



Shalom03|20

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

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Matching donation program a great opportunity for giving

By Richard Nassau

Federation is asking every person to consider increasing their gift or to make a first-time gift to the community campaign. Federation does so much for the Jewish community and the people of Berks County. Federation is the central organization that connects all of us — especially on issues such as helping fellow Jews in need, support for Israel, the growing problem of anti-

Semitism, as well as cultural programs such as speakers, the Jewish Film festival and more. And this is all being done with greater cooperation than ever before with Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom, Keshet Zion Synagogue and Chabad-Lubavitch of Berks County. If the Federation is to continue meeting the growing demand for program opportunities and services, we also need to grow the campaign.

The result guarantees we remain a strong and vibrant Jewish community now and in the future. That is why a group of committed donors have established a matching gift pool. Every new or increased gift to Federation’s Community Campaign will be matched dollar for dollar by this pool. The goal is to expand Federation’s programs and services through a substantial increase in Federation’s

annual campaign. Increased revenue ensures Federation can continue providing cultural programs such as speakers, Jewish Film Festival, Literatour Berks, PJ Library events and community Shabbat. It allows Federation to develop services that are helping fellow Jews and confront issues like the growing problem of anti-Semitism. To donate online – ReadingJewishCommunity.org.

16th Annual Yashek Lecture

What did America do to save Jews during the Holocaust?

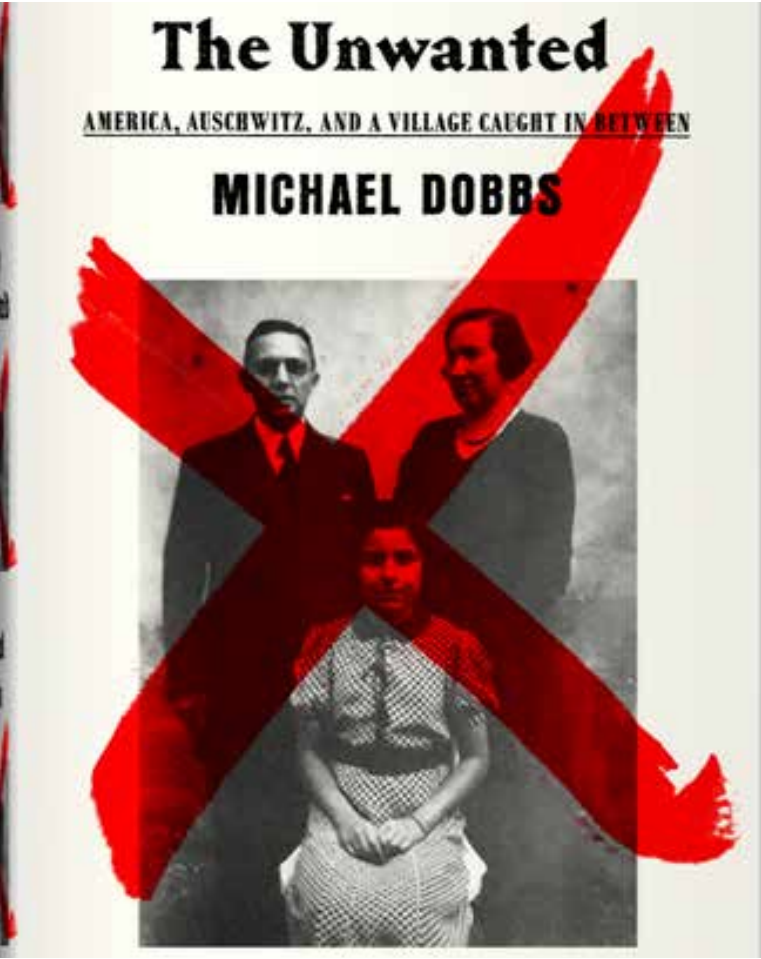
By Amanda J. Hornberger

“It is a fantastic commentary on the inhumanity of our times that for thousands and thousands of people a piece of paper with a stamp on it is the difference between life and death.”— Dorothy Thompson, journalist, in 1938. This year’s Richard J. Yashek Memorial Lecture gets at the importance of those papers, specifically from the United States, in saving a Jewish life during the Holocaust. “The Unwanted: The U.S. Response to the Jewish Refugee Crisis, 1938-1941” is the title of the 16th Annual Yashek Lecture, to be given by author Michael Dobbs on Thursday, March 26, at Albright College. “The Unwanted” by Dobbs tells the story of Jewish families from the village of Kippenheim on the edge of the Black Forest. They were desperately seeking American visas to escape Nazi Germany. Some made it to the United States, after battling formidable bureaucratic obstacles. Some were turned back. Some perished along the way. Some were murdered in Auschwitz. It is a German story that is also an American story.



Michael Dobbs

Drawing on previously unpublished letters, diaries, and visa records, Dobbs paints a vivid picture of what it was like to live among increasingly hostile neighbors, waiting for “the piece of paper with a stamp” that would determine their fate. He describes the expulsion of these “unwanted” German Jews to France in 1940 and their continuing quest for American visas. And he recounts the heated debate taking place in the United States over whether or not to admit refugees and the national security threat from “Fifth columnists,” both real and imagined. The result is a page-turning narrative filled with memorable characters facing life-or-death moments that will resonate with readers today. “The Unwanted” was named the 2019 Jewish Book Award winner in the Holocaust category. As a foreign correspondent for *The Washington Post*, Dobbs covered the collapse of communism. He has taught at leading universities including Princeton, Michigan and Georgetown. He is on the staff of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. The lecture is part of our Literatour Berks series of programs, and copies of “The Unwanted” will be available for sale after the event, courtesy of Reads & Company, a local independent bookstore and the official book vendor of Literatour Berks.



Thanks to the generous support of Rosalye Yashek and her daughters in memory of their husband and father, the Richard J. Yashek Memorial Lecture is in its 16th year of bringing distinguished scholars from across the country to Albright to discuss Holocaust-related topics. The lecture is free and open to the public and begins at

7:30 p.m. on March 26 in the Wachovia Theatre at Albright College. For directions or additional information please call Amanda at 610-921-7214 or send an email to hrc@albright.edu. Please note that the Keshet Zion minyan will take place at 7 p.m. at Albright College on Thursday, March 26.

Why the Community Campaign?

By Richard Nassau
Development Director

Imagine a world where all people have access to an active Jewish life, where children have food on the table, where all can age gracefully and where Jews can live safely. Federations across the country harness the resources of communities to connect people and create this vision.

Federation campaigns are how Jewish communities effectively meet local needs and help Jews and, when needed, other Jewish communities no matter where they are in the world. Federations are able to address the most pressing needs and issues at a moment's notice.

In Berks County and elsewhere, Federation's community campaigns are concerned with the entire community — its



continued viability and vibrancy — and the dignity of all of its members. This includes our sisters and brothers who may live thousands of miles away but are no less precious to us than those who live next door. Our work engages people and builds community.

Participating in a centralized campaign is also a statement about Jewish values. As Jews, we count on the ability of individuals to uplift the entire collective, and we treasure our historic desire to be full participants in a community's welfare.

When you donate to our campaign, you are part of our community and the Jewish people. You are providing essential programs that serve our diverse Jewish community. You are strengthening the fabric of Jewish life here in Berks County.

The funds we raise save lives every day. It may be by feeding the hungry, helping the unemployed, supporting families with special needs or funding Jewish education.

So thank you to every person who supports

our community campaign. However you choose to do so, with time or dollars or a future legacy gift, your decision is making a difference. Not just today, but for our future.

In 2020, Federation will continue working with you to build our Jewish community. No matter what your passion is, we are here to help you fulfill your charitable goals. Federation serves the entire community. Our programs and social services address a broad scope of needs.

Like you, we are committed to the Jewish value of repairing the world. We believe that working together makes our community better.

I invite you to participate in our vibrant, thriving Jewish community. Your gift to Federation helps do that by connecting Jews here in Berks County and across the globe.

To make a donation online, go to ReadingJewishCommunity.org.

To discuss, confidentially, the many ways you can achieve your charitable goals, call me 610-921-0624.

Batya Shmueli to share her unique journey of resilience from Ethiopia to Israel

Come join us at the JCC Thursday, March 5, at 7 p.m. to meet Batya Shmueli and learn how she and ImpactIsrael help Israel's children at risk at Yemin Orde's Youth Village

Growing up on the banks of the Blue Nile in Ethiopia, Batya's story is one of transition from agrarian village life to the fast pace of modern Israel.

Batya is responsible for finding established Israelis who are willing to give their time, experience and financial resources to help children and graduates of Yemin Orde Youth Village. Arriving in Israel in 1991 she and her family lived in a caravan adjacent to a small town in the Galilee. After high school, she served in Israel's Navy with an elite commando unit and received a B.A. from Haifa University, where she studied teaching and

the history of the Jewish people. Married with three children, she is completing a dual Master's degree in Israel history and Jewish law at Haifa University.

ImpactIsrael continues to focus its support on Yemin Orde Youth Village and has expanded its national educational movement, called the Village Way, to all segments of Israel's diverse society, including Jews, Arabs, Druze and Bedouin, religious, secular, and youth of all cultures and countries of origin, serving more than 2,500 educators and 22,000 youth in 55 educational communities in Israel.

The traditions and values of Judaism are woven into every aspect of life at Yemin Orde. Come meet Batya and learn firsthand how your Jewish Federation's financial support is helping next-generation Israelis improve their lives.



Batya Shmueli will tell her captivating life story at a special event Thursday, March 5, at the Jewish Cultural Center in Wyomissing.

Thank You to United Way of Berks County

The Jewish community wishes to extend its thanks to United Way of Berks County for its continuing support.

Funding from United Way of Berks County helps Federation's Jewish Family Service provide vital community programs. These include:

The Jewish Family Service Food Pantry - serving 175 families each month.

Transportation service subsidies - every day 5 to 10 homebound elderly or disabled people are able to maintain their independence.

JFS Friendship Circle – once-a-week 20+ seniors meet for lunch, education, and most importantly socialization.

Social services - over 300 people throughout the year receive counseling, case management, outreach, home and hospital visits and assistance when needed.

All of these programs result because of United Way of Berks County donations.

Federation's Jewish Family Service is proud to be a partner organization of United Way of Berks County.



United Way of Berks County



20th Anniversary
HKJFF

Israeli movie nights
presents:

Mekonen

JCC- 1100 Berkshire Blvd., Wyomissing, PA, 19610

Thursday, March 12th, at 7pm

Questions? AdiS@JFReading.org OR 610-951-0624

MEKONEN

The Journey of an African Jew

Development

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



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COMMUNITY
CAMPAIGN

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ReadingJewishCommunity.org

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today!

From the President’s Desk

Staying focused on our community’s Jewish continuity

By William D. Franklin
President

Two rabbinic comments have been percolating in my mind. The first is from Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sachs: “Judaism is a religion of continuity. It depends for its very existence on the willingness of successive generations to hand on their faith and way of life to their children, and on the loyalty of children to the heritage of their past.” The second is from the great Talmudist Adin Steinsaltz, who once said that a Jew is not someone whose grandparents are Jewish but someone who wants his or her grandchildren to be Jewish.

We recently had three community events that echoed this idea. First, Mark Oppenheimer, the author of “The Newish Jewish Encyclopedia” and co-producer of the podcast “Unorthodox,” spoke to us of his experiences living and discussing



Judaism with Jews and non-Jews. He said that Jews do not have a tradition of living in isolation — to exist we must be part of a community. He reflected that his weekly Friday night Shabbat dinners with family and friends have strengthened his and his family’s connection to Judaism and the Jewish community.

Second, Yehonatan Indursky, co-creator and producer of the popular Israeli TV show “Shtisel,” spoke about his Orthodox Jewish upbringing and his experiences after leaving Yeshiva Ponevezh. While many people who walk away from such a strict way of life tend to expend tremendous energy criticizing their former way of life and the people who remain in that lifestyle, he chose a different path. He continued to respect his Orthodox background, and he maintained, as best as possible, his relationships with family and friends. Such connections enabled him to become a bridge in many ways between the Orthodox world and the secular world, helping one better understand the other.

He is thrilled that the effect of “Shtisel” is to educate and break down barriers between Jews so that see each other.

And third, our Israel Book Group discussed Dennis Ross’ and David Makovsky’s Be Strong and of Good Courage. The book’s key message is how four Israeli prime ministers — David Ben-Gurion, Menachem Begin, Yitzchak Rabin and Ariel Sharon courageously safeguarded Israel’s security and future by narrowing their focus to preserving Israel as a Jewish and democratic state to ensure Jewish continuity for future generations.

As we plan for the future, we are also focused on our community’s continuity. Our goal continues to be ensuring that all people have access to an active Jewish life, where children have food on the table and other items they need, where all can age gracefully and where Jews can live safely, here, in Israel, and around the world.

To support active Jewish lives, we are following up on our successful Community Shabbat with regular smaller Shabbat

dinner at the JCC and expanding our Shabbat B’Yachad program.

Since Jewish education is at the core of Jewish continuity, Adi continues our high school program and will be starting ‘lunch and learn’ Hebrew classes next month.

In addition to providing food and other items for children, we continue to support Yemin Orde and Meir Panim and our Shelicha, Adi, led an effort to collect used Halloween costumes to send to needy Israeli children for Purim.

To ensure a dignified and rich life for our seniors, Sari and Carole lead our weekly Friendship Circle lunches with speakers and entertainers and regularly visit to counsel and keep connected with those who cannot travel.

Unfortunately, in this time of increased anti-Semitic acts, the Federation is working with our three synagogues to secure state and federal grants to enhance security and protect our community.

We will not let cost be a barrier to enduring rich Jewish life here in Reading.

Costume drive shows the power of community

By Adi Shalev

At the beginning of February, I shared with you that there are at-risk kids in Israel whose families don’t have the ability to buy costumes for the very colorful and fun Purim celebration.

I didn’t know what to expect when I reached out to you.

Because I got the chance to know you a little bit since I arrived here, I had a good feeling.

I know that this is a community that cares about others and cares

about Israel.

Thanks to your generosity, the drop-off box was so filled with costumes that we couldn’t close it!

Together with the box and bags that other people gave me, we are sending to the kids in Israel a respectable amount of costumes, and it’s all thanks to you!

I’m sure everyone there will appreciate it, and I’m so appreciate and grateful to be part of this great community.

Toda Raba!



Conference offers insight on fighting anti-Semitism

By Margo Levin

Bill Franklin and I recently attended the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) 2020 Conference in Washington, D.C.

Agenda items covered many current troublesome issues: mass incarceration, Jewish values and responsibility regarding climate change, the balance between individual rights and discrimination, Jewish values on poverty and human needs, and speaking about Israel in progressive circles.

But the issues I thought most relevant to our Jewish community dealt with how to fight anti-Semitism and how to keep the American Jewish community together by having civil discussions about Israel.

Unfortunately, we live in an age when anti-Semites are emboldened; many believe that it’s OK to make bigoted remarks and do acts of anti-Semitism.

And we see anti-Semitism both from the political right and the left.

The philosophy of anti-Semitism contributes to violence against other minorities as evidenced by the shooting at the black church in Charleston, S.C., and the mass killing of Hispanics in El Paso, Texas. We can’t fight one ‘ism’; we must work to fight them all. Every genocide begins with words.

The other disturbing relevant issue discussed was how to deal with the growing polarization within the Jewish community on the challenges Israel

faces and the pursuit of peace.

It’s difficult to have civil discourse in these times because too often when listening we are trying to classify a person, not to hear what he or she says.

When arguing issues, we need to try to get behind the scene to understand the real concerns being expressed and identify the story behind the disagreement

Dr. Tal Becker serves as the Legal Adviser of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has been a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team in successive rounds of peace negotiations. He reported that when Israeli and American Jews were asked, “What is required to secure the Jewish future,” Israelis answered, “a strong state of our own” and expressed a pessimism about the world. They believe anti-Semitism is here to stay.

American Jews, on the other hand, have a different answer. They believe that the Jewish people can thrive in communities that are open, pluralistic and progressive, and they are optimistic about the future.

Dr. Becker believes that these different perspectives drive the arguments today.

He further posited “that good arguments that endure are worthwhile and that we as Jews are obliged to argue but listen to and have respect for the position we disagree with.

In the end, peace cannot be thought of as a zero-sum game. Both

sides must win.”

Both issues are core threats to our continuation as a Jewish people — here in Reading, across the U.S., in Israel and around the world.

We can start from a place of humility, building bridges instead of walls by using the right language.

Bill and I will be working to schedule programs to help us learn

how to fight anti-Semitism and find common ground on Israel. We hope you will join as we move forward in this uncomfortable time.

I hope to see you on March 30 at 7 p.m. at the JCC when Michael Fromm, National Chair of JCPA, and David Bernstein, the JCPA’s President and CEO, talk about the fight against anti-Semitism and BDS.

Shalom

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General Offices:

1100 Berkshire Blvd., Suite 125
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Phone:

610-921-0624

Web site:

FAX: 610-929-0886
www.ReadingJewishCommunity.org

Jewish Federation of Reading

Chair:

Robert M. Caster, CPA

President:

William D. Franklin

Communications Director:

Mark Nemirow, Editor

Proofreaders:

Federation staff

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



Jewish Federation®
OF READING/BERKS

Busy March follows exciting February for Israel education

By **Adi Shalev**

What a busy month we had in February! We had Hebrew high classes, activities and a great Shabbat dinner!

We watched the interesting movie “The Angel,” and we got to know the story about the Egyptian spy who worked with Israel and Egypt right before the Yom Kippur War.

We cooked Arais and made Israeli salad as part of the Israeli cooking series (and it was delicious!)

We as a community collected costumes for at-risk kids in Israel! I was so excited to see your mobilization for the cause; I know for sure that I’m in a good community.

And finally, the wonderful Yonatan Indursky, “Shtisel” creator, shared with us his very personal and fascinating story about his childhood growing up in the Orthodox Haredim world of Jerusalem and his transition to the secular community in Israel.

So, what should you expect for during March?

- Hebrew high classes and activities (Sundays, March 8, 22, 29)
- Israeli movie night will feature the documentary movie “Mekonen” (March 12)
- Israeli cooking class where we will make Sabich and Israeli salad
- Hebrew classes with me (starting on March 16, see ad on Page 16)
- Lecture by Avezu Fanta, who will share her story and the background of the Ethiopian-Jewish community in Israel (Albright College, March 24)
- Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom religious school activities

I look forward to seeing you at the different programs and events.

Any questions or requests are welcome!

Adi Shalev Shlicha

@adi_shalev

AdiS@JFReading.org



Recent events in Israel education locally included, clockwise from top, an appearance by “Shtisel” creator Yonatan Indursky, a lecture on Israeli elections by Adi Shalev, and an Israeli cooking program at Albright College.



Israeli cooking

Kubbeh Selek (beet)

With Adi's mom, Revital!



**Thursday, April 2nd,
at 5:30pm**

RSVP at: AdiS@JFReading.org
Cost \$12 per person
Registration is required! Spaces
are limited

Questions? AdiS@JFReading.org Or 610-921-0624

ISRAELI MOVIE NIGHTS

Reading

22 JAN

MAKTUB

Comedy, Drama

20 FEB

THE ANGEL

Drama, Mystery & Suspense

12 MAR

MEKONEN

Documentary

19 APR

WALTZ WITH BASHIR

Documentary, Animation, Biography

7 MAY

SALLAH SHABATI

Comedy, Drama

All movies are shown at Reading JCC | 7:00pm

Israel Book Club: ‘Be Strong and of Good Courage’

By **Moisey Schneider**
& **Andi Franklin**

Dennis Ross and David Makovsky’s “Be Strong and of Good Courage” has two parts. The first describes four Israeli prime ministers and the difficult decisions they made to preserve the country’s Jewish and democratic character. Each of these leaders ceded or tried to cede land for the good of the democratic state of Israel. The authors’ intent is to show how all of these prime ministers had to narrow their vision of Israel to preserve values that they felt were primary and critical. The second part is where the authors continue their personal argument for a two-state solution.

Israel’s first Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion, never deviated from his goal of establishing a state for the Jewish people in their historic homeland. Against all odds, under his watch an ancient state was reborn. He foresaw the existential perils faced by the Jews of Europe and how Zionism offered a solution.

Ben-Gurion understood that Jewish statehood would come at a steep price, but democratic values were indispensable. He saw the gathering storm in Europe and worked to develop a Jewish state to be a haven for immigration.

He believed that reconciliation with the Arabs must at least be tested. However, his talks with them diminished his expectation of peace, and the 1936 riots reinforced his skepticism. He knew, therefore, that only partition could create an independent Jewish state. Ben-Gurion said, “I am not in favor of war, but if the Arabs behave in keeping with barren

nationalism, then we shall speak to them in a different language.” Although he was not able to create Israel in time to save the victims, the Holocaust was a constant reminder to him of why a Jewish state was needed. Ben-Gurion was a visionary and understood what was necessary for the Jewish State to emerge and survive. Despite his concessions, nobody doubted his devotion to building a Jewish, democratic country after two millennia of Jewish homelessness.

Israel’s sixth Prime Minister, Menachem Begin, was born into war and never gave up the hope for the rescue of the Jewish people, to whom he was deeply devoted. He fled the Nazis, suffered under the communists and as an Irgun leader fought the British, who were against Jewish immigration to Palestine. Even though Ben-Gurion had accepted the proposed partition and declared Israel’s statehood, it was Begin’s accomplishment to get the British out of Palestine by leading an armed revolt. He also prevented a civil war by refusing to fight against other Jewish militias.

Although he had many disagreements with Begin, Ben-Gurion in 1961 admitted that the face of history would have been different if he had known Begin then as he knew him now. Begin believed that Israel’s military was necessary. He also believed in Jews’ historical rights to the land and basic equality for Jews and Arabs. At Camp David, he weighed the risks and decided Israel’s national interests were more important than the anger of those in his own

political camp. At the same time, Begin ordered the destruction of Osirak, Iraq’s nuclear reactor, despite the anger of the international community. He was fearless in pursuing what was best for the Jewish state. Under his leadership, the Knesset approved the Camp David framework for peace with Egypt and in 1979 the first treaty between Israel and Egypt was signed!

Yitzhak Rabin possessed few of the attributes associated with diplomacy. Henry Kissinger, who dealt with him extensively, described his essence as being taciturn, shy, reflective and resentful of small talk. His career in the IDF shaped him. Nothing made more of an impact on him than his experiences in Israel’s 1948 War of Independence. The silence of his dead soldiers was a bitter memory for the remainder of his life and focused his goals on protecting Israel’s soldiers and citizens.

As the IDF’s Chief of Staff he was the architect of the victory in 1967. He was Israel’s Defense Minister from 1984 to 1990 and was responsible for dealing with the disputed territories and the Intifada. Rabin’s care for human life led him to probe the possibility of making peace with the PLO during his second term. In pursuit of peace Rabin recognized the PLO and signed the Oslo Accords with Yasir Arafat.

Unfortunately, the Oslo Accords were unsuccessful. Though Arafat preached peace, Palestinian terrorists continued killing Israelis. This showed the Israeli people that the Palestinians were not interested in peaceful coexistence nor the creation of a Palestinian State, but only the destruction of the Jewish one.

Israel’s 11th Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon, was born in British Mandate Palestine in 1928. He participated in all of Israel’s wars, rising to become one of Israel’s best known and most daring generals. He played a prominent role in Israel’s military efforts in the War of Independence, the counterterror operations of 1950, the Suez campaign in 1956, the Six-Day War of 1967, and the Yom Kippur War in 1973. Moshe Dayan said to him, “Do you know why you

are the one who does all the operations? Because you never ask for written orders. You just do it.” This ‘just doing it’ was the essence of his character. As a Prime Minister, Sharon would adopt policies that seemed to contradict his actions as a military commander. Confidentially, he conveyed a far-reaching proposal to Arafat that would have shocked Israelis and Palestinians. But it was rejected. Realizing that bilateral negotiations would never be successful, he unilaterally evacuated the Jews from Gaza in an attempt to preserve a secure Jewish state. Unfortunately, less than four months later Sharon suffered a devastating stroke. Hamas, dedicated to the destruction of Israel, violently took over Gaza in 2007. They have since launched three wars against Israel, shot more than 10,000 missiles into Israeli civilian areas, and their continuing campaign of incendiary balloons has devastated the agricultural land of southern Israel.

Gaza is ruled by Hamas in a totalitarian government; the Palestinian authority in Judea and Samaria is also a totalitarian entity. The U.N. special coordinator recently reported that under Palestinian jurisdiction conditions for the rule of law are nonexistent. Hezbollah undemocratically controls southern Lebanon, and Bashar al-Assad’s tyranny has Syria in flames.

Israel’s Natan Sharansky successfully argues that non-democratic governments will never make peace since they will always need an external enemy on which to focus their people’s anger and that the continuation of a peace process negotiated with tyrants will always be futile.

Although the authors of this book argue for a two-state solution, until major problems such as recognizing Israel’s right to exist are resolved, the two-state solution seems at best indefensible and worse, irresponsible and dangerous.

Our next Israel Book Group meeting will be Wednesday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. to discuss Yaacov Lozowick’s “Right to Exist - A Moral defense of Israel’s Wars”.

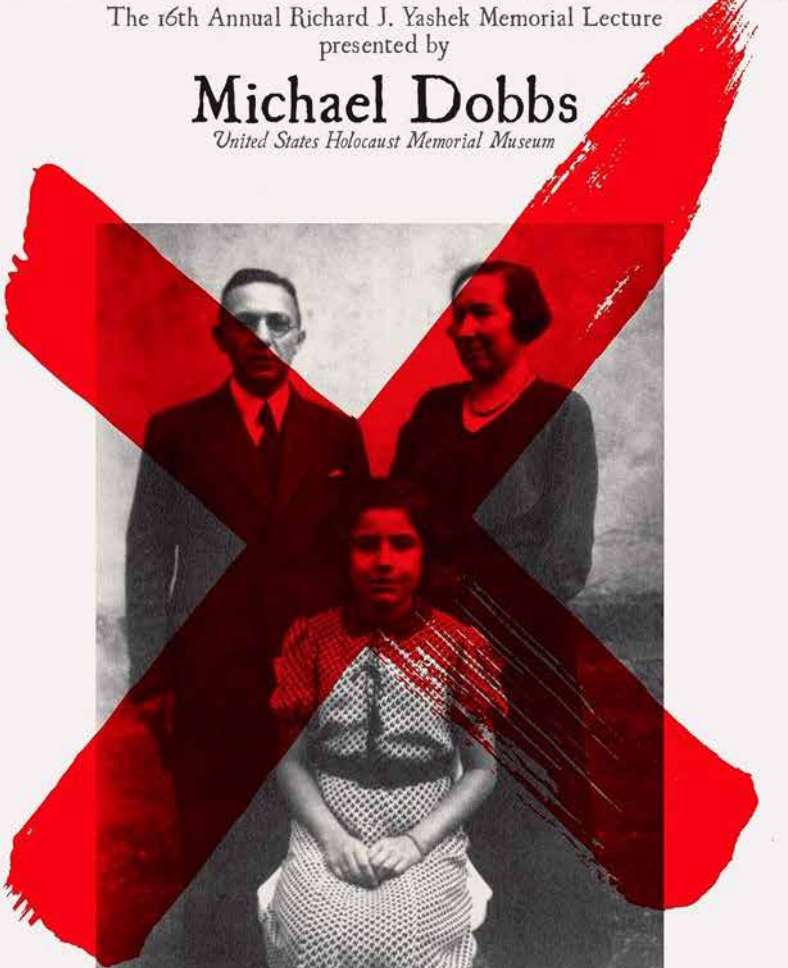
The Unwanted

The U.S. Response to the Jewish Refugee Crisis, 1938-1942

The 16th Annual Richard J. Yashek Memorial Lecture
presented by

Michael Dobbs

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum



Thurs., March 26, 7:30 p.m.

Albright College Wachovia Theatre. Experience Event. Free and open to the public.

Published in association with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and earning a 2019 National Jewish Book Award for Holocaust writing, “The Unwanted,” is a riveting story about Jewish families seeking to escape Nazi Germany. Author, scholar and long-time Washington Post reporter, Michael Dobbs, is a U.S. citizen, born and educated in Britain. He has taught at Princeton, the University of Michigan and Georgetown.

Drawing on previously unpublished letters, diaries, and visa records, Dobbs paints a vivid picture of what it was like to live among increasingly hostile neighbors in a small village, waiting for “the piece of paper with a stamp” determining their fate. Some made it to the United States after battling formidable bureaucratic obstacles. Some were turned back. Some perished along the way and others were murdered in Auschwitz. It is a German and American story that recounts the heated U.S. debate over whether or not to admit refugees and national security threats from “fifth columnists,” both real and imagined.



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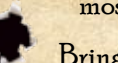
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Come dressed as your favorite COWBOY, COWGIRL, or WESTERN CHARACTER!

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Best-selling author to speak at Literatour Berks

By Amanda J. Hornberger
Jenna Blum is a *New York Times* Bestselling author whose first novel, “Those Who Save Us,” has been a favorite since its release in 2002. Blum will be coming to Reading with her latest novel on Monday, March 2, as part of Literatour Berks.
“The Lost Family” creates a vivid portrait of marriage, family, and the haunting grief of World War II in an emotionally charged, beautifully rendered story that spans a generation, from the 1960s to the 1980s. Blum brings to the page a husband devastated by

a grief he cannot name, a frustrated wife struggling to compete with a ghost she cannot banish, and a daughter sensitive to the pain of both her own family and another lost before she was born.
Spanning three cinematic decades, “The Lost Family” is a charming, funny, and elegantly bittersweet study of the repercussions of loss and love.
Join us on Monday, March 2, at 7 p.m. at the Sinking Spring Public Library (3940 Penn Ave.) for a conversation and reading with Jenna Blum.
Following her talk Blum will

sign copies of her book which will be available for purchase through the Literatour Berks official book vendor, Reads & Company of Phoenixville. Space is limited and registration is required. You can register by calling the library at 610-678-4311.
Blum’s appearance in Literatour Berks is presented by Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks in partnership with Exeter Community Library and Sinking Spring Public Library. Thank you to the sponsors and patrons of Literatour Berks for making this event possible.



Jenna Blum

Documentary captures Hasidic variation of #MeToo Movement in Jewish film series

By Amanda J. Hornberger
In honor of Women’s History Month, female empowerment is the theme of the next film in the Reading Jewish Film Series. “93QUEEN” follows Rachel “Ruchie” Freier, a no-nonsense Hasidic lawyer and mother of six, who is determined to shake up the “boys club” in her Hasidic community by creating Ezras Nashim, the first all-female ambulance corps in New York City. “93QUEEN” will screen on Wednesday, March 4, at 7 p.m. at Fox Berkshire, 800 Berkshire Blvd., Wyomissing. Admission is \$8 (\$6 for JCC members).
“93QUEEN” is set in the Hasidic enclave of Borough Park, Brooklyn, where EMS services long have been the province of men. Though the neighborhood is home to Hatzolah, the largest volunteer ambulance corps in the world, that organization has steadfastly banned women from its ranks.
Now Ruchie and an engaging cast of dogged Hasidic women are risking their reputations — and, literally, the futures of their children — by taking matters into their



own hands to provide dignified emergency medical care to the Hasidic women and girls of Borough Park.
Director Paula Eislet said: “As an Orthodox Jewish woman myself, I immediately understood that the formation of Ezras Nashim would be a significant cultural disruption to the gender-segregated Hasidic community. For decades,

Hatzolah has actively prevented women from participating in their emergency care corps and now made it known they were not going to make space for the women’s solution that is Ezras Nashim. But, these women were refusing to take no for an answer.”
The 2020 Reading Jewish Film Series is co-sponsored by the Rubin Educational Fund of the Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks and Fox Theatres. Tickets can be purchased at the Fox Berkshire box office (800 Berkshire Blvd., Wyomissing), kiosks, or online at www.foxshowtimes.com. All seats are reserved heated recliners, and seat selection takes place at the time of purchase. We highly encourage you to purchase tickets in advance.
Save the date for the final selection of the 2020 Reading Jewish Film Series:
Sunday, May 17, 3 p.m. — “Picture of His Life,” an American documentary about legendary Israeli photographer Amos Nachoum on his quest to photograph a wild polar bear, with an in-person discussion with the filmmaker, Dani Menkin.



At left, members of the Lebanon Jewish community joined us for the “Newish Jewish” event with Mark Oppenheimer on Feb. 9. Pictured with Mark are Sindy Bueno, Rabbi Sam Yolen, Neil Schaffer and Sherry Kaylor. At right, Paul Delfin meets the author.



Wyomissing featured on ‘Unorthodox’ podcast

By Amanda J. Hornberger
Forty community members enjoyed a fun afternoon with Mark Oppenheimer of Tablet’s Unorthodox podcast on Feb. 9. Oppenheimer was visiting as part of Literatour Berks and told the story behind his latest book, “The Newish Jewish Encyclopedia.”
Friendly and extremely personable Oppenheimer

connected with our community and really enjoyed his time here. In fact, during the next week’s Unorthodox podcast Oppenheimer spoke of his time in Wyomissing!
In the podcast entitled “Whole Hearted” Oppenheimer describes his visit to our community: The audience was filled with “super curious interesting people of all ages.

[The committee is] booking good authors and running great programs. The people they bring in are asking smart questions. Wyomissing ... was amongst the greatest afternoons of my life. It is how it ought to be. Truly engaged and grateful.”
We are thrilled for the recognition of what a great Jewish community Reading

is and hope that others will learn what we (and Oppenheimer) know ... that the greater Reading Jewish community is strong, smart and engaged! The Literatour Berks committee even spent additional time speaking with Oppenheimer after his talk ... so look out for our interview with him on an upcoming Unorthodox podcast.

‘Shtisel’ creator: Life journey leads to creation of hit Netflix series

By Amanda J. Hornberger

A large crowd gathered at the JCC on Feb. 13 to hear Yehonatan Indursky tell his life journey. Indursky described his childhood in a Haredi neighborhood of Jerusalem as “completely separate from secular Israeli culture.” At age 15 Indursky was accepted into one of the best Yeshivas in Israel, Ponevezh Yeshiva, but after three years he realized that he no longer belonged there.

Upon his return to Jerusalem Indursky found a new passion for cinema and described how it changed him. He later enrolled in the Sam Spiegel Film School. During a class project for film school Indursky dressed back in his Orthodox clothing (black pants, white shirt, black jacket) and saw a film school classmate on the bus. The classmate did not recognize him, and Indursky understood for the first time how the secular Israelis viewed the Ultra-Orthodox. Indursky stated

that “it’s not hatred or alienation, but we simply don’t see them”. That moment gave birth to “Shtisel”.

Indursky described the impact of “Shtisel” in Israel. The show has changed the perspective and understanding of the Orthodox in the country and allows the audience to “see the person behind the stereotypes.” The creator described the show as a “series about human beings and conflicts, not necessary related to Ultra-Orthodox.” Indursky also let us know that “Shtisel” is a huge success with members of the Haredi community through illegal screenings.

The good news for fans is that Indursky and his team are hard at work on Season 3, which will hopefully be released in the next year. We are so grateful to Adi Shalev for arranging Indursky’s visit and for letting us get a behind the scenes look at the show and its creator!



Yehonatan Indursky

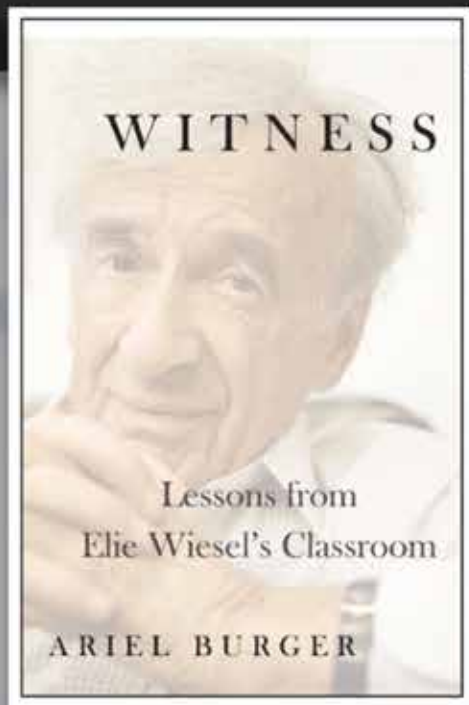
More highlights from Literatour Berks



Saul Austerlitz, left, signs a copy of “Generation Friends for a super fan Feb. 3 at the Exeter Community Library. At right, Barbara Ostfeld, the first female cantor, speaks in January.



Witness: Lessons from Elie Wiesel’s Classroom with Ariel Burger



Monday
April 20th
7:30 p.m.

Alvernia University
McGlinn Conference Center

Registration required.

To register, visit:

www.ReadingJewishCommunity.org/home/literatour

Elie Wiesel taught at Boston University for nearly four decades, and with this book, Ariel Burger—devoted protégé, apprentice, and friend—takes us into the sacred space of Wiesel’s classroom. In bringing together never-before-recounted moments between Wiesel and his students, *Witness* serves as a moral education in and of itself—a primer on educating against indifference, on the urgency of memory and individual responsibility, and on the role of literature, music, and art in making the world a more compassionate place. *Presented in partnership with Susan & Michael Fromm and Alvernia University.*

Copies of *Witness* will be available for sale onsite through Reads & Company.



Something serious to consider at Purim

By Rabbi Brian Michelson
Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom

It is easy to tell a story in which there is a good guy, a bad guy, a beautiful damsel, and a character who adds a bit of mirth to the story. We cheer for the hero and boo the villain, and we can laugh at the foolish antics of the intermediary who adds an element of humor to the story.



That is how we tell the story of Purim. We take great pleasure at booing Haman. Can anyone doubt that he is the bad guy? In reality, there is nothing simple or lighthearted about this story. It is a story about genocide. If we look at the story critically, it is not always clear whom the real villain is. Haman is not the only villain, and he may not even be the most dangerous one. King Ahasuerus appointed Haman his number one man on his cabinet. The Megillah says, "The King advanced him and seated him higher than any of his fellow officials." Immediately, the courtiers begin bowing down to Haman, "For such is the King's order," they say. Yet, the Megillah never tells us that the people had to bow down to Haman. This was, apparently, their choice. When Mordechai does not follow the others, they become angry with him. "Why do you disobey the king's orders?" they ask. Mordechai explains that he is a Jew and Jews do not bow down to others.

Angry with Mordechai for not following the crowd, the courtiers go to Haman and say: "Mordechai the Jew won't bow to you. What are you going to do about it?" It is only then that Haman decides to get rid of Mordechai by buying off the king and killing all the Jews in Persia.

Who is the real villain in the story of Purim? Is it Haman, who attempts to pull the trigger? Is it the courtiers who incite Haman to violence and turn on Mordechai because he is different?

Alternatively, is it King Ahasuerus, the fool and the bystander, who goes along with Haman quite passively and lets him do as he pleases. Haman may be the villain but he is not the only bad guy in this story. It may be comforting to point a finger at the person who acts on his prejudice and hate, but more often than not, it takes others to get him or her there. It takes people to incite the villain. It takes others to express quietly their bigotry and intolerance to inspire others to take another step and move on to violence. Haman did not just happen. He was created in a cultural and social background. To quote the words of the song from South Pacific, "You've got to be taught to hate and fear You've got to be taught from year to year It's got to be drummed in your dear little ear You've got to be carefully taught. You've got to be taught before it's too late

Before you are six or seven or eight To hate all the people your relatives hate You've got to be carefully taught." I do not remember a period in my lifetime when I was this fearful of anti-Semitism, or when the Purim story seemed so relevant. Every one of our teens have encountered anti-Semitism in school or on the field. However, the problem is not ours alone. We are living in a world where non-inclusionary language and hate speech is becoming an everyday occurrence. We cannot defend ourselves and ignore the prejudices against others. As we celebrate Purim this year, maybe we should do so with a little less joy and more with an awareness that Haman is out there. He is standing along with the courtiers and the indifferent leaders who are willing to pretend that hate is not real. Instead of booing Haman to make ourselves feel as if the evil has been vanquished, maybe we should stop and ask if Haman is not alive and well.

LOCAL CONGREGATIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

REFORM CONGREGATION OHEB SHOLOM (610) 375-6034
Friday, March 6: Shabbat service, 6 p.m.
Friday, March 13: Shabbat service, 7 p.m., followed by speaker U.S. Rep. Chrissy Houlahan
Saturday, March 14: Tot Shabbat, 10 a.m.
Friday, March 20: Shabbat service, 7:45 p.m.
Friday, March 27: Musical Shabbat, 7 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
Weekly services Saturdays: 9:30 a.m.; Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

CONGREGATION SHOMREI HABRITH

All Around the Town

Mazel tov to **Deborah Frank** on the birth of her sixth grandchild, Jace Frank, born Jan. 28 to Joshua and Rachel Frank of Westport, Conn.

We love good news about members of our community! Please share it by emailing Marknem@aol.com or calling the JCC office at 610-921-0624.

Obituaries

Gayle (Levin) Kastenbaum, 72, of Reading. Gayle attended the University of Pennsylvania, received her master's from Temple University and took courses through Gratz College, Penn State Berks and World Affairs Council. Gayle was involved in programs her children enjoyed including Girl and Boy Scouts and religious school. She taught reading in the Reading School District and served as president of Kesher Zion Synagogue and its Sisterhood. Gayle is survived by her husband, Michael, and her four children: Joshua of Reading; Isaac and his wife, Allison, of New York; Hannah of Philadelphia; and Kate Holsapple and her husband, Kevin, of San Francisco.

March Adar-Nissan



Shabbat Candle Lightings

March 6
5:44 p.m.

March 13
6:51 p.m.

March 20
6:58 p.m.

March 27
7:06 p.m.



Torah Portions

Match 7/11 Adar
Tetzaveh (Exodus 27:20-30:10)

March 14/Adar 18
Ki Tisa (Exodus 30:11-34:35)

March 21/25 Adar
Vayak'hel Pekudi (Exodus 35:1-40:38)

March 28/3 Nissan
Vayikra (Leviticus 1:1-5:26)

Reform Congregation
Oheb Sholom Invites You
to Attend Our



ONEG SPEAKER SERIES

Featuring Representative
Chrissy Houlahan



**Friday,
March 13th**

U.S. Representative Chrissy Houlahan is an Air Force veteran, engineer, entrepreneur, and educator who is continuing her career of service as the first woman ever to represent Pennsylvania's 6th District in Congress.

Chrissy is the daughter & granddaughter of Holocaust survivors who came to America with nothing. She grew up in a military family; her parents met when her father and grandfather flew P3s in the same Navy squadron. She earned her engineering degree from Stanford with an ROTC scholarship that launched her service in the U.S. Air Force and Air Force Reserves, and later earned her M.S. in Technology & Policy from MIT. She's a mom and a longtime resident of Southeastern Pennsylvania.



Shabbat Service at 7:00 pm. Oneg/Speaker at 8:00 pm

Help available for purchasing hearing aids

By **Sari Incledon, M.Ed.**

I would like to thank Annette Peppard (Doctor of Audiology) for sharing this important information in order to help people with impaired hearing. Annette works as a consultant with Berks Hearing Professionals. Since 2006, Berks Hearing Professionals has been associated with the national nonprofit “Hearing the Call” and its local affiliate, “The Greater Reading Hearing the Call.” The work of the nonprofits is to improve the quality of lives of local residents by providing affordable hearing aids to individuals who need financial assistance. In addition “Hearing the Call” provides services to hearing impaired people around the globe in locations in the Mideast, Africa and South America. Their work in audiology has expanded to a “Hearing the Call Art Initiative”, which uses art as a therapy. This program gives voice to children and families displaced and traumatized by



extreme poverty, war and social unrest. The “Hearing the Call” website has information on all their volunteer programs, locally and globally and ways to participate in helping their important work.

Jewish Family Service wants to spread the word to encourage people in need of help purchasing hearing aids, that help is available. Individuals who earn up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (\$30,350 for one person, \$41,150 for a person in a two person household) may qualify.

Patients can find information at the website: www.hearingthecall.org/greaterreading or you can call 610-750-6107. Qualified individuals are asked to give back to the community by volunteering for 10 hours. For people unable to volunteer, there is a volunteer bank that can be used to provide volunteer hours for them.

With this program the cost of the hearing aids is only \$100 per aid. Patients will be able to make payments over time with no interest. They must be paid in full before getting the aid/aids. There is a 60-day trial period. Only adults qualify for this program since children from low income families are covered by Medicaid.

According to a report published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, uncorrected hearing loss may raise the risk of mental and physical health problems and leads to higher hospitalization rates and health care costs. In addition, the report found that untreated hearing loss is associated with a greater risk of depression, dementia, heart attacks and falls. Hearing loss is directly connected to social isolation and vastly limits our ability to comprehend and communicate effectively. In addition, untreated hearing loss may lower one’s earning potential.

Thanks again to Annette Peppard for making us aware of the important community outreach service Berks Hearing Professionals and Greater Reading Hearing the Call provides.

Whether you qualify for this program or not, Annette is willing to meet you at our office to do a preliminary hearing screening. If hearing loss is detected, you would need to continue an evaluation at an audiologist’s office. For more information call JFS at 610-921-0624.

Balancing act at Friendship Circle



Martha Sitler from Berks Encore demonstrates exercises to improve balance at a recent Friendship Circle gathering.

JFS Movie Monday

March 23 – “The Women’s Balcony”

Israeli comedy hit from 2017. An accident during a Bar Mitzvah leads to a rift between men and women in a devout community in Jerusalem. It is a portrait of a modern community struggling to balance tradition with progressive values.

April 27 – “Tel Aviv on Fire”

Don’t be fooled by the title. This 2019 comedy highlights the absurdity of war and proves it’s possible to find humor amid cultural conflict.

May 11 – “The People Vs. Fritz Bauer”

In this 2015 German film. Attorney General Fritz Bauer in 1957 Germany receives crucial evidence on the whereabouts of Adolf Eichmann. Not trusting the German justice system, Bauer contacts the Israeli Mossad and by doing so, commits treason.

JFR and Meir Panim: How your dollars help

From Federation staff

You Jewish Federation of Reading continues to support the charitable work of Meir Panim in Israel. Here are several examples of how our money is being put to use.

IDF Battalion volunteers

The IDF's 450th Battalion took some "time off" to volunteer at the Meir Panim Dimona Branch. The soldiers worked together to organize food packages to be delivered to needy families in the community.

The soldiers also spent quality time with the Holocaust Survivors who attend the Senior Day Center. It was heartwarming to see the heroes of Israel, both young and old, enjoying each other's company.

It is so heartwarming to see the Dimona Branch full of life! This special

place has enabled so many wonderful volunteer programs and has become a pillar of the Dimona community.

Meir Panim in Sderot

It was a busy week at Meir Panim's Nir Am Neighborhood Youth Center. The center had a talented magician perform a live magic show and the teens were amazed with his tricks. He also taught them how to perform some magic on their own!

In partnership with the Sderot Municipality, the center hosted a special young women's evening with learning activities and important confidence building discussions. This is part of a new initiative to create a support group specifically tailored to young women.

Similarly, the Ben Gurion Center held fun activities for the young

women's group. They are continuing their coursework on building self-esteem and confidence. This course has impacted these ladies in such a positive way, and one participant shared, "I can't believe how much I am learning from a workshop on styling, not only about dressing but how I view myself and how I share myself with the world."

The teens also participated in a woodworking workshop which was a group favorite from last year's program. This year, the teens are working together and building a new seating area for themselves to use in the center.

New winter coats for clients in Tiberias

Yehudit, the Tiberias Branch manager, and Ziva, her assistant,

were able to secure a large donation of essential winter supplies to distribute to the clients of the Meir Panim Tiberias Branch. The generous donation included over 100 children's winter jackets, space heaters, heavy comforters and blankets.

Israel has been experiencing a particularly difficult winter with record-breaking rainfall and flooding across the country. The thoughtful staff identified their communities' needs and quickly ran to help anyone who needed it.

While the staff is primarily focused on fighting hunger at the Meir Panim restaurant-style soup kitchen in Tiberias, they are also committed to helping their clients in any way that is needed.

One woman's story shows power of Yemin Orde

From Federation staff

At the age of 16, Liora Zenou was uneasy with fielding questions about her religious beliefs from classmates in her Toulouse, France, community. She was uncomfortable explaining why she could not eat at their homes, why she could not eat the meat at school, and why she stayed home Friday nights.

In 2013, Yemin Orde Youth Village opened its program for young French immigrants due to the increase in French Jews fleeing to Israel as a result of the rise in anti-Semitism. Liora and her family were thrilled to learn about Yemin Orde's program and its excellent school and, in 2014, the Village welcomed her.

At the start and without Hebrew skills, Liora felt alone and homesick. A group of French youth who had arrived at the Village earlier than Liora embraced her as a new friend and helped alleviate her fears.

"I realized that I was not alone in this situation," Liora said.

Liora's teachers supported her learning and always made time to ensure she understood the day's lessons. She excelled in math and science and enjoyed extra-curricular activities such as running, photography, ceramics and pottery.

These outlets helped her relax and work through her emotions in an expressive and therapeutic way.

"Yemin Orde helped me integrate into Israeli society and be proud of being able to live here. I learned how to be more independent and how to focus on important tools needed to grow into a mature young adult, building my self-esteem and confidence, too," Liora said.

Her younger brother, Eitan, joined her at Yemin Orde in 2015. Liora graduated from Yemin Orde's high school in 2017. She decided to become an Israeli citizen, officially made Aliyah and joined the Israel Defense Forces.

Liora served as an artillery fighter and, thanks to the self-confidence she learned at Yemin Orde, she applied and was accepted into Israel's prestigious officer training school. "I know that I can always come back here. This is my home," said Liora.

Liora's parents and her younger sister are now making Aliyah, which means the family can be reunited in Israel.

Liora's story is a good example of the support Yemin Orde, supported by local Federation dollars, provides its graduates:

Scholarships (stipends for academic, vocational and gap-year programs)

Village Liaison for Graduate-Soldiers (staff members attend IDF ceremonies and remain in contact with graduate-soldiers throughout their service)

Networking opportunities (the Village provides social and professional networking platform)



Liora Zenou

Reunions (class reunions at Yemin Orde)

Care packages for soldiers without family in Israel

Mentoring (Retired IDF veterans

help newly released soldiers adjust to civilian life)

Special events (weddings, celebrations and other life cycle events are hosted at the Village)



The Ethiopian community in Israel

Join us to meet Avezu, Ethiopian Jew from Israel, that will share with us the story of the Jewish Ethiopian community and her personal story growing up in Israel

TUESDAY, MARCH 24TH, AT 7PM
ALBRIGHT COLLEGE, SCIENCE LECTURE HALL
1621 N. 13TH ST., READING, PA 19604

Questions? AdiS@JFReading.org or evan.cardinalloo@albright.edu

Literatour Berks, Federation win award



Literatour Berks co-chairs Amanda Hornberger and Nancy Russo with the award the Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks received at the Berks County Public Library System Annual Awards 2019. Federation won Outstanding Community Organization Award presented to a local nonprofit in recognition of its support of the public libraries in its community. We're honored to have received this award and are thankful for the support of the Exeter Community Library and Sinking Spring Public Library for our new Literatour Berks series!

Interfaith movie event



An interfaith audience gathered for a screening of the new documentary American Muslim at the Goggleworks Film Theatre on Feb. 16. Pictured here are Nora Elmarzouky and filmmaker Adam Zucker who participated in a post film discussion together. Elmarzouky is a Muslim activist and daughter of Elsayed Elmarzouky, president of the Islamic Center of Reading.



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First semester schedule:

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- March 12
- May 14
- June 11

The second Thursday night of the month, 6:30-7:30 pm
(Minyan will follow the class)

Please register at the Keshet Zion office
or contact us for more information:

kzsecretary@entermail.net or keshetzionrav@gmail.com
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610-374-1763



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From online news sources

For years, Israel has been utilizing its innovative spirit to help solve the world’s greatest challenges. Around the world, Israeli technologies are used to address humanitarian crisis and to promote community development.

In Gaza, the Israeli company Watergen has launched a pilot project, in the neighborhood of Abasan al-Kabira, to provide a solution for Gazan’s urgent need for accessible clean-water.

At the moment, Gaza’s main source of water is from a coastal aquifer. Its supply of water has been depleting over the few decades due to over-extraction. As a result of water pollution, over 90% of water from the aquifer is unfit for consumption. Gazans are therefore

left to rely on very expensive options to access water.

Watergen’s solution is simple: Producing clean and fresh-drinking water out of air, through an atmospheric water generator (AWG). The GEN-M machine can produce up to 800 liters of water per day and only requires electricity to work. It is also equipped with solar panels to provide the machine with another, sustainable, source of power.

The machine uses the humidity existing in the air: the air collected by the machine is cooled, creating water. The water then goes through physical, chemical and biological treatment followed by a mineralization process to maintain its cleanliness, tastiness and healthy quality.

For the pilot, GEN-M has been set



up in Abasan al-Kabira’s municipal building.

The pilot is a cooperative efforts between Watergen, Israel’s Arava Institute for Environmental Studies, the Palestinian organization Damour for Community Development and the Abasan al-Kabira municipality.

“Responding in accordance with our belief that every human being, regardless of race, gender or religion has a fundamental right to clean-drinking water, we are helping some of Israel’s next-door neighbors gain access to freshwater, a resource that is lacking in Gaza. We hope that our provision of an AWG will help solve the water crisis and serve as a step forward towards mutual collaboration in the Middle East,” said Watergen in

a press release.

“The introduction of Watergen into Gaza is not only a proof of concept for a cutting-edge technology but a proof of concept that Palestinians and Israelis can do more than launch attacks at each other. We can, instead, work together to improve lives, solve humanitarian problems, build trust, and restore hope,” said David Lehrer, Director of the Arava Institute.

The Coordination and Liaison Administration (CLA) to the Gaza Strip oversaw the transportation of the GEN-M into Gaza through the Kerem Shalom Crossing. CLA said the shipment is part of a policy that seeks to prevent any further deterioration to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza for its lack of water.

Join us next time!
March 14-th at 10:00am

Tot Shabbat

Members and non-members are invited. No registration is required. Tot Shabbat services are held Saturday mornings at 10:00 am at Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom, 555 Warwick Drive, Wyomissing unless noted. Please call the Temple office with any questions, 610.375.6034.

A musical, story-filled, interactive hour for children through grade 2. Bring your family & friends to celebrate with Rabbi Michelson and stay for a pint-sized oneg of juice, challah, fruit, & child-friendly treats!

FUTURE TOT SHABBAT DATES:
* April 25, May 16, & June 13

Challahs
by Chana

ENHANCE YOUR SHABBAT EACH WEEK
WITH DELICIOUS, FRESH, HOME BAKED
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\$5 EACH CHALLA

Toppings include sesame, everything or crumb.
Please specify when you order

Orders must be in by Tuesday each week
Text Chana Lipsker @610-334-1577

All proceeds go to support Camp Gan Izzy of Berks

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A Presidents Day filled with fun and good works



Children made the most of their Presidents Day holiday with some special activities coordinated by the JCC.

At left, Adi Shalev leads kids in an Israel-USA matching game.

At right, children participate in the PJ Our Way "Bowl to Strike Out Illiteracy" event at Berks Lanes. Children were invited to collect used or new books to be donated to the Ready Set Read program in Berks County. Bowlers, from left, are Adam Leisawitz, Leah Leisawitz, Rose Leisawitz, Gabrielle Gurwitz, Lena Bluestone, Felicity Bluestone, Ari Bluestone, Luca Rossi and Zachary Tomlinson.

Come hear what amazing things we're planning for your children this summer at Camp Gan Izzy. Join us for an informative meeting March 1 at the home of Traci & Nick Rossi. Contact Chana Lipsker at Lipskerreading@aol.com or 610-334-1577 for details.

CAMP GAN IZZY OF BERKS

For boys & girls ages 4-12

AUGUST 17TH - AUGUST 21ST 2020
AT CHABAD OF BERKS

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(BEFORE AND AFTERCARE AVAILABLE)

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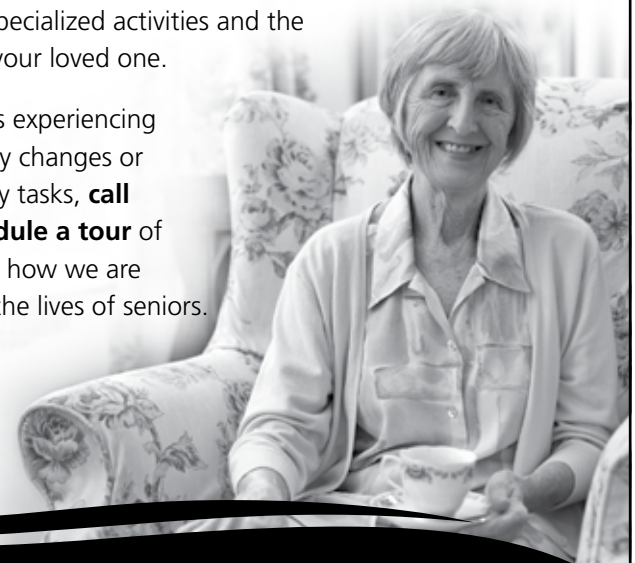
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Reading's Hidden Gem

Manor at Market Square's spacious and bright Daybreak Neighborhood provides a calming, home-like environment to those with Alzheimer's and dementia. Our compassionate staff is trained in the latest care techniques to provide specialized activities and the highest-quality care to your loved one.

If your family member is experiencing memory loss, personality changes or struggling with everyday tasks, **call 610-624-1299 to schedule a tour** of our community and see how we are making a difference in the lives of seniors.



803 Penn St., Reading, PA 19601 • www.manoratms.com

Do you remember?

By Tootie Moyer

• At the old JCC off Hampden Boulevard, Mary Ziembra and myself went around to every table at Friendship Circle

at lunch and collected for the meal — a taxi cost \$1 extra.

• We used a telephone book — now all you need is a smartphone.

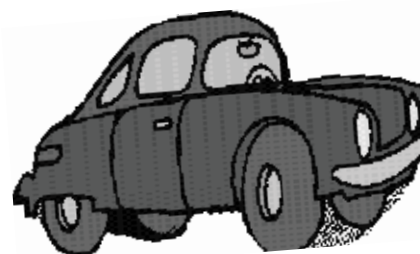


Yossi's mother couldn't understand why he was struggling socially.

- We only had Luden's cough drops.
- We had no clothes dryers. We hung clothes outside or put them on the radiator.
- We used only Ivory soap to wash our face — now there are many soaps and cleansers.
- The Pagoda was for "making out" for every teenager.
- Supermarkets had someone outside to help you put bags in your car.
- Our kids took a dime or quarter to school every week to buy a stamp for a government bond.
- No pacifiers, I had four kids and never used one.
- Some words today that are commonly used in television programs today — we "never" used those words when we were young.
- During the summer months we ate breakfast and went out to play, ate lunch and went out to play, and then ate supper and went out to play until dark.

- A rubber heel from the shoemaker was used to play hopscotch.
 - You couldn't eat ice cream after eating fish.
 - Here are some old time names, see if you remember:
Clara Bow, Fanny Brice, Lon Chaney, Jackie Cooper, Betty Grable, Ken Maynard, George Raft and Fay Wray.
 - You took piano lessons when you were young and hated to practice, aren't you glad now that your mom made you keep taking lessons.
 - I just started playing the harmonica.
 - Do any of you "youngsters" remember Drumhellers swimming pool? It had a dirt bottom and had homes to rent for the summer. If you do, please let me know.
- This is all my brain can think of for now. Stay well and happy — smile at someone every day. See you later alligator!

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e-mail sari@jfreeding.org
or go to
www.charitableautoresources.com

**Family Trip
to New York**

Sunday, March 29, 2020
Bus leaving from Chabad Center* at 8:00am
Bus will return at approx 8:00pm
*2320 Hampden Blvd
A light breakfast will be served from 7:30-8am at Chabad

• Visit a Matza Bakery
• Watch a scribe at work
• Walk the streets of a traditional Jewish community in the heart of Brooklyn
• Delicious New York bagels for lunch, snack at Sushi Spot
• Pick up lunch & dinner at one of the many delicious kosher restaurants in the neighborhood
• Visit the Jewish Children's museum

No transportation charge for CHS students
All others \$30 per person
RSVP to Office@chabadofberks.org
This trip is being generously sponsored by Keshar Zion Synagogue & Dr. Jerry Marcus

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AT CHABAD
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Gourmet four Course Meal
Shmurah Matzah • Wine

\$36 ADULT • \$18 CHILD

RSVP by April 2 to office@chabadofberks.org

Celebrating nature at Tu B'Shevat Seders



Local Seders marking the New Year for the Trees were held at Jewish Family Service's Friendship Circle, left, and at a joint program held by Keshet Zion Synagogue and Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom.





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Every time Palestinians say no to a peace plan, they wind up with less

From online news sources

The following column by Bret Stephens was first published in *The New York Times* and the newspaper's website.

Regarding President Donald Trump's peace plan for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the instant conventional wisdom is that it's a geopolitical nonstarter, a gift to Benjamin Netanyahu and an electoral ploy by the president to win Jewish votes in Florida rather than Palestinian hearts in Ramallah.

It may be all of those things. But nobody will benefit less from a curt dismissal of the plan than the Palestinians themselves, whose leaders are again letting history pass them by.

The record of Arab-Israeli peace efforts can be summed up succinctly: Nearly every time the Arab side said no, it wound up with less.

That was true after it rejected the 1947 U.N. Partition Plan, which would have created a Palestinian state on a much larger footprint than the one that was left after Israel's war of independence. It was true in 1967, after Jordan refused Israel's entreaties not to attack, which resulted in the end of Jordanian rule in the West Bank.

It was true in 2000, when Syria rejected an Israeli offer to return the Golan Heights, which ultimately led to U.S. recognition of Israeli sovereignty of that territory. It was true later the same year, after Yasser Arafat refused Israel's offer of a Palestinian state with a capital in East Jerusalem, which led to two decades of terrorism, Palestinian civil war, the collapse of the Israeli peace camp and the situation we have now.

It's in that pattern that the blunt rejection by Palestinian leaders of the Trump plan — the Palestinian president, Mahmoud Abbas, denounced it as a "conspiracy deal" — should be seen. Refusal today will almost inevitably lead

to getting less tomorrow.

That isn't to say that the plan, as it now stands, can come as anything but a disappointment to most Palestinians. It allows Israel to annex its West Bank settlements and the long Jordan Valley. It concedes full Israeli sovereignty over an undivided Jerusalem. It conditions eventual Palestinian statehood on full demilitarization of a Palestinian state and the disarming of Hamas. It compensates Palestinians for lost territories in the West Bank with remote territories near the Egyptian border. The map of a future Palestine looks less like an ordinary state than it does the MRI of a lung or kidney.

Then again, much of what the plan gives to Israel, Israel already has and will never relinquish — which explains why the plan was hailed not only by Netanyahu but also by his centrist rival Benny Gantz. Critics of Israeli policy often insist that a Palestinian state is necessary to preserve Israel as a Jewish democracy. True enough. But in that case, those critics should respect the painful conclusions Israelis have drawn about just what kind of Palestinian state they can safely accept.

More important, however, is what the plan offers ordinary Palestinians — and what it demands of their leaders. What it offers is a sovereign state, mostly contiguous territory, the return of prisoners, a link to connect Gaza and the West Bank, and \$50 billion in economic assistance. What it demands is an end to anti-Jewish bigotry in school curriculums, the restoration of legitimate political authority in Gaza and the dismantling of terrorist militias.

Taken together, this would be a historic achievement, not the "scam" that liberal critics of the deal claim. The purpose of a Palestinian state ought to be to

deliver dramatically better prospects for the Palestinian people, not tokens of self-importance for their kleptocratic and repressive leaders.

That begins with improving the quality of Palestinian governance, first of all by replacing leaders whose principal interests lie in perpetuating their misrule. If Abbas — now in the 16th year of his elected four-year term of office — really had Palestinian interests at heart, he would step down. So would Hamas' cruel and cynical leaders in Gaza. That the peace plan insists on the latter isn't an obstacle to Palestinian statehood. It's a prerequisite for it.

At the same time, it's also essential to temper Palestinian expectations. The Jewish state has thrived in part because, dayenu, it has always been prepared to make do with less. The Palestinian tragedy has been the direct result of taking the opposite approach: of insisting on the

maximum rather than working toward the plausible. History rarely goes well for those who try to live it backward.

For all the talk about Trump's plan being dead on arrival, it says something that it has been met with an open mind by some Arab states, including Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. They know only too well that the Arab world has more important challenges to deal with than Palestinian statehood. They know, too, that decades of relentless hostility toward the Jewish state have been a stupendous mistake. The best thing the Arab world could do for itself is learn from Israel, not demonize it.

That ought to go for the Palestinians as well.

The old cliché about Palestinians never missing an opportunity to miss an opportunity has, sadly, more than a bit of truth in it. Nobody ought to condemn them to make the same mistake again.

Kids in the Kitchen for Tu B'Shevat



"Kids in the kitchen" Tu B'Shevat edition at Chabad was a fun afternoon of fruit smoothie making, flower pot decorating and edible flowers.



יאללה LET'S SPEAK HEBREW!

We will meet with Adi for lunch & learn at Reading JCC between 12-1 pm on the following Mondays: **March: 16 + 30**
April: 20
May: 4 + 18
June: 1

RSVP at: <https://form.jotform.com/200415885157053>
Attendance at 90% of classes is required.
Bring your own dairy lunch.

Questions? AdiS@JFReading.org OR 610-921-0624

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Admission: \$ 8.00 per person, payable at the door

Teams: Teams up to 8 people-either prearranged or arranged on the spot

Prizes: Gift Certificate or cash prizes to top 3 teams

Food: Enjoy delicious munchies & desserts with soda or coffee

**** FREE GLASS OF WINE INCLUDED****



TRIVIA

Sunday

KZ

Keshet Zion Synagogue



Keshet Zion
Synagogue

SUNDAY
APRIL 26, 2020

TIME
3:00-5:30PM

555 Warwick Drive
Wyomissing, PA 19610

610-374-1763

kzsecretary@entermail.net



RSVP ON
OR BEFORE
MONDAY
APRIL 20, 2020



555 Warwick Drive Wyomissing, PA 19610 610-374-1763 kzsecretary@entermail.net

By Richard Nassau

The SECURE Act, which took effect Jan. 1, makes several significant changes in the tax rules for qualified pension plans and individual retirement accounts (IRAs). If you have significant pension and IRA holdings, it is imperative that you review these changes and their potential impact on your estate and gift plan. The changes will have substantial repercussions for retirement and wealth transfer planning, especially in the area of accelerating taxation of inherited IRAs.

Significant provisions include:

- Increase in Age for Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs). The Act raises the trigger age for taking RMDs from 70½ to 72. If you did not reach age 70 ½ in 2019 or earlier, you will not be subject to RMDs

until the year after you turn 72.

- **Removal of Age Limitation for Contributions to Traditional IRAs.** If you have earned income, you may be eligible to make deductible contributions to a traditional IRA regardless of age. Previously, individuals were prohibited from making contributions beginning in the year they turned 70½.

- **IRA Charitable Rollover Age Unchanged.** The Act does not change the age of 70½ years at which you become eligible to take advantage of the IRA Charitable Rollover and make Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from your IRA directly to a charity such as the Federation. This means that even if you are not yet required to take RMDs, you may benefit from the IRA Charitable Rollover if you are age 70½ or over. Note, however, that your QCDs will be reduced by any post-age 70½ deductible IRA contributions.

- Elimination of most “Stretch” IRA distributions. Prior to enactment of the

SECURE Act, an individual beneficiary of a retirement plan could leave plan assets in a tax-deferred status for many years by spreading annual withdrawals over the life expectancy of a younger beneficiary in what was called a “Stretch IRA.” The SECURE Act changed that. With limited exceptions, it requires inheritors other than your spouse to take full distribution within 10 years, possibly increasing the tax bite. You may want to designate one or more charities, such as the Federation, as your IRA beneficiaries and leave other assets to family members.

- **Alternative to Stretch IRA.** Consider making a charitable remainder trust the tax-free beneficiary of IRA assets and provide for (taxable) trust payments of a fixed dollar amount or a percentage of the trust's assets to your heirs over their lifetimes.

The SECURE Act can have a profound impact on your estate plan. We urge you to consult with charitable giving professionals at the Federation and your own professional advisers to assure that your plans are updated for these and other important changes.

For more information contact
Richard at 610 921 0624 or RichardN@
JFReading.org

Disclaimer: The Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks does not give legal advice. The views expressed here are for informational purposes only and are not intended or written to be used, nor may they be used, as legal advice. In particular, and without limiting the foregoing, donors seeking tax or legal advice on which they may rely should consult their own professional advisers.



You're Invited to:
Reform Congregation Ohel Sholom
First Night Community Passover Seder
Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at 6:00PM

Catered by *Bosco's Ala Carte Catering*

Adults: \$ 36.00 Children (6-13 years): \$ 20.00 Children 5 & under: FREE

MENU: Matzo Ball Soup, Gefilte Fish, Horseradish, Turkey with Matzah Stuffing on the side, Baked Salmon w/ Mango Salsa, Vegetables, Matzah, Desserts, & Beverages (Decaf, Coffee, Juice, Tea, & Wine)

Hoping to see all of you as we gather together as a community to share our Seder Meal!

Your payment is your RSVP and due to the RCOS Office by Monday, March 23, 2020.

Please send completed reservation form & check made payable to RCOS:

555 Warwick Drive
 Wyomissing, PA 19610.

If financial assistance is necessary, please contact Sari Incledon at Jewish Family Service 610-921-2766.

NO RESERVATIONS will be accepted after Monday, March 23. NO WALK-IN SEATING WILL BE AVAILABLE. RSVP WITHOUT PAYMENT WILL NOT BE ACCOMODATED.

of Adults: _____ x \$30.00/each = _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

NAMES (first & last): _____

of Children (6-13) _____ x \$18.50/ea.ch= _____ # of Children (0-5) _____ (need high chair?) yes _____

NAMES (first & last): _____

TOTAL # ATTENDING: _____ TOTAL PAYMENT SUBMITTED = _____

Please indicate any seating preferences: _____

* Please provide the names of all attending the Seder so we can make everyone feel welcome with a name tag! *

Israeli researchers race to find solutions to coronavirus

Israel21c.com

Two Israeli startups and an Israeli university are ramping up activities geared to battling the current coronavirus epidemic and future epidemics.

Sonovia is focused on protection, while MeMed and Bar Ilan University are working towards very early diagnosis.

Sonovia and another Israeli company, Argaman Technologies, are racing to get their novel antimicrobial technologies to China and the

worldwide healthcare community.

Sonovia has sent its antimicrobial polyester-cotton fabric to be tested in China for effectiveness against coronavirus. These textiles could be made into washable facemasks as well as other protective garments and even hospital linens.

In hospital tests against various bacteria and fungi, Sonovia's zinc oxide-impregnated material maintained a lower level of microbial growth in comparison with standard hospital textiles.

Israeli startup MeMed aims to help officials detect people harboring the virus before any symptoms appear.

For epidemics such as coronavirus, Eden said MeMed is working with collaborators around the globe to see whether "some derivatives of this technology" could detect infectious patients in the pre-symptomatic stage.

Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan announced that a new technology developed by one of its professors could reduce the diagnostic time of coronavirus to just 15 minutes.

Currently it can take two days to get test results on the virus. This is a long, inefficient wait and in China, many people have died while waiting for the results, while others run the risk of spreading the contagion.

The new technology, developed by Dr. Amos Danielli of the Alexander Kofkin Faculty of Engineering, uses a combination of optics and magnetic particles to rapidly test 100 saliva samples of patients potentially infected with the virus and reduce the diagnostic time to 15 minutes.



READY TO TELL YOUR STORY?

Federation's *My Story* video project is an opportunity for you to tell your story and speak about your connection to the Jewish community.

Contact us. We'll help you tell your story.

Call Federation 610.921.0624. Email - RichardN@JFReading.org



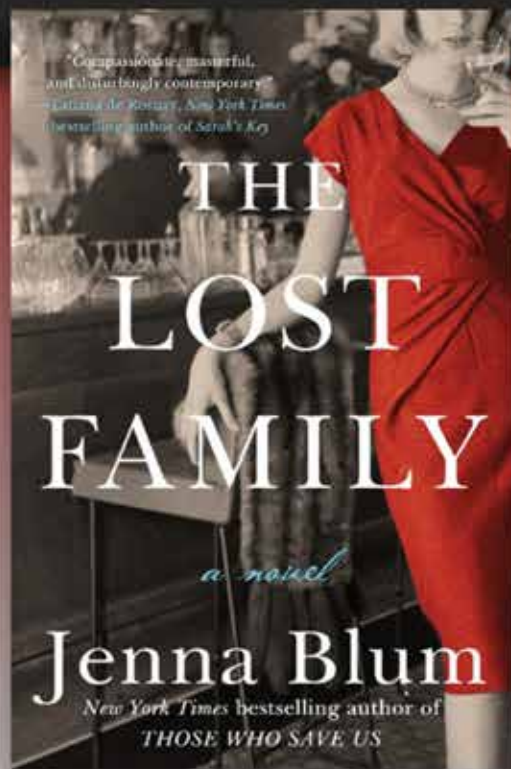
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search - *Jewish Federation of Reading* at [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com)



The Lost Family

with Jenna Blum



Monday
March 2nd
7 p.m.

Sinking Spring Public Library

Registration required.

To register, visit:

www.ReadingJewishCommunity.org/home/literatour

The New York Times bestselling author of *Those Who Save Us* creates a vivid portrait of marriage, family, and the haunting grief of World War II in this emotionally charged, beautifully rendered story that spans a generation, from the 1960s to the 1980s.

Copies of *The Lost Family* will be available for sale onsite through Reads & Company.



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Israeli discovery could help premature infants on respirators

Israel21c.com
More than 10% of babies worldwide are born prematurely. Many of them need a respirator to pump air into their underdeveloped lungs. Although the treatment can be lifesaving, it can damage the babies' lung tissue.
Researchers at Israel's Technion-

Israel Institute of Technology discovered another source of damage from ventilators previously unknown: an air jet at the exit of the tube inserted into the mouth of the baby.
"Until now, it was known that the tube could cause abrasive injury to the delicate tissue, but the effects of the

airflow were overlooked," said doctoral student Eliram Nof.
"In the present study, we discovered for the first time that due to its location inside the baby's trachea, this jet exerts strong shear forces on the epithelial tissue — the layer of cells that covers the upper airways. These forces can cause damage, including inflammation, which poses a real risk to the premature infant."
Nof and his collaborators — Prof. Josué Sznitman of the Technion's Biofluids Lab and Dr. Dan Waisman, director of the Newborn Unit at Carmel Medical Center — made their discovery thanks to their unique silicone model of

the upper respiratory tract of a premature baby. They hope this model can be used for further experiments to better understand how to reduce injury to infants on respirators.
Described in their article in the Journal of The Royal Society Interface, the Israelis' respiratory tract simulator was built after prolonged research and mathematical modeling.
The researchers say that adjusting respiratory protocols to the flow configuration in the baby's respiratory system may reduce damage and improve these infants' chances to develop a normal respiratory system.



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Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom presents the FIFTH ANNUAL

Purim Spies

Enjoy a rollicking "All Sinatra" musical comedy retelling of the Book of Esther — open to the ENTIRE Jewish community!

RSVP by February 28 to ensure a seat for the dinner and show

Monday, March 9, 2020 at OHEB SHOLOM:

6:00 pm — Megillah reading
(Not intended for young children)
6:30 pm — Dinner
(includes pasta, gluten-free pizza, salad and wine)
7:00 pm — Purim Play
7:50 pm — Dessert

Adults (13 and older): \$10 each
Children 3 to 12: \$6 each
Children 2 years and under: FREE!
(\$1 of each admission will be donated to MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger)

PLEASE RSVP BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28 if you plan to attend. Send a check for the total amount to the Oheb Sholom office (555 Warwick Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610) and enclose a note with the check to tell our office manager that the money is for the March 9th Purim event.



REFORM CONGREGATION OHEB SHOLOM
555 Warwick Drive • Wyomissing, PA 19610
610. 375. 6034
temple.office@ohebsholom.org

3

March

Israel Program calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hebrew high (JCC, 10-12am)		RCOS religious school (4:15-6pm)		Israeli movie night "MEKONEN" (JCC, 7pm)		
8	9	Albright college- Purim (Albright, 7pm)	10	11	12	13
	Hebrew class (JCC, 12-1pm)		Immanuel United Church of Christ (1pm)			
	15	Israeli cooking (Sabich & Israeli salad, 5:30pm)	16	17	18	19
Hebrew high (JCC, 10-12am)		Albright – the Ethiopians community in Israel (Albright, 7pm)	24	25	26	27
22	23					28
Hebrew high (JCC, 10-12am)	Hebrew class (JCC, 12-1pm)	RCOS religious school (4:15-6pm)				
29	30	31				

Bari Weiss’ address to the ‘No Hate, No Fear’ march

By Richard L. Cravatts, PhD
New York Times columnist Bari Weiss gave the following speech at a solidarity march in New York. There were an estimated 25,000 people in attendance:

My name is Bari Weiss.

I am a proud American. I am a proud New Yorker. And I am a proud Jew.

I am not a Jew because people hate my religion, my people, and my civilization.

Not for a single moment does Jew-hatred, like the kind we are seeing in this city, make me a Jew.

I am a Jew because of the audacity and the iconoclasm of Abraham, the first Jew of all. The whole world was awash in idols and he stood alone to proclaim the truth: There is one God.

I am a Jew because my ancestors were slaves.

And I am a Jew because the story of their Exodus from Egypt, their liberation from slavery, is a story that changed human consciousness forever.

I am a Jew because our God commands us to never oppress the stranger.

I am Jew because Ruth, the first convert to Judaism, told her mother-in-law Naomi, “your people will be my people and your god will be my god,” reminding us of the centrality of the Jewish people to Judaism.

I am a Jew because of Queen Esther, who understood that she had attained her royal position in order to save her people from destruction.

I am a Jew because the Maccabees were the original resistance. Because they modeled for us — and for all peoples — how to resist the temptation of self-erasure.

I am a Jew because when Rabbi Akiva was being tortured to death by the

Romans he laughed. He laughed and he told his students that he could finally fulfill the commandment to love God with all of his being.

I am a Jew because even after the heart of Judaism and Jewish sovereignty were destroyed my people refused to accept the logic of history and disappear. And I am a Jew because some of our greatest renewals took place in exile.

I am a Jew because my people have been targeted and despised and murdered by the Nazis and Soviets.

I am a Jew because evil hates my people.

I am a Jew because my people managed to turn destruction into redemption by returning to their land after 2,000 years.

I am a Jew because our Founders saw themselves as new Israelites.

I am a Jew because the biblical words on the Liberty Bell — proclaim liberty throughout the land! — rang out from the righteous mouths of this country’s abolitionists as they fought for universal freedom in this New Jerusalem.

I am a Jew because it was Emma Lazarus who etched the biblical injunction to welcome the stranger onto the consciousness of America when she wrote the words: “Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.”

I am a Jew because of the martyred of Tree of Life and Chabad of Poway and Jersey City. And I am a Jew because of the courage of those who fought back in Monsey and who then, immediately after the attack, gathered together to sing. And I am Jew because my brothers and sisters in Crown Heights and Boro Park and Williamsburg who refuse to hide their Judaism.

I am a Jew because of students across this country who refuse to be smeared and denigrated because of who



New York Times columnist Bari Weiss speaks at a January solidarity march in New York.

they are, who are standing up against humiliation, pressure and abuse to affirm the justness of Zionism.

I am a Jew because my brothers and sisters in England and France are battling the anti-Semitism of populist thugs and the anti-Semitism of politicians in parliament.

I am a Jew because I refuse to stay silent in the face of injustice.

I am a Jew because I have no patience for leaders who speak boldly while failing to take the actions necessary to protect our community.

Or for partisan hacks that claim anti-Semitism is the exclusive domain of their political opponents.

Or for leaders who believe they can fight Jew-hatred while making political alliances with anti-Semites.

I am a Jew because I refuse to lie.

I am a Jew because Jews are of every color and class and politics and language.

And I am a Jew because hatred of

us has no color or class or politics or language.

I am a Jew because Jews do not cause Jew hatred. Ever.

Today, as in so many times in history, there are many forces in the world insisting that Jews must disappear or die. Some say it bluntly. Some cloak it in the language of progress.

But I am a Jew because of I know that there is force far greater than that. And that is the force of who we are and the force of our world-changing ideas.

The Jewish people were not put on Earth to be anti-anti-Semites. We were put on Earth to be Jews.

We are the people whose God never slumbers or sleeps, and so neither can we.

We are the lamplighters.

We are the ever-dying people that refuses to die.

The people of Israel lives now and forever.

Am Yisrael Chai.

נחמ

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
KESHER ZION'S
2020 PASSOVER CELEBRATION

Thursday April 9:

KZ Passover Shabbat Services at 9:30 a.m.
followed by Kiddush

Friday, April 10:

Passover Second Night Service and
Seder 6:00 p.m.
Conducted by Rabbi/Hazzan David B. Sislen

Saturday, April 11:

KZ Passover Festival Services 9:30 a.m.
followed by Kiddush

Tuesday, April 14

KZ Passover Service and Dinner at 6:30 pm.

Wednesday, April 15:

KZ Passover Services 9:30 a.m.
followed by Kiddush

Thursday, April 16:

KZ Passover Services 9:30 a.m.
with Yizkor followed by Kiddush

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE INVITES YOU TO A
SPIRITED, TRADITIONAL, AND INTERACTIVE
SECOND NIGHT COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER

Conducted by Rabbi/Hazzan David B. Sislen
Thursday, April 9, 2020 - Services at 6:00 p.m. Seder to follow



Kosher for Passover meal catered by Boscov's A La Carte Caterers
Cost: Adults — \$36.00/Children (6-13) - \$20.00/Children 5 & under free
Menu: Matzah Ball soup, gefilte fish, turkey, potato kugel, vegetables, wine, matzah, and dessert.
Vegetarian entrée available upon request with reservation only (Same pricing as above)
Reservations and payment (Check payable to Keshet Zion Synagogue)
Must be sent to the Keshet Zion Office by March 23, 2020

If you are in need of transportation to the Seder, please contact the KZ Office (610) 374-1763.
If financial assistance is necessary, please contact Sari Incledon at Jewish Family Service (610) 921-2766.

I/We will be attending the Thursday, April 9th Passover Seder Meal at Keshet Zion Synagogue, 555 Warwick Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610. We are returning our reservation form and check made out to Keshet Zion Synagogue
Deadline for reservations: Thursday, March 23, 2020.



\$36.00 each adult x _____



\$ _____ (Children 5 & under are free)

Request for vegetarian entrée x _____

Total

\$ _____

NAME _____

PHONE # _____

White supremacist groups expand propaganda efforts

Extremist groups are doubling down to amplify their infrequent public activities, Segal said. A flier posted on an online forum can resonate with some people, he said, motivating them to post physical propaganda in their community that spreads hateful narratives and anxiety. "Their ideas are seeping in," he said.



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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 Feb. 17

Leo Camp Lecture Fund

In memory of:

Grace Mitgang – Sharon Scullin and Jim Rothstein

Federation Community Campaign

In memory of:

Shirley Mazer (Andi Franklin's mother) – Richard and Mindy Small

Alison Rotenberg – Radene Gordon-Beck

Dr. Jeffrey Frank – Carol and Bernie Gerber

Mervin Lewis – Carol and Bernie Gerber

I. Leon Kaplan – Carol and Bernie Gerber

Jewish Family Service

In memory of:

Shirley R. Mazer (Andi Franklin's mother) – Doris and Elliott Leisawitz, Jan and Jonathan Simon

Grace Mitgang – Carol and Gordon Perlmutter

Dr. Jeffrey Frank – Jan and Jonathan Simon

Mervin Lewis – Joan and Steve Schuldenfrei, Diamond Credit Union, Myra Baylin, Rebecca Noll, Carol A. Hannahoe

Honorials and Memorials

Contributions may be made to the following Funds:

Federation Jewish Community Campaign

Jewish Family Service

Leo Camp Lecture Fund

JFS Food Bank

JFS Taxi Transportation Program

Holocaust Library & Resource Center

Doris Levin Fund

PJ Library Fund

Harry & Rose Sack Fund

Evelyn Thompson Fund

Miriam Neugroschel – Jan and Jonathan Simon

Lakin Preschool Fund

In memory of:

Stanley Goldman – Jess and Robin Drezner

Friendship Circle Fund

In memory of:

Dr. Jeffrey Frank – Glenn and Gaye Corbin

Mervin Lewis – Glenn and Gaye Corbin

Grace Mitgang – Glenn and Gaye Corbin

Shirley Mazer (Andi Franklin's mother) – Glenn and Gaye Corbin

EVERYTHING'S RELATIVE

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CHABAD OF BERKS INVITES YOU TO

Purim in ISRAEL

TUESDAY
MARCH 10, 2020
5.30PM

Chabad of Berks County
2320 Hampden Blvd

An Israel-themed Purim Bash

Tel Aviv

Jerusalem

Be'er Sheva

Neger



- Megillah Reading
- Israeli style dinner with falafel, pita, chummus, shwarma & more
- Have your picture taken at the Western Wall
- Caricaturist in Tzfat's artists quarter
- Squeeze you own "Jaffa" orange juice
- Create care packages for our dear Israeli soldiers
We'll provide packaging. Please bring items to pack such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks, deodorant etc.
- Come dressed in Israeli costume

\$12 ADULTS • \$8 CHILDREN

RSVP Lipskerreading@aol.com or 610-921-0881

This is event is generously sponsored by Dr. Jerry Marcus

PASSOVER DINNER AT KESHER ZION

Who wants to cook on the 7th night of Passover?
You don't have to! Join

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE

for Yom Tov services and a festive dinner

Tuesday, April 14, 2020

Service at 6:30p.m. followed by

A kosher for Passover dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Soup, Chicken, Potatoes, Vegetable, Dessert

Cost: \$28.00 / Adult

\$15.00 / Child 6 to 13 (Children 5 and under Free)

Vegetarian entrée available upon request with reservation only
(same price)

RSVP on or before March 23, 2020

If you are in need of transportation to the Shabbat Dinner or Service,
please contact the KZ Office (610) 374-1763.

RESERVATION FORM: SHABBAT PASSOVER DINNER

I/We will be attending Tuesday, April 14, 2020 for Passover Dinner at 555 Warwick Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610. We are returning this reservation form with our check made payable to Keshar Zion Synagogue, - KZ Office 610-374-1763

RSVP by: March 23, 2020

\$28.00 x each adult

\$

\$15.00 x each child

\$

\$Total

\$

\$

(Children 5 and under Free)