza and the West Bank such that no diplomatic initiative has been able close the gap between the parties. In addition, Jerusalem has become a focal point for Muslim apocalyptic views and terrorist groups. More than that, the Palestinian actions and incidents demonstrated that they were seeking to erode aspects of the previous status quo at Jerusalem’s holy sites. Gold believes that any change in the status quo in Jerusalem will lead to far worse violence and will provide fuel for a dangerous conflagration.

At the end of the book he states that there is no realistic negotiated solution for Jerusalem, nor is internationalization a viable option. The historical record has shown that only a free and democratic Israel has protected and will continue to truly protect the freedom for all faiths in Jerusalem and that keeping Jerusalem open for all faiths is understood to be a historical responsibility of the State of Israel and not a break from international norms or practice.

Please join us on Nov. 15 to discuss Alan Dershowitz’s “What Israel Means to Me.”



**Best wishes for a
Happy, Healthy &
Peaceful New Year**

Bernard & Toby K. Mendelsohn



**May you have a
sweet & prosperous
New Year.**

**Ellen and Don
Abramson**

Don't miss it... **Sigma Alpha Rho Reunion**

**Jewish High School Fraternity
100th Anniversary of Brotherhood**

Sunday – October 15, 2017 10:00 am

Marriott Hotel 1201 Market Street Phila, PA

**For Registration and
Other Information**

www.sar100.com

jerry segal - 267-250-4295 jerry.segal710@gmail.com

stuart discount - 215-518-0472 smd2824@aol.com

Save the date!

**17th Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom
Jewish Food & Cultural Festival**

Sunday, Nov. 5

Build a Sukkah at Home Depot with PJ Library

By Amanda J. Hornberger

Just in time for Sukkot join your PJ Library friends for a Sukkah building activity. We will be meeting in the training room of the Wyomissing Home Depot at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 1.

The experts at Home Depot will be teaching our group how to make our own wooden Sukkahs. We will be using wood and nails for this project so every child needs an adult to join them for safety reasons. The activity is geared towards

kids ages 4-9 but younger children are welcome if parents feel comfortable.

This is a FREE event but RSVP is required by September 29 to Amanda at amandah@jfreeding.org or 610-921-0624.

Outdoor fun at JCC youth event on South Mountain

By Amanda J. Hornberger

Enjoy some fall fun outdoors at

the South Mountain YMCA Camp on Sunday, Oct. 8. After lunch at the

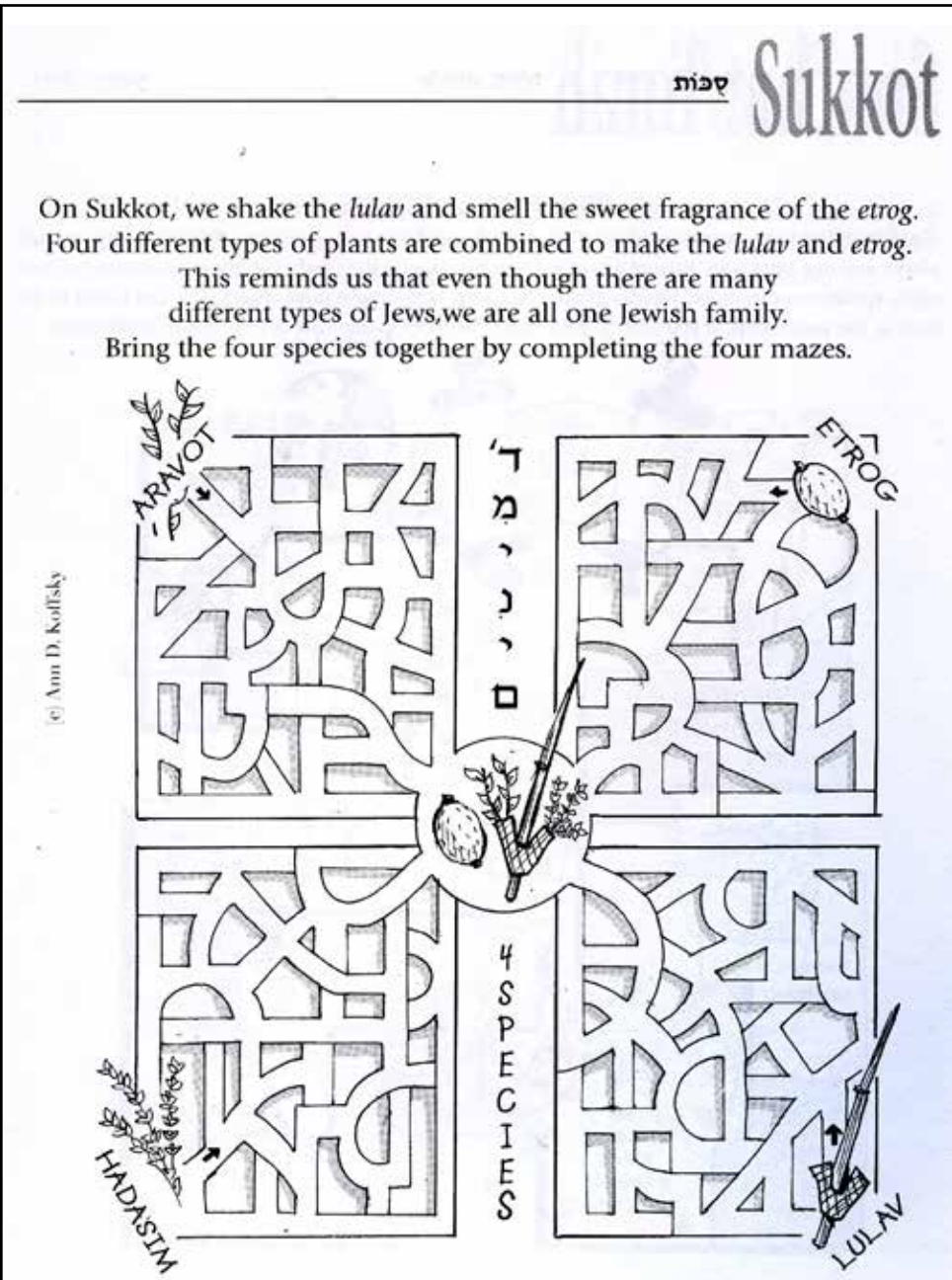
camp we will get moving!

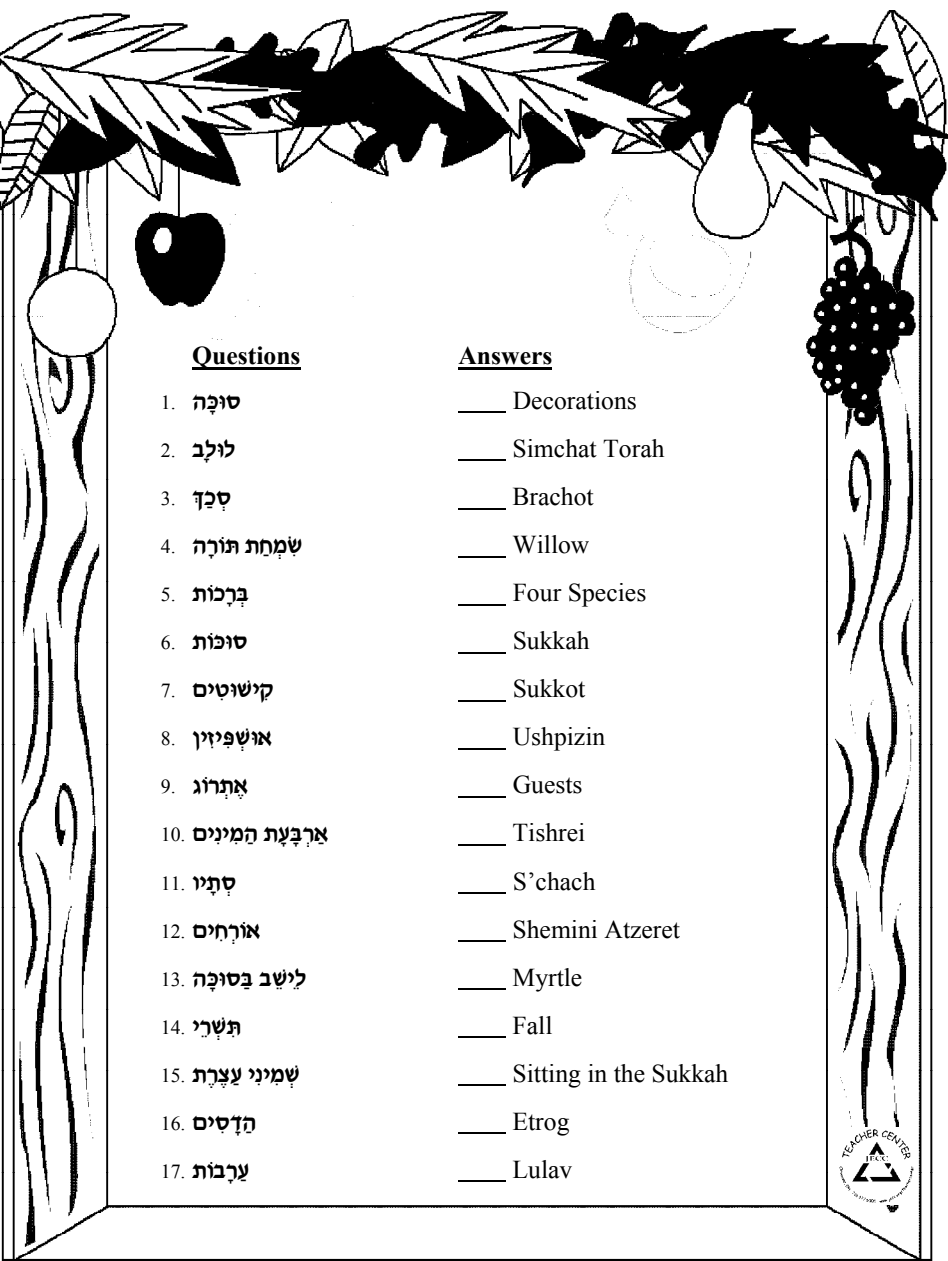
Our group will have their choice of a variety of activities including archery, fishing, map quest, climbing tower and a low ropes course. Youth ages 6-13 are invited to join in the fun!

Our group will meet at the South Mountain YMCA Camp, 201 Cushion Peak Road Reinholds, at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 8. Parents or guardians are required at drop off to sign waivers, and pickup is at 3 p.m.

The cost is \$15 per child including lunch. All children are invited and if you need financial assistance please contact Sari Incledon at 610-921-0624.

Please RSVP with payment to Brenda by Monday, Oct. 2 at brendas@jfreeding.org or 610-921-0624.





Questions	Answers
1. סוכה	___ Decorations
2. לולב	___ Simchat Torah
3. סכך	___ Brachot
4. שמחת תורה	___ Willow
5. ברכות	___ Four Species
6. סוכות	___ Sukkah
7. קישוטים	___ Sukkot
8. אושפיזין	___ Ushpizin
9. אהרונ	___ Guests
10. ארבעת המינים	___ Tishrei
11. סתי	___ S'chach
12. אורחים	___ Shemini Atzeret
13. לישיב בסוכה	___ Myrtle
14. תשני	___ Fall
15. שמיני עצרת	___ Sitting in the Sukkah
16. הדסים	___ Etrog
17. ערבות	___ Lulav

Tot Shabbat

Join us Oct. 7th at 4:00 pm for a special Tot Shabbat at Oley Turnpike Dairy!



Activities offered for a fee include a hayride, play area, corn maze, & the zoo. 🕒 Havdalah at 5:15pm. 🕒 All attendees will be treated to an ice cream cone after Havdalah. Sponsored by Nick & Tracy Rossi and David & Anna Bluestone. Event is weather permitting and no rain date. 🕒 RSVP requested (but not required) by Noon on Fri., 10/5 at 610.375.6036 or temple.office@ohebsholom.org

Israel rushes significant disaster aid in wake of world disasters

Israeli humanitarian-aid groups made their way to Florida as the worst hurricane on record barreled into the state threatening tornados, catastrophic storm surges, strong winds and flooding, and sending more than 7 million people fleeing from their homes.

Other Israeli aid teams were making their way to Mexico, which was hit by a deadly earthquake on Thursday night, and are offering aid to communities in Haiti and the Caribbean, also devastated by the powerful Hurricane Irma.

“We’ve never seen anything like this,” said Mickey Noam-Alon, from IsraAID. “There are so many massive events going on worldwide.”

“This kind of reaction from Israel is not unusual these days,” said Raphael Poch, International Media Spokesman for United Hatzalah. “Since the earthquake in Nepal in 2015, Israel has become experts in search and rescue and disaster aid. We are a country that knows how to do this well, and we are happy to share our knowledge with the rest of the world.”

Israeli aid efforts now underway include:

Florida

Three teams of volunteers from IsraAID, ZAKA Search and Rescue Organization and the Israel Rescue Coalition (IRC), all of whom rushed to help in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey in Texas, proceeded to Florida to help local people pick up the pieces after the devastating storm. Eight experts in search and rescue, and medical and psychological first-aid responders from The IRC and United Hatzalah also flew from Israel to Florida.

“Our teams began assembled data and connecting with local teams on the ground in Florida as well as the Israeli consulate and getting regular updates and assessments from the ground,” said Dov Maisel, director of international operations for the IRC as well as vice

president of UH. They were joined by 12 search-and-rescue veterans who are trained for rescues on land and sea, diving teams, veteran EMS and natural disaster personnel, as well as a group of UH Psychotrauma and Crisis Response Unit members.

The teams from IsraAID will be involved primarily in debris removal, helping community members clean up their homes, and offering psychosocial support. ZAKA Search and Rescue organization has also announced that it has established two command centers in Miami, manned by tens of volunteers, to offer assistance to the local communities. The command centers are equipped with generators, sleeping bags, food and water, and relevant search, rescue and recovery equipment. More ZAKA volunteers are standing by in the New York area.

“We intend to offer help in the best and most professional way we can, focusing on evacuation of stranded residents and treating the wounded,” said ZAKA International Rescue Unit chief officer Mati Goldstein.

Haiti and the Caribbean

IsraAID has had a team of aid workers on the ground in Haiti since the catastrophic earthquake there in January 2010. These workers have trained Haitian first responders, and have now begun distributing aid to locals in the north of the island, who have been affected by flooding from Hurricane Irma.

The organization has sent volunteers from Haiti to one of the Caribbean islands worst affected by the storm. ZAKA is also considering whether to send aid to islands destroyed by the storm. ZAKA Search and Rescue Organization volunteers, together with representatives from Israel, New York and Holland, managed to airlift Sarah Chanowitz, the wife of the Chabad emissary to St. Martin, and their five children to safety



(Rabbi Moshe Chanowitz remained to aid local residents). The same day ZAKA also rescued a group of Jewish tourists, including medical students, from the U.S. and Canada who were stranded on the island and seeking shelter in St. Martin’s medical school.

Mexico

IsraAID flew to Mexico and the border of Guatemala following the massive 8.1 earthquake that struck the region and will be assessing what long term aid to bring to the devastated region. “We are looking at long term technological programs, such as clean water,” said Zahavi.

The quake, which hit offshore in the Pacific, sparked a tsunami warning along the coast of Central America, and caused widespread damage and destruction, killing at least 90 people.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry also sent aid to Mexico in cooperation with the Israeli Embassy in Mexico. The aid package coincided with a previously planned visit to the Central American country by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The aid package was delivered by

Ambassador to Mexico Yoni Peled to the southern states of Oaxaca and Chiapas, which were hit the hardest by the deadly quake.

Texas

Israel responded in force when Hurricane Harvey inundated the city of Houston and its surroundings with flood water. Aid teams from IsraAID, the IRC and ZAKA sent first-aid responders to the city to help clear debris and give psychological first aid to the traumatized population. Some of these aid workers are still in Texas helping local communities. iAID also distributed solar lanterns to people left without power.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry also sent several tons of supplies and donations via its embassy in Washington, DC. This was distributed by IsraAID. The Israeli Ministry of Diaspora Affairs also sent \$1m. in humanitarian aid for victims of the hurricane.

On Friday, two medical clowns from the Dream Doctors Project touched down in Houston to provide unique laughter therapy to the victims of Hurricane Harvey.



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Sunday, November 12, 2017

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555 Warwick Dr. Wyomissing, PA 19610

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AT 1:00 PM

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Yiddish Lotto



Friendship Circle enjoyed a deli "nosh" and a delightful game of Yiddish lotto led by local maven Esther Bratt. Esther started the program with a Yiddish joke. As she called out the Yiddish words, she peppered her remarks with Yiddish phrases. There was no "kvetching" as the 25 seniors in attendance shouted out Yiddish sayings and had a wonderful afternoon.

Join Rabbi Michelson for
Lunch and Learn in the Sukkah
at Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom
Tuesday, October 10th
11:30 am -1:00 pm

Catered Deli Lunch by
Hymie's Delicatessen of Merion, PA
offering deluxe sandwiches & wraps,
2 choices of salads, drinks, & dessert

\$10 per person.

Your check is your reservation.

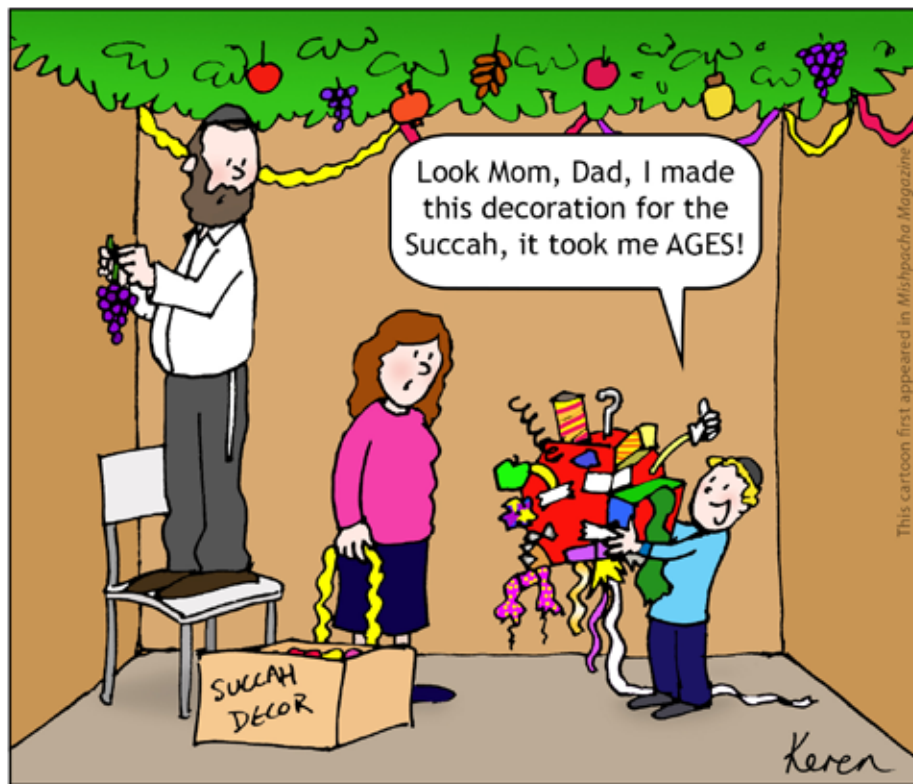
Please submit payment to the
Temple office by Tuesday, Oct. 3

Bring your friends!

Members & non-members welcome.

Transportation available from
The Highlands. Contact Kay Fashnacht
at 610-775-2300.

*Lunch and
Learn in the
Sukkah!*



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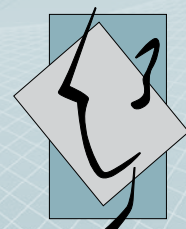
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38TH ANNUAL LEO CAMP MEMORIAL LECTURE

The U.S. Constitution: Honoring the Past, Imagining the Future

Presented by **Jeffrey Rosen**

President and CEO, National Constitution Center

From Drones to Facebook and Google, new technologies are transforming the shape of privacy and free speech. The Supreme Court this year will confront a pathbreaking case about the future of digital privacy, but lawyers at Facebook and Google will have as much to say about the future of free speech and privacy as Supreme Court justices. In this talk about the U.S. Constitution, past, present and future, Jeffrey Rosen will discuss how to translate constitutional values of free speech and privacy into a digital age.

Tues., Oct. 24, 2017

7:30 p.m., Wachovia Theatre
Albright College
Experience Event
Free and open to the public

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For more information, call 610-921-0624.



Federation Honorial - Memorial Card Information

Please mail your payment with complete information to the Jewish Federation, PO Box 14925, Reading, PA 19612-4925 or bring to the Jewish Cultural Center, 1100 Berkshire Blvd, Suite 125, Wyomissing. You may set up a “**savings account**” for the purpose of sending cards. Please contact the Jewish Federation at 610-921-0624 for further information.

Contributions as of Sept. 15

Jewish Family Service

In memory of:

Joseph Zmroczek (Kathleen Roeberg’s father) – Cheryl and Eric Farber, Al and Betsy Katz

In honor of:

Birth of Corinne and Andy Wernick’s grandson Ethan – Al and Betsy Katz, Jim and Jackye Barrer

Birth of Sid and Esther Bratt’s great-grandson Ethan – Jim and Jackye Barrer

Birth of Jayne Kleinman’s new grandson Howard – Jim and Jackye Barrer, Barbara Nazimov

Engagement of Samantha Slomowitz and Kevin Klein – Ethel Engel

Thank you to the Sileski Family, Lillian and Stephen Silverberg and Paul Meilik for their contribution to Lakin Preschool in the Meilik Fund.

Their generosity is appreciated.

Honorials and Memorials

Contributions may be made to the following Funds:

Federation Jewish Community Campaign	\$10
Jewish Family Service	\$10
Leo Camp Lecture Fund	\$10
JFS Food Bank	\$25
JFS Taxi Transportation Program	\$25
Holocaust Library & Resource Center	\$18
Doris Levin Fund	\$10
PJ Library Fund	\$10
Harry & Rose Sack Fund	\$10
Evelyn Thompson Fund	\$10

Federation Jewish Community Campaign

In honor of:

Birth of Andrew and Susan Oppenheimer’s daughter Annie Megan – Judy & Neal Jacobs

Rabbi Abelson’s engagement – Tammy and Jeff Mitgang

In memory of:

Joseph Zmroczek (Kathleen Roeberg’s father) – Carol and Bernie Gerber, Anzie and Edward Golden

Muriel Levitt (Sharon Berman’s mother) – Debbie and David Goldberg

Phyllis Knoblauch – Rob and Yvonne Oppenheimer, Dena and Vic Hammel

Evelyn Thompson Nursery School Fund

In memory of:

Phyllis Knoblauch – Beth and Bob Caster

Doris Levin Memorial Fund

In honor of:

Marriage of Carole and Mike Robinson’s son Andrew – Debbie and David Goldberg and family

Israelis training Palestinian farmers

Israel21c.com

July was a month full of depressing news regarding diplomacy among Israel, the Palestinian Authority and Jordan. Yet far from the headlines, cooperation across these populations was thriving at the Galilee International Management Institute (GIMI) in Nahalal, a city in northern Israel.

During July alone, GIMI gave a training course to Jordanian, Palestinian and Israeli olive-oil producers, taught farmers from Palestinian Authority territories to grow avocados for export, and began planning a tele-course for Gazan computer engineers meant to lead to remote employment at Israeli companies. “This is nothing new for us,” says GIMI President Joseph “Yossie” Shevel. “We’ve been cooperating with the Palestinians for the last 30 years.”

Established in 1987, GIMI develops and presents advanced capacity-building courses for professional personnel from all over the world. But local and regional needs are never far from GIMI’s radar. The avocado-growing course came out of GIMI’s awareness that the healthful avocado is in great demand in Europe and that Israelis could help Palestinian farmers join them in offering a quality product for this market.

The GIMI course for Palestinian avocado growers was partially funded by the Israeli Foreign Ministry. Israel avocado exports to Europe have grown to roughly 100,000 tons in recent years.

GIMI organized a training course designed for Palestinian agricultural extension officers, who will then share their newfound knowledge with farmers. Funding was provided by the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the European Union through the agency of Economic Cooperation Foundation, a Tel Aviv-based nonprofit think tank founded in 1990 to build, maintain and support Israeli-Palestinian and Israeli-Arab cooperation. “We have many alumni in the West Bank so once we announced the program they helped us spread the word, and 28 people registered,” says Shevel.



****Please watch for the announcement of the date, time and location of [Back to BBYO Night](#) in your chapter/community!**

Regional Kickoff

September 10

Spirit of Philadelphia, Penn’s Landing, PA

Open to ALL Jewish teens in grades 8-12

Come celebrate the official start to an incredible year of BBYO as we cruise the Delaware River! Take in the breathtaking views, meet new friends and dance the night away! Dinner will be served.

Regional Leadership Training Institute (RLTI)

September 15-17

Camp Kweebec, Schwenksville, PA

Open to all paid members in grades 9-12

This convention focuses on the development of participants’ leadership skills through interactive programming, skills workshops and teen-led training sessions.

Tournies Convention

November 3-5

Harrisburg JCC, Harrisburg, PA

Home Housed

Open to all paid members in grades 9-12

During this convention weekend, teens compete to show chapter spirit in many different activities ranging from water polo to debate – there is an event for everyone!

Fall Fest with South Jersey Region (SJR)

November 18

Location TBD

Open to ALL Jewish Teens in grades 8-12

Join us for an experience that Jewish teens won’t want to miss and can’t get anywhere else! We’ll be joined by our friends in BBYO South Jersey Region (SJR) for a large-scale concert experience – stay tuned for more exciting details to come!

Spring Kickoff

January 14

Location TBD

Open to ALL Jewish teens in grades 8-12

We’re kicking off the second half of the BBYO year in a big way! Save the date – more information to follow!

International Convention (IC)

February 15-19

Orlando, FL

Open to all paid members in grades 9-12

IC is an opportunity to become more familiar with BBYO on the international level, experience innovative Shabbat services, take part in community impact projects and connect with Jewish teens from all around the world.

New Convention- Name TBD

March 16-18

Location TBD

Open to all paid members in grades 8-12

This year, Liberty Region is introducing a brand new regional convention! With two tracks (one for new members and one for older members) we’re excited to introduce new and exciting programs, services, and experiences to Liberty Region.

March of the Living (MOTL)

April 8-23

Poland and Israel

Open to ALL Jewish teens in grades 9-12

MOTL is a two weeks-long program focused on Holocaust education, remembrance and celebration of the Jewish peoplehood in Israel.

Spring Fling Convention

May 4-6

Camp Kweebec, Schwenksville, PA

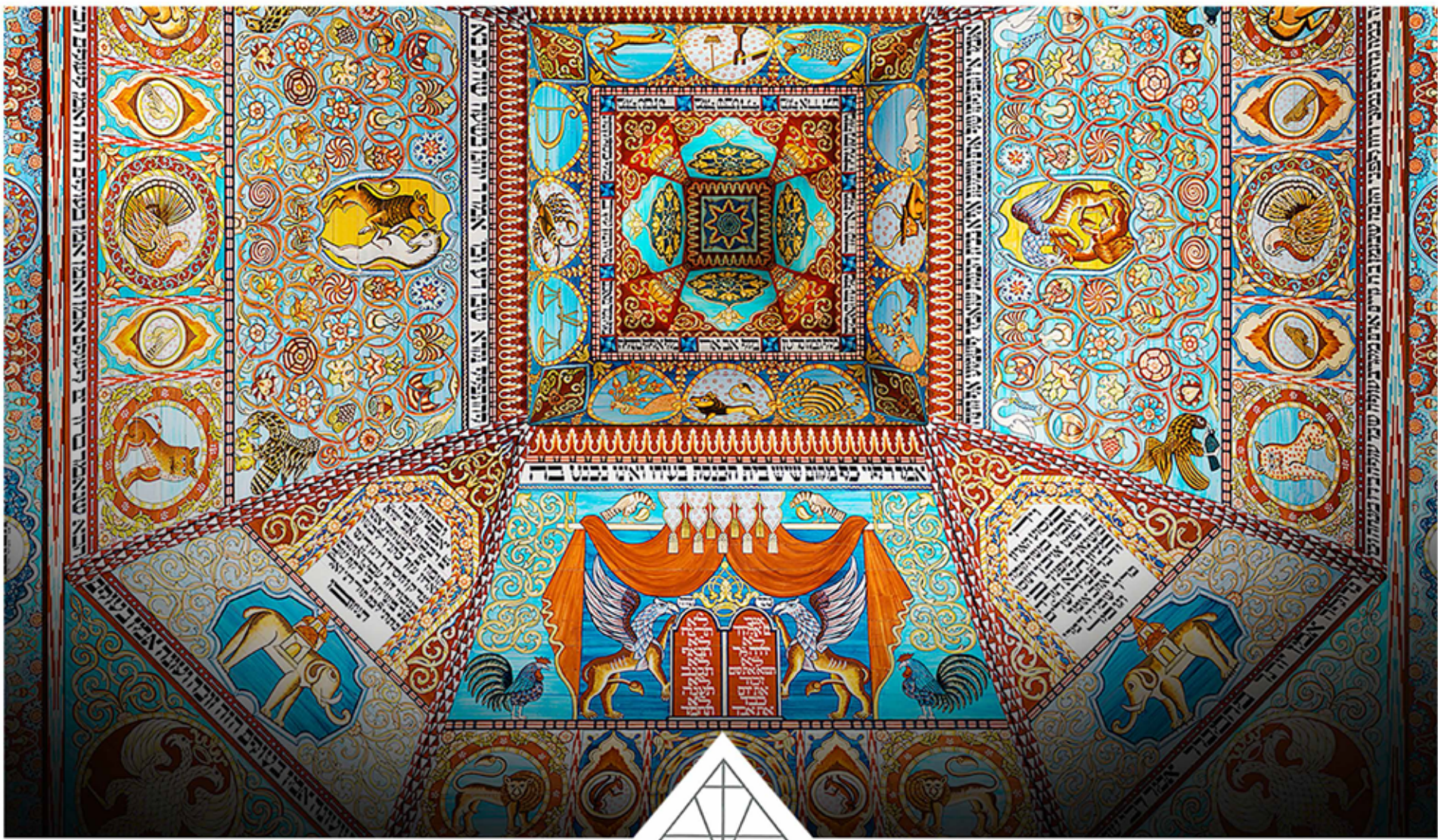
Open to all paid members in grades 8-12

As the culmination of the program year, this convention allows teens to listen to State of the Region addresses from their regional presidents, hear and take part in Life Ceremonies given by outgoing seniors, and elect the Regional Board for the following calendar year.



LIBERTY REGION

For more information about any of these events, contact liberty@bbyo.org.



RAISE THE ROOF

They set out to reconstruct a lost synagogue. They recovered a lost world.
a feature documentary by Yari and Cary Wolinsky

A special screening presented by the Lakin Holocaust Library and Resource Center

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2017

7 p.m., Klein Lecture Hall, Experience Event

Raise the Roof provides a window into a time that is often clouded by fictional representations like *Fiddler on the Roof* and overshadowed by the tragic realities of the 20th century. Artists Rick and Laura Brown are not Jewish or Polish, yet they set out to rebuild Gwoździec, a magnificent wooden 18th century synagogue in Poland that was later destroyed by the Nazis. Their vision inspires hundreds of people to join them, using their hands, old tools and techniques to bring Gwoździec's history, culture, science and art back to life.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



RaiseTheRoofMovie.com
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www.jewishfilm.org

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and Resource Center