



# Shalom 05|24

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

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## Israeli guests highlight of May Federation programming

By Amanda J. Hornberger

Your Jewish Federation is always on the lookout for unique programming ideas and ways to bring our community together. This May we're thrilled to welcome two Israelis to Reading to share their firsthand accounts of Oct. 7 and current life in Israel.

There will be multiple opportunities for the community to come together to meet our Israeli guests throughout the week of May 12.

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12, Jewish Federation of Reading is honored to host a special program with our two Israeli guests. Please join us to hear firsthand stories of Oct. 7. The evening includes a presentation, intimate conversations, wine and Mediterranean bites in a private Wyomissing home. The cost is \$72 per person and benefits Jewish Federation of Reading's annual campaign, earmarked for Israel programming. Registration is required and there is a limited capacity. Check the weekly emails for a registration link or email Margo Levin at [margol@jfreading.org](mailto:margol@jfreading.org)

Monday, May 13, is Yom Hazikaron, or Israeli Memorial Day. Ziv Laskin will lead a special commemoration event with our Israeli guests at noon that day at the JCC. Join us to remember the 260 soldiers who have lost their lives defending Israel since Oct. 7 as well as Israeli heroes from



past conflicts. This moving event requires RSVPs to [info@jfreading.org](mailto:info@jfreading.org) or 610-921-0624.

Join us for a community family-friendly event to celebrate Israel's 76th birthday on Tuesday, May 14, from 5 to 7 p.m. at 555 Warwick Drive in Wyomissing (home of RCOS/KZ). Learn about life in Israel and making Aliyah (emigrating) to Israel, write letters to displaced Israeli children and more at this interactive event. Special for this year is the food. Jewish Federation of Reading is bringing

in meals from Goldie in Philadelphia. Meals include Falafel sandwich, hummus, Israeli salad, cabbage salad, and green salad as well as a bottled beverage for \$15. Pre-ordering is required by Friday, May 10, and is available by our weekly emails or on our website, [ReadingJewishCommunity.org](http://ReadingJewishCommunity.org)

We hope you can join us for this wide variety of programming to learn about current life in Israel, remember Israeli heroes and celebrate 76 years of a Jewish state this May.



Richard Hurowitz, author of "In the Garden of the Righteous: The Heroes Who Risked Their Lives to Save Jews During the Holocaust," spoke at a Noontime Knowledge/Literatur Berks event on April 16. He offers illuminating and inspiring profiles that pay tribute to the incredible deeds of little-known heroes who saved countless lives during the Holocaust.

See Pages 4 and 5 for information on this season's final Literatur Berks event as well as a pair of Noontime Knowledge events scheduled for May.

# Thank you

# Development

**By Laurie Waxler**  
*Development Director*

"Thank you." Two simple words that when spoken in sincerity can mean so much. I found a great quote from Steven King that says, "Don't let the sun go down without saying thank you to someone, and without admitting to yourself that absolutely no one gets this far alone." I couldn't agree more!



Federation and the JCC would not exist if it weren't for the needed support of donors and help from volunteers that allows us to make a difference here in Berks County and in our Jewish community.

As we were compiling our list of 2023 volunteers to complete the Annual Report, it's always nice to see the list grow.

In April our Jewish Family Service had one of their food pantries in the pouring rain, yet our volunteers showed up ready to go with smiles on their faces. After sending them a special thank you for enduring the bad weather, this particular response truly touched our hearts: "That's very kind of you! It is always my pleasure, no matter the weather (although rain is probably the worst, lol). I truly enjoy working with all the volunteers each month. It's very satisfying to work together as a team and serve so many families. So, thank you and the Federation for the opportunity!"

It's a shame when life gets too busy for us to remember to thank those around us, sometimes for going the extra mile, and sometimes for just being there.



So, for whatever role you have in our Federation family, please accept my heartfelt THANK YOU!



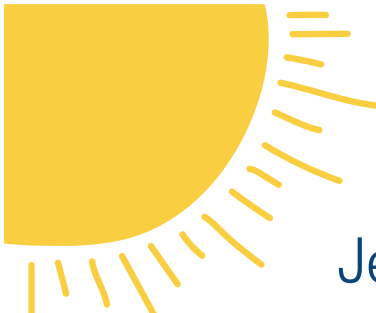
*Jewish Family Service's food pantry volunteers don't let rain stop their valuable work.*

**"Showing gratitude is  
was one of the simplest  
yet most powerful  
things humans can do  
for each other."**

**Randy Pausch**

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



**JOIN US**

Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks

# Annual Meeting


Sunday, June 2    11:30 am - 2:00pm

Adults: \$18    Children (12 & under): \$10

**Wyomissing Hills Park, 53 Valley Road, Wyomissing**

Join us for a family event with kosher picnic lunch buffet, annual meeting, activities for the kids, juggling class for teens and a magic show for all ages!

RSVP: [www.ReadingJewishCommunity.org](http://www.ReadingJewishCommunity.org) or by calling 610-921-0624



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today!**



From the CEO's Desk

# Yom Ha'Atzmaut: Israel's Independence Day; a time of renewed significance

By Brian Chartock  
CEO



As Israel prepares to celebrate its Independence Day this year on the evening of May 13 and the day of May 14, and 76 years since the founding of the modern state, the significance of this historic event holds even greater importance in the face of contemporary challenges and opportunities. This year, more than ever, Israel's Independence Day serves as a poignant reminder of the Jewish State's resilience, achievements, and ongoing journey towards peace and prosperity.

geopolitical tensions, Israel's ability to overcome obstacles serves as a source of inspiration and hope.

### Innovation and Progress

Israel has emerged as a global leader in innovation and technology, contributing groundbreaking advancements in various fields, including cybersecurity, agriculture, and healthcare. This Independence Day, Israel's achievements in innovation underscore the nation's ability to thrive and adapt in an ever-changing world. As societies worldwide seek solutions to pressing challenges, Israel's ingenuity and entrepreneurial spirit remain a beacon of hope and progress.

### Quest for Peace

Despite enduring conflicts and geopolitical complexities, Israel remains committed to pursuing peace and stability in the region. This year, as the nation commemorates its independence, there is a renewed emphasis on dialogue, diplomacy, and cooperation. Israel's commitment to peace underscores the importance of fostering understanding and reconciliation, even in the face of

longstanding disputes and differences.

### Solidarity and Unity

Israel's Independence Day is a time for solidarity and unity, as citizens come together to celebrate their shared heritage and accomplishments. This year, amidst war, societal divisions and global uncertainties, Israel's sense of unity and resilience serves as a reminder of the strength that comes from diversity, equity and inclusion. As the nation commemorates its independence this May, it reaffirms the bonds that unite the Jewish people and the values that define its identity.

### Global Impact and Responsibility

Israel's independence carries global significance, as the nation continues to play a vital role on the world stage. From

humanitarian aid missions to diplomatic initiatives, Israel remains committed to making a positive impact well beyond its borders. This Independence Day, the international community acknowledges Israel's contributions and recognizes the importance of collaboration in addressing shared, collective challenges and advancing common goals.

Israel's Independence Day truly does hold profound significance this year in particular, serving as a reminder of the Jewish State's resilience, achievements, and aspirations. As Israel celebrates its independence, it reaffirms its commitment to peace, progress, and solidarity, inspiring hope for a brighter future for all. Am Yisrael Chai.

## Interfaith Passport group tours Philadelphia



On April 14 members of our Berks Interfaith Passport program traveled together to the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. Highlights included learning about religious freedom from our founders. This trip was the culminating event for our year-long program including members of the Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths.



## Letter: An inspiring story

Editor:

Compliments to Laurie Waxler and *Shalom* for the beautiful article about the new Rose and Harry Sack Endowment Fund. I was pleased to be quoted in the article, being among so many others who held the Sacks in high esteem. My late husband, Ivan, and I enjoyed a long and affectionate relationship with them, both personal and in community service.

I wish to send kudos to their son Albert

and his wife, Nancy, who made it possible for the longstanding Harry and Rose Sack Fund to be an ongoing resource for the community. From their home in Anaheim, AI and Nancy have focused attention on the Reading community through many decades. Through their endowment of the Harry and Rose Sack Adult Programming Fund they have made Rose and Harry's rich legacy an everlasting one.

Judith Botvin  
Denver, Colorado

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Jewish Federation of Reading & Jewish Cultural Center of Reading



@jfedreadingberks

Don't forget to share your email with us to keep on the latest Community news!

Send us an email at [info@jfredreading.org](mailto:info@jfredreading.org) to get added to our email list!

## Shalom

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



## Season 5 Literatour finale with bestselling author

**By Amanda J. Hornberger**

Historical fiction lovers won't want to miss the season 5 finale of Literatour Berks featuring author Weina Dei Randel. Join us on Wednesday, May 15, at 6 p.m. at the Exeter Community Library for a lively conversation with Randel on her latest book, "Night Angels."

In 1938, Dr. Ho Fengshan, consul general of China, is posted in Vienna with his American wife, Grace. Shy and ill at ease with the societal obligations of diplomats' wives, Grace is an outsider in a city beginning to feel the sweep of the Nazi dragnet. When Grace forms a friendship with her Jewish tutor, Lola Schnitzler, Dr. Ho requests that Grace keep her distance. His instructions are to maintain amicable relations with the Third Reich, and he and Grace are already under their vigilant eye.



But when Lola's family is subjugated to a brutal pogrom, Dr. Ho decides to issue them visas to Shanghai. As violence against the Jews escalates after Kristallnacht and threats mount, Dr. Ho must issue thousands more to help Jews escape Vienna before World War II explodes.

Inspired by a remarkable true story, "Night Angels" explores the risks brave souls took and the love and friendship they built

and lost while fighting against incalculable evil.

Weina Dei Randel is the author of four novels. Born and raised in China, Weina came to the United States at age 24, when she began to speak, write and dream in English. Weina resides in Boston.

After her lecture, Weina will be on hand to sign copies of her books, which will be available for purchase that day.

Registration is recommended by calling the Exeter Community Library at 610-406-9431. Exeter Community Library is located at 4569 Prestwick Drive in Exeter Township.

Thank you to our Literatour Berks sponsors and partner Exeter Community Library for their support! We look forward to another great season of authors and books in fall.

## Double the Noontime Knowledge in May

**By Amanda J. Hornberger**

This May Noontime Knowledge will be expanding to twice a month! Come meet Geoffrey K. Fleming, the new CEO and Executive Director of Reading Public Museum, on Wednesday, May 8. Fleming most recently served as executive director of the Huntington Museum of Art, the largest

private museum in West Virginia. Fleming will join us to talk about his experience and upcoming exhibits at Reading Public Museum.

Then on Tuesday, May 21, join Sara Howells, co-founder of the Triptych Federation, for "Families Still Fighting: The State of Art Restitution." Over 250,000

pieces of art were stolen during World War II. This presentation will discuss the process of returning art to the owner's descendants and the current state of art restitution.

Both programs are free and open to the public. RSVPs are encouraged to [info@jfreeding.org](mailto:info@jfreeding.org) or 610-921-0624.

 JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE INVITES YOU TO A

## "THE HISTORY OF FOLK, POP AND ROCK MUSIC"



**MAY 2 2:00 P.M.  
AT THE JCC**

Dave Kline's program, "The History of Folk, Pop, Rock Music", takes the audience on a light-hearted, audience-participatorial ramble along the path and roots that created America's folk, pop and rock culture with iconic songs that helped the music grow into a world-wide phenomenon.

To RSVP call 610-921-0624

[info@jfreeding.org](mailto:info@jfreeding.org)

92nd St. Y Programs

Game Nights

Community Shabbat

Reading Jewish Film Series

Great Decisions

Interfaith Mitzvah Day

Yom Ha'atzmaut

PJ Library

PJ Our Way

Leo Camp Lecture

Tech Tuesday

Yom Hazikaron

Art Exhibits

Yom Hashoah

Annual Meeting and Picnic

Purim Carnival

Richard J. Yashek

Memorial Lecture

Kristallnacht Remembrance

Youth Events

Purim Masquerade Party

Bridge

Chevre

Mahjong

Trips to NYC/Philadelphia

Lakin Holocaust Library

& Resource Center

Shabbat B'yachad

Community Calendar

# Momentum participants stay on path of growth

by Antoinette LaPrince and Shelly LaPrince

Antoinette LaPrince and Shelly LaPrince joined Momentum Unlimited on what would become a life-changing journey to Israel in July 2022. Antoinette partnered with the Jewish Federation of Reading, while Shelly partnered with the Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey. However, they both joined the Jewish Federation of Reading for their post-trip year of growth. Upon their return from Israel, they desired to become partners with Momentum with a focus on diversity and inclusion.

Family Management Services (FMS), a nonprofit organization in Berks County where Shelly is a founding partner, formed a partnership with Momentum under the FMS "Open Tent" initiative to lead a group of 18 African American Jewish moms on a Momentum journey to Israel in 2025.

While many in the region prepared to witness the solar eclipse, Antoinette and Shelly headed to Toronto for a three-day leadership summit with Momentum as part of a four-month program that serves as a catalyst to support Momentum's Partner Organizations by empowering its leaders with practical leadership skills and knowledge to advance their organizational mission through communal leadership.

Their motivation for becoming Momentum fellows is multifaceted. The fellowship provided the opportunity to deepen their leadership expertise, build a powerful network and ignite a flame to inspire others. They were able to soak up collective wisdom from speakers, and engage with a group of bold, like-minded women. The summit provided

invaluable insights into leadership capabilities.

Antoinette identified one pivotal experience as a roundtable discussion addressing antisemitism with children. This topic resonated with Antoinette, as it illuminated her own encounters with racism. The conversation was profound with shared wisdom and personal stories revealing meaningful ways to facilitate difficult discussions.

In addition, Shelly expressed her appreciation for topics relating to adaptive leadership and how to navigate unexpected change. As a leader, Shelly can relate to the need to facilitate change. One example that resonated with Shelly was becoming a prophetess of hope with the ability to lead through difficult times with courage and tenacity.

As they look ahead, Family Management Service Open Tent initiative will embark on a profound journey alongside 16 incredible African American women, immersing themselves in Jewish spirituality during their 12 month journey in collaboration with the Jewish Federation of Philadelphia and the cohort's trip to Israel with Momentum in 2025.

Their mission extends beyond borders, into Pennsylvania's synagogues and Jewish organizations, fostering openness and acceptance. The goal of FMS Open Tent initiative, is to ensure that African American Jews feel seen and valued, enriching our community's diversity, celebrating the many faces of Judaism, combating racism and anti-Semitism together as we repair the world, Tikkun Olam, for a more inclusive future.



Antoinette and Shelly LaPrince

## Join us for 2 Noontime Knowledge programs in May

### NOONTIME KNOWLEDGE

**Geoffrey K. Fleming**

*Executive Director and CEO*

*Reading Public Museum*

**Wednesday, May 8 at noon at the JCC**

Meet the new CEO of The Reading Public Museum and learn about upcoming exhibits at the museum!

Fleming most recently served as Executive Director of the Huntington Museum of Art in West Virginia, the largest private museum in the state. As a scholar in the field, he has authored, co-authored, or contributed to nearly forty books and catalogs on American art and history.



**RSVP by calling the JCC at 610-921-0624 or email [info@jfreading.org](mailto:info@jfreading.org)**

Noontime Knowledge is a free program, is usually held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, provided by the Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks to educate our community on a variety of topics

### NOONTIME KNOWLEDGE

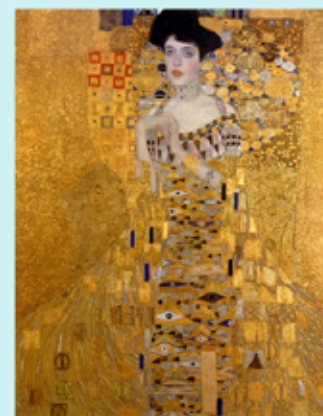
**"Families Still Fighting: The State of Art Restitution"**

presented by:

**Sara Howells** of the Triptych Federation

**Tuesday May 21 at noon at the JCC**

Over the course of World War II, a quarter of a million artworks were seized or looted by individuals and governments. After 90 years, cataloging continues in hopes of reuniting pieces with the owner's descendants. This talk will discuss the current state of art restitution, including the newest museum mandates to individual court cases. Information will also be available for those looking to make their own claims.



**RSVP by calling the JCC at 610-921-0624 or email [info@jfreading.org](mailto:info@jfreading.org)**

Noontime Knowledge is a free program, held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, provided by the Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks to educate our community on a variety of topics

# ADL: White supremacist propaganda high in Pa.

## Anti-Defamation League

White supremacist propaganda distribution reached historic levels across the United States in 2023, with a total of 7,567 incidents, a 12% increase from 2022, according to the ADL Center on Extremism's annual assessment.

With an average of about 20 incidents per day, 2023 marked the highest level of incidents since ADL began tracking such data in 2017. This was the second consecutive year that ADL has recorded record-breaking propaganda numbers, illustrating a troubling trend that coincides with other data showing that antisemitism and other forms of hate are on the rise.

In Pennsylvania, ADL recorded 189 incidents of white supremacist propaganda, representing a 46% decrease compared with 2022. However, Pennsylvania has seen exponential growth compared with the 19 incidents recorded in the region in 2017.

In 2023, the highest regional concentrations of white supremacist propaganda were in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Williamsport. The most active groups in Pennsylvania were Patriot Front, which was responsible for 98 incidents or 42% of the Commonwealth's total propaganda incidents, followed by Goyim Defense League (32%) and National Justice Party (30%).

Nationwide, antisemitic propaganda increased by 30% in 2023, rising to 1,112 incidents in 2023 from 852 in 2022. This increase was largely due to Patriot Front reincorporating antisemitic phrases into its propaganda. It was also buoyed by online reactions to the Oct. 7 attack on Israel by Hamas, as white supremacist leaders applauded the terrorist group and violence against Israelis. Forty-two of the 189 propaganda incidents in Pennsylvania were antisemitic.

Additionally, anti-LGBTQ+ propaganda by white supremacists saw a massive 141% increase around the country, jumping from 68 incidents in 2022 to 164 in 2023.

"We are seeing troubling new heights of white supremacist propaganda targeting Jewish, Muslim, Black, Asian, and LGBTQ+ communities alike," said Andrew Goretzky, ADL Philadelphia Regional Director.

Pennsylvania's propaganda incidents have decreased since our all-time high of 473 incidents two years ago. However, even a single piece of disinformation can

act as a seed, sprouting roots and sowing hateful ideology into our communities. White supremacist propaganda allows a small number of people to have an outsized impact. We also see a staggering spread of disinformation and hateful rhetoric online. No part of the Commonwealth is safe from these hateful materials."

The ADL Center on Extremism data includes the distribution of racist, antisemitic and anti-LGBTQ+ fliers, stickers, banners, graffiti, posters and laser projections by members of various white supremacist groups. While more than 50 white supremacist groups and networks distributed propaganda, three of them – Patriot Front, National Justice Party (NJP) and Goyim Defense League (GDL) — were responsible for 92% of the activity.

In 2023, white supremacist propaganda was reported in the District of Columbia and every state except Hawaii and Alaska, with the highest levels of activity (from most to least active) in Virginia, Texas, California, New York, Massachusetts, Missouri, Tennessee, Michigan, Maryland and North Carolina. This year's assessment includes a citizen's tool kit for responding to hate propaganda, which provides information and guidance for responding to any encounters with hate propaganda in a safe and positive way.

There were 282 documented white supremacist events in 2023, a 63% increase from the 173 recorded in 2022. Events took place in 40 states, with the most activity (from most to least active) in Texas, Ohio, Washington, Florida, California, Michigan and Tennessee.

### Key findings:

- White supremacists sharply focused their hate on the LGBTQ+ community in 2023. More than 20% of white supremacist events included some element of anti-LGBTQ+ hate. On at least 39 occasions, white supremacists demonstrated outside LGBTQ+ event venues including drag shows and Pride festivals.

For the fourth straight year, the number of overall propaganda incidents on college campuses dropped, from 219 to 59, the lowest since ADL began tracking campus incidents in 2017.

For the fifth year in a row, Texas-based Patriot Front was responsible for the vast majority — 60% — of the



Upside down American flags, Betsy Ross flags and flags with the fasces symbol displayed during a Patriot Front demonstration in Chicago.

propaganda distributions in 2023. The group distributed propaganda in every state except Alaska, Delaware and Hawaii, but was most active (from most to least active) in Virginia, Massachusetts, Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri.

Not previously known for distributing propaganda, the virulently antisemitic National Justice Party (NJP) launched an aggressive propaganda campaign in 2023, and was responsible for at least 1,924 propaganda incidents, roughly 25% of the total propaganda activity nationwide.

The Goyim Defense League (GDL), an antisemitic network with significant crossover with other white supremacist groups and movements, was responsible for at least 511 propaganda incidents in 2023, representing roughly 7% of the total

propaganda nationwide and 46% of the year's antisemitic propaganda incidents. This is a slight increase from the 492 GDL propaganda incidents recorded in 2022.

"ADL has been documenting incidents of white supremacist propaganda in the United States since 2017 and we have never before seen such levels of activity," said Oren Segal, vice president for the Center on Extremism. "In addition, the hateful messages pushed by such propaganda are as diverse as their targets. That's why our citizen's toolkit, Responding to Hate Propaganda: What You Need to Know, includes step-by-step instructions on what to do when you see hateful propaganda in your hometown, so you can safely document these incidents and help protect your community."

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**FOR MORE INFO:**  
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[lakinpreschool@jfreading.org](mailto:lakinpreschool@jfreading.org)  
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**LAKIN PRESCHOOL**

# RCOS at Opportunity House



Sixth- and seventh-grade students from Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom make lunch for the people at Opportunity House as a community service project.

# All Around the Town

Mazel tov to **Diane and Irv Fidler** on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Asher Max Fidler on April 13 in Pittsburgh.

\*\*\*

Mazel Tov to **Molly Nemirow**, daughter of Geri and Mark Nemirow, who is being honored as part of the Hillel Kavod Circle at Hillel of Staten Island, N.Y., in recognition of her work in the organization. Molly attends Wagner

College in Staten Island, where she is Hillel president. She also performed in "Rising Up: Young Holocaust Heroes" for a second year. The original play, taken from the words of Staten Island Holocaust survivors, was presented before a theater full of New York schoolchildren as part of an effort to fight hate crime.

Send good news to [Marknem@aol.com](mailto:Marknem@aol.com) or call 610-921-0624.

## Obituaries

**E. Roxanne Walker**, 71, of Reading passed away on April 8. A graduate of Muhlenberg High School, Roxie was the daughter of the late David and Marjorie (Tootie) Moyer and shared 43 years of marriage with Les Walker. She worked as Vice President for Compliance for Fifth Third Bank for 19

years. Roxie loved exercising, shopping and attending craft shows. She was an avid advocate for pet adoption and adopted many pets throughout her life. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her siblings Aileen Endy, Stanton Moyer, Jay Moyer (Margaret); five nephews and nieces, four great-nephews and nieces and her three dogs that she lovingly cared for.



at 5370 Allentown Pike Temple PA 19560  
next to Walmart on 5th street highway

Donation center hours: Monday - Saturday 9am - 6pm

When you donate items please mention our partner #  
Reading Jewish Family Service #50100

You can also donate clothing anytime in the  
bin in our parking lot located at 1100 Berkshire Blvd.



Your donations turn into financial assistance to support the important work we do in our community!

*Thinking about buying or selling?*



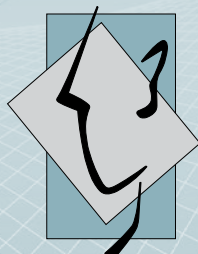
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- Jenna L. Galan, AuD, CCC-A



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May 20 at 1:00

*Movie Monday*



"I Am Here"



A life-affirming documentary that celebrates the remarkable life of Ella Blumenthal. Ella is not your average 98 year old. Follow this spirited South African Holocaust survivor as she reveals her astonishing life journey and unwavering appreciation of life.

RSVP by calling the JCC at 610-921-0624 or email [info@jfreading.org](mailto:info@jfreading.org)



Grab a seat for a Jewish themed movie each month at the JCC. It is usually held on the 4th Monday of the month, the popcorn and the movie are both free!

**ENT Head & Neck Specialists, PC**  
**985 Berkshire Blvd., Wyomissing**  
**610-374-5599 • www.ent-hns.net**

# Purim fun in our community



Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom's Purim Spiel featured the music of Burt Bacharach and marked Mike Pardo's final show as writer/director/performer in the annual event. The congregation and cast gave him a special tribute. Though Mike is moving to Maryland, the company vowed to keep the tradition going.



Purim in the Shuk at Chabad was a great way to spend Purim with the community. Henna artist, orange juicing, Hebrew name bracelets, candy sand art and delicious Israeli food. Honoring our soldiers, praying for our hostages, and truly feeling a connection with our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land all night.



Lila Shapiro celebrating Purim at Friendship Circle

## May ✨ Nisan-Iyar



Shabbat Candle Lightings



Torah Portions

May 3  
7:44 p.m.

May 10  
7:51 p.m.

May 17  
7:58 p.m.

May 24  
8:04 p.m.

May 31  
8:09 p.m.

May 4/26 Nisan  
Acharei Mot (Leviticus 16:1-18:30)

May 11/3 Iyar  
Kedoshim (Leviticus 19:1-20:27)

May 18/10 Iyar  
Emor (Leviticus 21:1-24:23)

May 25/17 Iyar  
Behar (Exodus 25:1-26:2)

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# Cteenjr, BBYO deliver Passover supplies



*Cteenjr along with BBYO took a trip to JRA in Philadelphia to help pack Passover supplies and deliver some boxes to a few of the participants. What a great feeling to be among so many people packing thousands of boxes to be given out. Some of us stood online packing items into boxes that people carried over to us, while others carried the boxes down the "production line". Following our volunteering we enjoyed a delicious kosher lunch at Zagafen.*



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Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks

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# Do you know ALICE?

By Carole Robinson

Twice a month, Sari and I, along with a core of dedicated volunteers, distribute food at our two JFS Food Pantries. We arrive before 8 a.m. to prepare for our pantry and always notice 50-60 cars in line, already waiting for our pantry which is not scheduled to open until 9 a.m. Sari begins intake, I start organizing the food and volunteers, and we work nonstop until all the food is dispensed. Needless to say, we are all exhausted after troubleshooting issues with clients and food quantities and being on our feet for hours, but it is important to note that we aren't complaining given food inequality challenges in Berks County!



I mentioned our food pantries and the ever-increasing need for food to a friend. I was not shocked by her response, which I have heard before, "The problem with our country is we reward people who don't work by providing free services. What is their motivation to get a job when the government hands out food and medical assistance?" Instead of going into my usual spiel about how nobody would spend hours waiting for a few bags of groceries if they did not truly need it, I simply asked, "Do you know ALICE?"

Who is ALICE? She is your waitress, your cashier, and your child's daycare worker; he is your retail salesperson, a personal care aide, or a maintenance worker. ALICE, an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed households, earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living. Households below the ALICE threshold — ALICE households plus those in poverty — can't afford the essentials.

A United Way of Pennsylvania report (2021) found that 40% of households in Berks County (67,305 households) are not earning enough to cover the costs of basics, even though 62% are working full-time. Basic expenses include housing, child care, food, transportation, health care and a smartphone plan. The survival budget is a good measure of the cost of essentials, but it is not sustainable. Why?

- Wages are not keeping up with the cost of necessities.
- ALICE households do not qualify for SNAP (food stamps), subsidized housing, or free childcare.
- It does not include savings for emergencies or future goals like college or retirement.



JFS Food Pantry clients turn out in all kinds of weather to get help meeting their household needs.

- They live paycheck-to-paycheck, maxing out credit cards and having less than \$400 in emergency savings, ie. they are only one catastrophe away from financial disaster!

In 2021, household costs in Berks County were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$12,880 for a single adult and \$26,500 for a family of four. The average cost of living for a family of four was \$67,560, necessitating an hourly wage of \$33.78, yet 60% of the 20 most common jobs in Pennsylvania still paid less than \$20 per hour in 2021. And these numbers don't take into consideration the rate of inflation since then!

The cost of housing is one of the biggest issues. The allocation for rent is totally unrealistic — \$660 for a family of 4. Rents have increased 21% in the past 20 years, while renters' incomes are only 2% higher. Half of Berks Countians are rent burdened, spending over 30% of their household income on rent. Another workforce barrier that greatly impacts ALICE is the cost of and access to high-quality affordable childcare (\$1,375 for two children). In addition, the cost of household necessities is increasing faster than the consumer price index (CPI). Essentials were projected to increase 6.6% in 2022-2023, while CPI was only expected to rise 4.8%.

So, exactly who does our JFS Food Pantry serve? Our clients are those who are below the ALICE and poverty threshold; within Berks County, there is a huge disparity in the location of ALICE households. For example, in the city of Reading, 68% of households are below the ALICE and poverty threshold. Black and Hispanic households, households headed by people younger than 25 or 65 and older, and single-parent households face

the most financial hardship. These are the people we are serving at our food pantries — 85% of our clients live in Reading and 94% are Hispanic. They are spending a disproportionate amount of their income on rent and childcare, leaving little in their budget for food.

So yes, my friend was correct in her assumption that people are dependent on our food, but incorrect in believing they only want a free handout! Some ALICE households may drive nice cars and have smartphones, but they are living on the brink of financial disaster and surviving paycheck-to-paycheck. Although JFS does not have the resources to solve the root of the problem, we can do tzedakah, righting social inequalities by feeding the hungry.

I would like to give a special thanks to the amazing volunteers who joined us in this mitzvah on Wed. April 3 in the freezing rain — Cindy Balchunas, Raymond Gehring, John Incledon, Pete Jacobson, Sid Lempiner, Paul Mintz, Mary Neville, Annette Peppard, Jenny Reilly, Mike Schein, and Paul Schwartz. Instead of complaining, Jenny wrote, "It is always my pleasure, no matter the weather (although rain is probably the worst). I truly enjoy working with all the volunteers each month. It's very satisfying to work together as a team and serve so many families. So, thank you and the Federation for the opportunity!" Join our JFS volunteers as they help others and discover the positive impact it will make in your life!

Human rights advocate Robert Ingersoll expressed, "We rise by lifting others." As Mother's Day approaches, I would like to pay tribute to ALICE and the other hard-working moms in our community and also remember my beloved mother, Doris Levin, who showed me how to uplift others and enrich myself. Happy Mother's Day!

# Jewish Family Service

Food Pantry

Friendship Circle

Counseling Services

Transportation

Financial Assistance

Hospital and

Home Visitations

Living with Loss

Information and

Referral

Case Management

Holiday Programs



# JFS keeps active in community with service, fun



Above, Eddie Kazin preparing to deliver hamentashen to seniors for Jewish Family Service.

At left, Helene Berne planting a succulent garden at Friendship Circle. Friendship Circle meets twice monthly for entertaining and educational programs along with a chance to see friends. See below for schedule.

A BIG thank you to our hamentashen delivery team who helped spread Purim cheer to 100+ Jewish seniors!

Carol Perlmutter	Sue Farrara
Corinne Wernick	Sharon Syret
Andy Wernick	Eddie Kazen
Debbie Frank	Anzie Golden
Cindy Balchunas	Judy Copeland

## FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

**May 2-** "The History of Folk, Pop, and Rock Music" presented by **Dave Kline**

Dave Kline's program, "The History of Folk, Pop, Rock Music", takes the audience on a light-hearted, audience-participatorial ramble along the path and roots that created America's folk, pop and rock culture with iconic songs that helped the music grow into a world-wide phenomenon.

**May 16-** "Therapy Dogs"

Come meet the therapy dogs of The Alliance of Therapy Dogs for a heartwarming and fun event dedicated to the love and joy our canine companions bring.



Friendship Circle is held twice a month on Thursday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. at the JCC. An optional lunch is served, followed by an entertaining or educational program or holiday celebration.

Programs are free; optional lunch is \$7. Contact Carole at 610-921-0624 to make lunch reservations.

# Commemorating and celebrating

By Ziv Laskin

Yom HaShoah, Yom Hazikaron, and Yom Ha'atzmaut are three Israeli national days observed at this time of the year.



Yom HaShoah is a Remembrance Day for the Holocaust and Heroism. A week later, we dedicate the fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism on Yom Hazikaron, and immediately after, millions of Israelis celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut, the Independence Day of Israel.

There is no doubt that marking such emotional days in a week poses a difficulty. However, since Oct. 7, along with the war forced on Israel, Israelis

have been experiencing mourning on a daily basis. Our courageous soldiers are risking their lives on behalf of the existence of our beloved country. Furthermore, terror attacks occur every few days, and of course, we have hostages still in captivity in Gaza. Israel has never been in a situation like this before, and obviously, Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut are going to be different.

The question of how we should observe the Yoms this year has been raised by every Shaliach (Emissary) in the world. Some communities are focusing on Yom Hazikaron and think that there is no room for celebrations now when such a horrific war is going on. Some communities see the value

of celebrating despite the war, as a statement of "nobody will stop our happiness." I find myself in conflict over how our community should mark the Yoms.

After much thought, we decided on a special addition for Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut. For five days, two heroes from Israel are going to be hosted in our community. They will share their life stories and experiences from Oct. 7 and the war. Our heroes will take part in our community events and play a significant role. I believe that our unique guests will be the solution to the conflict in marking these sensitive days. With these heroes in the community, we could hear firsthand the prevailing feeling

in Israel right now and they will help to blend mourning with happiness.

I am writing this article from Israel, a few days before my sister's wedding. These are not easy days in Israel; you cannot walk in the streets without seeing posters of the hostages or stickers of people who were murdered. Alongside that, you can see flags of Israel hanging from every window. As people travel across Israel, it's not weird to meet someone for 10 minutes and feel like you've known each other for years. Joy together with sorrow, this is part of the Israeli character.

I am so glad we have the opportunity to host two Israeli heroes in our community, and I hope you will join us.

**YOM HAZIKARON**  
Israel's Memorial Day  
Monday, May 13  
12 PM at the JCC

Join Jewish Federation for a memorial ceremony for Israel's fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism.

Come together for moving moments of personal stories, prayers for Israel, and reflection. Featuring special guests from Israel.

Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks

**Yom Ha'atzmaut 76**  
Israel's Independence Day  
**NOW & FOREVER**  
Join Jewish Federation to celebrate Israel's 76 years of independence

Tuesday, May 14  
5 - 7 p.m.  
555 Warwick Dr, Wyomissing

Scan to order the food

Face Painting & Henna  
Hora Dancing  
Israeli crafts & Games  
Israeli Wine Tasting  
Meet our special guests from Israel  
Gifts & More...

Everyone Is Welcome!  
Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks



## Yom HaShoah

Sunday May 5 at 7p.m.

Cultural Center at the Highlands  
2000 Cambridge Ave. Wyomissing



Meet Holocaust survivor Mariette Jacobson as she shares her miraculous story of survival. Hidden as a child in France during World War II, Mariette and her baby brother Gil were able to survive, thanks to the help of Righteous Gentiles. Hear the story of Mariette's family as we mark Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day

Memorial candles will be lit by local survivors. Names of Holocaust victims will also be read by local students.

RSVP to [info@jfreading.org](mailto:info@jfreading.org) or call 610-921-0624



## It's Simcha Supplement time

If you had or are having a bar/bat mitzvah or graduation (high school or higher) in your family this Jewish year, share the good news with the community. Please submit a few sentences about the person and their accomplishment, along with a photo.

Text and photos can be sent to [Marknem@aol.com](mailto:Marknem@aol.com) or to the Federation office.

**DEADLINE IS APRIL 30.**  
**Please send material as soon as possible.**

# JFS hospital, outpatient visits

By Carole Robinson and Sari Incledon

Jewish Family Service social workers visit Jewish patients at local hospitals, senior communities, nursing homes and rehab centers.

Our goal in these visits is both to be friendly and supportive at a difficult time, and to provide access to social services that supplement and complement the case managers at these locations.

If you or a loved one is at a local hospital or nursing home and would like

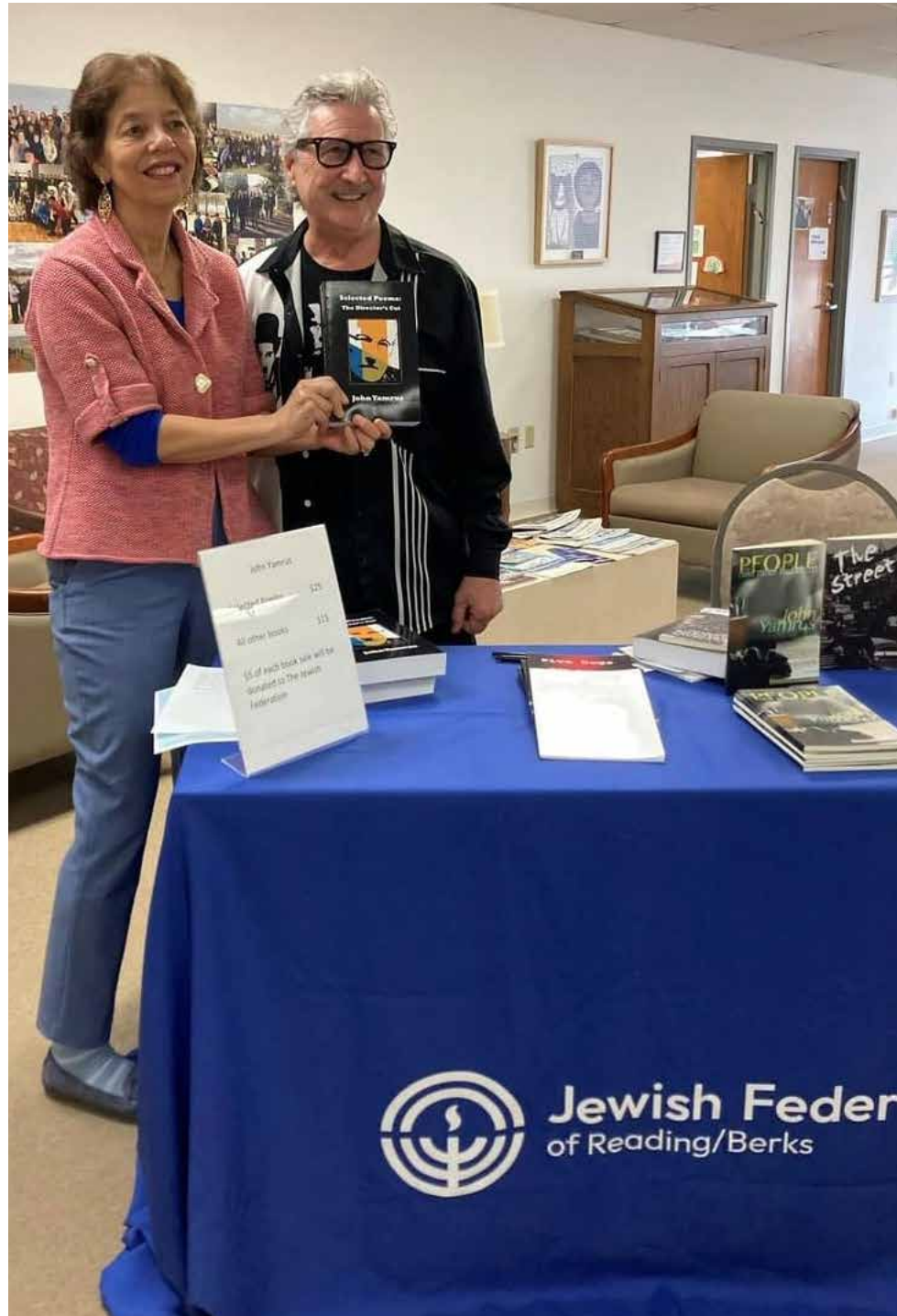
a visit, please call us.

If you or a loved one are treated at a hospital out of our area we are also available for follow-up visits upon discharge.

At times of ill health, stress or crisis, families are often looking for information about home care, transportation services, senior communities, nursing homes and rehabs. This is what we're here for.

Please call Jewish Family Service social workers for help at 610-921-0624.

# Poet offers insight at Noontime Knowledge



Carole Robinson and local poet John Yamrus with his anthology "Selected Poems: The Director's Cut" at a March Noontime Knowledge program. See Page 5 for details on Noontime Knowledge programs in May.



Sunday, May 5th, 2024  
12:00 noon - 3:00 pm  
Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom  
555 Warwick Drive Parking Lot

\$10 Quarter Apple Cake

\$13 Kauffman's Chicken BBQ Platter

\$22 Quarter Apple Cake & Chicken BBQ Combo Platter

\$22 Quart of Jewish Brisket

\$11 Pint of Jewish Brisket

Credit Card Preferred or Cash Accepted on Event Day

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[www.ohebsholom.org](http://www.ohebsholom.org)



## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Jewish Family Service is grateful to our committed volunteers!

Here are some ways that you can help:

### Help Fight Hunger

Join us at a JFS Food Pantry to distribute food to our hungry neighbors.

### Share your Professional Expertise

Present a program on travel, photography, or your unique interests or hobbies to our seniors.

### Share your time

A small investment of your personal time can make a profound difference in someone's life. Visit a shut-in, shop for a homebound senior, or take someone to a doctor's appointment.

### Donate your vehicle to JFS or donate clothing to CommunityAid

Enjoy tax benefits of donating a car or help our clients through our partnership with CommunityAid.



Contact Us  
Carole Robinson at  
610-921-0624



# Congregation salutes faithful volunteer



Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom saluted Steven Levine at an April ceremony, presenting him with the Ruth & Irvin Balis Volunteer Appreciation Award. At left, Sen. Judy Schwank with Levine during the ceremony. At right, the honoree and his family

## JFS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

This program provides transportation to members of the Jewish community, age 60 and over or those with disabilities, who have no other way of getting around. It allows participants to retain their independence and keeps them from becoming homebound and isolated. It can be used for medical appointments, synagogue attendance, shopping and other errands.

It is easy to participate. Purchase a book of 25 taxi tickets from the Federation at a cost of \$25. Each coupon is worth \$3. The phone number for Reading Metro Taxi is printed on the ticket book. Call the company and arrange your ride. At the end of the ride, sign your coupon(s) before giving them to the driver. Tipping is left to the passenger's discretion. The coupon does not include the cost of tipping.

*This program is subsidized by the Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks*

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This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint sponsorship of New York Medical College and The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (LJI). New York Medical College is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Please visit [www.mccme.com/continuingeducation](http://www.mccme.com/continuingeducation) for a complete accreditation statement.

# Local Holocaust survivor to share her story

By Amanda J. Hornberger

Imagine a childhood in France with two loving parents and grandparents who would visit from Germany. This beautiful family experience would end with the Nazi invasion of France in 1940, which would forever alter Mariette Jacobson's life.

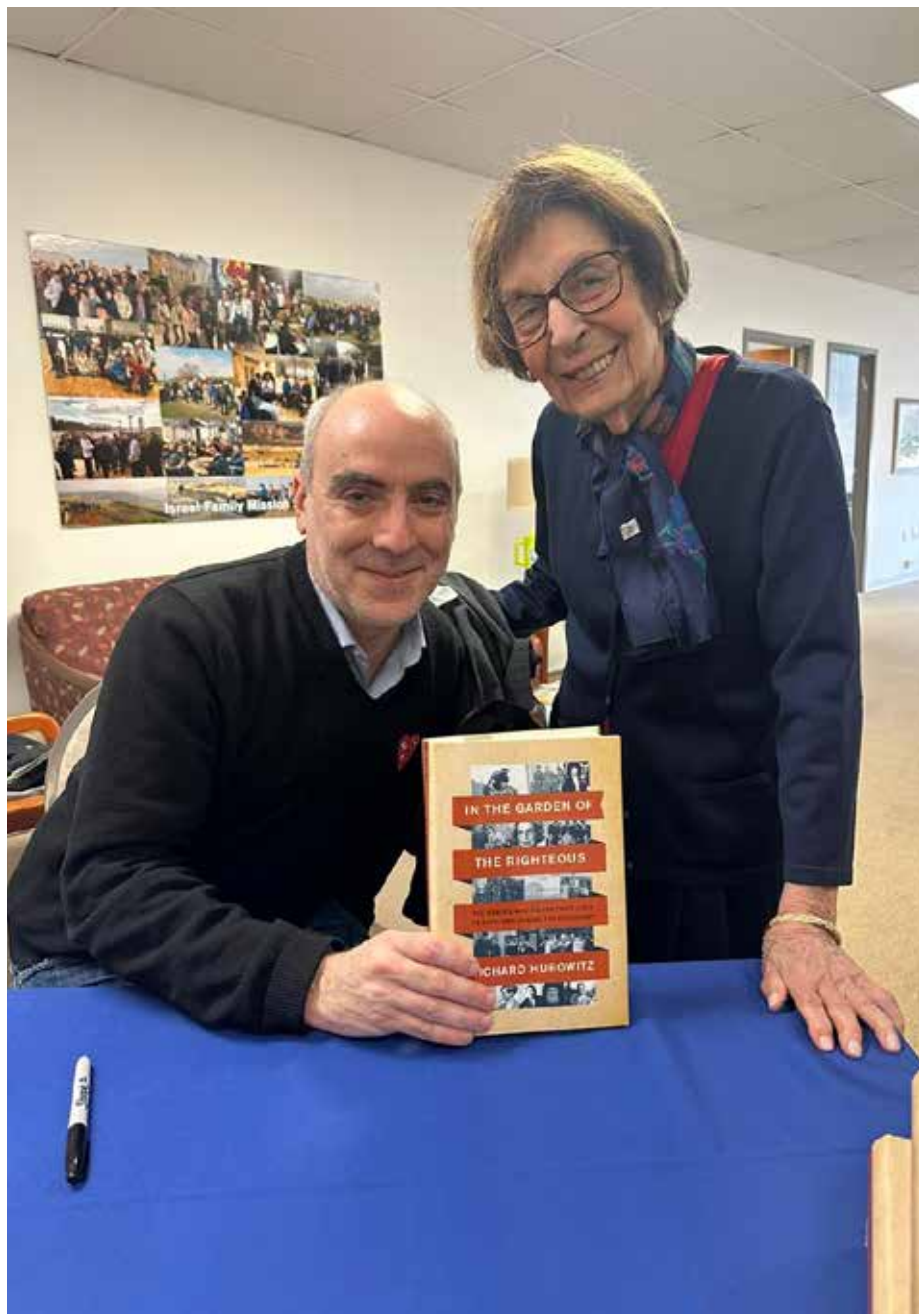
Join the Jewish Federation of Reading's Yom HaShoah program on Sunday, May 5, at 7 p.m. at the Highlands to hear Mariette's story of survival and to honor those who perished in the Holocaust. The community is invited to this event, which is open to the public.

We are lucky to have local Holocaust survivors join us for the program, which includes a candle lighting along with a name reading of victims of the Holocaust with ties to our local community. If you have family members who were killed in the Holocaust and would like their names added to our



Mariette Jacobson with her children Rachel and Jacques. name reading, please email the names to Amanda at [amandah@jfreeding.org](mailto:amandah@jfreeding.org) by Wednesday, May 1.

# Honoring Holocaust heroes



Author Richard Hurowitz during his Noontime Knowledge program discussing unsung heroes of the Holocaust, the subject of his book on the Righteous Gentiles of that era..

## Save the Date!



### DIVERSITY NIGHT AT THE FIGHTIN PHILS

JOIN US TO SUPPORT ADVANCEMENTS IN DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN BERKS COUNTY!

June 30, 2024  
game begins at 5:15pm

Look for Free Ticket info next month!



**Sponsorship Opportunities Available!**  
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for more information:  
[LaurieW@jfreeding.org](mailto:LaurieW@jfreeding.org)

## PILATES CLASSES AT THE JCC

Join Martha Connolly of Pilates At Any Age, LLC who will be instructing classes of Pilates. All community participants are welcome, no experience is necessary and all levels (including beginners) are welcome. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and either grippy socks or bare feet and bring a water bottle. 45 min chair class at 9:30 am on Tuesday and a 45 minute mat class at 10:30am on Tuesday. \$5 per class. Class fee is payable by cash or check only.

**\$ 5 PER CLASS**  
**TUESDAYS IN MAY**  
**9:30AM - 10:15AM CHAIR CLASS**  
**10:30AM - 11:15AM MAT CLASS**

**\*PLEASE NOTE THE DAY AND TIME CHANGE FOR CLASSES \***

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# A busy slate of Chabad activities



*JewQ challenges children to study and be tested on Jewish knowledge. Cteenjr students did really well on their tests. Melanie Leshner won a gold medal and Simon Seesengood won bronze, and an invitation to join the live game show in Stamford, Conn. But first they got to enjoy a weekend with 1,000 finalists, family members and friends celebrating Shabbat together in a spirit of Jewish unity and pride.*



*At Chabad's recent Resin & Rose' event, right, everyone produced a unique, creative, beautiful Seder plate.*

*Ziv Laskin worked with CteenJr. members to build a new community garden of Reading. They discussed life in the kibbutz and farming practices in Israel.*

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for firefighters, EMS, police, active duty military, veterans, healthcare workers and clergy. Must show ID!



**Senior Day**  
for everyone 55 and older! Please remember to ask for your discount.



**Family Day**  
for EVERYONE! Our most popular day of the week.



**Education Appreciation Day**  
for students, teachers and all school employees! Must show ID!

Find bargains & support our nonprofit partner CommunityAid. Proceeds benefit JFS.



JOIN RCOS

Thursday, May 2nd  
6:00-8:00 pm

**Happy Hour**

Nitro BAR

416 PENN AVE

2ND FLOOR @ WEST READING MOTOR CLUB  
WEST READING

FREE PARKING | FREE APPS | CASH BAR

# My surreal night in a Beersheva bomb shelter

By Yulia Karra  
Israel21c.org

On April 1, Mohammed Reza Zahedi, a top commander in the Quds Force of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), was assassinated in Damascus, Syria. He was the most senior interlocutor for Tehran with Hezbollah, and was allegedly involved in the planning of the Oct. 7 attacks. Iran claimed that Israel was behind the assassination and vowed to take revenge. Israel was put on high alert, and intelligence services assessed that Iran would retaliate from its soil, rather than via proxies, in what would be the first direct attack on Israel.

The intelligence services even said, quoting an Iranian official, the retaliation would include a "hive" of cruise and ballistic missiles, as well as "suicide" drones.

I knew all of that was coming. Yet, when at 10:30 p.m. on April 13 the Israeli news channels began reporting that Iran had indeed launched 350 missiles and drones from its soil towards Israel, it felt surreal.

"This is historic, the first direct Iranian attack on Israel," said one of the experts in the news studio.

Unlike rockets from Gaza, which I am well used to as a resident of southern Israel, the missiles and drones from Iran take hours to reach Israel. Naturally, sleep went out the window.

I sat in front of the TV, watching the news channels report on the progression of the missiles, some of which were being intercepted by U.S., UK and Jordanian forces.

Finally, an update came that the projectiles were expected in the Israeli airspace around 2 a.m., and they were aimed at "military" targets.

"Our viewers have nothing to worry

about, they can go to sleep," said another expert at the news studio.

At around 2 a.m. rocket alert sirens began sounding in Beersheva, where I live, despite it being a residential city and not a military target.

My building doesn't have a bomb shelter, so my safe space is a staircase, which the Home Front Command deems suitable for attacks from Gaza.

Outside my building, there is the neighborhood's bomb shelter. Normally, I never go there because there is simply no time. Rockets from Gaza get to Beersheva within a minute. This time, however, I decided to run to the bomb shelter outside.

I saw my neighbor on my way. "Are you going to the bomb shelter, too?" I asked her. "Yes, it's preferable, we don't know what's coming," she said.

Once there, I was surprised that it was somewhat clean and even had a working toilet. There were mostly young people there, many in pajamas. I assume for the older folks, having to run somewhere in the middle of the night is too big of a task.

No one was hysterical or visibly scared. Everyone was just confused, including a dog of one of the tenants that kept sniffing every corner. The dog only made me worried about my two cats I had left in the apartment.

"I really need to move to an apartment with a built-in bomb shelter so I can take my cats with me," I thought to myself.

### Sirens and giant blasts

The sirens, meanwhile, kept wailing and wailing. Interrupted only by giant blasts. This went on for half an hour. Everyone was scrambling to open news apps and understand what was happening, but there was no cell signal.

Finally, after waiting inside for some



Israelis wake up to missile damage in Katzrin in the Golan Heights after the April 13 Iranian missile attack.

time, people started to move from the depth of the bomb shelter towards the surface. Mostly to get a signal, rather than leave.

I saw one guy call a 24/7 pizza place and place an order at 3 a.m., having just survived an Iranian missile attack. To my surprise, the pizza place was open, and took his order as if this was an ordinary event.

As I was making my way back to the apartment, the adrenaline I was operating on subsided. I was overwhelmed with fear, my legs were trembling and my whole body was aching.

Is this the start of a broader war with Iran? Are there going to be more attacks? Will normal life ever return to the citizens of Israel that have been living in a state of war for the past six months?

I rushed to watch the news update, hoping to get some sort of clarity.

"Israel intercepted 100 ballistic missiles," said a reporter on Channel 12, adding that one person was wounded in the barrage. A 7-year-old Arab Bedouin girl called Amina was severely hurt by one of the Iranian missiles when it fell on her village in the Negev desert.



A bomb shelter in Israel

"This is the largest barrage of ballistic missiles in history," said the reporter. "Even in Ukraine there was never an event when 100 ballistic missiles were launched in one go," he added, saying that 99% of the missiles and drones had been intercepted.

I guess we can count it as another world record being broken by Israel. What a time to be alive.

**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 April 12**

**Jewish Family Service**

In memory of:

- **Dr. Boris Corbin** - Betsy & Al Katz, Barbara & Seth Rosenzweig, Marsha & Joel Adelman, Sue & Mel Blum, Cheryl & Eric Farber, Marcy & Marc Filstein, Mindy & Rob Coopersmith, Jackye & Jim Barrer
- **Julian Syret** - S. Ronald & Sandra Miller, Esther Strauss, Marsha & Joel Adelman, Darnell Binasiwicz, Seth & Barbara Rosenzweig, The Womens Club of Exeter
- **Irwin Kabakoff** - Jonathan & Jan Simon
- **Dr. Jack Greenberg** - Helene & Henry Singer
- **Roxanne (Roxie) Walker** - Wendy Neuhs

**Evelyn F. Thompson Nursery School Fund**

In memory of:

- **Irwin Kabakoff** - Beth & Bob Caster
- **Boris Corbin** - Beth & Bob Caster

**Federation Jewish Community Campaign**

In memory of:

- **Dr. Boris Corbin** - Vic & Dena Hammel, David, Anna, Lena, Ari & Felicity Bluestone, Debbie & David Goldberg, Nicholas & Barb Corbo, Jeff & Lynn Driben, Glenn & Cindy Gifford
- **Julian Syret** - Brenda Thren, Andrea Watkins, Alice Botvin & Edward Littlehales

**Sue B. Viener Memorial Fund for PJ Library**

In memory of:

- **Julian Syret** - George Viener

In honor of:

- **Marlin and Ginger Miller for making this world a better place** - George Viener

**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**
- Sue B. Viener Memorial Fund for PJ Library**
- Harry & Rose Sack Adult Education Fund**
- Evelyn Thompson Fund**

**Friendship Circle Fund**

In memory of:

- **Julian Syret** - Glenn & Gaye Corbin, Ellen & Donald Abramson
- **Dr. Boris Corbin** - Sue Wachs, Nancy Russo & Paul Delfin, Sharon Syret, Andy & Corinne Wernick, Lynn & Richard Gordon, Andrea Watkins & Jeff Sternlieb, Sydney Shiring, Jonathan & Jan Simon, Randi & Alyssa and Ashely Brandt, Linda and Mickey Roebeg, Alexandria Baker, Francine Lawrence, Laurie & Jim Silverstein, The Ferretti Family, Anzie Golden, Zita Flam, Barbara & Mitchell Given, Frida & Meyer Leybovich, Ilya & Jane Leybovich, Barbara & Gilbert Dichter, Ellen & Donald Abramson, Desiree & Samuel Padovani, Suzanne & Leonard Gyskewicz

**Lakin Holocaust Library & Resource Center**

In honor of:

- **Larry Rotenberg's birthday** - Debbie Goodman
- **Esther and Sid Bratt's anniversary** - Debbie Goodman, Kate & Larry Goodman

**Harry and Rose Sack Adult Education Fund**

In memory of:

- **Frima Isilevich** - Albert & Nancy Sack, Darren & Loren Sack and Family, Michael and Marc Silverman

In honor of:

- **Harry and Rose Sack** - George Viener

**LAG B'OMER COMMUNITY BBQ AND PICNIC**  
**SUNDAY, MAY 26**  
**12:30 PM**  
**FUN FOR ALL AGES**  
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**Teacher Appreciation and New Member Shabbat**  
**Friday, May 17th at 7pm**

**FREE!**

Celebrate our Religious School Teachers and Welcome our New Members. Join us for an ice cream oneg featuring Cherry on Top Ice Cream Truck immediately following the service.

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