

Kehillah: A History of Jewish life in Greater Orlando opening November 12



The Kehillah Task Force worked for more than two years to plan, research, gather the information and write the text for this exhibition. Guided by Curator Marcia Jo Zerivitz and led by Chairwoman Roz Fuchs, the Task Force included the following people:

Front row L-R: Marcia Jo Zerivitz, Roz Fuchs, Rosalie Levy, Susan Bierman, Malka Webman, Barbara Weinreich, Rachel Heimovics Braun, Mardi Shader, Teresa Finer, Eva Ritt; back row L-R: Stan Roberts, Sara Stern, Neil Webman, Lisa Schwartz, Amy Kimlat, Irwin Feldman, Emely Katz, Peter Burg, Arlene van de Rijn, Michael Soll, Laurence Morrell, Ava Maxwell, Judy Kahan Davis, Es Cohen, Lynn Dictor, Chris DeSouza, Debby Gendzier, Rhonda Forest. Task Force members not in photo: Melody Apter, David Bornstein, Pat Bornstein, Lauren Brown, Marli Porth Fanciullo, Sam Friedman, Leslie Feinberg, Joan Kimball, Renee Roberts, Sandi Saft, Richard Schwartz, Edward Zissman, Phyllis Zissman. Other team members: Research Assistants—Mark Cooper, Penny Gold, Eric Geboff, Miriam Josephs, Dick Katz, Hank Katzen, Spencer Kimball, Pam Kancher, Lorri Levine, Julian Meitin, Sheryl Meitin; Oral Histories: Roz Fuchs, Sharon Ginsburg, Eve Homburger, JoAnne Kane, Jodi Krinker, Laurie Shader Smith, Maura Weiner, Barbara Hara Weiss; Student Curriculum: Alan Rusonik and Lisa Sholk; Public Relations: David Bornstein and Lisa Levin.

By David Bornstein

From the tiny seed of an idea, an enormous community event has grown. In February of 2015, Sara Stern assembled a committee for Congregation Ohev Shalom to begin planning its centennial celebration. COS was the first chartered congregation in Central Florida, and thus, in both concrete and symbolic ways, represents the formalization of Jewish life in the area. The idea to create an exhibit ex-

ploring the 100-year history of the congregation intrigued the group, but rather than limit it to one segment of the community, they decided to expand the concept and make it a far-reaching project highlighting the entire history of Jewish life in Greater Orlando. The Orange County Regional History Center (OCRHC) was approached about hosting the exhibit and their leadership greeted the concept enthusiastically. Marcia Jo Zerivitz, a former leader in the Orlando Jewish

community and founding executive director of the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU, volunteered to serve as guest curator, and the original committee began working on a name and themes for the exhibit.

Thus Kehillah: A History of Jewish Life in Greater Orlando was born. Thematically based on the citrus industry—one of the early businesses that attracted Jews to the area—the exhibit will include more than 500 historical photographs, in-

teractive displays, important artifacts that harken back to past pioneers, and examples of current generations' contributions and extraordinary accomplishments.

Themes include Roots (Founders and Pioneers); Branches (Citrus, Agriculture & Retail); Seeds (Military, Israel, Civil Liberties, Soviet Jewry, Social Change); Growth (Defense, Technology, Business, Industry, Real Estate, Media, Hospitality, Education, Community Service, Arts & Culture); Caretakers (Congregations, Agencies & Organizations)

and Blossoms (Philanthropists & Notables).

Do you know who the first permanent Jewish settler was in Central Florida, and did you know that he was also one of the area's first great philanthropists? Did you know that in the 1920s nearly 50 downtown Orlando businesses were owned and operated by Jews, and within 20 years that number grew to more than 200? You'll be able to explore this on an interactive map display.

Do you know who was largely responsible for desegregating public schools

in Central Florida? Did you know the inventor of the Whack-A-Mole is a Jew from Central Florida? Do you know how many local Jewish philanthropists have made at least a \$1 million gift to a local Jewish or non-Jewish community organization? You'll be able to discover all this and more while you peruse and enjoy the photographs and artifacts that detail more than a century of stories from pioneer Jewish families and later arrivals whose remarkable contributions are woven

Kehillah on page 15A

An adventure in intimacy— A one-day experience

On Sunday, Oct. 22, Hedy and Yumi Schleifer will be in Orlando to lead a very special one-day workshop for couples. Organized by JOIN (Orlando Jewish Outreach Initiative) this event will be held at The Roth Family JCC from

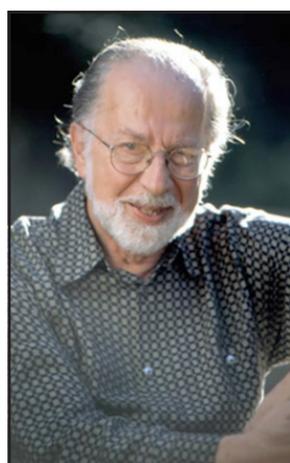


Hedy Schleifer

9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and is open to couples within the Orlando Jewish Community.

In An Adventure in Intimacy—The One-Day Experience couples workshop, The Schleifers will share the lessons from their 51-year marriage as a Jewish couple, their very personal relational odyssey, and their resulting embrace of the Miracle of Connection as a sacred journey.

The Schleifers travel all



Yumi Schleifer

over the world leading workshops for couples as well as private intensive sessions for couples and private intensive sessions for leaders and executives. Hedy is an internationally known psychotherapist, trainer, relationship coach, workshop presenter and motivational speaker. Yumi is a Columbia University graduate and former aerospace engineer

Adventure on page 15A

Bassem Eid: The Israeli-Palestinian conflict

Chabad of Greater Orlando and Altamonte Springs and AIPAC jointly present Palestinian human rights activist Bassem Eid on Oct. 29, 7 p.m., at The Alford Inn in Winter Park.

The evening discussion will be centered on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from Eid's point of view.

"We are thrilled to have Bassem Eid here to speak," said Rabbi Mendy Bronstein. "He calls it like it is as he shares his refreshing perspective, with such honesty, on this difficult issue."

Jerusalem-based political analyst, human rights pioneer and expert commentator, Eid was born in Jordanian-controlled East Jerusalem and grew up in the United Nations Refugee Works Agency refugee camp of Shuafat.

Eid has a balanced view of human rights concerns in Israel. He has had an extensive career as a Palestinian human rights activist, initially focusing on human



Bassem Eid

rights violations committed by the Israeli armed forces. He broadened his research to include human rights violations committed by the Palestinian Authority on their own people. Currently, he is a political analyst for Israeli TV and radio, and is an outspoken critic of the BDS movement.

Tickets are \$20, with an early bird special of \$18 if purchased before Oct. 22; free for students with student ID; Sponsors, 4180/ \$360/ \$540, which includes 2 tickets and

VIP reception prior to the event and held in a private home.

The Alford Inn is located at 300 E New England Ave., Winter Park.

For more information or to RSVP, visit www.jewishaltamonte.com/israel or call 407-280-0535.





Jewish Academy of Orlando students cast their sins away in Tashlich services

Jewish Academy students cast their sins away in Tashlich services. The third through fifth graders walked to Lake Lily to participate in a Tashlich service. Students gathered in a circle, listened to the shofar, sang and then symbolically threw away their misdeeds to begin the New Year renewed. In addition to the students and teachers, many of the Jewish Academy's parents joined in this meaningful program.

Robyn Eichenholz, JAO parent, said, "it was very significant to me to participate in Tashlich. I love celebrating holidays with the Jewish Academy and being with my daughter's class."

After Tashlich, the students cleaned up the park as part of mitzvot. They were very eager to do this good deed.

The younger students were not forgotten. Kindergartners through second graders walked to a pond on campus to do their version of Tashlich.

Participating in Jewish customs and ceremonies is at the core of the Jewish Academy of Orlando's mission—to instill a love of Jewish values and traditions in their students, ensuring a strong Jewish future for their families and our community.

For more information or to arrange a visit to the school, please contact Amy Polacek, Admissions coordinator, at apolacek@myjao.org or 407-647-0713.



HERITAGE offers The Financial Issue

This Special Issue is full of features relating to financial issues affecting you and Central Florida. Your ad in this Special Section will reach an audience of heads of households who are qualified business and professional people who have the income necessary to live well today and invest wisely tomorrow.

Publication Date: November 3, 2017

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For information—Call 407-834-8787

Being there

This Zionistas program was scheduled for earlier in September but was postponed due to Hurricane Irma.

Alan Kornman was in Israel to witness the ceremonies remembering the 1967 Six Day War and celebrating the reunification of Jerusalem 50 years ago. On Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2017 at 7 p.m., Alan Kornman will share with us, in film and in words, how exciting it was to join with the Israelis at this historic time.

Kornman is the regional coordinator for the United West, contributing editor with Family Security Matters, and has over 40 published articles on various national security topics. He has addressed the Zionistas group twice before and brings a unique style to his presentations.



Alan Kornman

Kornman also has completed FDLE's Florida Criminal Justice Exec, Institute Seminar "Understanding Militant Islamist Terrorism,"

and is a local Orlando small business owner.

The event, sponsored by Zionistas, will take place at the Eastmonte Civic Center, 830 Magnolia Drive, Altamonte Springs. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

There will be an opportunity for a Question and Answer exchange after the presentation.

This program is open to the community at no cost. Donations are greatly appreciated. Reservations are requested. Please contact Sandi Solomon at 407-575-9899 or sansolomon@hotmail.com.

The Zionistas is a coalition of Christian and Jewish women and men united for Israel. Advocacy, Awareness and Activism is the driving force behind the Zionistas.

Bereavement support through the Jewish lens

For those grieving the death of a loved one, The Jewish Pavilion and Vitas Healthcare offer a free grief support group.

This is a six-week program led by Rabbi Moe Kaprow, the Vitas Healthcare chaplain, and will

be held at Oakmonte Village—Valencia Building, 1021 Royal Gardens Circle, Lake Mary. The sessions are from 10:30 a.m.—noon, and meet Wednesdays: Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29, Dec. 6 and 13.

If you have lost a spouse, partner, parent, child, sibling

or other loved one this support can make a difference.

Refreshments and socializing are part of the activity.

RSVP to Emily Newman at The Jewish Pavilion at emilyjewishpavilion@gmail.com or call 407-678-9363.

Grief support group through life transitions

Jewish Family Services Orlando in cooperation with Hospice of the Comforter is helping connect and support the Jewish community through life transitions. This group will

be co-led by a Jewish therapist and a hospice social worker.

The group will meet for 6-weeks at 12:15 p.m., starting Tuesday, Oct. 17 and ending Tuesday, Nov. 21. Registration

required and a \$5 per session contribution is suggested.

Please contact JFS by phone 407-644-7593 ext. 247, or by emailing Ashlyn.Douglass-Barnes@jfsorlando.org.

Egyptian leader urges Palestinians to accept coexistence with Israel



Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi

By AP and World Israel News Staff

Egypt's president Abdel Fattah el-Sissi on Tuesday made an impassioned pitch for peace between Israel and the Palestinians, calling for

both sides to take advantage of a "rare" opportunity to achieve the elusive goal.

El-Sissi broke from his prepared remarks to the United Nations General Assembly in classical Arabic to address Israelis and Palestin-

ians informally in colloquial Egyptian Arabic, saying they should take advantage of an opportunity that "may not be repeated."

The Egyptian leader urged the Palestinians to seize the moment, which he views as ripe for peace.

He also tried to reassure Israelis by citing Egypt's long-established peace with their nation, which has lasted over 40 years, saying that "amazing" step can be repeated with the Palestinians.

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El-Sissi's address came a day after he met with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in New York, the first official meeting between the two leaders.

The true story behind the movie 'Defiance'

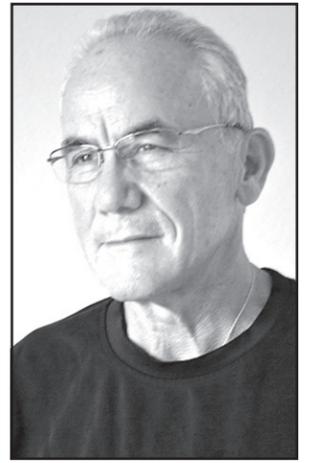
Chabad Lubavitch of North Orlando is sponsoring "An Evening with Mickey Bielski—Son of Partisan Hero Tuvia Bielski." On Sunday, Oct. 22, Mickey will tell the story of what it was like to come of age in the shadow of the incredible legacy of his father. He will share his own, and his father's stories, with humor, passion and above all, love.

Mickey Bielski was born in Ramat Gan, Israel in 1952, shortly after the end of World War II. His father, Tuvia Bielski, was the leader of an organization of Jewish partisans who rescued Jews from extermination and fought against the Nazi German occupiers and their collaborators in the vicinity of Nowogródek and Lida in German-occupied Poland (now western Belarus).

The group saved over 1,200 people, and included Mickey's mother, Lilka. Tuvia was joined by his brothers, Zus and Asael, to form the Bielski Brothers. They were responsible for the largest rescue of Jews by Jews in all of World War II. The group was the subject of a major motion picture, "Defiance," which was released in late 2008.

Mickey visited Lithuania in 2007, at the director's invitation, during the filming of "Defiance." He made an emotional journey into Belarus, to see the area his father grew up in, and to visit the mass grave of the area's Jews, where many of his relatives, including his grandparents, were buried.

The lecture will take place at Nate's Shul, 1701 Markham Woods Rd. in Longwood at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$15,



Mickey Bielski

with an early bird discount of \$12 if you purchase before October 15.

For more information or to purchase tickets please visit www.JewishNorthOrlando.com or call 407-488-9304.

Interpol grants Palestinians full membership

(JNS.org)—The international police organization Interpol voted Wednesday in favor of granting the "State of Palestine" full membership, in a diplomatic defeat for Israel.

At the organization's annual General Assembly that convened this year in Beijing, the Palestinian membership bid was approved with 75 countries voting in favor, 24 voting against and 34 abstaining.

Israel had campaigned against the move, arguing the

Palestinian Authority's (PA) support for terrorism would undermine Interpol's efforts. The U.S. also opposed Palestinian membership in Interpol and assisted Israel with challenging Ramallah's bid.

PA Foreign Minister Riyad al-Maliki hailed the vote as a "victory" for Palestinians.

"The State of Palestine considers this membership and the responsibilities that it entails as an integral part of its responsibility towards

the Palestinian people and a moral commitment to the citizens of the world," he said.

Interpol operates as a liaison between police agencies throughout the world and does not have agents with policing powers.

With the additions of the Palestinians and the Solomon Islands, France-based Interpol now has 192 member states. It is the second-largest international organization after the United Nations.

PA prime minister visits Gaza

(JNS.org) Palestinian Authority (PA) Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah arrived in the Gaza Strip Monday for the first time since 2014, as the PA and its rival, the Gaza-ruling terror group Hamas, initiated the first steps in forming a unity government.

Hamdallah's visit is intended as the first symbolic move towards transferring custodianship of the coastal territory from Hamas to the PA.

Upon arrival, Hamdallah

and his 30-vehicle motorcade were greeted by Hamas members as well as members of the PA's ruling party, Fatah. A crowd of 2,000 people gathered to hear the high-ranking PA official deliver an address.

"The only way to statehood is through unity," Hamdallah said. "We are coming to Gaza again to deepen the reconciliation and end the split."

"The government began to exercise its roles in Gaza from today," he said, praising Hamas for agreeing to

hand over governance of the territory to the PA, and lauding Egypt for mediating the reconciliation deal.

The latest move towards Palestinian reconciliation comes after months of economic and political pressure applied by the PA against Hamas, including the PA's decision to significantly cut its subsidization of Gaza's electricity bill and stop paying salaries of government workers and former prisoners in Gaza.

Erdogan threatens to sever ties with Israel

(JNS.org)—Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan indicated Tuesday he would mull severing ties with Israel if the Jewish state does not withdraw its support for an independent Kurdish state.

"If Israel does not reconsider its support for Kurdish independence, Turkey could not take any steps [with Israel]," Erdogan said, the Turkish news outlet Daily Sabah reported.

"Those trying to establish new states in Iraq and Syria should not be surprised when

they are tossed aside by those who use them," he said.

The Turkish leader's warning came a day after the Kurdish region of Iraq commenced a historic referendum, allowing some 5 million Kurds to vote on the creation of an independent state.

In response to the vote, Erdogan threatened to impose sanctions against the Kurds, and the Turkish military began carrying out drills near Turkey's border with Iraq.

Iran halted all flights to Iraq's Kurdish region, and Iraqi Prime Minister Haider

al-Abadi warned "measures" would be implemented to defend Iraqi unity in the event of secession being approved.

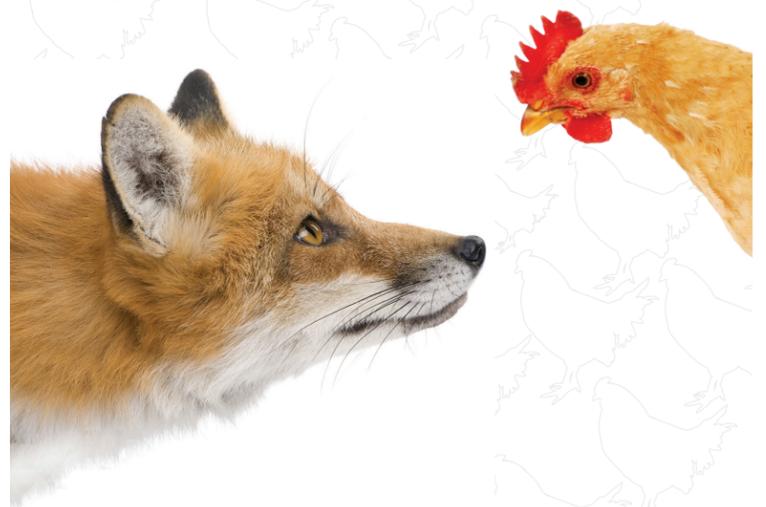
Leading up to the referendum, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in mid-September endorsed Kurdish statehood, making Israel the only nation to officially support the move.

Prior to the announcement of the referendum's official results, thousands of Kurds rallied in the streets of Erbil, the capital of Iraqi Kurdistan, with several waving Israeli flags.

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Some officials want to move notices from newspapers to government-run websites, where they may not be easily found.

This is like putting the fox in charge of the hen house.



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The case for Kurdish independence

By Alan M. Dershowitz

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan tried to extort Israel to withdraw its support, and threatened to end the process of normalization unless it does so. It is worth noting that Turkey strongly supports statehood for the Palestinians but not for their own Kurdish population. The Palestinian leadership, which is seeking statehood for its people, also opposes statehood for the Kurds.

Iraqi Kurds were a key partner for the U.S. coalition that toppled Saddam Hussein's regime and has staved off further sectarian tensions in that country. One thing is clear: if the United States continues to neglect its "friends" and allies in the region—those on the front line in the fight against ISIS—the damage to its credibility will only increase.

Nor are there any limits to the hypocrisy

of those university students and faculty who demonstrate so loudly for Palestinian statehood, but ignore or oppose the Kurds.

No one who supports statehood for the Palestinians can morally oppose Kurdish independence. But they do, because it is double-standard hypocrisy, and not morality, that frames the debate over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

More than 90 percent of Iraq's Kurdish population have now voted for independence from Iraq. While the referendum is not binding, it reflects the will of a minority group that has a long history of persecution and statelessness.

The independence referendum is an important step toward remedying a historic injustice inflicted on the Kurdish population in the aftermath of the First World War. Yet, while millions took to the streets to celebrate, it is clear that the challenges of moving forward

toward establishing an independent Kurdistan are only just beginning. Already, Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi, has said, "We will impose the rule of Iraq in all of the areas of the KRG, with the strength of the constitution." Meanwhile, other Iraqi lawmakers have called for the prosecution of Kurdish representatives who organized the referendum, singling out Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) President Masoud Barzani, specifically.

While Israel immediately supported the Kurdish bid for independence,

the case for Palestinian statehood is at least as compelling as the case for Kurdish statehood, but you would not know that by the way so many countries support Palestinian statehood but not Kurdish statehood. The reason for this disparity has little to do with the merits of their respective cases and much to do with the countries from which they seek independence. The reason, then, for this double standard is that few countries want to oppose Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Syria; many of these same countries are perfectly willing to demonize the nation-state of the Jewish people. Here is the comparative case for the Kurds and the Palestinians.

First, some historical context. In the aftermath of WWI, the allied forces signed a treaty to reshape the Middle East from the remnants of the fallen Ottoman Empire. The 1920 Treaty of Sevres set out parameters for a unified Kurdish state, albeit under British

control. However, the Kurdish state was never implemented, owing to Turkish opposition and its victory in the Turkish War of Independence, whereby swaths of land intended for the Kurds became part of the modern Turkish state. As a result, the Kurdish region was split between Turkey, Syria, Iraq and Iran, and the Kurds were dispersed around northern Iraq, southeast Turkey and parts of Iran and Syria. Although today no one knows its exact population size, it is estimated that there are around 30 million Kurds living in these areas.

In contrast to the Palestinian people, who adhere to the same traditions and practices as their Arab neighbors, and speak the same language, Kurds have their own language (although different groups speak different dialects) and subscribe to their own culture, dress code and holidays. While the history and genealogy of Palestinians is intertwined with that of their Arab neighbors (Jordan's population is approximately 50 percent Palestinian), the Kurds have largely kept separate from their host-states, constantly aspiring for political and national autonomy.

Over the years, there have been countless protests and uprisings by Kurdish populations against their host-states. Some rulers have used brute force to crack down on dissent. Consider Turkey, for example, where the "Kurdish issue" influences domestic and foreign

Dershowitz on page 15A

Where does Israel fit in a Jewish future without faith?

By Jonathan S. Tobin
JNS.org

For Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu's political opponents, his government's woes aren't just an opportunity to score political points at his expense. They also provide easy-to-understand explanations for the question that nags at the margins of every debate about American Jewish attitudes toward Israel. Every negative development or unpopular decision associated with the prime minister is used to rationalize and sometimes even justify the growing chasm between American Jews and Israelis.

But a new study about America Jewish identity gives the lie to this argument. The main reason for changing Jewish attitudes about Israel is rooted in faith, not Israeli politics.

The list of reasons why Jews have problems with Israel is long: There's the usual carping about settlement building and the stalled peace process; the lack of religious pluralism and the abandonment of a plan to expand an area for egalitarian prayer at the Western Wall; Netanyahu's eagerness to stay on President Donald Trump's good side which is deeply unpopular with most American Jews; accusations of corruption, and now his son Yair's distasteful use of anti-Semitic memes on social media to attack his father's foes.

All point to reasons why Americans, especially younger Jews, see Israel and Zionism as a burden on the conscience of Jewish liberals. That ignores the context of a conflict that continues largely because the Palestinians have refused to make peace. But while arguments about Netanyahu's shortcomings are hindrances to Jewish solidarity, they're not the real problem.

A new study from the Public Religion Research Institute provides some sobering data about Jewish affiliation. Four years after the Pew Research Center published its, "Portrait of Jewish Americans," that detailed the toll assimilation and intermarriage have taken on Jewish identity in this country, the PRRI survey reveals that these trends have only accelerated.

Among its insights is a breakdown of denominational loyalties. Overall, only 54 percent of Jews claim to be affiliated with one of the religious movements. Reform is the answer for 28 percent, 14 percent say Conservative, 10 percent are Orthodox and two percent Reconstructionist. More than one third, 37 percent, say they are "just Jewish." Three percent claim

to be "something else," and six percent refuse to answer or say they don't know.

But if you look only at Jews under 30, the numbers break down this way: Reform, 20 percent; Conservative, 8 percent; Orthodox, 15 percent; Reconstructionist, 3 percent and just Jewish, 44 percent.

The key point is the "just Jewish" tag doesn't so much connote independence of synagogues as it does a sense of Jewish identity devoid of religion or any substance more than a vestigial memory of the past. A whopping 33 percent do not regard themselves as being Jewish by religion. That number expands to 47 percent for those under 30. Pew called this demographic "Jews of no religion." PRRI calls them "cultural Jews." But either way, these are people whose connection to being Jewish appears to be mostly a matter of things like food, comedy or a belief that liberal political stands is the essence of their heritage. These numbers reflect not merely the collapse in synagogue attendance among the non-Orthodox but also a declining sense of Jewish peoplehood.

This reflects the triumph of freedom in the U.S. in which rising rates of assimilation are a function of the collapse of the barriers between faiths. But the idea that a growing demographic in which Jewish traditions, law and faith is absent can sustain support for Israel is risible. While it can be argued that a secular Jewish identity can be sustained in a country that speaks Hebrew, lives by the Jewish calendar and whose history is bound up in a past rooted in faith as well as ethnic identity, it's a different story in the United States. Cultural Jews or those without religion here are far less likely to feel the tug of emotion that ties Jewish communities together no matter what political issues divide them. The fact that the Orthodox are more likely to be supportive of Israel and to view it as a litmus test when voting, makes this all the more obvious.

The issues that are driving American Jews away from Israel are much bigger than attitudes about the peace process or pluralism. Think what you will of Netanyahu, but the collapse of faith and peoplehood among U.S. Jews has far more to do with declining support for Israel among the non-Orthodox than with his faults. If American Jews are becoming a people without faith, then Israel is bound to be the loser no matter what its government does.

Jonathan S. Tobin is opinion editor of JNS.org and a Contributing Writer for National Review. Follow him on Twitter at: @jonathans_tobin.

Trump betrays Kurdistan

By Ben Cohen
JNS.org

It is difficult to look at the scandalous international response to the Kurdish independence referendum and not think, at the same time, of the betrayals endured by the Zionist movement in the decades after World War I.

In 1917, Britain issued the Balfour Declaration, promising a Jewish national homeland in Palestine. What people forget is that in 1939, Britain then issued a White Paper limiting Jewish immigration to Palestine—on the eve of the Holocaust—to a paltry 75,000 souls over five years. They forget, too, that as late as 1947, British troops at Haifa dock were locking Holocaust survivors who had escaped to Palestine in barbed wire cages, and then shipping them back to displaced persons camps in Germany.

A similar sorry state prevails with the Kurds—a predominantly Muslim nation of 25-35 million currently divided between Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Syria, whose denizens in Iraq this week voted by a majority of 93 percent for independence.

Kurdistan should have come into existence a century ago, when Britain and France agreed that the Kurds—newly liberated from the Ottoman Empire—could hold a referendum on independence in about one quarter of the territory on which they live. But even that arrangement was too much for the Turks, and the western imperial powers caved in, paving the way for a hundred years of political and ethnic repression, military campaigns targeting Kurdish civilians, and even genocide.

Just as the Zionists were given false hope, so were the Kurds. Just as the Zionists had to fight for self-determination at a time when the world frowned on the idea of a Jewish state, so now are the Kurds.

At least, in 1948, when the entire Arab League tried to stomp on Israel at birth, the independence of the Jewish state was recognized by the great powers, the U.S. and the Soviet Union. To date, only Israel has publicly backed the independence referendum in Kurdistan. The rest of the world—including, with woe-ful hypocrisy, the Brits, fresh from their own "Brexit" referendum on leaving the EU—has lined up behind the demand of Turkey, Iran and the Iranian-proxy regime in Baghdad that Kurdistan can never claim its right to be recognized on the map of the world.

Most shameful of all, though, has been the response of Washington—because, quite frankly, we are entitled to expect much better.

It shouldn't be surprising that the progressive activists who flock to Palestinians act as if the Kurds don't even exist, or that most Americans don't know anything about the Kurds in the first place, or that Europe is continuing its noble foreign policy tradition of betraying the cause of freedom in the post-colonial world. But it should be surprising, at the very least, that the Trump Administration—whose strategy of eliminating Islamic State involved the loss of

thousands of brave Kurdish fighters—should address the independence referendum in a tone marked by profound ignorance and shocking ingratitude.

Take this nonsensical statement issued by the State Department spokeswoman, Heather Nauert, on the day of the referendum. "The United States is deeply disappointed that the Kurdistan Regional Government decided to conduct today a unilateral referendum on independence," she said. "The United States' historic relationship with the people of the Iraqi Kurdistan Region will not change in light of today's non-binding referendum, but we believe this step will increase instability and hardships for the Kurdistan region and its people."

Nauert seems to be saying that while we have a "historic relationship" with the Kurds, we shouldn't let that get in the way of making the right decision—which, in this case, means kowtowing to the Turkish-Iranian-Iraqi alliance. It means telling the Kurds that while some nations, including our very own, have the right to separate from other nations, they don't. It means—unbelievably!—telling the Kurds they are better off remaining in the same unified Iraq that, in the late 1980s, engaged in a campaign of genocide known as the "Anfal," in which thousands of Kurds were exterminated with Saddam Hussein's chemical weapons. And it means pretending, à la Heather Nauert, that the failed state of Iraq is really on the way to becoming, in her words, "united, federal, democratic and prosperous."

The Kurds should not have to put up with these kinds of insults, which demonstrate no sensitivity to their history and no love for the enormous sacrifices they have made on our behalf. I was proud that Israel took the lonely stance it did. By the same token, I was disappointed that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu then issued an instruction to stop talking about the referendum, because it was the right thing to do. And because the Turkish dictator Erdogan and the mullahs in Iran are correct that an independent Kurdistan will be a strategic Muslim ally of the Jewish state.

Who leaned on Netanyahu to call time on the outpouring of support in Israel for the Kurds, at the same time as Kurdish independence advocates waved Israeli flags alongside Kurdish ones? It is sensible to look in the direction of Washington, and also Ankara—which has in America an army of lobbyists and public relations consultants (including not a few Jews who claim to be friends of Israel) eager to do its bidding. But no spin can mask the stench of betrayal over Kurdistan emanating from the White House and the State Department.

Ben Cohen writes a weekly column for JNS.org on Jewish affairs and Middle Eastern politics. His writings have been published in *Commentary*, *The New York Post*, *Haaretz*, *The Wall Street Journal* and many other publications.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ON THIS PAGE ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF HERITAGE MANAGEMENT.

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What Ambassador David Friedman meant—and why his critics lied about it

By Stephen M. Flatow
JNS.org

Public figures occasionally misspeak. That is, they say something that is clearly untrue, not because they are intentionally lying but because they innocently stumbled in their articulation of some thought.

A famous example occurred during the 2008 presidential campaign, when Democratic nominee Barack Obama was interviewed by George Stephanopoulos on the ABC-TV news program "This Week." At one point, Obama used the phrase "my Muslim faith."

Now, Obama obviously did not intend to say that. He had already said many times that he is a Christian, in response to various conspiracy theorists who were claiming he was a secret Muslim. He meant to say, "my Christian faith," but he stumbled. Stephanopoulos happened to be a very sympathetic interviewer, and he kindly jumped in right away and corrected the nominee. "My Christian faith," Stephanopoulos interjected, at which point Obama realized his error and corrected it.

The Israeli journalist who interviewed U.S. Ambassador

to Israel David Friedman last week, however, was not so kind. Friedman was discussing Israeli settlements in the territories with a reporter from the Israeli news outlet Walla. Friedman shifted back and forth between referring to "the settlements" and referring to "Israel." At one point, after having just used the term "Israel," he remarked, "I mean, they're only occupying 2 percent of the West Bank."

It was obvious Friedman was referring to the fact that the amount of land on which Jewish homes and buildings sit in the territories is barely 2 percent of all of Judea and

Samaria. That's an indisputable fact.

Any fair-minded person knows that's what he meant. But Friedman's opponents are not fair-minded people. They are people with an agenda. They believe passionately that all the Jews living in Judea and Samaria should be kicked out, as soon as possible, and replaced with a sovereign Palestinian Arab state.

To advance that agenda, the Palestinians and their supporters try to demonize the Jewish residents of the territories. They want the world to believe that Jewish settlers are evil, racist, aggressive, co-

lonialists. Perpetuating that image helps whip up support for the idea of expelling all the Jews.

Admitting the settlements take up only a very small amount of land undermines the Palestinian state agenda. It defuses the claims about "evil settlers." It also reminds everyone that the Palestinian Authority (PA) is deeply intolerant and bigoted; the PA cannot stand the thought of Jewish neighbors, even though they live in such a tiny portion of the territories.

That's why the critics of Israel went ballistic over Friedman's statement. They know

what he really meant. But they don't want word getting out about that. So, they decided to pretend they didn't know what he was saying. They went crazy, in the hope of making him look crazy.

The Forward, choosing to argue with Friedman rather than just report the story, headlined its article, "American Ambassador Falsely Claims Israel Occupies Only 2% Of West Bank." The article said flatly, "Friedman's assertion is incorrect," without explaining what Friedman meant.

Flatow on page 15A

Lessons learned?

By Shalom Pollack

Today is October 6.

Forty-seven years ago on this date, I was in my dorm room at the Hebrew University (I was spending a year in Israel as an exchange student) napping after Musaf service on Yom Kippur/Shabbat, Oct 6, 1973

At 2 p.m. I was awoken to the sounds of sirens.

Sirens? On Yom Kippur? Didn't make any sense. Was this a local malfunction? Strange. I turned over

The sirens continued and did not stop for many long minutes. At this point, many students were out of their rooms seeking an explanation. I went to our floor counselor, an Israeli who spent Yom Kippur in his room

listening to music tapes. He turned on the radio and heard the news. Egyptian troops had crossed the Suez canal! I will never forget the look on his face. In his heavily accented but rather good English, he exclaimed, "sheet (sic) man, dis is war!"

I only saw him a few months later when he was demobilized.

He was one of the lucky ones. He came back—and in one piece.

We students were asked that evening to go to the hospital and give blood. We were sent to farms and factories to replace men sent to the Suez Canal and the Golan Heights. We still did not know that Israel was on the brink of destruction.

The first thought I had

when I learned that this was indeed war was, these stupid Arabs, now our air force will make mincemeat of them once again...

I learned some weeks later that in these same moments, our planes were being shot out of the sky at an alarming pace by Soviet Sam 6 missiles, (the ones that the Egyptians placed a year earlier along the canal in contradiction to the cease-fire agreement. We allowed this infringement to occur).

The best tank corp in the world was being stopped in its tracks literally, by a forest of Strella anti-tank rockets held by thousands of illiterate peasants. We were not prepared. Worse, we made sure that we were not.

Only a handful of people

in Israel knew how bad it really was at the time. Prime Minister Golda Meir, who was led to believe there was no call for concern before the attack by her defense chief Moshe Dayan, asked him, "what now?" He said, "it looks like the destruction of the third temple." He could not function.

How did this happen?

Israel was guilty of two sins before the war.

One was hubris—arrogance. Israel was overconfident (after three amazing victories over her Arab neighbors) and thus thought that she could take great risks and still come out on top.

The Torah specifically warns us not to believe that it is "our strength and power of our arms that did this..."

But we did believe that it was us.

The second sin was an overarching desire to find favor with the world community; to be accepted finally by the goyim. It seems that the establishment of a "normal" country like all other countries did not solve the problem of anti-Semitism after all. It only retrained the focus.

Most importantly, we wanted our best friend and benefactor, the USA, to be pleased with us.

Henry Kissinger had plans for the Middle East and they just did not include a dominant Israel. That got in the way of a larger strategy.

Israel was to be knocked down a few pegs and fall into the line of American plans. The Soviet Union was

to be weakened in the area by buying Arab goodwill with Jewish blood.

Israel felt they had to submit.

Our Torah continually reminds us and pleads with us, not to rely on any earthly powers but rather on Him for our salvation. We are unlike other nations. But we wanted to be just like them

That was sin number two.

The Yom Kippur war changed me as it decided for me where I was going to live. I understood then that America can get along very well without me but little bruised, confused Israel needed all the help it could get.

Discussion still abounds and books are written about

Pollack on page 15A

Why I traveled to Las Vegas to help after the deadly shooting

By Alissa Thomas-Newborn

LAS VEGAS (JTA)—We just got into our car and drove. Going to Las Vegas after the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history felt like the right thing to do. As Americans and as Jews, we wanted to be a source of support and love in the face of terror. We wanted to stand with the victims and their families. With Yom Kippur only two days behind us and Sukkot on its way, we saw a window to show up—and so we started to drive from L.A.

Rabba Ramie Smith and I are graduates of Yeshivat Maharat, the first school to ordain Jewish Orthodox female spiritual leaders. Our rabbi and teacher, Rav Avi Weiss, taught us to show up. As Jews, we are called to walk in God's ways, which means being with the brokenhearted and the vulnerable—to be present with an open heart and open arms—even when we are not sure what lies ahead. And so, when our fellow Americans, of all faiths and backgrounds, are in need, it is our duty as Jews to be by their sides.

So what happened when we got there?

We delivered food and water (donated by Yeshivat Maharat) to a local church, whose representatives told us over the phone, "We will be open for whoever needs us for as long as is needed." That church took a truckload of food to

victims and their families, as well as to volunteers around the city. We spoke with local hospitals and synagogues of different denominations and learned that every house of worship in the city would be offering a prayer vigil.

Everywhere we looked, the billboards flashed not with advertisements, but with thanks to the first responders with the words "Pray for Las Vegas." Hotels provided complimentary housing for victims and their families from around the country, and people in the street stopped to check in with each other.

We participated in a city candlelight prayer vigil for all faiths and provided one-on-one spiritual counseling for those present. We prayed from our Jewish texts, and we heard the prayers of others and their stories.

One woman who managed a local restaurant opened her doors to the victims until 4 a.m. on the Monday after the shooting. She had been supporting and welcoming the victims into her restaurant when they could not get into their hotels—when they had nowhere else to go. She came to the vigil to get support for herself and to process all she had seen and heard.

One local young man shared frustration at how helpless it felt to want to do something for the victims and families but not knowing what to do. He said just bringing positive energy and presence

to the vigil was his way of praying. Tourists from all over the world signed posters and lit candles. And locals spoke about how proud they were of this Vegas, this America, that was united and, though hurt, would never be broken.

And perhaps the most heart-wrenching experience was providing spiritual care and counseling at the family crisis center, where families of those who had not yet been found were waiting for news—waiting for 15 hours in limbo, in the greatest nightmare, not knowing if their child was alive or dead, or if their loved one was in a hospital or in a morgue. One high school girl who was waiting to hear about her sister said, "Where is she? My sister is supposed to go to my graduation. I didn't tell her I loved her enough." I held her as she sobbed.

So what can we do as a larger Jewish community?

It is clear that Las Vegas will continue to need our support in the days and weeks to come. The victims and their families, as well as the local volunteers and laypeople, will need ongoing support in a variety of forms as the city mourns and heals. As Jews and as Americans, we can each walk in God's ways by showing up in whatever way we can.

Here are some ideas for how to help out:

- If you are able to volunteer in person, presence is incredibly powerful. The Convention

Center, where the support and relief efforts are being run, is organizing volunteer needs (i.e. professional chaplains, lay volunteers, clergy, etc) and should have a clearer idea in the next day or so. Rabba Ramie and I will continue to work on this together with Chaplain Rocky Dickerson, our contact in Las Vegas.

- Donate food, water, blood

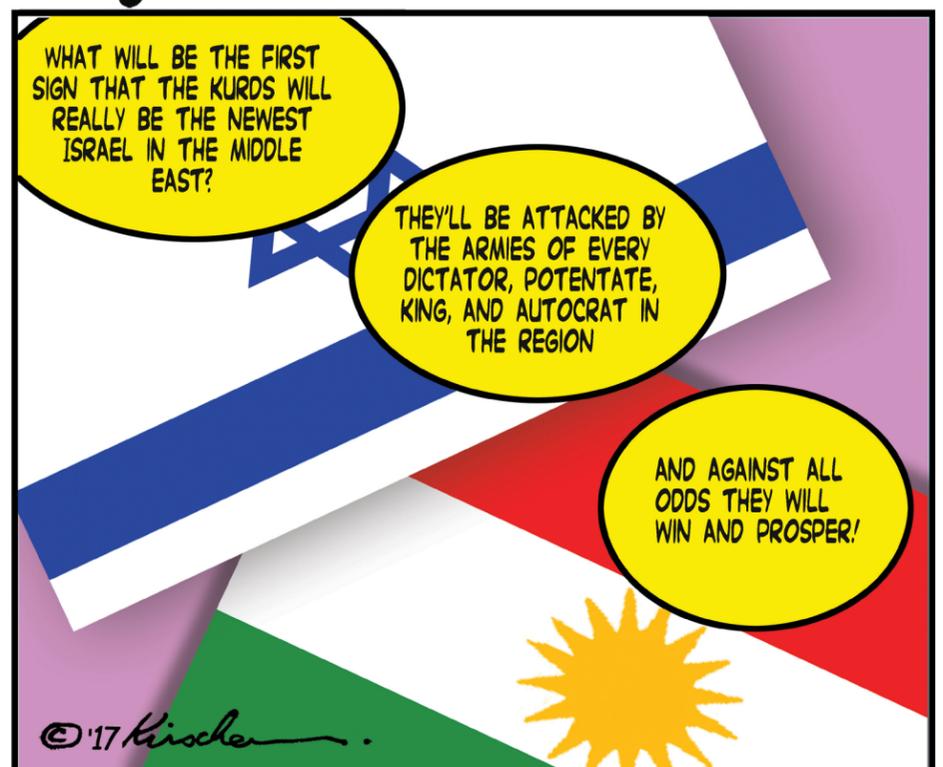
and money. From last we heard, thank God, the blood banks and food donations were sufficient. But the need for support will certainly be ongoing. In the meantime, the Clark County Commission Chair from Las Vegas has set up a fundraising campaign for relief and financial support for the victims and their families.

- Host a prayer vigil in

your community. There can be words of Torah shared, Psalms recited and, depending on your community, interdenominational and even interfaith involvement. This is the time when we must unite.

Rabbanit Alissa Thomas-Newborn is a member of the spiritual leadership at B'nai David-Judea Congregation in Los Angeles.

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What's Happening

A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LIGHT SHABBAT CANDLES AT

OCT. 13
6:38 p.m.
OCT. 20
6:31 p.m.

For inclusion in the What's Happening Calendar, copy must be sent on separate sheet and clearly marked for Calendar. Submit copy via: e-mail (news@orlandoheritage.com); mail (P.O. Box 300742, Fern Park, FL 32730-0742); fax (407-831-0507); or drop it by the office (207 O'Brien Rd., Ste. 101, Fern Park) Deadline is Wednesday noon, 10 days prior to publication.

MORNING AND EVENING MINYANS (Call synagogue to confirm time.)

Chabad of South Orlando—Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. and 10 minutes before sunset; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, 8:15 a.m., 407-354-3660.
 Congregation Ahavas Yisrael—Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m., 407-644-2500.
 Congregation Chabad Lubavitch of Greater Daytona—Monday, 8 a.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m., 904-672-9300.
 Congregation Ohev Shalom—Sunday, 9 a.m., 407-298-4650.
 GOBOR Community Minyan at Jewish Academy of Orlando—Monday—Friday, 7:45 a.m.—8:30 a.m.
 Temple Israel—Sunday, 9 a.m., 407-647-3055.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13
Simchat Torah**

Ahavas Yisrael—Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown.
 Congregation Beth Shalom—Celebrate Shabbat and Simchat Torah, 7 p.m.

Volunteers needed for JFS Orlando's computer lab

JFS Orlando is currently recruiting volunteers to help in its computer lab. Clients need help creating resumes, search for jobs and apply for benefits. There is an immediate need for Spanish-speaking volunteers.

Please contact volunteer coordinator Amanda Benedit at Amanda.benedit@jfsorlando.org for more information.

JFS Orlando's Computer Lab is open to the community! If you are in need of assistance with your resume, job search, government benefit applications, Microsoft software or any online-based activity, call 407-644-7593 to schedule an appointment.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

The Holocaust Center—Ongoing exhibits through Dec. 31: "The Profound Effect" for hours, contact Terrance Hunter at thunter@holocaustedu.org or call 407-628-0555.
 Jewish Pavilion—Music Fest 2017, 1:30 p.m. at Lake Brantley High School auditorium. Cost: \$20 per person. Info: 407-678-9363.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

Israeli Folk Dancing—7:30-8:15 p.m. instruction, 8:15-10 p.m., requests. Cost: Free for JCC members, \$5 nonmembers. Info: 407-645-5933.
 The Roth Family JCC—JCC 39ers Mix & Mingle Monday. Program is "Visiting Angels" presented by Judy Hampton, 1 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

Jewish Family Services Orlando—Grief support group, 12:15 p.m., meets for 6 consecutive weeks. Info: 407-644-7593, ext. 247. Cost: \$5 per session. Requires registration.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Temple Israel—Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Neely, noon—1 p.m. A parashat discussion class. Open to the public, no RSVP needed. Info: 407-647-3055.
 Learning & Lattes—Join other Orlando Jewish women for breakfast and discussion on "Being the Very Best You, Timeless Lessons from the weekly Torah Portion," 9:30 a.m. at the JOIN House, 109 Water Oak Lane, Altamonte Springs. Free of charge.
 Orlando Hadassah—The Uplift Project, a breast cancer awareness and research program sponsored by national Hadassah, at Bloomingdales, The Mall at Millenia, 10 a.m.—4 p.m. Lunch catered by Bagel King followed by entertainment, education and information. Open to the public. Reservations required. RSVP to Nancyg357@yahoo.com or call 407-415-6892.
 The Roth Family JCC—Lunch and Learn: Pillars of the Past, 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Led by Rabbi Michael Rennert of Orlando Torah Academy. RSVPs requested to register@orlandojcc.org Cost: \$5 (free for JCC members). Info: Marni Chepenik, 407-621-4056.
 A Nosh of Yiddish—Classes in Yiddish the third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. led by Joan Pohl and sponsored by the Jewish Pavilion, held at Oakmonte Village, Royal Gardens Circle, Lake Mary (Valencia Building), 10:30 a.m. Info: 407-766-9032. Open to the community.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

JCC 39ers—Terrific Thursdays program, 1:30 p.m. Attendees will play a game called "I need it!"
 A Nosh of Yiddish—Classes in Yiddish the third Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. led by Elliot Davis and sponsored by the Jewish Pavilion, held at Brookdale Island, Lake Islander Circle, Longwood. Info: 407-766-9032. Open to the community. Coffee and refreshments served.
 Congregation Beth Shalom—Rabbi's Roundtable Discussion, 1 p.m., at Sumter County Administration and Library Building, 7375 Powell Rd., Wildwood.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Ahavas Yisrael—Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown.

Quote of the Week

"One cannot and must not try to erase the past merely because it does not fit the present."

— Golda Meir

HERITAGE FLORIDA JEWISH NEWS

"I'm lost without it!"

"It's inexcusable!"

"My week is not complete without it!"

"I can't live without it!"

"How in the world am I supposed to know what's going on?"

These are some of the comments we receive from readers when they miss an issue of *Heritage Florida Jewish News*.

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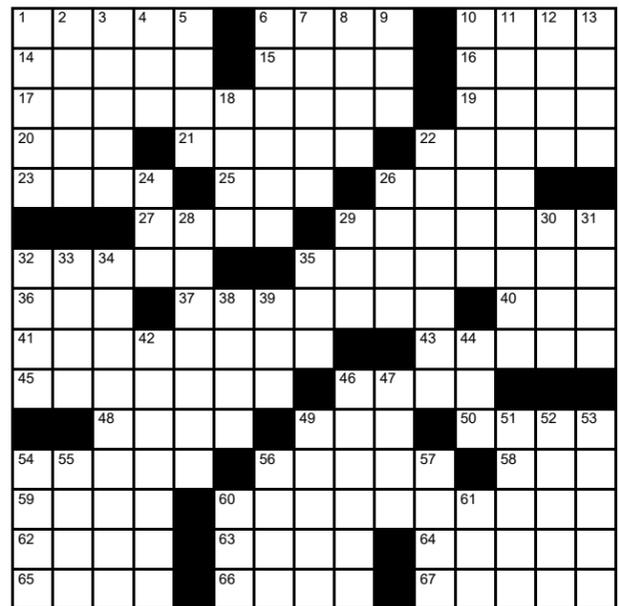
Across

1. Gyllenhaal and Arrieta
6. Arika in the talmud
10. Signs
14. "Hello" singer who apologized for making anti-Semitic remarks in 2009
15. Ooze like honey
16. "Buona ___" (Italian greeting)
17. Living legend born in 1922
19. Iranian money
20. Galena or bauxite
21. Fudd voiced by Mel Blanc
22. Have a cow?
23. "SNL" sketches
25. Apple core you'd never make a blessing on?
26. Brings to a bet din, perhaps
27. Day before
29. El Al, e.g.
32. Singer/songwriter Mann
35. Methusaleh, for sure
36. Netivot to Be'er Sheva dir.
37. Living legend born in 1922
40. It's a light name
41. Apportion tzedakah
43. One of Sheldon Adelson's casinos
45. 1954 Billy Wilder classic
46. Lbs. and Kgs., e.g.
48. IDF status
49. ___ carte
50. Wiener's "Mad Men" star
54. "There's ___ between us"
56. ll on a YouTube video
58. Kosher animal in a famous Julie Andrews song
59. Neshika, in British slang
60. Living legend born in 1915
62. Babka, e.g.
63. "...and she bore ___" (Ruth 4:13)
64. Nemo creator Jules
65. Sound from the staff of Moses?
66. A Netanyahu
67. She put the "she" in Yeshiva

Down

1. Aka Israel

2. Purim won't fall out in it some years
3. Israeli writer Etgar
4. Start of Lag Ba'Omer?
5. Like the Negev
6. Author of "I, Robot"
7. Elaine on "Seinfeld"
8. Goldstar, e.g.
9. Passover mo., generally
10. Gene Simmons, by birth
11. Living legend born in 1927
12. ___ maga
13. You can probably get a Sukkah on this next week
18. Late great Wiesel
22. Least loquacious
24. Isaac couldn't do it
26. Fries or kugel, often
28. Abolish, like Germany did with Nazi laws
29. "___ My Sons" (Arthur Miller)
30. Mayim Bialik plays one
31. Patriarchal and Davidic
32. Those named after a Judean king
33. Wife of Sacha (Baron Cohen)
34. Living legend born in 1926
35. How many daughters 1-Down had
38. Merkava, e.g.
39. Baruch follower
42. Jaffa fruits
44. Pre Tisha B'Av dip
46. Those who went to Touro
47. Israel "Journey" organization
49. Hi wife was Elisheba in the Bible
51. Decorate a Sukkah, perhaps
52. ___ of Olives
53. Basketballer Gal
54. Writer Sholem
55. ___ Yisrael
56. Shekel alternative to Carlos
57. "Green" sin
60. It might become cow cud
61. David compared to Goliath, to a Scot



See answers on page 14.

Far-right AfD party's rise highlights a 'fine line' for German Jews and Israel

By Alina Dain Sharon
JNS.org

The rise of the right-wing Alternative for Germany (AfD) party in the country's recent election has been described as a "political earthquake," while Jewish leaders' immediate reaction was to express concern about AfD's views. But what are the broader implications of the party's electoral showing for German Jews and for Israel?

In late September, AfD won 12.6 percent of the public vote, in the first time a German far-right party won seats in the country's Bundestag legislature in decades. Chancellor Angela Merkel, head of the center-right Christian Democratic Union party, retained her nation's leadership for a fourth term.

AfD—founded in 2013, largely to protest the issue of bailouts for financially struggling European Union (EU) member states—has adopted an increasingly hard line against NATO, the EU and the U.S., as well as against immigration and Islamic terrorism.

What AfD means for Jews

"Germany's Jewish community [is] worried about the influx of mainly Muslim immigrants," many of whom are hostile to Jews and Israel, said Konstanty Gebert, a prominent Polish Jewish activist, journalist and expert

from the European Council on Foreign Relations.

If AfD influences the German government to tighten immigration laws, some Jews might feel relieved. On the other hand, if Germany becomes more unwelcoming to non-ethnic Germans, this may concern Jews.

Some AfD politicians have made blatant anti-Semitic remarks. In 2016, AfD politician Wolfgang Gedeon claimed Holocaust denial is a legitimate opinion. Gedeon has called the infamous anti-Semitic forgery "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion" a "brilliant concept of domination." Another AfD politician, Björn Höcke, has said in reference to the Holocaust memorial in Berlin, "Germans are the only people in the world who plant a monument of shame in the heart of the capital."

AfD politician Nicolaus Fest recently defended his party against accusations of anti-Semitism, telling i24NEWS, "The AfD is mostly concerned about imported terrorism and imported anti-Semitism. I think most Jews should vote for us because the imported anti-Semitism is mostly a Muslim problem."

Josef Schuster, president of the Central Council for Jews in Germany, told JNS.org that "the entry of the AfD into the German Bundestag is really worrying for our

whole country and for the Jewish community."

"Currently, the AfD is focused on Muslims," he said. "But their agitation against Muslims can easily change into propaganda against Jews, if it seems politically opportune to do so. Some will follow any further developments of this party closely. But I am convinced that it is possible to counter the AfD and to show its true face in democratic competition."

Deidre Berger, director of American Jewish Committee's Ramer Institute in Berlin, told JNS.org the "hallmarks of post-WWII German democracy, including tolerance and inclusiveness, are threatened by the rise of a far right-wing group. There is considerable danger that once the lid is opened on a Pandora's box of anti-Semitic stereotypes, age-old tropes will spread and multiply."

Is AfD anti-Semitic?

Schuster said AfD "isn't an extreme right-wing party, but a right-wing populist party which tolerates members with extreme right-wing views."

Benjamin Weinthal, a Berlin-based fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, explained AfD is not a neo-Nazi party in the tradition of Germany's National Democratic Party, while its members include leaders such as Alice Weidel, who is openly gay. On the

other hand, he noted, some AfD members do glorify Nazism.

"Despite assurances by AfD leaders that their policies will not harm Jewish life, the climate of hostility and hatred engendered by AfD politicians does not portend well for the security of the Jewish community and other minority groups," Berger said.

Gebert said he does not believe it is possible for Jews to "trust the extreme right to stop at what is only necessary for the fight against [Islamic] terrorism" and not move on to xenophobia and anti-Semitism.

Is AfD pro-Israel?

A recent poll commissioned by the "Initiative of January 27," a group promoting Germany-Israel relations, showed most AfD politicians support Israeli security and Palestinian recognition of Israel as a Jewish state.

Yet after the election, AfD co-leader Alexander Gauland questioned why the Jewish state's existence should remain a German national interest.

"At no cost should a German government be provoked into an unnecessary debate about the importance of Germany's relations with Israel," Berger said. "The credibility of Germany's post-war democratic government is at stake."



Mathesar via Wikimedia Commons

From left to right, Konrad Adam, Frauke Petry and Bernd Lucke during the Alternative for Germany party's first-ever convention, in April 2013 in Berlin.

Looking ahead

While criticism of the right-wing AfD might be understandable given some of its members' remarks, there is also a notable "blind spot" when it comes to the political left in Germany, Weinthal warned.

Following the election results, the largest opposition party in Germany's parliament is left-wing Die Linke. The party's deputy leader, Christine Buchholz, has referred to the terror groups Hamas and Hezbollah as "legitimate resistance" against Israel. Party members have expressed support for the BDS movement and have called for the elimination of the state of Israel.

Die Linke's views are "not something that mainstream publications" in Germany

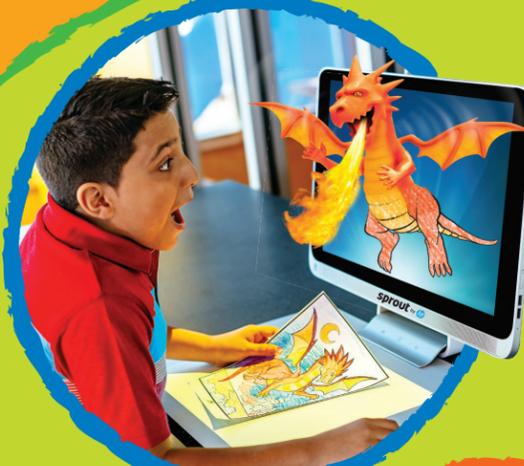
are covering with the same intensity as AfD, "although both parties are highly dangerous for Israel and Jews living in Germany," Weinthal said.

Regarding AfD, Weinthal does not believe that for Jews, trying to coexist or work with such a party can guarantee their security in Germany. German Jews should self-organize and arm themselves as protection against Islamic terrorism, but ultimately, immigrating to Israel is the only move to truly "advance German Jewish security."

Jews who remain in Germany, Gebert said, "must tread a fine line between legitimate security concerns and [living in a] country that might become more xenophobic."



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Celebrating Rosh Hashanah the Jewish Pavilion way

The Jewish Pavilion was all about the sweet memories as they celebrated the High Holidays around town.



Residents Roz and Etta enjoyed their holiday lunch at Brookdale Altamonte Springs.



Life Care resident, Linda Teitelman, is appreciative of her Beth Shalom calendar.



Volunteers Debbie Meitin and Pat Rubenstein lead the blessings at Grand Villa.

With America's blessing, Abbas signals a reconciliation with Hamas

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA)—The Trump administration is encouraging the Palestinian Authority to assume control of the Gaza Strip and leaving the door open for a role by Hamas in the subsequent Palestinian government.

But if such a move was once seen as a traditional predicate to a two-state solution, top Palestinian leaders are hedging their bets, saying they would not rule out a "one-state" solution in which Palestinians have the same one-person, one-vote rights as Israelis. Israeli leaders have long said that would mean the end of the Jewish state.

Palestinian Authority government officials returned this week to the Gaza Strip, the first en masse visit—by Cabinet and security officials along with top bureaucrats—since Hamas' bloody ouster of P.A. President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah movement a decade ago.

It was a visit twice blessed by the Trump administration, first through a statement last week by the Quartet, the grouping of the United States, Russia, the European Union and Russia that guides the peace process, and again Monday with a statement from Jason Greenblatt, Trump's top international negotiator.

"The United States welcomes efforts to create the conditions for the Palestinian Authority to fully assume its responsibilities in Gaza, as noted in the September 28 Quartet statement," Greenblatt said in a statement he posted on Twitter.

The Quartet statement, while itself also abjuring mention of "two states," made it clear that it foresaw a single Palestinian entity under P.A. rule. It urged "the parties"—the Palestinian Authority and Hamas—"to take concrete steps to reunite Gaza and the West Bank under the legitimate Palestinian Authority."

This week's P.A. visit to Gaza, brokered by Egypt, a key ally to the United States and Israel, is only for several days, but Husam Zomlot, the PLO envoy to Washington and a top Abbas adviser, anticipated a consolidation of the Palestinian Authority presence there.

Zomlot, speaking Monday



President Donald Trump and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in the West Bank city of Bethlehem, May 23, 2017.

to reporters here, noted that Hamas dissolved its governing body last week and said the Palestinian Authority expected this week that Hamas would formally hand over governance of the strip. The final stage, he said, would be elections.

"The return of the Palestinian Authority" to Gaza "is a milestone for the Palestinian Authority and of President Trump's deal of the century," Zomlot said, using a phrase Abbas used in a meeting with Trump on Sept. 20.

A signal of the White House's seriousness is the likelihood that Hamas will continue to play a role in governing the strip. Trump's predecessor, Barack Obama, heeding Israeli concerns, rejected any role for Hamas in Palestinian governance, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said repeatedly it would be a deal breaker.

Now, however, careful phrasing by U.S. and Palestinian officials strongly suggests that Hamas will not fade into the night Zomlot called the changes in Gaza "the return of the consensus government," the joint Hamas-P.A. venture that existed uneasily in 2006-07 and infuriated the administration of George W. Bush.

Greenblatt in his statement nodded to concerns about Hamas, a State Department-designated terrorist group, but in language vague enough to accommodate a Hamas role.

"Any Palestinian government must unambiguously and explicitly commit to non-violence, recognition of the state of Israel, acceptance of previous agreements and obligations between the parties, and peaceful negotiations," Greenblatt said.

That elides over earlier Israeli demands that not just a Palestinian government, but all of its components, must renounce violence and recognize Israel.

Netanyahu, speaking Wednesday to a Likud party meeting in the West Bank, maintained—at least in part—a tough line on the terms of a reconciliation acceptable to Israel. He said Hamas must be disarmed, but did not count out explicitly

keeping Hamas figures within the Palestinian Authority bureaucracy.

"We expect everyone who talks about a peace process to recognize the State of Israel and, of course, to recognize a Jewish state, and we are not prepared to accept bogus reconciliations in which the Palestinian side apparently reconciles at the expense of our existence," Netanyahu said in Maale Adumim, a settlement of 40,000 located just east of Jerusalem.

"Whoever wants to make such a reconciliation, our understanding is very clear: Recognize the State of Israel, disband the Hamas military arm, sever the connection with Iran, which calls for our destruction, and so on and so forth. Even these very clear things must be clearly stated," he said.

Without mentioning the two-state goal, Greenblatt's statement nevertheless called on the Palestinian government to abide by "previous agreements." These would presumably include the 2003 "road map" that was to have culminated in Palestinian statehood.

Still, Zomlot said the Palestinians wanted more clarity from the Trump administration.

"We cannot travel a journey without knowing a final destination," he said. Zomlot referred to Trump's news conference with Netanyahu in February, when the president said, "I'm looking at two-state and one-state, and I like the one that both parties like."

From the launch of the Oslo process in 1993 until now, Palestinian Authority officials have spoken of a one-state outcome only in pessimistic terms, casting it as a dystopia engendered by a failed process. Last month, addressing the United Nations General Assembly, Abbas in a first for a Palestinian leader said that if the two-state option collapses, Palestinians could embrace one state. It would not be a predominantly Jewish state covering Israel and most of the West Bank, an outcome popular among the Israeli right, but a binational state in which West Bank and Gaza Palestinians have full rights as citizens.

Abbas warned in his U.N.

address that in the failure of a two-state solution, "neither you nor we will have any other choice but to continue the struggle and demand full, equal rights for all inhabitants of historic Palestine. This is not a threat, but a warning of the realities before us as a result of ongoing Israeli policies that are gravely undermining the two-state solution."

Zomlot expanded on that possibility at his news briefing Monday.

"As long as we mean one man and one woman, one vote, we are fine with this," he said, adding however that the two-state solution "remains absolutely the best option."

Zomlot also addressed the Taylor Force Act, legislation named for an American stabbed to death last year by a Palestinian terrorist that would slash funding to the Palestinian Authority as long as it continued to subsidize the families of Palestinians jailed for or killed attacking Israelis.

Palestinians say the payments mostly go to the families of the wrongfully imprisoned. Zomlot said the Palestinians proposed a tripartite commission, to include the United States, Israel and the Palestinian Authority, that would consider whether to remove some families from the payrolls.

"We have engaged with the administration, we have a trilateral commission," he said. "We would offer to the United States to be the sole arbitrator and we will accept [the decision]. Guess who rejected it? Israel."

A senior Trump administration official suggested that Zomlot was overstating the offer.

"We only received a brief general outline about this proposal which did not answer key questions or present a viable solution to the real problem, which is the official policy of paying terrorists and their families," the official told JTA.

A senior Israeli official told JTA that the offer missed the point—the Palestinians can stop the payments on their own.

"The Palestinians don't need Israel, the U.S. or anyone else, they just need to do it," the official said. "Unfortunately they won't."

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Scene Around

By Gloria Yousha—Call 407-657-9405 or gloriayousha@gmail.com

I am emotional...

Before I even start this column, I must mention the Monday, Sept. 25th, showing of the tape, Broadway from 1893 to 1927, a JCC 39ers program presented by SHELDON BROOK.

Although I am living in Central Florida for more than 53 years, New York City will always be "home" to me, but, of course the last time I was there was with my dear departed spouse, Irv. Just seeing Times Square created much emotion. That was followed by the stories of legends Irving Berlin, Fanny Brice, Jerome Kern, etc. (All Jewish, by the way.) Great entertainers, great songwriters, great shows...WOW!

(I plan to return to NYC to perform soon, and then to Brazil. Life goes on.)

I'm not getting political...

Rather, I'm getting factual; about climate change (but then, what do the scientists know?)

In spite of our leaders beliefs, many lines of evidence demonstrate that human activities, especially emissions of greenhouse gases, are primarily responsible for the observed climate changes over the past 15 decades. There are no alternative explanations.

(The source for this information is unknown but it was leaked from a United States government report.)



Dr. Avi Seifert

The following is a letter I received (in part) from Tel Aviv University:
 "Agricultural losses...water shortages...killer heat waves... rising sea levels threatening coastal cities... coral reefs imperiled by ocean acidification..."

For decades, scientists have warned us that climate change, driven by greenhouse gas emissions, would have devastating consequences for our planet. These changes are no longer warnings for the future. Just recently, findings from a U.S. government report on climate change were leaked to the news (see above). The findings show that the world's climate is changing far faster than we previously feared. The implications of the report are clear: We must act faster to slow the pace of climate change. We must reduce carbon emissions. We must find alternative fuel sources.

Tel Aviv University's (TAU) Dr. IFTACH YAKOBY is leading one of the world's most exciting efforts to cut carbon emissions. The director of TAU's renewable energy laboratory, Yakoby and his team have modified single-celled algae to increase its fuel-generating capacity by 400 percent. Yakoby's breakthrough is revolutionary for two reasons: first, because the hydrogen-producing algae can be used to power cars and trucks without any carbon emissions; and



Sheldon Brook

second, this green technology could soon be a major driver of economic growth in Israel! Israel has been a global leader in using solar energy to power buildings in cities. Now, Dr. AVI SEIFERT is helping harness another alternative to fossil fuels: the wind. Also, climate change doesn't just impact people. It also poses a grave threat to our planet's plant and animal life. TAU's Dr. MARCELO STERNBERG is leading a groundbreaking project that predicts how climate changes will impact ecosystems.

Yakoby, Seifert, and Sternberg are just a few of the dozens of researchers at Tel Aviv University who are revolutionizing humankind's understanding of climate change."

(I am so proud that Israel is leading the way!)

A Jewish Pavilion reminder...

A fabulous event, not to be missed, is MUSIC FEST 2017. It takes place on Sunday, Oct. 15th at 1:30 p.m. at Lake Brantley High School in Altamonte Springs.

Not only will there be an all-star musical lineup, but there will also be a vendor extravaganza plus refreshments and prizes.

For more information, phone 407-678-9363

(You don't want to miss this!)

And on the subject of entertainment...

On Tuesday, Oct. 17th, at 8 p.m. it will be the opening night of a wonderful Broadway musical, "ON YOUR FEET!" at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, 445 South Magnolia Avenue, Orlando.

"ON YOUR FEET!" is the inspiring true story about heart, heritage and two people who believed in their talent—and each other—to become an international sensation: GLORIA and EMILIO ESTEFAN. From their humble beginnings in Cuba, Emilio and Gloria Estefan came to America and broke through all barriers to become a crossover sensation at the very top of the pop music world. But just when they thought they had it all, they almost lost everything. From international superstardom to life-threatening tragedy, "ON YOUR FEET!" takes you behind the music and inside the real story of this record-making and groundbreaking couple who, in the face of adversity, found a way to end up on their feet.

For further information, phone 407-839-0119.

JCC 39ers Meet & Mingle Mondays...

The program, held in The Roth Jewish Community Center on Maitland Avenue, will be "Visting Angels" presented by Judy Hampton.

Co-President LILLIAN BERKOWITZ invites all to come and enjoy the presentation and the refreshments afterwards. The program begins at 1 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 16th.

More JCC 39ers...

On their "Terrific Thursdays" program, beginning at 1:30 p.m. on Oct. 19th, the program will be directed by ANITA WEINTRAUB. It is a game of dice called "I NEED IT!"

(Maybe I do and maybe I don't... need it, that is!)

One for the road...

Sadie stopped by an usher at the entrance to the synagogue. The usher asked, "Are you a friend of the bride?" Sadie quickly replied, "No, of course not. I am the groom's mother."

(I love my daughters-in-law!!!!)



Lillian Berkowitz

The land we know as Palestine

By Eli E. Hertz

The following are excerpts from the U.S. Congressional Record of 1922 that demonstrates the powerful sense of the members of Congress in favor of reestablishing a Jewish national home in Palestine:

"Palestine of today [1922], the land we now know as Palestine, was peopled by the Jews from the dawn of history until the Roman era. It is the ancestral homeland of the Jewish people. They were driven from it by force by the relentless Roman military machine and for centuries prevented from returning.

"At different periods various alien people succeeded

them, but the Jewish race had left an indelible impress upon the land. Today it is a Jewish country.

"Every name, every landmark, every monument, and every trace of whatever civilization remaining there is still Jewish and it has ever since remained a hope, a longing, as expressed in their prayers for these nearly 2,000 years.

"No other people have ever claimed Palestine as their national home. No other people have ever shown an aptitude or indicated a genuine desire to make it their homeland.

"The land has been ruled by foreigners. Only since the beginning of the modern Zionist effort may it be said

that a creative, cultural, and economic force has entered Palestine. The Jewish Nation was forced from its natural home. It did not go because it wanted to. A perusal of Jewish history, a reading of Josephus, will convince the most skeptical that the grandest fight that was ever put up against an enemy was put up by the Jew. He never thought of leaving Palestine.

"But he was driven out. But did he, when driven out, give up his hope of getting back? Jewish history and Jewish literature give the answer to that question. The Jew even has a fast day devoted to the day of destruction of the Jewish homeland. Never throughout history

did they give up hope of returning there. I am told that 90 percent of the Jews today are praying for the return of the Jewish people to its own home. The best minds among them believe in the necessity of reestablishing the Jewish land. To my mind there is something prophetic in the fact that during the ages no other nation has taken over Palestine and held it in the sense of a homeland; and there is something providential in the fact that for 1,800 years it has remained in desolation as if waiting for the return of its people."

—U.S. House of Representatives June 30, 1922 (Bold emphasis by author - Text shown verbatim.)

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Sudoku (see page 14 for solution)

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

School project to remember Holocaust victims surpasses goal of 11 million stamps



A collage of Eva Paddock, a child Holocaust survivor from Czechoslovakia, is among the 11 collages that have been created as part of the Holocaust Stamp Project.

By Penny Schwartz

BOSTON (JTA)—A 9-year-old school project to commemorate Holocaust victims surpassed its unlikely goal to collect 11 million stamps, representing the lives of 6 million Jews and 5 million other victims of intolerance who perished.

On Friday, the eve of Yom Kippur, a community volunteer for the Holocaust Stamp Project at the Fox-

borough Regional Charter School delivered some 7,000 canceled stamps to the K-12 charter school, bringing the total of stamps collected to 11,011,979, according to Jamie Droste, the school's student life adviser who oversees community service learning for the high school.

By chance, the goal-setting delivery was made on a day that a reporting team from the NBC Boston affiliate was at the school, located

in a suburb south of Boston, to report about the project.

The project began nine years ago in the fifth-grade classroom of Charlotte Sheer as an outgrowth of her students reading "Number the Stars," the award-winning work of historical fiction by Lois Lowry set during the Holocaust. By collecting 11 million stamps, one stamp at a time, Sheer envisioned the project as a way to make tangible the incomprehensible magnitude of the genocide.

From its modest beginnings of collecting a few thousand stamps, the Holocaust Stamp Project has transformed into an all-volunteer community service component for the school's high school students. It has also attracted volunteers from the community who help with the time-consuming process of counting and sorting the stamps.

Through the project, students learn about the importance of acceptance, tolerance and respect for diversity, according to Sheer and Droste, who has directed the project since Sheer's retirement about five years ago.

Over the years, as word of the project spread, with media reports locally and in Israel and Germany, stamps have arrived from 47 states and 22 countries including Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, Israel and Ireland. Some are sent a few



Foxborough Regional Charter School High school students selecting stamps to use on two HSP stamps collages, "I Am the Last Witness" and "White Rose."

at a time, including from Holocaust survivors or their family members, and others, including some rare stamps, have been donated by collectors in batches of thousands at a time.

As part of the project, students have transformed thousands of the stamps into 11 meticulously crafted colorful collages whose intricate designs reflect a Holocaust-related theme. The goal is to complete 18 collages, Droste told JTA. The collages have been displayed for the community during Holocaust Remembrance programs.

The nearly 1,300 students at the school come from diverse cultures and backgrounds, with many from immigrant families whose lives are far removed from the events of the Holocaust, according to Droste. Some are from countries that have experienced war or economic hardships, she noted.

"The multicultural diversity makes the school strong," she said. Only a few of the school's students are Jewish.

In today's political climate, students are aware of the hate in the world, Droste observed.

"This is one lesson that reaches all of them. We need to focus on peace and what is good and never forget the lives of those who were taken because of intolerance," she said.

The project was recognized during the Yom Hasoah commemoration last spring with an award by the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston.

Droste said she is hoping that the collages and collection will find a permanent home at an institution or organization where they can be on display.

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This event is off the record and closed to the press.

Bereaved families introduce new group to combat terror in Israel



Miriam Alster/Flash90

Israelis mourn slain Border Police officer Solomon Gavriyah, 20, during his funeral in Be'er Yaakov. Gavriyah was killed in a Palestinian terror attack Sept. 26 in Har Adar, near Jerusalem.

**By Adam Abrams
JNS.org**

In what turned out to be a timely announcement, dozens of bereaved families Sept. 26 unveiled a new organization that seeks to fight and deter terrorism in the Jewish state. On the same day, a Palestinian terrorist killed three Israelis in the community of Har Adar near Jerusalem.

The nascent nonprofit organization, Choosing Life, brings together more than 40 families who have lost relatives in the ongoing Palestinian terror wave that began in 2015. Since the so-called “knife intifada” began in September of that year, 58 people have been killed and nearly 1,000 have been wounded in hundreds of stabbings, shootings and vehicular attacks throughout Israel.

Choosing Life is headed by Dvorah Gonen, whose 25-year-old son Danny was murdered in June 2015 while hiking near the village of Dolev.

“Unfortunately, the voices of the bereaved families are not heard strongly enough. Since Danny was murdered two years and four months ago, there is no light in my life,” Gonen said in a statement. “I am dedicating my life to ensure that this does not happen to any more Israeli citizens.”

Gonen stressed that most Israeli citizens are unaware of the vast array of benefits terrorists and their families receive from the Palestinian Authority, which provides the perpetrators and their relatives with salaries that rise proportionally with the number of Israeli lives lost.

“It pays to be a terrorist today. It is absurd, we completely lost our deterrence,” said Gonen.

Additional bereaved families involved in the initiative include Rina Ariel, the mother of 13-year-old Hallel

Yaffe Ariel, who was brutally stabbed to death in her Kiryat Arba bedroom in June 2016; Merav and Herzl Hajaj, parents of 22-year-old Shir Hajaj, who was killed in a Palestinian truck-ramming attack in Jerusalem in January 2017; and Doron Mizrachi, the father of 18-year-old Ziv Mizrachi, who was killed in a November 2015 Palestinian stabbing attack. Doron Mizrachi also lost his 22-year-old brother Alon in a suicide bombing at Jerusalem’s Cafe Hillel in September 2003.

The families established Choosing Life to harness their efforts toward combating terrorism and creating more stringent conditions for convicted Palestinian terrorists serving sentences in Israeli prisons. Together, the families are also working to implement harsher punishments for individuals who are complicit in Palestinian terror attacks, including the terrorists’ family members.

“Choosing Life was established to provide a platform through which the sincere and important voices of bereaved families could be adequately expressed to the Israeli public and decision-makers,” Matan Peleg, chairman of the Zionist organization Im Tirtzu, which assisted the families with establishing their initiative, told JNS.org.

“The organization aims to prevent additional families from entering the circle of bereavement by promoting positions to increase Israeli deterrence and to mitigate the damaging effects of foreign government-funded legal assistance to terrorists,” said Peleg.

Following Choosing Life’s establishment, Im Tirtzu continues to work closely with the families, and provides them with “consultation, strategic guidance, legal assistance and any other assistance that they may need with their important work,” he said.

In late August, the bereaved Israeli families behind Choosing Life penned a letter to United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, demanding that the world body cease its funding of organizations that provide Palestinian terrorists with legal council in Israel’s Supreme Court.

The letter lambasted the U.N. for providing two groups—Hamoked: Center for the Defense of the Individual, and the Arab legal organization Adalah—with \$565,000.

“Is the purpose of the U.N. treasury to lay the groundwork for the next murder of Israelis? The blood of our parents, children, brothers, sisters and other loved ones, cries out from the earth,” the families wrote.

In their letter, the families also challenged the U.N. for funding far-left, pro-Palestinian organizations such as B’Tselem and Physicians for Human Rights-Israel, which “delegitimize Israel and defame IDF soldiers.”

As Palestinian terror attacks do not exclusively target Jewish Israelis, Choosing Life is “open to all who wish to take part,” Eytan Meir, director of external relations and development for Im Tirtzu, told JNS.org.

Notably, the victims of the Har Adar terror attack came from diverse communities in Israel. Border Police officer Solomon Gavriyah, 20, was a Jewish Israeli of Ethiopian origin from the city of Be’er Yaakov. Security guard Or Arish, 25, was a Jewish resident of Har Adar. Security guard Yosef Ottman, 25, hailed from the Israeli Arab community of Abu Ghosh.

Two Druze police officers, Haniel Sitawe, 30, and Kamil Shnaan, 22, both from villages in northern Israel, were killed in an Arab terror attack near Jerusalem’s Temple Mount in July. Sitawe’s family is receiving assistance from Im Tirtzu.

OBITUARY

SHIRLEY GOLD

Shirley Gold, age 88, of Oakmonte Village, Lake Mary, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017, at Florida Hospital—Altamonte. She was born in Brooklyn, New York, on Jan. 17, 1929, to the late David and Sadie Farkas Grinspan. Following high

school, she attended college and became a legal secretary. She was a winter resident from Cleveland from 1995 to 2005, when she permanently relocated to the Orlando area. Shirley was a member of Temple Israel.

She is survived by her children, grandchildren and

great-grandchildren. A graveside service was held at Mt. Zion Cemetery in Maspeth, N.Y. Memorial contributions are requested to Temple Israel, 50 South Moss Road, Winter Springs 32708 Arrangements entrusted to Beth Shalom Memorial Chapel, 640 Lee Road, Orlando. 407-599-1180.

Central Florida Synagogues

Orlando Weekday Morning Minyan (Conservative/Egalitarian), services Monday-Friday 7:45 a.m. (9 a.m.—national holidays); 2nd floor Chapel—Jewish Academy of Orlando; 851 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland. For information call 407-298-4650.

Celebration Jewish Congregation (R), services and holiday schedules shown at www.JewishCelebration.org; 407-566-9792.

Chabad Lubavitch of North Orlando (O), 1701 Markham Woods Road, Longwood, 407-636-5994, www.jewishorlando.com; services: Friday 7:00 p.m.; Saturday at 9:30 a.m.

Chabad of Altamonte Springs (O), 414 Spring Valley Lane, Altamonte Springs, 407-280-0535; www.jewishaltamonte.com.

Chabad of South Orlando (O), 7347 Sand Lake Road, Orlando, 407-354-3660; www.jewishorlando.com; Shabbat services: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. and 10 minutes before sunset; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, 8:15 a.m.

Chabad of the Space & Treasure Coasts (O), 1190 Highway A1A, Satellite Beach, 321-777-2770.

Congregation Ahavas Yisrael/Chabad (O), 708 Lake Howell Rd., Maitland, 407-644-2500; www.chabadorlando.org; services: Sunday, 9 a.m.; Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.; Shabbat services: Friday, 6:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Family service, 4th Friday of the month.

Congregation Bet Chaim (R), 301 West State Road 434, Unit 319, Winter Springs, 407-830-7211; www.betchaim.org; Shabbat services: Friday, 8 p.m.

Congregation Beth Am (C), 3899 Sand Lake Road, Longwood, 407-862-3505; www.congbetham.org; Shabbat services: Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

Congregation Beth El (C), 2185 Meadowlane Ave., West Melbourne, 321-779-0740; Shabbat services, 1st & 3rd Friday, 8 p.m.; 2nd & 4th Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.

Congregation Beth Emeth (R), 2205 Blue Sapphire Circle, Orlando, 407-855-0772; Shabbat service: monthly, 8 p.m.

Congregation Beth Israel (Rec), Collins Resource Center, Suite 303, 9401 S.R. 200, Ocala, 352-237-8277; bethisraelocala.org; Shabbat service, second Friday of the month, 8 p.m.

Congregation Beth Shalom (R-C), 315 North 13th St., Leesburg, 352-326-3692; www.bethshalomflorida.org; schedule of services on website.

Congregation Beth Shalom (Progressive Conservative), Orange City congregation holds services at 1308 E. Normandy Blvd., Deltona; 386-804-8283; www.mybethshalom.com; Shabbat services: Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.

Congregation B’nai Torah (C), 403 N. Nova Rd., Ormond Beach, 32174, 386-672-1174; www.mybnaitorah.com; Shabbat services: Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.

Congregation Chabad Lubavitch of Greater Daytona (O), 1079 W. Granada Blvd., Ormond Beach, 386-672-9300; Shabbat services Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.

Congregation of Reform Judaism (R), 928 Malone Dr., Orlando, 407-645-0444; www.crjorlando.org; Shabbat services, 7 p.m. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Fridays; 6 p.m., 4th and 5th Fridays; Saturday: 10 a.m.

Congregation Mateh Chaim (R), P.O. Box 060847, Palm Bay, 32906, 321-768-6722.

Congregation Ohev Shalom (C), 613 Concourse Parkway South, Maitland, 407-298-4650; www.ohvshalom.org; Shabbat service, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

Congregation Or Chayim (Rec), Leesburg, 352-326-8745; egrae@hotmail.com; services 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at Providence Independence of Wildwood.

Congregation Shalom Aleichem (R), 3501 Oak Pointe Blvd., Kissimmee, 407-935-0064; www.shalomaleichem.com; Shabbat service, 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month, 8 p.m.

Congregation Shomer Yisrael (C), 5382 Hoffner Ave., Orlando, 407-227-1258, call for services and holiday schedules.

Congregation Sinai (C/R), 303A N. S.R. 27, Minneola; 352-243-5353; congregation-sinai.org; services: every Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Shabbat Service every Saturday, 10 a.m.

Orlando Torah Center (O), 8591 Banyan Blvd., Orlando; 347-456-6485; Shacharis-Shabbos 9 a.m.; Mon.—Thurs. 6:45 a.m.; Sun. and Legal Holidays 8 a.m.; Mincha/Maariv Please call for times.

Southwest Orlando Jewish Congregation/Ohalei Rivka (C), 11200 S. Apopka-Vineland Rd., Orlando, 407-239-5444; Shabbat service, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

Temple Beth El (R), 579 N. Nova Rd., Ormond Beach, 386-677-2484.

Temple Beth Shalom (R), P.O. Box 031233, Winter Haven, 813-324-2882.

Temple Beth Shalom (C), 40 Wellington Drive, Palm Coast, 386-445-3006; Shabbat service, Friday, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.

Temple Beth Shalom (C), 5995 N. Wickham Rd. Melbourne, 321-254-6333; www.mytbs.org; Shabbat services: Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday: 9:30 a.m. Minyan, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.; Thursday, 10:00 a.m.

Temple Beth Shalom (R), 1109 N.E. 8th Ave., Ocala, 352-629-3587; Shabbat services: Friday, 8 p.m.; Torah study: Saturday, 10:00 a.m.

Temple B’nai Darom (R), 49 Banyan Course, Ocala, 352-624-0380; Friday Services 8 p.m.

Temple Israel (C), 50 S. Moss Rd., Winter Springs, 407-647-3055; www.tiflorida.org; Shabbat services: Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Temple Israel (R), 7350 Lake Andrew Drive, Melbourne, 321-631-9494.

Temple Israel (C), 579 N. Nova Road, Ormond Beach, 386-252-3097; Shabbat service, Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday: 10:30 a.m.

Temple Israel of DeLand (R), 1001 E. New York Ave., DeLand, 386-736-1646; www.templeisraelofdeland.org; Friday Shabbat service, 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. followed by Torah study.

Temple Shalom (formerly New Jewish Congregation) (R), 13563 Country Road 101, Oxford, 352-748-1800; www.templeshalomcentralfl.org; Shabbat services: Friday, 7 p.m.; last Saturday of the month, 9:30 a.m.

Temple Shalom of Deltona (R/C), 1785 Elkcarn Blvd., Deltona, 386-789-2202; www.shalomdeltona.org; Shabbat service; Saturday: 10 a.m.

Temple Shir Shalom (R) Services held at Temple Israel, 50 S. Moss Rd., Winter Springs, 407-366-3556, www.templeshirshalom.org; Shabbat services: three Fridays each month, 7:30 p.m.

Traditional Congregation of Mount Dora (T) Mount Dora, 352-735-4774; www.tcomd.org; Shabbat services: Saturday, 9:30 a.m. sharp.

(R) Reform (C) Conservative (O) Orthodox (Rec) Reconstructionist (T) Mehitsa

Photos of Holocaust survivors from the SS Exodus are incredible



Robert Gary

Children posing for a photo in hats that read "Exodus 1947" in a displaced persons camp in Germany, September 1947.

By Andrew Tobin

TEL AVIV (JTA)—In the summer of 1947, when the British turned away the SS Exodus from the shores of Palestine, the world was watching.

Before the eyes of the international media, British troops violently forced the ship's passengers, most of them Holocaust survivors, onto ships back to Europe. The resulting reports helped turn public opinion in favor of the Zionist movement and against the pro-Arab British policy of limiting Jewish immigration to Palestine.

But much else was happening in the aftermath of World War II, and attention soon shifted elsewhere. One of the few journalists to stick with the story was Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent Robert Gary, who filed a series of reports from displaced persons camps in Germany.

Seventy years later and decades after his death, Gary is again drawing attention to the "Exodus Jews," albeit mostly in Israel.

An album of 230 of his photos will be sold at the Kedem Auction House in Jerusalem on Oct. 31, and a number of the images reveal the reality inside the camps, where the Jews continued to prepare for life in Palestine under trying conditions.

Some of the photos, which have little to no captioning, capture the haunting similarities of the DP camps to those in which the Nazis interned and killed millions of Jews during the Holocaust, including images of Exodus Jews repairing barbed-wire fences under the watch of guards.

But others show the Jews participating in communal activities and preparing for their hoped-for future in Palestine. In one photo, Zionist emissaries from the territory, young women dressed in white T-shirts and shorts, appear to lead the Exodus Jews in a circular folk dance.

Shay Mendelovich, a researcher at Kedem, said he expects there to be a lot of interest in the album, which is being sold by an anonymous collector who bought it from the Gary family. Mendelovich predicted it could be sold for as much as \$10,000.

"The photos are pretty unique," he said "There were other people in these camps. But Robert Gary was one of the few who had a camera and knew how to take pictures."

Between 1945 and 1952, more than 250,000 Jews lived in displaced persons camps and urban centers in Germany, Austria and Italy that were overseen by Allied authorities and the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. Despite having been liberated from the Nazi camps, they continued to languish in Europe under guard and behind barbed wire.

Gary was an American Jewish reporter sent by JTA to Europe to cover the aftermath of World War II. He detailed the living conditions in the camps more than a year before the Exodus journey: inadequate food; cold, crowded rooms; violence by guards and mind-numbing boredom. But he reported in September 1946 that the greatest concern among Jews was escaping Europe, preferably for Palestine.

"Certainly the DP's are sensitive to the material

things and sound off when things go bad (which is as it should be), but above all this is their natural desire to start a new life elsewhere for the bulk in Palestine, for others, in the U.S and other lands," he wrote. "Get any group of DP's together and they'll keep you busy with the number one question: When are we leaving?"

In July 1947, more than 4,500 Jews from the camps boarded the Exodus in France and set sail for Palestine without legal immigration certificates. They hoped to join the hundreds of thousands of Jews building a pro-Jewish state.

Organized by the Haganah, a Zionist paramilitary force in Palestine, the mission was the largest of dozens of mostly failed attempts at illegal Jewish immigration during the decades of British administration of the territory following World War I. The British largely sought to limit the arrival of Jews to Palestine out of deference to the often violent opposition of its Arab majority.

The Haganah had outfitted and manned the Exodus in hopes of outmaneuvering the British Navy and unloading the passengers on the beach. But near the end of its weeklong voyage, the British intercepted the ship off the shore of Palestine and brought it into the Haifa port. Troops removed resisting passengers there, injuring dozens and killing three, and loaded them on three ships back to Europe.

Even after two months on the Exodus, the passengers resisted setting foot back on the continent. When the British finally forced them ashore in September 1947 and into two displaced persons camps in occupied northern Germany—Poppendorf and Am Stau—many sang the Zionist anthem "Hatikvah" in protest. An unexploded time bomb, apparently designed to go off after the passengers were ashore, was later found on one of the ships.

The widely reported events won worldwide sympathy for European Jews and their national aspirations. An American newspaper headlined a story about the Exodus "Back to the Reich." The Yugoslav delegate from the United Nations Special Commission on Palestine called the affair "the best possible evidence we have for allowing Jews into Palestine."

Later, the Exodus achieved legendary status, most famously as the inspiration and namesake of the 1958 best-seller by Leon Uris and the 1960 film starring Paul Newman. Some, including former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban, credited the Exodus with a major role in the foundation of the State of Israel in May 1948.

Gary, who was stationed in Munich, had close ties to Zionist activists; he reported early and often on the continuing plight of the Exodus Jews in the camps. His dispatches highlighted their continued challenges, including malnutrition, and unabated longing to immigrate to Palestine.

In a report from Poppendorf days after the Exodus Jews arrived, Gary said the dark running joke in the camp was that



Robert Gary

Jews dancing in a DP camp in Germany, September 1947.



Robert Gary

Jews repairing fencing at a DP camp in Germany, September 1947.



A 1947 photo of the fake certificate identifying Robert Gary as a passenger of the SS Exodus.

the alternative to Palestine was simple: "Everyone would choose a tree from which to hang himself."

"The Jews of Germany demand and expect a chance to start life anew under reasonably secure circumstances," he wrote. "They feel these places exist mainly in Palestine and the U.S. And they are determined to get there, either by legal or illegal means, or just by plain old-fashioned patience."

Pnina Drori, who later became Gary's wife, was among the emissaries that the Jewish Agency for Israel sent to the camps from Palestine to prepare the Jews for aliyah. As a kindergarten teacher, she taught the children Hebrew and Zionist songs. Other emissaries, she said, offered military training in preparation for the escalating battles with the Arab majority in Palestine.

"In the photos, you see a lot of young people in shorts and kind of Israeli clothes," she said. "We were getting them ready for Israeli life, both good and bad. You have

to remember Israel was at war at the time."

Gary was one of the few journalists who continued visiting the DP camps in the weeks after the Exodus Jews returned to Europe. Somehow he even obtained a fake certificate identifying him as one of the former passengers of the ship. But by late September 1947, JTA reported that British authorities had tired of Gary's critical coverage and barred him from entry.

"The fact that Gary and [New York newspaper PM reporter Maurice] Pearlman were the only correspondents still assigned to the story, and had remained at the camps, aroused the authorities, who charged that they 'were snooping about too much,'" according to the report.

Israel declared independence in May 1948, and after Great Britain recognized the Jewish state in January 1949, it finally sent most of the remaining Exodus passengers to the new Jewish state. Nearly all the DP camps in Europe were closed by 1952 and the Jews dispersed around the

world, most to Israel and the United States.

Gary soon immigrated to Israel, too. He married Drori in 1949, months after meeting her at a Chanukah party at the Jewish Agency's headquarters in Munich, and the couple moved to Jerusalem, where they had two daughters. Robert Gary took a job at The Jerusalem Post and later worked for the British news agency Reuters. Pnina Gary, 90, continued her acting career.

She said her husband always carried a camera with him when he was reporting, and their home was filled with photo albums.

Decades after Robert Gary died in Tel Aviv in 1987, at the age of 67, Pnina Gary wrote and starred in a hit play, "An Israeli Love Story." It is based on her real-life romance with the first man she was supposed to marry, who was killed by local Arabs in an ambush on their kibbutz.

"We knew life wouldn't be easy in Israel," she said. "That's not why anyone comes here."

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Weekly roundup of world briefs from JTA

Movie mogul Harvey Weinstein fired following sexual harassment claims

(JTA)—Harvey Weinstein was fired from the movie production firm he started following sexual harassment allegations by several women, including actress Ashley Judd. The Weinstein Company's directors announced the dismissal Sunday, citing "new information about misconduct" by Weinstein, who co-founded the firm in 2005. The board said in a statement that Weinstein's employment "is terminated, effective immediately."

Last week, The New York Times published an article alleging that Weinstein had harassed Judd and Rose McGowan, another Hollywood actress, as well as many other female talents and employees over decades.

In the aftermath Weinstein, 65, issued a statement in which he said he would "take a leave of absence" from his production firm and "spend more time with a therapist." Despite saying that he could not be "more remorseful about the people I hurt" with his behavior, Weinstein also said The Times report was rife with inaccuracies and that he plans to sue the paper for \$50 million, the New York Post reported.

According to The Times' expose of Weinstein—who produced many box office hits including "Pulp Fiction," "Sex, Lies and Videotape," "The Crying Game" and "Clerks"—he used his position of influence in Hollywood to demand sexual favors from actresses and female assistants over the past three decades.

He has paid off at least eight women to settle complaints about his lewd behavior, according to The Times.

The women, most in their early to mid-20s at the time, said Weinstein would appear near or fully naked, make them watch him bathe or give him a massage, and in at least one instance press a young employee for sex, The Times reported.

Some were paid \$80,000 to \$150,000 each to make their complaints go away, The Times said, with "Scream" actress McGowan, then 23, getting \$100,000 in 1997 over an incident that took place during the Sundance Film Festival.

Weinstein, who is Jewish, wrote earlier this year that he planned to direct a film next year based on Leon Uris' book about the Warsaw Ghetto, "Mila 18." He recalled reading "Mila 18" during a trip to visit his great-grandmother in Israel as a kid.

"I guess it is personal—I lost eight great aunts and uncles to Auschwitz. Luckily for me, my grandmother and grandfather moved to America in the '20s while their families stayed back in Poland and Belarus. My great grandmother escaped with the Zionists as did one of her sons," Weinstein wrote in an op-ed for Deadline.

With his brother Bob, Weinstein founded Miramax—named for their parents, Mira and Max Weinstein—and later The Weinstein Company.

A prominent supporter

of liberal and Democratic causes, Weinstein spoke in 2015 at a fundraiser for the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, where he was presented with the organization's Humanitarian Award. In his speech, he urged Jews in the fight against anti-Semitism to "stand up and kick these guys in the ass."

Brazilian newspaper's five-letter response to pro-Palestinian crossword clue: 'Sorry'

RIO DE JANEIRO (JTA)—An influential daily newspaper in Brazil apologized for publishing a crossword puzzle that identified "Palestine" as a "territory that suffers Israeli occupation and bombings."

Estado de S. Paulo's readers received the crossword puzzle in the Oct. 1 edition.

"We apologize for the wrong way the question about Israel and Palestine was addressed," the newspaper's editor wrote in a retraction and apology published Sunday.

"Accurate research for correct information is within the main guidelines of our editorial content," the statement said. "In this case, there was a failure to comply with such precepts. We are committed to taking the necessary measures to prevent this fact to happen again."

Officials of the Brazilian Israelite Confederation and the Jewish federations of Sao Paulo and Rio led the reaction against the crossword puzzle. The apology was published on the confederation's website.

Aussie lawmaker attacks national broadcaster over perceived anti-Israel bias

SYDNEY (JTA)—A Jewish lawmaker in Australia used taxpayer money to pay for ads criticizing alleged anti-Israel bias by the state-owned Australian Broadcasting Corp.

Michael Danby took out two half-page ads in The Australian Jewish News saying that Jerusalem correspondent Sophie McNeill in her reporting on a West Bank terrorist killing in July dehumanized its victims—three members of the Solomon family—by not naming them.

By contrast, he noted, members of a Palestinian family, the Shamasnehs, who were evicted from their home in eastern Jerusalem were mentioned by name.

Danby justified the use of taxpayers' money to make them aware of the government-funded ABC's bias. However, Danby said the leader of the Labor Party, Bill Shorten, made the point when the two met "that ads weren't the most subtle way of communicating the message."

"I accept this was his view. I won't be doing ads on the Jerusalem correspondent of the ABC in the future," Danby added in a statement.

Danby represents Melbourne Ports, home to a large Jewish community.

The ABC has strongly defended its correspondent, who filed five stories on the Solomon murders. However, Danby's office told JTA that the ads were approved by Parliament.

"Michael Danby's office has confirmed that the advertisement about the ABC coverage advert has already been submitted and approved

by parliament as being within guidelines," a Parliament spokesman said.

Anton Block, president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, said Danby was correct in pointing out the disparity in coverage, saying McNeill "personalized what happened to the Palestinian family and named them, but did not do likewise for the Jewish family."

30,000 Israelis and Palestinians gather for women's peace rally in Jerusalem

(JTA)—Some 30,000 people participated in a peace rally organized by a group for Israeli and Palestinian women.

The men and women who gathered Sunday in Jerusalem as part of a two-week-long "peace walk" organized by the Women Wage Peace organization were marching for an agreement between Israel and the Palestinians, as well as equal gender representation in peace negotiations, Haaretz reported.

The participants included Adina Bar-Shalom, the daughter of late Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, and Druze former lawmaker Shakib Shanan.

"Palestinian families and Israeli families have lost their loved ones and been left with a wound that does not heal. I came here to say, we want to live!" Shanan, whose son Kamil was one of two Border Police officers killed in a July terror attack in Jerusalem, told the crowd. "We are allowed to say this out loud—we are peace loving."

Women Wage Peace was founded three years ago following the 2014 Gaza War.

Druze Israeli lawmaker backs ex-defense minister against heckler in Morocco

(JTA)—An Israeli Druze lawmaker defended former Defense Minister Amir Peretz in Arabic after he was verbally accosted by a Moroccan lawmaker during a visit to the Parliament in Rabat.

On Sunday, Moroccan lawmaker Ahsan Abd al-Halek, wearing a scarf featuring the colors of the Palestinian flag, approached Peretz and shouted, "You're a war criminal, you're not welcome here."

Peretz, a member of the opposition Zionist Union and a Morocco native, is part of an Israeli delegation to an international conference on trade among Mediterranean countries. Abd al-Halek was one of several Moroccan lawmakers who showed up at the conference with signs to protest Peretz's presence, according to the Israeli Broadcasting Corp., which obtained a video of the exchange.

Magli Wahaba, a Druze lawmaker from Beit Jan who came with Peretz to the conference, confronted the Moroccan, shouting back in Arabic that he is "with the extremists destroying" the Middle East and that Peretz "was born in Morocco, his parents were born in Morocco, and he has every right to be here."

The hosts apologized to Peretz and the Israeli delegation for the interruption, Walla news reported. The conference, which was organized by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, continued as planned.

Richard Thaler, who recognized the humanity in economics, wins Nobel Prize

(JTA)—Richard Thaler, a professor at the University of Chicago, won the Nobel Prize in Economic Science for his pioneering work in the field of behavioral economics.

The Nobel Committee in announcing the prize for Thaler on Monday in Stockholm said his research helped lead to changes in public policy, such as employees being automatically registered in programs to save for retirement. Following the announcement Thaler, who is Jewish and was born in East Orange, New Jersey, said his work rested on the idea that "in order to do good economics, you have to keep in mind that people are human."

His research helps predict human economic decisions. While people often behave in irrational ways, Thaler's work showed that they do so according to certain patterns.

The 72-year-old economist, who made a cameo alongside Selena Gomez in the 2015 film "The Big Short," joked that he would spend the \$1.1 million award "as irrationally as possible." He said he would continue his work in economics.

London Jewish school principal ordained as priest

(JTA)—The principal of a Jewish school in London has been ordained as a Church of England priest. Patrick Moriarty, 51, who is not Jewish, has been headmaster of the Jewish Community Secondary School in north London, or JCoSS, since 2012, The Times of London reported Saturday. The school has 1,300 students and 100 teachers.

"The governing body is proud to have a non-Jew as its head teacher and prouder still that he has been able to find time to take his own religious beliefs to the next level," said Jeremy Kosky, chairman of the school's governors.

A handful of Jewish day schools in North America have non-Jewish heads of school or principals, who supervise the general curriculum or the entire school while a Jewish faculty member directs Jewish studies. JCoSS has a director of Jewish learning as well as a director of Jewish life.

Moriarty, who according to The Times works 70 hours a week, was appointed as assistant curate at St. Mary the Virgin, in the London borough of Barnet, following his ordination as a deacon in July at St. Albans Cathedral.

Moriarty's new colleagues at St. Mary the Virgin were pleased to share him with the Jewish institution, they said.

"Patrick's work within the Jewish community, and in wider interfaith circles, is incredibly enriching for us, as I hope our prayers and support are enriching for him," said James Mustard, the rector of East Barnet.

Moriarty told The Times that his church responsibilities were mostly on Sundays, but he has already experienced having to exchange his casual clothes into clerical dress on a school day.

Asked how students at the Jewish school have responded to his new clerical role, he said, "They just say, 'are those your

vicar clothes, sir?' Nobody really bats an eyelid, but I do try not to wander around school like that. It would be confusing in any workplace, but it certainly is as head of a Jewish school."

In a newsletter to the students in May, Moriarty wrote: "From July I can officially use the title 'Rev.' (like a Rav [Hebrew for rabbi], but with different outfits...) and wear the clerical collar; I have no plans, however, to do either at JCoSS, and the day job will continue just as before." Rev. is short for reverend.

Moriarty's JCoSS colleagues have supported and encouraged him for what he described as a "rather unusual path."

He received cufflinks and socks that said "Trust me, I'm a vicar," as well as wishes from parents relieved that his new role didn't mean he planned to resign, The Times reported.

Holocaust revisionism in Croatia not just a Jewish fight

(JTA)—In an unusual plea, the World Jewish Congress urged international bodies to oppose what it calls "brazen attempts" to whitewash Holocaust crimes in the European Union's newest member, Croatia. The call came in a 4,000-word position paper published Monday in Tablet magazine by Menachem Rosensaft, the WJC's general counsel.

The article, titled "Croatia is Brazenly Attempting to Rewrite its Holocaust Crimes Out of History," examines dithering and mixed messages by the Balkan country's highest elected officials on the Ustasha, a fascist movement led by Ante Pavelic that murdered hundreds of thousands of Serbs and tens of thousands of Jews during World War II. Reviled by many Croats for their war crimes, Ustasha criminals are celebrated as heroes by many others—often with a nod from the government.

Last year, Croatian President Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic posed during a trip to Canada with an Ustasha flag. The previous year in Israel she expressed her "deepest regrets" to victims "killed at the hands of the collaborationist Ustasha regime." Prime Minister Tihomir Oreskovic also condemned the Ustasha publicly, but did nothing when soccer fans chanted the Ustasha slogan during a match that he attended against an Israeli team.

These events and others prompted the local Jewish community to boycott government-sponsored Holocaust commemoration events for two consecutive years since 2016. That year, Croatia's culture minister, Zlatko Hasanbegovi, praised a revisionist film claiming that Holocaust survivors' testimonies from the Ustasha concentration camp of Jasenovac were exaggerated.

The veneration of pro-Nazi war criminals is not unique to Croatia in Eastern Europe, where Russian expansionism is serving to legitimize the open celebration of anti-Russian fighters who murdered Jews and perpetrated other war crimes on the side of Nazi Germany. Similar processes are the subject of an intense public debate Hun-

gary, Ukraine, Lithuania and to some extent also Poland.

Croatia, which was accepted into the European Union in 2013, is unusual in that the veneration of war criminals comes from the top echelon politicians, and in the Jewish community's resolute stance against such rhetoric.

Moreover, Rosensaft wrote, "the recasting of the Ustasha as national heroes and role models has ominous connotations in a country and region where ethnic hatred and strife have had catastrophic consequences, not just during WWII but more recently during the Balkan wars of the 1990s."

As Croatian nationalists are "becoming increasingly brazen, if not overtly shameless, in their attempts to write the crimes against humanity committed by the Ustasha out of their nation's history," Rosensaft concluded, support for the Jewish community's opposition to these efforts "should come not just from international Jewish organizations and other Jewish communities, but from institutions and agencies around the world that are dedicated to the preservation of the memory of the Holocaust and other genocides."

While Israeli-Croatian bilateral relations "are excellent," the WJC's CEO, Robert Singer, said in a statement to JTA, his organization is "deeply concerned by what appears at best to be official indifference to the resurgence of the fascist Ustasha movement that actively participated in the perpetration the Holocaust."

Ukraine teens arrested in vandalism at Jewish cemetery

(JTA)—Authorities in Ukraine have identified several teenagers whom police said desecrated at least 20 Jewish graves in August. The teens, all males younger than 18, were detained last month in connection with vandalism in Svalyava, a city in Western Ukraine that is located approximately 100 miles southwest of Lviv, the news site reported last week. The report did not say whether the suspects admitted the actions attributed to them or what punishments they will receive if convicted.

The teens pushed over at least 20 gravestones, causing some to smash, including the gravestone of the town's former rabbi, Rabbi Shalom Goldenberg. The cemetery they allegedly vandalized has not been in use for decades.

In 2012, the Council of Europe adopted a nonbinding resolution placing responsibility for the care of Jewish cemeteries on national governments. The resolution was based in part on a report that said Jewish cemeteries are "probably" more vulnerable than other cemeteries.

In addition to frequent vandalism at Jewish cemeteries, including for anti-Semitic reasons, the report also noted instances of cemeteries in Eastern Europe that have been turned into "residential areas, public gardens, leisure parks, army grounds and storage sites; some have been turned into lakes."

Why are honeybees dying?



Israeli bee expert Prof. Sharoni Shafir

By Abigail Klein Leichman

ISRAEL21c—That’s one of the findings of groundbreaking experiments performed at Israel’s Benjamin Triwaks Bee Research Center at Hebrew University’s Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture in Rehovot.

The center also has discovered that, like humans, bees consuming an unhealthy ratio of omega-6 to omega-3 fatty acids develop cognitive deficiencies.

They cannot simply choose pollen from flowers high in omega-3 because increasing urbanization has decimated many kinds of wildflowers. The resulting nutritional imbalance is a major reason why honeybees, responsible for the pollination of more than 90 commercial food crops across the world, are dying at an alarming rate.

“Our specific research is on understanding bee diets and how they choose their diets. We know they need nectar and pollen, and that all comes from flowers,” Bee Research Center director Prof. Sharoni

Shafir tells ISRAEL21c. “Beekeepers can give them sugar water if there’s not enough nectar but lack of pollen is a more acute problem because it’s complex. There are essential amino acids they can only get from pollen, and the amount of essential fatty acids—omega-3 and omega-6—varies from pollen to pollen. We are working in an international consortium to understand how to formulate an artificial diet that will be as good as pollen,” he says.

If you give a “menu” to a bee, it will instinctively choose dishes that provide the right balance of nutrients: sugary nectar plus pollen full of protein, fatty acids and micronutrients.

Omega-3 deficiency slows bees’ learning

Shafir’s PhD student Yael Arien fed colonies of bees with artificial pollens, some poor in omega-3 and others rich in omega-3. Then she tested the bees’ learning aptitude using Pavlovian conditioning.

The experiment revealed that 90 percent of the bees raised on high omega-3 diets learned to differentiate between odors associated with sugar or salt within three trials. But only about 45 percent of the bees raised on an omega-3 deficient diet were able to do so.

“That was a striking effect,” says Shafir.

He explains that in humans, the right balance of omega-6 and omega-3 is 1:1. The typical modern Western diet (high in corn and corn byproducts and low in fish and free-range meat, poultry and eggs) provides a 15:1 omega-6 to omega-3 ratio. This imbalance is thought to contribute to cognitive dysfunctions such as dementia, depression and ADHD.

“Some doctors think too much omega-6 is the No. 1 health issue of the future,” Shafir says. “In bees and other invertebrates, nobody has looked at this possible imbalance. It turns out that bees usually collect pollen higher in omega-3 than omega-6. When they can, they collect a mixed diet of pollen.”

Which pollen makes bees dance?

For three days, Shafir’s lab fed one colony of bees a type of pollen lacking omega-6 and fed another colony pollen lacking omega-3. Then they allowed the forager bees from each colony to choose among three dishes of pollen. The first dish contained exactly what they’d eaten for three days. The second dish had pollen from a different flower but with the same fatty acid lacking. The third dish contained “complementary” pollen rich in whichever fatty acid they had not gotten for three days.

“In the observation hive, we could see what they were excited about because they do a ‘recruitment’ dance,” he says. “We videotaped all their dances and analyzed them, and found they did a more rigorous dance when they found the complementary pollen. So we saw that the individual foragers make decisions and relay them to the whole colony. We just ‘listened’ to what the bees told each other.”



Bees dining on the pollen of their choice at Benjamin Triwaks Bee Research Center.

Shlomi Zarchin

In a similar study in Shafir’s lab, led by post doc Harmen Hendriksma from Holland, each colony was deprived of a certain amino acid (protein) for a week. Afterward, most foragers chose the complementary pollen to balance their diet.

“Taken together, we see that omega-3 deficiencies have a strong effect on cognition and that bees try to balance their deficiencies, though we don’t know how,” says Shafir. “What ratio of omega-6 to omega-3 do they need for best learning performance or for longevity and other aspects? We’re working on that.”

Shafir emphasized that the experiments are not focused specifically on colony collapse disorder, a “strange disappearing act” affecting honeybee colonies in the United States since 2006, but on the global problem of colony losses.

“Bees are dying from all kinds of reasons,” he tells ISRAEL21c. “There is an on-going debate as to the causes. We believe there are multiple causes and they all synergize. The three most important factors are the use of pesticides and poisons in the environment; the Varroa mite and the viruses it transmits; and the lack of proper nutrition

or malnutrition” caused by shrinking amount and variety of wildflowers.

Nutrition is the basis of everything, because malnutrition leads to a weaker immune system that cannot fight the effects of pesticides and viruses.

Shafir’s lab has proven that providing bees with a more balanced diet makes them healthier and smarter. Development of well-balanced artificial pollen is now underway.

The Bee Research Center’s studies were published in PNAS in 2015 and in Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology in 2016.

An Israeli trauma expert predicted a Las Vegas attack three years ago



Dr. Avi Rivkind, in scrubs, cares for an injured person. Rivkind has pioneered treatments for terror victims based on his experience in Israel.

By Ben Sales

(JTA)—When Dr. Avi Rivkind landed in Las Vegas three years ago to lecture as a trauma care expert, he saw something that troubled him. The airport, McCarran International, felt too open, almost exposed.

He felt no less comfortable on the city’s Strip while watching crowds flow from hotels to casinos to shops to the street—with little security in sight.

“I felt there was a lack of presence, from the ease of getting around there, from the casinos, from how easy it is to enter all the malls,” he told JTA on Monday. “I felt very uncomfortable.”

Rivkind, who heads the Shock Trauma Unit at Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem, is a pioneer in

treating victims of mass-casualty terror attacks. He gained his experience treating terror victims in Israel, and his techniques were used in 2013 to save the lives of some of the injured in the Boston Marathon bombing.

He came to Las Vegas in the summer of 2014 to speak at a Hadassah conference, but cut his trip short when Israel’s most recent war with Hamas broke out.

Before he left, however, Rivkind delivered a warning to a local TV channel: Get ready for a potential terror attack.

“With all the casinos and people are coming here from all over the world, I think you should take a huge situation,” Rivkind told Channel 8, the local CBS affiliate. “I don’t want to give anybody any ideas. However, you should be

well prepared. In my mind, it’s a question of time.”

Rivkind’s words feel ominous today after a gunman rained bullets from a Las Vegas hotel room window, killing at least 58 people and injuring more than 500 at a concert Sunday in the worst mass shooting in American history. Police said the gunman, Stephen Paddock, 64, of Mesquite, Nevada, killed himself and appears to have acted alone.

Rivkind had spent stints living in Los Angeles and Baltimore, so he was familiar with the scale of an American metropolis. But he hadn’t felt scared in those cities.

Although he can’t remember details now, Rivkind said something felt more dangerous about the public spaces in Las Vegas. He noted that some of the 9/11 hijackers met

in the city before carrying out their 2001 attack.

The doctor said he offered to advise local government officials on emergency preparedness but never heard back.

“It was clear, I don’t know why, that it was destined for calamity,” he told JTA.

His specialty is blast trauma, or how to care for victims of a bombing attack, honed during the bloody years of the second intifada at the beginning of the century. Rivkind has taught at hospitals around the world how to save victims from massive blood loss and injuries to vital organs. In one instance he revived a soldier who had been shot in the heart and was pronounced dead in the field.

Rivkind also invented the “accordion method” of efficiently moving patients through stages of assessment in a crowded emergency room. He was the personal physician for the late Israeli President Ezer Weizman, and helped care for Ariel Sharon when the former prime minister fell into a coma in 2006 following a stroke.

But Rivkind cautioned that medical care after a mass shooting like Sunday’s is different from treatment following a bombing. Besides, he said, “this is a time to turn inside yourself and feel the pain. This is not a time to give suggestions.”

But after a career saving the lives of terror victims, Rivkind said the news of the Las Vegas attack hit especially hard.

“On one hand, you do exceptional things to save a human life,” he said. “Then one crazy piece of shit comes to kill without blinking an eye.”

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Kehillah

From page 1A

into the fabric of our region's history.

From the citrus barons and general store owners of the early 1900s to participants in world wars, from society's belles to social change agents, from artists and

inventors to corporate leaders, Jews have helped shape the Orlando we know today. Learn about the individuals who enhanced our quality of life, influenced Central

Florida society and, in some cases, changed the world. And at the same time, you'll discover something about who you are and what made Greater Orlando the com-

munity it is today, whether you are Jewish or not.

Kehillah: A History of Jewish Life in Greater Orlando, is a collaborative exhibition presented by its host insti-

tution, the Orange County Regional History Center, and the Greater Orlando Jewish Community. The exhibit will be on display from Nov. 12, 2017 through Feb. 12, 2018.

Adventure

From page 1A

and successful businessman. He has trained alongside Hedy in the Art of Constructive Relationships. In September 2008, a documentary film was re-

leased, titled "Hedy and Yumi: Crossing the Bridge," which tells the story of their life, message and mission. The film has already won "Best Documentary" award at a Hollywood Film Festival.

Hedy and Yumi will be teaching:

- How to honor and "fertilize" the relational space between a couple.
- How to embrace a relationship not as a problem to

be solved, but as a bountiful gift to be enjoyed

- How to stretch the muscle of loving kindness and of compassion in the service of wholeness.
- About the mysterious

and awesome potential of the Miracle of Connection.

- How to grow and rekindle the passionate connection with each other.

Registration is open and space is still available. The

cost per couple is \$179. RSVP at www.joinmeaningfuldate.eventbrite.com

For more information, please contact Sarah Gittleman at SGittleman@JoinOrlando.org or 917-804-6181.

Dershowitz

From page 4A

policy more than any other matter. President Erdogan has subjected the country's Kurdish population to terror and tyranny, and arrested Kurds who are caught speaking their native language.

But perhaps no group has had it worse than the Kurds of Iraq, who now total 5 million—approximately 10-15 percent of Iraq's total population. Under the Baathist regime in the 1970s, the Kurds were subject to "ethnic cleansing." Under the rule of Saddam Hussein, they were sent to concentration camps, exposed to chemical weapons and many were summarily executed. It is estimated that approximately 100,000 Kurds were killed at the hands

of the Baathist regime. So "restitution" is an entirely appropriate factor to in supporting the establishment of an independent Kurdistan in northern Iraq.

In contrast, the Palestinians have suffered far fewer deaths at the hands of Israel (and Jordan), yet many within the international community cite Palestinian deaths as a justification for Palestinian statehood. Why the double standard?

There are many other compelling reasons for why the Kurds should have their own state. First, the Iraqi Kurds have their own identity, practices, language and culture. They are a coherent nation with profound historical ties to their territory. They have their own national institutions

that separate them from their neighbors, their own army (the Peshmerga) and their own oil and energy strategy.

Moreover, the autonomous Kurdish region in northern Iraq—the closest it has come to having its own state—has thrived and maintained relative peace and order against the backdrop of a weak, ineffectual Iraqi government and a brutal civil war. As such, it represents a semblance of stability in a region comprised of bloody violence, destruction and failed states.

Why then did the United States—along with Russia, the EU, China and the UN—come out against independence for one of the largest ethnic groups without a state, when they push so hard for Palestinian statehood? The

U.S. State Department said it was "deeply disappointed" with the action taken, while the White House issued a statement calling it "provocative and destabilizing." Essentially, the international community cites the following two factors for its broad rejection:

- That it will cause a destabilizing effect in an already fragile Iraq that may reverberate in neighboring states with Kurdish populations;
- That the bid for independence will distract from the broader effort to defeat ISIS—which is being fought largely by Kurdish Peshmerga forces.

These arguments are not compelling. Iraq is a failed state that has been plagued by civil war for the last

14 years, and the Kurdish population in its north represent the only real stability in that country, while also assuming the largest military role in combatting ISIS' occupation of Iraqi territory. There is also nothing to suggest that an independent Kurdistan would cease its cooperation with the anti-ISIS coalition. If anything, the stakes in maintaining its newfound sovereignty would be higher.

Israel is the only Western democracy to come out in support of Kurdish independence in northern Iraq. One would expect that the state-seeking Palestinian Authority (PA) would back Kurdish efforts for independence. However, while seeking recognition for its

own right to statehood, the PA instead subscribed to the Arab League's opposing position. This is what Hasan Khreisheh of the Palestinian Legislative Council said about the referendum:

"The Kurds are a nation, same as Arabs, French and English. But this referendum is not an innocent step. The only country behind them is Israel. Once Israel is behind them, then from my point of view, we have to be careful."

No one who supports statehood for the Palestinians can morally oppose Kurdish independence. But they do, because it is double-standard hypocrisy, and not morality, that frames the debate over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Flatow

From page 5A

Meanwhile, J Street rushed to issue an agonized press release, expressing its "deep concern" about Friedman's statement. "The West Bank remains entirely under occupation," J Street huffed, which is of course patently false.

The J Streeters like to pretend that Israel still controls all of Judea and Samaria. They

don't want the public to be reminded that there is such a thing as a PA, and that it rules over about 40 percent of Judea and Samaria, including the cities where 98 percent of the Palestinian Arabs live. Bringing that up would undermine the Palestinian statehood crusade.

The 2 percent figure that Friedman obviously had in mind is no secret. Just last

year, Jewish Agency spokesman Avi Mayer tweeted, "Jewish communities in the West Bank take up under 2 percent of the land; that is, over 98 percent of the West Bank contains no Jewish residents at all."

But you don't have to believe the Jewish Agency. B'Tselem, the extreme left-wing Israeli group, reports on its website that "the

built-up areas of the settlements constitute only 1.7 percent of the land in the West Bank." And Human Rights Watch, certainly no fan of Israel or settlements, reported last year that "the built-up area of residential settlements covers 6,000 hectares"—which is to say, 1.1 percent of the land in Judea and Samaria.

Individual settlements do

control some additional land, aside from the areas on which they have built. And the Israeli government also controls some uninhabited land there. Nonetheless, the 2 percent figure is powerful and relevant. It's an important reminder that the settlements are not the obstacle to peace, and that the critics of the settlements engage in wild exaggerations and demonization

for political purposes. They proved that again this week with their absurdly unfair and disingenuous response to Friedman.

Stephen M. Flatow, a vice president of the Religious Zionists of America, is an attorney in New Jersey and the father of Alisa Flatow, who was murdered in an Iranian-sponsored Palestinian terrorist attack in 1995.

Pollack

From page 5A

this war; the war in which Israel almost ceased to exist.

How did Israel pull it off in the end?

Military experts, politicians, and historians have spilled oceans of ink and endless words on this subject but in the end, it was yet another miraculous extradition from

the jaws of certain annihilation.

All Israelis, despite the failed politicians and the politician /generals, knew there was no choice. One war lost is the last one Israel fights and their families will face a fate far worse than the Yazidis in Iraq.

As Kissinger (the Jewish refugee from Nazi Germany)

dragged his feet and let Israel bleed, Golda Meir made a call to President Nixon and gave him a short message. "Think quickly of the biblical story of Samson and the Philistine temple. We will not go down alone. I shall not preside over the destruction of Israel. The whole Mid East will be no more - with all of its precious oil."

Nixon gave orders to empty

NATO stocks in Europe and fly them to Israel immediately. I saw the C - 130s flying overhead then.

What did Israel learn from this experience?

The rivers of ink still flow in answering this question. Both the Left and Right draw their opposite conclusions, just as those who engage in theological discussions.

What did God want?

Everyone has an opinion, so I have one too.

We should not have fallen to the two sins mentioned above and should never do so again.

Our excellent and brave pilots should not have been ordered to stand down and leave their cockpits to allow an enemy first strike. They should have taken off and

kick Arab butt until the cows come home.

After that, we should all have thrown the biggest seuda hodaya ever (a banquet of thanksgiving to God) on the Temple Mount (and taking back the keys that Dayan gave the enemy in 1967.)

The time is approaching, IH.

Chag sameach!

JTA

From page 13A

Canada to replace Holocaust memorial plaque that omitted Jews

(JTA)—The plaque marking the opening of Canada's National Holocaust Monument will be replaced after the original failed to mention that Jews were the majority of the victims.

Heritage Minister Melanie Joly told the House of Commons on Thursday that the plaque will be replaced, and also reiterated that the monument commemorates the 6 million Jews and 5 million others killed by the Nazis and their supporters during the Holocaust.

"On the day the monument was unveiled, we noticed that the panel at the entrance conspicuously and curiously did not mention

Jews," Martin Sampson, director of communications for the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, said in a statement, according to the Toronto Star. "We raised our concerns with the government. They were very responsive, acknowledged the error and agreed to correct it immediately."

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau unveiled the monument at the end of last month. It states that the monument commemorates the "millions of men, women and children murdered during the Holocaust and honours the survivors who persevered and were able to make their way to Canada after one of the darkest chapters in history."

"Today we reaffirm our unshakeable commitment to fight anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia and

discrimination in all its forms, and we pay tribute to those who experienced the worst of humanity," Trudeau said at the opening of the monument. "We can honor them by fighting hatred with love, and seeking always to see ourselves in each other."

Canada had been the only Allied power that fought in World War II not to have a national Holocaust memorial.

The memorial took a decade to build. Its more than \$7 million cost is being split between the government and private donors.

Trump will not move US Embassy to Jerusalem before giving peace plan a chance

(JTA)—President Donald Trump said he will not move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv until

after his administration's peace plan has a chance to be implemented.

Trump made the remark Saturday on a Christian Trinity Broadcast Network talk show hosted by Mike Huckabee, a former Arkansas governor and Republican presidential candidate

Trump said during the interview that a decision on moving the embassy would be made "in the not too distant future" before adding it would not be implemented before the peace proposal was given a chance to succeed.

"I want to give that a shot before I even think about moving the embassy to Jerusalem," Trump told Huckabee.

The U.S. peace proposal is still in the planning stages and has not been announced. Moving the

embassy to Jerusalem was a Trump campaign promise.

In June, he signed a waiver delaying the implementation of the Jerusalem Embassy Act passed by Congress in 1995, which mandates the move of the embassy to Jerusalem. The waiver can be signed every six months and has been signed by every president since the law was passed. It will come up again in January.

Trump also told Huckabee that his administration is "working on a plan that everybody says will never work because for many, many years it never worked—they say it's the toughest deal of all, peace between Israel and the Palestinians, so we're going to work on that, and if that doesn't work, which is possible, to be totally hon-

est—some people say it's impossible, but I don't think it's impossible, and I think that's something that can happen, and I don't want to make any predictions."

Trump has called making peace between Israel and the Palestinians the "ultimate deal."

On the Huckabee show, the president also labeled the Iran nuclear deal "terrible," but did not say whether or not he would pull the United States out of the agreement.

"I can tell you I'm very unhappy with the deal. The spirit is not there," Trump said, adding later that "Iran is a bad player and they will be taken care of as a bad player."

Huckabee is the father of White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders.

Can cyber tech solve the Frank and Wallenberg mysteries?

By Cnaan Liphshiz

(JTA)—After 70 years of studying the Holocaust, historians still don't know the exact circumstances of the tragic fate that befell two of the best-known victims of the Holocaust era: Anne Frank and Raoul Wallenberg.

Frank, the teenager whose journal of her days in hiding from the Nazis in Amsterdam has sensitized millions to the suffering of 6 million victims, died in 1945 in Bergen-Belsen after the Nazis caught her. But nobody knows who, if anyone, betrayed her and her family to the Nazis.

Meanwhile, Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved countless Hungarian Jews by issuing them visas to Sweden, disappeared without a trace in the 1940s. Subsequent evidence emerged proving that the Soviet Union lied when it said he had died in 1947 in one of its prisons.

These mysteries separately have caught the eye of two American experts who both believe they can use the power of computation to make progress in the cold cases.

On the Frank case is a retired FBI agent, Vince Pankoke, who last week told the Volkskrant daily in the Netherlands that he has assembled a team of more than a dozen forensics and computer experts. They will use their expertise to scan ar-

chives with greater efficiency and speed than ever possible using orthodox methods of historical research.

And on Wallenberg's trail is a mathematician from Baltimore, Ari Kaplan, whose specialty is to quantify baseball players' performances to identify patterns over time, which can then be translated into effective strategies.

In both cases, any success will beat the odds.

Dutch police have launched two rather thorough investigations to discover whether Frank was betrayed and if so by whom. The first probe in 1948 was unsuccessful; one mounted in 1963 was to no avail.

Since then, writers and historians have offered various theories, none of which were proven, including one centered on the sister of a typist working for Otto Frank, Anne's father.

But Pankoke, 59, says that's not where the case needs to end.

"There is so much information available these days, from archives, old studies," he told the Volkskrant. "For individual people it is impossible to overview in its entirety, but with the right software it's achievable. That way you can connect the dots through analysis."

Analysis is also the name of the game for Kaplan, the baseball fan and math whiz looking into the Wallenberg case.

His algorithms helped pinpoint Wallenberg's exact

cell in Lubyanka prison, according to Marvin Makinen, a professor of biochemistry at the University of Chicago who says he heard from inmates who saw Wallenberg alive long after the bogus death announcement. Makinen, Kaplan and several others are part of an unofficial task force to find out what really happened to Wallenberg.

The algorithm helped Kaplan and Makinen put together a complex database analysis of the cell occupancy at the prison from 1947 to 1972 based on partial Russian prison records.

In the analysis, Kaplan and Makinen show that some rooms in the overpopulated prison had remained empty—on paper, at least—for more than nine consecutive months at a time. To Makinen, this suggested a prisoner or prisoners had been kept there but were not listed on the registry. He and Kaplan believe Wallenberg was kept in the cell listed as empty.

Moscow denied their request for more prison records, Makinen said.

Last year, Makinen and Kaplan visited Moscow to present officials with a 57-page report requesting specific documents, ranging from the Soviets' wartime intelligence files on Wallenberg to papers dealing with the return in 1999 of Wallenberg's personal items, Tablet reported this week in an interview with Kaplan.

The research suggests that receiving "just a hand-

ful" of the documents from the Russian state archives "would have solved the case or at least shed light," Kaplan told Tablet.

He insists that Wallenberg's fate eventually "will be revealed."

"It is just a matter of when, and I want it to happen soon—for the closure of his family and those he rescued," Kaplan said. "That is what keeps me upbeat."

Despite the impasse they have reached, Kaplan and Makinen may be on firmer ground than Pankoke. After all, they know the Russians took Wallenberg, whereas Pankoke may be barking up the wrong tree altogether, according to the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam.

Last year that institution, which runs the Anne Frank museum at the Amsterdam address where she hid before her capture and murder, published a report suggesting that Anne Frank and her family were never betrayed, but were caught by chance in a German raid aimed at suspected counterfeiters of food stamps.

The issue is controversial in the Netherlands. For decades, the absence of a traitor in Anne Frank's story has helped it become a tale celebrating the heroism of resistance activists who helped the family hide from the Nazis. But the discovery of a traitor could change the story dramatically, giving a face and a name to the massive collaboration that went



Laski Diffusion/East News/Getty Images
A passport photograph of Raoul Wallenberg taken in Budapest, Hungary, June 1944.



Researchers want to know who, if anyone, betrayed Anne Frank and her family to the Nazis.

on in the Netherlands during the Nazi occupation—a key reason for the murder of 75 percent of Dutch Jewry, which is the highest per capita death rate in occupied Western Europe.

Thijs Bayens and Pieter Van Twisk, respectively a filmmaker and journalist from the Netherlands, recruited Pankoke and initiated his investigation. (Last month they published in the media and online an appeal for information from anyone with knowledge of Anne Frank's arrest.)

They are working with Xomnia, an Amsterdam-based company specializing in processing and analyzing large amounts of information, to bring closure to her story, they said. The group,

which has more than a dozen investigators, is documenting its efforts on a website called coldcasediary.com.

"The amount of data is overwhelming," Bayens told The Guardian. "It is at least 20 to 25 kilometers of files at this moment and we have just started. To try and make all this data relevant is quite complex, so we started to work on artificial intelligence algorithms to rule the data, as they say."

Bayens said that most of the people who were around the Frank family and were still alive after the war "are in the police files of the previous investigations."

"They were brought in for questioning," he said, "so we have detailed reports on that."

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Please e-mail names of those attending to

kehillahcfl@gmail.com or call 407-298-4650

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Wedding in Levy citrus grove, 1917.



Kanner Store, 1905.

Collections of the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU, originated by Marcia Jo Zervitz, LHD, Founding Executive Director